



Natural Resources Conservation Service

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Michigan Technical Committee (MTC) Recommendations for Fiscal Year (FY) 2017 Program Implementation

Conservation and Stewardship Programs Subgroup

1. Topic for Recommendation: Priority Natural Resource Concerns

Background:

As described in the Conservation Programs Manual, program implementation must address priority natural resource concerns in the State and region. The priority natural resource concerns are established using recommendations from the State Technical Committee.

Priority resource concerns are used in developing allocation formulas and application ranking tools.

Specifically under the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP), States must select five priority resource concerns to be used in evaluating which applications meet the stewardship threshold and are eligible for the program.

The subgroup recommended the following resource concerns (marked with a Δ) in FY2016 to be considered priority in the State for EQIP.

MTC Recommendation:

The following resource concerns (marked with a Δ) will be considered priority in the State and used for developing FY2017 program implementation criteria for CSP and EQIP.

Table with 2 columns: EQIP & CSP Resource Concerns, Priority. Rows include Air Quality Impacts, Fish and Wildlife Inadequate Habitat, Livestock Production Limitation, Inefficient Energy Use, Degraded Plant Condition, Soil Erosion, Soil Quality Degradation, Water Quality Degradation, Insufficient Water, Excess Water.

State Conservationist Decision [X] Approved [] Denied

2. Topic for Recommendation: CSP Ranking Pools

Background:

Ranking Pools are established based on landscape conservation initiative areas, watersheds, geographic areas or other appropriate regions in the State. Separate ranking pools must be established for agricultural land and NIPF. The ranking pools ensure that applicants will be ranked relative to other applicants who share similar resource challenges.

MTC Recommendation:

To continue to use the established ranking pools for CSP. (see attached map)

Southern Lower MI Ag General
Southern Lower MI NIPF General
UP-Northern MI Ag General
UP-Northern MI NIPF General
MI Ag Socially Disadvantaged
MI NIPF Socially Disadvantaged
MI Ag Beginning Farmer
MI NIPF Beginning Farmer

State Conservationist Decision Approved Denied

3. Topic for Recommendation: CSP Allocation Formula

Background:

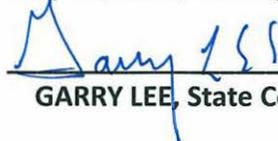
An allocation formula is used to allocate acres to the identified ranking pools in the State. The current formula uses Ag Census Data and data from the US Forest Service on NIPF ownership.

MTC Recommendation:

To continue to use the established allocation formula for CSP. (see attached)

State Conservationist Decision Approved Denied

I have considered the above recommendations that were presented to me by the MTC on May 25, 2016, and my decisions are indicated above.


GARRY LEE, State Conservationist

6.23.16
Date

MI CSP Allocation Formula 2016-1
(all numbers are in acres)

MI CSP Allocation (acres)	
Ag Land	37,219
NIPF	6,568 (15% of acres)
TOTAL	43,787

10% Allocation for Socially Disadvantaged and Beginning Farmers (acres)				
	10%	Socially Disadvantaged	Beginning Farmers	Remaining Allocation
Ag Land	3,722	1,861	1,861	33,497
NIPF	657	328	328	5,911

Percentage of Acres in each Landuse					
	Total Acres in Michigan	Southern Lower		UP-Northern	
		Total Acres	% of State	Total Acres	% of State
Ag Land	8,113,258	5,698,879	70%	2,414,379	30%
NIPF	12,065,700	3,148,700	26%	8,917,000	74%

Fund Pool Allocations (acres)		
	Ag	NIPF
Southern Lower MI General	23,529	1,543
UP-Northern MI General	9,968	4,369
Socially Disadvantaged	1,861	328
Beginning Farmer	1,861	328
TOTAL	37,219	6,568