



Date: November 18, 2016

## **Pacific Islands Area Technical Note Announcement PI-61**

### **SUBJECT: Releases Three Updated Ecological Sciences Technical Notes**

- Biology Technical Note 9 – Stream Visual Assessment Protocol 2 (SVAP2) replaces Hawaii Stream Visual Assessment Protocol (HSVAP)
- Conservation Planning Technical Note 1 – Checklists of Resource Concerns, Updated
- Conservation Planning Technical Note 7 – Toe Step, Transects & Fixed Radius Plots for Vegetation Inventory, Updated.

#### **Instructions.**

Please refer to the following table for a description of the specific document released. The document will be posted to Pacific Islands Area Technical Notes site and available for viewing and printing online at: [http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detailfull/pia/technical/?cid=nrcs142p2\\_037391](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detailfull/pia/technical/?cid=nrcs142p2_037391)

#### **Contact.**

If you have any questions about:

Biology TN 9, contact Jennifer Higashino, State Biologist, at (808) 871-5500 x109 or via email at: [jennifer.higashino@hi.usda.gov](mailto:jennifer.higashino@hi.usda.gov).

Conservation Planning TN 7, contact Michael Constantinides, State Forester, at (808) 541-2600 x122 or via email at: [michael.constantinides@hi.usda.gov](mailto:michael.constantinides@hi.usda.gov).

Conservation Planning TN 1 or this announcement, contact Tony Ingersoll, Assistant Director for Technology at (808) 541-2600 x111 or via email at: [anthony.ingersoll@hi.usda.gov](mailto:anthony.ingersoll@hi.usda.gov).

The following is a description of the document being released:

<b>Document</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>Announcement PI-61</b>	New Announcement.
<b>PI Announcements Index</b>	Revised Announcements Index.
<b>Biology Technical Note 9 – Stream Visual Assessment Protocol 2 (SVAP2)</b>	This technical note serves as a tool for assessing and summarizing the various qualities and condition of streams and riparian areas. This technical note serves as an assessment tool, which may be used by planners for client planning, or for other evaluation needs. The SVAP protocol was developed for use by conservation planners to visually evaluate the condition of wadeable streams and identify resource concerns associated with the stream and riparian corridor. This evaluation and planning tool gathers useful

	information to assist in determining Practices that can address resource concerns, but is not meant to be the project design process. If the conservation plan results in an on-the-ground project, appropriate technical specialists within and outside the agency will be part of the design process. <b><i>This version replaces the previous HSVAP assessment tool.</i></b>
<b>Conservation Planning Technical Note 1 – Checklists of Resource Concerns</b>	This is an update to the previous version from Feb 2015. Questions and assessment tools have been updated to reflect updated PIA planning criteria and assessment tools.
<b>Conservation Planning Technical Note 7 – Toe Step, Transects &amp; Fixed Radius Plots for Vegetation Inventory</b>	Primary adjustment was the method for determining number of recommended plots for fixed radius plot sampling. Instead of basing that only on size of field (acres) it is now based on that plus species diversity in the vegetation cover. More acres and higher diversity returns higher quantities for recommended sample plots. Other minor adjustments and bugs fixed.



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Distribution: AE (PIA - All Employees)