

United States Department of Agriculture



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NATIONAL PLANNING PROCEDURES HANDBOOK (NPPH)
180-VI

AMENDMENT NM11 (PART 600.5)

SUBJECT: CPA – COMPREHENSIVE NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PLANNING
TECHNICAL GUIDANCE, NEW MEXICO

TO: All Offices

Purpose. To supplement NPPH with updated CNMP Technical Guidance.

Effective Date. Effective upon receipt

Filing instructions: File in the Field Office copy of the National Planning Procedures Handbook, Part 600.5, Comprehensive Nutrient Management Planning Technical Guidance, New Mexico.

Attached is a copy of the New Mexico Comprehensive Nutrient Management Planning Technical Guidance.

DENNIS ALEXANDER
State Conservationist

DIST: NPPH

The Natural Resources Conservation Service provides leadership in a partnership effort to help people conserve, maintain, and improve our natural resources and environment.

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5.0 CERTIFICATION

The development of a CNMP involves two types of skilled individuals. The "Conservation Planner-CNMP" is an individual who has been certified by NRCS with the ability to develop the overall CNMP. The "Conservation Planner-CNMP" pulls together all of the elements of a CNMP. The "Certified Specialist-CNMP" is an individual who has the skill to develop one or more of the elements of a CNMP as certified by NRCS.

Any CNMP that is developed by an NRCS or partner employee will have the plan approved by a certified Conservation Planner. The development of a CNMP by third party vendors or other approved sources does not imply concurrence or plan approval by NRCS.

CERTIFIED CNMP SPECIALIST CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:

(as stated in NRCS General Manual 180-CPA, NM, 4/01)

Certified CNMP specialists are individuals who have demonstrated a competency in developing an element of a CNMP. Listed below are the general requirements and those specific to each element of a CNMP.

General Requirements:

1. An awareness of the NRCS conservation planning policy process comparable to the information contained in the NRCS "Conservation Planning Modules 1-5".
2. An awareness of agricultural waste management systems equivalent to the information contained in NRCS' Agricultural Waste Management Systems: A Primer Course.
3. Demonstrated ability to use applicable sections of the local Field Office Technical Guide.
4. Knowledge of criteria associated with the various elements of a CNMP as contained in the "Comprehensive Nutrient Management Policy and Guidance Document, New Mexico".
5. Meet applicable local, state and federal regulations that impact the elements of the CNMP.

These general requirements and related competencies are incorporated as part of the Job Approval process for New Mexico. Competencies for third party vendors will be developed when needed.

Requirements Specific to Elements of a CNMP:

1. **Manure Production, Collection, Storage, Treatment and Transfer** – This element addresses the components and activities associated with the production facility, feedlot, manure and wastewater storage and treatment structures and areas, and any areas or mechanisms used to facilitate transfer of manure and wastewater. The following are required:
 - a. Knowledge adequate to design and implement conservation practices typically used to address this element of a CNMP. (See Appendix D for List of conservation practice standards most commonly used when developing a CNMP).
 - b. Working knowledge of the information contained in the NRCS Agricultural Waste Management Systems Level 2 Course or its equivalent.

2. **Land Treatment Practices** – This element addresses the land on which manure and wastewater from an animal feeding operation will be applied. The following knowledge and skills are required:

- a. Skill in applying appropriate erosion prediction technology.
- b. Skill in using site vulnerability assessment tools, including P Index, Leaching Index.
- c. Ability to plan and implement conservation practices common to the geographic area.

3. **Nutrient Management** – This element addresses the requirements for land application of all nutrients and organic by-products (e.g. animal manure, wastewater, commercial fertilizers, crop residues, legume credits, irrigation water, etc.) that must be evaluated and documented for each Conservation Management Unit. The following knowledge, skills, and abilities are required:

- a. Working knowledge of the information contained in the NRCS Introduction to Water Quality Course, or equivalent.
- b. Skill in using nutrient risk assessment tools, including P Index and Leaching Index.
- c. Working knowledge of the information in the NRCS Nutrient Management Course or its equivalent.
- d. Skill in developing nutrient management plans in compliance with the NRCS Nutrient Management (590) and, as appropriate, Irrigation Water Management (449) conservation practice standard(s).

CERTIFIED CNMP PLANNER DRAFT CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:

(as stated in NRCS General Manual 180-CPA, NM, 4/01)

For certified Conservation Planner – CNMP, the candidate must take the New Mexico CNMP Training Workshop or obtain a waiver from the NRCS State Resource Conservationist. The candidate must also take the NEDS Conservation Planning Modules 1-10 and Introduction to Water Quality Courses and submit a CNMP for review to the State Resource Conservationist. Recertification will consist of obtaining a minimum of one week of training in a three-year period for the type of certification approved and submitting a CNMP to the State Resource Conservationist for approval in the third year.

These specific requirements and related competencies are incorporated as part of the Job Approval process in New Mexico. Specific requirements and competencies for third party vendors will be developed when needed.

See Appendix F for specific CNMP certification requirements and training courses.

APPENDIX F

NM CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS AND TRAINING FOR CNMP

Certification Requirements for NRCS Certified Conservation Planner - CNMP and CNMP Specialist Certified Conservation Planner - GNMP

- a. NEDC Conservation Planning - All Modules
- b. 1 CNMP
- c. Renew every 3 years (1 CNMP and 3 day training course)
- d. NM CNMP Workshop
- e. NEDC Introduction to Water Quality Course

Certified CNMP Specialist (Job Approval Authority) - General Requirements

- a. NEDC Conservation Planning Modules 1-5
- b. NEDC Introduction to Water Quality Course
- c. NEDC Agricultural Waste Management Systems Level I Course
- d. Knowledge of FOTG (NM CNMP Workshop)
- e. Understanding of the CNMP Technical Guidance (NM CNMP Workshop)
- f. Knowledge of federal, state, tribal, and local laws and regulations (NM CNMP Workshop)

Certified CNMP Specialist (Job Approval Authority) - Specific Element Requirements

(For certification in each specific element below, a specialist must also complete the general requirements)

1. Manure and Wastewater Handling and Storage (MHS)

- a. Knowledge adequate to plan conservation practices typically used to address this element, including Animal Mortality Facility (316), Closure of Waste Impoundments (360), Composting Facility (317), Covered Anaerobic Digester (365), Manure Transfer (634), Pond Sealing or Lining (521), Roof Runoff Management (558), Waste Storage Facility (313), Waste Treatment Lagoon (359), Waste Utilization (633), and Wastewater Treatment Strip (635) - (Planning Job Approval for each practice).
- b. NEDC Agricultural Waste Management Systems Level II Course.

2. Land Treatment (LT)

- a. Knowledge adequate to plan conservation practices typically used to address this element, including Conservation Crop Rotation (328), Cover Crop (340), Cross Wind Ridges (589a), Cross Wind Strip Cropping (589b), Cross Wind Trap Strips (589c), Diversion (362), Fence (382), Filter Strip (393), Grade Stabilization Structure (410), Grassed Waterway (412), Irrigation Land Leveling (464), Irrigation Water Management (449), Residue Management (329), Riparian Forest Buffer (391a), Tree and Shrub Establishment (612), and Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment (380) - (Planning Job Approval for each practice)
- b. Application of Approved Erosion Prediction Technology - (NM CNMP Workshop)
- c. Site Vulnerability Tools - (NM Nutrient Management Module 7 Course)

3. Nutrient Management 590 (NM)

- a. Knowledge adequate to plan and implement conservation practice 590 - (Job Approval)
- b. NEDC Nutrient Management (Modules 1-6) Course
- c. NM Nutrient Management (Module 7) Course

4. Feed Management (optional component)

- a. Knowledge of various feeding technologies and feeding techniques described in the NRCS conservation practice standard for feed management (Code 592).
- b. Acquire 15 hours of training in feed management.
- c. Submit plan component for review.

5. Recordkeeping

No NRCS practice or certification.

6. Other Utilization

No NRCS certification.

NM Certification Requirements for Technical Service Provider Certified
Conservation Planner - CNMP and Certified CNMP Specialist

Certified Conservation Planner - CNMP

- a. NRCS National Employee Development Center (NEDC) Conservation Planning Modules 1-5
- b. NM CNMP Workshop plus 1 CNMP Plan (must include elements 1,2,3,5)
- c. NEDC Introduction to Water Quality Course
- d. Renew every 3 years (1 CNMP Plan)

Certified CNMP Specialist - General Requirements

- a. NEDC Conservation Planning Modules 1-5
- b. NEDC Introduction to Water Quality Course
- c. NEDC Agricultural Waste Management Systems Level I Course
- d. Knowledge of Field Office Technical Guide (NM CNMP Workshop)
- e. Understanding of the CNMP Technical Guidance (NM CNMP Workshop).
- f. Knowledge of federal, state, tribal, and local laws and regulations (NM CNMP Workshop).

Certified CNMP Specialist - Specific Element Requirements

(For certification in each specific element below, a specialist must also complete the general requirements)

1. Manure and Wastewater Handling and Storage (MHS)

- a. Knowledge adequate to plan conservation practices typically used to address this element, including Animal Mortality Facility (316), Closure of Waste Impoundments (360), Composting Facility (317), Covered Anaerobic Digester (365), Manure Transfer (634), Pond Sealing or Lining (521), Roof Runoff Management (558), Waste Storage Facility (313), Waste Treatment Lagoon (359), Waste Utilization (633), and Wastewater Treatment Strip (635). (Plan component will be submitted for review by NRCS State Resource Conservationist).
- b. NEDC Agricultural Waste Management Systems Level II Course.

2. Land Treatment (LT)

- a. Knowledge adequate to plan conservation practices typically used to address this element, including Conservation Crop Rotation (328), Cover Crop (340), Cross Wind Ridges (589a), Cross Wind Strip Cropping (589b), Cross Wind Trap Strips (589c), Diversion (362), Fence (382), Filter Strip (393), Grade Stabilization Structure (410), Grassed Waterway (412), Irrigation Land Leveling (464), Irrigation Water Management (449), Residue Management (329), Riparian Forest Buffer (391a), Tree and Shrub Establishment (612), and Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment (380). (Plan component will be submitted for review by NRCS State Resource Conservationist).
- b. Application of Approved Erosion Prediction Technology - (NM CNMP Workshop)
- c. Site Vulnerability Tools - (NM Nutrient Management Module 7 Training)
- d. Certified Crop Advisor Certification in NM

3. Nutrient Management 590 (NM)

- a. Knowledge adequate to plan and implement conservation practice 590
- b. NEDC Nutrient Management (Modules 1-6) Course
- c. NM Nutrient Management (Module 7) Course (Includes submittal of plan component for review).
- d. Certified Crop Advisor Certification in NM

4. Feed Management (optional component)

- a. Knowledge of various feeding technologies and feeding techniques described in the NRCS conservation practice standard for feed management (Code 592).
- b. Acquire 15 hours of training in feed management.
- c. Submit plan component for review.

5. Recordkeeping

No NRCS certification.

6. Other Utilization

No NRCS certification.

Training Courses for CNMP Certification

A. NRCS National Employee Development Center (NEDC) Courses:

Course Registration:

- a) **NEDC Webpage:** [HTTP://WWW.NEDC.NRCS.USDA.GOV/](http://www.nedc.nrcs.usda.gov/). click on course catalog and course listing.
- 1.) **Conservation Planning Modules 1-5** – no prerequisites. It includes a web-based exam. Please go to the following URL to access the training and exam: <http://www.nedc.nrcs.usda.gov/catalog/consplan.html>. When you complete the exam, your scores will automatically be stored in a database.
 - 2.) **Introduction to Water Quality** – no prerequisites. This training program creates an awareness of NRCS Water Quality policy, and teaches principles and how to apply them in daily NRCS activities at the field, farm, and watershed scales. The course utilizes video and student workbook for the self-study delivery. A score of 80% or above on the on-line Pretest qualifies for a Certificate of Competency. Otherwise, course materials will be sent to student for completion within 3 months. The training program requires approximately 20 hours of concentrated study to complete. A score of 70% or above on the on-line Posttest qualifies for a Certificate of Completion.
 - 3.) **Nutrient and Pest Management Considerations in Conservation Planning** – prerequisite is Introduction to Water Quality Course. This training course introduces NRCS' mission in the nutrient and pest management arena and how it relates to the Resource Management System (RMS) planning process. It provides the participant with a basic understanding of the science of nutrient and pest management, as well as environmental concerns associated with the use of nutrients and pest management measures, including environmental risk, and the processes that affect the fate and transport of nutrients and pesticides in the environment. The training program is divided into two tracks: Track 1 – Nutrient Management and Track 2 – Pest Management. Each track will be offered as individual components of the overall course. The course contains a video and student workbook for the self-study delivery. This portion requires approximately 40 hours of concentrated study to complete. After successful completion of the self-paced Modules 1-6, participants will attend an in-state facilitated session (Module 7) using exercises and assessment tools to reinforce and apply important concepts. Contact Linda Scheffe, NRCS, 505/761-4448, Linda.Scheffe@nm.usda.gov to register for an in-state facilitated session. The participant will prepare a nutrient and/or pest management component of an RMS plan to complete the training.
 - 4.) **Agricultural Waste Management Systems – Level I** – no prerequisites. This training provides an overview of agricultural waste management systems. It covers background, safety and hazards, planning, and functions of agricultural waste management systems. The course is comprised of a self-paced booklet with an accompanying video and requires approximately 1 hour to complete. This course may be requested by sending an e-mail with the information shown below to gspiller@ftw.nrcs.usda.gov.

- Name

- Job title
- Address
- Telephone
- E-mail address
- Supervisor's name

5.) Agricultural Waste Management Systems – Level 2 – Prerequisites– Agricultural Waste Management Systems – Primer 1 and Introduction to Water Quality Courses (the Nutrient and Pest Management Considerations in Conservation Planning Course is also highly recommended). This course provides training on planning and designing agricultural waste management systems with an emphasis on systems for livestock and poultry operations. It provides guidance in developing an agricultural waste management system that manages the waste from its production through its utilization. The Agricultural Waste Management Field Handbook serves as the textbook and reference. The delivery of the training is a self-paced computer based training, packaged as a CD and a workbook. Participants will have 3 months from the day they register and complete the Pretest until they must take the Posttest. The training program requires approximately 32 hours of concentrated study to complete.

B. In-State CNMP Courses:

1.) New Mexico CNMP Workshop

Course Registration: Contact Linda Scheffe, NRCS, 505/761-4448, Linda.Scheffe@nm.nrcs.usda.gov to register for next session. This course will be held annually or as needed.

Summary: Prerequisite: NEDC Introduction to Water Quality Course and NEDC Conservation Planning Course (Modules 1-5). This interagency course covers the major components associated with the Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan in partial fulfillment of the certification requirements for Certified Conservation Planner – CNMP and CNMP Specialist. The duration of the course is 3 days, covering policy, procedures and technical standards for planning, implementing and evaluating the CNMP component for an animal feeding operation of a Resource Management System. Upon completion of the course, participants will prepare a comprehensive nutrient management component of an RMS plan to complete the training.