

State Specific Training Module for Colorado

Purpose of this Module

This module will provide some general information that TSPs need to conduct conservation planning in our state. This information is general in nature so the TSP may need to follow up with additional reading or training to make sure they have the knowledge, skill, licenses and certifications to conduct conservation planning in this state.

Review of State Laws

CNMP State Laws

- Animal Feeding Operations need to be evaluated for proximity to sensitive areas such as wetlands, ditches, and streams
- All CNMP plan documents will be developed through the use of the Manure Management Planner software program.
- There can be no discharge of nutrients to Waters of the State.

Review of State Laws

Engineering in Colorado

- For TSP's that plan, design, or check out NRCS practices that are specifically Engineering practices the TSP must follow State of Colorado rules and regulations found at the Colorado of Regulatory Affairs (DORA) website for Laws, Rules, and Policies:
 - <http://cdn.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite/DORA-Reg/CBON/DORA/1251632143556>

Review of State Laws

Pest Management

- Colorado requires anyone applying or recommending restricted use pesticides to be certified.
- Colorado Department of Agriculture (CDA) is the Certifying agent in Colorado.
- CDA has several has several local agents spread across the state to assist you.

Review of State Laws

Pest Management

- To be an effective planner one must be able to use Win-PST
- Win-PST is a windows based program that evaluates risks of the use of pesticides.
- To learn more about Win-PST please contact the Colorado State TSP Coordinator.

Review of State Laws

Water Rights in Colorado

- Colorado like the majority of the Western United States operates on the “First in Time, First in Right” rule.
- When addressing any resource issue involving water one must inventory water rights
- Typical Conservation Practices involved would include but not be limited to: Any Irrigation related practice, spring development, and any water impoundment

Review of State Laws

Cultural Resources

- Any ground disturbing practice must be evaluated by a cultural resource specialist or permitted archeologist.
- State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) consultation must be completed prior to ground disturbance (30 days).

Review of Colorado Field Office Tech Guide

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
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Technical Resources

- Conservation Planning
- Ecological Science
- Natural Resources Assessment Data, Maps & Analysis
- Tools & Applications
- Technical References
 - Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG)**
 - Engineering
 - Economics
 - Alphabetical Listing

Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG)

What is FOTG?

Technical guides are the primary scientific references for NRCS. They contain technical information about the conservation of soil, water, air, and related plant and animal resources.

Technical guides used in each field office are localized so that they apply specifically to the geographic area for which they are prepared. These documents are referred to as Field Office Technical Guides (FOTGs).

Appropriate parts of the Field Office Technical Guides are automated as data bases, computer programs, and other electronic-based materials such as those included in these web based pages.

What information is located in FOTG

Section I – General References

In this section you will find general state maps, descriptions of Major Land Resource Areas, watershed information, and links to NRCS reference manuals and handbooks. Section I contains links to researchers, universities, and agencies we work. Section I also contains conservation practice costs, agricultural laws and regulations, cultural resources, and information about protected plant and animal species.

Section II – Soil and Site Information

In this section you will find detailed information about soil, water, air, plant, and animal resources. NRCS Soil Surveys, Hydric Soils Interpretations, Ecological Site Descriptions, Forage Suitability Groups, Cropland Production Tables, Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Guides, Water Quality Guides, and other related information can be found here as it becomes available.

Section III – Conservation Management Systems

In this section you will find information on NRCS Quality Criteria, which establish standards for resource conditions that help provide sustained use.

Section IV – Practice Standards and Specifications

In this section you will find the NRCS Conservation Practices. Practice Standards define the practice and where it applies. Practice specifications are detailed requirements for installing the practice in the state.

Section V – Conservation Effects

Review of Colorado Field Office Tech Guide

The screenshot shows the NRCS website interface. At the top left, it says "United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service" with the NRCS logo. Below that is a navigation bar with "Jan 6 | Tues" and links for "Close | Contact | Help | Login". The main content area features a map of the United States with the text "Click On Your State" above it. Colorado (CO) is highlighted with a red box. To the right of the state map is a detailed map of Colorado, divided into its counties, each labeled with its name. A red box highlights the entire Colorado county map. At the bottom right of the county map is a link that says "Back to US Map". On the far right edge of the screenshot, there is a vertical banner for "FOTG" (Field Office Technical Guide) with the text "a component of SmartTech Office Technical Guide".

Review of Colorado Field Office Tech Guide

United States Department of Agriculture
NRCS Natural Resources Conservation Service

Outer Frameset
FOTG Search/Index About

PARK COUNTY, CO
FOTG
a component of SmartTech
Field Office Technical Guide

Jan 6 | Tues Close Preferences Contact Help Login

Refresh Menu Information

United States Department of Agriculture
NRCS Natural Resources Conservation Service

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Search

FOTG

Section I

- Table Of Contents
- FOTG Transmittals
- Colorado CNMP
- Workbook
- Cost Data
- Erosion Prediction
- Laws
- Maps
- Reference Lists
- State Technical Guide Committee
- Technical Notes
- Water Quality

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FOTG Home Page

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For additional information and requirements please contact your local [USDA Service Center](#).

What's in FOTG?

- Section I - General References
- Section II - Natural Resources Information
- Section III - Conservation Management Systems
- Section IV - Practice Standards and Specifications
- Section V - Conservation Effects

[...more](#)

In The Spotlight

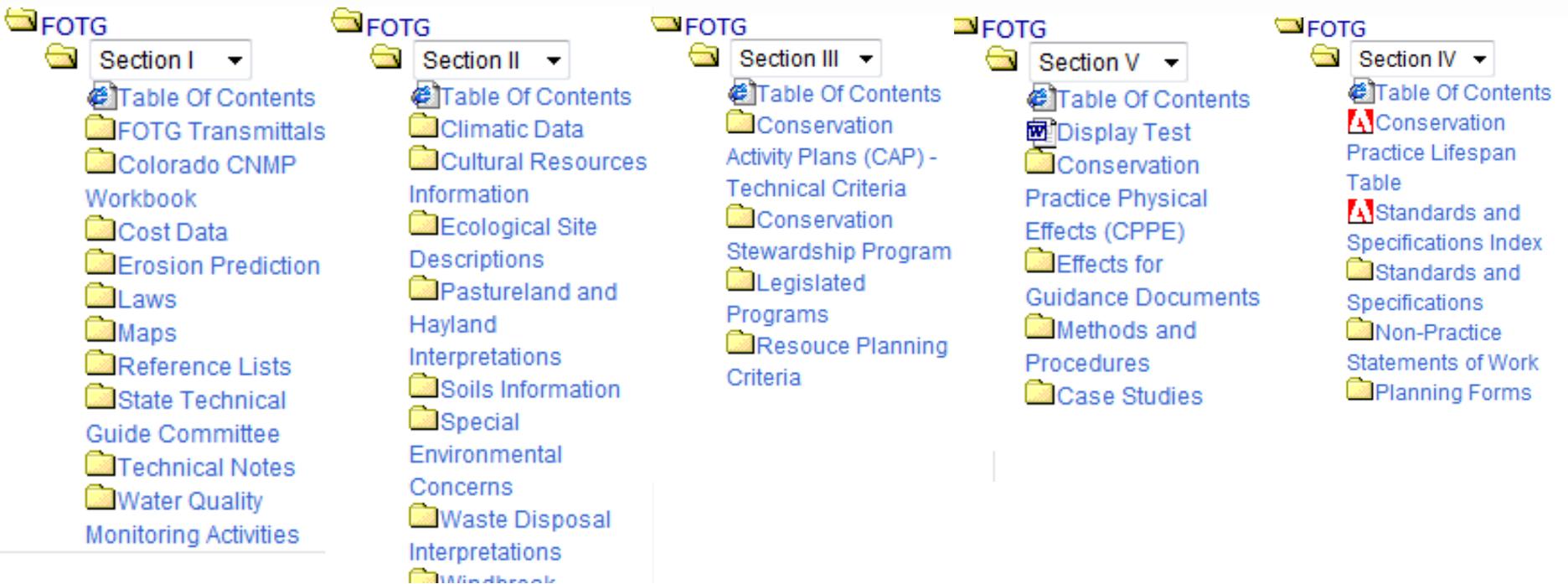
Tools

Technical Materials

What's Changed Recently

- [Fence \(382\) Standard \(1/6/2015\)](#)
- [Transmittals Index \(1/6/2015\)](#)
- [Technical Guide Notice 687 \(1/5/2015\)](#)
- Transmit new Cultural Resources Process, new Range Technical Notes, and new and revised Cover Crop 340 and Fence 382 Standards and Specifications
- [Range Tech Note 38, References for Planning and Designing NRCS CP 382 Fence \(1/5/2015\)](#)
- New
- [Range Tech Note 39, Fence Visual Markers to Reduce Wildlife Collisions and Entanglement \(1/5/2015\)](#)
- New
- [Fence \(382\) Implementation Requirements/Specification Guide, Barbed/Barbless and Woven Wire \(1/5/2015\)](#)
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- [Fence \(382\) Implementation Requirements/Specification Guide, Permanent and Portable/Temporary Energized Fence \(1/5/2015\)](#)
- New
- [Fence \(382\) Implementation Requirements/Specification Guide, Suspension Fence \(1/5/2015\)](#)
- New
- [Fence \(382\) Specification Guide, Confinement Area Fence \(1/5/2015\)](#)
- New
- [Fence \(382\) Statement of Work \(1/5/2015\)](#)
- Revised
- [Cover Crop \(340\) Job Sheet \(1/5/2015\)](#)
- Revised per NHCP Notice 160
- [Cover Crop \(340\) Standard \(1/5/2015\)](#)
- Revised per NHCP Notice 160
- [Cover Crop \(340\) Statement of Work \(1/5/2015\)](#)
- Revised per NHCP Notice 160
- [NRCS Cover Crop \(340\) Termination Guidelines, Version 3 \(1/5/2015\)](#)
- Revised per NR 450.15.1

Review of Colorado Field Office Tech Guide



The image displays five separate screenshots of the FOTG (Field Office Technical Guide) interface, each showing a different section. Each screenshot starts with a yellow folder icon labeled 'FOTG' and a dropdown menu for the section name. Below the dropdown is a list of sub-items, including folders and documents.

- Section I:** Table Of Contents, FOTG Transmittals, Colorado CNMP Workbook, Cost Data, Erosion Prediction, Laws, Maps, Reference Lists, State Technical Guide Committee, Technical Notes, Water Quality Monitoring Activities.
- Section II:** Table Of Contents, Climatic Data, Cultural Resources Information, Ecological Site Descriptions, Pastureland and Hayland Interpretations, Soils Information, Special Environmental Concerns, Waste Disposal Interpretations, Windbreak.
- Section III:** Table Of Contents, Conservation Activity Plans (CAP) - Technical Criteria, Conservation Stewardship Program, Legislated Programs, Resource Planning Criteria.
- Section V:** Table Of Contents, Display Test, Conservation Practice Physical Effects (CPPE), Effects for Guidance Documents, Methods and Procedures, Case Studies.
- Section IV:** Table Of Contents, Conservation Practice Lifespan Table, Standards and Specifications Index, Standards and Specifications, Non-Practice Statements of Work, Planning Forms.

Review of Resource Issues in Colorado and Nationally

- Listed by order in the relevant 31 Soil Water Air Plants Animals + Cultural + Energy (SWAPA+C+E) Resource Concerns
- Follows through Resource Concern and Planning Criteria

Review of Resource Issues in Colorado

- Listed by order in the relevant 31 Soil Water Air Plants Animals + Cultural + Energy (SWAPA+C+E) Resource Concerns

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NRCS Natural Resources Conservation Service

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FOTG Search/Index About

PARK COUNTY, CO FOTG
a component of SmartTech
Field Office Technical Guide

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FOTG

Section III

- Table Of Contents
- Conservation Activity Plans (CAP) -Technical Criteria
- Conservation Stewardship Program
- Legislated Programs
- Resource Planning Criteria
 - Grazing Land Planning
 - National and State Resource Concerns and Planning Criteria
 - Resource Assessment Worksheet

FOTG Home Page

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What's in FOTG?

Section I	-General References
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Section III	-Conservation Management Systems
Section IV	-Practice Standards and Specifications
Section V	-Conservation Effects

[...more](#)

In The Spotlight

Tools

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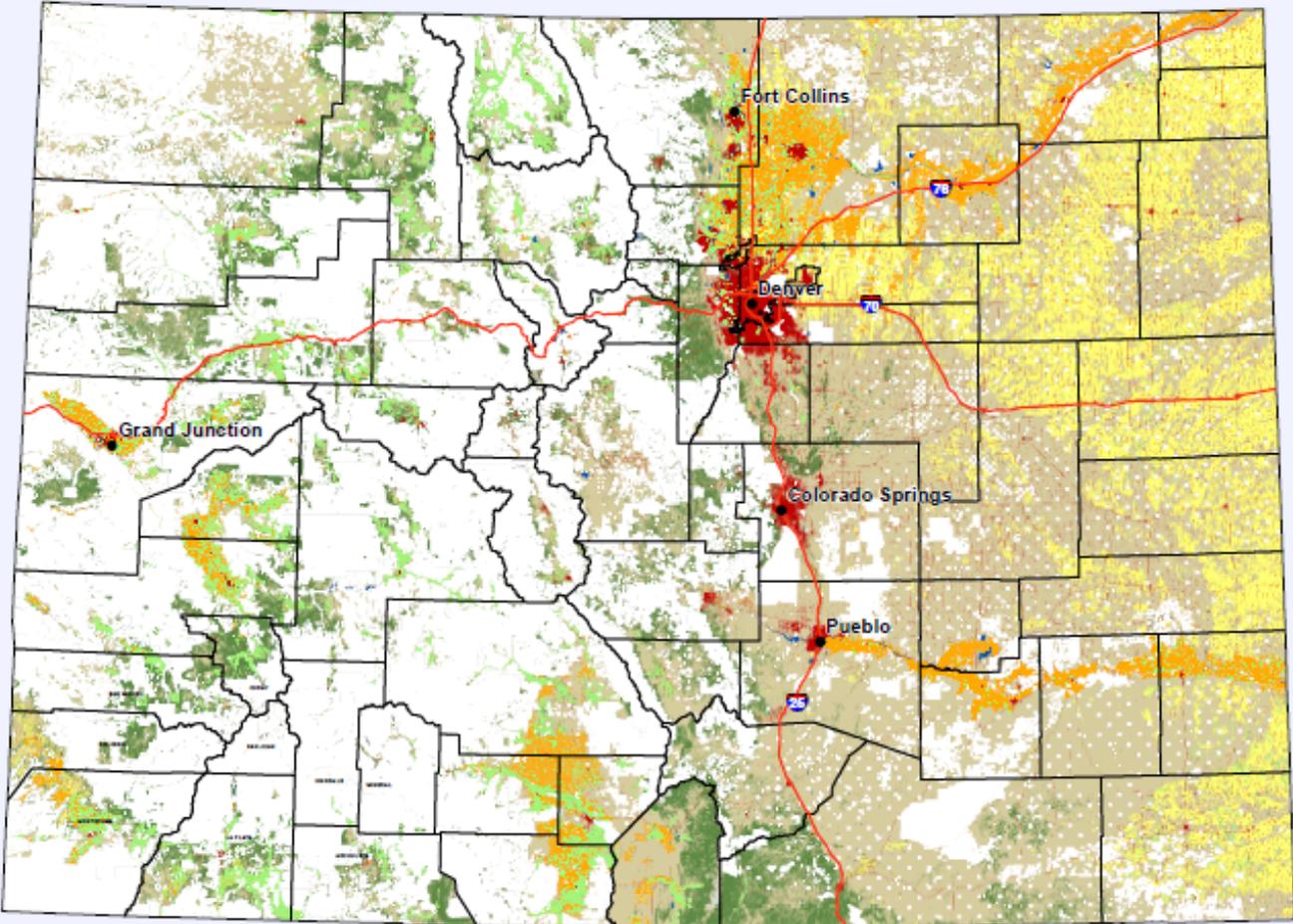
Review of Important Resource Issues in Colorado

Resource Concern Cause	Description of Concern	Land Use * Required Assessment	Resource Concern Component	Planning Criteria		Measurement & Assessment Tools
<p>A resource concern (RC) is an expected degradation of the soil, water, air, plant, or animal resource base to an extent that the sustainability or intended use of the resource is impaired. Because NRCS quantifies or describes resource concerns as part of a comprehensive conservation planning process that includes client objectives, human and energy resources are considered components of the resource base. The "Cause" is the specific reason or threat to the resource that results in the resource concern.</p>			<p>For planning purposes, some resource concerns are divided into components where there is a clear distinction in the causal factors, the mitigating actions, and the anticipated environmental effect.</p>	<p>A planning criterion is a quantitative or qualitative method to assess the existing condition of the natural resources on a site to determine whether additional treatment is needed to address a specific potential resource concern.</p> <p>Planning Consideration</p> <p>A planning consideration is a description of potential actions or activities that should be considered to help address an identified resource concern and/or to address unintended consequences of an action. Planning considerations are identified for resource concerns when it is not appropriate or technologically feasible to identify specific criteria or a</p>		<p>Description of the technology or process for determining if assessment criteria are met.</p>
				<p>Screening Level</p>	<p>Basic Assessment Level</p>	
				<p>Screening level criteria are defined, when appropriate, to identify sites with conditions that have little or no probability of needing additional treatment to address the specific resource concern. If the site meets the screening level criteria, then no other assessment is needed to document that planning criteria are met on this site. States can delete or edit nationally identified</p>	<p>Basic assessment level criteria are used when a site does not meet screening level criteria, or when no screening level criteria are defined. Assessment levels are also used when formulating and evaluating alternatives. National criteria establish the minimum for all sites. States may add state-specific criteria to address local conditions.</p>	

Review of Important Resource Issues in Colorado

- The 31 Resource Concerns and the associated Planning Criteria are foundational for plan development with in the 9-steps of conservation planning.
 - Planning Criteria for identified resource concerns must be appropriately completed to arrive at the preferred alternative

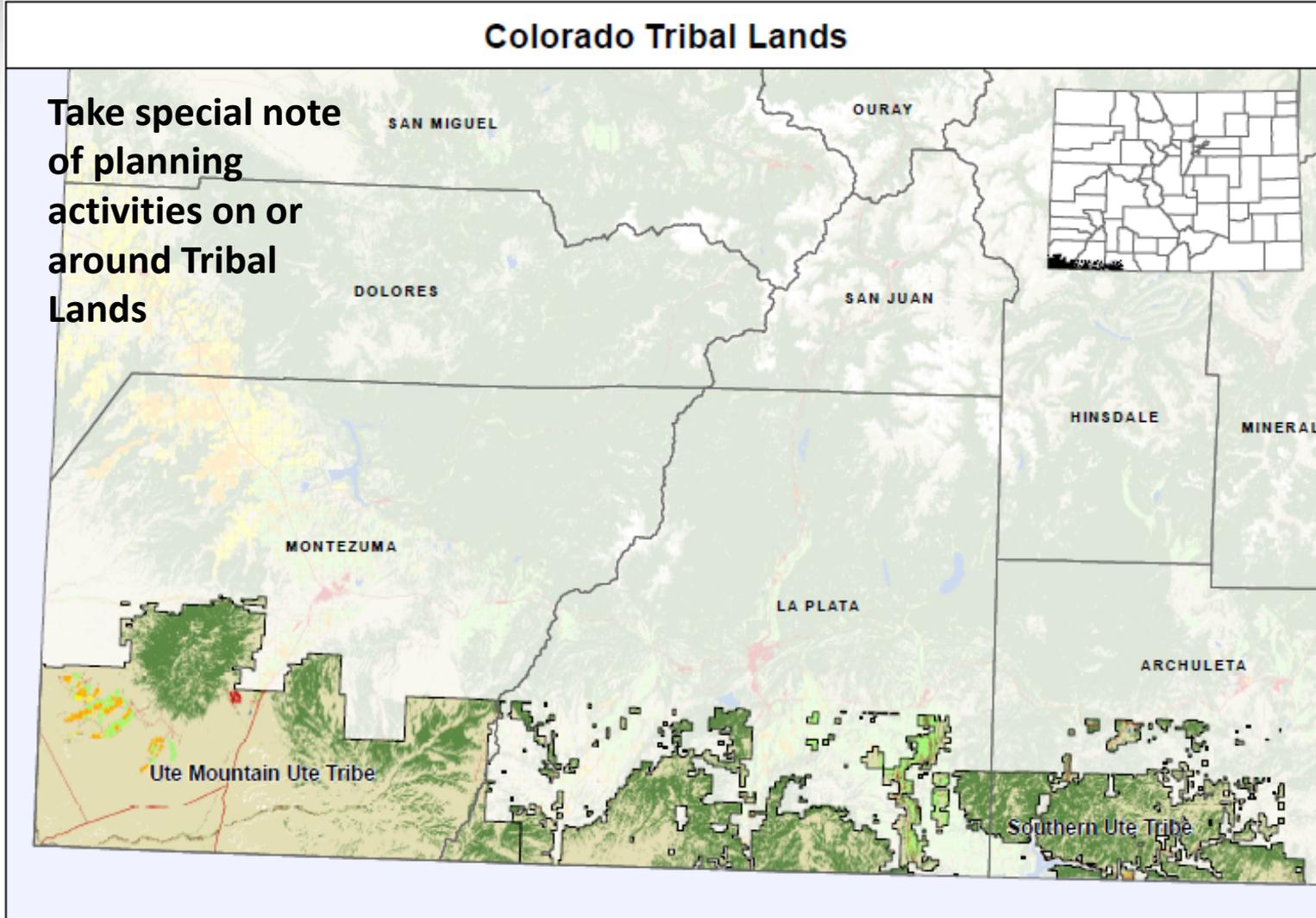
Colorado Private Lands



	County		Barren Land		Irrigated Crop*		Pasture		Urban
	Public Land		Associated Agland		Crop		Forest		Water

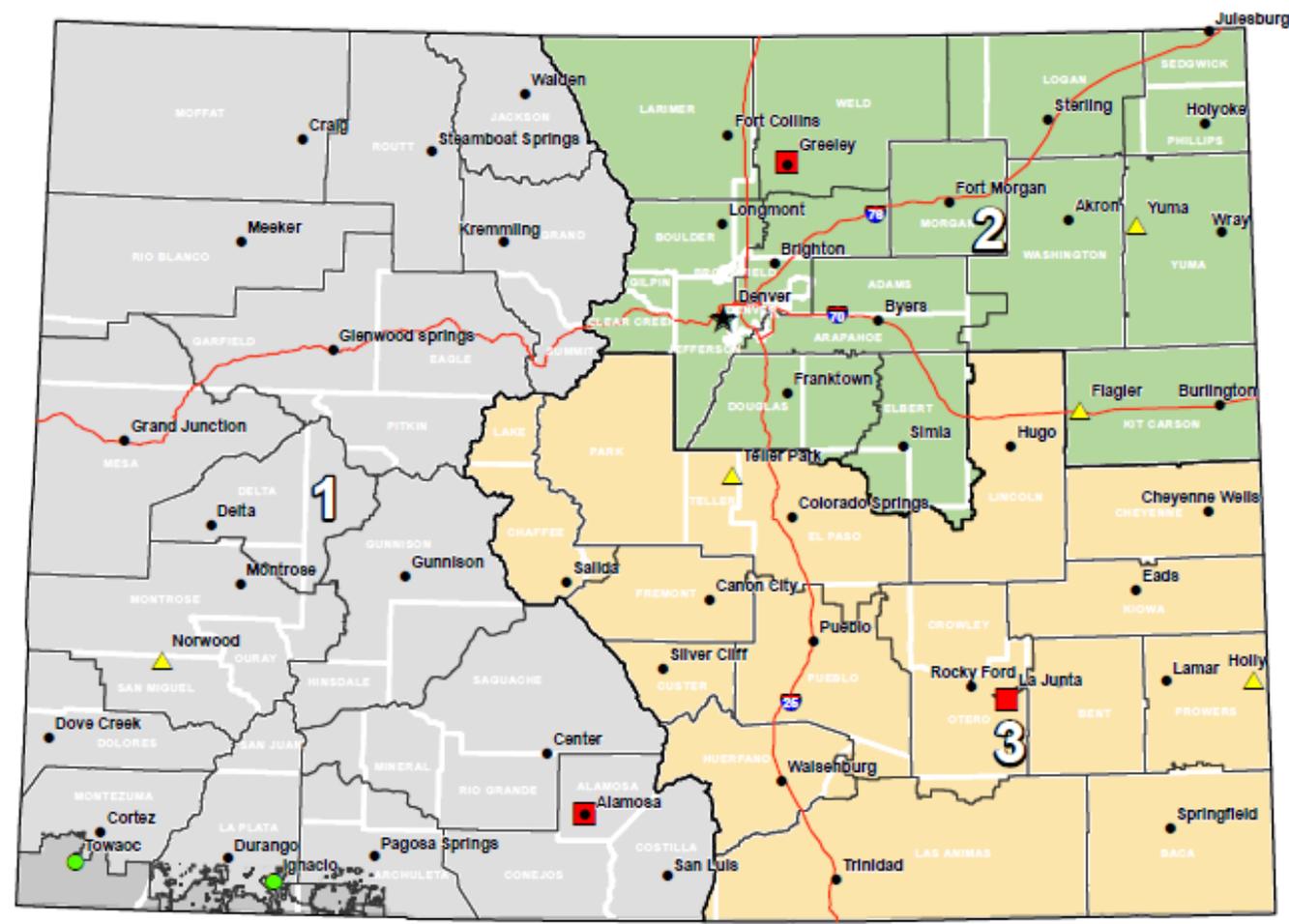
Colorado Tribal Lands

Take special note
of planning
activities on or
around Tribal
Lands



	County	Land Use		Barren Land		Irrigated Crop		Pasture		Urban	
	Tribal Land		Associated Agland		Crop		Forest		Range		Water

Colorado NRCS Service Centers



- Field Office
- Tribal Office
- ▲ District Office
- Area Office
- Area/Field Office
- ★ State Office
- NRCS Service Center
- Area 1
- Area 2
- Area 3
- County

Expected TSP Workflow

- The State Resource Conservationist (SRC) will be responsible for reviewing TSP conservation planning for the National Planner Certification.
- Subsequent conservation plans will be reviewed by the District Conservationist (DC) at the local USDA Service Center.
- The SRC will conduct plan reviews for TSP planner certification renewals.
- TSPs will work with the local District Conservationist to make sure the proper environmental evaluations (NRCS.CPA.52) are completed.

Certificate of Completion

After viewing the State Specific Training module, please print and sign the completion certificate on the following slide.

The certificate is your acknowledgement that based on the information provided in this module, you have the proper knowledge, skills and ability to conduct planning in this state.

Send the signed certificate to the State TSP Coordinator. Copy the below link to your browser for a list of State TSP Coordinators.

<https://techreg.sc.egov.usda.gov/RptStateContact4Admin.aspx>

STATE SPECIFIC TRAINING MODULE COMPLETION CERTIFICATE

I, _____, hereby verify I have viewed and
TSP Name
understand the content of the Colorado State Specific Training
Module and affirm I have the knowledge, skills and ability to
conduct conservation planning services in that state.

TSP signature

Date

Non-Discrimination Statement

Non-Discrimination Policy

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If you wish to file an employment complaint, you must contact your agency's EEO Counselor within 45 days of the date of the alleged discriminatory act, event, or in the case of a personnel action. Additional information can be found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_file.html

To File a Program Complaint

If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9419, by fax at (202) 690-7442, or email at program.intake@usda.gov

Persons with Disabilities

Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities and you wish to file either an EEO or program complaint please contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339 or (800) 845-6136 (in Spanish).

Persons with disabilities, who wish to file a program complaint, please see information above on how to contact us by mail or by email. If you require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, etc.), please contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

For any other information dealing with Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) issues, persons should either contact the USDA SNAP Hotline Number at (800) 221-5689, which is also in Spanish, or call the State Information/Hotline Numbers.

All Other Inquiries

For any other information not pertaining to civil rights, please refer to the listing of the USDA Agencies and Offices.