



# Inventories and Evaluations (I & E)

USDA • Natural Resources Conservation Service • July 1999

## What is it?

The Resource Planning process requires basic information about resource conditions in the planning area. Present and future conditions are assessed using Inventories and Evaluations (I&E).

## Why is it important?

I&E is used by the Planning Committee to quantify resource concerns and to develop strategies to address them.

## When do we do it?

I&E procedures are used during Phase One, when resources in the planning area are inventoried and the data is analyzed. See the RPG fact sheets "Conducting Resource Inventories" and "Analyzing Resource Data".

## How do we do it?

The Appendix to the Resource Planning Guidebook includes methods that can be used to develop some inventories and evaluations. These methods are not the only way to complete I&E. Technical advisors who assist the Planning Committee may use other methods. Also, the Appendix does not include procedures for all the I&E that may need to be done. Rather, included here are procedures for those I&E that are most commonly completed by NRCS/SWCD field staff. Other critical I&E may concern water quality, farmland protection, land use change, socio-economics, woodlands, and wildlife habitat. In all cases, technical specialists with NRCS and Partners are available to assist with inventories and evaluations.