

United States Department of Agriculture



Natural Resources Conservation Service
210 Walnut Street, Room 693
Des Moines, IA 50309-2180

August 22, 2007

GENERAL MANUAL (GM)
420 – SSC
AMENDMENT IA2 (Part 401)

SUBJECT: SSC – CULTURAL RESOURCES POLICY

Purpose. To amend Part 401 – Cultural Resources Policy.

Effective Date. Upon receipt.

Contact: If there are questions about this amendment, contact Jim Ayen, State Resource Conservationist, at 515 323-2223 or jim.ayen@ia.usda.gov, or Richard Rogers, Archeologist, at 515 323-2253 or richard.rogers@ia.usda.gov.

Filing Instructions.

Immediately After

Title 420, Subpart A
Title 420, Subpart B
Title 420, Subpart C

/s/

Richard Van Klaveren
State Conservationist

Attachment

GM

Title 420 – Social Sciences

Part 401 – Cultural Resources (Archeological and Historic Properties)

Subpart A – General

IA401.12(6) Cultural Resources Coordinator (CRC)

The Iowa State Resource Conservationist is the Cultural Resources Coordinator (CRC).

Title 420 – Social Sciences

Part 401 – Cultural Resources (Archeological and Historic Properties)

Subpart B – Administrative Responsibilities

IA401.12 NRCS Personnel Responsibilities

G. Cultural Resources Coordinator (CRC)

The Iowa State Resource Conservationist is the Cultural Resources Coordinator (CRC).

Title 420 – Social Sciences

Part 401 – Cultural Resources (Archeological and Historic Properties)

Subpart C – Policy

IA401.21 Considering Cultural Resources in NRCS Programs and Activities

All conservation practice planning and application will follow the Iowa NRCS/State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) State Level Agreement (SLA). In addition, the Bringing Excellence and Systems Together (BEST) Cultural Resources Determination Process Step Table and Cultural Resources Flowchart will be used to ensure NRCS policy and the SLA is adhered to.

IA401.24 Post-review Discovery

NRCS Funded Projects: The participant is expected to follow the NRCS-CPA-1202-CPC (appendix) which states that the participant agrees “to discontinue working in the general area of the site and notify NRCS immediately” if an archeological site is discovered. When the decision maker refuses to cease construction on the site, Iowa District Conservationists are delegated authority to withdraw financial and technical assistance. Documentation of the situation will be entered on the Conservation Assistance Notes (IACPA 15) and Environmental Evaluation Worksheet (IACPA-52). Where possible, photographs of the site should be included in the documentation.

Non-NRCS Funded Projects: The participant will follow the guidelines set forth by the funding entity. However, NRCS technical assistance shall be terminated if the SLA is not followed.

IA401.26 Training of NRCS Personnel and Partners

A. All Iowa NRCS and partner employees providing conservation planning and application technical assistance will complete the required cultural resource training and document such training in AgLearn.

C. Technical Service Provider training is addressed in GM-180, Part 411, Iowa Amendment 13.

IA401.30 Compliance Documentation and Reporting Cultural Resources

Documentation of cultural resources activity will be on the Environmental Evaluation Worksheet (IACPA-52) and additional documents as needed. Photographs of sites will be included in the documentation. The BEST Cultural Resources Determination Process Step Table and Cultural Resources Flowchart tools are located on the Iowa NRCS website.

(180 – GM, IA Amend. 2, August 2007)