What is a Conservation Plan?

A conservation plan is a document that outlines the decisions you have made to protect and enhance the natural resources on the land you own and operate. A conservation plan, when completed, describes and schedules each of the conservation practices you’ve decided to apply to meet your goals and objectives. Developing a conservation plan is voluntary and relies on you making the decisions and implementing the plan.

NRCS conservation planners provide technical assistance at no cost to help develop and implement your plan. A conservation plan is protected by the Freedom of Information Act, and creating a plan does not provide public access to your property or information.

The conservation planning process consists of nine steps. This completed workbook is needed to start the planning process. After you fill in the workbook as completely as possible, the NRCS conservation planner will still need to gather additional information and make one or more visits to your farm in order to complete your conservation plan.

After completing this workbook, please contact your local NRCS field office to make an appointment to begin working on your conservation plan. Contact information for each NRCS field office is listed at the end of this workbook.

Potential Benefits of Implementing a Conservation Plan on your Farm/Ranch

- Increase economic return on the operation
- Improve soil quality and plant production
- Control weeds
- Improve the water holding capacity of your soil for crops and native plants
- Sustain the natural resource quality for you, your animals, and your neighbors
- Increase your property value
- Enhance open space and wildlife habitat
- Improve animal health
- Prevent off-farm impacts
- Contribute to plant health and vigor
- Improve air quality
- Improve water quality
- Maximize water use efficiency
- Address environmental regulation issues

Before: severe streambank erosion  
After: streambank and channel stabilized
Table of Contents

Please fill out Section A. In Section B, please fill out all information that applies to your operation. Section C provides information on the assistance that NRCS can provide to help you complete your conservation plan.

A. Conservation Planning Documentation and Resource Assessment
   Identify Your Objectives                                Page 1
   Natural Resource Information                           Page 2
   Identify Your Resource Concerns                        Page 3

B. Land Uses
   Cropland                                              Page 4
   Forestland                                            Page 5
   Rangeland, Pastureland, and Grazed Forest             Page 6
   Livestock                                             Page 7
   Wetland                                               Page 8
   Fish and Wildlife Habitat                             Page 8
   Farmstead                                             Page 9

C. Assistance Information                               Page 10

D. NRCS Field Office Contact Information                 Page 11
Conservation Planning Documentation and Resource Assessment

Date: __________  Name of Decision Maker: ____________________________________________________________

Business or Farm/Ranch Name: ____________________________________________________________________

Address: ________________________________________________________________________________________

City: __________________ State: ____ County: __________________ ZIP Code: ______________

Phone: __________________ Email Address: _____________________________________________________________

Township, Range, Section(s): _____________________________________________________________________

Farm and Tract Number(s): _________________________________________________________________________

Acres Owned and Operated: ___________________ Acres Rented/Leased (private and public): _________________

Identify Your Objectives

What do you want to accomplish with your conservation plan? Conservation plans developed and implemented with clearly defined objectives are most successful. Set realistic objectives that can be reached with small, achievable steps. To have positive outcomes, you need to describe clearly what you want to happen on your land and where you want to be within a selected time frame. Ask yourself, “What do I want my place to look like in five years?” A clear objective statement will assist you and NRCS in developing a conservation plan that is right for you.

Natural Resource Objectives

Short term:

___________________________________________________________________________________________

Long term:

___________________________________________________________________________________________

Production and Economic Objectives

Short term:

___________________________________________________________________________________________

Long term:

___________________________________________________________________________________________

Quality of Life Objectives

Short term:

___________________________________________________________________________________________

Long term:

___________________________________________________________________________________________
Natural Resource Information

1. Do you have any streams running through or adjacent to your land? ☐ Yes ☐ No
2. Do you have any woody draws and/or streamside tree/shrubs (riparian areas)? ☐ Yes ☐ No
3. Do you have any natural or constructed ponds on your land? ☐ Yes ☐ No
4. Do you have any wetlands? ☐ Yes ☐ No
5. Do you use an irrigation system? ☐ Yes ☐ No
6. If yes, what type of irrigation system(s) do you currently use? ____________________________________________
   Do you use fertigation? ☐ Yes ☐ No
   Do you apply liquid manure? ☐ Yes ☐ No
   Where do you get your irrigation water? ____________________________________________

List contracts, easements, and/or agreements for technical/financial assistance that restrict land management options:
Identify Your Resource Concerns

Describe the natural resource concerns/problems that occur on your land. These can include but are not limited to soil condition/erosion, water quality/quantity, and plant and/or animal health/productivity:

Cropland: ______________________________________

Hayland: ______________________________________

Forestland: _____________________________________

Patureland: _____________________________________

Rangeland: _____________________________________

Wildlife land: ___________________________________

Farmstead – including feedlots, dairies, or other lands: ______________________________________

Cover Crop in Kane County

Range Planting in Carbon County.
Cropland Information

1. Do you use a cover crop at any time during your regular crop rotation?  
   Yes ___  No ___  
   (A cover crop is a temporary planting to protect the soil or improve soil health.)  
   If yes, what do you plant and when in the rotation?  ____________________________________________________________

2. Do you no-till any of your crops?  
   Yes ___  No ___  
   If yes, what crops?  ____________________________________________________________

3. Do you apply herbicides and/or pesticides to your cropland?  
   Yes ___  No ___

4. Do you apply nutrients (commercial or manure) and/or soil amendments to your cropland?  
   Yes ___  No ___

5. Do you take soil tests?  
   Yes ___  No ___  
   If yes, how often?  ____________________________________________________________

6. What is your typical crop rotation (include tillage operations)?  ____________________________________________________________

7. Do you have alfalfa or other legumes in your rotation?  
   Yes ___  No ___  
   If yes, how many years are in alfalfa or other legumes?  ____________________________________________________________

8. What type of hay do you grow?  
   None ___  Alfalfa ___  Grass/Alfalfa ___  Grass ___

9. Do you use “precision ag” and/or global positioning techniques on your farm/ranch?  
   Yes ___  No ___  
   If yes, please explain  ____________________________________________________________

Farming Equipment

Check the specific type of equipment that you use.

1. Chisel: Straight Points ___  Twisted Shank ___  Sweeps ___

2. Planter: Double Disk Opener ___  Sweeps or Double Row Cleaning Disks ___  Hoe Openers ___

3. No-Till Planter: Offset Double Disk Openers ___  Smooth Coulter ___  Ripple Coulter ___  Fluted Coulter ___

4. Disk: Offset Light Duty ___  Offset Heavy Duty ___  Tandem Disk ___  One Way ___

5. Field Cultivator (primary tillage): Duckfoot Points ___  Sweeps or Shovels 6-12” ___  Shovels ___  Undercutter ___

6. Finishing Tools: Culti-mulcher ___  Harrow ___  Roller/packer ___  Rod weeder ___

7. Moldboard Plow: 6-8” Deep ___  >8” Deep ___  With Trash racks removed ___
Forestland Information

Check either yes or no for each question and describe the situation.

1. Do you have a current Forest Stewardship Plan or a Forest Management Plan? 
   Yes ___  No ___

2. Has there been any timber harvested from your land? 
   Yes ___  No ___
   If yes, when?  

3. Have you installed any of the following forest practices? (mark applicable practices)
   Tree Plantings ___  Forest Stand Improvement (Pre-Commercial Thinning) ___  Site Preparation ___
   Prescribed Burning ___  Other Agro-Forestry Practices (Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment) ___  None ___

4. Do you graze livestock in your forestland? 
   Yes ___  No ___
   If yes, then fill out the “Rangeland, Pasture, and Grazed Forest Information” section as well.)

5. Do you have noxious weeds on your forestlands? 
   Yes ___  No ___
   If yes, what kind?  

6. Check major vegetation types located in your forestlands.
   Ponderosa Pine ___  Douglas Fir ___  Lodgepole Pine ___  Engleman Spruce ___  Aspen ___
   Subalpine Fir ___  Other ___

7. Are forest insects or diseases present? 
   Yes ___  No ___
   If yes, please identify type (if known)  

8. Have your timber resources been recently impacted by a wildfire? 
   Yes ___  No ___
   If yes, when?  

Forestry project in Sevier County
Rangeland and Pasture and Grazed Forest Information

1. Acres of rangeland: ___________  Acres of pasture: ___________  Acres of forest: ___________

2. Kind and number of each class of grazing animals: ________________________________________________

3. Approximate days per year on rangelands: ___________  Approximate days per year on pasture: ___________
   Approximate days per year on forest: ___________
   Approximate days per year on hayland: ___________  Approximate days per year fed hay: ___________

4. Are there any streams going through your pasture, range, or forest?  Yes ___  No ___
   If yes, do livestock have access to the streams?  Yes ___  No ___
   If no, how do you water your animals? _______________________________________________________

5. Do you measure the stubble height to determine when to rotate livestock to another pasture?  Yes ___  No ___

6. Do you use a rotational system to graze your rangeland, pasture, and forest?  Yes ___  No ___
   If yes, does it include any of the following?
   • Identifying periods of grazing, rest, rotation, etc for each management unit.  Yes ___  No ___
   • Identifying and maintaining adequate plant cover or residue in each pasture and in sensitive areas (riparian, wetlands, or other habitats of concern).  Yes ___  No ___
   • Identifying and monitoring key areas and key plants to evaluate grazing management decisions.  Yes ___  No ___

7. Do you balance forage availability with livestock and wildlife demands for each field?  Yes ___  No ___

8. Total tons of hay fed per year (average): ___________  Amount fed per head per year: ___________

9. Do you apply nutrients and/or soil amendments to your pastureland?  Yes ___  No ___

10. Do you have any noxious weeds on your rangeland?  Yes ___  No ___
   If yes, please identify (if known): ___________________________________________________________

   Are there poisonous plants that limit when you can graze in certain fields?  Yes ___  No ___
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<th>Number</th>
<th>Average Weight</th>
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<th>Selling Date</th>
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<td>Feeders (if there is a feedlot)</td>
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<td>Other</td>
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<td>i.e. llamas, goats, bison</td>
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</table>
**Wetland Information**

1. Do you have persistently wet areas on your property?  
   (i.e. - saturated soils or surface flooding/ponding for an extended period during the growing season)  
   Yes ___  No ___

2. Is the vegetation different than areas nearby?  
   (i.e. - grasses are higher, sedges and rushes are seen growing there)  
   Yes ___  No ___

3. Are you utilizing this land for the following uses?  
   grazing ___  haying ___  cropping ___  other ___

4. What are your interests for this land? ____________________________________________

---

**Fish and Wildlife Habitat Information**

1. Do you specifically manage all or part of your land for wildlife habitat?  
   Yes ___  No ___

   If yes, what areas are managed, how is it managed, and what wildlife species do you manage? ____________________________________________

   If no, would you like to?  
   Yes ___  No ___

   What wildlife species would you like to manage for? ____________________________________________

2. Do you use your land for any recreational activities? (hunting, trapping, bird watching)  
   Yes ___  No ___

   Do you provide or allow for public access?  
   Yes ___  No ___

   Do you plant a wildlife food plot or leave a crop stand for this purpose?  
   Yes ___  No ___

3. Do you consider wildlife needs during cropping, haying, and/or grazing?  
   Yes ___  No ___

   If yes, how? ____________________________________________

4. Do you specifically manage cropping, haying, and/or grazing activities to protect riparian (streamside) wetland habitat for fish and wildlife?  
   Yes ___  No ___

   If yes, how? ____________________________________________

5. Are you interested in managing your land for rare or declining wildlife species?  
   Yes ___  No ___

6. Are predators a factor in the management of your operation?  
   Yes ___  No ___

   If yes, which species and when? ____________________________________________
Farmstead Information

1. Do you generate and store any manure on the farmstead?  Yes ___  No ___
2. Do animals have access to a stream in any concentrated feeding areas?  Yes ___  No ___
3. Do you have a fertilizer/pesticide storage site and/or mixing and loading areas?  Yes ___  No ___
4. Is your well at least 100 feet from your fertilizer/pesticide mixing/loading area?  N/A___  Yes ___  No ___
   From your feedlot?  Yes ___  No ___
   From your fuel storage area?  Yes ___  No ___

5. What are your interests for this land? ________________________________
   ________________________________
   ________________________________
   ________________________________
   ________________________________
   ________________________________

Windbreak in Juab County.
Assistance Information

Please indicate if you are interested in any of the technical or financial assistance programs.

Plan Development and/or Implementation

☐ Conservation Technical Assistance (CTA)
   CTA provides free technical assistance to help farmers and ranchers identify and solve natural resource problems on their farms and ranches. This might come as advice and counsel, through the design and implementation of a practice or treatment, or as part of an active conservation plan. This is provided through NRCS or your local conservation district.

Stewardship Programs

☐ Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)
   The Conservation Stewardship Program helps agricultural producers maintain and improve their existing conservation systems and adopt additional conservation activities to address priority resources concerns. Participants earn CSP payments for conservation performance—the higher the performance, the higher the payment.

Cost-share Programs

☐ Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)
   EQIP provides financial and technical assistance to agricultural producers in order to address natural resource concerns and deliver environmental benefits such as improved water and air quality, conserved ground and surface water, reduced soil erosion and sedimentation or improved or created wildlife habitat.

☐ Agricultural Management Assistance Program (AMA)
   AMA helps agricultural producers use conservation to manage risk and solve natural resource issues through natural resources conservation. NRCS administers the AMA conservation provisions while the Agricultural Marketing Service and the Risk Management Agency implement other provisions under AMA.

Easement Programs

☐ The Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP)
   ACEP helps landowners, land trusts, and other entities protect, restore, and enhance wetlands, grasslands, and working farms and ranches through conservation easements.

Additional Information Required for Program Participation

If you are considering applying for any of the NRCS conservation programs, you must also have the following forms completed and filed at the USDA service center:

- AD-1026 – Highly Erodible Land Conservation and Wetland Conservation (HELC/WC) Certification
- CCC-933 – Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) Certification
- CCC-901 – Member’s Information (for entity and joint operations only)
- CCC-902 – Farm Operating Plan for Corporations, Limited Partnerships, or other similar entities.

Signature Authority of an individual requesting benefits for an entity or joint operation.
Now that you have completed the Conservation Planning Workbook, please either stop in the office or call one of the following to get assistance in completing the conservation planning process. You can also find more information about NRCS and conservation at https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/site/ut/home/

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Office</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beaver</td>
<td>620 North Main Street PO Box 640 Beaver, UT 84713</td>
<td>(435) 438-5092</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Castle Dale</td>
<td>1120 North Des-Bee-Dove Road PO Box 758 Castle Dale, UT 84513</td>
<td>(435) 381-2300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cedar City</td>
<td>2390 West Highway 56, Suite 14, Cedar City, UT 84720</td>
<td>(435) 586-2429</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coalville</td>
<td>30 S Main Street PO Box 526 Coalville, UT 84017-0437</td>
<td>(435) 336-5853</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ephraim</td>
<td>5 South Main, Suite 203 Ephraim, UT 84627</td>
<td>(435) 283-8004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fillmore</td>
<td>65 West 100 North Fillmore, UT 84631</td>
<td>(435) 743-6655</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monticello</td>
<td>32 South 110 East PO Box 639 Monticello, UT 84535</td>
<td>(435) 587-2481</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nephi</td>
<td>635 North Main Street Nephi, UT 84648</td>
<td>(435) 623-0342</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Logan</td>
<td>1860 North 100 East North Logan, UT 84341</td>
<td>(435) 557-5135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ogden AO &amp; FO</td>
<td>2871 South Commerce Way Ogden, UT 84401</td>
<td>(801) 629-0580</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panguitch</td>
<td>225 East Center Street PO Box 277 Panguitch, UT 84759</td>
<td>(435) 676-8021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Price</td>
<td>599 B Price River Drive Price, UT 84501</td>
<td>(435) 637-0041</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provo</td>
<td>302 East Lakeview Parkway Provo, UT 84606</td>
<td>(801) 377-5580</td>
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<tr>
<td>Randolph</td>
<td>195 North Main PO Box 97 Randolph, UT 84064</td>
<td>(435) 793-3905</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richfield AO &amp; FO</td>
<td>340 North 600 East Richfield, UT 84701</td>
<td>(435) 896-6441</td>
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<tr>
<td>Roosevelt</td>
<td>815 South 400 West Roosevelt, UT 84066</td>
<td>(435) 722-4621</td>
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<tr>
<td>St. George</td>
<td>197 East Tabernacle Street St. George, UT 84770</td>
<td>(435) 896-6441</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tooele</td>
<td>185 North Main Street Tooele, UT 84074</td>
<td>(435) 882-2276</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tremonton</td>
<td>85 South First East Tremonton, UT 84337</td>
<td>(435) 257-5403</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vernal</td>
<td>80 North 500 West, Vernal, UT 84076</td>
<td>(435) 789-2100</td>
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