



Natural Resources Conservation Service
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Date: January 16, 2014

Pacific Islands Area Technical Note Announcement PI-44

SUBJECT: Releases the Revised Biology Technical Note 18, and New Range & Pasture Technical Notes 5 and 6

Instructions.

Please refer to the following table for a description of the specific document released. The document has been posted to Pacific Islands Area Technical Notes site and is available for viewing and printing online at: http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detailfull/pia/technical/?cid=nrcs142p2_037391

Contact.

If you have any questions about:

- the revised Biology Technical Note 18, contact Gregory Koob, State Biologist, at (808) 541-2600 x109 or Gregory.Koob@hi.usda.gov.
- the new Range & Pasture Technical Notes 5 and 6, Preston Irwin, State Range Management Specialist, at (808) 885-6602 x102 or via email at: Preston.Irwin@hi.usda.gov.
- this announcement, contact Tony Ingersoll, Assistant Director for Technology at (808) 541-2600 x 111 or via email at: Anthony.Ingersoll@hi.usda.gov.

The following is a description of the document being released:

Document	Description
1. Announcement PI-44	New Announcement PI-44.
2. PI Announcements Index	Revised Announcements Index.
3. Biology Technical Note 18 – Threatened, Endangered and Candidate Species Compliance Process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biology Technical Note 18 has been updated to remove the services of the ESA contractor and update the ESA protocols. • The new process has been renamed to “Threatened, Endangered and Candidate Species Compliance Process” to better reflect NRCS policy. • A new graphic was added to show how the Action Area is identified and defined. • Definitions for direct and indirect effects were added. • Attachments have been updated, removing the old Attachment A (map request) and updating the old Attachment B (now Attachment A). • Attachment A is now titled “Compliance Documentation” and is now a fillable form in Adobe Acrobat format (used to be Microsoft Excel format). It outlines the new process that allows “No effect” determinations to be concurred on in the field without Area Office or State Office review. It also allows for electronic signatures to be used reducing the need for printing hard copies.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The NLAA letters and sample letters have been renamed (Attachments C and D).
4. Range & Pasture Technical Note 5 – Grazing Land Trend Worksheet	Refer to Resource Concerns & Planning Criteria for applicability.
5. Range & Pasture Technical Note 6 – Grazing Land Condition Scoresheet	Replaces Range & Pasture Technical Note 4 – Pasture Condition Score. Refer to Resource Concerns & Planning Criteria for applicability.



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Distribution: AE (PIA - All Employees)