

PART 401 – CULTURAL RESOURCES (ARCHEOLOGICAL AND HISTORIC PROPERTIES)

SUBPART C – POLICY

ME401.30 Compliance Documentation and Reporting Cultural Resources

C. For all program activities in Maine, NRCS personnel will use the NRCS Preliminary Cultural Resources Review Worksheet (ME-CR-) and appropriate attachments to document undertakings and areas of potential effects for cultural resource reviews. The Maine State Level Agreement with the Maine Historic Preservation Commission and the Consultation Protocols with the Penobscot Indian Nation and the Passamaquoddy Tribe describe how to use the Worksheet. The Cultural Resources Coordinator (CRC) Cultural Resource Specialist (CRS) will maintain the Worksheet technically and legally, in cooperation with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and the Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (THPOs) of the Penobscot Indian Nation and the Passamaquoddy Tribe. Instructions for use of the Worksheet and its supplements will be maintained in the Field Office Technical Guide under Section II, Cultural Resources Information.

D. NRCS personnel will submit to the CRC/CRS a copy of completed ME-CR-1 Worksheets and appropriate attachments for all undertakings not exempt from cultural resource review. This submittal will be done within 14 days of Worksheet completion and applies to all evaluations conducted at the Field Office or RC&D Office levels. When the authority for resource planning is beyond the Field Office or RC&D Office levels or when an undertaking is on lands owned or controlled by more than two persons or public entities, the CRC/CRS will prepare the Worksheets in consultation with field personnel. For Worksheets only with undertakings that are exempt from cultural resource review (as defined in the aforementioned State Level Agreement and Consultation Protocols), Field Office and RC&D Office personnel retain the completed Worksheets in their own offices. The CRC/CRS will provide further guidance as needed in consultation with the SHPO and THPOs and based on changing reporting or compliance needs.