

For: State and County Offices

**Tool for Environmental Resource Results Assessment (TERRA)
Version 1.0.18 Installation Pilot and National Deployment**

Approved by: Acting Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



1 Overview

A Background

TERRA:

- enables County Offices to calculate environmental benefit index (EBI) values of an offer scenario
- informs participants of the potential rental payment based on the signup and practices included in the scenario
- supports both general and continuous signups including the State Acres for Wildlife Enhancement (SAFE) initiative.

Note: A future enhancement of TERRA will include the support for Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) and Farmable Wetlands Program (FWP) signups.

B Purpose

This notice provides information to State Office CRP specialists, Geographic Information Systems (GIS) specialists and coordinators, and CO employees on the following:

- TERRA version 1.0.18 installation pilot for selected counties
- TERRA version 1.0.18 national deployment installation
- TERRA version 1.0.18 changes and enhancements
- obtaining conservation and hydrologic unit code (HUC) layers.

Disposal Date	Distribution
February 1, 2009	State Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices
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2 TERRA Version 1.0.18 Installation Pilot and Instructions

A TERRA Version 1.0.18 Installation Pilot

ITSD has completed testing TERRA and will install the client and server software on selected Nebraska and Georgia workstations and servers in the installation pilot on October 23, 2008. This version of TERRA uses a new version of the Conservation On-Line System (COLS) Downloader web service. The new web service will be released just before the installation of TERRA to the pilot County Offices. After the new web service is in place, the COLS Downloader should **only** be run in Service Centers in the installation pilot until after:

- the national deployment has begun
- the Service Center has had both the client and server applications installed.

Installation Pilot County Offices and Service Centers	
County Office	Service Center
Butler, NE	David City
Seward, NE	Seward
Saunders, NE	Wahoo
Terrell, GA	Dawson
Brooks, GA	Quitman
Montgomery, GA	Mount Vernon

After the pilot success is verified, TERRA version 1.0.18 national deployment installation will begin. The national deployment of TERRA is projected to begin as early as October 25, 2008.

B TERRA Version 1.0.18 Installation Instructions

TERRA and the COLS Downloader application will be deployed by ITSD using a Software Management System (SMS) package after October 25, 2008. SMS will automatically install the TERRA application to all State and County Office workstations where TERRA is currently in use.

To begin using the latest version of TERRA, State and County Offices must select “Start|Shut Down|Restart” before the end of the previous day to installing the SMS package.

If the user did not select “Start Shut Down Restart”...	THEN the user must...
and remained logged onto the workstation	do a “Restart” to receive the SMS installation.
but instead selected “Shutdown”	reboot the workstation to receive the SMS installation.

Note: This version of TERRA uses a modified GIS conservation database model. Before the client TERRA application is installed, a database creation script is run to create a new empty GIS conservation database on the server. Therefore, a user in each County Office must run the COLS Downloader application before using TERRA version 1.0.18.

3 TERRA Version 1.0.18 Changes and Enhancements

A Acreage Calculations

TERRA version 1.0.11 used an incorrect meters-to-acres conversion factor of 0.000247. Version 1.0.18 uses the correct conversion factor of 0.0002471.

B Fix for Missing Maintenance Rate

TERRA version 1.0.11 had a defect that resulted in a missing maintenance rate on the report for continuous signup. The defect has been corrected in version 1.0.18.

C Input Layer Folder and Filename Changes for Conservation Layers

TERRA has been changed to use the new geodata subfolder for conservation layers implemented by the Geodata Management Script version 1.3. The old folder location was **f:\geodata\project_data\fsa\conservation**. The new location is **f:\geodata\conservation**.

If users uncheck the “**Use Web Services**” box on the “**Add Layer Files|Conservation**” tab, TERRA will automatically load all shapefiles in the new folder. If the folder does **not** exist or does **not** contain shapefiles, users may do either of the following:

- load the files manually by clicking the “**Add**” button and browsing to each individual file location
- change the default conservation folder back to the old folder using the TERRA Parameter Settings form.

D Input Layer Folder and Filename Changes for HUC Layers

TERRA has been changed to load the HUC file automatically if it:

- exists in the “**f:\geodata\hydrologic_units**” folder
- has either of the following standard file names:
 - huc250k_a_<state postal abbreviation>.shp
 - wbdhu12_a_<state postal abbreviation>.shp.

Note: TERRA users can manually load these files from folders other than the “**hydrologic_units**” folder. However, TERRA will **not** allow users to load files that do **not** use these standard file names.

3 TERRA Version 1.0.18 Changes and Enhancements (Continued)

D Input Layer Folder and Filename Changes for HUC Layers (Continued)

TERRA version 1.0.18 also fixes the defect that caused the TERRA application to “hang” when a “**HUC_8**” column was **not** defined in the HUC file.

Note: The “**wbdhu12_a_<st>.shp**” file is **not** available in all States. When it becomes available, it must be used in place of the “**huc250k_a_<st>.shp**” file. TERRA will use the highest HUC defined in the layer loaded.

If this file does **not** exist on the County Office servers, State GIS specialists and coordinators can download the files from the Geospatial Data Gateway using the instructions in the User Guide.

E TERRA Output File Folder

The Geodata Management Script version 1.3 also creates a “**crp_scenarios**” subfolder in **f:\geodata\conservation**. TERRA version 1.0.18 saves all output files to the new “**crp_scenarios\saved\submitted**” subfolders.

If the “**f:\geodata\conservation\crp_scenarios\saved\submitted**” folder does **not** exist because the Geodata Management Script has **not** been run, TERRA version 1.0.18 will use the old “**f:\geodata\project_data\fsa\conservation\crp_scenarios\saved\submitted**” folder structure.

Note: The Geodata Management Script version 1.3 does **not** move the subfolders under “**f:\geodata\project_data\fsa\conservation\crp_scenarios**” to the new folder. This must be done manually on each server so that all the TERRA output files are in 1 location and available for redo and COLS submission.

F Fix for Service Centers With County Codes

The COLS Downloader and TERRA applications were updated to allow using TERRA in “split” counties where the FSA county code is different from the Federal Information Processing Standard (FIPS) county code.

Users in split counties will see the FIPS county name and code in the COLS Downloader form. In TERRA, users will see the FIPS or FSA code of the split county on their server in the “TERRA Signup” tab of the county drop-down list.

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3 **TERRA Version 1.0.18 Changes and Enhancements (Continued)**

G Fix for “Redo” Button

TERRA version 1.0.11 had a defect that prevented using the “Redo” button in States beginning with the letters “F”, “S”, or “T”. This defect has been corrected.

TERRA version 1.0.18 now requires users to select a signup before selecting the “Redo” button. The scenario being redone will be for the currently selected signup even though it was originally created in another signup that may not be configured in COLS currently.

H Fix for User-Entered Practice Validation

TERRA version 1.0.11 displayed an error message when validating that both CP27 and CP28 are assigned to a scenario if either practice is assigned. TERRA version 1.0.18 now correctly validates the user-entered data.

4 **Action**

A State Office Action

State Offices shall ensure that County Offices understand and follow the provisions of this notice.

B County Office Action

County Offices shall follow the provisions of subparagraph 2 B for installing TERRA version 1.0.18.