

Checklist of Resource Concerns

CROPLAND

CLIENT		LOCATION	
PLANNER		DATE	
LAND UNITS		TOOLS	

This check sheet is designed to assist planners and clients in identifying resource concerns during the planning process. The planning criteria outlined in Section III of the FOTG sets the minimum level of treatment. If a screening question is NO, this indicates no resource concern exists and no assessment is required. If a screening question is YES, the assessment must be completed to evaluate if there is a resource concern. For questions with no listed screening questions, move directly to the assessment. If the Assessment is YES, Planning Criteria is met. If the Assessment is NO, the Planning Criteria is not met and a Resource Concern exists.

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment	Screening Questions		Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria YES = Meets Planning Criteria NO = Identified Resource Concern	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria	
		Y E S	N O			Y E S	N O
SOILS RESOURCES							
1a.SOIL EROSION: Sheet and Rill erosion*	Does sheet and rill or wind erosion occur or are they likely to occur?			➤ RUSLE2	Water erosion rate <=T		
1b. SOIL EROSION: Wind erosion*				➤ WEPS	Wind erosion rate <=T		
2a.SOIL EROSION: Ephemeral gully erosion*	Do ephemeral gullies occur?			➤ Field measurements ➤ Observations	Are conservation practices and managements in place to prevent or control ephemeral gullies?		
2b.SOIL EROSION: Classic gully erosion*	Are classic gullies present?			➤ Field measurements ➤ Observations	Is classic gully management adequate to stop the progression of head cutting and widening and are offsite impacts minimized by vegetation and/or structures?		
3.SOIL EROSION: Excessive bank erosion from streams, shorelines or water conveyance channels*	Are streams or shoreline on or adjacent to site?			➤ SVAP2, or ➤ MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2)	For shorelines and water conveyance channels; are banks stable or commensurate with normal geomorphological processes? AND For stream banks: SVAP2 bank condition ≥ 5 or ETN MT-2 Question 2 ≥ 5 OR Is bank erosion caused solely by upstream/upland landuse(s) and management decisions that are beyond the client's control?		
5. SOIL QUALITY DEGRADATION: Compaction	Is soil compaction a problem? AND Do activities cause soil compaction problems?			➤ Soil Quality Test Kit ➤ Observation of soil and plant condition ➤ Client input/planner observation	Is compaction managed to meet Client's production and management objectives?		

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	NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment	YES NO			YES NO	YES NO	
SOILS RESOURCES							
6. SOIL QUALITY DEGRADATION: Organic matter depletion*	Is permanent ground cover < 80%?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ RUSLE2 ➤ WEPS 	SCI>0	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. SOIL QUALITY DEGRADATION: Concentration of Salts or other chemicals	Do activities cause salinity/sodicity problems?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Soil diagnostic evaluations 	Are conservation practices and managements in place to mitigate on-site effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
WATER RESOURCES							
8a. EXCESS WATER: Ponding and Flooding	Is ponding or flooding a problem? AND Do activities cause ponding/flooding problems?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client Input ➤ Planner Observations 	Is excess water managed to meet Client's objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8b. EXCESS WATER: Seasonal high water table	Does a seasonal high water table cause a problem?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client Input ➤ Planner Observations 	Is excess water managed to meet Client's objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8c. EXCESS WATER: Seeps	Does excess water from seeps cause a problem?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client Input ➤ Planner Observations 	Is excess water managed to meet Client's objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8d. EXCESS WATER: Drifted snow	Does drifted snow cause a problem?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client Input ➤ Planner Observations 	Is excess water managed to meet Client's objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. INSUFFICIENT WATER: Inefficient moisture management	Is Moisture Management a problem? AND Do activities cause inefficient moisture management?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client Input ➤ Planner observation 	Are runoff and evapotranspiration levels minimized to meet Client's management objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. INSUFFICIENT WATER: Inefficient use of irrigation water*	Is the PLU irrigated?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ FIRI worksheet ➤ Soil moisture monitoring or record-keeping 	Is the efficiency of the current irrigation system 30% or more? AND Is the current irrigation system efficiency within 15% of the potential efficiency as stated by FIRI?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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WATER RESOURCES							
11a. WATER QUALITY: <i>Excess nutrients in <u>surface water</u></i> *	Are organic or inorganic nutrients applied?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ Nutrient budget ➤ Phosphorous Index ➤ Nitrogen Risk Assessment 	Are nutrient and amendment applications based on soil tests and nutrient budgets for realistic yields? AND Are conservation practices and managements in place to minimize offsite impacts?		
11b. WATER QUALITY: <i>Excess nutrients in <u>groundwater</u></i> *	OR Is PLU grazed?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ Nutrient budget 	Are nutrient and amendment applications based on soil or tissue tests and nutrient budgets for realistic yields? AND Are conservation practices and managements in place to minimize offsite impacts?		
12a. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: <i>Pesticides transported to <u>Surface waters</u></i>	Are pest control chemicals applied?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ WinPST 	Are pesticides stored, handled, disposed and managed to prevent runoff, spills, leaks and leaching? AND Are conservation practices and managements in place to minimize offsite impacts?		
12b. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: <i>Pesticides transported to <u>Groundwaters</u></i>				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ WinPST 	Are pesticides stored, handled, disposed and managed to prevent runoff, spills, leaks and leaching? AND Are conservation practices and managements in place to minimize offsite impacts?		
13a. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: <i>Pathogens, pharmaceuticals and Other Chemicals in <u>Surface water</u></i> *	Are potential sources of pathogens or pharmaceuticals applied on the land?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are organic materials applied, stored, and/or handled to mitigate negative impacts to water sources?		
13b. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: <i>Pathogens, pharmaceuticals and Other Chemicals in <u>Groundwater</u></i> *				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are organic materials applied, stored, and/or handled to mitigate negative impacts to water sources?		

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WATER RESOURCES							
14a. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Excessive salts in Surface waters	Is excess salt a problem?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are salt concentrations managed to mitigate off-site transport to surface waters?		
14b. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Excessive salts in Ground waters	OR Do activities contribute to excess salt production?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are salt concentrations managed to mitigate off-site transport to groundwaters?		
15a. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Petroleum and heavy metals and other pollutants transported to surface waters	Do activities present the potential for contamination?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are petroleum, heavy metals or other potential pollutants stored and handled to avoid runoff or leaching?		
15b. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Petroleum and heavy metals and other pollutants transported to ground waters	Do activities present the potential for contamination?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are petroleum, heavy metals or other potential pollutants stored and handled to avoid runoff or leaching?		
16. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Excessive sediment in surface waters*	Are permanent ground cover < 90% or slope > 10%? OR Are classic gullies present? OR Are streams or shoreline on or adjacent to site?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ RUSLE2 ➤ SVAP2 or MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2) ➤ WEPS 	Do upslope treatment and buffer practices address concentrated flows to water bodies? AND SVAP2 - bank condition ≥ 5 or ETN MT-2 Question 2 ≥ 5 AND Are livestock and vehicle water crossings stable? AND Is water erosion rate ≤ T? AND Is wind erosion rate ≤ T?		

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		E	O			E	O
WATER RESOURCES							
17. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Elevated water temperature	<p>Is there a water course on or adjacent to the site with State Agency identified temperature impairment? OR Is water course temperature a client concern?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ SVAP2 or MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2) 	<p>Is SVAP2 - riparian area quality element score ≥ 5? (Or, is ETN MT-2 Question 4 score ≥ 4) AND Is SVAP2 - riparian area quantity element score ≥ 5? (Or, is ETN MT-2 Question 5 score ≥ 2) AND Is SVAP2 - canopy cover element score ≥ 6? (Or, is ETN MT-2 Question 8 score ≥ 4)</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
AIR RESOURCES							
18. AIR QUALITY IMPACTS - Emissions of Particulate Matter - PM - and PM Precursors	<p>Have episodes or complaints of emissions of PM (dust, smoke, exhaust, etc.), or chemical drift occurred? AND Do activities contribute to agricultural source PM or PM precursor emissions?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	<p>Are PM and PM Precursor emissions managed to meet client objectives?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19. AIR QUALITY IMPACTS - Emissions of Greenhouse Gases - GHGs	<p>Are GHGs regulated in this planning area? AND Do activities produce GHGs emissions?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	<p>Are greenhouse gas emissions managed to meet client objectives?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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		YES	NO			YES	NO
AIR RESOURCES							
20. AIR QUALITY IMPACTS - Emissions of Ozone Precursors	Do operations produce ozone precursor emissions?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are ozone precursor emissions managed to meet client objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
21. AIR QUALITY IMPACTS - Objectionable odors	Do activities contribute to odor nuisance air quality conditions? OR Are odor sources regulated in this planning area? OR Have odor episodes or complaints of odor nuisance occurred?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are odors managed to meet client objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
PLANT RESOURCES							
22. DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION: Undesirable plant productivity and health	Are plant production and health a client objective?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ Crop Tolerance Tables 	Are plants adapted to the site, meet production goals and do not negatively impact other resources? AND Is plant damage from wind erosion below Crop Damage Tolerance levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
24. DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION: Excessive plant pest pressure	Is plant productivity limited from pest pressure?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Is pest damage to plants below economic or environmental thresholds or client-identified criteria? AND Are plant pests, including noxious and invasive species managed to meet client objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
25. DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION: Wildfire hazard, excessive biomass accumulation	Is wildfire hazard a concern?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are fuel loads and fuel ladders managed to provide defensible space and meet client objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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ANIMAL RESOURCES							
26a. INADEQUATE HABITAT FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE – <i>Quantity, quality of food is inadequate to meet requirements of identified fish, wildlife or invertebrate species</i>	Is PLU managed for wildlife? (Wildlife Modifier)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Species-specific wildlife habitat assessment tools ➤ Montana NRCS WHEG - MT Biology Technical Note MT-19 Revision 3 (BTN MT-19) ➤ SVAP2, or MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2) 	<p>Is WHEG rating ≥ 0.5 AND if surface stream present is the Riparian Assessment (ETN MT-2) rating “Sustainable” or “At-risk” with an upward trend? FURTHER, if aquatic habitat is the focus: SVAP2 – fish habitat complexity element score ≥ 7 AND SVAP2 – aquatic invertebrate habitat element score ≥ 7</p> <p>AND</p> <p>Are conservation practices and management are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds?</p> <p>AND</p> <p>Is food available in quality and extent to support habitat requirements for the species of interest?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
26b. INADEQUATE HABITAT FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE – <i>Quantity, quality of water is inadequate to meet requirements of identified fish, wildlife or invertebrate species</i>	Is PLU managed for wildlife? (Wildlife Modifier)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Species-specific wildlife habitat assessment tools ➤ Montana NRCS WHEG - MT Biology Technical Note MT-19 Revision 3 (BTN MT-19) ➤ SVAP2, or MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2) 	<p>Is WHEG rating ≥ 0.5 AND if surface stream present is the Riparian Assessment (ETN MT-2) rating “Sustainable” or “At-risk” with an upward trend? FURTHER, if aquatic habitat is the focus: SVAP2 – fish habitat complexity element score ≥ 7 AND SVAP2 – aquatic invertebrate habitat element score ≥ 7</p> <p>AND</p> <p>Are conservation practices and management are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds?</p> <p>AND</p> <p>Is food available in quality and extent to support habitat requirements for the species of interest?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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ANIMAL RESOURCES							
26c. INADEQUATE HABITAT FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE – <i>Quantity, quality or cover/shelter is inadequate to meet requirements of identified fish, wildlife or invertebrate species</i>	Is PLU managed for wildlife? (Wildlife Modifier)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Species-specific wildlife habitat assessment tools ➤ Montana NRCS WHEG - MT Biology Technical Note MT-19 Revision 3 (BTN MT-19) ➤ SVAP2, or MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2) 	<p>Is WHEG rating ≥ 0.5 AND if surface stream present is the Riparian Assessment (ETN MT-2) rating “Sustainable” or “At-risk” with an upward trend? FURTHER, if aquatic habitat is the focus: SVAP2 – fish habitat complexity element score ≥ 7 AND SVAP2 – aquatic invertebrate habitat element score ≥ 7</p> <p>AND</p> <p>Are conservation practices and management are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds?</p> <p>AND</p> <p>Is food available in quality and extent to support habitat requirements for the species of interest?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
26d. INADEQUATE HABITAT FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE – <i>Habitat continuity is inadequate to meet requirements of identified fish, wildlife or invertebrate species</i>	Is PLU managed for wildlife? (Wildlife Modifier)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Species-specific wildlife habitat assessment tools ➤ Montana NRCS WHEG - MT Biology Technical Note MT-19 Revision 3 (BTN MT-19) ➤ SVAP2, or MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2) 	<p>Is WHEG rating ≥ 0.5 AND if surface stream present is the Riparian Assessment (ETN MT-2) rating “Sustainable” or “At-risk” with an upward trend? FURTHER, if aquatic habitat is the focus: SVAP2 – fish habitat complexity element score ≥ 7 AND SVAP2 – aquatic invertebrate habitat element score ≥ 7</p> <p>AND</p> <p>Are conservation practices and management are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds?</p> <p>AND</p> <p>Is food available in quality and extent to support habitat requirements for the species of interest?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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ANIMAL RESOURCES					
27. LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION LIMITATION: <i>Inadequate feed and forage</i>	Is Client actively grazing animals? (Grazing Modifier)	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ MT ECS-18B 	Are livestock forage, roughage and supplemental nutritional requirements addressed?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
28. LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION LIMITATION: <i>Inadequate livestock shelter</i>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Do artificial or natural shelters meet animal health needs and client objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
29. LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION LIMITATION: <i>Inadequate livestock water</i>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Is water of acceptable quality and quantity adequately distributed to meet animal needs?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
ENERGY RESOURCES					
30. INEFFICIENT ENERGY USE – <i>Equipment and facilities</i>	Is the Client interested in improving equipment and facilities energy efficiency?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ NRCS Energy Estimator ➤ USDA approved Energy Audit 	Has a USDA approved energy audit been implemented that addresses equipment and facilities to meet client objectives? OR Are on- farm renewable energy and/or energy conserving practices being implemented to meet client objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
31. INEFFICIENT ENERGY USE – <i>Farming and ranching practices and field operations</i>	Is Client interested in improving energy use in farm and ranch field operations?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ NRCS Energy Estimator ➤ USDA approved Energy Audit ➤ Conservation on the Farm Checklist 	Has a USDA approved energy audit been implemented that addresses equipment and facilities to meet client objectives? OR Are on- farm renewable energy and/or energy conserving practices being implemented to meet client objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

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CLIENT		LOCATION	
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2b.SOIL EROSION: Classic gully erosion *	Are classic gullies present?			➤ Field measurements ➤ Observations	Is classic gully management adequate to stop the progression of head cutting and widening and are offsite impacts minimized by vegetation and/or structures?		
3.SOIL EROSION: Excessive bank erosion from streams, shorelines or water conveyance channels*	Are streams or shoreline on or adjacent to site?			➤ SVAP2, or ➤ MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2)	For shorelines and water conveyance channels; are banks stable or commensurate with normal geomorphological processes AND for stream banks: SVAP2 bank condition ≥5 or ETN MT-2 Question 2 ≥ 5 OR Is bank erosion caused solely by upstream/upland land uses and management decisions that are beyond the client's control?		
5. SOIL QUALITY DEGRADATION: Compaction	Is soil compaction a problem? AND Do activities cause soil compaction problems?			➤ Soil Quality Test Kit ➤ Observation of soil and plant condition ➤ Client input/planner observation	Is soil compaction managed to meet client's objectives?		
6. SOIL QUALITY DEGRADATION: Organic matter depletion*	Is permanent ground cover < 80%?			➤ RUSLE2 ➤ WEPS	SCI > 0		
7. SOIL QUALITY DEGRADATION: Concentration of Salts or other chemicals	Do activities cause salinity/sodicity problems?			➤ Soil diagnostic evaluations	Are conservation practices and managements in place to mitigate on-site effects?		

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9. INSUFFICIENT WATER: Inefficient moisture management	Is Moisture Management a problem? AND Do activities cause inefficient moisture management?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Planner observation ➤ Client input 	Is soil moisture managed to meet client's objectives?				
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11a. WATER QUALITY: Excess nutrients in surface water*	Are organic or inorganic nutrients applied? OR Is PLU grazed?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Nutrient budget 	Are Nutrients applied based on a soil test, tissue tests or nutrient budget?				
11b. WATER QUALITY: Excess nutrients in groundwater*	Are organic or inorganic nutrients applied? OR Is PLU grazed?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Nutrient budget 	Are Nutrients applied based on a soil test?				

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13b. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: <i>Pathogens, pharmaceuticals and Other Chemicals in Groundwater*</i>				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are organic materials applied, stored, and/or handled to mitigate negative impacts to water sources?		
14a. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: <i>Excessive salts in Surface waters</i>	Is excess salt a problem?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are salt concentrations managed to mitigate off-site transport to surface waters?		
14b. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: <i>Excessive salts in Ground waters</i>	OR Do activities contribute to excess salt production?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are salt concentrations managed to mitigate off-site transport to groundwaters?		

Checklist for Resource Concerns

Pasture

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions	YES	NO	Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria	YES	NO
	NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment				YES = Meets Planning Criteria NO = Identified Resource Concern		
WATER RESOURCES							
15a. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Petroleum and heavy metals and other pollutants transported to <u>surface</u> waters	Do activities present the potential for contamination?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are petroleum, heavy metals or other potential pollutants stored and handled to avoid runoff or leaching?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15b. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Petroleum and heavy metals and other pollutants transported to <u>groundwater</u>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are petroleum, heavy metals or other potential pollutants stored and handled to avoid runoff or leaching?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Excessive sediment in <u>surface</u> waters*	Are permanent ground cover < 90% or slope > 10%? OR Are classic gullies present? OR Are streams or shoreline on or adjacent to site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ RUSLE2 ➤ SVAP2 or MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2) ➤ WEPS 	Do upslope treatment and buffer practices address concentrated flows to water bodies? AND SVAP2 - bank condition ≥ 5 or ETN MT-2 Question 2 ≥ 5 AND Are livestock and vehicle water crossings stable? AND Is water erosion rate ≤ T? AND Is wind erosion rate ≤ T?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Elevated water temperature	Is there a water course on or adjacent to the site with State Agency identified temperature impairment? OR Is water course temperature a client concern?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ SVAP2 or MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2) 	Is SVAP2 - riparian area quality element score ≥ 5? (Or, is ETN MT-2 Question 4 score ≥ 4?) AND Is SVAP2 - riparian area quantity element score ≥ 5? (Or, is ETN MT-2 Question 5 score ≥ 2?) AND Is SVAP2 - canopy cover element score ≥ 6? (Or, is ETN MT-2 Question 8 score ≥ 4?)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Checklist for Resource Concerns

Pasture

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions	Y E S	N O	Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria	Y E S	N O
	NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment				YES = Meets Planning Criteria NO = Identified Resource Concern		
AIR RESOURCES							
18. AIR QUALITY IMPACTS - Emissions of Particulate Matter - PM - and PM Precursors	<p>Have episodes or complaints of emissions of PM (dust, smoke, exhaust, etc.), or chemical drift occurred?</p> <p>AND</p> <p>Do activities contribute to agricultural source PM or PM precursor emissions?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are PM and PM Precursor emissions managed to meet client objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19. AIR QUALITY IMPACTS - Emissions of Greenhouse Gases - GHGs	<p>Are GHGs regulated in this planning area?</p> <p>AND</p> <p>Do activities produce GHGs emissions?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are greenhouse gas emissions managed to meet client objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20. AIR QUALITY IMPACTS - Emissions of Ozone Precursors	<p>Do operations produce ozone precursor emissions?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are ozone precursor emissions managed to meet client objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Checklist for Resource Concerns

Pasture

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions	YES	NO	Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria	YES	NO
	NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment				YES = Meets Planning Criteria NO = Identified Resource Concern		
AIR RESOURCES							
21. AIR QUALITY IMPACTS - Objectionable odors	<p>Do activities contribute to odor nuisance air quality conditions?</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Are odor sources regulated in this planning area?</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Have odor episodes or complaints of odor nuisance occurred?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are odors managed to meet client objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
PLANT RESOURCES							
22. DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION: Undesirable plant productivity and health	Are plant production and health a client objective?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Pasture Inventory Worksheet (PIW) 	<p>Is PIW condition score ≥ 2.5?</p> <p>AND</p> <p>Are plants adapted to the site, meet production goals and do not negatively impact other resources?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
23. DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION – Inadequate structure and composition	Will changes to the plant community structure or composition better support the desired ecological functions and intended land use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ Forage Suitability Groups 	Do Plant communities contain adequate diversity, composition and structure to support desired ecological functions?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
24. DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION: Excessive plant pest pressure	Is plant productivity limited from pest pressure?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are pests managed to economic threshold levels or less?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Checklist for Resource Concerns

Pasture

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment	Screening Questions		Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria YES = Meets Planning Criteria NO = Identified Resource Concern	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria	
		YES	NO			YES	NO
PLANT RESOURCES							
25. DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION: <i>Wildfire hazard, excessive biomass accumulation</i>	Is wildfire hazard a concern?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Client input Planner observation 	Are fuel loads and fuel ladders managed to provide defensible space and meet client objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ANIMAL RESOURCES							
26a. INADEQUATE HABITAT FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE – <i>Quantity, quality of food is inadequate to meet requirements of identified fish, wildlife or invertebrate species</i>	Is PLU managed for wildlife? (Wildlife Modifier)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Species-specific wildlife habitat assessment tools Montana NRCS WHEG - MT Biology Technical Note MT-19 Revision 3 (BTN MT-19) SVAP2, or MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2) 	Is WHEG rating ≥ 0.5 AND if surface stream present is the Riparian Assessment (ETN MT-2) rating “Sustainable” or “At-risk” with an upward trend? FURTHER , if aquatic habitat is the focus: SVAP2 – fish habitat complexity element score ≥ 7 AND SVAP2 – aquatic invertebrate habitat element score ≥ 7 AND Are conservation practices and management are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds? AND Is food available in quality and extent to support habitat requirements for the species of interest?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
26b. INADEQUATE HABITAT FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE – <i>Quantity, quality of water is inadequate to meet requirements of identified fish, wildlife or invertebrate species</i>	Is PLU managed for wildlife? (Wildlife Modifier)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Species-specific wildlife habitat assessment tools Montana NRCS WHEG - MT Biology Technical Note MT-19 Revision 3 (BTN MT-19) SVAP2, or MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2) 	Is WHEG rating ≥ 0.5 AND if surface stream present is the Riparian Assessment (ETN MT-2) rating “Sustainable” or “At-risk” with an upward trend? FURTHER , if aquatic habitat is the focus: SVAP2 – fish habitat complexity element score ≥ 7 AND SVAP2 – aquatic invertebrate habitat element score ≥ 7 AND Are conservation practices and management are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds? AND Is food available in quality and extent to support habitat requirements for the species of interest?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Checklist for Resource Concerns

Pasture

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions	YES	NO	Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria	YES	NO
	NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment				YES = Meets Planning Criteria NO = Identified Resource Concern		
ANIMAL RESOURCES							
26c. INADEQUATE HABITAT FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE – <i>Quantity, quality or cover/shelter is inadequate to meet requirements of identified fish, wildlife or invertebrate species</i>	Is PLU managed for wildlife? (Wildlife Modifier)			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Species-specific wildlife habitat assessment tools ➤ Montana NRCS WHEG - MT Biology Technical Note MT-19 Revision 3 (BTN MT-19) ➤ SVAP2, or MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2) 	Is WHEG rating ≥ 0.5 AND if surface stream present is the Riparian Assessment (ETN MT-2) rating “Sustainable” or “At-risk” with an upward trend? FURTHER , if aquatic habitat is the focus: SVAP2 – fish habitat complexity element score ≥ 7 AND SVAP2 – aquatic invertebrate habitat element score ≥ 7 AND Are conservation practices and management are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds? AND Is food available in quality and extent to support habitat requirements for the species of interest?		
26d. INADEQUATE HABITAT FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE – <i>Habitat continuity is inadequate to meet requirements of identified fish, wildlife or invertebrate species</i>	Is PLU managed for wildlife? (Wildlife Modifier)			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Species-specific wildlife habitat assessment tools ➤ Montana NRCS WHEG - MT Biology Technical Note MT-19 Revision 3 (BTN MT-19) ➤ SVAP2, or MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2) 	Is WHEG rating ≥ 0.5 AND if surface stream present is the Riparian Assessment (ETN MT-2) rating “Sustainable” or “At-risk” with an upward trend? FURTHER , if aquatic habitat is the focus: SVAP2 – fish habitat complexity element score ≥ 7 AND SVAP2 – aquatic invertebrate habitat element score ≥ 7 AND Are conservation practices and management are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds? AND Is food available in quality and extent to support habitat requirements for the species of interest?		

Checklist for Resource Concerns

Pasture

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions	YES	NO	Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria	YES	NO
	NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment				YES = Meets Planning Criteria NO = Identified Resource Concern		
ANIMAL RESOURCES							
27. LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION LIMITATION: <u>Inadequate feed and forage*</u>	Is PLU grazed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ MT ECS-18B 	Are livestock forage, roughage and supplemental nutritional requirements addressed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
28. LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION LIMITATION: <u>Inadequate livestock shelter*</u>				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Do artificial or natural shelters meet animal health needs and client objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
29. LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION LIMITATION: <u>Inadequate livestock water*</u>				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Is water of acceptable quality and quantity adequately distributed to meet animal needs?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ENERGY RESOURCES							
30. INEFFICIENT ENERGY USE – <u>Equipment and facilities</u>	Is the Client interested in improving equipment and facilities energy efficiency?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ NRCS Energy Estimator ➤ USDA approved Energy Audit 	Has a USDA approved energy audit been implemented that addresses equipment and facilities to meet client objectives? OR Are on- farm renewable energy and/or energy conserving practices being implemented to meet client objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
31. INEFFICIENT ENERGY USE – <u>Farming and ranching practices and field operations</u>	Is Client interested in improving energy use in farm and ranch field operations?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ NRCS Energy Estimator ➤ USDA approved Energy Audit ➤ Conservation on the Farm Checklist 	Has a USDA approved energy audit been implemented that addresses equipment and facilities to meet client objectives? OR Are on- farm renewable energy and/or energy conserving practices being implemented to meet client objectives?		

Checklist for Resource Concerns

Pasture

<i>Technical Assistance Notes</i>	

Checklist of Resource Concerns

RANGE

CLIENT		LOCATION	
PLANNER		DATE	
LAND UNITS		TOOLS	

This check sheet is designed to assist planners and clients in identifying resource concerns during the planning process. The planning criteria outlined in Section III of the FOTG sets the minimum level of treatment. If a screening question is NO, this indicates no resource concern exists and no assessment is required. If a screening question is YES, the assessment must be completed to evaluate if there is a resource concern. For questions with no listed screening questions, move directly to the assessment. If the Assessment is YES, Planning Criteria is met. If the Assessment is NO, the Planning Criteria is not met and a Resource Concern exists.

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment			Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria Yes = Meets Planning Criteria No = Identified Resource Concern		
		Y E S	N O			Y E S	N O
SOIL RESOURCES							
1a.SOIL EROSION: Sheet & Rill*	Is State established criteria met?			➤ RHA-Rangeland Health Assessment	Is RHA - soil site stability slight to moderate or less? OR Is Rangeland Planned Trend positive?		
1b.SOIL EROSION: Wind*	Is State established criteria met?			➤ RHA-Rangeland Health Assessment	Is RHA - soil site stability slight to moderate or less? OR Is Rangeland Planned Trend positive?		
2b.SOIL EROSION: Classic gully erosion*	Are classic gullies present?			➤ Field measurements ➤ Planner observations	Is classic gully management adequate to stop the progression of head cutting and widening and are offsite impacts minimized by vegetation and/or structures?		
3.SOIL EROSION: Excessive bank erosion from streams, shorelines or water conveyance channels*	Are streams or shoreline on or adjacent to site?			➤ SVAP2, or ➤ MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Rev. 1 (ETN MT-2)	For shorelines and water conveyance channels; are banks stable or commensurate with normal geomorphological processes AND for stream banks: SVAP2 bank condition ≥ 5 or ETN MT-2 Question 2 ≥ 5 OR If present, is bank erosion caused by upstream land use and beyond the client's control?		
5. SOIL QUALITY DEGRADATION: Compaction	Is soil compaction a problem? AND Do activities cause soil compaction problems?			➤ RHA-Rangeland Health Assessment ➤ Observation of soil and plant condition	Is RHA - soil site stability slight to moderate or less? OR Is compaction managed to meet Client's production and management objectives?		
6. SOIL QUALITY DEGRADATION: Organic matter depletion	Is soil organic matter depletion a problem? OR Do activities cause soil organic matter depletion?			➤ RHA-Rangeland Health Assessment	Is RHA - soil site stability slight to moderate or less? AND Is RHA – biotic integrity attribute rating slight to moderate departure or less?		
					OR Is Rangeland Planned Trend positive?		
7. SOIL QUALITY DEGRADATION: Concentration of Salts or other chemicals	Do activities cause salinity/sodicity problems?			➤ Soil diagnostic evaluations	Are conservation practices and managements in place to mitigate on-site effects?		

Checklist of Resource Concerns

RANGE

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment			Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria Yes = Meets Planning Criteria No = Identified Resource Concern		
		YES	NO			YES	NO
WATER RESOURCES							
8a. EXCESS WATER: <i>Ponding and Flooding</i>	Is ponding or flooding a problem? AND Do activities cause ponding/flooding problems?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client Input ➤ Planner Observations 	Is excess water managed to meet Client's objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8b. EXCESS WATER: <i>Seasonal high water table</i>	Does a seasonal high water table cause a problem?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client Input ➤ Planner Observations 	Is excess water managed to meet Client's objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8c. EXCESS WATER: <i>Seeps</i>	Does excess water from seeps cause a problem?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client Input ➤ Planner Observations 	Is excess water managed to meet Client's objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8d. EXCESS WATER: <i>Drifted snow</i>	Does drifted snow cause a problem?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client Input ➤ Planner Observations 	Is excess water managed to meet Client's objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. INSUFFICIENT WATER: <i>Inefficient moisture management</i>	Is Moisture Management a problem? AND Do activities cause inefficient moisture management?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ RHA-Rangeland Health Assessment 	Is RHA - hydrologic function attributes slight to moderate or less?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11a. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: <i>Excess nutrients in surface water</i>	Are organic or inorganic nutrients applied?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Nutrient budget ➤ Client Input ➤ Planner Observations 	If nutrients are applied, are they based on a soil test, tissue tests or nutrient budget? AND Are conservation practices and managements in place to minimize offsite impacts?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11b. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: <i>Excess nutrients in groundwater</i>	OR Is the PLU grazed? OR Are there confined livestock areas?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Nutrient budget ➤ Client Input ➤ Planner Observations 	If nutrients are applied, are they based on a soil test, tissue tests or nutrient budget? AND Are conservation practices and managements in place to minimize offsite impacts?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Checklist of Resource Concerns

RANGE

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment			Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria Yes = Meets Planning Criteria No = Identified Resource Concern		
		YES	NO			YES	NO
WATER RESOURCES							
12a. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: <i>Pesticides transported to surface water</i>	Are pest control chemicals applied?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ WinPST 	Are pesticides stored, handled, disposed and managed to prevent runoff, spills, leaks and leaching? AND Are conservation practices and managements in place to minimize offsite impacts?		
12b. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: <i>Pesticides transported to groundwater</i>				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ WinPST 	Are pesticides stored, handled, disposed and managed to prevent runoff, spills, leaks and leaching? AND Are conservation practices and managements in place to minimize offsite impacts?		
13a. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: <i>Pathogens, pharmaceuticals and Other Chemicals in Surface water*</i>	Are potential sources of pathogens or pharmaceuticals applied on the land?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are organic materials applied, stored, and/or handled to mitigate negative impacts to water sources?		
13b. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: <i>Pathogens, pharmaceuticals and Other Chemicals in Groundwater*</i>				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are organic materials applied, stored, and/or handled to mitigate negative impacts to water sources?		
14a. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: <i>Excessive salts in surface water</i>	Is excess salt a problem?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are salt concentrations managed to mitigate off-site transport to surface water?		
14b. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: <i>Excessive salts groundwater</i>	OR Do activities contribute to excess salt production?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are salt concentrations managed to mitigate off-site transport to groundwater?		

Checklist of Resource Concerns

RANGE

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment			Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria Yes = Meets Planning Criteria No = Identified Resource Concern		
		Y E S	N O			Y E S	N O
WATER RESOURCES							
15a. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Petroleum, heavy metals, and other pollutants transported to surface water	Are potential sources of pathogens or pharmaceuticals applied on the land?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are organic materials applied, stored, and/or handled to mitigate negative impacts to water sources?		
15b. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Petroleum, heavy metals, and other pollutants transported to groundwater	(required when range has <i>grazed</i> modifier)			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are organic materials applied, stored, and/or handled to mitigate negative impacts to water sources?		
16. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Excessive sediment in surface waters*	Are there untreated sources of erosion? OR Are streams or shoreline on or adjacent to site?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ RHA-Rangeland Health Assessment ➤ SVAP2 or MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 (ETN MT-2) 	Is RHA - hydrologic function attribute slight to moderate or less? AND Is SVAP2 - bank condition ≥ 5 ? (Or, is ETN MT-2 question 3 ≥ 6 ?)		
17. WATER QUALITY: Elevated water temperature	Is there a water course on or adjacent to the site with State Agency identified temperature impairment? OR Is water course temperature a client concern?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ SVAP2 or MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2) ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Is SVAP2 - riparian area quality element score ≥ 5 ? (Or, is ETN MT-2 Question 4 score ≥ 4 ?) AND Is SVAP2 - riparian area quantity element score ≥ 5 ? (Or, is ETN MT-2 Question 5 score ≥ 2 ?) AND Is SVAP2 - canopy cover element score ≥ 6 ? (Or, is ETN MT-2 Question 8 score ≥ 4 ?)		

Checklist of Resource Concerns

RANGE

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment	Y	E	Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria Yes = Meets Planning Criteria No = Identified Resource Concern	Y	E	N	O
		ES	NO			ES	NO		
AIR RESOURCES									
18. AIR QUALITY IMPACTS - Emissions of Particulate Matter - PM - and PM Precursors	Have episodes or complaints of emissions of PM (dust, smoke, exhaust, etc.), or chemical drift occurred? AND Do activities contribute to agricultural source PM or PM precursor emissions?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are PM and PM Precursor emissions managed to meet client objectives?				
19. AIR QUALITY IMPACTS - Emissions of Greenhouse Gases - GHGs	Are GHGs regulated in this planning area? AND Do activities produce GHGs emissions?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are greenhouse gas emissions managed to meet client objectives?				
20. AIR QUALITY IMPACTS - Emissions of Ozone Precursors	Do operations produce ozone precursor emissions?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are ozone precursor emissions managed to meet client objectives?				
PLANT RESOURCES									
22. DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION: Undesirable plant productivity and health *	Are plant production and health a client objective?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ RHA-Rangeland Health Assessment ➤ Rangeland Trend Worksheet ➤ Similarity Index 	Does vegetation meet similarity index of 60 or greater for desired plant community or have a positive trend? OR Is RHA – biotic integrity attribute rating slight to moderate departure or less?				
23. DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION: Inadequate structure and composition*	Will changes to the plant community structure or composition better support the desired ecological functions and intended land use?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Ecological Site Descriptions ➤ RHA ➤ Rangeland Trend Worksheet 	Do plant communities contain adequate diversity, composition and structure to support desired ecological functions? OR Is RHA – biotic integrity attribute rating slight to moderate departure or less? OR Does vegetation meet similarity index of 60 or greater for desired plant community or have a positive trend?				

Checklist of Resource Concerns

RANGE

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment			Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria Yes = Meets Planning Criteria No = Identified Resource Concern		
		Y E S	N O			Y E S	N O
PLANT RESOURCES							
24. DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION: Excessive plant pest pressure	Is plant productivity limited from pest pressure?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Is pest damage to plants below economic or environmental thresholds or client-identified criteria? AND Are plant pests, including noxious and invasive species managed to meet client objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
25. DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION– Wildfire hazard, excessive biomass accumulation	Is wildfire hazard a concern?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are fuel loads and fuel ladders managed to provide defensible space and meet client objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ANIMAL RESOURCES							
26a. INADEQUATE HABITAT FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE – Quantity, quality of food is inadequate to meet requirements of identified fish, wildlife or invertebrate species	Is PLU managed for wildlife? (Wildlife Modifier)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Species-specific wildlife habitat assessment tools ➤ Montana NRCS WHEG - MT Biology Technical Note MT-19 Revision 3 (BTN MT-19) ➤ SVAP2, or MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2) 	Is WHEG rating ≥ 0.5 AND if surface stream present is the Riparian Assessment (ETN MT-2) rating “Sustainable” or “At-risk” with an upward trend? FURTHER , if aquatic habitat is the focus: SVAP2 – fish habitat complexity element score ≥ 7 AND SVAP2 – aquatic invertebrate habitat element score ≥ 7 AND Are conservation practices and management are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds? AND Is food available in quality and extent to support habitat requirements for the species of interest?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Checklist of Resource Concerns

RANGE

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment	Y E S	N O	Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria Yes = Meets Planning Criteria No = Identified Resource Concern	Y E S	N O
ANIMAL RESOURCES							
<p>26b. INADEQUATE HABITAT FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE – <i>Quantity, quality of <u>water</u> is inadequate to meet requirements of identified fish, wildlife or invertebrate species</i></p>	<p>Is PLU managed for wildlife? (Wildlife Modifier)</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Species-specific wildlife habitat assessment tools ➤ Montana NRCS WHEG - MT Biology Technical Note MT-19 Revision 3 (BTN MT-19) ➤ SVAP2, or MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2) 	<p>Is WHEG rating ≥ 0.5 AND if surface stream present is the Riparian Assessment (ETN MT-2) rating “Sustainable” or “At-risk” with an upward trend? FURTHER, if aquatic habitat is the focus: SVAP2 – fish habitat complexity element score ≥ 7 AND SVAP2 – aquatic invertebrate habitat element score ≥ 7 AND Are conservation practices and management are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds? AND Is food available in quality and extent to support habitat requirements for the species of interest?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>26c. INADEQUATE HABITAT FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE – <i>Quantity, quality or <u>cover/shelter</u> is inadequate to meet requirements of identified fish, wildlife or invertebrate species</i></p>	<p>Is PLU managed for wildlife? (Wildlife Modifier)</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Species-specific wildlife habitat assessment tools ➤ Montana NRCS WHEG - MT Biology Technical Note MT-19 Revision 3 (BTN MT-19) ➤ SVAP2, or MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2) 	<p>Is WHEG rating ≥ 0.5 AND if surface stream present is the Riparian Assessment (ETN MT-2) rating “Sustainable” or “At-risk” with an upward trend? FURTHER, if aquatic habitat is the focus: SVAP2 – fish habitat complexity element score ≥ 7 AND SVAP2 – aquatic invertebrate habitat element score ≥ 7 AND Are conservation practices and management are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds? AND Is food available in quality and extent to support habitat requirements for the species of interest?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Checklist of Resource Concerns

RANGE

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment	Y E S	N O	Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria Yes = Meets Planning Criteria No = Identified Resource Concern	Y E S	N O
ANIMAL RESOURCES							
26d. INADEQUATE HABITAT FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE – <i>Habitat continuity is inadequate to meet requirements of identified fish, wildlife or invertebrate species</i>	Is PLU managed for wildlife? (Wildlife Modifier)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Species-specific wildlife habitat assessment tools ➤ Montana NRCS WHEG - MT Biology Technical Note MT-19 Revision 3 (BTN MT-19) ➤ SVAP2, or MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2) 	Is WHEG rating ≥ 0.5 AND if surface stream present is the Riparian Assessment (ETN MT-2) rating “Sustainable” or “At-risk” with an upward trend? FURTHER , if aquatic habitat is the focus: SVAP2 – fish habitat complexity element score ≥ 7 AND SVAP2 – aquatic invertebrate habitat element score ≥ 7 AND Are conservation practices and management are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds? AND Is food available in quality and extent to support habitat requirements for the species of interest?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
27. LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION LIMITATION: <i>Inadequate feed and forage</i>	Is Client actively grazing animals? (Grazed Modifier)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ MT ECS-18B 	Are livestock forage, roughage and supplemental nutritional requirements addressed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
28. LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION LIMITATION: <i>Inadequate livestock shelter</i>				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Do artificial or natural shelters meet animal health needs and client objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
29. LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION LIMITATION: <i>Inadequate livestock water</i>				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Is water of acceptable quality and quantity adequately distributed to meet animal needs?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Checklist of Resource Concerns

RANGE

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment	Y E S	N O	Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria Yes = Meets Planning Criteria No = Identified Resource Concern	Y E S	N O
ENERGY RESOURCES							
30. INEFFICIENT ENERGY USE – Equipment and facilities	Is the Client interested in improving equipment and facilities energy efficiency?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ NRCS Energy Estimator ➤ USDA approved Energy Audit 	Has a USDA approved energy audit been implemented that addresses equipment and facilities to meet client objectives? OR Are on- farm renewable energy and/or energy conserving practices being implemented to meet client objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
31. INEFFICIENT ENERGY USE – Farming and ranching practices and field operations	Is Client interested in improving energy use in farm and ranch field operations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ NRCS Energy Estimator ➤ USDA approved Energy Audit ➤ Conservation on the Farm Checklist 	Has a USDA approved energy audit been implemented that addresses equipment and facilities to meet client objectives? OR Are on- farm renewable energy and/or energy conserving practices being implemented to meet client objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Checklist of Resource Concerns

RANGE

<i>Technical Assistance Notes</i>	

Checklist of Resource Concerns

Forest

CLIENT		LOCATION	
PLANNER		DATE	
LAND UNITS		TOOLS	

This check sheet is designed to assist planners and clients in identifying resource concerns during the planning process. The planning criteria outlined in Section III of the FOTG sets the minimum level of treatment. If a screening question is NO, this indicates no resource concern exists and no assessment is required. If a screening question is YES, the assessment must be completed to evaluate if there is a resource concern. For questions with no listed screening questions, move directly to the assessment. If the Assessment is YES, Planning Criteria is met. If the Assessment is NO, the Planning Criteria is not met and a Resource Concern exists.

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions		Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria		
	NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment	YES NO		YES NO	YES NO	
SOILS RESOURCES						
1a.SOIL EROSION: Sheet and Rill erosion*	Is soil surface organic residue cover < 80%?		➤ Visual inspection	Is site stable and without visible signs of erosion?		
1b. SOIL EROSION: Wind erosion*			➤ Visual inspection	Is site stable and without visible signs of erosion?		
2b.SOIL EROSION: Classic gully erosion*	Are classic gullies present?		➤ Field measurements ➤ Observations	Is classic gully management adequate to stop the progression of head cutting and widening and are offsite impacts minimized by vegetation and/or structures?		
3.SOIL EROSION: Excessive bank erosion from streams, shorelines or water conveyance channels*	Are perennial streams or shoreline on site?		➤ SVAP2, or ➤ MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2)	For shorelines and water conveyance channels; are banks stable or commensurate with normal geomorphological processes? AND If bank erosion is present, is it beyond the client's control or commensurate with normal geomorphological processes? AND For stream banks: SVAP2 bank condition ≥ 5 or ETN MT-2 Question 2 ≥ 5		
5. SOIL QUALITY DEGRADATION: Compaction	Is soil compaction a problem? AND Do activities cause soil compaction problems?		➤ Soil Quality Test Kit ➤ Observation of soil and plant condition ➤ Client input/planner observation	Is compaction managed to meet Client's production and management objectives?		
6. SOIL QUALITY DEGRADATION: Organic matter depletion*	Is soil organic matter depletion a problem? OR Do activities cause soil organic matter depletion?		➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation	Does ground cover meet state criteria specific to ecological site? OR Is soil organic matter managed to meet Client objectives?		

Checklist of Resource Concerns

FOREST

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment	Y	N	Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria YES = Meets Planning Criteria NO = Identified Resource Concern	Y	N
		E	O			E	O
WATER RESOURCES							
8a. EXCESS WATER: Ponding and Flooding	Is ponding or flooding a problem? AND Do activities cause ponding/flooding problems?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client Input ➤ Planner Observations 	Is excess water managed to meet Client's objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8b. EXCESS WATER: Seasonal high water table	Does a seasonal high water table cause a problem?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client Input ➤ Planner Observations 	Is excess water managed to meet Client's objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8c. EXCESS WATER: Seeps	Does excess water from seeps cause a problem?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client Input ➤ Planner Observations 	Is excess water managed to meet Client's objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8d. EXCESS WATER: Drifted snow	Does drifted snow cause a problem?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client Input ➤ Planner Observations 	Is excess water managed to meet Client's objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. INSUFFICIENT WATER: Inefficient moisture management	Is Moisture Management a problem? AND Do activities cause inefficient moisture management?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client Input ➤ Planner observation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Are runoff and evapotranspiration levels minimized to meet Client's management objectives? 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. INSUFFICIENT WATER: Inefficient use of irrigation water*	Is the PLU irrigated?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ FIRI worksheet ➤ Soil moisture monitoring or Record-keeping 	Is the efficiency of the current irrigation system 30% or more? AND Is the current irrigation system efficiency within 15% of the potential efficiency as stated by FIRI?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11a. WATER QUALITY: Excess nutrients in surface water*	Are organic or inorganic nutrients applied? OR Is PLU grazed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ Nutrient budget 	Are nutrients applied based on a soil test, tissue tests or nutrient budget? AND Are conservation practices and management in place to minimize surface water impacts?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11b. WATER QUALITY: Excess nutrients in groundwater*				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ Nutrient budget 	Are nutrients applied based on a soil test, tissue tests or nutrient budget? AND Are conservation practices and management in place to minimize groundwater impacts?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Checklist of Resource Concerns

FOREST

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions		Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria YES = Meets Planning Criteria NO = Identified Resource Concern	YES NO	
	NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment	YES NO			YES NO	YES NO
WATER RESOURCES						
12a. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: <i>Pesticides transported to Surface waters</i>	Are pest control chemicals applied?		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ WinPST 	Are pesticides stored, handled, disposed and managed to prevent runoff, spills, leaks, and leaching? AND Are conservation practices and managements in place to minimize offsite impacts?		
12b. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: <i>Pesticides transported to Groundwaters</i>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ WinPST 	Are pesticides stored, handled, disposed and managed to prevent runoff, spills, leaks, and leaching? AND Are conservation practices and managements in place to minimize offsite impacts?		
13a. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: <i>Pathogens, pharmaceuticals and Other Chemicals in Surface water*</i>	Are potential sources of pathogens or pharmaceuticals applied on the land?		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are organic materials applied, stored, and/or handled to mitigate negative impacts to water sources?		
13b. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: <i>Pathogens, pharmaceuticals and Other Chemicals in Groundwater*</i>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are organic materials applied, stored, and/or handled to mitigate negative impacts to water sources?		
14a. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: <i>Excessive salts in Surface waters</i>	Is excess salt a problem?		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are salt concentrations managed to mitigate off-site transport to surface waters?		
14b. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: <i>Excessive salts in Ground waters</i>	OR Do activities contribute to excess salt production?		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are salt concentrations managed to mitigate off-site transport to groundwaters?		

Checklist of Resource Concerns

FOREST

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment		Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria YES = Meets Planning Criteria NO = Identified Resource Concern			
	YES	NO		YES	NO		
WATER RESOURCES							
15a. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Petroleum and heavy metals and other pollutants transported to <u>surface</u> waters	Do activities present the potential for contamination?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are petroleum, heavy metals or other potential pollutants stored and handled to avoid runoff or leaching?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15b. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Petroleum and heavy metals and other pollutants transported to <u>groundwater</u>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are petroleum, heavy metals or other potential pollutants stored and handled to avoid runoff or leaching?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Excessive sediment in <u>surface</u> waters*	Are untreated sources of erosion present? OR Are streams, shoreline or channels on or adjacent to site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ SVAP2 or MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2) 	Do upslope treatment and buffer practices address concentrated flows to water bodies? AND SVAP2 - bank condition ≥ 5 or ETN MT-2 Question 2 ≥ 5 AND Are livestock and vehicle water crossings stable? AND Is water erosion rate $\leq T$? AND Is wind erosion rate $\leq T$?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Elevated water temperature	Is there a water course on or adjacent to the site with State Agency identified temperature impairment? OR Is water course temperature a client concern?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ SVAP2 or MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2) 	Is SVAP2 - riparian area quality element score ≥ 5 ? (Or, is ETN MT-2 Question 4 score ≥ 4)? AND Is SVAP2 - riparian area quantity element score ≥ 5 ? (Or, is ETN MT-2 Question 5 score ≥ 2)? AND Is SVAP2 - canopy cover element score ≥ 6 ? (Or, is ETN MT-2 Question 8 score ≥ 4)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Checklist of Resource Concerns

FOREST

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		ES	NO			ES	NO		
AIR RESOURCES									
18. AIR QUALITY IMPACTS - Emissions of Particulate Matter - PM - and PM Precursors	Have episodes or complaints of emissions of PM (dust, smoke, exhaust, etc.), or chemical drift occurred? AND Do activities contribute to agricultural source PM or PM precursor emissions?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are PM and PM Precursor emissions managed to meet client objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19. AIR QUALITY IMPACTS - Emissions of Greenhouse Gases - GHGs	Are GHGs regulated in this planning area? AND Do activities produce GHGs emissions?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are greenhouse gas emissions managed to meet client objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20. AIR QUALITY IMPACTS - Emissions of Ozone Precursors	Do operations produce ozone precursor emissions?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are ozone precursor emissions managed to meet client objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
PLANT RESOURCES									
22. DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION: Undesirable plant productivity and health	Are plant production and health a client objective?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Forest Inventory plots and transects (MT-ECS-1) 	Are forest species adapted to site? AND Do composition and stand density* meet Client's objectives and production goals? * - Within 25% (+/-) of state approved stems per acre stocking tables	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
23. DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION – Inadequate structure and composition	Will changes to the plant community structure or composition better support the desired ecological functions and intended land use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ Montana Forest Grazing Guides 	Do Plant communities contain adequate diversity, composition and structure to support desired ecological functions?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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		Y E S	N O			Y E S	N O
PLANT RESOURCES							
24. DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION: Excessive plant pest pressure	Is plant productivity limited from pest pressure?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	<p>Is pest damage to plants below economic or environmental thresholds or client-identified criteria?</p> <p>AND</p> <p>Are plant pests, including noxious and invasive species managed to control or minimize spread?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
25. DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION: Wildfire hazard, excessive biomass accumulation	Is wildfire hazard a concern?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are fuel loads and fuel ladders managed to provide survivable space and meet client objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ANIMAL RESOURCES							
26a. INADEQUATE HABITAT FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE – Quantity, quality of food is inadequate to meet requirements of identified fish, wildlife or invertebrate species	Is PLU managed for wildlife? (Wildlife Modifier)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Species-specific wildlife habitat assessment tools ➤ Montana NRCS WHEG - MT Biology Technical Note MT-19 Revision 3 (BTN MT-19) ➤ SVAP2, or MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2) 	<p>Is WHEG rating ≥ 0.5</p> <p>AND if surface stream present is the Riparian Assessment (ETN MT-2) rating “Sustainable” or “At-risk” with an upward trend?</p> <p>FURTHER, if aquatic habitat is the focus: SVAP2 – fish habitat complexity element score ≥ 7</p> <p>AND SVAP2 – aquatic invertebrate habitat element score ≥ 7</p> <p>AND Are conservation practices and management are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds?</p> <p>AND Is food available in quality and extent to support habitat requirements for the species of interest?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Checklist of Resource Concerns

FOREST

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions		Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria	
	NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment	YES NO		YES = Meets Planning Criteria NO = Identified Resource Concern	YES NO
ANIMAL RESOURCES					
26b. INADEQUATE HABITAT FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE – <i>Quantity, quality of water is inadequate to meet requirements of identified fish, wildlife or invertebrate species</i>	Is PLU managed for wildlife? (Wildlife Modifier)	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Species-specific wildlife habitat assessment tools ➤ Montana NRCS WHEG - MT Biology Technical Note MT-19 Revision 3 (BTN MT-19) ➤ SVAP2, or MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2) 	Is WHEG rating ≥ 0.5 AND if surface stream present is the Riparian Assessment (ETN MT-2) rating “Sustainable” or “At-risk” with an upward trend? FURTHER , if aquatic habitat is the focus: SVAP2 – fish habitat complexity element score ≥ 7 AND SVAP2 – aquatic invertebrate habitat element score ≥ 7 AND Are conservation practices and management are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds? AND Is food available in quality and extent to support habitat requirements for the species of interest?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
26c. INADEQUATE HABITAT FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE – <i>Quantity, quality or cover/shelter is inadequate to meet requirements of identified fish, wildlife or invertebrate species</i>	Is PLU managed for wildlife? (Wildlife Modifier)	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Species-specific wildlife habitat assessment tools ➤ Montana NRCS WHEG - MT Biology Technical Note MT-19 Revision 3 (BTN MT-19) ➤ SVAP2, or MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2) 	Is WHEG rating ≥ 0.5 AND if surface stream present is the Riparian Assessment (ETN MT-2) rating “Sustainable” or “At-risk” with an upward trend? FURTHER , if aquatic habitat is the focus: SVAP2 – fish habitat complexity element score ≥ 7 AND SVAP2 – aquatic invertebrate habitat element score ≥ 7 AND Are conservation practices and management are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds? AND Is food available in quality and extent to support habitat requirements for the species of interest?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

Checklist of Resource Concerns

FOREST

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions		Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria YES = Meets Planning Criteria NO = Identified Resource Concern		
	NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment	YES NO			YES NO	NO
ANIMAL RESOURCES						
26d. INADEQUATE HABITAT FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE – <i>Habitat continuity is inadequate to meet requirements of identified fish, wildlife or invertebrate species</i>	Is PLU managed for wildlife? (Wildlife Modifier)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Species-specific wildlife habitat assessment tools ➤ Montana NRCS WHEG - MT Biology Technical Note MT-19 Revision 3 (BTN MT-19) ➤ SVAP2, or MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2) 	Is WHEG rating ≥ 0.5 AND if surface stream present is the Riparian Assessment (ETN MT-2) rating “Sustainable” or “At-risk” with an upward trend? FURTHER , if aquatic habitat is the focus: SVAP2 – fish habitat complexity element score ≥ 7 AND SVAP2 – aquatic invertebrate habitat element score ≥ 7 AND Are conservation practices and management are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds? AND Is food available in quality and extent to support habitat requirements for the species of interest?		
27. LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION LIMITATION: <i>Inadequate feed and forage*</i>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ Similarity Index Worksheets ➤ MT ECS 18B 	Are livestock forage, roughage and supplemental nutritional requirements addressed?		
28. LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION LIMITATION: <i>Inadequate livestock shelter*</i>	Is PLU grazed? (Grazed Modifier)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Do artificial or natural shelters meet animal health needs and client objectives?		
29. LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION LIMITATION: <i>Inadequate livestock water*</i>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Is water of acceptable quality and quantity adequately distributed to meet animal needs?		

Checklist of Resource Concerns

FOREST

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment			Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria YES = Meets Planning Criteria NO = Identified Resource Concern		
		Y E S	N O			Y E S	N O
ENERGY RESOURCES							
30. INEFFICIENT ENERGY USE – Equipment and facilities	Is the Client interested in improving equipment and facilities energy efficiency?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ NRCS Energy Estimator ➤ USDA approved Energy Audit 	Has a USDA approved energy audit been implemented that addresses equipment and facilities to meet client objectives? OR Are on- farm renewable energy and/or energy conserving practices being implemented to meet client objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
31. INEFFICIENT ENERGY USE – Farming and ranching practices and field operations	Is Client interested in improving energy use in farm and ranch field operations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ NRCS Energy Estimator ➤ USDA approved Energy Audit ➤ Conservation on the Farm Checklist 	Has a USDA approved energy audit been implemented that addresses equipment and facilities to meet client objectives? OR Are on- farm renewable energy and/or energy conserving practices being implemented to meet client objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Checklist of Resource Concerns

FOREST

<i>Technical Assistance Notes</i>	

Farmsteads

CLIENT		LOCATION	
PLANNER		DATE	
LAND UNITS		TOOLS	

This check sheet is designed to assist planners and clients in identifying resource concerns during the planning process. The planning criteria outlined in Section III of the FOTG sets the minimum level of treatment. If a screening question is NO, this indicates no resource concern exists and no assessment is required. If a screening question is YES, the assessment must be completed to evaluate if there is a resource concern. For questions with no listed screening questions, move directly to the assessment. If the Assessment is YES, Planning Criteria is met. If the Assessment is NO, the Planning Criteria is not met and a Resource Concern exists.

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment	Y	N	Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria YES = Meets Planning Criteria NO = Identified Resource Concern	Y	N
		E	O			E	O
SOILS RESOURCES							
1a.SOIL EROSION: Sheet and Rill erosion*	Are permanent ground cover < 90% or slope > 10%?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RUSLE2 (where applicable) Observations 	Water erosion rate <=T		
1b. SOIL EROSION: Wind erosion*				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WEPS (where applicable) Observations 	Wind erosion rate <=T		
2b.SOIL EROSION: Classic gully erosion *	Are classic gullies present?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Field measurements Observations 	Is classic gully management adequate to stop the progression of head cutting and widening and are offsite impacts minimized by vegetation and/or structures?		
3.SOIL EROSION: Excessive bank erosion from streams, shorelines or water conveyance channels*	Are streams or shoreline on or adjacent to site?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SVAP2, or MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2) 	For shorelines and water conveyance channels; are banks stable or commensurate with normal geomorphological processes? AND For stream banks: SVAP2 bank condition ≥ 5 or ETN MT-2 Question 2 ≥ 5		
					OR Bank erosion caused solely by upstream/upland landuse(s) and management decisions that are beyond the client's control?		
7. SOIL QUALITY DEGRADATION: Concentration of Salts or other chemicals	Do activities cause salinity/sodicity problems?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Soil diagnostic evaluations 	Are conservation practices and managements in place to mitigate on-site effects?		

Checklist of Resource Concerns

Farmsteads

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment			Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria YES = Meets Planning Criteria NO = Identified Resource Concern		
		YES	NO			YES	NO
WATER RESOURCES							
8a. EXCESS WATER: Ponding and Flooding	Is ponding or flooding a problem? AND Do activities cause ponding/flooding problems?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client Input ➤ Planner Observations 	Is excess water managed to meet Client's objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8b. EXCESS WATER: Seasonal high water table	Does a seasonal high water table cause a problem?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client Input ➤ Planner Observations 	Is excess water managed to meet Client's objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8c. EXCESS WATER: Seeps	Does excess water from seeps cause a problem?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client Input ➤ Planner Observations 	Is excess water managed to meet Client's objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8d. EXCESS WATER: Drifted snow	Does drifted snow cause a problem?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client Input ➤ Planner Observations 	Is excess water managed to meet Client's objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. INSUFFICIENT WATER: Inefficient use of irrigation water*	Is the PLU irrigated?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ FIRI worksheet ➤ Soil moisture monitoring or Record-keeping 	Is the efficiency of the current irrigation system 30% or more? AND Is the current irrigation system efficiency within 15% of the potential efficiency as stated by FIRI?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11a. WATER QUALITY: Excess nutrients in surface water*	Are organic or inorganic nutrients applied? OR Is the PLU grazed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ Nutrient budget ➤ Montana Feedlot Annualized Runoff Model (MONTFARM) 	Are conservation practices and managements in place to minimize surface water impacts? AND Are surface waters protected from contamination due to runoff and leaching from storage sites, spill and other concentrated sources? AND Is MONTFARM Index rating less than 19? AND Are livestock adequately prevented from directly accessing surface waters?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11b. WATER QUALITY: Excess nutrients in groundwater*	OR Are confined livestock areas present?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ Nutrient budget ➤ Montana Environment Technical Note MT-3 (ETN MT-3) 	Are conservation practices and managements in place to minimize groundwater impacts? AND Are surface waters protected from contamination due to runoff and leaching from storage sites, spill and other concentrated sources? AND Is there only one or fewer criterion in ETN MT-3 rated as a High Risk?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Checklist of Resource Concerns

Farmsteads

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions		Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria	
	NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment	YES NO		YES NO	YES NO
WATER RESOURCES					
12a. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Pesticides transported to <u>Surface</u> waters	Are pest control chemicals applied?	[Green] [Red]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ WinPST 	Are pesticides stored, handled, disposed and managed to prevent runoff, spills, leaks and leaching? AND Are conservation practices and managements in place to minimize offsite impacts?	[Green] [Red]
12b. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Pesticides transported to <u>Groundwaters</u>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ WinPST 	Are pesticides stored, handled, disposed and managed to prevent runoff, spills, leaks and leaching? AND Are conservation practices and managements in place to minimize offsite impacts?	[Green] [Red]
13a. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Pathogens, pharmaceuticals and Other Chemicals in <u>Surface</u> water*	Are potential sources of pathogens or pharmaceuticals applied on the land?	[Green] [Red]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ Montana Feedlot Annualized Runoff Model (MONTFARM) 	Are organic materials applied, stored, and/or handled to mitigate negative impacts to water sources? AND Is MONTFARM Index rating less than 19? AND Are livestock adequately prevented from directly accessing surface waters?	[Green] [Red]
13b. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Pathogens, pharmaceuticals and Other Chemicals in <u>Groundwater</u>*			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ Montana Environment Technical Note MT-3 (ETN MT-3) 	Are organic materials applied, stored, and/or handled to mitigate negative impacts to water sources? AND Is there only one or fewer criterion in ETN MT-3 rated as a High Risk?	[Green] [Red]
14a. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Excessive salts in <u>Surface</u> waters	Is excess salt a problem?	[Green] [Red]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are salt concentrations managed to mitigate off-site transport to surface waters?	[Green] [Red]
14b. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Excessive salts in <u>Ground</u> waters	OR Do activities contribute to excess salt production?	[Green] [Red]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are salt concentrations managed to mitigate off-site transport to groundwaters?	[Green] [Red]

Checklist of Resource Concerns

Farmsteads

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment		Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria YES = Meets Planning Criteria NO = Identified Resource Concern			
	YES	NO		YES	NO		
WATER RESOURCES							
15a. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Petroleum and heavy metals and other pollutants transported to surface water	Do activities present the potential for contamination?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are petroleum, heavy metals or other potential pollutants stored and handled to avoid runoff or leaching?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15b. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Petroleum and heavy metals and other pollutants transported to groundwater	Do activities present the potential for contamination?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are petroleum, heavy metals or other potential pollutants stored and handled to avoid runoff or leaching?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Excessive sediment in surface waters*	Are permanent ground cover < 90% or slope > 10%? OR Are classic gullies present? OR Are streams or shoreline on or adjacent to site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ RUSLE2 ➤ SVAP2 or MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2) ➤ WEPS 	Do upslope treatment and buffer practices address concentrated flows to water bodies? AND SVAP2 - bank condition ≥ 5 or ETN MT-2 Question 2 ≥ 5 AND Are livestock and vehicle water crossings stable? AND Is water erosion rate ≤ T? AND Is wind erosion rate ≤ T?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Elevated water temperature	Is there a water course on or adjacent to the site with State Agency identified temperature impairment? OR Is water course temperature a client concern?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ SVAP2 or MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2) 	Is SVAP2 - riparian area quality element score ≥ 5? (Or, is ETN MT-2 Question 4 score ≥ 4?) AND Is SVAP2 - riparian area quantity element score ≥ 5? (Or, is ETN MT-2 Question 5 score ≥ 2?) AND Is SVAP2 - canopy cover element score ≥ 6? (Or, is ETN MT-2 Question 8 score ≥ 4?)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Checklist of Resource Concerns

Farmsteads

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions		Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria	
	NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment	YES NO		YES NO	YES NO
AIR RESOURCES					
18. AIR QUALITY IMPACTS - Emissions of Particulate Matter - PM - and PM Precursors	Have episodes or complaints of emissions of PM (dust, smoke, exhaust, etc.), or chemical drift occurred? AND Do activities contribute to agricultural source PM or PM precursor emissions?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are PM and PM Precursor emissions managed to meet client objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
19. AIR QUALITY IMPACTS - Emissions of Greenhouse Gases - GHGs	Are GHGs regulated in this planning area? AND Do activities produce GHGs emissions?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are greenhouse gas emissions managed to meet client objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
20. AIR QUALITY IMPACTS - Emissions of Ozone Precursors	Do operations produce ozone or precursor emissions?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are ozone precursor emissions managed to meet client objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

Checklist of Resource Concerns

Farmsteads

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions		Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria	
	NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment	YES NO		YES = Meets Planning Criteria NO = Identified Resource Concern	YES NO
AIR RESOURCES					
21. AIR QUALITY IMPACTS - Objectionable odors	<p>Do activities contribute to odor nuisance air quality conditions?</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Are odor sources regulated in this planning area?</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Have odor episodes or complaints of odor nuisance occurred?</p>	<p>YES</p> <p>NO</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ Neighbor interviews ➤ Prevalent wind study ➤ Odor assessment tools 	<p>Are odors managed to meet client objectives?</p>	<p>YES</p> <p>NO</p>
PLANT RESOURCES					
22. DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION: Undesirable plant productivity and health	<p>Are plant production and health a client objective?</p>	<p>YES</p> <p>NO</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ Crop Tolerance Tables 	<p>Are plants adapted to the site, meet production goals and do not negatively impact other resources?</p> <p>AND</p> <p>Is plant damage from wind erosion below Crop Damage Tolerance levels?</p>	<p>YES</p> <p>NO</p>
24. DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION: Excessive plant pest pressure	<p>Is plant productivity limited from pest pressure?</p>	<p>YES</p> <p>NO</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	<p>Is pest damage to plants below economic or environmental thresholds or client-identified criteria?</p> <p>AND</p> <p>Are plant pests, including noxious and invasive species managed to meet client objectives?</p>	<p>YES</p> <p>NO</p>
25. DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION: Wildfire hazard, excessive biomass accumulation	<p>Is wildfire hazard a concern?</p>	<p>YES</p> <p>NO</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	<p>Are fuel loads and fuel ladders managed to provide defensible space and meet client objectives?</p>	<p>YES</p> <p>NO</p>

Checklist of Resource Concerns

Farmsteads

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions		Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria	
	NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment	YES NO		YES NO	YES NO
ANIMAL RESOURCES					
27. LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION LIMITATION: <i>Inadequate feed and forage</i>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ MT ECS-18B 	Are livestock forage, roughage and supplemental nutritional requirements addressed?	
28. LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION LIMITATION: <i>Inadequate livestock shelter</i>	Is Client actively grazing animals. (Grazing Modifier)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Do artificial or natural shelters meet animal health needs and client objectives?	
29. LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION LIMITATION: <i>Inadequate livestock water</i>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Is water of acceptable quality and quantity adequately distributed to meet animal needs?	
ENERGY RESOURCES					
30. INEFFICIENT ENERGY USE – <i>Equipment and facilities</i>	Is the Client interested in improving equipment and facilities energy efficiency?		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ NRCS Energy Estimator ➤ USDA approved Energy Audit 	Has a USDA approved energy audit been implemented that addresses equipment and facilities to meet client objectives? OR Are on- farm renewable energy and/or energy conserving practices being implemented to meet client objectives?	
31. INEFFICIENT ENERGY USE – <i>Farming and ranching practices and field operations</i>	Is Client interested in improving energy use in farm and ranch field operations?		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ NRCS Energy Estimator ➤ USDA approved Energy Audit ➤ Conservation on the Farm Checklist 	Has a USDA approved energy audit been implemented that addresses equipment and facilities to meet client objectives? OR Are on- farm renewable energy and/or energy conserving practices being implemented to meet client objectives?	

Checklist of Resource Concerns

Farmsteads

<i>Technical Assistance Notes</i>	

Checklist of Resource Concerns

Developed Land

CLIENT		LOCATION	
PLANNER		DATE	
LAND UNITS		TOOLS	

This check sheet is designed to assist planners and clients in identifying resource concerns during the planning process. The planning criteria outlined in Section III of the FOTG sets the minimum level of treatment. If a screening question is NO, this indicates no resource concern exists and no assessment is required. If a screening question is YES, the assessment must be completed to evaluate if there is a resource concern. For questions with no listed screening questions, move directly to the assessment. If the Assessment is YES, Planning Criteria is met. If the Assessment is NO, the Planning Criteria is not met and a Resource Concern exists.

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions		Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria		
	NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment	YES NO		YES NO	NO	
SOILS RESOURCES						
1a.SOIL EROSION: Sheet and Rill erosion*	Are permanent ground cover < 90% or slope > 10%?		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ RUSLE2 (where applicable) ➤ Observation 	Water erosion rate <=T		
1b. SOIL EROSION: Wind erosion*				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ WEPS (where applicable) ➤ Observation 	Wind erosion rate <=T	
2b.SOIL EROSION: Classic gully erosion *	Are classic gullies present?		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Field measurements ➤ Observations 		Is classic gully management adequate to stop the progression of head cutting and widening and are offsite impacts minimized by vegetation and/or structures?	
3.SOIL EROSION: Excessive bank erosion from streams, shorelines or water conveyance channels*	Are streams or shoreline on or adjacent to site?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ SVAP2, or ➤ MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2) 	For shorelines and water conveyance channels; are banks stable or commensurate with normal geomorphological processes? AND For stream banks: SVAP2 bank condition ≥ 5 or ETN MT-2 Question 2 ≥ 5	
			OR Bank erosion caused solely by upstream/upland land use(s) and management decisions that are beyond the client's control?			

Checklist of Resource Concerns

Developed Land

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions	YES	NO	Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria	YES	NO
	NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment				YES = Meets Planning Criteria NO = Identified Resource Concern		
WATER RESOURCES							
8a. EXCESS WATER: Ponding and Flooding	Is ponding or flooding a problem? AND Do activities cause ponding/flooding problems?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client Input ➤ Planner Observations 	Is excess water managed to meet Client's objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8b. EXCESS WATER: Seasonal high water table	Does a seasonal high water table cause a problem?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client Input ➤ Planner Observations 	Is excess water managed to meet Client's objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8c. EXCESS WATER: Seeps	Does excess water from seeps cause a problem?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client Input ➤ Planner Observations 	Is excess water managed to meet Client's objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8d. EXCESS WATER: Drifted snow	Does drifted snow cause a problem?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client Input ➤ Planner Observations 	Is excess water managed to meet Client's objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. INSUFFICIENT WATER: Inefficient moisture management	Is moisture management a problem? AND Do activities cause inefficient moisture management?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ Nutrient budget 	Are runoff and evapotranspiration levels minimized to meet Client's management objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. INSUFFICIENT WATER: Inefficient use of irrigation water *	Is the PLU irrigated?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ FIRI worksheet ➤ Soil moisture monitoring or Record-keeping 	Is the efficiency of the current irrigation system 30% or more? AND Is the current irrigation system efficiency within 15% of the potential efficiency as stated in FIRI?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Checklist of Resource Concerns

DEVELOPED LAND

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment	YES	NO	Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria YES = Meets Planning Criteria NO = Identified Resource Concern	YES	NO
WATER RESOURCES							
11a. WATER QUALITY: <i>Excess nutrients in surface water</i> *	Are organic or inorganic nutrients applied?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ Nutrient budget ➤ Phosphorous Risk Assessment ➤ Nitrogen Risk Assessment 	Are nutrient and amendment applications based on soil or tissue tests and nutrient budgets for realistic yields? AND Are conservation practices and managements in place to minimize offsite impacts?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11b. WATER QUALITY: <i>Excess nutrients in groundwater</i> *		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ Nutrient budget ➤ Nitrogen Risk Assessment 	Are nutrient and amendment applications based on soil or tissue tests and nutrient budgets for realistic yields? AND Are conservation practices and managements in place to minimize offsite impacts?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
12a. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: <i>Pesticides transported to Surface waters</i>	Are pest control chemicals applied?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ WinPST 	Are pesticides stored, handled, disposed and managed to prevent runoff, spills, leaks and leaching? AND Are conservation practices and managements in place to minimize offsite impacts?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12b. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: <i>Pesticides transported to Groundwaters</i>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ WinPST 	Are pesticides stored, handled, disposed and managed to prevent runoff, spills, leaks, and leaching? AND Are conservation practices and managements in place to minimize offsite impacts?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
13a. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: <i>Pathogens, pharmaceuticals and Other Chemicals in Surface water*</i>	Are potential sources of pathogens or pharmaceuticals applied on the land?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are organic materials applied, stored, and/or handled to mitigate negative impacts to water sources?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13b. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: <i>Pathogens, pharmaceuticals and Other Chemicals in Groundwater*</i>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are organic materials applied, stored, and/or handled to mitigate negative impacts to water sources?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Checklist of Resource Concerns

Developed Land

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment	YES	NO	Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria YES = Meets Planning Criteria NO = Identified Resource Concern	YES	NO
WATER RESOURCES							
14a. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Excessive salts in Surface waters	Is excess salt a problem?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are salt concentrations managed to mitigate off-site transport to surface waters?		
14b. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Excessive salts in Ground waters	OR Do activities contribute to excess salt production?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are salt concentrations managed to mitigate off-site transport to groundwaters?		
15a. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Petroleum and heavy metals and other pollutants transported to surface waters	Do activities present the potential for contamination?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are petroleum, heavy metals or other potential pollutants stored and handled to avoid runoff or leaching?		
15b. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Petroleum and heavy metals and other pollutants transported to groundwaters	Do activities present the potential for contamination?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are petroleum, heavy metals or other potential pollutants stored and handled to avoid runoff or leaching?		
16. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Excessive sediment in surface waters*	Are permanent ground cover < 90% or slope > 10%? OR Are classic gullies present? OR Are streams or shoreline on or adjacent to site?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ RUSLE2 ➤ SVAP2 or MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2) ➤ WEPS 	Do upslope treatment and buffer practices address concentrated flows to water bodies? AND SVAP2 - bank condition ≥ 5 or ETN MT-2 Question 2 ≥ 5 AND Are livestock and vehicle water crossings stable? AND Is water erosion rate ≤ T? AND Is wind erosion rate ≤ T?		

Checklist of Resource Concerns

DEVELOPED LAND

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions	YES	NO	Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria	YES	NO
	NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment				YES = Meets Planning Criteria NO = Identified Resource Concern		
WATER RESOURCES							
17. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Elevated water temperature	Is there a water course on or adjacent to the site with State Agency identified temperature impairment? OR Is water course temperature a client concern?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ SVAP2 or MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2) 	Is SVAP2 - riparian area quality element score ≥ 5 ? (Or, is ETN MT-2 Question 4 score ≥ 4) AND Is SVAP2 - riparian area quantity element score ≥ 5 ? (Or, is ETN MT-2 Question 5 score ≥ 2) AND Is SVAP2 - canopy cover element score ≥ 6 ? (Or, is ETN MT-2 Question 8 score ≥ 4)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
AIR RESOURCES							
18. AIR QUALITY IMPACTS - Emissions of Particulate Matter - PM - and PM Precursors	Have episodes or complaints of emissions of PM (dust, smoke, exhaust, etc.), or chemical drift occurred? AND Do activities contribute to agricultural source PM or PM precursor emissions?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are PM and PM Precursor emissions managed to meet client objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19. AIR QUALITY IMPACTS - Emissions of Greenhouse Gases - GHGs	Are GHGs regulated in this planning area? AND Do activities produce GHGs emissions?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are greenhouse gas emissions managed to meet client objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20. AIR QUALITY IMPACTS - Emissions of Ozone Precursors	Do operations produce ozone precursor emissions?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are ozone precursor emissions managed to meet client objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Checklist of Resource Concerns

Developed Land

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment			Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria YES = Meets Planning Criteria NO = Identified Resource Concern		
		Y E S	N O			Y E S	N O
PLANT RESOURCES							
22. DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION: <i>Undesirable plant productivity and health</i>	Are plant production and health a client?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ Crop Tolerance Table 	Are plants adapted to the site, meet production goals and do not negatively impact other resources? AND Is plant damage from wind erosion below Crop Damage Tolerance levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
24. DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION: <i>Excessive plant pest pressure</i>	Is plant productivity limited from pest pressure?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Is pest damage to plants below economic or environmental thresholds or client-identified criteria? AND Are plant pests, including noxious and invasive species managed to meet client objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
25. DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION: <i>Wildfire hazard, excessive biomass accumulation</i>	Is wildfire hazard a concern?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are fuel loads and fuel ladders managed to provide defensible space and meet client objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ANIMAL RESOURCES							
26a. INADEQUATE HABITAT FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE – <i>Quantity, quality of food is inadequate to meet requirements of identified fish, wildlife or invertebrate species</i>	Is PLU managed for wildlife? (Wildlife Modifier)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Species-specific wildlife habitat assessment tools ➤ Montana NRCS WHEG - MT Biology Technical Note MT-19 Revision 3 (BTN MT-19) ➤ SVAP2, or MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2) 	Is WHEG rating ≥ 0.5 AND if surface stream present is the Riparian Assessment (ETN MT-2) rating "Sustainable" or "At-risk" with an upward trend? FURTHER , if aquatic habitat is the focus: SVAP2 – fish habitat complexity element score ≥ 7 AND SVAP2 – aquatic invertebrate habitat element score ≥ 7 AND Are conservation practices and management are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds? AND Is food available in quality and extent to support habitat requirements for the species of interest?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Checklist of Resource Concerns

DEVELOPED LAND

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions	Y E S	N O	Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria	Y E S	N O
	NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment				YES = Meets Planning Criteria NO = Identified Resource Concern		
ANIMAL RESOURCES							
26b. INADEQUATE HABITAT FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE – <i>Quantity, quality of water is inadequate to meet requirements of identified fish, wildlife or invertebrate species</i>	Is PLU managed for wildlife? (Wildlife Modifier)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Species-specific wildlife habitat assessment tools ➤ Montana NRCS WHEG - MT Biology Technical Note MT-19 Revision 3 (BTN MT-19) ➤ SVAP2, or MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2) 	Is WHEG rating ≥ 0.5 AND if surface stream present is the Riparian Assessment (ETN MT-2) rating “Sustainable” or “At-risk” with an upward trend? FURTHER , if aquatic habitat is the focus: SVAP2 – fish habitat complexity element score ≥ 7 AND SVAP2 – aquatic invertebrate habitat element score ≥ 7 AND Are conservation practices and management are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds? AND Is food available in quality and extent to support habitat requirements for the species of interest?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
26c. INADEQUATE HABITAT FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE – <i>Quantity, quality or cover/shelter is inadequate to meet requirements of identified fish, wildlife or invertebrate species</i>	Is PLU managed for wildlife? (Wildlife modifier)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Species-specific wildlife habitat assessment tools ➤ Montana NRCS WHEG - MT Biology Technical Note MT-19 Revision 3 (BTN MT-19) ➤ SVAP2, or MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2) 	Is WHEG rating ≥ 0.5 AND if surface stream present is the Riparian Assessment (ETN MT-2) rating “Sustainable” or “At-risk” with an upward trend? FURTHER , if aquatic habitat is the focus: SVAP2 – fish habitat complexity element score ≥ 7 AND SVAP2 – aquatic invertebrate habitat element score ≥ 7 AND Are conservation practices and management are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds? AND Is food available in quality and extent to support habitat requirements for the species of interest?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Checklist of Resource Concerns

Developed Land

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions	YES	NO	Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria	YES	NO
	NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment				YES = Meets Planning Criteria NO = Identified Resource Concern		
ANIMAL RESOURCES							
26d. INADEQUATE HABITAT FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE – <i>Habitat continuity is inadequate to meet requirements of identified fish, wildlife or invertebrate species</i>	Is PLU managed for wildlife? (Wildlife Modifier)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Species-specific wildlife habitat assessment tools ➤ Montana NRCS WHEG - MT Biology Technical Note MT-19 Revision 3 (BTN MT-19) ➤ SVAP2, or MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2) 	Is WHEG rating ≥ 0.5 AND if surface stream present is the Riparian Assessment (ETN MT-2) rating “Sustainable” or “At-risk” with an upward trend? FURTHER , if aquatic habitat is the focus: SVAP2 – fish habitat complexity element score ≥ 7 AND SVAP2 – aquatic invertebrate habitat element score ≥ 7 AND Are conservation practices and management are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds? AND Is food available in quality and extent to support habitat requirements for the species of interest?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
27. LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION LIMITATION: <i>Inadequate feed and forage</i>				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ MT ECS-18B 	Are livestock forage, roughage and supplemental nutritional requirements addressed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
28. LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION LIMITATION: <i>Inadequate livestock shelter</i>	Is Client actively grazing animals. (Grazing Modifier)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Do artificial or natural shelters meet animal health needs and client objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
29. LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION LIMITATION: <i>Inadequate livestock water</i>				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Is water of acceptable quality and quantity adequately distributed to meet animal needs?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Checklist of Resource Concerns

DEVELOPED LAND

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions	Y E S	N O	Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria	Y E S	N O
	NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment				YES = Meets Planning Criteria NO = Identified Resource Concern		
ENERGY RESOURCES							
30. INEFFICIENT ENERGY USE – Equipment and facilities	Is the Client interested in improving equipment and facilities energy efficiency?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ NRCS Energy Estimator ➤ USDA approved Energy Audit 	Has a USDA approved energy audit been implemented that addresses equipment and facilities to meet client objectives? OR Are on- farm renewable energy and/or energy conserving practices being implemented to meet client objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
31. INEFFICIENT ENERGY USE – Farming and ranching practices and field operations	Is Client interested in improving energy use in farm and ranch field operations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ NRCS Energy Estimator ➤ USDA approved Energy Audit ➤ Conservation on the Farm Checklist 	Has a USDA approved energy audit been implemented that addresses equipment and facilities to meet client objectives? OR Are on- farm renewable energy and/or energy conserving practices being implemented to meet client objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Checklist of Resource Concerns

Developed Land

Technical Assistance Notes

<i>Technical Assistance Notes</i>	

Checklist of Resource Concerns Designated Protected Area

CLIENT		LOCATION	
PLANNER		DATE	
LAND UNITS		TOOLS	

This check sheet is designed to assist planners and clients in identifying resource concerns during the planning process. The planning criteria outlined in Section III of the FOTG sets the minimum level of treatment. If a screening question is NO, this indicates no resource concern exists and no assessment is required. If a screening question is YES, the assessment must be completed to evaluate if there is a resource concern. For questions with no listed screening questions, move directly to the assessment. If the Assessment is YES, Planning Criteria is met. If the Assessment is NO, the Planning Criteria is not met and a Resource Concern exists.

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions		Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria		
	NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment	YES NO		YES NO	YES NO	
SOILS RESOURCES						
1a.SOIL EROSION: Sheet and Rill erosion*	Are permanent ground cover < 90% or slope > 10%?		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ RUSLE2 (where applicable) ➤ Observation 	Water erosion rate <=T		
1b. SOIL EROSION: Wind erosion*				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ WEPS (where applicable) ➤ Observation 	Wind erosion rate <=T	
2b.SOIL EROSION: Classic gully erosion *	Are classic gullies present?		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Field measurements ➤ Observations 	Is classic gully management adequate to stop the progression of head cutting and widening and are offsite impacts minimized by vegetation and/or structures?		
3.SOIL EROSION: Excessive bank erosion from streams, shorelines or water conveyance channels*	Are streams or shoreline on or adjacent to site?		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ SVAP2, or ➤ MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2) 	For shorelines and water conveyance channels; are banks stable or commensurate with normal geomorphological processes? AND For stream banks: SVAP2 bank condition ≥ 5 or ETN MT-2 Question 2 ≥ 5		
					OR Bank erosion caused solely by upstream/upland land use(s) and management decisions that are beyond the client's control?	
5. SOIL QUALITY DEGRADATION: Compaction	Is soil compaction a problem? AND Do activities cause soil compaction problems?		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Soil Quality Test Kit ➤ Observation of soil and plant condition ➤ Client input/planner observation 	Is compaction managed to meet Client's production and management objectives?		

Checklist of Resource Concerns
Designated Protected Area

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions	Y E S	N O	Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria	Y E S	N O
	NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment				YES = Meets Planning Criteria NO = Identified Resource Concern		
WATER RESOURCES							
8a. EXCESS WATER: Ponding and Flooding	Is ponding or flooding a problem? AND Do activities cause ponding/flooding problems?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client Input ➤ Planner Observations 	Is excess water managed to meet Client's objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8b. EXCESS WATER: Seasonal high water table	Does a seasonal high water table cause a problem?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client Input ➤ Planner Observations 	Is excess water managed to meet Client's objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8c. EXCESS WATER: Seeps	Does excess water from seeps cause a problem?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client Input ➤ Planner Observations 	Is excess water managed to meet Client's objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8d. EXCESS WATER: Drifted snow	Does drifted snow cause a problem?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client Input ➤ Planner Observations 	Is excess water managed to meet Client's objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. INSUFFICIENT WATER: Inefficient moisture management	Is Moisture Management a problem? AND Do activities cause inefficient moisture management?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client Input ➤ Planner observation 	Are runoff and evapotranspiration levels minimized to meet Client's management objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. INSUFFICIENT WATER: Inefficient use of irrigation water*	Is the PLU irrigated?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ FIRI worksheet ➤ Soil moisture monitoring or Record-keeping 	Is the efficiency of the current irrigation system 30% or more? AND Is the current irrigation system efficiency within 15% of the potential efficiency as stated by FIRI?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Checklist of Resource Concerns
Designated Protected Area

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions	Y E S	N O	Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria	Y E S	N O
	NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment				YES = Meets Planning Criteria NO = Identified Resource Concern		
WATER RESOURCES							
11a. WATER QUALITY: <i>Excess nutrients in <u>surface water</u></i> *	Are organic or inorganic nutrients applied? OR Is the PLU grazed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ Nutrient budget 	Are nutrient and amendment applications based on soil or tissue tests and nutrient budgets for realistic yields? AND Are conservation practices and managements in place to minimize offsite impacts?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	11b. WATER QUALITY: <i>Excess nutrients in <u>groundwater</u></i> *	OR Are confined livestock areas present?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ Nutrient budget 	Are nutrient and amendment applications based on soil or tissue tests and nutrient budgets for realistic yields? AND Are conservation practices and managements in place to minimize offsite impacts?	<input type="checkbox"/>
12a. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: <i>Pesticides transported to <u>Surface waters</u></i>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ WinPST 	Are pesticides stored, handled, disposed and managed to prevent runoff, spills, leaks and leaching? AND Are conservation practices and managements in place to minimize offsite impacts?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12b. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: <i>Pesticides transported to <u>Groundwaters</u></i>	Are pest control chemicals applied?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ WinPST 	Are pesticides stored, handled, disposed and managed to prevent runoff, spills, leaks, and leaching? AND Are conservation practices and managements in place to minimize offsite impacts?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13a. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: <i>Pathogens, pharmaceuticals and Other Chemicals in <u>Surface water</u></i> *		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are organic materials applied, stored, and/or handled to mitigate negative impacts to water sources?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	13b. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: <i>Pathogens, pharmaceuticals and Other Chemicals in <u>Groundwater</u></i> *	Are potential sources of pathogens or pharmaceuticals applied on the land?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are organic materials applied, stored, and/or handled to mitigate negative impacts to water sources?	<input type="checkbox"/>

Checklist of Resource Concerns
Designated Protected Area

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment			Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria YES = Meets Planning Criteria NO = Identified Resource Concern		
		YES	NO			YES	NO
WATER RESOURCES							
14a. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Excessive salts in Surface waters	Is excess salt a problem?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are salt concentrations managed to mitigate off-site transport to surface waters?		
14b. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Excessive salts in Ground waters	OR Do activities contribute to excess salt production?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are salt concentrations managed to mitigate off-site transport to groundwaters?		
15a. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Petroleum and heavy metals and other pollutants transported to surface waters	Do activities present the potential for contamination?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are petroleum, heavy metals or other potential pollutants stored and handled to avoid runoff or leaching?		
15b. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Petroleum and heavy metals and other pollutants transported to groundwaters	Do activities present the potential for contamination?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are petroleum, heavy metals or other potential pollutants stored and handled to avoid runoff or leaching?		
16. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Excessive sediment in surface waters*	Are permanent ground cover < 90% and slope > 10%? OR Are classic gullies present? OR Are streams or shoreline on or adjacent to site?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ RUSLE2 ➤ SVAP2 or MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2) ➤ WEPS 	Do upslope treatment and buffer practices address concentrated flows to water bodies? AND SVAP2 - bank condition ≥ 5 or ETN MT-2 Question 2 ≥ 5 AND Are livestock and vehicle water crossings stable? AND Is water erosion rate ≤ T? AND Is wind erosion rate < T?		
17. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Elevated water temperature	Is there a water course on or adjacent to the site with State Agency identified temperature impairment? OR Is water course temperature a client concern?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ SVAP2 or MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2) 	Is SVAP2 - riparian area quality element score ≥ 5? (Or, is ETN MT-2 Question 4 score ≥ 4?) AND Is SVAP2 - riparian area quantity element score ≥ 5? (Or, is ETN MT-2 Question 5 score ≥ 2?) AND Is SVAP2 - canopy cover element score ≥ 6? (Or, is ETN MT-2 Question 8 score ≥ 4?)		

Checklist of Resource Concerns
Designated Protected Area

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions	Y E S	N O	Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria	Y E S	N O
	NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment				YES = Meets Planning Criteria NO = Identified Resource Concern		
AIR RESOURCES							
18. AIR QUALITY IMPACTS - Emissions of Particulate Matter - PM - and PM Precursors	Have episodes or complaints of emissions of PM (dust, smoke, exhaust, etc.), or chemical drift occurred? AND Do activities contribute to agricultural source PM or PM precursor emissions?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are PM and PM Precursor emissions managed to meet client objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19. AIR QUALITY IMPACTS - Emissions of Greenhouse Gases - GHGs	Are GHGs regulated in this planning area? AND Do activities produce GHGs emissions?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are greenhouse gas emissions managed to meet client objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20. AIR QUALITY IMPACTS - Emissions of Ozone Precursors	Do operations produce ozone precursor emissions?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are ozone precursor emissions managed to meet client objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
21. AIR QUALITY IMPACTS - Objectionable odors	Do activities contribute to odor nuisance air quality conditions? OR Are odor sources regulated in this planning area? OR Have odor episodes or complaints of odor nuisance occurred?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are odors managed to meet client objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Checklist of Resource Concerns
Designated Protected Area

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions	Y E S	N O	Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria	Y E S	N O
	NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment				YES = Meets Planning Criteria NO = Identified Resource Concern		
PLANT RESOURCES							
22. DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION: <i>Undesirable plant productivity and health</i>	Are plant production and health a client?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ Crop Tolerance Table 	Are plants adapted to the site, meet production goals and do not negatively impact other resources? AND Is plant damage from wind erosion below Crop Damage Tolerance levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
23. DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION: <i>Inadequate structure and composition</i>	Will changes to the plant community structure or composition better support the desired ecological functions and intended land use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ Forage suitability Groups 	Do plant communities contain adequate diversity, composition and structure to support desired ecological functions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
24. DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION: <i>Excessive plant pest pressure</i>	Is plant productivity limited from pest pressure?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Is pest damage to plants below economic or environmental thresholds or client-identified criteria? AND Are plant pests, including noxious and invasive species managed to meet client objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
25. DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION: <i>Wildfire hazard, excessive biomass accumulation</i>	Is wildfire hazard a concern?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are fuel loads and fuel ladders managed to provide defensible space and meet client objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Checklist of Resource Concerns
Designated Protected Area

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions	YES	NO	Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria	YES	NO
	NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment				YES = Meets Planning Criteria NO = Identified Resource Concern		
ANIMAL RESOURCES							
26a. INADEQUATE HABITAT FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE – Quantity, quality of food is inadequate to meet requirements of identified fish, wildlife or invertebrate species	Is PLU managed for wildlife? (Wildlife Modifier)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Species-specific wildlife habitat assessment tools ➤ Montana NRCS WHEG - MT Biology Technical Note MT-19 Revision 3 (BTN MT-19) ➤ SVAP2, or MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2) 	Is WHEG rating ≥ 0.5 AND if surface stream present is the Riparian Assessment (ETN MT-2) rating “Sustainable” or “At-risk” with an upward trend? FURTHER , if aquatic habitat is the focus: SVAP2 – fish habitat complexity element score ≥ 7 AND SVAP2 – aquatic invertebrate habitat element score ≥ 7 AND Are conservation practices and management are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds? AND Is food available in quality and extent to support habitat requirements for the species of interest?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
26b. INADEQUATE HABITAT FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE – Quantity, quality of water is inadequate to meet requirements of identified fish, wildlife or invertebrate species	Is PLU managed for wildlife? (Wildlife Modifier)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Species-specific wildlife habitat assessment tools ➤ Montana NRCS WHEG - MT Biology Technical Note MT-19 Revision 3 (BTN MT-19) ➤ SVAP2, or MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2) 	Is WHEG rating ≥ 0.5 AND if surface stream present is the Riparian Assessment (ETN MT-2) rating “Sustainable” or “At-risk” with an upward trend? FURTHER , if aquatic habitat is the focus: SVAP2 – fish habitat complexity element score ≥ 7 AND SVAP2 – aquatic invertebrate habitat element score ≥ 7 AND Are conservation practices and management are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds? AND Is food available in quality and extent to support habitat requirements for the species of interest?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Checklist of Resource Concerns
Designated Protected Area

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions	YES	NO	Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria	YES	NO
	NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment				YES = Meets Planning Criteria NO = Identified Resource Concern		
ANIMAL RESOURCES							
26c. INADEQUATE HABITAT FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE – <i>Quantity, quality or cover/shelter is inadequate to meet requirements of identified fish, wildlife or invertebrate species</i>	Is PLU managed for wildlife? (Wildlife Modifier)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Species-specific wildlife habitat assessment tools ➤ Montana NRCS WHEG - MT Biology Technical Note MT-19 Revision 3 (BTN MT-19) ➤ SVAP2, or MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2) 	<p>Is WHEG rating ≥ 0.5 AND if surface stream present is the Riparian Assessment (ETN MT-2) rating “Sustainable” or “At-risk” with an upward trend? FURTHER, if aquatic habitat is the focus: SVAP2 – fish habitat complexity element score ≥ 7 AND SVAP2 – aquatic invertebrate habitat element score ≥ 7 AND Are conservation practices and management are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds? AND Is food available in quality and extent to support habitat requirements for the species of interest?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
26d. INADEQUATE HABITAT FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE – <i>Habitat continuity is inadequate to meet requirements of identified fish, wildlife or invertebrate species</i>	Is PLU managed for wildlife? (Wildlife Modifier)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Species-specific wildlife habitat assessment tools ➤ Montana NRCS WHEG - MT Biology Technical Note MT-19 Revision 3 (BTN MT-19) ➤ SVAP2, or MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2) 	<p>Is WHEG rating ≥ 0.5 AND if surface stream present is the Riparian Assessment (ETN MT-2) rating “Sustainable” or “At-risk” with an upward trend? FURTHER, if aquatic habitat is the focus: SVAP2 – fish habitat complexity element score ≥ 7 AND SVAP2 – aquatic invertebrate habitat element score ≥ 7 AND Are conservation practices and management are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds? AND Is food available in quality and extent to support habitat requirements for the species of interest?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Checklist of Resource Concerns
Designated Protected Area

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions	YES	NO	Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria	YES	NO
	NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment				YES = Meets Planning Criteria NO = Identified Resource Concern		
ANIMAL RESOURCES							
27. LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION LIMITATION: <i>Inadequate feed and forage</i>				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ MT ECS-18B 	Are livestock forage, roughage and supplemental nutritional requirements addressed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
28. LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION LIMITATION: <i>Inadequate livestock shelter</i>	Is Client actively grazing animals? (Grazing Modifier)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Do artificial or natural shelters meet animal health needs and client objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
29. LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION LIMITATION: <i>Inadequate livestock water</i>				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Is water of acceptable quality and quantity adequately distributed to meet animal needs?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ENERGY RESOURCES							
30. INEFFICIENT ENERGY USE – <i>Equipment and facilities</i>	Is the Client interested in improving equipment and facilities energy efficiency?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ NRCS Energy Estimator ➤ USDA approved Energy Audit 	Has a USDA approved energy audit been implemented that addresses equipment and facilities to meet client objectives? OR Are on- farm renewable energy and/or energy conserving practices being implemented to meet client objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
31. INEFFICIENT ENERGY USE – <i>Farming and ranching practices and field operations</i>	Is Client interested in improving energy use in farm and ranch field operations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ NRCS Energy Estimator ➤ USDA approved Energy Audit ➤ Conservation on the Farm Checklist 	Has a USDA approved energy audit been implemented that addresses equipment and facilities to meet client objectives? OR Are on- farm renewable energy and/or energy conserving practices being implemented to meet client objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Checklist of Resource Concerns
Designated Protected Area

<i>Technical Assistance Notes</i>	

Checklist of Resource Concerns

Associated Ag Land

CLIENT		LOCATION	
PLANNER		DATE	
LAND UNITS		TOOLS	

This check sheet is designed to assist planners and clients in identifying resource concerns during the planning process. The planning criteria outlined in Section III of the FOTG sets the minimum level of treatment. If a screening question is NO, this indicates no resource concern exists and no assessment is required. If a screening question is YES, the assessment must be completed to evaluate if there is a resource concern. For questions with no listed screening questions, move directly to the assessment. If the Assessment is YES, Planning Criteria is met. If the Assessment is NO, the Planning Criteria is not met and a Resource Concern exists.

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions		Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria	
	NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment	YES NO		YES NO	YES NO
SOILS RESOURCES					
1a.SOIL EROSION: Sheet and Rill erosion*			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ RUSLE2 (where applicable) ➤ Observations 	Water erosion rate <=T	
1b. SOIL EROSION: Wind erosion*	Are permanent ground cover < 90% and slope > 10%?		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ WEPS (where applicable) ➤ RUSLE2 	Wind erosion rate <=T	
2b.SOIL EROSION: Classic gully erosion *	Are classic gullies present?		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Field measurements ➤ Observations 	Is classic gully management adequate to stop the progression of head cutting and widening and are offsite impacts minimized by vegetation and/or structures?	
3.SOIL EROSION: Excessive bank erosion from streams, shorelines or water conveyance channels*	Are streams or shoreline on or adjacent to site?		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ SVAP2, or ➤ MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2) 	For shorelines and water conveyance channels; are banks stable or commensurate with normal geomorphological processes? AND For stream banks: SVAP2 bank condition ≥ 5 or ETN MT-2 Question 2 ≥ 5	
				OR Bank erosion caused solely by upstream/upland landuse(s) and management decisions that are beyond the client's control?	
5. SOIL QUALITY DEGRADATION: Compaction	Is soil compaction a problem? AND Do activities cause soil compaction problems?		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Soil Quality Test Kit ➤ Observation of soil and plant condition ➤ Client input/planner observation 	Is compaction managed to meet Client's production and management objectives?	

Checklist of Resource Concerns

Associated Ag Land

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions	Y	N	Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria	Y	N
	NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment	E	O		YES = Meets Planning Criteria NO = Identified Resource Concern	E	O
WATER RESOURCES							
8a. EXCESS WATER: Ponding and Flooding	Is ponding or flooding a problem? AND Do activities cause ponding/flooding problems?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client Input ➤ Planner Observations 	Is excess water managed to meet Client's objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8b. EXCESS WATER: Seasonal high water table	Does a seasonal high water table cause a problem?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client Input ➤ Planner Observations 	Is excess water managed to meet Client's objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8c. EXCESS WATER: Seeps	Does excess water from seeps cause a problem?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client Input ➤ Planner Observations 	Is excess water managed to meet Client's objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8d. EXCESS WATER: Drifted snow	Does drifted snow cause a problem?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client Input ➤ Planner Observations 	Is excess water managed to meet Client's objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. INSUFFICIENT WATER: Inefficient moisture management	Is Moisture Management a problem? AND Do activities cause inefficient moisture management?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client Input ➤ Planner observation 	Are runoff and evapotranspiration levels minimized to meet Client's management objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. INSUFFICIENT WATER: Inefficient use of irrigation water *	Is the PLU irrigated?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ FIRI worksheet ➤ Soil moisture monitoring or record-keeping 	Is the efficiency of the current irrigation system 30% or more? AND Is the current irrigation system efficiency within 15% of the potential efficiency as stated by FIRI?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Checklist of Resource Concerns

Associated Ag Land

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions	Y E S	N O	Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria	Y E S	N O
	NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment				YES = Meets Planning Criteria NO = Identified Resource Concern		
WATER RESOURCES							
11a. WATER QUALITY: <i>Excess nutrients in surface waters</i> *	Are organic or inorganic nutrients applied?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ Nutrient budget 	Are nutrient and amendment applications based on soil or tissue tests and nutrient budgets for realistic yields? AND Are conservation practices and managements in place to minimize offsite impacts?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	OR						
11b. WATER QUALITY: <i>Excess nutrients in groundwater</i> *	OR Are confined livestock areas present?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ Nutrient budget 	Are nutrient and amendment applications based on soil or tissue tests and nutrient budgets for realistic yields? AND Are conservation practices and managements in place to minimize offsite impacts?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12a. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: <i>Pesticides transported to Surface waters</i>	Are pest control chemicals applied?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ WinPST 	Are pesticides stored, handled, disposed and managed to prevent runoff, spills, leaks, and leaching? AND Are conservation practices and managements in place to minimize offsite impacts?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12b. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: <i>Pesticides transported to Groundwater</i>				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ WinPST 	Are pesticides stored, handled, disposed and managed to prevent runoff, spills, leaks, and leaching? AND Are conservation practices and managements in place to minimize offsite impacts?		
13a. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: <i>Pathogens, pharmaceuticals and Other Chemicals in Surface waters</i> *	Are potential sources of pathogens or pharmaceuticals applied on the land?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are organic materials applied, stored, and/or handled to mitigate negative impacts to water sources?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13b. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: <i>Pathogens, pharmaceuticals and Other Chemicals in Groundwater</i> *				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are organic materials applied, stored, and/or handled to mitigate negative impacts to water sources?		

Checklist of Resource Concerns

Associated Ag Land

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions	Y E S	N O	Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria	Y E S	N O
	NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment				YES = Meets Planning Criteria NO = Identified Resource Concern		
WATER RESOURCES							
14a. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Excessive salts in Surface waters	Is excess salt a problem? OR			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are salt concentrations managed to mitigate off-site transport to surface waters?		
14b. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Excessive salts in Groundwater	Do activities contribute to excess salt production?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are salt concentrations managed to mitigate off-site transport to groundwater?		
15a. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Petroleum and heavy metals and other pollutants transported to surface waters	Do activities present the potential for contamination?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are petroleum, heavy metals or other potential pollutants stored and handled to avoid runoff or leaching?		
15b. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Petroleum and heavy metals and other pollutants transported to groundwater	Do activities present the potential for contamination?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are petroleum, heavy metals or other potential pollutants stored and handled to avoid runoff or leaching?		
16. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Excessive sediment in surface waters*	Are permanent ground cover < 90% or slope > 10%? OR Are classic gullies present? OR Are streams or shoreline on or adjacent to site?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ RUSLE2 ➤ SVAP2 or MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2) ➤ WEPS 	Do upslope treatment and buffer practices address concentrated flows to water bodies? AND SVAP2 - bank condition ≥ 5 or ETN MT-2 Question 2 ≥ 5 AND Are livestock and vehicle water crossings stable? AND Is water erosion rate ≤ T? AND Is wind erosion rate ≤ T?		

Checklist of Resource Concerns

Associated Ag Land

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions	Y	E	N	Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria	Y	E	N	O
	NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment	YES	NO			YES = Meets Planning Criteria NO = Identified Resource Concern	YES	NO		
WATER RESOURCES										
17. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Elevated water temperature	Is there a water course on or adjacent to the site with State Agency identified temperature impairment?				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ SVAP2 or MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2) 	Is SVAP2 - riparian area quality element score ≥ 5? (Or, is ETN MT-2 Question 4 score ≥ 4?) AND Is SVAP2 - riparian area quantity element score ≥ 5? (Or, is ETN MT-2 Question 5 score ≥ 2?) AND Is SVAP2 - canopy cover element score ≥ 6? (Or, is ETN MT-2 Question 8 score ≥ 4?)				
	OR Is water course temperature a client concern?									
AIR RESOURCES										
18. AIR QUALITY IMPACTS - Emissions of Particulate Matter - PM - and PM Precursors	Have episodes or complaints of emissions of PM (dust, smoke, exhaust, etc.), or chemical drift occurred?				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are PM and PM Precursor emissions managed to meet client objectives?				
	AND Do activities contribute to agricultural source PM or PM precursor emissions?									
19. AIR QUALITY IMPACTS - Emissions of Greenhouse Gases - GHGs	Are GHGs regulated in this planning area?				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are greenhouse gas emissions managed to meet client objectives?				
	AND Do activities produce GHGs emissions?									
20. AIR QUALITY IMPACTS - Emissions of Ozone Precursors	Do operations produce ozone precursor emissions?				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are ozone precursor emissions managed to meet client objectives?				

Checklist of Resource Concerns

Associated Ag Land

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions	Y E S	N O	Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria	Y E S	N O
	NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment				YES = Meets Planning Criteria NO = Identified Resource Concern		
PLANT RESOURCES							
22. DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION: <i>Undesirable plant productivity and health</i>	Are plant production and health a client?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ Crop Tolerance Table 	Are plants adapted to the site, meet production goals and do not negatively impact other resources? AND Is plant damage from wind erosion below Crop Damage Tolerance levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
23. DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION: <i>Inadequate structure and composition</i>	Will changes to the plant community structure or composition better support the desired ecological functions and intended land use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ Ecological Site Descriptions ➤ Forage suitability Groups 	Do plant communities contain adequate diversity, composition and structure to support desired ecological functions?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
24. DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION: <i>Excessive plant pest pressure</i>	Is plant productivity limited from pest pressure?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Is pest damage to plants below economic or environmental thresholds or client-identified criteria? AND Are plant pests, including noxious and invasive species managed to meet client objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
25. DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION: <i>Wildfire hazard, excessive biomass accumulation</i>	Is wildfire hazard a concern?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are fuel loads and fuel ladders managed to provide defensible space and meet client objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ANIMAL RESOURCES							
26a. INADEQUATE HABITAT FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE – <i>Quantity, quality of food is inadequate to meet requirements of identified fish, wildlife or invertebrate species</i>	Is PLU managed for wildlife? (Wildlife Modifier)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Species-specific wildlife habitat assessment tools ➤ Montana NRCS WHEG - MT Biology Technical Note MT-19 Revision 3 (BTN MT-19) ➤ SVAP2, or MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2) 	Is WHEG rating ≥ 0.5 AND if surface stream present is the Riparian Assessment (ETN MT-2) rating “Sustainable” or “At-risk” with an upward trend? FURTHER , if aquatic habitat is the focus: SVAP2 – fish habitat complexity element score ≥ 7 AND SVAP2 – aquatic invertebrate habitat element score ≥ 7 AND Are conservation practices and management are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds? AND Is food available in quality and extent to support habitat requirements for the species of interest?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Checklist of Resource Concerns

Associated Ag Land

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions	Y E S	N O	Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria	Y E S	N O
	NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment				YES = Meets Planning Criteria NO = Identified Resource Concern		
ANIMAL RESOURCES							
26b. INADEQUATE HABITAT FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE – <i>Quantity, quality of water is inadequate to meet requirements of identified fish, wildlife or invertebrate species</i>	Is PLU managed for wildlife? (Wildlife Modifier)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Species-specific wildlife habitat assessment tools ➤ Montana NRCS WHEG - MT Biology Technical Note MT-19 Revision 3 (BTN MT-19) ➤ SVAP2, or MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2) 	Is WHEG rating ≥ 0.5 AND if surface stream present is the Riparian Assessment (ETN MT-2) rating “Sustainable” or “At-risk” with an upward trend? FURTHER , if aquatic habitat is the focus: SVAP2 – fish habitat complexity element score ≥ 7 AND SVAP2 – aquatic invertebrate habitat element score ≥ 7 AND Are conservation practices and management are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds? AND Is food available in quality and extent to support habitat requirements for the species of interest?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
26c. INADEQUATE HABITAT FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE – <i>Quantity, quality or cover/shelter is inadequate to meet requirements of identified fish, wildlife or invertebrate species</i>	Is PLU managed for wildlife? (Wildlife Modifier)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Species-specific wildlife habitat assessment tools ➤ Montana NRCS WHEG - MT Biology Technical Note MT-19 Revision 3 (BTN MT-19) ➤ SVAP2, or MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2) 	Is WHEG rating ≥ 0.5 AND if surface stream present is the Riparian Assessment (ETN MT-2) rating “Sustainable” or “At-risk” with an upward trend? FURTHER , if aquatic habitat is the focus: SVAP2 – fish habitat complexity element score ≥ 7 AND SVAP2 – aquatic invertebrate habitat element score ≥ 7 AND Are conservation practices and management are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds? AND Is food available in quality and extent to support habitat requirements for the species of interest?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Checklist of Resource Concerns

Associated Ag Land

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions	Y E S	N O	Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria	Y E S	N O
	NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment				YES = Meets Planning Criteria NO = Identified Resource Concern		
ANIMAL RESOURCES							
26d. INADEQUATE HABITAT FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE – <i>Habitat continuity is inadequate to meet requirements of identified fish, wildlife or invertebrate species</i>	Is PLU managed for wildlife? (Wildlife Modifier)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Species-specific wildlife habitat assessment tools ➤ Montana NRCS WHEG - MT Biology Technical Note MT-19 Revision 3 (BTN MT-19) ➤ SVAP2, or MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2) 	Is WHEG rating ≥ 0.5 AND if surface stream present is the Riparian Assessment (ETN MT-2) rating “Sustainable” or “At-risk” with an upward trend? FURTHER , if aquatic habitat is the focus: SVAP2 – fish habitat complexity element score ≥ 7 AND SVAP2 – aquatic invertebrate habitat element score ≥ 7 AND Are conservation practices and management are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds? AND Is food available in quality and extent to support habitat requirements for the species of interest?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
27. LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION LIMITATION: <i>Inadequate feed and forage</i>	Is Client actively grazing animals (Grazing Modifier)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ MT ECS-18B 	Are livestock forage, roughage and supplemental nutritional requirements addressed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
28. LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION LIMITATION: <i>Inadequate livestock shelter</i>				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Do artificial or natural shelters meet animal health needs and client objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
29. LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION LIMITATION: <i>Inadequate livestock water</i>				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Is water of acceptable quality and quantity adequately distributed to meet animal needs?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Checklist of Resource Concerns

Associated Ag Land

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions	Y	N	Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria	Y	N
	NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment	E	O		YES = Meets Planning Criteria NO = Identified Resource Concern	S	O
Energy Resources							
30. INEFFICIENT ENERGY USE – Equipment and facilities	Is the Client interested in improving equipment and facilities energy efficiency?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ NRCS Energy Estimator ➤ USDA approved Energy Audit 	Has a USDA approved energy audit been implemented that addresses equipment and facilities to meet client objectives? OR Are on- farm renewable energy and/or energy conserving practices being implemented to meet client objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
31. INEFFICIENT ENERGY USE – Farming and ranching practices and field operations	Is Client interested in improving energy use in farm and ranch field operations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ NRCS Energy Estimator ➤ USDA approved Energy Audit ➤ Conservation on the Farm Checklist 	Has a USDA approved energy audit been implemented that addresses equipment and facilities to meet client objectives? OR Are on- farm renewable energy and/or energy conserving practices being implemented to meet client objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Technical Assistance Notes</i>							

Checklist of Resource Concerns

Associated Ag Land

Technical Assistance Notes

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Checklist of Resource Concerns

Other Rural Land

CLIENT		LOCATION	
PLANNER		DATE	
LAND UNITS		TOOLS	

This check sheet is designed to assist planners and clients in identifying resource concerns during the planning process. The planning criteria outlined in Section III of the FOTG sets the minimum level of treatment. If a screening question is NO, this indicates no resource concern exists and no assessment is required. If a screening question is YES, the assessment must be completed to evaluate if there is a resource concern. For questions with no listed screening questions, move directly to the assessment. If the Assessment is YES, Planning Criteria is met. If the Assessment is NO, the Planning Criteria is not met and a Resource Concern exists.

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions		Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria		
	NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment	YES NO		YES NO	NO	
SOILS RESOURCES						
1a. SOIL EROSION: Sheet and Rill erosion*	Are permanent ground cover < 90% or slope > 10%?		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ RUSLE2 (where applicable) ➤ Observation 	Water erosion rate <=T		
1b. SOIL EROSION: Wind erosion*			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ WEPS (where applicable) ➤ Observation 	Wind erosion rate <=T		
2b. SOIL EROSION: Classic gully erosion *	Are classic gullies present?		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Field measurements ➤ Observations 	Is classic gully management adequate to stop the progression of head cutting and widening and are offsite impacts minimized by vegetation and/or structures?		
3. SOIL EROSION: Excessive bank erosion from streams, shorelines or water conveyance channels*	Are streams or shoreline on or adjacent to site?		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ SVAP2, or ➤ MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2) 	For shorelines and water conveyance channels; are banks stable or commensurate with normal geomorphological processes? AND For stream banks: SVAP2 bank condition ≥ 5 or ETN MT-2 Question 2 ≥ 5 OR Bank erosion caused solely by upstream/upland land use(s) and management decisions that are beyond the client's control?		
5. SOIL QUALITY DEGRADATION: Compaction	Is soil compaction a problem? AND Do activities cause soil compaction problems?		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Soil Quality Test Kit ➤ Observation of soil and plant condition ➤ Client input/planner observation 	Is compaction managed to meet Client's production and management objectives?		

Checklist of Resource Concerns

Other Rural Land

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment	Y	E	Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria YES = Meets Planning Criteria NO = Identified Resource Concern	Y	E	N	O
		YES	NO			YES	NO		
WATER RESOURCES									
8a. EXCESS WATER: Ponding and Flooding	Is ponding or flooding a problem? AND Do activities cause ponding/flooding problems?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client Input ➤ Planner Observations 	Is excess water managed to meet Client's objectives?				
8b. EXCESS WATER: Seasonal high water table	Does a seasonal high water table cause a problem?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client Input ➤ Planner Observations 	Is excess water managed to meet Client's objectives?				
8c. EXCESS WATER: Seeps	Does excess water from seeps cause a problem?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client Input ➤ Planner Observations 	Is excess water managed to meet Client's objectives?				
8d. EXCESS WATER: Drifted snow	Does drifted snow cause a problem?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client Input ➤ Planner Observations 	Is excess water managed to meet Client's objectives?				
10. INSUFFICIENT WATER: Inefficient use of irrigation water *	Is the PLU irrigated?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ FIRI worksheet ➤ Soil moisture monitoring or Record-keeping 	Is the efficiency of the current irrigation system 30% or more? AND Is the current irrigation system efficiency within 15% of the potential efficiency as stated by FIRI?				
11a. WATER QUALITY: Excess nutrients in surface water *	Are organic or inorganic nutrients applied? OR Is the PLU grazed?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ Nutrient budget 	Are nutrient and amendment applications based on soil or tissue tests and nutrient budgets for realistic yields? AND Are conservation practices and managements in place to minimize offsite impacts?				
11b. WATER QUALITY: Excess nutrients in groundwater *	OR Are confined livestock areas present?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ Nutrient budget 	Are nutrient and amendment applications based on soil or tissue tests and nutrient budgets for realistic yields? AND Are conservation practices and managements in place to minimize offsite impacts?				
12a. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Pesticides transported to Surface waters	Are pest control chemicals applied?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ WinPST 	Are pesticides stored, handled, disposed and managed to prevent runoff, spills, leaks and leaching? AND Are conservation practices and managements in place to minimize offsite impacts?				
12b. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Pesticides transported to Groundwaters		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ WinPST 	Are pesticides stored, handled, disposed and managed to prevent runoff, spills, leaks and leaching? AND Are conservation practices and managements in place to minimize offsite impacts?						

Checklist of Resource Concerns

Other Rural Land

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment			Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria YES = Meets Planning Criteria NO = Identified Resource Concern		
		YES	NO			YES	NO
WATER RESOURCES							
13a. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: <i>Pathogens, pharmaceuticals and Other Chemicals in Surface water*</i>	Are potential sources of pathogens or pharmaceuticals applied on the land?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are organic materials applied, stored, and/or handled to mitigate negative impacts to water sources?		
13b. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: <i>Pathogens, pharmaceuticals and Other Chemicals in Groundwater*</i>				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are organic materials applied, stored, and/or handled to mitigate negative impacts to water sources?		
14a. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: <i>Excessive salts in Surface waters</i>	Is excess salt a problem?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are salt concentrations managed to mitigate off-site transport to surface waters?		
14b. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: <i>Excessive salts in Ground waters</i>	OR Do activities contribute to excess salt production?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are salt concentrations managed to mitigate off-site transport to groundwaters?		
15a. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: <i>Petroleum and heavy metals and other pollutants transported to surface water</i>	Do activities present the potential for contamination?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are petroleum, heavy metals or other potential pollutants stored and handled to avoid runoff or leaching?		
15b. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: <i>Petroleum and heavy metals and other pollutants transported to groundwater</i>	Do activities present the potential for contamination?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are petroleum, heavy metals or other potential pollutants stored and handled to avoid runoff or leaching?		

Checklist of Resource Concerns

Other Rural Land

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions		Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria	
	NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment	YES NO		YES = Meets Planning Criteria NO = Identified Resource Concern	YES NO
WATER RESOURCES					
16. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Excessive sediment in surface waters*	Are permanent ground cover < 90% or slope > 10%? OR Are classic gullies present? OR Are streams or shoreline on or adjacent to site?	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ RUSLE2 ➤ WEPS ➤ SVAP2, or MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2) 	Do upslope treatment and buffer practices address concentrated flows to water bodies? AND SVAP2 - bank condition ≥ 5, or ETN MT-2 Question 2 ≥ 3. AND Are livestock and vehicle water crossings stable? AND Is water erosion rate ≤ T? AND Is wind erosion rate ≤ T?	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
17. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Elevated water temperature	Is there a water course on or adjacent to the site with State Agency identified temperature impairment? OR Is water course temperature a client concern?	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ SVAP2, or MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2) 	Is SVAP2 - riparian area quality element score ≥ 5? (Or, is ETN MT-2 Question 4 score ≥ 4?) AND Is SVAP2 - riparian area quantity element score ≥ 5? (Or, is ETN MT-2 Question 5 score ≥ 2?) AND Is SVAP2 - canopy cover element score ≥ 6? (Or, is ETN MT-2 Question 8 score ≥ 4?)	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
AIR RESOURCES					
18. AIR QUALITY IMPACTS - Emissions of Particulate Matter - PM - and PM Precursors	Have episodes or complaints of emissions of PM (dust, smoke, exhaust, etc.), or chemical drift occurred? AND Do activities contribute to agricultural source PM or PM precursor emissions?	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are PM and PM Precursor emissions managed to meet client objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
19. AIR QUALITY IMPACTS - Emissions of Greenhouse Gases - GHGs	Are GHGs regulated in this planning area? AND Do activities produce GHGs emissions?	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are greenhouse gas emissions managed to meet client objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>

Checklist of Resource Concerns

Other Rural Land

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment		Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria YES = Meets Planning Criteria NO = Identified Resource Concern			
	YES	NO		YES	NO		
AIR RESOURCES							
20. AIR QUALITY IMPACTS - Emissions of Ozone Precursors	Do operations produce ozone precursor emissions?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are ozone precursor emissions managed to meet client objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
PLANT RESOURCES							
22. DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION: Undesirable plant productivity and health	Are plant production and health a client?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ Crop Tolerance Table 	Are plants adapted to the site, meet production goals and do not negatively impact other resources? AND Is plant damage from wind erosion below Crop Damage Tolerance levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
24. DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION: Excessive plant pest pressure	Is plant productivity limited from pest pressure?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Is pest damage to plants below economic or environmental thresholds or client-identified criteria? AND Are plant pests, including noxious and invasive species managed to meet client objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
25. DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION: Wildfire hazard, excessive biomass accumulation	Is wildfire hazard a concern?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are fuel loads and fuel ladders managed to provide defensible space and meet client objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ANIMAL RESOURCES							
26a. INADEQUATE HABITAT FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE – Quantity, quality of food is inadequate to meet requirements of identified fish, wildlife or invertebrate species	Is PLU managed for wildlife? (Wildlife Modifier)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Species-specific wildlife habitat assessment tools ➤ Montana NRCS WHEG - MT Biology Technical Note MT-19 Revision 3 (BTN MT-19) ➤ SVAP2, or MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2) 	Is WHEG rating ≥ 0.5 AND if surface stream present is the Riparian Assessment (ETN MT-2) rating “Sustainable” or “At-risk” with an upward trend? FURTHER , if aquatic habitat is the focus: SVAP2 – fish habitat complexity element score ≥ 7 AND SVAP2 – aquatic invertebrate habitat element score ≥ 7 AND Are conservation practices and management are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds? AND Is food available in quality and extent to support habitat requirements for the species of interest?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Checklist of Resource Concerns

Other Rural Land

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions		Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria	
	NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment	YES NO		YES = Meets Planning Criteria NO = Identified Resource Concern	YES NO
ANIMAL RESOURCES					
26b. INADEQUATE HABITAT FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE – Quantity, quality of <u>water</u> is inadequate to meet requirements of identified fish, wildlife or invertebrate species	Is PLU managed for wildlife? (Wildlife Modifier)	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Species-specific wildlife habitat assessment tools ➤ Montana NRCS WHEG - MT Biology Technical Note MT-19 Revision 3 (BTN MT-19) ➤ SVAP2, or MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2) 	Is WHEG rating ≥ 0.5 AND if surface stream present is the Riparian Assessment (ETN MT-2) rating “Sustainable” or “At-risk” with an upward trend? FURTHER , if aquatic habitat is the focus: SVAP2 – fish habitat complexity element score ≥ 7 AND SVAP2 – aquatic invertebrate habitat element score ≥ 7 AND Are conservation practices and management are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds? AND Is food available in quality and extent to support habitat requirements for the species of interest?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
26c. INADEQUATE HABITAT FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE – Quantity, quality or <u>cover/shelter</u> is inadequate to meet requirements of identified fish, wildlife or invertebrate species	Is PLU managed for wildlife? (Wildlife Modifier)	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Species-specific wildlife habitat assessment tools ➤ Montana NRCS WHEG - MT Biology Technical Note MT-19 Revision 3 (BTN MT-19) ➤ SVAP2, or MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2) 	Is WHEG rating ≥ 0.5 AND if surface stream present is the Riparian Assessment (ETN MT-2) rating “Sustainable” or “At-risk” with an upward trend? FURTHER , if aquatic habitat is the focus: SVAP2 – fish habitat complexity element score ≥ 7 AND SVAP2 – aquatic invertebrate habitat element score ≥ 7 AND Are conservation practices and management are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds? AND Is food available in quality and extent to support habitat requirements for the species of interest?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

Checklist of Resource Concerns

Other Rural Land

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions		Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria	
	NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment	YES NO		YES = Meets Planning Criteria NO = Identified Resource Concern	YES NO
ANIMAL RESOURCES					
26d. INADEQUATE HABITAT FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE – <i>Habitat continuity is inadequate to meet requirements of identified fish, wildlife or invertebrate species</i>	Is PLU managed for wildlife? (Wildlife Modifier)	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Species-specific wildlife habitat assessment tools ➤ Montana NRCS WHEG - MT Biology Technical Note MT-19 Revision 3 (BTN MT-19) ➤ SVAP2, or MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2) 	Is WHEG rating ≥ 0.5 AND if surface stream present is the Riparian Assessment (ETN MT-2) rating “Sustainable” or “At-risk” with an upward trend? FURTHER , if aquatic habitat is the focus: SVAP2 – fish habitat complexity element score ≥ 7 AND SVAP2 – aquatic invertebrate habitat element score ≥ 7 AND Are conservation practices and management are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds? AND Is food available in quality and extent to support habitat requirements for the species of interest?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
27. LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION LIMITATION: Inadequate feed and forage		<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ MT ECS-18B 	Are livestock forage, roughage and supplemental nutritional requirements addressed?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
28. LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION LIMITATION: Inadequate livestock shelter	Is Client actively grazing animals. (Grazing Modifier)	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Do artificial or natural shelters meet animal health needs and client objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
29. LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION LIMITATION: Inadequate livestock water		<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Is water of acceptable quality and quantity adequately distributed to meet animal needs?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

Checklist of Resource Concerns

Other Rural Land

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions		Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria	
	NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment	YES NO		YES = Meets Planning Criteria NO = Identified Resource Concern	YES NO
ENERGY RESOURCES					
30. INEFFICIENT ENERGY USE – Equipment and facilities	Is the Client interested in improving equipment and facilities energy efficiency?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ NRCS Energy Estimator ➤ USDA approved Energy Audit 	Has a USDA approved energy audit been implemented that addresses equipment and facilities to meet client objectives? OR Are on- farm renewable energy and/or energy conserving practices being implemented to meet client objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
31. INEFFICIENT ENERGY USE – Farming and ranching practices and field operations	Is Client interested in improving energy use in farm and ranch field operations?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ NRCS Energy Estimator ➤ USDA approved Energy Audit ➤ Conservation on the Farm Checklist 	Has a USDA approved energy audit been implemented that addresses equipment and facilities to meet client objectives? OR Are on- farm renewable energy and/or energy conserving practices being implemented to meet client objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

Checklist of Resource Concerns

Other Rural Land

Technical Assistance Notes

<i>Technical Assistance Notes</i>	

Checklist of Resource Concerns

Water

United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Conservation Planning Technical Note No. MT-14J
January 2014

CLIENT	LOCATION
PLANNER	DATE
LAND UNITS	TOOLS

This check sheet is designed to assist planners and clients in identifying resource concerns during the planning process. The planning criteria outlined in Section III of the FOTG sets the minimum level of treatment. If a screening question is NO, this indicates no resource concern exists and no assessment is required. If a screening question is YES, the assessment must be completed to evaluate if there is a resource concern. For questions with no listed screening questions, move directly to the assessment. If the Assessment is YES, Planning Criteria is met. If the Assessment is NO, the Planning Criteria is not met and a Resource Concern exists.

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions		Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria	
	NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment	YES NO		YES = Meets Planning Criteria NO = Identified Resource Concern	YES NO
SOILS RESOURCES					
3.SOIL EROSION: <i>Excessive bank erosion from streams, shorelines or water conveyance channels*</i>	Are streams or shoreline on or adjacent to site?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ SVAP2, or ➤ MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2) 	Are banks stable or commensurate with normal geomorphological processes? AND For stream banks: SVAP2 bank condition ≥5 or ETN MT-2 Question 2 ≥ 5 OR Bank erosion caused solely by upstream/upland land use(s) and management decisions that are beyond the client's control?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
WATER RESOURCES					
11a. WATER QUALITY: <i>Excess nutrients in <u>surface</u> water*</i>	Are organic or inorganic nutrients applied?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ Nutrient budget ➤ Phosphorous Index ➤ Nitrogen Risk Assessment 	Are nutrient and amendment applications based on soil or tissue tests and nutrient budgets for realistic yields? AND Are conservation practices and managements in place to minimize offsite impacts?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
11b. WATER QUALITY: <i>Excess nutrients in <u>groundwater</u>*</i>	OR Is PLU grazed?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ Nutrient budget 	Are nutrient and amendment applications based on soil or tissue tests and nutrient budgets for realistic yields? AND Are conservation practices and managements in place to minimize offsite impacts?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
12a. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: <i>Pesticides transported to <u>Surface</u> waters</i>	Are pest control chemicals applied?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ WinPST 	Are pesticides stored, handled, disposed and managed to prevent runoff, spills, leaks and leaching? AND Are conservation practices and managements in place to minimize offsite impacts?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
12b. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: <i>Pesticides transported to <u>Groundwaters</u></i>	Are pest control chemicals applied?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ WinPST 	Are pesticides stored, handled, disposed and managed to prevent runoff, spills, leaks and leaching? AND Are conservation practices and managements in place to minimize offsite impacts?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

Checklist of Resource Concerns

Water

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment			Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria YES = Meets Planning Criteria NO = Identified Resource Concern		
		YES	NO			YES	NO
WATER RESOURCES							
13a. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: <i>Pathogens, pharmaceuticals and Other Chemicals in Surface water*</i>	Are potential sources of pathogens or pharmaceuticals applied on the land?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are organic materials applied, stored, and/or handled to mitigate negative impacts to water sources?		
13b. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: <i>Pathogens, pharmaceuticals and Other Chemicals in Groundwater*</i>				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are organic materials applied, stored, and/or handled to mitigate negative impacts to water sources?		
14a. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: <i>Excessive salts in Surface waters</i>	Is excess salt a problem?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are salt concentrations managed to mitigate off-site transport to surface waters?		
14b. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: <i>Excessive salts in Groundwaters</i>	OR Do activities contribute to excess salt production?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are salt concentrations managed to mitigate off-site transport to groundwaters?		
15a. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: <i>Petroleum and heavy metals and other pollutants transported to surface waters</i>	Do activities present the potential for contamination?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are petroleum, heavy metals or other potential pollutants stored and handled to avoid runoff or leaching?		
15b. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: <i>Petroleum and heavy metals and other pollutants transported to groundwaters</i>				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are petroleum, heavy metals or other potential pollutants stored and handled to avoid runoff or leaching?		

Checklist of Resource Concerns

Water

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions	Y E S	N O	Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria	Y E S	N O
	NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment				YES = Meets Planning Criteria NO = Identified Resource Concern		
WATER RESOURCES							
16. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Excessive sediment in surface waters*	Are permanent ground cover < 90% or slope > 10%? OR Are classic gullies present? OR Are streams or shoreline on or adjacent to site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ RUSLE2 ➤ SVAP2 or MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2) ➤ WEPS 	Do upslope treatment and buffer practices address concentrated flows to water bodies? AND SVAP2 - bank condition ≥ 5 or ETN MT-2 Question 2 ≥ 5 AND Are livestock and vehicle water crossings stable? AND Is water erosion rate ≤ T? AND Is wind erosion rate ≤ T?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Elevated water temperature	Is there a water course on or adjacent to the site with State Agency identified temperature impairment? OR Is water course temperature a client concern?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ SVAP2 or MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2) 	Is SVAP2 - riparian area quality element score ≥ 5? (Or, is ETN MT-2 Question 4 score ≥ 4?) AND Is SVAP2 - riparian area quantity element score ≥ 5? (Or, is ETN MT-2 Question 5 score ≥ 2?) AND Is SVAP2 - canopy cover element score ≥ 6? (Or, is ETN MT-2 Question 8 score ≥ 4?)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
AIR RESOURCES							
19. AIR QUALITY IMPACTS - Emissions of Greenhouse Gases - GHGs	Are GHGs regulated in this planning area? AND Do activities produce GHGs emissions?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are greenhouse gas emissions managed to meet client objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20. AIR QUALITY IMPACTS - Emissions of Ozone Precursors	Do operations produce ozone precursor emissions?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are ozone precursor emissions managed to meet client objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Checklist of Resource Concerns

Water

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions			Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria		
	NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment	YES	NO		YES = Meets Planning Criteria NO = Identified Resource Concern	YES	NO
PLANT RESOURCES							
23. DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION: Inadequate Structure & Composition	Do plant communities support the intended land use and desired ecological functions?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Ecological Site Descriptions 	Do plant communities contain adequate diversity, composition and structure to support desired ecological functions?		
24. DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION: Excessive plant pest pressure	Is plant productivity limited from pest pressure?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Is pest damage to plants below economic or environmental thresholds or client-identified criteria? AND Are plant pests, including noxious and invasive species managed to meet client objectives?		
25. DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION: Wildfire hazard, excessive biomass accumulation	Is wildfire hazard a concern?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are fuel loads and fuel ladders managed to provide defensible space and meet client objectives?		
ANIMAL RESOURCES							
26a. INADEQUATE HABITAT FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE – Quantity, quality of food is inadequate to meet requirements of identified fish, wildlife or invertebrate species	Is PLU managed for wildlife? (Wildlife Modifier)			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Species-specific wildlife habitat assessment tools ➤ Montana NRCS WHEG - MT Biology Technical Note MT-19 Revision 3 (BTN MT-19) ➤ SVAP2, or MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2) 	Is WHEG rating ≥ 0.5 AND if surface stream present is the Riparian Assessment (ETN MT-2) rating “Sustainable” or “At-risk” with an upward trend? FURTHER , if aquatic habitat is the focus: SVAP2 – fish habitat complexity element score ≥ 7 AND SVAP2 – aquatic invertebrate habitat element score ≥ 7 AND Are conservation practices and management are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds? AND Is food available in quality and extent to support habitat requirements for the species of interest?		

Checklist of Resource Concerns

Water

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions		Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria	
	NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment	YES NO		YES = Meets Planning Criteria NO = Identified Resource Concern	YES NO
ANIMAL RESOURCES					
26b. INADEQUATE HABITAT FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE – <i>Quantity, quality of water is inadequate to meet requirements of identified fish, wildlife or invertebrate species</i>	Is PLU managed for wildlife? (Wildlife Modifier)	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Species-specific wildlife habitat assessment tools ➤ Montana NRCS WHEG - MT Biology Technical Note MT-19 Revision 3 (BTN MT-19) ➤ SVAP2, or MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2) 	Is WHEG rating ≥ 0.5 AND if surface stream present is the Riparian Assessment (ETN MT-2) rating “Sustainable” or “At-risk” with an upward trend? FURTHER , if aquatic habitat is the focus: SVAP2 – fish habitat complexity element score ≥ 7 AND SVAP2 – aquatic invertebrate habitat element score ≥ 7 AND Are conservation practices and management are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds? AND Is food available in quality and extent to support habitat requirements for the species of interest?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
26c. INADEQUATE HABITAT FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE – <i>Quantity, quality or cover/shelter is inadequate to meet requirements of identified fish, wildlife or invertebrate species</i>	Is PLU managed for wildlife? (Wildlife Modifier)	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Species-specific wildlife habitat assessment tools ➤ Montana NRCS WHEG - MT Biology Technical Note MT-19 Revision 3 (BTN MT-19) ➤ SVAP2, or MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2) 	Is WHEG rating ≥ 0.5 AND if surface stream present is the Riparian Assessment (ETN MT-2) rating “Sustainable” or “At-risk” with an upward trend? FURTHER , if aquatic habitat is the focus: SVAP2 – fish habitat complexity element score ≥ 7 AND SVAP2 – aquatic invertebrate habitat element score ≥ 7 AND Are conservation practices and management are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds? AND Is food available in quality and extent to support habitat requirements for the species of interest?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

Checklist of Resource Concerns

Water

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions		Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria		
	NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment	YES NO		YES = Meets Planning Criteria NO = Identified Resource Concern	YES NO	
ANIMAL RESOURCES						
26d. INADEQUATE HABITAT FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE – <i>Habitat continuity is inadequate to meet requirements of identified fish, wildlife or invertebrate species</i>	Is PLU managed for wildlife? (Wildlife Modifier)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Species-specific wildlife habitat assessment tools ➤ Montana NRCS WHEG - MT Biology Technical Note MT-19 Revision 3 (BTN MT-19) ➤ SVAP2, or MT Environment Technical Note Number MT-2 Revision 1 (ETN MT-2) 	Is WHEG rating ≥ 0.5 AND if surface stream present is the Riparian Assessment (ETN MT-2) rating “Sustainable” or “At-risk” with an upward trend? FURTHER , if aquatic habitat is the focus: SVAP2 – fish habitat complexity element score ≥ 7 AND SVAP2 – aquatic invertebrate habitat element score ≥ 7 AND Are conservation practices and management are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds? AND Is food available in quality and extent to support habitat requirements for the species of interest?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
27. LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION LIMITATION: <i>Inadequate feed and forage</i>	Is Client actively grazing animals? (Grazing Modifier)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are livestock forage, roughage and supplemental nutritional requirements addressed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
28. LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION LIMITATION: <i>Inadequate livestock shelter</i>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Do artificial or natural shelters meet animal health needs and client objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
29. LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION LIMITATION: <i>Inadequate livestock water</i>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Is water of acceptable quality and quantity adequately distributed to meet animal needs?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Checklist of Resource Concerns

Water

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions	Y	N	Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria	Y	N
	NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment	E	O		YES = Meets Planning Criteria NO = Identified Resource Concern	S	O
ENERGY RESOURCES							
30. INEFFICIENT ENERGY USE – Equipment and facilities	Is the Client interested in improving equipment and facilities energy efficiency?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ NRCS Energy Estimator ➤ USDA approved Energy Audit 	Has a USDA approved energy audit been implemented that addresses equipment and facilities to meet client objectives? OR Are on- farm renewable energy and/or energy conserving practices being implemented to meet client objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
31. INEFFICIENT ENERGY USE – Farming and ranching practices and field operations	Is Client interested in improving energy use in farm and ranch field operations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ NRCS Energy Estimator ➤ USDA approved Energy Audit ➤ Conservation on the Farm Checklist 	Has a USDA approved energy audit been implemented that addresses equipment and facilities to meet client objectives? OR Are on- farm renewable energy and/or energy conserving practices being implemented to meet client objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Checklist of Resource Concerns

Water

<i>Technical Assistance Notes</i>	