WASTE MANAGEMENT MEASURES

Waste Management System means a planned system in which all necessary components are installed for managing liquid and solid waste to prevent or minimize degradation of soil and water resources. (DIP)

Policies

1. N. C. Soil and Water Conservation Districts are not authorized to approve contracts on agricultural operations that are not in place and therefore are not causing a water quality problem.

   The N. C. Soil and Water Conservation Commission reserves the authority to approve contracts on new operations and will review each contract developed on operations that were established less than 3 years prior to the date of cost share application.

2. If a Confined Animal Operation (CAO) is not meeting the 2H.0200 Non-discharge certification requirements and the most practical option is to move the animals off the present site to a completely new site where .0200 can be met, this would not constitute a NEW operation under the Commission policy. This is considered the same as providing a Waste Management System for the existing operation. However, if a confined animal operation which meets the 2H.0200 Non-discharge certification requirements and the cooperator must move the operation because the property has been sold or the cooperator no longer is able to lease the property, then the operation is not eligible for cost share assistance.

3. A statement, signed by the technician, certifying that the operation has an approved waste management plan is required for all contracts (see section VI for form NC-ACSP-WMP). An approved waste management plan means a plan, signed by the cooperator and the technician, to properly collect, store, treat, and/or apply animal waste to the land in an environmentally safe manner. The waste management plan must follow NRCS standards and must be revised, if necessary, to meet any changes in the operation which alter the waste management needs of the operation.

4. With regard to approved waste management plans for operations receiving cost share funds the following requirements must be met:

   a. A contract hauler is one who either buys the waste from the producer or is paid by the producer and charges other landowners to spread the waste on their land. If waste is being applied by a contract hauler, the name and address of the contract hauler must be included in the waste management plan.

   b. A third party applicator is one who receives the waste from the producer and applies to someone else's land. If the waste is being applied by a third party applicator for the cooperator, a copy of maps of the fields to be applied and soil loss of these fields must be included in the waste management plan.

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c. If waste is removed for closure or retrofitting by a licensed contractor who is paid for this service, the name and address of the contractor must be included in the waste management plan.

5. By signing the Cost Share Agreement (NC-ACSP-2), the cooperator and/or landowner acknowledges and agrees that they are responsible for the maintenance and/or replacement of all equipment cost shared as a component of waste management measure(s) at their expense and that any cost shared component will not be sold or used as collateral for the life of the practice must be included in the CPO.

6. To better coincide with the allowances under the Nondischarge rules, contracts for animal waste management systems can be pulled from the pending file in order to receive payment for one Item in the contract (i.e. lagoons, holding ponds, dry stacks, etc.) even though a later-to-be-installed Item (i.e. irrigation system) is Pending approval of engineer, Area Office or other.

7. Waste Management Systems not subject to .0200 certification will receive annual status reviews (spot checks) for five years following implementation. (See Rule 06E.0107 (e) in Section IV of this manual.)

8. Silt fences are to be used only in conjunction with Animal Waste Management facilities and Sediment Control Structures. Silt fences and any retained sediment must be removed from the site once vegetation has been established. All silt fence installation shall conform to standards and specifications contained in the North Carolina Sedimentation Control Commission manual, "Erosion and Sediment Control Planning and Design Manual", section 6.62. Silt fence posts will be a maximum of 8 feet apart with fabric trenched in a minimum of 8 inches deep. All silt fences must be maintained in working order until satisfactory vegetation is established.

9. Cost share of earth fill is only allowed where it is necessary to haul fill material in dump trucks on public roads. It should not normally be used where fill is moved by scraper pans.

10. Technical staff shall have the responsibility for determining appropriate set backs for cost shared fencing in accordance with Agriculture Cost Share Program policy and NRCS standards as follows:

   a. Cost shared tank, heavy use area, etc. is located a minimum of one hundred (100) feet from the top of the stream bank, the set back for cost shared fencing shall be ten (10) feet.

   b. If stream riparian areas have been damaged or destroyed, then fencing should be set back far enough to permit establishment of woody vegetation on the stream banks.

   c. If the stream bank or channel erosion is such that there exists the potential for the fence posts to be undermined by the stream during the life of the fence, then set backs should be increased significantly (field determination).

   d. For all cost shared BMPs that require fencing, a statement indicating the set back distance from the stream bank must be included in the CPO. Also, the
fencing set back distance should be indicated on the sketch included with the CPO. The sketch should also indicate the distance from the top of the bank to the tank, heavy use area, etc., if applicable. (Note: "Meets set back requirements" is not acceptable. Actual set back distances must be indicated.)

e. If significantly less fencing than planned in the CPO is cancelled, expires or is not installed, a statement signed by the technician must be submitted to the Division explaining why the fencing was not installed, why significantly less fencing was installed, or indicating that fencing was installed at the applicant's expense. The statement should indicate that a site visit was performed, along with the date of the site visit to establish the status of the required fencing. Failure to install required fencing constitutes non-compliance and procedure relative to non-compliance must be followed.

11. For waste management measures that include vegetation the following policies are applicable:
   a. Fescue is used as base vegetation for establishing average cost. Other vegetative types may be used if they meet site specifications but must use base average cost developed for fescue.
   b. Cooperator may use other than 10-10-10 fertilizers and the NC Agriculture Cost Share Program will pay 75% of $.22 per lb. of plant food based on soil test.
   c. Cost share payments for stripcropping or cropland conversion are limited to the bulk rate average cost.
   d. Mulch includes the cost of materials and labor for installing any approved mulch material from the NC Technical Guide, Section IV, standard 342-II, at a rate of 2 tons per acre. Use of clean small grain straw is highly recommended. The average cost used is based on 125 bales of small grain straw per acre at 32 lbs. per bale. Hydro-mulch used by hydro-seeders is not to be used as a substitute for small grain mulch at any rate.
   e. Where mulch netting is required, use as needed 10, 12, or 15 feet wide netting. The Area Office will decide if respective NRCS Area is approved to use 10 feet wide netting and overlap in channels exceeding 10 feet (any overlap must exceed 18 inches). Netting must be wide enough to cover at least 6 inches from the bottom of the waterway up the side slopes. Average cost includes cost of netting, staples, and labor for installation.
   f. Where mulch is not required as a part of the vegetation, netting may be used at the discretion of the person planning the practice.

12. The CPO must include a detailed sketch of the structure/system that indicates the location of the stream system being protected.

13. In addition, the following components, if utilized in the waste management measure, must meet the indicated conditions and/or policies:
   a. Collection tanks for temporary storage and transfer of liquid animal waste must meet state specifications.
b. Average cost is for pressure treated lumber and includes fasteners and labor.

c. Pumps and motors must be permanent set and are for waste handling only.

d. Pump housing protection should be fiberglass. Site built protection may be used in lieu of fiberglass housing with approval from the NRCS Area Office. Cost share shall be 75% of actual cost not to exceed the current rate for fiberglass pump housings.

e. Cost share for guttering for existing structures is limited to structures that were in place at least 3 years prior to the date of cost share application. Guttering for a new structure is limited to that listed in the plan that is cost shared at the time of construction. The average cost for guttering includes all material and labor.

14. For all structural practices, any additional volume needed to accommodate the producer's equipment and/or desires will be at the producer's expense. Therefore, if the cooperator stores equipment (other than waste handling equipment) in the structure and the plan did not stipulate that the volume of the designed structure was increased at the producer's expense, then the cooperator is out of compliance.

15. For other components required as an integral part of a BMP, use cost values for the appropriate component provided elsewhere in the average cost.