

Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG)

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Technical Reference

- The FOTG is the primary technical reference for the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS).
- It's purpose is to promote conservation of natural resources in a consistent and responsible fashion.

Composition

- It contains technical information about conservation of soil, water, air, plants, and animal resources with human considerations.
- The FOTG is localized so that it specifically applies to a geographic area.

5 Sections of FOTG

- Section 1: General Resource References- Lists references, cost data, maps, and other info for use in understanding the geographic work area and making decisions about resource use and conservation management systems.
- Section 2: Natural Resource Information- Contains soils, climatic, cultural resources, Threatened and Endangered Species information.

5 Sections of FOTG continueed

- Section 3: Resource Management Systems and Quality Criteria- This section provides info for developing Resource Management Systems to prevent or treat problems associates with soil, water, air, plants and animals. Guidance is also provided for developing Acceptable Management Systems when economic, social and cultural constraints prohibit RMS development.

5 sections of FOTG continued

- Section 4: Practice Standards- This section provides an alphabetical list of conservation practices used by the a field office, followed by practice standards. Practice standards establish the minimum level of acceptable quality for planning, designing, installing, operating and maintaining conservation practices.

5 sections of FOTG continued

- Section 5: Conservation Effects- This section contains effects information used in evaluating CMS for soil, water, air, plants, animals and human resources.

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3/ 5 A set of small navigation icons including arrows and a play button.

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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

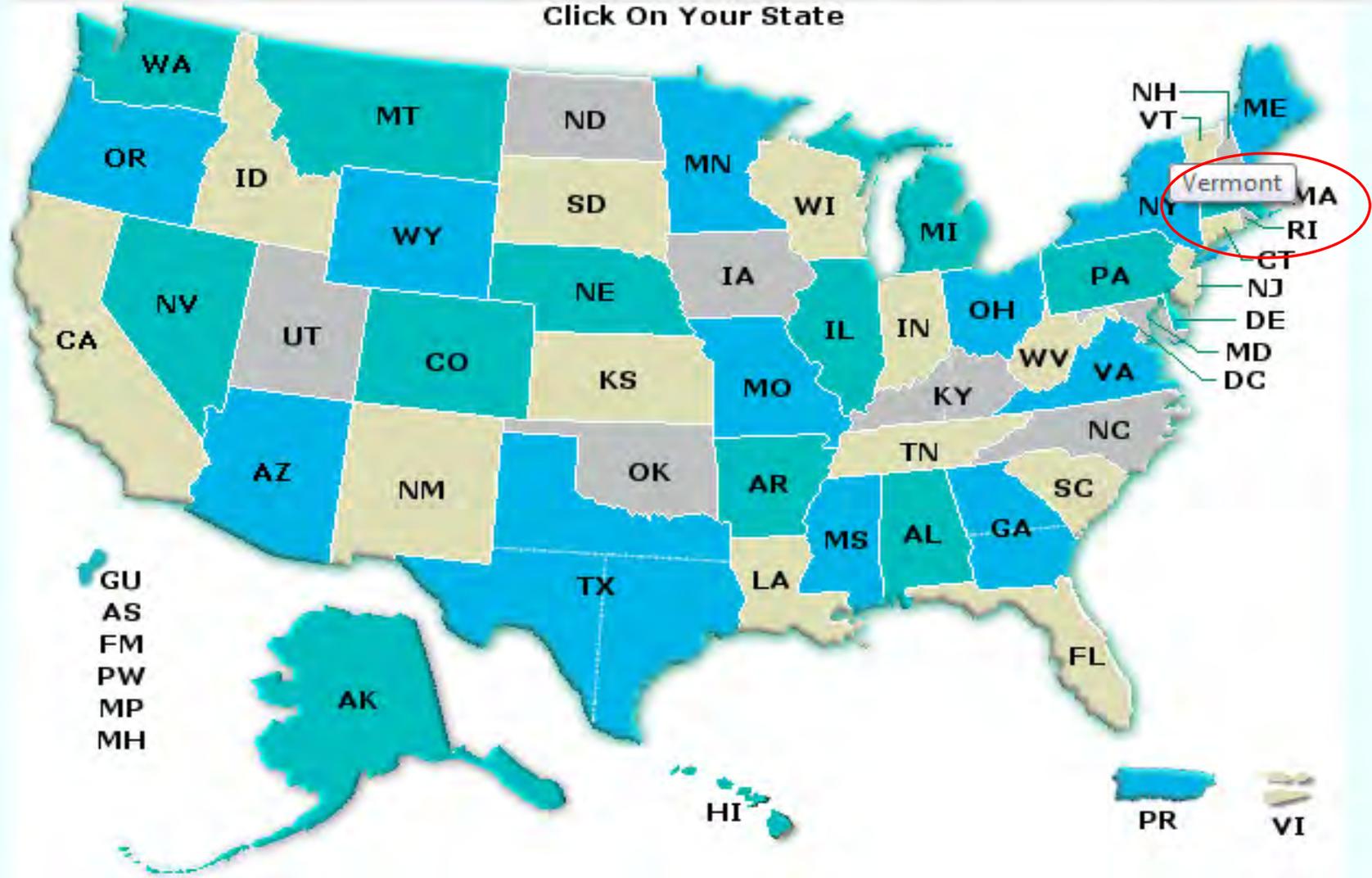
Section I – General References

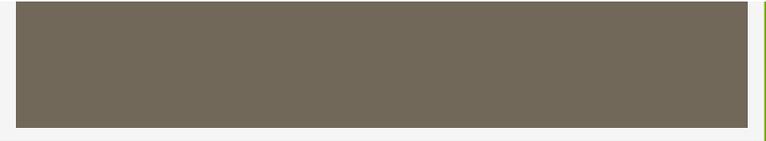
In this section you will find general state maps, descriptions of Major Land Resource Areas, watershed information, and links to NRCS reference manuals and handbooks. Section I contains links to researchers, universities, and agencies we work. Section I also contains conservation practice costs, agricultural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

Click On Your State





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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. [...more](#)

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

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In The Spotlight

Tools
[Culturally Significant Plants \(4/26/2013\)](#)
[A guide to Conservation Plantings on Critical Areas for the Northeast \(4/26/2013\)](#)

Technical Materials
[Seeding and Planting Dates by Plant Hardiness Zones in Rhode Island \(5/7/2013\)](#)
[A guide to Conservation Plantings on Critical Areas for the Northeast \(4/26/2013\)](#)



Updates to FOTG

- Check FOTG frequently for updates.