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NATURAL RESOURCES

Michael L. Parson, Governor


Carol S. Comer, Director

MEMORANDUM

2019-011

DATE: December 31, 2018

TO: All Soil and Water Conservation Districts

FROM:  Colleen Meredith, Director
Soil and Water Conservation Program

SUBJECT: Cost-Share Handbook Updates

The Soil and Water Conservation Program has updated the Cost-Share Handbook. An electronic version of the updated handbook is available on the district intranet home page at:
<https://mosoilandwater.land/internal/cost-share-handbook> .

The updates are summarized below:

Formatting and grammar edits were completed throughout the handbook and Soil and Water Districts Commission policies have been updated in the chapters below.

IV. Cost-Share Forms

- Clarified policy regarding Administrative change orders by removing extents installed, which was erroneously included.

V. Eligible Practices

DSL-01 Permanent Vegetative Cover Establishment

- Updated policy to the erosion requirement to add ephemeral gully erosion.
- Updated policy that to be eligible for the DSL-01 practice in the case of conversion from woodland to pasture, the land must have been in crop or pasture/hayland for three (3) years prior to contract approval.

DSL-04 Terrace System and DSL-44 Terrace System with Tile

- Updated policy on practices stating that farming operations must be parallel to terraces, with the exception of planting crops over terraces in areas where the slope is less than three (3) percent. All other ground contact farming practices have to be on the contour with terraces with the exception of incidental crossing of terraces such as planting end rows and point rows.
- Updated policy stating that topsoiling on all soil types is allowed in accordance with the district board's policy.

DWC-01 Water Impoundment Reservoir

- Clarification to the practice stating that grazing is not allowed at any time in the excluded area.
- Updated practice policy stating that the practice maximum assistance was raised to \$15,000.

DWP-01 Sediment Retention, Erosion, or Water Control Structure and N410 Drop Pipe

- Updated practice policy that allows elbow and/or weir box on the same contract if they are both technically necessary for the location.

N340 Cover Crop

- Updated practice policy that tillage is allowed on up to 25 percent of the acres in a field to smooth ruts caused by harvest. Also districts should use the DNR-SWCP N340 Cover Crop Practice Checklist-Landowner/Operator to make sure all steps and policies are being followed. The checklist has been added to the appendix.
- Clarification of practice policy regarding when the initial standard soil health test should be taken, and cover crops may be planted on newly constructed terraces.

DSP-02 Permanent Vegetative Cover Enhancement

- Clarification on practice policy stating cost-share is not authorized for land already established in permanent vegetative cover that is under a maintenance agreement for a seeding practice or grazing system on the same acres.

DSP 3.1 Grazing System Water Development, DSP 3.2 Grazing System Water Distribution, DSP 3.3 Grazing System Fence, DSP 3.4 Grazing System Lime and DSP 3.5 Grazing System Seed

- Updated practice policy that includes a one-time payment of \$75 for attending an approved grazing school.
- Updated the practice policy to increase per acre maximums for DSP 3.1 Grazing System Water Development, DSP 3.2 Grazing System Water Distribution, and DSP 3.3 Grazing System Fence practices.
- Updated practice policy that lime and fertilizer application shall be based on soil test recommendations to achieve minimum forage cover improvement specified by NRCS planning criteria for DSP 3.4 Grazing System Lime.

N312 Beef and Small Ruminant Waste Management

- Updated practice policy that cost-share is now authorized for up to 65% for the whole barn excluding feed bunk and bedding areas.

N312 Beef and Small Ruminant Waste Management, N312 Dairy Waste Management, N312 Poultry Management, N312 Swine Waste Management, N316 Incinerator and N317 Composting Facility

- Updated practice policy to include an incentive of \$2,000 to help defray the cost of development of a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan by an approved Technical Service Provider.

N595 Pest Management

- Updated practice policy that contracts must be board approved from January 1 – October 1. In addition, cost-share is not authorized to reestablish legumes in cool season or warm season grass fields receiving the pest management incentive until five (5) years after receiving the incentive payment.

C650 Streambank Stabilization

- Updated practice policy stating that eligibility will now be determined by the appropriate technical authority. A private, Missouri licensed Professional Engineer (PE) with significant streambank experience may also be used for technical assistance. Specifications now include Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390).

Stabilization structures will remain in place for the life of the practice. In addition, a vegetated buffer area must be maintained for a minimum of 50 feet from the top of the streambank. Cost-share is now authorized to include grading, shaping and an hourly engineering incentive if a private PE is used. Maximum cost-share has been raised to \$25,000 per distinct project site annually.

N391 Riparian Forest Buffer and N393 Filter Strip

- Clarification on practice policy that cost-share is authorized for Buffer Extension Incentive, under the conditions listed in Section V. subsection G.

N574 Spring Development

- Updated practice policy that cost-share is authorized for pipe and trenching from the end of the collection point to the livestock watering tank, including the outlet pipe, may not exceed 300 feet unless Soil and Water Conservation Program staff approve cost-share exceeding 300 feet if the location warrants the need for additional pipe to obtain a stable outlet. If more than 300 feet of pipe are planned, the district must save shapefiles of the practice showing the planned collection area, tank and pipe on the district's T:\ drive when the contract is submitted for approval.

N472 Livestock Exclusion

- Clarification to the practice policy stating that grazing is not allowed at any time in the excluded area.

VI. Appendix

- Updated Water Well/Heat Pump Plugging Registration Report
- DNR-SWCP N340 Cover Crop Practice Checklist-Landowner/Operator has been added.

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

CM:bw