

**DRAFT**

**PROTOCOLS FOR DRY CROPLAND**

**SHEET & RILL:** Points are given if sheet & rill erosion as calculated using RUSLE is in excess of the soil loss tolerance "T" and the producer will implement conservation practices that will reduce Sheet & Rill erosion to equal to or less than "T." The RUSLE run will be a support document to be included in the conservation plan.

**CONCENTRATED FLOW EROSION:** Concentrated flow erosion preventatives are in-field structures that prevent gully erosion in cropland only. Typical practices are Grassed Waterways-412, Water and Sediment Control Basins-638, Grade Stabilization Structures-410, and Underground Outlet-620. If you have used terraces, buffer strips, etc. in your RUSLE calculation for Sheet and Rill erosion control, you should NOT be using them for points here.

**STREAMBANK EROSION:** - Points should be counted if landuse contains active accelerated streambank erosion and BMP's will be applied to address and correct the problem. Streambank erosion may be occurring as a result of impacts from this landuse or originating from upstream actions. In order to score points on this issue, livestock exclusion or structural practices involving stream bank bioengineering, rock rip-rap, rock barbs or toe protection or other in-stream structures designed to protect the banks need to be applied. Producers who are only implementing management changes within the riparian area to improve vegetation do not score points on this question.

**SURFACE WATER: SUSPENDED SEDIMENT AND TURBIDITY:** These resource concerns are used to identify land that is contributing to a water quality problem in a 303d listed waterbody. The waterbody must be listed for the resource concern and the land must be in close enough proximity to the waterbody to be contributing to the problem. Waterbodies that are not on the 303d list for a specific resource concern may be allowed points if approved, in writing, by the program manager

**SURFACE WATER: NUTRIENTS AND ANIMAL WASTE:** These resource concerns are used to identify land that is contributing to a water quality problem in a 303d listed waterbody. The waterbody must be listed for the resource concern and the land must be in close enough proximity to the waterbody to be contributing to the problem. Waterbodies that are not on the 303d list for a specific resource concern may be allowed points if approved, in writing, by the program manager

**REGULATORY AND OTHER ISSUES:**

**303D LISTED STREAMS:** The conservation practices scheduled for implementation must have a positive impact on a 303d listed waterbody.

**T&E SPECIES:** In order to score points on this question, Federal Threatened and Endangered Species (T&E) fish, amphibians, and/or mollusks must be listed in the local FOTG and exist in the watershed where the planned practices will be implemented. (An example: If salmon are listed in the Snake River Watershed but are not listed in the local FOTG, **do not** take points for threatened and endangered species). This is a water quality statewide concern, so no points are given for birds, mammals, and/or plants. The conservation practice(s) must be expected to have a direct benefit to the considered species.

**GROUND WATER QUALITY CONSIDERATIONS:** Points can be taken if the land is in a Nitrate Priority Area as identified by DEQ or if the area is in a high or very high Ground Water Vulnerability Area as identified on maps in the FOTG or by rating the area using the Ground Water Contamination Probability Worksheet originally distributed by ID Bulletin 180-9-4. Conservation practices must be implemented that will reduce the potential for ground water degradation.

**REDUCED EROSION FROM S&R 1 TO 5 TONS/AC/YR:** Points given must be supported by RUSLE calculations, and conservation practices that address the resource concern.

**REDUCED EROSION FROM S&R 5.1 TO 10 TONS/AC/YR:** Points given must be supported by RUSLE calculations, and conservation practices that address the resource concern.

**REDUCED EROSION FROM S&R >10 TONS/AC/YR:** Points given must be supported by RUSLE calculations, and conservation practices that address the resource concern.