

State Specific Training Module for Missouri

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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.

NRCS Business Model – Critical Concepts

- Private landowners are the key to successful conservation.
- Participation in conservation is voluntary.
- Planning is the cornerstone of the work NRCS does with landowners, groups and conservation partners.
- Conservation planning is a flexible, dynamic, and continuing process.
- Every acre is used according to its capacity and protected according to its need.
- Conservation planners are technically competent.!

Engineering

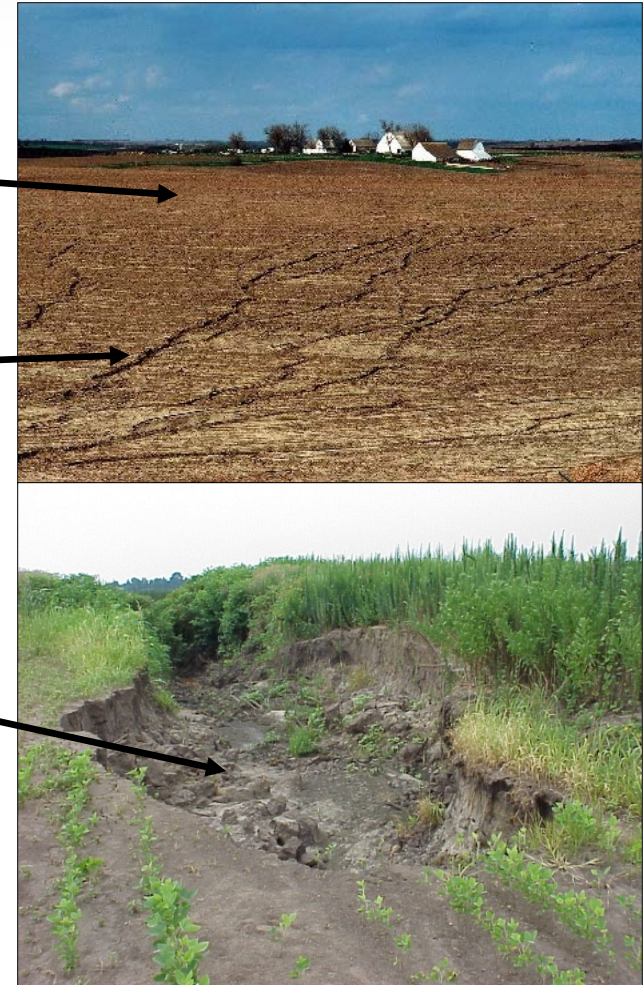
Conservation Practices Requiring Professional Engineering License

- State Statute RSMo Chapter 327.181, 10 CSR 20 - 6.300 (3)(A)2. when engineering license is need for design of conservation practices:
- Agrichemical Handling Facility (309), Waste Storage Facility (313), Animal Mortality Facility (316), Composting Facility (317), Sediment Basin (350), Dike (356), Waste Treatment Lagoon (359), Waste Facility Closure (360), Roofs and Covers (367), Air Filtration and Scrubbing (371), Combustion System Improvement (372), Pond (378), Dam (402), Grade Stabilization Structure (410), Irrigation Pipeline (430), Pond Sealing or Lining, Flexible Membrane (521A – D), Pumping Plant (533), Roof Runoff Structure (558), Runoff Management System (570), Streambank and Shoreline Protection (580), Open Channel (582), Channel Bed Stabilization (584), Amendments for the Treatment of Agricultural Waste (591), Waste Treatment (bio-filter) (629), Waste Separation Facility (632), Waste Transfer (634), Constructed Wetland (656), Wetland Restoration (657), Wetland Creation (658), Wetland Enhancement (659)

Types of Erosion

Types of Erosion

- Sheet – soil removed in a uniform manner from all of the slope
- Rill – soil removed in numerous small channels only centimeters deep
- Gully – water concentrates in channels and removes soil to form a deep void.



Soil Erosion from Streams

- Stream bank erosion can be a tremendous source of sediment delivery to surface water.
- Changes in landscape hydrology can put more runoff into streams and increase the stream erosive power.
- Toe erodes first, then the top of the bank falls into the river as an unstable bank slope develops.
- Practices that increase infiltration enhance agricultural production while cutting sediment delivery from both the field and from the stream.



Vegetation Establishment and Agronomy

Vegetation Establishment Herbaceous Seeding Specification Code 723 Missouri Document for Seeding recommendations

Conservation Practices under this standard

- 327 Conservation Cover
- 342 Critical Area Planting
- 386 Field Border
- 390 Riparian Herbaceous Cover
- 393 Filterstrip
- 512 Pasture & Biomass
Planting
- 645 Upland Wildlife Planting

- Missouri Seeding Calculator
 - Computations will calculate
 - Seeding rates for each species.



Vegetation Establishment Herbaceous Seeding Specification Code 723 and MO Seeding Calculator Can be found in Section IV of the eFOTG [Practice Specification 723 and MO Seeding Calculator](#)

Base Seeding rates

- Table 1-Lists Pounds Pure Live Seed (PLS)Per Acre
 - Each individual species has a rating for:
 - Erosion Control
 - Wildlife Habitat
 - Wet Soil tolerance
 - Drought Tolerance

Native Cultivars/Selections used in Missouri

- Table 2 Lists
 - Native Cool Season Grasses
 - Native Warm Season Grasses
 - Native Warm Season Legumes
 - Native Warm Season Forbs

Ozark Little Bluestem



Vegetation Establishment Herbaceous Seeding Specification Code 723

Practice Adjustment factors

- (327&645) practices
 - Base rate for each species
- (342,390, &393) practices
 - Base rate multiplied by 2
- (512) practice
 - Base rate multiplied by 1.25

Method Adjustment factors

- All practices in this standard
 - Base rate for drill or planter
 - Base rate multiplied by 1.50 for broadcast method



Vegetation Establishment Herbaceous Seeding Specification Code 723

- An example seeding rate calculations for Practice, Method, And Mixture Adjustment factors follow the formula:
 - **Base rate (Table 1) X Practice (%) X Method (%) x Mixture (%)=**
 - **Seeding rate (PLS) Pure Live Seed**
- For example seeding Birdsfoot Trefoil as a Critical Area Planting (342) practice using broadcast planting methods and 20% of the mix, the formula would be:
 - **5.0 PLS pounds/acre X 200% X150% X 20% =**
3.0 pounds/acre seeding rate (PLS)

Vegetation Establishment Herbaceous Seeding Specification Code 723

Table 4 Planting Dates Missouri			
Planting with dominance of:	Spring Planting Period	Summer or Fall Planting Period	Dormant Season Planting Period
Cool Season Grasses and Legumes in Northern Missouri Acceptable Dates Optimal dates	Mar 16-May31 Mar 16-Apr. 30	Aug 01-Oct 15 Aug 16-Sep 15	Dec 01-Mar 15
Cool Season Grasses and Legumes in Southern Missouri Acceptable Dates Optimal dates	Mar 01- May 15 Mar 01-Apr 15	Aug 16-Oct 15 Sep 01-Sep 30	Dec 16- Feb 29
Warm Season Grasses and Legumes and forbs in Northern Missouri Acceptable Dates Optimal dates	Mar 16-June 30 Apr 16- June 15	Not Applicable	Nov 16- Mar 15
Cool Season Grasses and Legumes and Forbs in Southern Missouri Acceptable Dates Optimal dates	Mar 01-June 15 Apr 01- May 31	Not Applicable	Dec 01-Feb 29

Vegetation Establishment Herbaceous Seeding Specification Code 723

- **Seed Quality**
 - All seed shall have a current seed test within 10 months of the planting date.
 - The seed test will list purity, germination, and hard seed as a percentage for determining Pure Live Seed (PLS) and list the percentage of weed seed present that meets state seed quality law standards.
 - Formula for (PLS) is $\text{Purity} \times (\text{Germination} + \text{Hard seed}) / 100$
 - Certified tagging is preferred but not required.

Vegetation Establishment Herbaceous Seeding Specification Code 723

- Inoculation of Legumes
 - Legume seed shall be inoculated with the proper, viable
 - *Rhizobium* bacteria species prior to planting according to Missouri Agronomy Technical Note MO-36.
 - “Legume Inoculation”
 - [Agronomy Tech Notes](#)
 - Pre-inoculated seed shall be planted prior to expiration date.
 - Inoculated seed will not be exposed to direct sunlight.

Agronomy Practices

Other Agronomy Conservation Practices widely used in Missouri include:

- Cover Crops (340) – this practice standard was recently revised.
- Residue Management Practices
 - Residue and Tillage Management No Till (329)
 - Residue and Tillage Management Reduced Till (345)

Nutrient Management and Integrated Pest Management

Nutrient Management Requirements in Missouri

There is currently no state-mandated certification requirement for nutrient management.

Those approving nutrient management technical assistance for NRCS must use one of these options:

- Certification by Professional Organization
 - Certified Crop Adviser (CCA)
 - American Society of Agronomy
 - Certified Professional Agronomist (CPAg)
 - Certified Professional Crop Scientist (CPCSc)
 - Certified Professional Soil Scientist (CPSSc)
 - National Alliance of Independent Crop Consultants (NAICC)

OR:

Nutrient Management Requirements in Missouri (2)

- Certification by Knowledge, Experience, Education
 - Technical knowledge of conservation practices, management activities, risk assessment tools
 - Knowledge of nutrient management policy and criteria
 - Bachelor or higher level college degree in agronomy or natural resources and at least one year of experience

Nutrient Management Requirements in Missouri (3)

- General Requirements for Certification
- (Required for ALL certified planners)
 - Complete Modules 1-7 of the Nutrient Track of the NRCS course- *Nutrient and Pest Management Considerations in Conservation Planning*. Modules 1-6 are online and Module 7 is a written test administered by Missouri NRCS Field Technical Services Staff.
 - Submit two completed nutrient management plans and customer contacts

CNMP Requirements in Missouri

There is currently no state-mandated certification requirement for CNMP development.

Those approving CNMP technical assistance for NRCS must meet minimum requirements for certification for nutrient management planning and submit two examples of CNMP planning

CNMP Requirements in Missouri (2)

The delegated authority for permitting of animal feeding operations (AFOs) in the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR)

Permitting requirements are determined by the number of animal units (AUs) confined by an operation. Class size determination guidance can be found at

<http://dnr.mo.gov/pubs/pub2351.pdf>.

Missouri state regulations require that Class I CAFOs (Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations) and Class II AFOs defined/designated as CAFO due to a discharge obtain a NPDES (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System) permit, or a State No-Discharge operating permit

CNMP Requirements in Missouri (3)

New or expanding Class I CAFOs must obtain a construction permit for construction/modification of an earthen basin for manure storage.

Prior to storage system operation, a CAFO must obtain an operating permit

- NPDES—this permit allows for discharge from uncovered storage due to a catastrophic storm or chronic weather event
- State No-Discharge—no discharge is allowed for any reason

Class IA CAFOs (≥ 7000 AU) must obtain a site-specific operating permit that incorporates MDNR-specified monitoring and reporting requirements

CNMP Requirements in Missouri (4)

Additional permitting requirements

- Land disturbance permit if > 1 acre of land is disturbed during construction
- §404, Clean Water Act Permit—from U.S. Army Corps of Engineers when disturbing or discharging into Waters of the United States, including wetlands

Buffer and Neighbor Notice Distances

- Class I CAFOs must meet buffer distance requirements for public buildings and occupied residences
- Prior to submitting an application for an operating permit Neighbor Notice letters must be submitted that contain specific information about the to operation to all landowners within 1 ½ times the buffer distance
- See Page 6 of <http://dnr.mo.gov/pubs/pub2351.pdf>

CNMP Requirements in Missouri (5)

Production Area Setback Distances

- Those locating animal housing, open lots, manure storage structures, and mortality composting sites must observe minimum setback distances from identified features (See Table 4, Pg. 6 of <http://dnr.mo.gov/pubs/pub2351.pdf>)

Land Application Area Setback Distances

- Those land-applying manure and (or) wastewater must observe minimum setback distances from sensitive features (See Table 5, Pg. 7 of <http://dnr.mo.gov/pubs/pub2351.pdf>)

Integrated Pest Management Requirements in Missouri

There is currently no state-mandated certification requirement for Integrated Pest Management Planning in Missouri.

Those approving Integrated Pest Management technical assistance for NRCS must satisfy these requirements:

- License—commercial applicator license required by Missouri law *when actually apply pesticides*
- Experience—proficient in use of erosion prediction and pest management risk assessment tools (RUSLE2 and (or) WEQ, Win-PST)

Integrated Pest Management Requirements in Missouri (2)

Those approving Integrated Pest Management technical assistance for NRCS must satisfy these requirements (cont'd):

- Training—
 - Complete Modules 1-7 of the Pest Management Track of the NRCS course-*Nutrient and Pest Management Considerations in Conservation Planning*. Modules 1-6 are online and Module 7 is a written test administered by Missouri NRCS Field Technical Services Staff.
 - Submit two completed pest management plans and customer contacts

Forestland

Review of Major Land Uses

Forestland

- Missouri is approximately 35% forested (15.5 million acres)
- Over 80% of forestland is privately owned
- Only approximately 5% of the forest landowners have a forest management plan written by a professional forester
- Missouri has no laws or regulations pertaining to logger certifications or licensing, but does have “voluntary” Best Management Practices (BMPs) for watershed protection and harvesting activities
- Approximately 2.5 million acres of Missouri forest is detrimentally impacted by unmanaged grazing by domestic livestock, which negatively impacts forest health, soil quality, wildlife habitat, and water quality

Review of Major Land Ownership

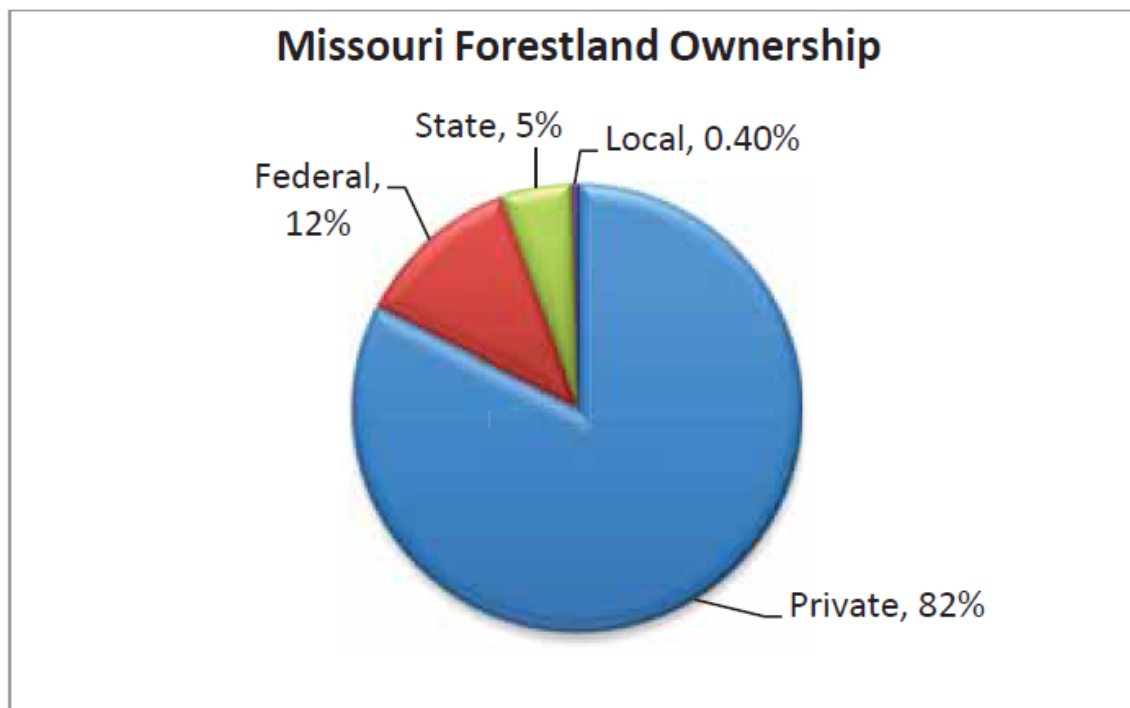


Figure 1.1 Missouri Forestland Ownership
(Source: Butler 2008)

Wildlife Habitat

Wildlife Related Standards and Practices

- Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645)
 - Wildlife Watering Facility (645)
- Restoration of Rare or Declining Habitats (643)
- Structures for Wildlife (649)
 - Edge Feathering and Downed Tree Structure (645)
- Early Successional Habitat Development/Mgmt (647)
 - Disking
 - Mowing and Heavy Disking (brushhog plus multiple disk passes)

Wildlife Related Standards and Practices

- Conservation Cover (327)
 - Native Warm Season Grass/Forbs and Pollinator Habitat Plantings (645)
 - Prairie Restoration (643)
- Field Border (386)
 - Native Grass
 - Pollinator Habitat
- Shallow Water Development and Management (646)
 - Shallow Water Management

Wildlife Related Standards and Practices

- Prescribed Burning (338)
 - Grassland, Woodland
- Brush Management (314)
 - Glade/Savanna Restoration (643)
 - Old Field
- Tree & Shrub Establishment (612)
 - Covey HQ (645)
- Forest Stand Improvement (666)
 - Open Woodland Restoration (643)
 - Temporary Forest Openings (645)

Environmental Evaluation

Environmental Evaluation

The Environmental Evaluation (EE) is “the part of planning that inventories and estimates the potential effects on the human environment of alternative solutions to resource problems”. (7 CFR 650.4 and GM 190 Part 410.4(D).) This form provides for the documentation of that part of the planning process, and was designed to assist the conservation planner with compliance requirements for applicable Federal laws, regulations, Executive Orders, and policy. The form also provides a framework for documenting compliance with applicable State, Tribal and local requirements.

Environmental Evaluation

NRCS is required to conduct an EE on all actions to determine if there is a need for an Environmental Assessment (EA) or an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The EE process results in a "Finding" or conclusion that, either further NEPA analysis is required (EA or EIS) or that no EA or EIS is required because: 1) There is no federal action; 2) The action is categorically excluded; or 3) There is an existing NRCS or NRCS-adopted NEPA document that has sufficiently analyzed the effects of this action. The EE applies to all assistance provided by NRCS (7 CFR 650.5 and GM 190, Part 410.5). The NRCS-CPA-52 form is used by NRCS to document the results of the evaluation and show compliance with NRCS regulations implementing NEPA at 7 CFR Part 650.

Environmental Evaluation

- Prior to developing the Conservation Activity Plan (CAP), contact the applicable NRCS Field Office and request a completed NRCS-CPA-52 form for the CAP.
- Refer to the Special Environmental Concerns section of the NRCS-CPA-52 to identify whether a Special Environmental Concern is present in the action area or potentially may be affected and the current status or condition of the concern and guidance for addressing special environmental concerns.

Prescribed Grazing

Source: 2010 National Ag Statistics Service (NASS) classification of Landsat TM satellite imagery

- Definition
 - Managing the harvest of vegetation with grazing and/or browsing animals
- Condition Where Practice Applies
 - This practice applies to all lands where grazing and/or browsing animals are managed

Purpose

This practice may be applied as a part of conservation management system to achieve one or more of the following:

- 1.Improve or maintain desired species composition and vigor of plant communities.
- 2.Improve or maintain quantity and quality of forage for grazing and browsing animal's health and productivity.
- 3.Improve or maintain surface and/or subsurface water quality and quantity.
- 4.Improve or maintain riparian and watershed function.
- 5.Reduce accelerated soil erosion, and maintain or improve soil condition.
- 6.Improve or maintain the quantity and quality of food and/or cover available for wildlife.
- 7.Manage fine fuel loads to achieve desired conditions.

Additional criterion for PURPOSES 4, 5, 6 & 7:

The grazing prescription chosen for PURPOSES 4, 5, 6 & 7 may be as simple as continuous grazing where stubble heights are used as the monitoring tool, or as complex as a very management intensive grazing system where grazing and rest periods are based on growth rate and are closely monitored. The difference depends on the complexity of the resource problems, the goals of the producer and their ability to implement goals. Use Table 1 as a guide for proper beginning and ending grazing heights.

The grazing prescription chosen for purposes 1, 2 and/or 3 must meet the grazing period, rest period, and minimum pastures needed as set forth in Table 1.

TABLE 1
GRAZING MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Pasture type (select an option that most closely reflects the one being planned)	Begin Grazing¹ (inches)	End Grazing Height Continuous² (inches)	End Grazing Height Rotational³ (inches)	Min – Max Rest Period⁴ (days)	Min-Max Grazing Periods⁵ (days)	Minimum Pastures needed⁶ (number)
Single species (pastures containing only 1 species)						
Introduced grasses	6 – 8*	4 – 5	3 – 4*	20 - 45	10 - 22	3
Introduced legumes	8 – 10*	4 – 5	3 – 4*	25 – 35 (45)**	5 – 7 (9)**	6
Native grasses	12 - 18	***	6 – 8	30 – 50	10 – 17	4
Simple Mixtures (2 – 4 like species or grass + legume)						
Introduced Grasses/legume	6 – 8	4 – 5	3 – 4	25 – 45	8 – 15	4
Native grass mix	12 – 18	***	6 – 8	30 – 50	8 – 12	5
Complex Mixtures (5+ species)						
Introduced grasses/ legumes/forbs	6 – 8	***	3 – 4	25 – 45	5 – 9	6
Native grass/legume/forbs	12 – 18	***	6 – 8	30 – 50	4 – 7	8

Prescribed Grazing Plans will include:

- Goals and Objectives clearly stated.
- Resource Inventory that identifies:
 - Existing resource conditions and concerns
 - Ecological site or forage suitability group
 - Identifies opportunities to enhance resource conditions
 - Location and condition of structural improvements such as fences, water developments, etc. including seasonal availability and quality of watering sites.
- Forage inventory of the expected forage quality, quantity and species in each management unit(s).
- Livestock inventory showing the number, kind and class of livestock and grazing/browsing wildlife species of concern and their estimated forage demand.
- Forage-Animal Balance developed for the grazing plan, which ensures forage produced or available meets forage demand of livestock and/or wildlife.

- Grazing Plan developed for livestock that identifies periods of grazing and/or browsing, deferment, rest, and other treatment activities for each management unit.
- Contingency plan developed that details potential problems (i.e., severe drought, flooding, insects) and serves as a guide for adjusting the grazing prescription to ensure resource management and economic feasibility without resource degradation.
- Monitoring plan developed with appropriate records to assess in determining whether the grazing strategy is resulting in a positive or upward trend and is meeting objectives. Identify the key areas and key plants that the manager should evaluate in making grazing management decisions. (The JS-AGRON 24 & JS-AGRON 29 or the Missouri Soil and Pasture Health Guide should be used as monitoring tools)

Worksheet 1 – Grazing Management Records (One sheet per pasture or paddock)

Name:					Year :	
Pasture ID	Farm # :		Tract # :			Forage type:
	Field # :		Pasture Acres:			
Livestock		Date In	Forage Height	Date Out	Forage Height	Notes
Type(s)	Number					
Hay Harvested or purchased	avg. number of bales	avg weight per bale OR >>	Total tons per year		Forage type of hay harvested from this pasture (if different than that listed above)	
Harvested from this pasture						
Purchased and fed on this pasture						

- **CONSERVATION PLAN MAP:**
 - **Body of map:**
 - Showing existing and planned facilities (water, pipelines, fences, etc.)
- **SOIL MAP:**
 - With appropriate interpretations such as pasture and hayland suitability groups or ecological site descriptions (ESDs), either on the map or in the legend. **Or**
 - Appropriate soils interpretations such as pasture and hayland suitability groups and ESDs can be shown on the conservation plan map.

- **INVENTORY DOCUMENTATION:**

- Grassland Condition and Trend Worksheet (JS - Agron 24) for each pasture or grazing area. May also be shown on plan map or soil map.
- Forage Inventory (JS - Agron 26, Graze 4, GLA or suitable alternative) on each pasture or grazing area.
- Feed and Forage Inventory (JS - Agron 27, Graze 4, GLA or suitable alternative)
- Livestock Inventory (JS - Agron 27, Graze 4, GLA or suitable alternative)
- Livestock, Feed and Forage Balance (JS - Agron 27, Graze 4, GLA or suitable alternative)

- **PLAN NARRATIVE - the record of the client's decisions:**
 - (CPA - 68 or equivalent) The plan narrative will include site specific management statements that provides the client information that will assist them to properly manage each landuse for the intended objective. For grazing lands, the management narratives will meet the criteria outlined in the Prescribed Grazing Standard (528) found in the Field Office Technical Guide.

- **APPLICATION/DESIGN WORKSHEETS AND DOCUMENTATION:**

- Grazing Plan or schedule (Graze 4, GLA or similar tool)
- Design/Application sheets:
 - Water System design sheets
 - Seedings (JS - Agron 25) or MO Seeding Calculator
 - Engineering worksheets - ponds, drainage, irrigation, etc. as needed
 - Fence designs/plans
- MO-CONS-10
 - The MO-CONS-10 form will be completed and maintained in the case file for each conservation practice applied.

Field No. (s)	Practice/Item	Extent/Quantity
	Pipeline (516)	
	<i>Landowner certification of this practice is not allowed.</i>	
	Total Length of Pipeline Completed (Feet)	
	Attach or List Final Component Quantities	
	Attach As Built Drawings and/or Checkout Notes	
	Watering Facility (614)	
	<i>Landowner certification of this practice is not allowed.</i>	
	Total Number of Facilities Completed (Number)	
	Attach or List Final Component Quantities	
	Attach As Built Drawings and/or Checkout Notes	
	Size and type of tank	
	Size and type of surface around tank	
	Prescribed Grazing (528)	
	Total Acres Applied	
	Stubble Height	
	Grazing Schedule: frequency	
	Grazing Schedule: duration	
	Grazing Schedule: intensity	
	Number of Paddocks	
	Fence (382)	
	Total Feet Installed	
	Type of Fence	
	Post Spacing	
	Post Type	
	Number of Wires	
	Date Built	

- **OPTIONAL MATERIAL THAT MAY BE NEEDED OR INCLUDED:**
 - Pasture Inventory Sheet (JS Agron 17, JS Agron 19 or similar tool to document soil loss determinations when needed.
 - Soil Test Reports
 - Economic evaluations
 - Other supporting documentation as needed

Additional References or Training

- State Field Office Technical Guide at www.nrcs.usda.gov go to Missouri eFOTG.

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 understand the
TSP Name
content of the Missouri 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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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 Inquires

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