comments should be sent to Kate Goodrich-Arling at the same address. Comments may also be sent via e-mail to kgoodricharling@fs.fed.us, or via facsimile to 304–637–0582.

All comments, including names and addresses when provided, are placed in the record and are available for public inspection and copying. The public may inspect comments received at Monongahela National Forest, 200 Sycamore Street, Elkins, WV 26241.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kate Goodrich-Arling, RAC coordinator, USDA, Monongahela National Forest, 200 Sycamore Street, Elkins, WV 26241; (304) 636–1800; E-mail kgoodricharling@fs.fed.us.

Individuals who use telecommunication devices for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1–800–877–8339 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Eastern Standard Time, Monday through Friday.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The meeting is open to the public. The following business will be conducted: (1) Introductions of all committee members, replacement members and Forest Service personnel. (2) Selection of a chairperson by the committee members. (3) Receive materials explaining the process for considering and recommending Title II projects; and (4) Public Comment. Persons who wish to bring related matters to the attention of the Council may file written statements with the Council staff before or after the meeting.

Dated: July 29, 2010.

Clyde N. Thompson, Designated Federal Officer.

[FR Doc. 2010–19115 Filed 8–3–10; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–11–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Forestry Research Advisory Council

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Forestry Research Advisory Council will meet in Washington, DC September 8–9, 2010. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss emerging issues in forestry research.

DATES: The meeting will be held September 8–9, 2010. On September 8 the meeting will be from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., and on September 9 from 8:30–noon.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held in Room 104–A Whittem Building, 1400 Independence Ave., SW., Washington, DC. Individuals who wish to speak at the meeting or to propose agenda items must send their names and proposals by August 31, 2010 to Daina Apple, Designated Federal Officer, Forestry Research Advisory Council, USDA Forest Service Research and Development, 1400 Independence Ave., SW., Washington, DC 20250–1120, or fax their names and proposed agenda items to (202) 205–1530.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The meeting is open to the public. Council discussion is limited to Forest Service, National Institute for Food and Agriculture staff and Council members. However, persons who wish to bring forestry research matters to the attention of the Council may file written statements with the Council staff before or after the meeting.

Dated: July 26, 2010.

Carlos Rodriguez-Franco, Acting Deputy Chief for Research and Development.

[FR Doc. 2010–19112 Filed 8–3–10; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–11–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Notice of Proposed Changes to the National Handbook of Conservation Practices for the Natural Resources Conservation Service

AGENCY: Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), USDA.

ACTION: Notice of availability of proposed changes in the NRCS National Handbook of Conservation Practices for public review and comment.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of the intention of NRCS to issue a series of revised conservation practice standards in the National Handbook of Conservation Practices. These standards include: Channel Bed Stabilization (Code 584), Dust Control From Animal Activity on Open Lot Surfaces (Code 375), Karst Sinkhole Treatment (Code 527), Lined Waterway or Outlet (Code 468), Monitoring Well (Code 353), On-Farm Equipment Efficiency Improvement (Code 374), Pond Sealing or Lining—Bentonite Treatment (Code 521C), Pond Sealing or Lining—Compacted Clay Treatment (Code 521D), Pond Sealing or Lining—Soil Dispersant Treatment (Code 521B), Salinity and Sodic Soil Management (Code 610), Stream Habitat Improvement and Management (Code 395), Vertical Drain (Code 630), Water Well (Code 642), Water Well Decommissioning (Code 351), and Well Water Testing (Code 353).

NRCS State Conservationists who choose to adopt these practices for use within their States will incorporate them into Section IV of their respective electronic Field Office Technical Guides. These practices may be used in conservation systems that treat highly erodible land (HEL) or on land determined to be a wetland. Section 343 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 requires NRCS to make available for public review and comment all proposed revisions to conservation practice standards used to carry out HEL and wetland provisions of the law.

DATES: Effective Date: This is effective August 4, 2010.

Comment Date: Submit comments on or before September 3, 2010. Final versions of these new or revised conservation practice standards will be adopted after the close of the 30-day comment period, and after consideration of all comments.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be submitted using any of the following methods:

• Mail: Wayne Bogovich, National Agricultural Engineer, Conservation Engineering Division, Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Room 6136 South Building, Washington, DC 20250.
• E-mail: wayne.bogovich@wdc.usda.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Wayne Bogovich, National Agricultural Engineer, Conservation Engineering Division, Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Room 6136 South Building, Washington, DC 20250.

Electronic copies of these standards can be downloaded or printed from the following Web site: ftp://ftp- fec.sc.egov.usda.gov/NHQ/practice-standards/federal-register/. Requests for paper versions or inquiries may be directed to Wayne Bogovich, National Agricultural Engineer, Conservation Engineering Division, Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Room 6136 South Building, Washington, DC 20250.
Independence Avenue SW., Room 6136
South Building, Washington, DC 20250.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The
amount of the proposed changes varies
considerably for each of the
Conservation Practice Standards
addressed in this notice. To fully
understand the proposed changes,
individuals are encouraged to compare
these changes with each standard’s
current version as shown at http://
www.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/
Standards/nhcp.html. To aid in this
comparison, following are highlights of
the proposed revisions to each standard:

**Channel Bed Stabilization (Code 584)** — Name changed for better
description, plus minor edits.

**Dust Control From Animal Activity on
Open Lot Surfaces (Code 375)** — This is
a new Conservation Practice Standard.

**Karst Sinkhole Treatment (Code 527)** — Practice name changed from
“Sinkhole and Sinkhole Area
Treatment” to “Karst Sinkhole
Treatment.” Practice specially does not
apply to sinkholes with non-karst
origins (structural failures due to piping,
etc.), plus minor edits.

**Lined Waterway or Outlet (Code 468)** — Changes to the standard include:
A revision in the range in Manning’s
roughness and references cited in the
criteria section; an expansion of the
considerations section to include fish
and wildlife and soil bioengineering,
etc.; and more comprehensive guidance
on what should be included in the plans
and specifications section.

**On-Farm Equipment Efficiency
Improvement (Code 374)** — This is a new
Conservation Practice Standard.

**Pond Sealing or Lining—Bentonite
Treatment (Code 521C)** — The standard
was revised to better match the changes
to our technical guidance document
National Engineering Handbook Series,
Part 651, Agricultural Waste
Management Field Handbook
(AWMFH), Chapter 10, Appendix 10D.

**Pond Sealing or Lining—Compacted
Clay Treatment (Code 521D)** — The
standard was revised to better match the
changes to our technical guidance
document National Engineering
Handbook Series, Part 651, AWMFH,
Chapter 10, Appendix 10D.

**Salinity and Sodic Soil Management
(Code 610)** — Clarified the Conditions
Where Practice Applies and General
Criteria Applicable to All Purposes
sections. Added separate sections for
Criteria Applicable to Irrigated Lands
and to Non-Irrigated Lands. Expanded
the sections for Criteria To Reduce
Problems of Crusting, Permeability or
Soil Structure on Sodium-Affected Soils,
and to Saline Seeps and Their
Recharge Areas. Expanded the
Considerations section. Added detailed
requirements for Plans and
Specifications. Deleted the Operation
and Maintenance section. Reduced the
References section.

**Stream Habitat Improvement and
Management (Code 395)** — Changed
“Stream Visual Assessment Protocol” to
“Stream Visual Assessment Protocol,
Version 2,” changed considerations,
added monitoring guidelines for
evaluating the effectiveness of the
conservation actions, and added post-
project monitoring to Operation and
Maintenance.

**Vertical Drain (Code 630)** —
Additional emphasis on water quality
protection if practice is used.

**Water Well (Code 642)** — Purpose
clarified to exclude human consumption.
Screen entrance velocity criteria changed in accordance with
AWWA standard.

**Water Well Decommissioning (Code
351)** — Name was changed to Water Well
Decommissioning, distinguishing this
practice from industry practices for
closure of other purposed wells (oil,
injection, etc.). Purpose was clarified.
Additional clarification on plugging
materials was added.

**Well Water Testing (Code 355)** —
Conditions Where Practice Applies has
been updated to exclude water wells not
for agricultural use, plus minor edits.

Signed July 29, 2010, in Washington, DC.

Dave White,
Chief, Natural Resources Conservation
Service.

[FR Doc. 2010–19133 Filed 8–3–10; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–16–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Business-Cooperative Service

Request for Proposals: Fiscal Year
2010 Funding Opportunity for
Research on the Economic Impact of
Cooperatives (REIC)

AGENCY: Rural Business-Cooperative
Service, USDA.

ACTION: Initial notice of request for
proposals.

SUMMARY: Rural Business-Cooperative
Service programs are administered
through USDA Rural Development.
USDA Rural Development announces the
availability of $300,000 in
competitive cooperative agreement
funds for fiscal year (FY) 2010 to
conduct research on the national
economic impact of all types of
cooperatives. USDA Rural Development
hereby requests proposals from
institutions of higher education
interested in applying for a
competitively awarded cooperative
research agreement. This funding
follows previous funding awarded in FY
2006, FY 2007, FY 2008, and FY 2009,
the intent of which was to encourage
research on the critical issue of the
economic value of cooperatives.
Funding for FY 2010 is expected to
expand upon research undertaken with
FY 2006, FY 2007, FY 2008 and FY
2009 funds.

DATES: Interested parties may submit
completed applications for the
cooperative agreement on paper or
electronically according to the following
deadlines:

Paper copies must be received by
September 1, 2010, to be eligible for FY
2010 funding. Electronic copies must be
received by September 1, 2010, to be
eligible for FY 2010 funding. Late
applications are not eligible for FY 2010
funding.

ADDRESSES: Applicants may obtain
application forms, guides, and materials
for the cooperative agreement at http://
www.rurdev.usda.gov/rbs/coops/
reic.htm or by contacting USDA Rural
Development at (202) 720–8460, (TDD:
(800) 877–8339, Federal Information
Relay Service) and ask for the
coopereative research agreement
application package.

Submit completed paper applications
for a cooperative agreement to USDA
Rural Development’s Cooperative
Programs, Attn: Cooperative Research,
Mail STOP 3250, Room 4016–South,
1400 Independence Avenue, SW.,
Washington, DC 20250–3250. The
phone number that should be used for
FedEx packages is (202) 720–7558.

Submit electronic applications at
http://www.grants.gov, following the
instructions found on this Web site.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Visit
the program Web site at http://
www.rurdev.usda.gov/rbs/coops/
reic.htm, which contains application
guidance, including an Application
Guide and application forms. Or you
may contact USDA Rural Development
at (202) 720–8460 (TDD: (800) 877–8339
Federal Information Relay Service).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: