

Conservation Activity Evaluation Tool

CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

CSP-2019-1_MT - Ag Land_Pasture

Soil Erosion

Sheet and Rill Erosion

	Planning Criteria	Planning Crit	eria Met
	Permanent ground cover > 90% and slope less than 10%; OR, The water erosion rate is less than or equal to T.	Yes	No
	Evaluation Tests	Evaluation To	est Met
	Plant cover controls active erosion (shallow less than 1 foot deep rills and gullies) and runoff from normal rain events; AND, No litter dams or terracettes are present.	Yes	No
W	ind Erosion		
	Planning Criteria	Planning Crit	eria Met
	Permanent ground cover >90% and slope less than 10%; OR, The wind erosion rate is less than or equal to T.	Yes	No
	Evaluation Tests	Evaluation To	est Met
	Evaluation Tests Residual forage heights meet or exceed the State standards for controlling wind erosion.	Evaluation To	No
<u>Cl</u>	Residual forage heights meet or exceed the State standards for		
<u>Cl</u>	Residual forage heights meet or exceed the State standards for controlling wind erosion.		No
<u>Cl</u>	Residual forage heights meet or exceed the State standards for controlling wind erosion. assic Gully Erosion	Yes	No
<u>Cl</u>	Residual forage heights meet or exceed the State standards for controlling wind erosion. assic Gully Erosion Planning Criteria Classic gullies are not present; Or, Classic gully management is adequate to stop the progression of head cutting and widening and	Yes Planning Crit	No



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Streambank, Shoreline, Water Conveyance Channels

Planning Criteria	Planning C	riteria Met
For shorelines and water conveyance channels; banks are stable or commensurate with normal geomorphological processes; AND, If bank erosion is present, it is beyond the client's control or commensurate with normal geomorphological processes; AND, For streambanks, SVAP2 bank condition element score > 5. If shorelines or water conveyance channels are not present, set this planning criteria to NA.	Yes	No
Evaluation Tests	Evaluation	Test Met
Excluding all fundamentally unstable, natural geomorphic streambanks and shorelines, all streambanks and shorelines on the land use show few signs of erosion or bank failure; AND, Each is stable	Yes	No 🗌



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Soil Quality Degradation

Organic Matter Depletion

	Planning Criteria	Planning Crit	teria Met
	Organic matter within the soil is managed by means of proper rotational grazing and other grazing management practices; AND, the Pasture Condition Score (PCS) -plant cover element score is >= 4; AND, The PCS - plant residue element score is >= 4.	Yes	No
	Evaluation Tests	Evaluation To	est Met
	Proper soil health is evidenced by productive and desirable plants dominating the management system. There are no extensive dead or unproductive areas.	Yes	No
<u>C</u>	ompaction		
	Planning Criteria	Planning Crit	teria Met
	Soil compaction is not a problem: AND, Activities do not cause soil compaction problems AND, Can be documented with prior conservation planning or other on-site evaluation methods.	Yes	No 🗌
	Evaluation Tests	Evaluation To	est Met
	There are no extensive bare spots or dead areas in the land management system beyond what would be considered acceptable "sacrifice" areas.	Yes	No 🗌



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Concentration of Salts and other Chemicals

Planning Criteria	Planning Cr	iteria Met
Salinity/sodicity problems do not exist: OR, Conservation practices and managements are in place to mitigate on-site effects.	Yes	No
Evaluation Tests	Evaluation T	Test Met
Irrigation water is managed to maintain a balance of soil moisture not to exceed Field Capacity or get below wilting point (unless water quantity is a limitation)? Methods include: moisture by feel, soil moisture monitoring with sensors, evapotranspiration monitoring, or other checkbook type methods. If the land management system is not irrigated, set this test statement to NA.	Yes	No
There are no areas of extensive bare ground, or largely unvegetated areas, present in areas of high salts. If there are no areas of high salts on the land management system, set this test statement to YES.	Yes	No



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Excess Water

Runoff and Flooding and Ponding

Planning Criteria	Planning Cr	iteria Met
Excess water is managed to minimize the impact on conservation measures and/or crop production.	Yes	No 🗌
Evaluation Tests	Evaluation T	Test Met
Measures are applied such as prescribed grazing, grassed waterways, and field borders to reduce excessive runoff; OR, If flooding is a concern pastures are managed within the seasonal flooding periods; OR, Where ponding is a concern land leveling or shallow surface drains prevent ponding of water that limits pasture production.	Yes	No



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Insufficient Water

Inefficient Use of Irrigation Water

Planning Criteria	Planning C	riteria Met
The irrigation system components and management result in a Farm Irrigation Rating Index > 60; AND, Meets applicable State in-stream flow and lake and pond water levels requirements. If the land management system is not irrigated, or equipment on this land management system is not used to irrigate, set this planning criteria to NA.	Yes	No
Evaluation Tests	Evaluation	Test Met
An irrigation water management (IWM) plan is followed that meets the crop's needs, while maximizing irrigation water efficiency. The IWM plan schedules water application based on soil moisture monitoring and/or evapotranspiration monitoring, measures and records the amount of water used to irrigate, and the irrigation system's distribution uniformity has been evaluated and necessary changes were made. If the land management system is not irrigated, or equipment on this land management system is not used to irrigate, set	Yes	No



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Water Quality Degradation

Pesticides in Surface Water

	Planning Criteria	Planning Crite	eria Met
	Pesticides are stored, handled, disposed and applied to prevent runoff, spills, leaks and leaching; AND, Conservation practices and techniques are in place to minimize ground water impacts.	Yes	No
	Evaluation Tests	Evaluation Te	st Met
	Pesticides are not applied or stored on this land management system; Or, Pesticides are applied using a site-specific mixture of prevention, avoidance, monitoring, and suppression (PAMS) strategies. Environmental risk screening tool are used (such as WIN-PST or similar LGU approved tool); AND, Application rates and timing are compliant with the label.	Yes	No
<u>Pe</u>	sticides in Ground Water		
	Planning Criteria	Planning Crite	eria Met
	Pesticides are stored, handled, disposed and applied to prevent runoff, spills, leaks and leaching; AND, Conservation practices and techniques are in place to minimize ground water impacts.	Yes	No
	Evaluation Tests	Evaluation Te	st Met
	Pesticides are not applied or stored on this land management system; OR, Pesticides are applied using a site-specific mixture of prevention, avoidance, monitoring, and suppression (PAMS) strategies; AND, Environmental risk screening tool are used (such as WIN-PST or similar LGU approved tool); AND, Application rates and timing are compliant with the label.	Yes	No



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Nutrients in Surface Water

Planning Criteria	Planning Criteria Met
Organic or inorganic nutrients are not applied and grazing unit is adjacent to streams, ponds, or lakes and there are no confined livestock areas; OR, The Pasture Condition Score - streambank/shoreline erosion element score is >= 4; AND, The Pasture Condition Score - livestock concentration areas element s is >= 4; AND, Nutrients are applied and based on a soil test, tissu or nutrient budget.	core
Evaluation Tests	Evaluation Test Met
Livestock access to streams is limited to short periods of time and small areas.	Yes No
Nutrients are not applied; OR, If nutrients are applied, they do not degrade surface water quality; AND, Water use is not limited by nutrient levels.	t Yes No
Nutrients in Ground Water	
Planning Criteria	Planning Criteria Met
Organic or inorganic nutrients are not applied; OR, Nutrient and amendment applications are based on soil or tissue tests and nutrie budgets for realistic yields and conservation practices; AND, Management activities are in place to minimize ground water imp	
Evaluation Tests	Evaluation Test Met
Nutrients are not applied to this land management system; OR, If nutrients are applied, they do not degrade ground water quality; A Water use is not limited.	



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Salts in Surface Water

Planning Criteria	Planning Crit	eria Met	
Surface salt concentrations are managed to mitigate transport to surface water. If surface salts are not an issue, set this planning criteria to NA.	Yes	No	
Evaluation Tests	Evaluation Te	est Met	
Surface salt concentrations are managed to mitigate transport to surface water. If surface salts are not an issue, set this test statement to NA.	Yes	No	
Excess Pathogens and Chemicals from Manure, Bio-solids or Compost Applications in Surface Water			
Planning Criteria	Planning Crit	eria Met	
Planning Criteria Potential sources of pathogens or pharmaceuticals are not applied on the land; OR, Organic materials are applied, stored, and/or handled to mitigate negative impacts to surface water sources.	Planning Crit	eria Met	
Potential sources of pathogens or pharmaceuticals are not applied on the land; OR, Organic materials are applied, stored, and/or handled to		No 🗌	
Potential sources of pathogens or pharmaceuticals are not applied on the land; OR, Organic materials are applied, stored, and/or handled to mitigate negative impacts to surface water sources.	Yes	No 🗌	



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Petroleum, Heavy Metal and Other Pollutants Transported to Surface Water

	Planning Criteria	Planning Crite	eria Met
	Activities do not present the potential for contamination by petroleum, heavy metals and other pollutants. If present, potential pollutants are stored and handled to avoid runoff to groundwater.	Yes	No 🗌
	Evaluation Tests	Evaluation Te	st Met
	Fuel storage does not occur on this land management system; OR, If required, the producer has and is following a Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure (SPCC) Plan; OR, The fuel storage area and tank is located: - above the 100-year floodplain, - a minimum of 100 feet from any river, stream, ditch, pond, lake, sinkhole, wetland, or water well; AND, Within a stable place designed to provide secondary containment if the primary means were to fail.	Yes	No
<u>Pe</u>	troleum, Heavy Metal and Other Pollutants Transported t	o Ground W	ater
	Planning Criteria	Planning Crite	eria Met
	Activities do not present the potential for contamination by petroleum, heavy metals and other pollutants. If present, potential pollutants are stored and handled to avoid seepage to groundwater.	Yes	No
	Evaluation Tests	Evaluation Te	st Met
	Fuel storage does not occur on this land management system; OR, If required, the producer has and is following a Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure (SPCC) Plan; OR, The fuel storage area and tank is located: - above the 100-year floodplain, - a minimum of 100 feet from any river, stream, ditch, pond, lake, sinkhole, wetland, or water well; AND, Within a stable place designed to provide secondary containment if the primary means were to fail.	Yes	No



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Excessive Sediment in Surface Water

	Planning Criteria	Planning Criteria	a Met
	Permanent ground cover > 90% and slope less than 10% and classic gullies are not present; OR, Upslope treatment and buffer practices address concentrated flows to water bodies; AND, The SVAP2 - bank condition >= 5; AND, The livestock and vehicle water crossings are stable; AND, The water erosion rate is less than or equal to T; AND, Wind erosion rate is less than or equal to T.	Yes N	0
	Evaluation Tests	Evaluation Test	Met
	Plant cover controls active erosion and runoff from normal rain events; AND, Litter dams are minimized.	Yes N	Го 🗌
<u>Ele</u>	evated Water Temperature		
	Planning Criteria	Planning Criteri	a Met
	Water courses on or adjacent to the site are not designated by a State Agency as a temperature impairment; OR, The SVAP2 - riparian area quality element score is >= 5; AND, The SVAP2 - riparian area quantity element score is >= 5; AND, The SVAP2 - canopy cover element score is >= 6; OR, Existing conservation practices are in place to address water temperature. If water courses are not present, set this planning criteria to NA.		a Met
	Water courses on or adjacent to the site are not designated by a State Agency as a temperature impairment; OR, The SVAP2 - riparian area quality element score is >= 5; AND, The SVAP2 - riparian area quantity element score is >= 5; AND, The SVAP2 - canopy cover element score is >= 6; OR, Existing conservation practices are in place to address water temperature. If water courses are not present, set this		[о [



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Air Quality Impacts

Emissions of Ozone Precursors

]	Planning Criteria	Planning Crite	eria Met
;	Operations that produce ozone precursor emissions are not present; OR, or are managed to reduce emissions. Ozone precursor producing activities may include: Engines (combustion source), Pesticide application, Burning, CAFO /manure management, or fertilization (manure/commercial).	Yes	No
]	Evaluation Tests	Evaluation Te	st Met
1 i]	Pesticides are not applied; OR, An IPM plan is followed which reduces ozone precursors. IPM includes applications of pesticides, including fumigants, be applied in a way that emissions of ozone precursors are reduced; Application methods may include: spot spraying, pest/target sensing application equipment, alternative pesticide formulations, or low emission fumigation methods.	Yes	No
<u>Em</u>	ission of Greenhouse Gases (GHGs)		
]	Planning Criteria	Planning Crite	eria Met
1	Activities that produce GHGs emissions are not present: OR, Activities that produce GHGs emissions are managed to reduce those emissions; AND, Carbon sequestration is enhanced through reduced tillage methods or other practices. GHG producing activities that should be considered include: Fertilization (manure/commercial), Tillage methods, grazing management, and forestry practices; AND, GHGs are not regulated in this planning area.	Yes	No
]	Evaluation Tests	Evaluation Te	st Met
	Nitrogen is not applied: OR, Nitrogen is applied as close as possible to crop uptake (within 30 days prior to crop planting or greenup) at recommended application rates.	Yes	No 🗌



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Objectionable Odors

Planning Criteria	Planning Cr	iteria Met
Activities such as pesticide or manure application are managed to reduce objectionable odors; AND, Odor sources are not regulated in this planning area; AND, Documented episodes or complaints of odor nuisance have not occurred.	Yes	No 🗌
Evaluation Tests	Evaluation Test Met	
Manure is not applied on this land management system; OR, Manure is immediately incorporated; OR, Manure is only applied when wind direction is away from human occupied areas.	Yes	No 🗌



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<u>Degraded Plant Condition</u>

Undesirable Plant Productivity and Health

	Planning Criteria	Planning Criteria Met	
	The Pasture Condition Score is 30 or above. Plants are adapted to the site, meet production goals and do not negatively impact other resources.	Yes	No
	Evaluation Tests	Evaluation Te	est Met
	Plants are perennial, adapted to the site, maintained at minimal stubble heights, productive and healthy.	Yes	No
Ina	adequate Structure and Composition		
	Planning Criteria	Planning Criteria Met	
	Plant communities contain adequate diversity, composition and structure to support desired ecological functions for the ecological site.	Yes	No
	Evaluation Tests	Evaluation Test Met	
	The current plants provide the desired habitat structure and composition. State identified invasive plants and noxious weeds are	Yes	No 🗌
	controlled.		
Ex	controlled. cessive Plant Pest Pressure		
Ex		Planning Crite	eria Met
Ex	cessive Plant Pest Pressure	Planning Crite	eria Met No 🔲
Ex	Planning Criteria Plant pest damage to plants is below economic or environmental thresholds; AND, Plant pests, including noxious and invasive		No 🗌



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Fish and Wildlife - Inadequate Habitat

Inadequate Habitat - Food

Planning Criteria	Planning Cr	riteria Met
The WHSI rating is >= 0.5; AND, (when surface stream present) The SVAP2 - fish habitat complexity element score is >= 7; AND, The SVAP2 - aquatic invertebrate habitat element score is >= 7; OR, Conservation practices and managements are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds; OR, Food is available in quality and extent to support habitat requirements for the species of interest.	Yes	No
Evaluation Tests	Evaluation 7	Γest Met
Designated areas are planted as food and habitat for pollinators/beneficial insects; AND, Protected from disruption. For example, planted to nectar and pollen producing plants and protected from disruption - chemical biological or mechanical	Yes	No 🗌



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Inadequate Habitat - Cover/Shelter

Planning Criteria	Planning Cri	teria Met
The WHSI rating is >= 0.5; AND, (when surface stream present) the SVAP2 - barriers to movement element score is >= 7; AND, The SVAP2 - fish habitat complexity element score is >= 7; AND, The SVAP2 - aquatic invertebrate habitat element score is >= 7; OR, Conservation practices and management practices are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds; OR, Habitat cover is of available quality and extent to support requirements for the species of interest.	Yes	No
Evaluation Tests	Evaluation T	est Met
Grazing heights are maintained at a minimum of 6 inches average over winter for mid/tall grass plant communities; AND, 4 inches average over winter for shortgrass plant communities.	Yes	No
Designated areas are planted as food and habitat for pollinators/beneficial insects. For example, planted to nectar and pollen producing plants and protected from disruptionchemical, biological, or mechanical.	Yes	No
Haying operations include at least two of the following activities: (a) harvest occurs from the center of the field outward to provide better escape cover, (b) flushing bars are mounted on harvesting equipment, (c) mowing occurs during daylight hours, or (d) mowing speeds are reduced during primary nesting season.	Yes	No



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Inadequate Habitat - Water

	Planning Criteria	Planning Criteria Met		
	The WHSI rating is >= 0.5;AND, (when surface stream present) The SVAP2 - aquatic invertebrate habitat element score is >= 7; OR, Conservation practices and managements are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds; OR, Water is available in quality and extent to support habitat requirements for the species of interest.	Yes	No	
	Evaluation Tests	Evaluation Test Met		
	Developments in the flood plain, stream water withdrawals, flow augmentation, or water control structures may be present, but do not significantly alter the natural flow regime.	Yes	No	
<u>In</u>	Inadequate Habitat - Habitat Continuity (Space)			
	Planning Criteria	Planning Criteria Met		
	The WHSI rating is >= 0.5; AND, (when surface stream present) The SVAP2 - barriers to movement element score is >= 7; AND, The SVAP2 - aquatic invertebrate habitat element score is >= 7; OR, Conservation practices and managements are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds; OR, The connectivity of habitat components are adequate to support stable populations of target species.	Yes	No	
	Evaluation Tests	Evaluation Test Met		
	Existing fences allow wildlife movement without harm.	Yes	No	
	The land adjacent to a stream, river, or other waterbody on the side or sides you control does: - have diverse, natural plant cover typical to that along streams in your area; AND, Extend from the stream bank or shoreline for a distance of 35 feet; OR, (if applicable) The minimum State buffer-width requirement, whichever is greater.	Yes	No	



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Livestock Production Limitation

Inadequate Feed and Forage

	Planning Criteria	Planning Crite	eria Met	
	Livestock forage, roughage, and supplemental nutritional requirements are met.	Yes	No	
	Evaluation Tests	Evaluation Te	st Met	
	The existing forage quantity and quality are expected to meet the livestock needs and goals.	Yes	No	
In	adequate Shelter			
	Planning Criteria	Planning Criteria Met		
	Artificial or natural shelters meet animal health needs.	Yes	No 🗌	
	Evaluation Tests	Evaluation Te	st Met	
	Adequate shelter is provided to meet the needs of the livestock throughout the period the land management system (LMS) is utilized by livestock. If livestock do not use this LMS, set the test statement to NA.	Yes	No	
In	Inadequate Water			
	Planning Criteria	Planning Crite	eria Met	
	Water of acceptable quality and quantity is adequately distributed to meet animal needs.	Yes	No 🗌	
	Evaluation Tests	Evaluation Te	st Met	
	The livestock have enough drinking water of good quality. If livestock do not use this land management system, set the test statement to NA.	Yes	No	



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<u>Inefficient Energy Use</u>

Farming/Ranching Practices and Field Operations

Planning Criteria	Planning Crit	teria Met
If nutrients are applied, a nutrient budget is used to determine all nutrient application rates; AND, If irrigated, improved efficiency irrigation pumps are being used on the majority of irrigated pastures.	Yes	No
Evaluation Tests	Evaluation To	est Met
Irrigation water is being managed to maintain a balance of soil moisture not to exceed Field Capacity or get below wilting point (unless water quantity is a limitation). Methods include: soil moisture monitoring with sensors, evapotranspiration monitoring, or other checkbook type methods. If the land management system is not irrigated, set this test statement to NA.	Yes	No
Nutrients are not applied; OR, If nutrients are applied, a nutrient budget is used to determine all application rates, including: - Realistic yield goals, - Nutrient uptake requirements, and - Available nutrient accounting for each of the following: (a) N, P, K from representative soil tests (less than or equal to 3yrs), (b) Soil organic matter mineralization, (c) Legumes in rotation, (d) Previous applications of manure and other organic based materials, (e) Planned post-harvest residual soil test levels, (f) Available nutrient analysis for each nutrient source, and (g) Available nutrient uptake efficiencies from planned application rate, source, method, timing and placement. All state specific application setbacks are maintained for all nutrient applications.	Yes	No