

of Puerto Rico, Guam, the Virgin Islands, American Samoa and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

§ 652.2 Definitions.

The following definitions apply to this part and all documents issued in accordance with this part, unless specified otherwise:

Approved list means the list of individuals, private sector entities, or public agencies certified by NRCS to provide technical services to a participant.

Certification means the action taken by NRCS to approve:

(1) An individual as meeting the minimum NRCS criteria for providing technical service for conservation planning or a specific conservation practice or system; or

(2) An entity or public agency as having an employee or employees that meet the minimum NRCS criteria for providing technical service for conservation planning or a specific conservation practice or system.

Chief means the Chief of NRCS or designee.

Conservation practice means a specified treatment, such as a structural or vegetative practice, or a land management practice, that is planned and applied according to NRCS standards and specifications.

Contribution agreement means the instrument used to acquire technical services under the authority of 7 U.S.C. 6962a.

Cooperative agreement means the same as that term is defined in the Federal Grants and Cooperative Agreement Act, 31 U.S.C. 6301 *et seq.*

Department means the Natural Resources Conservation Service, the Farm Service Agency, or any other agency or instrumentality of the United States Department of Agriculture that is assigned responsibility for all or a part of a conservation program subject to this part.

Entity means a corporation, joint stock company, association, cooperative, limited partnership, limited liability partnership, limited liability company, nonprofit organization, a member of a joint venture, or a member of a similar organization.

Participant means a person who is eligible to receive technical or financial assistance under a conservation program covered by this rule.

Procurement contract means the same as the term "contract" means under the Federal Grants and Cooperative Agreement Act, 31 U.S.C. 6301 *et seq.*

Program contract means the document that specifies the rights and obligations of any individual or entity that has been accepted for participation in a Title XII conservation program.

Public agency means a unit or subdivision of Federal, State, local, or Tribal government, other than the Department.

Recommending organization means a professional organization, association, licensing board or similar organization with which NRCS has entered into an agreement to recommend qualified individuals for NRCS certification as technical service providers for specific technical services.

Secretary means the Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture.

State Conservationist means the NRCS employee authorized to direct and supervise NRCS activities in a State, the Caribbean Area, or the Pacific Basin Area.

Technical service means the technical assistance provided by technical service providers, including conservation planning, and/or the design, layout, installation, and check-out of approved conservation practices.

Technical service provider means an individual, entity, or public agency either:

(1) Certified by NRCS and placed on the approved list to provide technical services to participants; or,

(2) Selected by the Department to assist the Department in the implementation of conservation programs covered by this part through a procurement contract, contribution agreement, or cooperative agreement with the Department.

Written agreement means the document that specifies the rights and obligations of any individual or entity that has been authorized by NRCS to receive conservation planning assistance without having a program contract.