CEPSCI Exam Primer

1. The certification exam will be composed of 80 multiple choice questions.

2. The exam period will be 3 hours maximum and will occur after the training course in one or more central locations (Columbia, Greenville, and Charleston) on the same day.

3. Exam Check-In will occur at each designated site at 8:00 AM. Examinees must be seated by 8:45 AM in order to receive instructions. The exams will begin promptly at 9:00 AM. Late arrivals will NOT be seated!

4. The test questions will cover the general subject matter areas shown below with the potential number of questions in each subject matter area also listed.

   - Interpretation of plans and topographic maps (8-12 questions)
   - Regulatory (8-12 questions)
   - Runoff BMPs (16-20 questions)
   - Erosion BMPs (16-24 questions)
   - Sediment BMPs (20-24 questions)

5. Each examinee shall bring the following to the test site:
   - a government issued, photo ID
   - at least three (3) sharpened #2 pencils
   - battery powered calculator

6. Answer sheets and scrap paper will be provided.

7. The following draft questions, along with the Construction Plan and Topo Map Review questions illustrate the types and formats of questions that may be asked.
CEPSCI Exam
Sample Questions

Directions: Select the best answer for each question.

1. Sediment control structures such as silt fence most commonly trap sediment by the following means.
   a. Slowing water to allow sediment particles to settle out.
   b. Serving as a filter that traps sediment particles in the small openings.
   c. Preventing on-site erosion.
   d. Serving as obstacles for vehicular traffic to slow movement.

2. PAM is a chemical that is added to turbulent runoff primarily to achieve the following.
   a. Change the turbulent flow to laminar flow.
   b. Cause flocculation that reduces sediment transport.
   c. Make the water potable immediately.
   d. Provide binding of seed to mulch so that vegetation can be established.

3. Runoff BMPs generally work to dissipate energy using each of the following except
   a. ECBs
   b. TRMs
   c. Riprap
   d. PAM

4. Filter fabric inlet protection is the most appropriate BMP of choice in situations where the flow rate is
   a. High (> 0.5 cfs)
   b. Medium (~ 0.5 cfs)
   c. Low (< 0.5 cfs)
   d. Frequent

5. If the 0.5 in. rainfall criterion is used, the maximum interval between construction site inspections should be the following.
   a. 7 days
   b. 10 days
   c. 14 days
   d. 30 days

6. Final site stabilization is achieved when percent vegetative cover on all disturbed areas is at least the following.
   a. 65 percent
   b. 70 percent
   c. 80 percent
   d. 90 percent
7. The sediment control structure in the center right side of the photo above is a
   b. Rock construction entrance
   c. Rock ditch check
   d. Rock spillway for a sediment trap

8. Consider the following situation: You observe bulldozer tracks with dozer traveling parallel to the contour. The statement that you would use in an inspection report about the situation shown is most nearly.
   a. The bulldozer tracks indicate that the tracking was done in the incorrect direction.
   b. The bulldozer tracks indicate that the tracking was done in the correct direction.
   c. The situation is an improper application of tracking and should be replaced immediately with sod.
   d. ECB would not be appropriate on the site because the slope is too flat.

9. The main benefit of using mulches and ECBs is that they
   a. Are not living like vegetation
   b. Provide instant cover
   c. Do not have to be anchored
   d. Last 4-6 years which is longer than the life of most construction projects

10. Sediment and erosion control measures shall not be removed until all construction is complete and until a temporary ground cover is established.
    a. True
    b. False