

## GAM summary of updates effective July 1, 2025

Chapter name	Summary of changes
Providing financial assistance to land occupiers	<p>Providing Financial Assistance to Land Occupiers replaces previously named <i>Implementing Contracts with Land Occupiers</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Revised format clarifying procedure and guidance</li> <li>• Replaces “contract” with “agreement”</li> <li>• Removes requirement for landowner signature if land occupier has all required legal land rights including but not limited to access and authority to both construct and maintain the conservation practice(s)</li> <li>• Removes list of specific items needed in meeting minutes</li> <li>• Removes limits on types of amendments</li> <li>• Removes option to make final payment after the initial year of installation for multi-year contracts for annual practices. Payment can only be made for activities that have been completed.</li> <li>• Tennessen Warning Notice guidance added (previously in Project and Practice Assurances)</li> </ul>
Native vegetation guidelines and applicability to BWSR funded projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Updated to reflect changes to chapter structure. See grant agreement for more detail.</li> <li>• Previously titled <i>Vegetation Requirements for BWSR Funded Projects</i>.</li> </ul>
Recording conservation practices	Updated to reflect changes to chapter structure.
About the GAM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Updated to summarize new GAM formatting and revised definitions for: Procedure, Guidance, and Policy.</li> <li>• Updated definitions for consistency across the GAM and other agencies.</li> <li>• Definition of Grant Budget has been removed and incorporated as “activity budget” in the definition of Work Plan.</li> <li>• Definition of Cost Share Contract has been removed and incorporated within definition of Conservation Practice Agreement.</li> <li>• Definition of Financial Report has been removed since it is no longer required with the updated eLINK system launched in 2023.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Definition of Technical Approval Authority has been eliminated and the definitions for Job Approval Authority and Technical Assistance Provider have been updated to align with the new Assurances chapter.</li> </ul>
Processing a BWSR grant	Updated to reflect new chapter structure.
Grant agreement amendments and work plan revisions	Updated to reflect new chapter structure, along with significant changes to circumstances requiring a work plan revision or grant agreement amendment. Applies to grants executed on and after July 1, 2025. See archived Grants Administration Manual for grants executed prior to July 1, 2025. See your grant agreement for more detail under the clause: Assignment, Amendments, and Waiver (and Work Plan Revisions).
Requesting a reimbursement or payment	Updated to reflect new chapter structure.
Records, program and project files	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Updated to reflect new chapter structure.</li> <li>Incorporated sections from Financial Management Chapter.</li> </ul>
Reporting requirements for BWSR grants	Updated to reflect new chapter structure.
Closing out a BWSR grant	Updated to reflect new chapter structure.
Grants monitoring and financial reconciliations	Updated to reflect new chapter structure.
Time and effort documentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Updated to reflect new chapter structure.</li> <li>Grant requirements have been moved to grant agreement.</li> <li>Procedural requirements have been reformatted to provide additional clarity.</li> <li>PAR examples updated.</li> </ul>
Determining a billing rate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Updated to reflect new chapter structure.</li> <li>Procedural requirements have been reformatted to provide additional clarity</li> </ul>
<i>Prevailing wage</i>	Chapter eliminated and incorporated into FAQs.
<i>Private and nonpublic data</i>	Chapter eliminated and incorporated into FAQs.
<i>Conflict of interest</i>	Chapter eliminated and incorporated into FAQs.
Local policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Updated to reflect new chapter structure.</li> <li>Previously titled <i>Recommended Local Policies</i>.</li> </ul>
<i>Financial management and accounting</i>	Chapter eliminated. Contents have been incorporated into Allowable Costs and; Records, Program and Project Files GAM Chapters.
Allowable costs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Updated to reflect new chapter structure.</li> <li>Incorporated language from <i>Financial Management and Accounting</i> chapter.</li> </ul>
Personnel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Updated to reflect new chapter structure.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Previously titled <i>Payroll and Personnel Records</i>.</li> </ul>
*Assurances*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*New* Assurances chapter combines elements from <i>Project and Practice Assurances</i>, <i>Technical Quality Assurance</i>, and <i>Operation, Maintenance, and Inspection of Practices</i> chapters of the previous Grants Administration Manual.</li> <li>Updates to the development of the practice operation and maintenance (O&amp;M) plan to require that a Technical Assistance Provider(s) prepare the O&amp;M plan.</li> <li>Updated to reflect new chapter formatting.</li> </ul>
Frequently asked questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Added FAQ regarding grantees working with partner organizations.</li> <li>Incorporated <i>Private and Nonpublic Data</i> GAM Chapter as an FAQ.</li> <li>Incorporated <i>Conflict of Interest</i> GAM Chapter as an FAQ.</li> <li>Incorporated <i>Prevailing Wage</i> GAM Chapter as an FAQ.</li> </ul>
<i>Project and Practice Assurances</i>	Chapter eliminated and incorporated into new Assurances chapter.
<i>Technical Quality Assurance</i>	Chapter eliminated and incorporated into new Assurances chapter.
<i>Operation, Maintenance, and Inspection of Practices</i>	Chapter eliminated and incorporated into new Assurances chapter.