

NRCS-PIA LOCAL WORKING GROUP MEETING AGENDA

Call to Order: Date: _____ Start Time: _____ End Time: _____ NRCS: _____ (initials)

Introductions:

- Introduction of Local Work Group (LWG) Members

LWG Policy:

- Review USDA-NRCS LWG policy ([see handout](#))

Review Meeting Outcomes:

- Five outcomes from this meeting are:
 1. Identify priority resource concerns and high priority areas needing assistance from the Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP)
 2. Review Local Ranking Questions for FY2016 EQIP ranking tools
 3. Recommend eligible practices for EQIP
 4. Recommend payment rates and cost-share levels for EQIP
 5. Provide written summary of recommendations to the District Conservationist by **June 1, 2016**

FY2017 EQIP Discussion:

- **Identify Local Priority Resource Concerns**
 1. PIA prior year resource concern priorities worksheet ([see handout](#))
 2. Recommend other resource concerns if any
- **Review/Establish 5-7 Ranking Questions**
 1. Review prior year local ranking questions ([see handout](#))
 - In addition to the 5-7 ranking questions, there will be 2-3 local questions addressing an applicant’s prior contract history and conservation plan status
 2. Select prior year ranking questions and/or generate new questions ([see handout](#))
 3. Assign priority to ranking questions
- **Recommend EQIP Eligible Practices**
 1. Review FY16 Eligible Practice table([see workbook](#))
 2. Recommend adjusts if any (*supporting data requested for all cost changes*)
- **Recommend EQIP Payment Rates and Cost Share Rates**
 1. Review FY16 Practice Payment Table
 - Standard cost share rates are likely to be set at the 75% threshold
 - Historically Underserved cost share rates are likely to be set at the 90% threshold

Participant Handouts (check those provided):

__LWG Policy; __EQIP Fact Sheet; __ PIA FY16 Eligible Practices
 __PIA Priority Concerns; __PIA FY16 Payment Rate Tables: __Prior Year Ranking Questions