



United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service
Denver Federal Center
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SUBJECT: Colorado Memo No. 440-20-2, PGM – Guidance
on Planning Multiple Treatments for Pervasive
Species Utilizing Conservation Practice 314 & 315

April 27, 2020

TO: All Colorado Natural Resources Conservation Service
(NRCS) Employees

Filing Code: 440

Background

Title 440 CPM 530.406 B(4): Multiple payments for structural and vegetative practices are generally not allowed for implementing the same practice on the same land or location within the practice lifespan.

Exception – Multiple payments of Conservation Practice Standards (CPSs) Brush Management (Code 314) and Herbaceous Weed Control (Code 315) are allowed if all the following criteria are met:

- Successive implementation of CPS 314 and/or 315 will not exceed three payments for either practice on the same land.
- The State has consulted with the National Rangeland Management Specialist to ensure that the targeted plants for control require multiple-year treatment.
- The targeted plant species is resilient in the plant community of the treatment area.
- A site-specific determination is made that:
 - Additional treatments are necessary to achieve the effective control of pervasive plant species through reapplication; and
 - The pervasive plant species will ultimately be controlled to a desired level of treatment based on the ecological site description’s “steady state.”

The purpose of this memo is to transmit guidance regarding this program policy and planning Brush Management or Herbaceous Weed Treatment. This memo applies to future and currently planned but not implemented practices.

Colorado Guidance and Instruction for Use

- Species included on the attached list are allowed three successive treatments, not necessarily consecutive treatments of Brush Management and/or Herbaceous Weed Treatment on the same land or location within the practice lifespan.
- The attached list is a list of permitted pervasive species which has been consulted/approved by the National Rangeland Management Specialist.
- Must plan criteria from Conservation Practice 314 or 315 standard purpose that includes pervasive species control to desired level according to a defined desired plant community.

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- Site-specific treatment methods will be clearly defined in the conservation practice implementation requirements outlining the use of mechanical, chemical, cultural control, or a combination of treatment. Pervasive species regimes will be consistent with guidance from state universities, Colorado Department of Agriculture, local research or case studies, or as approved by the State Office technical lead.
- The plants on the list will be considered resilient to said treatment if the first-year application was applied according to standards and associated implementation requirement documentation.
- Any job treating pervasive specie(s) with multiple treatment application or multiple methods will be classified as a Job Class 3 or higher.
- Field offices are to conduct a site-specific evaluation to determine if additional treatments are necessary to achieve effective control of pervasive plant species through reapplications.
 - This site-specific evaluation will determine the percent successful treatment effect from the prior treatment(s) and existing density.
 - The information gathered during the site evaluation will be sent to a planner whom has Ecological Sciences Job Approval Authority (ESJAA) 3, for combination of treatment types or multiple treatments for pervasive species for all three phases of ESJAA for CPS 314 or 315.
- If the site-specific evaluation(s) determines that treatment is at desired level and further treatment is no longer recommended, State Office programs staff will work with the area and Resource Team Leads to modify the contract.

For questions please contact Rachel Murph, State Rangeland Management Specialist, at rachel.murph@usda.gov.



CLINTEVANS
State Conservationist

Attachment: Colorado Pervasive Species List for Conservation Practices Brush Management 314 and Herbaceous Weed Control 315.