

U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service		NRCS-CPA-52 11/2019		A. Client Name: Cass County Joint Water Resource District	
ENVIRONMENTAL EVALUATION WORKSHEET		B. Conservation Plan ID # (as applicable): Program Authority (optional):			
		C. Identification # (farm, tract, field #, etc. as required): <div style="background-color: yellow; height: 40px;"></div>			
D. Client's Objective(s) (purpose): The purpose of the proposed action is to reduce the flood risk for the City of Amenia by removing surface water inundation from the Rush River during the 1 percent annual chance flood, within the city limits.					
E. Need for Action: Amenia has historic flood risks with overbank flooding from the Rush River, ice jams, and overland flooding.	H. Alternatives				
	No Action <input type="checkbox"/> if RMS	Alternative 1 <input type="checkbox"/> if RMS	Alternative 2 <input type="checkbox"/> if RMS		
	No change from existing conditions; current flooding conditions.	Dike (356), would be constructed around the north, west, and south sides of the city of Amenia to provide flood protection to residents during a 100-year, 24-hour event. A stormwater pond (378), pump (533) and lined waterway (468) would be developed for Levee Alternative 1 to capture floodwaters and runoff from approximately 180 surface acres within the levee system.	Dike 362 would be constructed on the south side of the Rush River, approximately 0.13 miles north of the city of Amenia. A stormwater pond would be developed for Levee Alternative 2 to capture floodwaters and runoff from approximately 860 surface acres in the immediate vicinity of the levee precluded from draining directly to the river by levee construction.		
Resource Concerns					
In Section "F" below, analyze, record, and address concerns identified through the Resources Inventory process. (See FOTG Section III - Resource Planning Criteria for guidance).					
F. Resource Concerns and Existing/ Benchmark Conditions (Analyze and record the existing/benchmark conditions for each identified concern)	I. Effects of Alternatives				
	No Action	Alternative 1	Alternative 2		
	Amount, Status, Description <i>(Document both short and long term impacts)</i>	Amount, Status, Description <i>(Document both short and long term impacts)</i>	Amount, Status, Description <i>(Document both short and long term impacts)</i>		
	<input type="checkbox"/> if does NOT meet PC	<input type="checkbox"/> if does NOT meet PC	<input type="checkbox"/> if does NOT meet PC		
SOIL					
Wind erosion Wind erosion will occur during construction phase.	No change from existing conditions.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Temporary and permanent impacts from construction activities due to compaction from heavy equipment could occur. Soil erosion may occur if areas of soil remain exposed and bare during and after construction activities. This will be for a short duration and alleviated once construction is complete.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Temporary and permanent impacts from construction activities due to compaction from heavy equipment could occur. Soil erosion may occur if areas of soil remain exposed and bare during and after construction activities.
		NOT meet PC		NOT meet PC	NOT meet PC
Compaction Compaction will occur during construction phase.	No change from existing conditions.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Compacted areas will be under the dike and no longer farmed and therefore no longer a resource concern. Areas affected by construction not under the dike will have compaction reduced due to cropping systems.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Compacted areas will be under the dike and no longer farmed and therefore no longer a resource concern. Areas affected by construction not under the dike will have compaction reduced due to cropping systems.
		NOT meet PC		NOT meet PC	NOT meet PC
WATER					
Ponding and flooding Current history of flooding over numerous years.	No change from existing conditions will result in continued environmental and property damages.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Reduced risk from 100-year flood event for approximately 93 acres. Potential increased risk of flooding from completion of the levee system for approximately 72 additional acres. Overall decrease of flooding during a 100-year event for approximately 21 acres of land.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Reduced risk from 100-year flood event for approximately 188 acres. An additional levee on the east side of the city of Amenia may be necessary. Potential increased risk of flooding from completion of the levee system for approximately 140 additional acres. Overall decrease of flooding during a 100-year event for approximately 48 acres of land. Potential impacts from constructing approximately 1,345 feet of the levee within the 100-year floodplain.
		NOT meet PC		NOT meet PC	NOT meet PC

F. Resource Concerns and Existing/ Benchmark Conditions (Analyze and record the existing/benchmark conditions for each identified concern)	I. (continued)					
	No Action		Alternative 1		Alternative 2	
	Amount, Status, Description <i>(Document both short and long term impacts)</i>	✓ if does NOT meet PC	Amount, Status, Description <i>(Document both short and long term impacts)</i>	✓ if does NOT meet PC	Amount, Status, Description <i>(Document both short and long term impacts)</i>	✓ if does NOT meet PC
Sediment transported to surface water Rush River is listed as impaired for fecal coliform, fish bioassessments, physical substrate habitat alterations, and sedimentation/siltation.	No change from existing conditions.	<input type="checkbox"/> NOT meet PC	Potential impacts from sedimentation/siltation of downstream waterways during construction activities and until soils are stabilized; potential reduction in downstream sediment/nutrient delivery during stormwater pond operations.	<input type="checkbox"/> NOT meet PC	Potential impacts from sediment and sediment-related pollutants within or adjacent to the Rush River floodplain during construction activities and until soils are stabilized; potential reduction in downstream sediment/nutrient delivery during stormwater pond operations.	<input type="checkbox"/> NOT meet PC
AIR						
No resource concern identified		<input type="checkbox"/> NOT meet PC		<input type="checkbox"/> NOT meet PC		<input type="checkbox"/> NOT meet PC
		<input type="checkbox"/> NOT meet PC		<input type="checkbox"/> NOT meet PC		<input type="checkbox"/> NOT meet PC
		<input type="checkbox"/> NOT meet PC		<input type="checkbox"/> NOT meet PC		<input type="checkbox"/> NOT meet PC
PLANTS						
Invasive Species Two noxious weed species were identified within the study area: Canada thistle (Cirsium arvense) and leafy spurge (Euphorbia esula).	Noxious weeds will continue to be present with no management.	<input type="checkbox"/> NOT meet PC	Potential impacts from soil disturbance and importing soil-carrying weed seeds during construction activities. Weeds will be controlled after project installation.	<input type="checkbox"/> NOT meet PC	Potential impacts from soil disturbance and importing soil-carrying weed seeds during construction activities. Weeds will be controlled after project installation.	<input type="checkbox"/> NOT meet PC
		<input type="checkbox"/> NOT meet PC		<input type="checkbox"/> NOT meet PC		<input type="checkbox"/> NOT meet PC
		<input type="checkbox"/> NOT meet PC		<input type="checkbox"/> NOT meet PC		<input type="checkbox"/> NOT meet PC
		<input type="checkbox"/> NOT meet PC		<input type="checkbox"/> NOT meet PC		<input type="checkbox"/> NOT meet PC
ANIMALS						
Aquatic habitat for fish and other organisms Existing habitat includes agricultural areas, river, and small wetlands.	No change from existing conditions.	<input type="checkbox"/> NOT meet PC	Removal of trees, increased noise, and human activity during construction of the levee system could impact habitat or disrupt some wildlife species. The stormwater pond could provide additional habitat for some fish and wildlife species.	<input type="checkbox"/> NOT meet PC	Removal of trees from within the riparian area along the Rush River could alter habitat for some fish and wildlife species. Temporary impacts could occur from increased noise and human activity. The stormwater pond could provide additional habitat for some fish and wildlife species.	<input type="checkbox"/> NOT meet PC
		<input type="checkbox"/> NOT meet PC		<input type="checkbox"/> NOT meet PC		<input type="checkbox"/> NOT meet PC
		<input type="checkbox"/> NOT meet PC		<input type="checkbox"/> NOT meet PC		<input type="checkbox"/> NOT meet PC
ENERGY						
No resource concern identified		<input type="checkbox"/> NOT meet PC		<input type="checkbox"/> NOT meet PC		<input type="checkbox"/> NOT meet PC
		<input type="checkbox"/> NOT meet PC		<input type="checkbox"/> NOT meet PC		<input type="checkbox"/> NOT meet PC
		<input type="checkbox"/> NOT meet PC		<input type="checkbox"/> NOT meet PC		<input type="checkbox"/> NOT meet PC

F. Resource Concerns and Existing/ Benchmark Conditions (Analyze and record the existing/benchmark conditions for each identified concern)	I. (continued)					
	No Action		Alternative 1		Alternative 2	
	Amount, Status, Description (Document both short and long term impacts)	✓ if does NOT meet PC	Amount, Status, Description (Document both short and long term impacts)	✓ if does NOT meet PC	Amount, Status, Description (Document both short and long term impacts)	✓ if does NOT meet PC
Human Economic and Social Considerations						
Public Health and Safety Access to emergency services can be impeded or delayed due to road closures and detours associated with flooding.	No change from existing conditions.		Reduced risk from 100-year flood events would minimize future road closures, delays, and detours within the levee system. Placement and removal of temporary levees over the road and railroad crossings would briefly restrict access for emergency services. Approximately 72 additional acres outside of the levee system would be at greater risk from flooding.		Reduced risk from 100-year flood events would minimize future road closures, delays, and detours within the levee system. Approximately 140 additional acres would be at greater risk from flooding as a result of the construction of the levee system.	
Social Issues Social issues centered on agriculture	No change from existing conditions. The city of Amenia would not be eligible for exemption from purchasing flood insurance.		Temporary disruption of transportation systems and agricultural practices during construction activities. Residents and businesses within the levee system would be exempt from purchasing flood insurance.		Temporary disruption of transportation systems and agricultural practices during construction activities. Residents and businesses within the levee system would be exempt from purchasing flood insurance.	
Other Amenia Park and snowmobile in APE.	No change from existing conditions.		Construction of the levee system would protect Amenia Park from 100-year flood events. Approximately 0.2 miles of an existing snowmobile trail would be impacted by placement of the levee system.		Compared to Levee Alternative 1, protections for Amenia Park would be less for future 100-year flood events. Impacts to the snowmobile trail are not anticipated.	
Land Use Periodic flooding conditions would continue to impact infrastructure and existing land uses.	No change from existing conditions.		Construction impacts: Permanent removal of approximately 4 acres of prime farmland and approximately 0.9 acres of forested land. Temporary impacts to approximately 37 acres of prime farmland are anticipated during construction. Operational impacts: Flood protection for 48 properties within the city of Amenia. Permanent modifications would be required to three road crossings and one railroad crossing.		Construction impacts: Permanent removal of approximately 8 acres of prime farmland and approximately 0.3 acres of forested land. Temporary impacts to approximately 11 acres of prime farmland are anticipated during construction. Operational impacts: Flood protection for 48 properties within the city of Amenia.	
Other Local traffic and agriculture related noise in APE.	No change from existing conditions.		Temporary construction-related noise impacts anticipated.		Temporary construction-related noise impacts anticipated.	
Special Environmental Concerns: Environmental Laws, Executive Orders, policies, etc.						
In Section "G" complete and attach Environmental Procedures Guide Sheets for documentation as applicable. Items with a "●" may require a federal permit or consultation/coordination between the lead agency and another government agency. In these cases, effects may need to be determined in consultation with another agency. Planning and practice implementation may proceed for practices not involved in consultation.						
G. Special Environmental Concerns (Document existing/ benchmark conditions)	J. Impacts to Special Environmental Concerns					
	No Action		Alternative 1		Alternative 2	
	Document all impacts (Attach Guide Sheets as applicable)	✓ if needs further action	Document all impacts (Attach Guide Sheets as applicable)	✓ if needs further action	Document all impacts (Attach Guide Sheets as applicable)	✓ if needs further action
●Clean Air Act Guide Sheet North Dakota has no identified non-attainment areas.	NA	<input type="checkbox"/>	NA	<input type="checkbox"/>	NA	<input type="checkbox"/>
●Clean Water Act / Waters of the U.S. Guide Sheet	No Effect No change from existing conditions.	<input type="checkbox"/>	May Effect If wetlands identified as being impacted by the project are deemed as jurisdictional by the USACE, a 404 permit would be necessary.	<input type="checkbox"/>	May Effect If wetlands identified as being impacted by the project are deemed as jurisdictional by the USACE, a 404 permit would be necessary.	<input type="checkbox"/>
●Coastal Zone Management Guide Sheet Not applicable to North Dakota	NA	<input type="checkbox"/>	NA	<input type="checkbox"/>	NA	<input type="checkbox"/>
Coral Reefs Guide Sheet Not applicable to North Dakota	NA	<input type="checkbox"/>	NA	<input type="checkbox"/>	NA	<input type="checkbox"/>

G. Special Environmental Concerns (Document existing/ benchmark conditions)	J. Impacts to Special Environmental Concerns					
	No Action		Alternative 1		Alternative 2	
	Document all impacts (Attach Guide Sheets as applicable)	√ if needs further action	Document all impacts (Attach Guide Sheets as applicable)	√ if needs further action	Document all impacts (Attach Guide Sheets as applicable)	√ if needs further action
•Cultural Resources / Historic Properties Guide Sheet	No Effect No change from existing conditions.	<input type="checkbox"/>	May Effect Known sites present. A Class II or III field survey will be needed to be conducted during permitting to avoid or minimize potential impacts.	<input type="checkbox"/>	May Effect Known sites present. A Class II or III field survey will be needed to be conducted during permitting to avoid or minimize potential impacts.	<input type="checkbox"/>
•Endangered and Threatened Species Guide Sheet According to USFWS, the following federally-listed species could be present in APE and it's vicinity: whooping crane (federally endangered), , and northern long-eared bat (federally threatened).	No Effect No change from existing conditions.	<input type="checkbox"/>	No Effect According to USFWS, the following federally-listed species could be present in APE and it's vicinity: whooping crane (federally endangered), and northern long-eared bat (federally threatened). Unlikely potential effect on northern long-eared bats from removing trees that serve as habitat. Temporary impacts from increased noise and human activity during construction could disrupt whooping crane and gray wolf in the unlikely event they are present within the vicinity of the levee system. USFWS Programmatic will be followed.	<input type="checkbox"/>	No Effect According to USFWS, the following federally-listed species could be present in APE and it's vicinity: whooping crane (federally endangered),, and northern long-eared bat (federally threatened). Unlikely potential effect on northern long-eared bats from removing trees that serve as habitat. Temporary impacts from increased noise and human activity during construction could disrupt whooping crane and gray wolf in the unlikely event they are present within the vicinity of the levee system. USFWS Programmatic will be followed.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Environmental Justice Guide Sheet	No Effect Based on the EJSscreen review, the study area does not qualify for environmental justice considerations as either a minority or low-income population.	<input type="checkbox"/>	No Effect Based on the EJSscreen review, the study area does not qualify for environmental justice considerations as either a minority or low-income population.	<input type="checkbox"/>	No Effect Based on the EJSscreen review, the study area does not qualify for environmental justice considerations as either a minority or low-income population.	<input type="checkbox"/>
•Essential Fish Habitat Guide Sheet	No Effect No Essential Fish Habitat in vicinity.	<input type="checkbox"/>	No Effect No Essential Fish Habitat in vicinity.	<input type="checkbox"/>	No Effect No Essential Fish Habitat in vicinity.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Floodplain Management Guide Sheet	No Effect Existing flooding conditions would continue.	<input type="checkbox"/>	No Effect There would be an overall decrease of land flooded during a 100-year flood event.	<input type="checkbox"/>	No Effect There would be an overall decrease of land flooded during a 100-year flood event.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Invasive Species Guide Sheet	No Effect No change from existing conditions.	<input type="checkbox"/>	No Effect	<input type="checkbox"/>	No Effect	<input type="checkbox"/>
•Migratory Birds/Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act Guide Sheet	No change from existing conditions.	<input type="checkbox"/>	May Effect The alternatives may remove suitable habitat for migratory birds as a result of tree removal. However, no take of migratory birds, including eagles is anticipated. No bald or golden eagles or nests have been identified in the vicinity USFWS programmatic will be followed	<input type="checkbox"/>	May Effect The alternatives may remove suitable habitat for migratory birds as a result of tree removal. However, no take of migratory birds, including eagles is anticipated. No bald or golden eagles or nests have been identified in the vicinity. USFWS Programmatic Agreement will be followed.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Natural Areas Guide Sheet	No Effect No designated natural areas present.	<input type="checkbox"/>	No Effect No designated natural areas present.	<input type="checkbox"/>	No Effect No designated natural areas present.	<input type="checkbox"/>

G. Special Environmental Concerns (Document existing/ benchmark conditions)	J. Impacts to Special Environmental Concerns					
	No Action		Alternative 1		Alternative 2	
	Document all impacts (Attach Guide Sheets as applicable)	√ if needs further action	Document all impacts (Attach Guide Sheets as applicable)	√ if needs further action	Document all impacts (Attach Guide Sheets as applicable)	√ if needs further action
Prime and Unique Farmlands Guide Sheet	No Effect No change from existing conditions.	<input type="checkbox"/>	May Effect The majority of Amenias is classified as prime farmland or prime farmland if drained. There is no way to avoid prime farmland in placement of the levee system. Construction of the levee would result in permanent removal of approximately 4 acres of prime farmland. Construction impacts: Permanent removal: - 7 acres cultivated cropland - 4 acres prime farmland Temporary impact during construction: - 43 acres cultivated cropland - 37 acres prime farmland Operational impacts: Flood protection for approximately 31 acres of cultivated cropland, including 64 acres of prime farmland, and 11 acres of prime farmland if drained and increased risk to approximately 55 acres of cultivated cropland, including 40 acres of prime farmland, and 17 acres of prime farmland if drained outside the levee system. During operation of the levee a net increase of 24 acres of prime farmland would be protected from 100-year flood events.	<input type="checkbox"/>	May Effect The majority of Amenias is classified as prime farmland or prime farmland if drained. There is no way to avoid prime farmland in placement of the levee system. Construction of the levee would result in permanent removal of approximately 8 acres of prime farmland. Construction impacts: Permanent removal: - 7 acres cultivated cropland - 4 acres prime farmland Temporary impact during construction: - 43 acres cultivated cropland - 37 acres prime farmland Operational impacts: Flood protection for approximately 31 acres of cultivated cropland, including 64 acres of prime farmland, and 11 acres of prime farmland if drained and increased risk to approximately 55 acres of cultivated cropland, including 40 acres of prime farmland, and 17 acres of prime farmland if drained outside the levee system. During operation of the levee a net increase of 24 acres of prime farmland would be protected from 100-year flood events.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Riparian Area Guide Sheet Riparian Area is in the APE.	No Effect No change from existing conditions.	<input type="checkbox"/>	May Effect Tree clearing in the riparian area would be required during construction.	<input type="checkbox"/>	May Effect Direct and indirect impacts to riparian areas include tree clearing and other vegetation removal for the construction of the levee system.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Scenic Beauty Guide Sheet	No Effect No change from existing conditions.	<input type="checkbox"/>	No Effect	<input type="checkbox"/>	No Effect	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wetlands Guide Sheet	No Effect No change from existing conditions.	<input type="checkbox"/>	May Effect Loss in wetland acreage and wetland function will be mitigated off site through a Ducks Unlimited wetland mitigation bank. The 0.56 acres of permanently impacted wetlands will be replaced at a 2:1 ratio. A total of 1.12 acres of wetland credits will be purchased.	<input type="checkbox"/>	May Effect Approximately 0.56 acres of permanent wetland impacts and approximately 1.59 acres of temporary impacts are anticipated from construction activities. Operation of the levee would remove approximately 1.1 acres of wetlands from flooding from a 100- year event while potentially increasing flooding on approximately 0.2 additional acres.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wild and Scenic Rivers Guide Sheet Not applicable to private land in North Dakota	No Effect No Wild and Scenic Rivers in vicinity.	<input type="checkbox"/>	No Effect No Wild and Scenic Rivers in vicinity.	<input type="checkbox"/>	No Effect No Wild and Scenic Rivers in vicinity.	<input type="checkbox"/>

K. Other Agencies and Broad Public Concerns		No Action	Alternative 1	Alternative 2
Easements, Permissions, Public Review, or Permits Required and Agencies Consulted:				
Cumulative Effects Narrative (Describe the cumulative impacts considered, including past, present and known future actions regardless of who performed the actions)		As a result of the scoping process and discussions with resource agencies and interested groups, no past, present, or reasonably foreseeable projects that would result in cumulative impacts were identified for this project.	As a result of the scoping process and discussions with resource agencies and interested groups, no past, present, or reasonably foreseeable projects that would result in cumulative impacts were identified for this project. However, a wetland mitigation project associated with this project would be implemented to offset impacts to wetlands due to functional replacement.	As a result of the scoping process and discussions with resource agencies and interested groups, no past, present, or reasonably foreseeable projects that would result in cumulative impacts were identified for this project. However, a wetland mitigation project associated with this project would be implemented to offset impacts to wetlands due to functional replacement.
L. Mitigation (Record actions to avoid, minimize, and compensate)				
M. Preferred Alternative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> preferred alternative <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting reason	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			Alternative 1 meets the purpose and need in that it provides a certified levee system, allowing the residents of the city of Amenia an exemption from purchasing federal flood insurance and a reduction in risk from a 100-year flood event. Alternative 1 enhances environmental quality by removing the risk of property and infrastructure damage within the city of Amenia, providing continued floodplain management, and reducing sediment and nutrient runoff with the incorporation of a stormwater pond and buffer strips. Additionally, Alternative 1 cost estimates are lower than Alternative 2.	
N. Context (Record context of alternatives analysis)		City of Amenia	City of Amenia	City of Amenia
The significance of an action must be analyzed in several contexts such as society as a whole (human, national), the affected region, the affected interests, and the locality.				
O. To the best of my knowledge, the date shown on this form is accurate and complete:				
In the case where a non-NRCS person (e.g. a TSP) assists with planning they are to sign the first signature block and then NRCS is to sign the second block to verify the information's accuracy.				
Signature (TSP if applicable) TODD SCHWAGLER <small>Digitally signed by TODD SCHWAGLER Date: 2020.06.16 07:34:46 -05'00'</small>		Title State Resource Conservationist		Date 4/2/2020
Signature (NRCS)		Title		Date
If preferred alternative is not a federal action where NRCS has control or responsibility and this NRCS-CPA-52 is shared with someone other than the client then indicate to whom this is being provided.				

The following sections are to be completed by the Responsible Federal Official (RFO)

NRCS is the RFO if the action is subject to NRCS control and responsibility (e.g., actions financed, funded, assisted, conducted, regulated, or approved by NRCS). These actions do not include situations in which NRCS is only providing technical assistance because NRCS cannot control what the client ultimately does with that assistance and situations where NRCS is making a technical determination (such as Farm Bill HEL or wetland determinations) not associated with the planning process.

P. Determination of Significance or Extraordinary Circumstances

To answer the questions below, consider the severity (intensity) of impacts in the contexts identified above. Impacts may be both beneficial and adverse. A significant effect may exist even if the Federal agency believes that on balance the effect will be beneficial. Significance cannot be avoided by terming an action temporary or by breaking it down into small component parts.

If you answer ANY of the below questions "yes" then contact the State Environmental Liaison as there may be extraordinary circumstances and significance issues to consider and a site specific NEPA analysis may be required.

Yes	No	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	• Is the preferred alternative expected to cause significant effects on public health or safety?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	• Is the preferred alternative expected to significantly affect unique characteristics of the geographic area such as proximity to historic or cultural resources, park lands, prime farmlands, wetlands, wild and scenic rivers, or ecologically critical areas?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	• Are the effects of the preferred alternative on the quality of the human environment likely to be highly controversial?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	• Does the preferred alternative have highly uncertain effects or involve unique or unknown risks on the human environment?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	• Does the preferred alternative establish a precedent for future actions with significant impacts or represent a decision in principle about a future consideration?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	• Is the preferred alternative known or reasonably expected to have potentially significant environment impacts to the quality of the human environment either individually or cumulatively over time?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	• Will the preferred alternative likely have a significant adverse effect on ANY of the special environmental concerns? Use the Evaluation Procedure Guide Sheets to assist in this determination. This includes, but is not limited to, concerns such as cultural or historical resources, endangered and threatened species, environmental justice, wetlands, floodplains, coastal zones, coral reefs, essential fish habitat, wild and scenic rivers, clean air, riparian areas, natural areas, and invasive species.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	• Will the preferred alternative threaten a violation of Federal, State, or local law or requirements for the protection of the environment?

Q. NEPA Compliance Finding (check one)		Action required
<input type="checkbox"/>	1) is not a federal action where the agency has control or responsibility	Document in "R.1" below. No additional analysis is required
<input type="checkbox"/>	2) is a federal action ALL of which is categorically excluded from further environmental analysis AND there are no extraordinary circumstances as identified in Section "G".	Document in "R.2" below. No additional analysis is required
<input type="checkbox"/>	3) is a federal action that has been sufficiently analyzed in an existing Agency state, regional, or national NEPA document and there are no predicted significant adverse environmental effects or extraordinary circumstances	Document in "R.1" below. No additional analysis is required
<input type="checkbox"/>	4) is a federal action that has been sufficiently analyzed in another Federal agency's NEPA document (EA or EIS) that addresses the proposed NRCS action and its effects and has been formally adopted by NRCS. NRCS is required to prepare and publish its own Finding of No Significant Impact for an EA or Record of Decision for an EIS when adopting another agency's EA or EIS document. (Note: This box is not applicable to FSA)	Contact the State Environmental Liaison for list of NEPA documents formally adopted and available for tiering. Document in "R.1" below. No additional analysis is required
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	5) is a federal action that has NOT been sufficiently analyzed or may involve predicted significant adverse environmental effects or extraordinary circumstances and may require an EA or EIS.	Contact the State Environmental Liaison. Further NEPA analysis required.

R. Rationale Supporting the Finding	
R.1 Findings Documentation	
R.2 Applicable Categorical Exclusion(s) (more than one may apply)	
7 CFR Part 650 Compliance With NEPA, subpart 650.6 Categorical Exclusions states prior to determining that a proposed action is categorically excluded under paragraph (d) of this section, the proposed action must meet six sidebar criteria. See NECH 610.116.	

I have considered the effects of the alternatives on the Resource Concerns, Economic and Social Considerations, Special Environmental Concerns, and Extraordinary Circumstances as defined by Agency regulation and policy and based on that made the finding indicated above.

S. Signature of Responsible Federal Official:

TODD SCHWAGLER	Digitally signed by TODD SCHWAGLER Date: 2020.06.16 07:35:21 -05'00'	State Resource Conservationist	4/2/2020
_____ Signature		_____ Title	_____ Date

Additional notes