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November 26, 2025

OREGON BULLETIN NUMBER: OR 190-2026-1

SUBJECT: ECS – Ecological Sciences Job Approval Authority (ESJAA)

Purpose: To provide guidance on NRCS Oregon Ecological Sciences Job Approval Authority (ESJAA)

Expiration Date: September 30, 2026

Background:

- 190-311-NI, 1st Ed., Amend. 24, Nov. 2020 – Provides guidance to NRCS State Conservationists, Directors of the Pacific Islands and Caribbean Areas, national technology support center directors, and National Headquarters regarding the implementation of the ecological sciences job approval authority (ESJAA) policy.
- 190-417-GM, 1st Ed. Amend. 34, Nov. 2020 – Ensures the competency of NRCS employees and partner employees to plan, design, and install ecological science (ES) conservation practices.

Explanation: Starting October 1, 2025, NRCS Oregon employees and partners shall refer to this bulletin regarding NRCS Oregon Ecological Sciences Job Approval Authority (ESJAA). This bulletin provides important definitions and outlines Oregon staff and partner employee roles, responsibilities, and requirements for obtaining, delegating, and reviewing ESJAA.

The ESJAA process ensures the competency of NRCS employees and partners to plan, design, and install conservation practices or enhancements that, with proper operation and maintenance, will perform the intended functions for the established conservation practice lifespan. ESJAA additionally serves to substantiate and maintain the credibility and trust of NRCS with State boards of licensure, accrediting organizations, other agencies, units of government, and the public. ESJAA policy does not apply to technical service providers (TSPs).

Contact: Questions concerning information included in this bulletin should be directed to Amy.Hendershot, State Resource Conservationist at 503-414-3216 or at amy.hendershot@usda.gov.

Sincerely,

//signed//

GREG BECKER
State Conservationist

Attachments: A. ESJAA Procedures
B. ESJAA Crosswalk
C. ESJAA Flowchart