



State Resource Assessment (SRA)

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History of State Resource Assessment

In 2011, the USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) conducted a statewide assessment to identify natural resources in Washington that might be impacted by agriculture, grazing, and private forestry operations.



History of State Resource Assessment

The assessment addressed natural resources:

- Soil
- Water
- Air
- Plants
- Animals (both farm animals and wildlife)
- Humans
- Energy



History of State Resource Assessment

Natural resources of greatest concern were identified and prioritized based on:

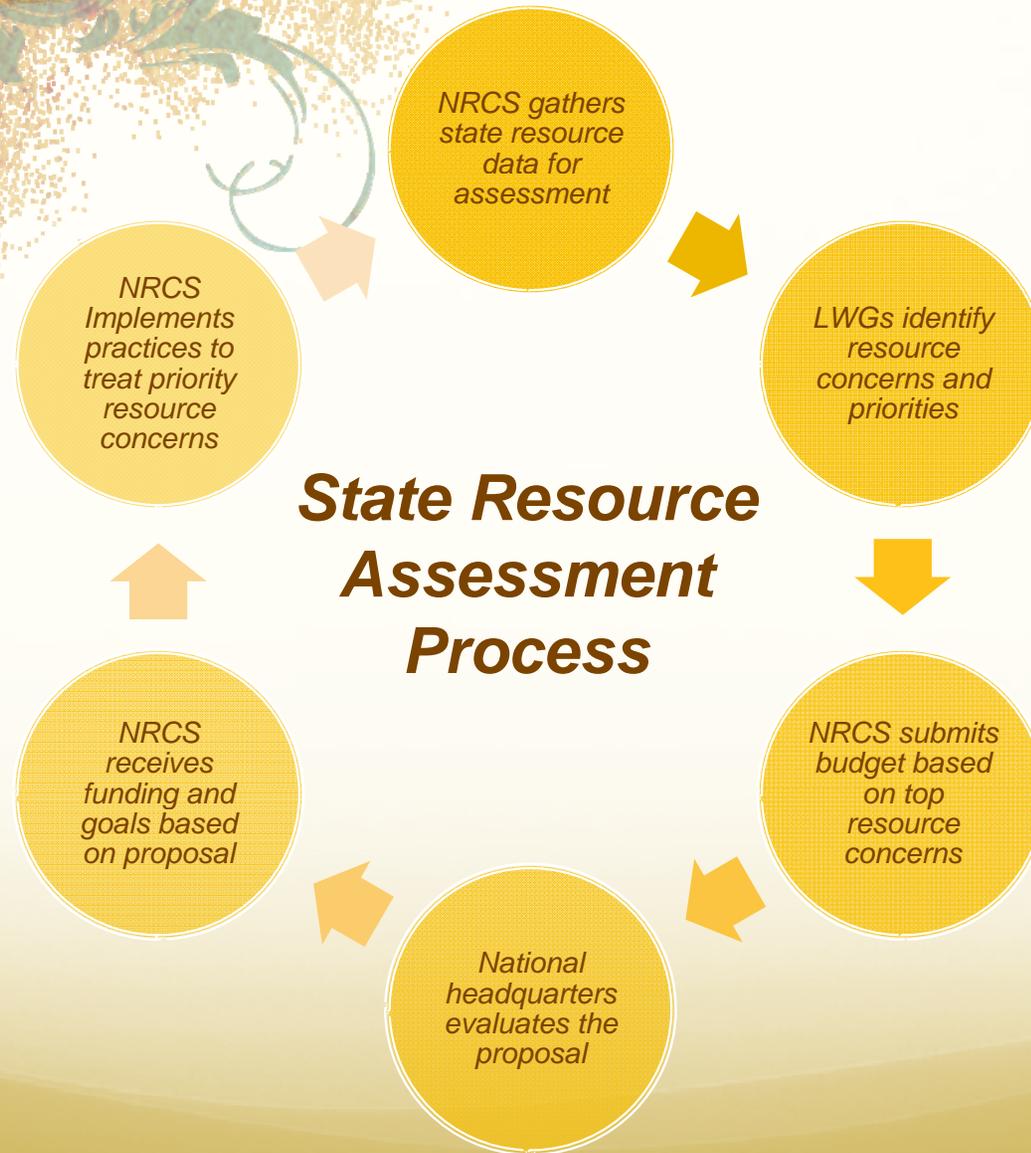
- Data gathered
- Local and regional stakeholder and shareholder input
- Analysis and assessment



How the SRA is Used

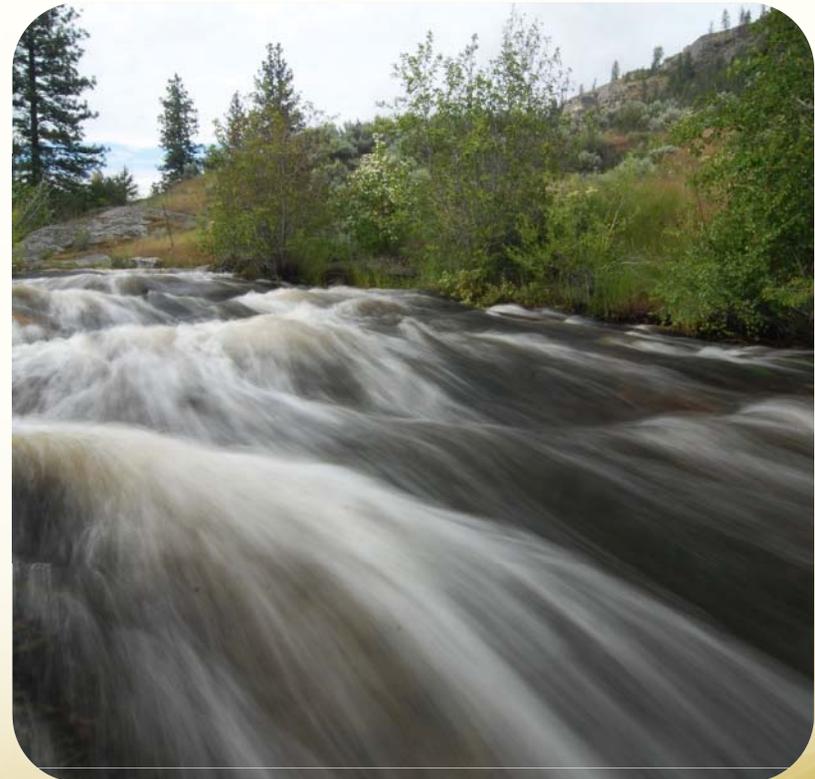
The State Resource Assessment:

- Helps NRCS focus attention and funding
- Guides collaboration with partners that have similar concerns.
- Is an on-going process that will be adjusted to account for new innovations and technologies



NRCS-WA Priority Natural Resource Concerns

1. **Soil erosion** – sheet, rill, wind
2. **Water quality degradation** – sediment
3. **Water quality degradation** – nutrients
4. **Degraded plant condition** – undesirable plant productivity
5. **Inefficient use of irrigation**
6. **Inadequate habitat for fish and wildlife** – habitat degradation
7. **Degraded plant condition** – excessive plant pest pressure
8. **Water quality degradation** – pathogens
9. **Water quality degradation** – pesticides
10. **Degraded plant condition** – wildfire
11. **Energy**



A New Budget Process in 2011

- For the first time, NRCS-WA was asked to submit a budget proposal based on treating priority resource concerns in Washington State.
- NRCS National Headquarters evaluated proposals to determine states' budgets for the next three (3) years.
- Performance measures will be based on the State Resource Assessment and each states' individual goals and priorities.
 - FY 2012 is a transitional year
 - By FY 2013 NRCS-WA will be expected to meet all goals set by the State Resource Assessment

The Future of Funding

- Stakeholder support and participation in the SRA continues to be very important.
 - Funding pools will be set based on the priority resource concerns,
 - Payment schedules will only include practices associated with the identified resource concerns.
 - Ranking criteria will favor applications that treat the priority resource concerns.

For More Information

- Contact NRCS-WA to look at the State Resource Assessment 2011: Priority Resource Concerns booklet.
- Call the NRCS state office at 509.323.2900.
- Obtain a copy of the booklet on the web at www.wa.nrcs.usda.gov/technical
- For more info on your local work group, contact your local NRCS Field office.