

Kurt U. Schaefer
Director

MEMORANDUM FY2026-005

DATE: August 22, 2025

TO: All Soil and Water Conservation Districts

FROM: Jim Plassmeyer, Director

Soil and Water Conservation Program

SUBJECT: N340 Cover Crop Practice and DWC-01 Water Impoundment Reservoir

Practice Policy Changes

The Soil and Water Conservation Districts Commission, at their August 13, 2025 meeting, approved changes to the N340 Cover Crop and the DWC-01 Water Impoundment Reservoir practice policies effective for all contracts board approved after August 13, 2025.

The Commission voted to change policy to allow for cover crop payments to be issued after notill planting of the production crops into the terminated cover crops or after April 1 if the production crop has not been planted. If payment is made prior to no-till planting of the production crops, the updated N340 Payment Acknowledgement Form must be signed by the operator and SWCD representative and attached to the contract prior to contract payment submittal. Careful consideration must taken to ensure cooperators are following all practice policies for no-tilling the production crops into the cover crops and not harvesting the cover crop for seed, grain, or hay. The Acknowledgement Form has been updated to include Production Crop Plant Date and Field Verification of Completed Practice Date. The dates need to be added to the form once completed by district staff and available for practice review documentation. The updated form is attached and available on the SWCD Intranet Page.

 $\frac{https://mosoilandwater.land/sites/mosoilandwater/files/Memo\%20N340\%20DWC01\%20attachment.pdf}{}$

In addition, the commission also approved an increase of the DWC-01 Water Impoundment Reservoir practice maximum from \$20,000 to \$26,000 effective for FY26 contracts board approved after August 13, 2025.

The Cost-Share Handbook will be updated with these changes.

If you have any questions, please contact your district coordinator. Thank you.