



Natural Resources Conservation Service
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Date: July 1, 2013

Pacific Islands Area Technical Note Announcement PI-40

SUBJECT: Releases the Revised Biology Technical Note 19 and Revised Conservation Planning Technical Notes 1 and 2.

This announcement releases the following revised technical notes:

- Biology Technical Note 19 – NRCS-CPA-52 Environmental Evaluation Worksheet
- Conservation Planning Technical Note 1 – Checklists for Resource Concerns
- Conservation Planning Technical Note 2 – Conservation Plan/Contract/Combined Folder Checklists

Instructions.

Please refer to the following table for a description of the specific documents released. The documents have been posted to Pacific Islands Area Technical Notes site and are available for viewing and printing online at: http://www.pia.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/PIA_TechnicalNotes.html.

Contact.

If you have any questions about the:

- NRCS-CPA-52, contact Greg Koob, State Biologist, at (808) 541-2600 x109 or Gregory.Koob@hi.usda.gov.
- Conservation Planning Technical Notes or this announcement, contact Tony Ingersoll, Assistant Director for Technology, at (808) 541-2600 x111 or Anthony.Ingersoll@hi.usda.gov.

The following is a description of the documents being released:

Document	Description
1. Announcement PI-40	New Announcement PI-40.
2. PI Announcements Index	Revised Announcements Index.
3. Biology Technical Note 19	<p>NRCS-CPA-52 Environmental Evaluation Worksheet.</p> <p>NOTE: START USING FOR FY-2014 CONSERVATION PLANS. FY-2013 plans can use the old version.</p> <p>The following summarizes the changes incorporated in this revision:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Drop-down boxes in section F now include the restructured list of resource concerns referenced in NB 450-11-6. 2. The term “Quality Criteria” (QC) has been changed to “Planning Criteria” (PC) to be consistent with the Conservation Delivery Streamlining Initiative (CDSI) terminology. 3. A separate section has been added for “Energy Resource Concerns.” 4. A separate section has been added for “Natural Areas” and “Scenic Beauty” to incorporate compliance with existing NRCS policies. 5. Changes to the “Special Environmental Concerns” (SEC)

	<p>found in section I include the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. A new requirement to document SEC benchmark conditions. b. The addition of links to an SEC "Guide Sheet" and a new SEC "Fact Sheet" (Clean Air Act has two fact sheets) that are located in the separate tabs of the Microsoft Excel version of Form NRCS-CPA-52. c. The drop-down list for each SEC has been changed to include only "No Effect" or "May Effect." d. Several of the guide sheets have been revised, and minor edits were made to others. Changes include the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. The Endangered and threatened (E&T) Species Guide Sheet has been revised to reflect recent changes to NRCS policy. ii. The Riparian Area Management Guide Sheet has been revised to allow NRCS to continue providing assistance when adverse effects may result. This is consistent with existing policy. iii. New guide sheets were added for "Natural Areas" and "Scenic Beauty." <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. All NECH references and citations have been updated to match the revised NECH. 7. The Field Inventory Guide Sheet has been updated to reflect new resource concerns. 8. Modification of instructions regarding items changed in Form NRCS-CPA-52.
<p>4. Conservation Planning Technical Note 1</p>	<p>Resource Problem Worksheets replaced with Checklists for Resource Concerns.</p> <p>NOTE: START USING FOR FY-2014 CONSERVATION PLANS. FY-2013 plans can use the old version.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The checklists were adapted for PIA use from the National CDSI & Conservation Bootcamp teams. They will serve as interim documentation until CDSI becomes fully-functional. • Worksheets were replaced to reflect resource concerns and planning criteria changes. • Checklists are specific to each land use and integrate the planning criteria, screening criteria and associated assessment tools. • Alternatives will now be documented in the NRCS-CPA-52, as well as the conservation plan for the selected alternative.
<p>5. Conservation Planning Technical Note 2</p>	<p>Conservation Plan, Contract and Combined Folder Checklists. Updated to include additional required forms.</p>



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Distribution: AE (All Employees)