

# State Specific Training Module for Wisconsin



# Outline:

1. Purpose of the Module
2. Conservation Planning Overview
3. Conservation Planning Policy
4. Wisconsin State Laws
5. Field Office Technical Guide Requirements
6. Resource Issues
7. Conservation Practice Standards
8. Major Land Uses
9. TSP Workflow
10. Certificate of Completion

# Purpose

- **This training module provides general information for Technical Service Provider (TSP) applicants regarding conducting conservation planning in Wisconsin.**
- **The TSP applicant is expected and required to follow-up with additional reading or training to make sure they have the knowledge, skill, licenses and certifications to conduct conservation planning in Wisconsin.**

# Conservation Planning Overview

# Conservation Planning Overview

- **Conservation Planning Definition:**

**“The activity of NRCS and others in helping a client use the planning process, which is intended to result in a conservation plan or an areawide conservation plan.”**

**Source:** Handbook Title 180 – [National Planning Procedures Handbook \(NPPH\), Amend. 9](#)

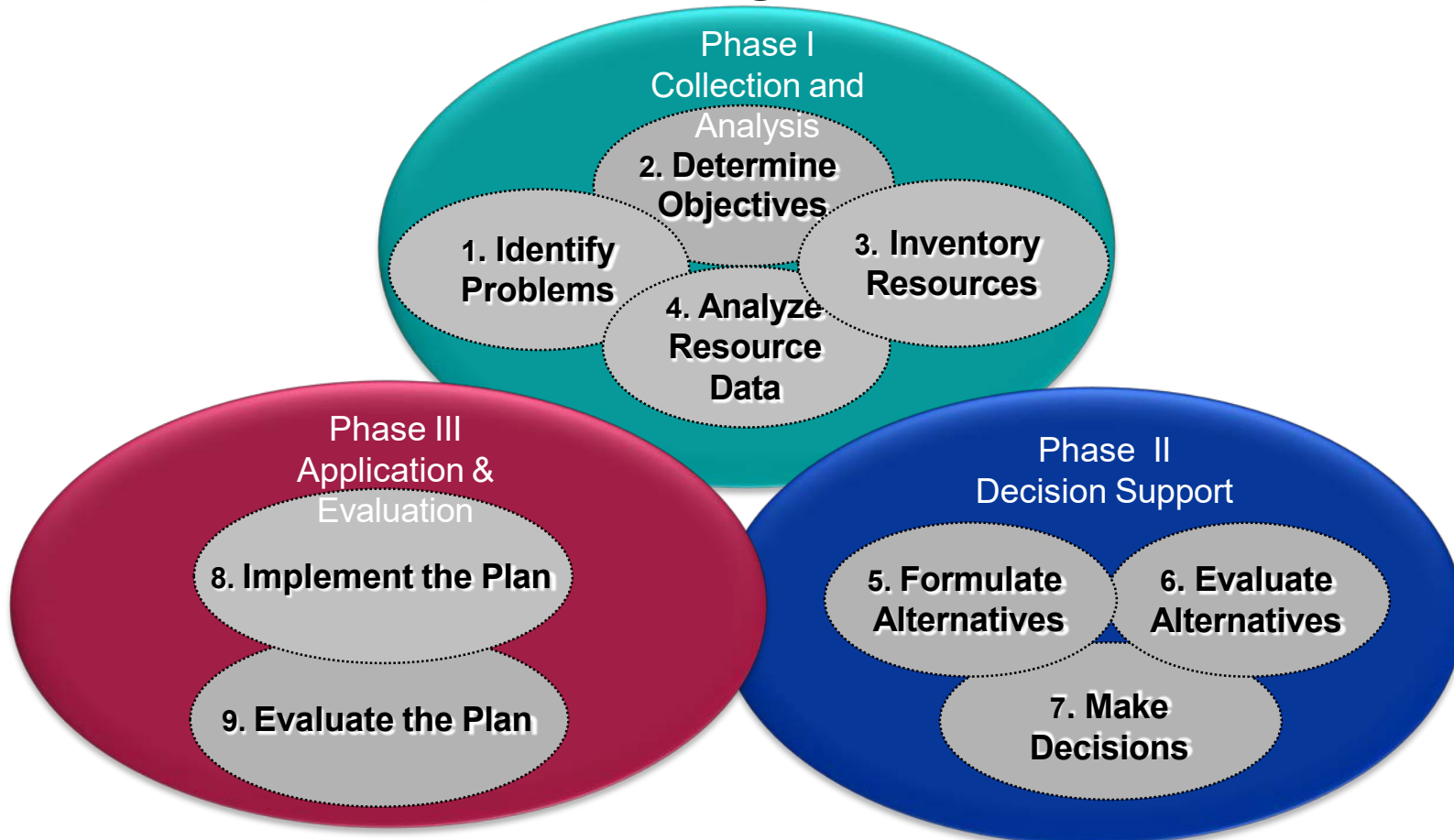
# Conservation Planning Overview

In 1947, Hugh Hammond Bennett identified the principles of conservation planning in his text, *Elements of Soil Conservation*. According to Bennett, an effective conservation planner must adhere to the following principles:

1. Consider the needs and capabilities of each acre within the plan
2. Consider the client's facilities, machinery, and economic situation
3. Incorporate the client's willingness to try new practices
4. Consider the land's relationship to the entire farm, ranch, or watershed
5. Ensure the conservationist's presence out on the land

# Conservation Planning Overview

- **3 Phase, 9 Step Planning Process:**



# Conservation Planning Overview



# Conservation Planning Policy

- **7 CFR Part 652 (Final Rule) 2/12/2010**

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Natural Resources Conservation  
Service

7 CFR Part 652

RIN 0578-AA48

Technical Service Provider Assistance

AGENCY: Natural Resources  
Conservation Service, United States  
Department of Agriculture.

ACTION: Final rule.

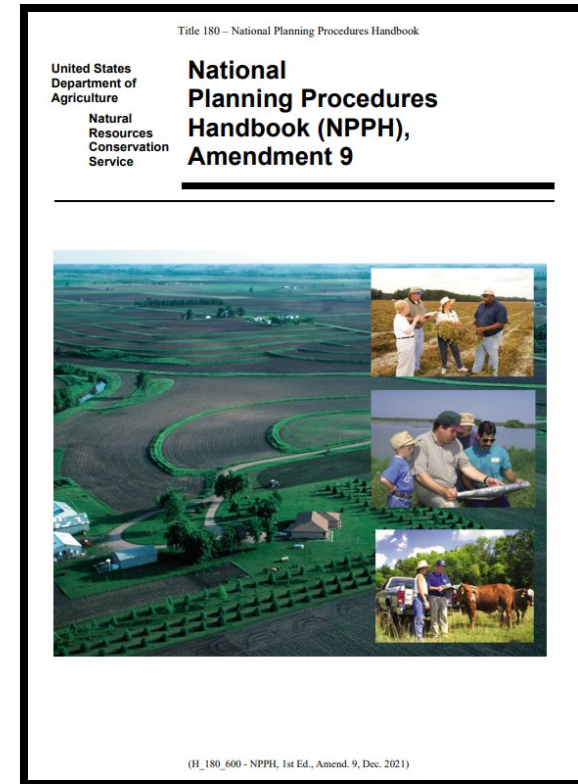
[www.ecfr.gov](http://www.ecfr.gov)

## § 652.4 Technical service standards.

(a) All technical services provided by TSPs must meet USDA standards and specifications as set forth in Departmental manuals, handbooks, guides, and other references for soils mapping and natural resources information, conservation planning, conservation practice application, and other areas of technical assistance.

# Conservation Planning Policy

- **Conservation Planners are required to be knowledgeable and proficient in NRCS Conservation Planning Procedures and Policy.**
- **National Planning Procedures Handbook (NPPH), Edition 1**  
[National Planning Procedures Handbook](#)
- **General Manual Title 180, Part 409 – Conservation Planning Policies**  
[CONSERVATION PLANNING AND APPLICATION \(usda.gov\)](#)

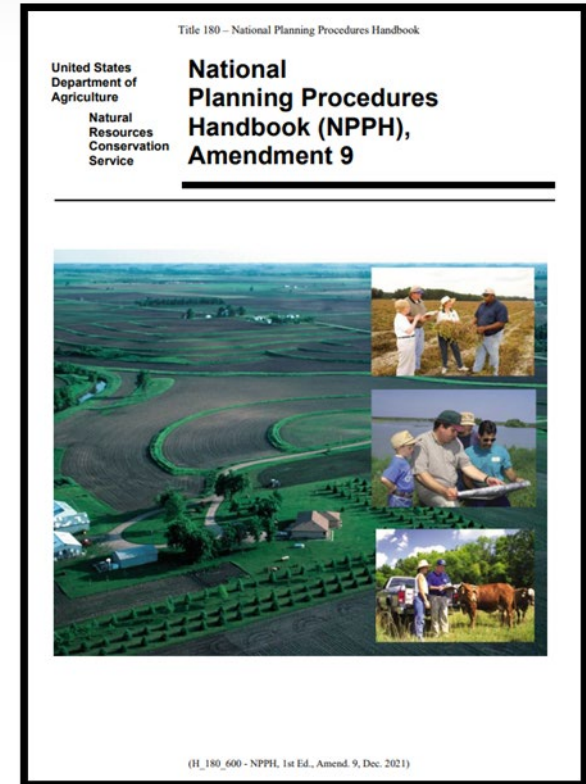


# Conservation Planning Policy

- **Purpose of Conservation Planning is to ensure sound management of Soil, Water, Air, Plant, Animal, Energy and Human (SWAPAE+H) Natural Resources.**

**Policy: General Manual Title 180, Part 409.1 B**

**[CONSERVATION PLANNING AND APPLICATION \(usda.gov\)](https://www.usda.gov)**



# Conservation Planning Policy

- **Documentation of the planning process is recorded on the National Environmental Evaluation (EE) Form (NRCS-CPA-52).**

Policy: General Manual Title 190, Part 410.5A

<https://directives.sc.egov.usda.gov/RollupViewer.aspx?hid=17016>

- **National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements will be incorporated into all steps of NRCS-assisted planning activities and will not be considered as a separate process.**

Policy: General Manual Title 180, Part 409.2H

[CONSERVATION PLANNING AND APPLICATION \(usda.gov\)](https://www.usda.gov/conservation-planning-and-application)

The image shows a detailed National Environmental Evaluation (EE) Form (NRCS-CPA-52). The form is divided into several sections and steps:

- Section 1: Objectives** - Includes Client Name, Environmental Evaluation Worksheet, and Client Contact Information.
- Section 2: Objectives** - Includes Client Name, Environmental Evaluation Worksheet, and Client Contact Information.
- Section 3: Objectives** - Includes Client Name, Environmental Evaluation Worksheet, and Client Contact Information.
- Section 4: Objectives** - Includes Client Name, Environmental Evaluation Worksheet, and Client Contact Information.
- Section 5: Objectives** - Includes Client Name, Environmental Evaluation Worksheet, and Client Contact Information.
- Section 6: Objectives** - Includes Client Name, Environmental Evaluation Worksheet, and Client Contact Information.
- Section 7: Objectives** - Includes Client Name, Environmental Evaluation Worksheet, and Client Contact Information.
- Section 8: Objectives** - Includes Client Name, Environmental Evaluation Worksheet, and Client Contact Information.
- Section 9: Objectives** - Includes Client Name, Environmental Evaluation Worksheet, and Client Contact Information.
- Section 10: Objectives** - Includes Client Name, Environmental Evaluation Worksheet, and Client Contact Information.
- Section 11: Objectives** - Includes Client Name, Environmental Evaluation Worksheet, and Client Contact Information.
- Section 12: Objectives** - Includes Client Name, Environmental Evaluation Worksheet, and Client Contact Information.
- Section 13: Objectives** - Includes Client Name, Environmental Evaluation Worksheet, and Client Contact Information.
- Section 14: Objectives** - Includes Client Name, Environmental Evaluation Worksheet, and Client Contact Information.
- Section 15: Objectives** - Includes Client Name, Environmental Evaluation Worksheet, and Client Contact Information.
- Section 16: Objectives** - Includes Client Name, Environmental Evaluation Worksheet, and Client Contact Information.
- Section 17: Objectives** - Includes Client Name, Environmental Evaluation Worksheet, and Client Contact Information.
- Section 18: Objectives** - Includes Client Name, Environmental Evaluation Worksheet, and Client Contact Information.
- Section 19: Objectives** - Includes Client Name, Environmental Evaluation Worksheet, and Client Contact Information.
- Section 20: Objectives** - Includes Client Name, Environmental Evaluation Worksheet, and Client Contact Information.

Red text labels are overlaid on the form to indicate specific steps: "Step 1" is in the top left, "Step 2" is in the top right, "Step 3 & 4" is on the left side, "Step 5" is in the middle right, and "Step 6" is in the bottom right.

# Wisconsin State Laws

# Wisconsin State Laws

- **The following provides an overview of State laws that commonly impact conservation planning in Wisconsin. It is not considered an exhaustive or all-inclusive list.**



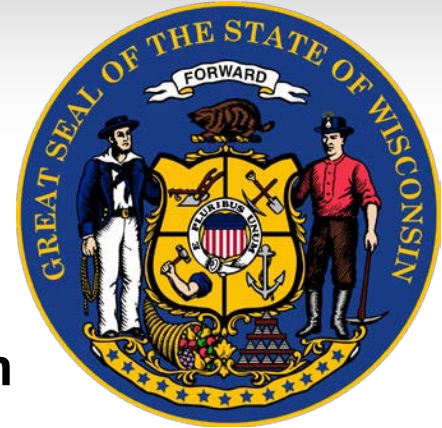
# Wisconsin State Laws

- **The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 work together to implement the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Program within Wisconsin.**

[https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/code/admin\\_code/nr/200](https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/code/admin_code/nr/200)

- **A Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP) for a regulated Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) will need to meet Wisconsin CAFO regulations in addition to NRCS standards.**

<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/AgBusiness/CAFO/>



# Wisconsin State Laws

## Wisconsin Engineering Laws include:

- **Wisconsin Statutes Chapter 443**  
<https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/statutes/statutes/443.pdf>





# Wisconsin State Laws

## • Practice of Engineering

- Wisconsin law stipulates that only qualified persons shall be authorized to engage in the practice of engineering in the State of Wisconsin.
- A qualified person is interpreted as one who is licensed in the State of Wisconsin as a Professional Engineer (PE).
- The practice of professional engineering includes any professional service requiring the application of engineering principles and data, such as:
  - consultation
  - investigation
  - evaluation
  - planning
  - design
  - responsible supervision of construction, alteration, or operation



# Wisconsin State Laws

- **Practice of Engineering (CNMP)**

- Chapter 443 is interpreted to require that persons planning any and all Engineering Conservation practices (including the Production and Land Treatment Area) in developing a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP) must possess a license to practice engineering in Wisconsin.
- The PE assists the conservation planner in developing engineering related elements associated with the CNMP.
- The TSP certified to develop the CNMP must:
  - > Be a Certified CNMP Planner
  - > Must employ or contract a TSP with a PE for Engineering Practices



# Wisconsin State Laws

- **Practice of Engineering (CNMP)**

- The “Technical Service Provider” for completing the Farmstead/Production Area portion of the CNMP and supporting documentation will be a Licensed PE who is qualified to properly quantify the existing and proposed volumes and working characteristics of manure and wastewater on confined livestock sites and determine feasibility of proposed facilities and systems to deal with the manure and wastewater in a way that will meet NRCS standards.
- The Licensed PE is responsible for determining his/her qualifications in accordance with Chapter 433.



# Wisconsin State Laws

- **Soil & Water Management Laws**

Chapter 92

Soil and Water Conservation and Animal Manure Management

<https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/statutes/statutes/92>

ATCP 50

Soil and Water Management Resource Program

[https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Programs\\_Services/ATCP50.aspx](https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Programs_Services/ATCP50.aspx)

Chapter NR 151

Runoff Management

[https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/code/admin\\_code/nr/100/151](https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/code/admin_code/nr/100/151)



# Wisconsin State Laws

- **Additional State and local laws as listed in the following slides may be applicable during planning and application of conservation practices.**



**Local laws and regulations listed can be found at:**

<http://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/>

<http://www.legis.state.wi.us/rsb/code/codtoc.html>

[https://efotg.sc.egov.usda.gov/references/public/WI/State Local Laws Ordinances and Regulations.doc](https://efotg.sc.egov.usda.gov/references/public/WI/State%20Local%20Laws%20Ordinances%20and%20Regulations.doc)

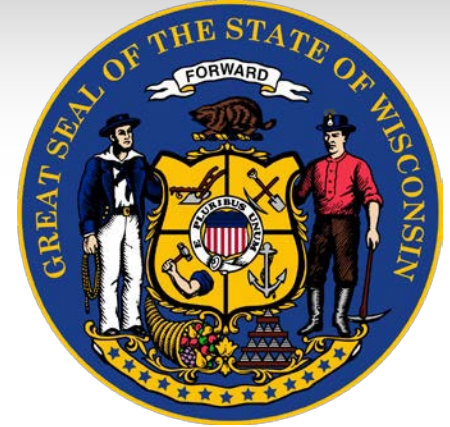
# Wisconsin State Laws

- **Statutes**

Wisconsin Statute 292.11 - Remedial Action

Wisconsin Statute 95.50 - Disposition of Carcasses

Wisconsin Statute 823.08 - Nuisances, Actions  
Against Agricultural Uses



# Wisconsin State Laws

- **Conservation Implementation**

Nonmetallic Mining and Reclamation Associated  
with Navigable Waterways and Adjacent Areas:  
NR 340

Non-Point Source Pollution Abatement Program:  
NR 120



# Wisconsin State Laws

- **Environmental Protection**

Animal Waste Management: NR 243

Aquatic Plant Management: NR 107

Groundwater Protection Program: ATCP 31

Flammable, Combustible, and Hazardous Liquids: ATCP 93

Land Treatment of Liquid Industrial Wastes, By-Product Solids and Sludges: NR 214

Landspreading of Solid Waste: NR 518

Lining of Industrial Lagoons and Design of Storage Structures: NR 213

(DNR) Pesticide Use and Control: ATCP 29

Water Quality Certification: NR299

Well Compensation Program: NR 123

Well Construction and Pump Installation: NR 812





# Wisconsin State Laws

- **Environmental Assessment**

Ambient Air Quality: NR 404

Areawide Water Quality Management Plans: NR 121

Environmental Impact Statements and Assessments: NR 150

Groundwater Quality: NR 140

Uses and Designated Standards and Secondary Values: NR 104

Water Quality Standards for Wetlands: NR 103

Water Quality Standards for Wisconsin Surface Waters: NR 102



# Wisconsin State Laws

- **Health/Human Safety**

Dam Design and Construction: NR 333

Pesticide Product Restrictions: ATCP 30

Malodorous Emissions and Open Burning: NR 429

Medical Waste Management: NR 526



# Wisconsin State Laws

- **Landuse Management**

Agricultural Shoreland Management Ordinance:  
Chapter 92:17

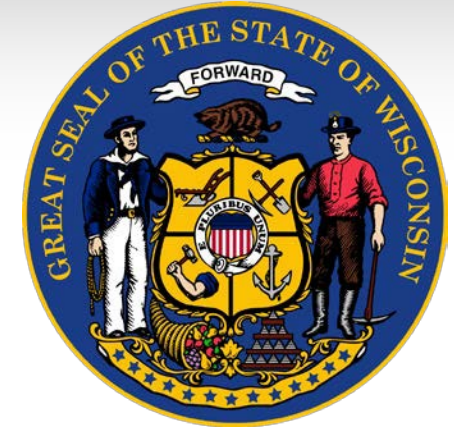
Drainage Districts: ATCP 48

Farmland Preservation: Chapter 91

Wisconsin's City and Village Shoreland-Wetland  
Protection Program: NR 117

Wisconsin's Floodplain Management Program: NR  
116

Wisconsin's Shoreland Management Program:  
NR 115



# Wisconsin State Laws

- **Conservation planners are encouraged to contact their local NRCS Field Office for additional information regarding local laws, ordinances, or regulations that may impact conservation planning activities.**



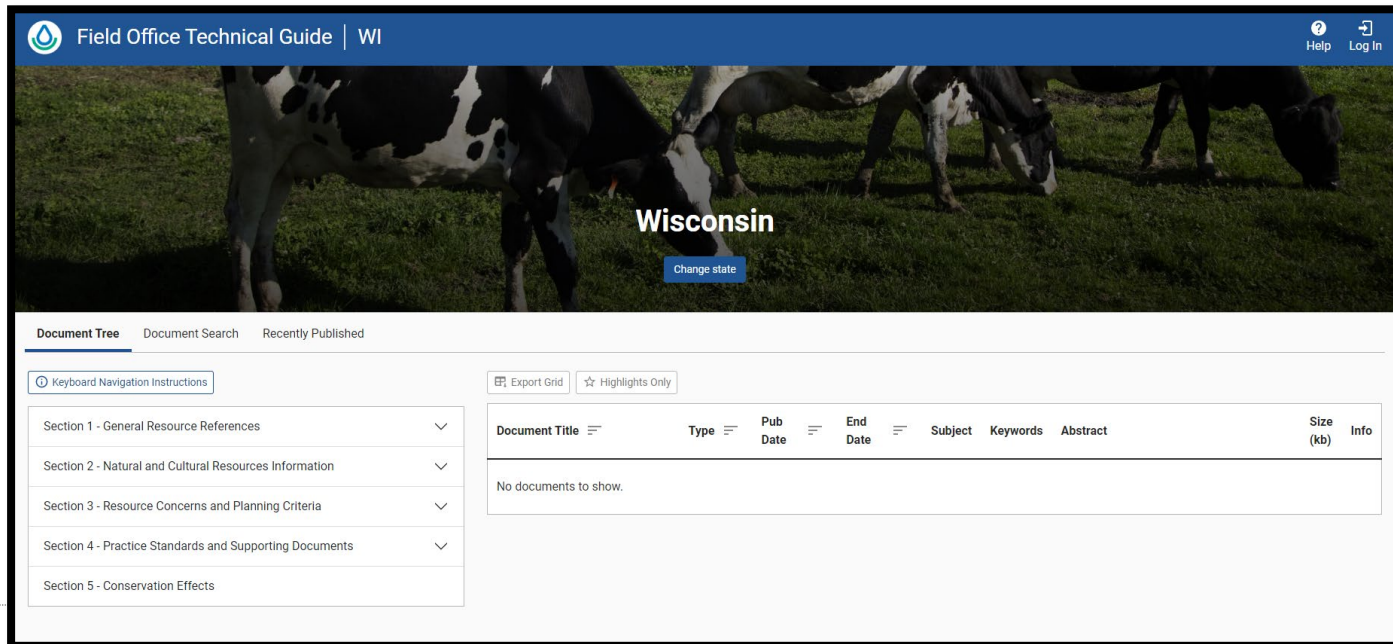
<https://offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app>

# Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG) Requirements

# FOTG Requirements

- **Conservation Planners must be thoroughly familiar with all sections and information contained within the of the Wisconsin Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG).**

[Wisconsin | Field Office Technical Guide | NRCS - USDA](#)



The screenshot shows the Wisconsin Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG) website. The header includes the USDA logo, the text "Field Office Technical Guide | WI", and "Help" and "Log In" links. Below the header is a large image of cows in a field with the word "Wisconsin" overlaid and a "Change state" button. The main content area has a "Document Tree" on the left with a search bar and a "Document Search" tab. The "Document Tree" lists five sections: "Section 1 - General Resource References", "Section 2 - Natural and Cultural Resources Information", "Section 3 - Resource Concerns and Planning Criteria", "Section 4 - Practice Standards and Supporting Documents", and "Section 5 - Conservation Effects". To the right of the "Document Tree" is a table with columns for "Document Title", "Type", "Pub Date", "End Date", "Subject", "Keywords", "Abstract", "Size (kb)", and "Info". The table currently displays "No documents to show."

# FOTG Requirements

## • Wisconsin FOTG Section I - V

### Section 1 - General Resource References

- Engineering Resources
- Maps
- Reference Lists
- State Payment Rates and Methods
- State/Local Laws, Ordinances, Regulations
- Transmittal Notices

### Section 3 - Resource Concerns and Planning Criteria

- CNMP
- Conservation Activities Technical Criteria
- Conservation Planning Tools
- Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)
- Cover Crops Economics
- Erosion Prediction
- General Forms
- Irrigation
- Legislated Programs
- Resource Concern Planning Criteria
- Training

### Section 2 - Natural and Cultural Resources Information

- Climatic Data
- Cultural Resources Information
- Ecological Site Descriptions
- Forage Suitability Groups
- HEL
- RUSLE2
- Soils Information
- Threatened and Endangered Species
- WEPS

### Section 4 - Practice Standards and Supporting Documents

- Index
- Conservation Practice Standards & Support Documents
- Ecological Sciences Tools
- Engineering Specifications
- Engineering Tools

### Section 5 - Conservation Effects

Export Grid Highlights Only

Document Title	Type	Pub Date
<a href="#">Conservation Practice Physical Effects Website</a>		2022-11-04
<a href="#">Conservation Practices Physical Effects (CPPE) - 2023</a>		2022-11-03
<a href="#">Resource Management System Planning Tool - 2023</a>		2022-11-04

[Wisconsin | Field Office Technical Guide | NRCS - USDA](#)

# FOTG Requirements

- **What information is located in FOTG?**

## **Section I — General References**

In this section you will find general state maps, descriptions of Major Land Resource Areas, watershed information, and links to NRCS reference manuals and handbooks. Section I contains links to researchers, universities, and agencies we work. Section I also contains conservation practice costs, agricultural laws and regulations, cultural resources, and information about protected plant and animal species.

## **Section II — Soil and Site Information**

In this section you will find detailed information about soil, water, air, plant, and animal resources. NRCS Soil Surveys, Hydric Soils Interpretations, Ecological Site Descriptions, Forage Suitability Groups, Cropland Production Tables, Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Guides, Water Quality Guides, and other related information can be found here as it becomes available.



# FOTG Requirements

- **What information is located in FOTG**

## **Section III — Conservation Management Systems**

In this section you will find information on NRCS Quality Criteria, which establish standards for resource conditions that help provide sustained use.

## **Section IV — Practice Standards and Specifications**

In this section you will find the NRCS Conservation Practices. Practice Standards define the practice and where it applies. Practice specifications are detailed requirements for installing the practice in the state.

## **Section V — Conservation Effects**

In this section you will find background information on how Conservation Practices affect each identified resource concerns in the state.

# Wisconsin Resource Issues

# Resource Issues

- **The 47 Resource Concerns and associated Planning Criteria are foundational for plan development within the 9-steps of conservation planning.**
- **Planning Criteria for identified resource concerns must be appropriately completed to arrive at the preferred alternative. Wisconsin Planning Criteria are found here:**
- **[Wisconsin | Field Office Technical Guide | NRCS - USDA](#)**

# Resource Issues

- **National instruction T450 Part 309, Resource Concerns and Planning Criteria, identifies the National Resource Concerns and associated Planning Criteria. Wisconsin has developed State Resource Concerns and Planning Criteria found in the [WI FOTG Section III](#).**
  - The document (excel) is titled “Wisconsin Resource Concerns & Planning Criteria”.
  - This document is updated periodically as Measurement and Assessment Tools are updated and Assessment Levels are determined.
  - Be sure to consult it regularly to be sure you have the most recent version

# Resource Issues

- **Environmental Evaluation Worksheet (NRCS-CPA-52) and Special Environmental Concerns**
  - Refer to Section II of the FOTG for information related to Special Environmental Concerns and completing the NRCS-CPA-52. The NRCS-CPA-52 must be considered and evaluated as part of the planning process.
  - Utilize the “WI Guidance for the CPA-52 Environmental Evaluation” when completing the Special Environmental Concerns section of the CPA-52.
  - If the determination for a Special Environmental concern is “may effect”, further review by the local NRCS field office is required.

# Resource Issues

- **Environmental Evaluation Worksheet (NRCS-CPA-52) and Special Environmental Concerns**
  - Threatened and Endangered Species (T&E)
    - Planners must utilize the WI Department of Natural Resources Natural Heritage Inventory (NHI) to identify Federal and State T&E plant and animal species that may be present in the project area and identify impacts to those species.
  - Cultural Resources
    - Review by the local NRCS Field Office is required.

# Wisconsin Major Land Uses

# Major Land Uses

- **Over 80% of the Wisconsin's land base is private land.**
- **Wisconsin has 16 million acres of forestland that covers nearly half of the state. Approximately 360,000 private, non-industrial landowners care for 10.4 million acres.**
- **Private land conservation efforts are the key to conservation in Wisconsin.**



# Major Land Uses

- **Wisconsin has:**
  - 64,100 farms
  - 14.2 million acres of farmland
  - 1.27 million dairy cattle, including calves
  - 57.1 million broilers
  - Over 31 trillion pounds of milk produced

# Major Land Uses

- **Wisconsin's rank for agricultural production of:**

Produce	Rank
Corn for Silage, Snap Beans for Processing, Cheese, Cranberries, Ginseng	1
Milk Production	2
Sweet Corn, Potatoes, Carrots	3
Maple Syrup, Tart Cherries	4
Cut Christmas Trees	6

# Major Land Uses

## Major Land Resource Area (MLRA)

[Wisconsin Soil Survey |  
Natural Resources  
Conservation Service  
\(usda.gov\)](https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/wisconsin/soil-survey/natural-resources-conservation-service/)



# Expected TSP Workflow

# Expected TSP Workflow

1. NRCS works with participant to determine that Conservation Activity(ies) are appropriate to meet the identified objective.
2. A TSP/Provider is the applicable means to assist a participant.
3. Participant applies for a Conservation Activity(ies) and receives a financial assistance contract to support hiring a TSP/Provider.
4. Participant selects TSP/Provider
  - i. If desired, participant authorizes NRCS to release relevant casefile information to identified TSP/Provider
5. NRCS coordinates Activity Requirements with participant and TSP. This includes ongoing communication for the duration of the contract.
6. TSP follows guidance in Conservation Activity Documents, Wisconsin Conservation Practice Standards and Supporting Documents.
7. TSP delivers completed Conservation Activity documents and files as required.
8. NRCS conducts the review and certifies completion of Conservation Activity.

## Non-Discrimination Statement

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at [How to File a Program Discrimination Complaint](#) and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

## Certificate of Completion

After viewing the State Specific Training module, please print and sign the completion certificate on the following slide.

The certificate is your acknowledgement that based on the information provided in this module, you have the proper knowledge, skills and ability to conduct planning in this State.

Within your NRCS Registry profile, enter the training and upload the signed certificate to verify completion.



# STATE SPECIFIC TRAINING MODULE COMPLETION CERTIFICATE

I, \_\_\_\_\_ hereby verify I have viewed and understand the content of the Wisconsin State  
*TSP Name*  
Specific Training Module and affirm I have the knowledge, skills, and ability to conduct conservation planning  
services in this state.

\_\_\_\_\_  
TSP Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date