

Technical Service Provider Overview

March 24, 2015

USDA 2008 Farm Bill

- The 2008 Farm Bill amended the 1985 Farm Bill, which authorized use of TSPs, by allowing NRCS participant contract holders to receive technical assistance by individuals and entities other than NRCS.

USDA 2008 Farm Bill

- This provision is designed to ensure NRCS has the capacity to address the significant workload associated with implementing Farm Bill programs.

Overview

- Technical Service Providers (TSPs) are individuals or businesses certified to help agricultural producers plan and apply conservation practices on their land.

Overview

- TSPs work with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to ensure conservation services are delivered quickly and efficiently.

When working with NRCS, TSPs can:

- Develop specialized conservation plans to identify resource concerns on the farm or ranch; (Example: Conservation Activity Plans)

When working with NRCS, TSPs can:

- Design, lay out and install conservation practices to address resource concerns; (Example: NRCS Conservation Practice Implementation)
- and

When working with NRCS, TSPs can:

- Inspect completed practices for certification and payment, as applicable. (Example: NRCS Practice Documentation Checklist)

Practice Specifications Approval and Completion Certification

Client's Acknowledgement (To be signed after Job Sheet is completed and before practice installation.)		
By signing below, I acknowledge that I: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● have reviewed and understand the site specific design, installation specifications and operation/maintenance requirements in this Job Sheet and have an understanding of purposes and criteria for use of this conservation practice; ● will install, operate, and maintain this conservation practice in accordance with the site specific Job Sheet specifications. ● will make no changes to the planned design and installation without prior written approval of the Natural Resources Conservation Service. ● will obtain all necessary permits and/or rights, and comply with all ordinances and laws pertaining to the installation, operation, and maintenance of this conservation practice, prior to the start of installation; and ● will assume responsibility for notifying all Utilities affected by the installation, operation and maintenance of this conservation practice. 		
<input style="width: 95%; height: 25px;" type="text"/> <small>Signature</small>	<input style="width: 95%; height: 25px;" type="text"/> <small>Date</small>	
Required Job Approval Authority or TSP Certification Category		
<small>NRCS Job Approval Authority</small> <small>(Job Class required for design and installation): (I, II, III, IV, or V)</small>		
<input style="width: 95%; height: 25px;" type="text"/> Conservation Practice JAA:	<input style="width: 95%; height: 25px;" type="text"/> Design:	<input style="width: 95%; height: 25px;" type="text"/> Installation:
<input style="width: 95%; height: 25px;" type="text"/> Practice Units of Measure:		
Required Certification Categories for Technical Service Providers		
<input style="width: 95%; height: 25px;" type="text"/> "REGULATORY" Listed for this Practice:		
Practice Design Certification: (To be completed after Job Sheet is complete and before practice installation.)		
By signing below, I <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The conservation practice planning and design outlined in this Job Sheet Specification meet the purposes, associated criteria, appropriate site conditions and client objectives; and ● I have the required Job Approval Authority or TSP certification required for this conservation practice design. 		
<input style="width: 95%; height: 25px;" type="text"/> <small>Signature</small>	<input style="width: 95%; height: 25px;" type="text"/> <small>Date</small>	
<input style="width: 95%; height: 25px;" type="text"/> <small>Print name</small>	<input style="width: 95%; height: 25px;" type="text"/> Technical Service Provider <small>Title</small>	
Practice Installation Certification (To be completed after practice installation and check out)		
By signing below, I certify that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The practice has been installed according to the site specific installation requirements and specifications; ● the required operation and maintenance requirements are being met; ● I have the required Job Approval Authority or TSP Certification for this conservation practice installation. 		
<input style="width: 95%; height: 25px;" type="text"/> <small>Signature</small>	<input style="width: 95%; height: 25px;" type="text"/> <small>Date</small>	
<input style="width: 95%; height: 25px;" type="text"/> <small>Print name</small>	<input style="width: 95%; height: 25px;" type="text"/> Technical Service Provider <small>Title</small>	
Certification and Check-out Notes: (Refer to photos or map or drawings if used):		

How NRCS Contract Holder Receive TSP Assistance:

- The NRCS participant contract holder selects an individual, entity, American Indian Tribe, or public agency from the list of certified TSPs.

How NRCS Contract Holder Receive TSP Assistance:

- The provided technical services must meet all legal, technical, and programmatic requirements.

How NRCS Contract Holder Receive TSP Assistance:

- Funding is made available at the State level through NRCS.

How NRCS Contract Holder Receive TSP Assistance:

- The practice must be obligated in the NRCS participant contract prior to TSP services being commenced.

Funding for TSP's NRCS Conservation Practice Assistance

TSP Payment Rates
Vary Depending on:

1. Practice
2. Number of units
3. Regional Rate

The screenshot shows the TSPR website interface. At the top, there is a header with the USDA logo and the text 'United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service'. Below this is a navigation bar with 'Home', 'Help', and 'Contact Us' links. The main content area is titled 'Welcome to Technical Service Payment Rates'. On the left side, there is a search bar and a sidebar with various links including 'TSPR', 'Login', 'New User', 'TSPR Resources', and 'Other Resources'. The main content area contains a large image of hands typing on a keyboard with the text 'TSPR Technical Service Payment Rates' overlaid. Below the image, there is a paragraph of text: 'This interactive web site offers payment rates for technical assistance. The payment rates are calculated by practice and geographic location.' At the bottom of the main content area, there is a button labeled 'Obtain Local Payment Rate Prices' which is circled in red. The footer of the page contains links for 'NRCS Home', 'USDA.gov', 'FOIA', 'Accessibility Statement', 'Privacy Policy', 'Nondiscrimination Statement', 'Information Quality', 'USA.gov', and 'White House'.

Funding for TSP's NRCS Conservation Practice Assistance

Obtain Local Payment Rates

- Select Year: 2014
- Select State: WA
- Select County: THURSTON
- Select General Practice: 000 - Forest Stand Improvement
- Select Specific Practice:

Select Practice	Priority	Annual Typical Type	Units Number of Units	Description
(0) 606 - Forest Stand Improvement	WA0029	None	40	Precommercial thinning and/or seedling release.
- Enter the number of units for this contract: 1

Technical Service Provider Application Costs For 1 (ac):

Activity	Per Unit	Total
Design	\$47.7597	\$144.00
Installation	\$53.5540	\$155.00
Checkout	\$29.0064	\$87.00
Unit cost per (ac)	\$128.3189	\$387.00

State Contact

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Funding for TSP's CAP 106, Forest Management Plan

106	EQIP	Forest Management Plan	FMP Less Than or Equal to 20 acres	988.09
106	EQIP	Forest Management Plan	HU-FMP Less Than or Equal to 20 acres	1185.71
106	EQIP	Forest Management Plan	FMP 21 to 100 acres	1248.12
106	EQIP	Forest Management Plan	HU-FMP 21 to 100 acres	1497.74
106	EQIP	Forest Management Plan	FMP 101 to 250 acres	2236.22
106	EQIP	Forest Management Plan	HU-FMP 101 to 250 acres	2683.46
106	EQIP	Forest Management Plan	FMP 251 to 500 acres	3224.31
106	EQIP	Forest Management Plan	HU-FMP 251 to 500 acres	3869.17
106	EQIP	Forest Management Plan	FMP 501 to 1000 acres	3744.36
106	EQIP	Forest Management Plan	HU-FMP 501 to 1000 acres	4493.23
106	EQIP	Forest Management Plan	FMP Greater Than 1000 acres	4680.45
106	EQIP	Forest Management Plan	HU-FMP Greater Than 1000 acres	5616.54

Questions?

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