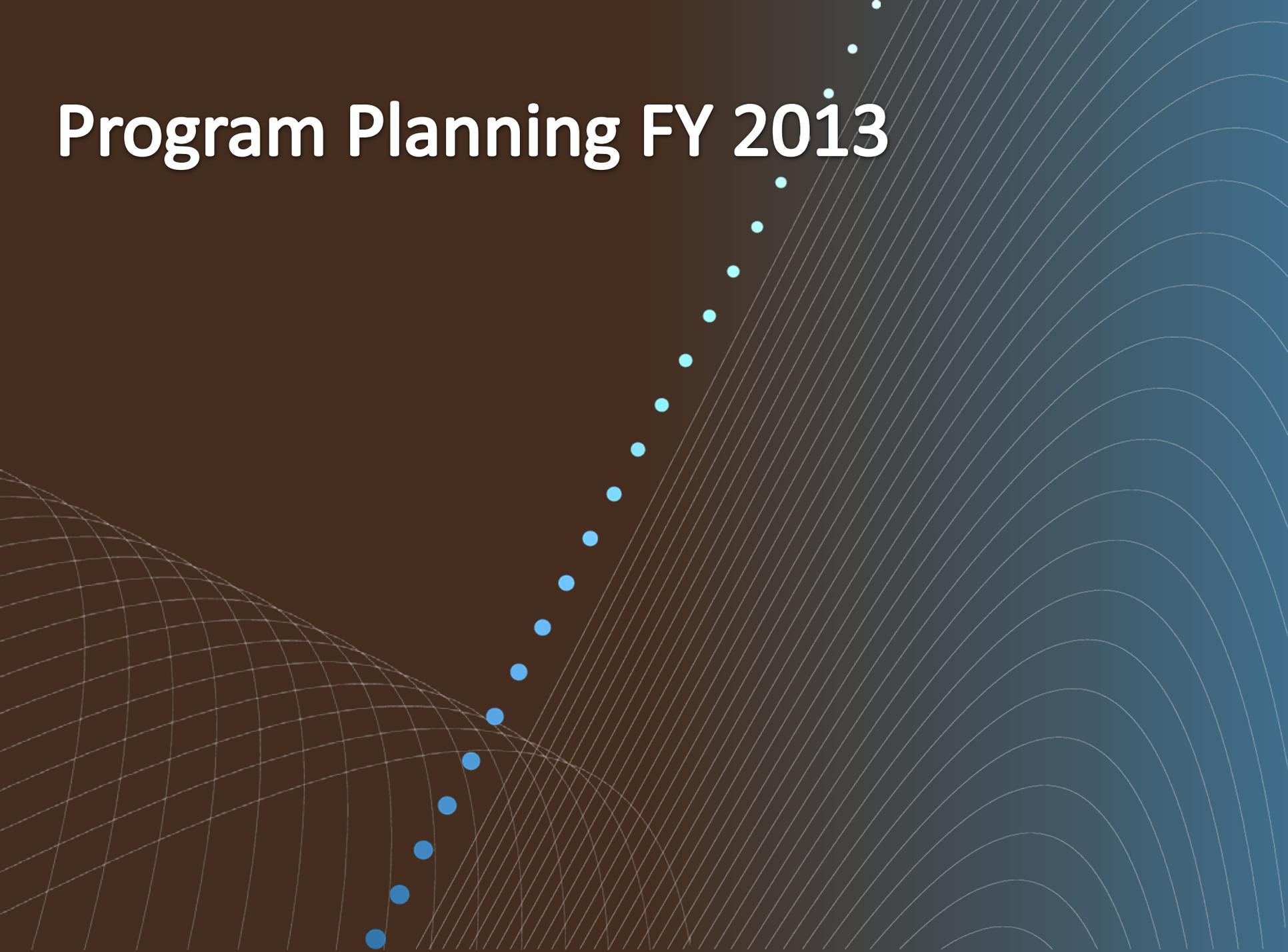


Program Planning FY 2013

The background features a dark brown upper section and a blue lower section. A series of blue dots forms a curved path from the bottom left towards the top right. The blue section is decorated with white wavy lines, and the brown section has a white grid pattern.

Why Are We Here?

- ∅ WATCAC has an opportunity to provide NRCS with recommendations on how to focus program funds in their local area.



How Did We Get Here?

∅ NHQ Required that Each State Complete a State Resource Assessment (SRA)

• The following Had to be Identified

- Priority Resource Concerns by five Land Uses
- Priority Treatment Areas for Each Resource Concern & Land Use (12-HUC Scale)
- Acres to be Treated in the Next 3 Years (by Resource Concern & Land Use)



How Did We Get Here?



- Each state must treat all the Land Uses:
Crop, Pasture, Forest, Range, Other
- 100% of State's funding must be used for the Priority Resource Concerns identified in the SRA
- At least 70% of funding must be used within Priority Treatment Areas (purple) indicated in the SRA

How Does the SRA Impact WA NRCS Programs?

- WA NRCS requests program dollars based on the Priority Resource Concerns in the SRA for each Land Use
- Program dollars received are expected to be spent on treatment of those Priority Resource Concerns (100% in FY13)



How Does the SRA Impact WA NRCS Programs?

- Only Practices that treat a Priority Resource Concern are eligible for Cost Share Programs
- The SRA identifies Priority Treatment Areas where the funds will be focused
- Acres to be Treated translates into Goals
 - We don't have enough money to treat all the acres at once
 - Therefore, acres to be treated over the next three years must be identified
 - Meeting our goals impacts the dollars we get



How Does This All Impact the WATCAC?

- 2 Fronts

1. Input into the State Resource Assessment Process
2. Incorporating the SRA into Cost Share Programs Locally



WATCAC Input into the State Resource Assessment

- Input is an on-going process
- WATCAC input ensures programs are tailored to Washington State
- WATCAC input helps coordinate NRCS programs with other activities and priorities in the local area
- Various Stakeholders should be represented
- SRA continuous input, new publication in 2015

WATCAC Input into the State Resource Assessment

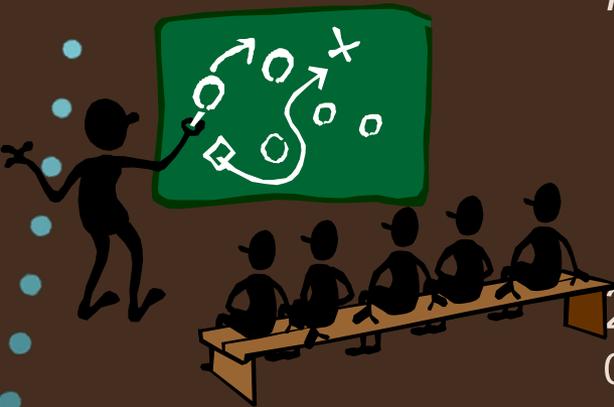
5 Key Questions to Consider When Providing Input Into a Resource Assessment:

1. **Land Uses:** What are the total acres in the assessment area by land use– *Forest, Cropland, Range, etc.?*

This can be further broken down by land ownership (e.g., private & public lands)

2. **Resource Concerns:** What are the resource concerns in each land use? What is the current condition (baseline), and the desired condition?

You can use quality criteria outlined in the FOTG to determine the condition of soil, water, air, plants, animals



WATCAC Input into the State Resource Assessment

5 Key Questions to Consider When Providing Input Into a Resource Assessment:

3. What Measures/Practices could be used to treat the resources to obtain the desired condition (meet the quality criteria)?

4. What would it Cost to implement the measures and practices?

5. Are landowners ready, willing & able to implement the practices?

If not, what type of outreach (education) and or incentives (cost-share) would be needed to get landowners to implement the measures and practices?

Brownie Points: Have All Stakeholders been included in the resource assessment?

WATCAC Incorporation of SRA into FY13 Cost Share Programs

Information To Provide to NRCS:

∅ Funding Pools

- Funding Pools should be designated by land use

∅ Ranking Questions

- Submit questions for each funding pool & assign point value

∅ Conservation Practices & Systems

- ID Practices to Treat Resource Concerns for each funding pool
- Include Supplemental Practices

∅ Any Hold Downs

∅ Identify WATCAC Priorities

∅ Treatment Acres

- By Land Use & Resource Concern

WATCAC Incorporation of SRA into Cost Share Programs

Expectations:

§ Funding Pools & Ranking Questions Must Align with the SRA

§ Example – Cropland Soil Erosion Pool, or Cropland Inefficient Use of Irrigation Water, etc.

§ Priority Treatment Watersheds can be Identified

§ Treatment Acres Must Align with SRA

§ All Practices & Supplemental Practices Must Treat at least 1 of SRA Priorities

*WATCAC Package will be used to develop WA-NRCS performance based budget proposal for FY 13

Important Dates:

Date:	Item:
May 10, 2012	East and West Regional Committees submit their Inventory/ Profiles and Resource Priorities information requested to their Liaisons
June 12, 2012	WATCAC Completion of State Tribal Resource Assessment
July 10, 2012	WATCAC FY 13 Program Package Request to State Office

WATCAC Packages:

- Tools Provided to WATCAC to help provide input
 - List of information Requested
 - WATCAC Report Template
 - Informational Material (SRA & New Process)
 - Other Items – As Requested

Questions?



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