

National Environmental Compliance Handbook
Pennsylvania Example - November 2010

U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service		NRCS-CPA-52 6/2010		A. Client Name: Joe and Cindy Farmer	
ENVIRONMENTAL EVALUATION WORKSHEET				B. Conservation Plan ID # (as applicable): NA Program Authority (optional): CTA and EQIP	
D. Client's Objective(s) (purpose): (Why is the producer working with NRCS, goals) Maintain barnyard area, and improve grazing system. Increase production and convert to a no-till cropping system. Improve wildlife habitat. (Progressive Plan)				C. Identification # (farm, tract, field #, etc as required): Farm ###, Tract ### Fields: Crop (C): 1, 3, 4, 5 Pasture (P): 2, 7, 8, Headquarters (H): 6	
E. Need for Action: (Conservation Resource Need: What Resource Concerns is practice/plan/contract addressing) Updated Conservation Increase production, address water quality and soil quality to QC.		G. Alternatives			
		No Action <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> if RMS		Alternative 1 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> if RMS	
No Action = Benchmark Condition		Alternative 1 column is the same as Alternative 2 unless noted.		See Conservation Plan, dated 4.4.2010 Progressive Plan	
Resource Concerns					
In Section "F" below, analyze, record, and address concerns identified through the Resources Inventory process. (See FOTG Section III - Resource Quality Criteria for guidance).					
F. Resource Concerns and Existing / Benchmark Conditions (Analyze and record the existing/benchmark conditions for each identified concern)		H. Effects of Alternatives			
		No Action		Alternative 1	
		Alternative 2			
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> if does NOT meet QC		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> if does NOT meet QC	
Amount, Status, Description (short and long term)		Amount, Status, Description (short and long term)		Amount, Status, Description (short and long term)	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> if does NOT meet QC		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> if does NOT meet QC	
SOIL					
Erosion (Sheet and Rill)		C - Rotation currently exceeds T; P - meets quality criteria (QC); HQ - meets QC		C - Erosion reduced to T; P - maintain vegetation, meets QC; HQ - Meets QC	
		NOT meet <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> QC		NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC	
Erosion (Ephemeral Gully)		Meets QC		Meets QC	
		NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC		NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC	
Erosion (Streambank)		Excessive streambank erosion due to animal access to streams in Field 2 and 7		Streambank erosion reduced by excluding animals from stream	
		NOT meet <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> QC		NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC	
Condition (Organic Matter)		C - Crops field 3, 4, 5 have negative SCI; P - Meets QC; H - Meets QC		C - Positive SCI and increase organic matter due to rotation, implementing no-till and cover cropping systems. P - No effect, maintain in permanent vegetation. Field 8 increase in organic matter due to permanent grass (converted to pasture).	
		NOT meet <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> QC		NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC	
Condition (Compaction)		C - penetrometer and root systems show signs of compaction in field 3, 4, due to cropping activities and daily haul; P - meets QC; H - meets QC		C - decrease compaction; P - No effect	
		NOT meet <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> QC		NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC	
Other					
		NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC		NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC	
Only use resource concerns that are applicable to PA QC list					

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	No Action		Alternative 1		Alternative 2	
	Amount, Status, Description (short and long term)	√ if does NOT meet QC	Amount, Status, Description (short and long term)	√ if does NOT meet QC	Amount, Status, Description (short and long term)	√ if does NOT meet QC
WATER						
Quantity (Excessive Subsurface Water)	Meets QC	NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC		NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC	Meets QC	NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC
Quantity (Excessive Seepage)	NA	NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC		NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC	NA	NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC
Quantity (Excessive Runoff, Flooding, or Ponding)	Meets QC	NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC		NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC	Meets QC	NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC
Quality (Surface Water: Harmful Levels of Pesticides)	Certified Organic operation applies NOP (National Organic Program) approved substances according to label recommendations and setbacks.	NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC		NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC	Reduce potential for pesticide contamination through increased level of beneficial insect management, pollinator habitat and pest management plan.	NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC
Quality (Groundwater: Harmful Levels of Pesticides)	Approved substance (pesticide) storage located near well. Signs of spillages.	NOT meet <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> QC		NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC	Reduce potential for pesticide contamination through pest management plan and "pesticide" storage facility.	NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC
Quality (Surface Water: Excessive Nutrients and Organics)	C - field 3 high in P; P - excessive, animals have access to stream; H - meets QC	NOT meet <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> QC	P - Reduce nutrient contamination by installing streambank fencing.	NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC	C - Reduce nutrient contamination, follow Nutrient Management Plan, and implementation of manure storage; P - reduce contamination by restricting animal access to streams in Field 2, full access to streams in Field 7; H - meets QC	NOT meet <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> QC
Quality (Groundwater: Excessive Nutrients and Organics)	C - field 3 high in P; P - meets QC; H - ACA located within 30 feet of well	NOT meet <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> QC		NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC	C - reduced by following Nutrient Management Plan; P - meets QC; H - reduce nutrient contamination by installing manure storage and HUAP.	NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC
Quality (Surface Water: Excessive Susp. Sedmt & Turbidity)	P - excessive sediment primarily due to upstream management (off farm)	NOT meet <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> QC		NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC	Reduced turbidity through implementation of grazing system, no-till, reduced stream access	NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC

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	No Action		Alternative 1		Alternative 2	
	Amount, Status, Description (short and long term)	√if does NOT meet QC	Amount, Status, Description (short and long term)	√if does NOT meet QC	Amount, Status, Description (short and long term)	√if does NOT meet QC
WATER						
Quality (Surface Water: Harmful Temperatures)	P - Increased water temperatures due to lack of overhanging vegetation	NOT meet <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> QC	P - Decrease surface water temperatures by excluding animals from riparian area.	NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC	No effect	NOT meet <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> QC
Quality (Surface Water: Harmful Levels of Pathogens)	P - excessive, animals have access to stream; H - ACA contaminated runoff	NOT meet <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> QC	P - Reduce pathogen contamination by installing streambank fencing.	NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC	P - reduced pathogens due to limited stream access; H - reduced by implementation of manure storage and HUAP	NOT meet <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> QC
Quality (Groundwater: Harmful Levels of Pathogens)	P - meets QC; H - contamination potential, ACA located near well	NOT meet <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> QC		NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC	P - Meets QC; H - reduced by implementation of manure storage and HUAP	NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC
Other		NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC		NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC		NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC
		NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC		NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC		NOT meet <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> QC

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F. Resource Concerns and Existing / Benchmark Conditions (Analyze and record the existing/benchmark conditions for each identified concern)	H. (continued)					
	No Action		Alternative 1		Alternative 2	
	Amount, Status, Description (short and long term)	√ if does NOT meet QC	Amount, Status, Description (short and long term)	√ if does NOT meet QC	Amount, Status, Description (short and long term)	√ if does NOT meet QC
AIR						
Pennsylvania air quality nonattainment counties can be found at: PM 2.5: http://www.epa.gov/reg3airtd/airquality/pm25nonattareas.htm Ozone: http://www.epa.gov/reg3airtd/airquality/ozone8hrmaintareas_2.htm						
Quality [Particulate Matter < 2.5µm diameter ("PM 2.5")]	Tract located in 2.5 PM air quality county.	NOT meet <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> QC		NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC	Planned practices have positive effect on 2.5 PM, reducing PM, improving air quality.	NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC
Quality (Excessive Ozone)	NA	NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC		NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC	NA	NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC
Quality (Chemical Drift)	Complies with all regulations and label instructions	NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC		NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC	Minimize drift by increased use of beneficial insects, pollinator habitat. Implementation of field border.	NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC
Quality (Objectionable Odors)	Potential issues due to manure application and proximity to housing development	NOT meet <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> QC		NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC	Odor potential reduced through windbreak establishment	NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC
Other		NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC		NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC		NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC
		NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC		NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC		NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC
PLANTS						
Condition (Noxious and Invasive Plants)	Producer manages. C - minimal presence of Jimsonweed and Johnson grass in fields 1 & 3; P - Multiflora rose and Canada thistle present; H - none	NOT meet <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> QC		NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC	No invasive or noxious species will be introduced - producer will maintain control over existing.	NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC
Other		NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC		NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC		NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC
		NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC		NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC		NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC

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	No Action		Alternative 1		Alternative 2	
	Amount, Status, Description (short and long term)	√ if does NOT meet QC	Amount, Status, Description (short and long term)	√ if does NOT meet QC	Amount, Status, Description (short and long term)	√ if does NOT meet QC
ANIMALS						
Fish and wildlife (Inadequate Cover/Shelter)	(Note - in order to evaluate QC, wildlife habitat worksheet must be completed.) Inadequate cover throughout year due to cropping practices and intensive grazing systems (See PA Wildlife Evaluation)	NOT meet <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> QC	Wildlife cover increased through establishment of riparian buffer. Wildlife habitat worksheet score is > 0.5 (see worksheet)	NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC	No effect - QC not met (see worksheet)	NOT meet <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> QC
Domestic animals (Inadequate Quantities and Qual. of Feed & ...)	P - Forage stand in field 8 is limited by over grazing	NOT meet <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> QC		NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC	P - improved quality and quantity through implementing 528 and rotation grazing, reseed Field 8.	NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC
Domestic animals (Inadequate Stock Water)	P - adequate water available in all paddocks	NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC		NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC	Meets QC	NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC
Other		NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC		NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC		NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC
		NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC		NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC		NOT meet <input type="checkbox"/> QC
HUMAN - Economic and Social Considerations						
Land Use	Current land use is pasture and cropland				10 acres of cropland being converted to pasture. No ag land converted to non-ag use.	
Public Health and Safety	NA (omit due to sensitive information)				Public health improved through improved surface and ground water quality, ag waste safety features installed.	
Labor	NA (omit due to sensitive information)				1 - 2 hours less labor for manure handling on daily basis. Short term increase for periodic unloading of storage facility as per plan. Increased pasture management. Decreased labor due to no-till system.	
Management Level	NA (omit due to sensitive information)				Increased management of nutrients and livestock. Increased management of crop rotation due to no-till and manure storage.	
Other						

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Special Environmental Concerns: Environmental Laws, Executive Orders, policies, etc.						
<p>In Section "I" complete and attach applicable Environmental Procedures Guide Sheets for documentation. Items with a "•" may require a federal permit or consultation/coordination between the lead agency and another government agency. In these cases, effects may need to be determined in consultation with another agency. Planning and practice implementation may proceed for practices not involved in consultation.</p>						
I. Special Environmental Concerns (Document compliance with Environmental Laws, Executive Orders, policies, etc.)	J. Impacts to Special Environmental Concerns					
	No Action		Alternative 1		Alternative 2	
	Status and progress of compliance. (Complete and attach Guide Sheets as applicable)	√ if needs further action	Status and progress of compliance. (Complete and attach Guide Sheets as applicable)	√ if needs further action	Status and progress of compliance. (Complete and attach Guide Sheets as applicable)	√ if needs further action
• Clean Air Act EPA Website, SIP for PM 2.5 and 8 hour ozone	NA	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	NA	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Clean Water Act / Waters of the U.S. WRAS's, TMDL's, wetland determinations	NA (omit due to sensitive)	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	In compliance - no dredging or filling planned in stream or wetlands. No NPDES requirements. Compatible with WRAS for watershed	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Coastal Zone Management CMZ plan	NA (omit due to sensitive)	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	Bucks Co. Planned actions in compliance with CMZ --OR-- NA	<input type="checkbox"/>
Coral Reefs	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Cultural Resources / Historic Properties Practice Effects Guidance, National Register, State Website	Multiple buildings greater than 50 years old.	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	No effect - See CRRW. All practices reviewed for impact.	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Endangered and Threatened Species PNDI	Positive PNDI search results - 1 potential impact. No other indications of E&T species or listed species. --OR-- No PNDI hits.	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	No effect, avoidance measures followed --OR-- No effect, DCNR contacted (see documentation) --OR-- Upon review, NA (see PNDI receipt)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Environmental Justice Observation, census	NA	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	No effect, no disproportionately high or adverse effect on low income or minority populations.	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Essential Fish Habitat	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>
Floodplain Management FEMA - FIRM, Soils	No 100 year floodplains exists on tract --OR-- NA	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	Activities will not change or otherwise impact floodplains --OR-- NA	<input type="checkbox"/>
Invasive Species Observation, land owner	Producer manages. C - Minimal presence of Jimsonweed and Johnson grass in fields 1 & 3; P - Multiflora rose and Canada thistle present; H - none	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	Producer will control existing invasive species. No invasive or noxious species will be introduced.	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Migratory Birds/Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act PNDI, observation	Moderate quality habitat for migratory bird exists	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	No measurable adverse impacts --OR-- improved habitat through 327	<input type="checkbox"/>

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Prime and Unique Farmlands Soils info	76 acres of prime farmland -- OR -- prime farmland exists	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	No adverse impacts, no important farmland will be converted to non-ag use -- OR -- NA	<input type="checkbox"/>
Riparian Area Observation, water bodies	Animal access to stream riparian area results in limited tree shading, reduced water quality, and fragmented wildlife corridors -- OR -- No surface water bodies exists.	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	Animal access to stream limited, resulting in improved water quality, increased tree cover, and improved wildlife corridors -- OR -- NA	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sole Source Aquifers State website, EPA website	Tract located in sole source aquifer area -- OR -- NA	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	Bucks Co. - Planned practices will protect or enhance aquifer water quality -- OR -- NA	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wetlands Wetland determination	Wetland area identified and determined by NRCS --OR -- Wetland determination complete, no wetlands exists -- OR -- No wetland determination exists.	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	No effect, no draining or filling planned. Planned actions will maintain vegetative cover and reduce delivery of sediment, nutrients, and organic materials to wetlands -- OR -- NA -- OR -- Wetland determination complete, no effect, etc.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wild and Scenic Rivers PA DCNR website	Scenic river exists	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	Compatible with Clarion Scenic Rivers designation -- OR -- NA	<input type="checkbox"/>
K. Other Agencies and Broad Public Concerns			No Action	Alternative 1	Alternative 2	
Easements, Permissions, Public Review, or Permits Required and Agencies Consulted.	NA				GP - 9 needed PNDI - Consultation with Game Commission in progress	

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K. (continued) Other Agencies and Broad Public Concerns		<i>No Action</i>	<i>Alternative 1</i>	<i>Alternative 2</i>
Cumulative Effects Narrative (Describe the cumulative impacts considered, including past, present and known future actions regardless of who performed the actions)		None identified		Existing and planned practices in local watershed will cumulatively improve all resources except as noted below: None
L. Mitigation		None needed		None needed
M. Preferred Alternative	√ preferred alternative	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Supporting reason		Producer has no interest in fencing stream or establishing additional wildlife habitat at this time.	Produce has agreed to implement plan once NRCS FA is available
N. Context (Record context of alternatives analysis)		local	HUC # Watershed	Chesapeake Bay Watershed
The significance of an action must be analyzed in several contexts such as society as a whole (human, national), the affected region, the affected interests, and the locality.				
O. Determination of Significance or Extraordinary Circumstances				
<p>Intensity: Refers to the severity of impact. Impacts may be both beneficial and adverse. A significant effect may exist even if the Federal agency believes that on balance the effect will be beneficial. Significance cannot be avoided by terming an action temporary or by breaking it down into small component parts.</p> <p>If you answer ANY of the below questions "yes" then contact the State Environmental Liaison as there may be extraordinary circumstances and significance issues to consider and a site specific NEPA analysis may be required.</p>				
Yes	No			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	● Is the preferred alternative expected to cause significant effects on public health or safety?		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	● Is the preferred alternative expected to significantly effect unique characteristics of the geographic area such as proximity to historic or cultural resources, park lands, prime farmlands, wetlands, wild and scenic rivers, or ecologically critical areas?		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	● Are the effects of the preferred alternative on the quality of the human environment likely to be highly controversial?		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	● Does the preferred alternative have highly uncertain effects or involve unique or unknown risks on the human environment?		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	● Does the preferred alternative establish a precedent for future actions with significant impacts or represent a decision in principle about a future consideration?		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	● Is the preferred alternative known or reasonably expected to have potentially significant environment impacts to the quality of the human environment either individually or cumulatively over time?		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	● Will the preferred alternative likely have a significant adverse effect on ANY of the special environmental concerns? Use the Evaluation Procedure Guide Sheets to assist in this determination. This includes, but is not limited to, concerns such as cultural or historical resources, endangered and threatened species, environmental justice, wetlands, floodplains, coastal zones, coral reefs, essential fish habitat, wild and scenic rivers, clean air, riparian areas, natural areas, and invasive species.		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	● Will the preferred alternative threaten a violation of Federal, State, or local law or requirements for the protection of the environment?		
P. The information recorded above is based on the best available information:				
In the case where a non-NRCS person (i.e. a TSP) assists with planning they are to sign the first signature block and then NRCS is to sign the second block as the responsible federal agency for the planning action.				
Qualified* non-NRCS individual				
Signature (TSP if applicable)		Title	Date	
RFO or qualified* NRCS employee				
Signature (NRCS)		Title	Date	
* For more information about the requirements to be a Qualified Planner, refer to PA Supplemental Policy GM 130, Part 400.14, Supplement 5.				

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The following sections are to be completed by the Responsible Federal Official (RFO)		
Q. NEPA Compliance Finding (check one)		
The preferred alternative:		Action required
<input type="checkbox"/> CTA	1) is not a federal action where the agency has control or responsibility.	Document in "R.1" below. No additional analysis is required
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Use when applicable</i>	2) is a federal action that is categorically excluded from further environmental analysis and there are no <u>extraordinary circumstances</u> .	Document in "R.2" below. No additional analysis is required
<input type="checkbox"/> FA Programs	3) is a federal action that has been sufficiently analyzed in an existing Agency state, regional, or national NEPA document and there are no predicted <u>significant adverse environmental effects or extraordinary circumstances</u> .	Document in "R.1" below. No additional analysis is required.
<input type="checkbox"/> N/A in PA	4) is a federal action that has been sufficiently analyzed in another Federal agency's NEPA document (EA or EIS) that addresses the proposed NRCS action and its' effects and has been formally adopted by NRCS . NRCS is required to prepare and publish the agency's own Finding of No Significant Impact for an EA or Record of Decision for an EIS when adopting another agency's EA or EIS document. Note: This box is not applicable to FSA.	Contact the State Environmental Liaison for list of NEPA documents formally adopted and available for tiering. Document in "R.1" below. No additional analysis is required
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Call State Office</i>	5) is a federal action that has NOT been sufficiently analyzed or may involve predicted significant adverse environmental effects or extraordinary circumstances and may require an EA or EIS.	Contact the State Environmental Liaison. Further NEPA analysis required.
R. Rationale Supporting the Finding		
R.1 Findings Documentation	Finding 1 - CTA Planning only, all fields except Field 5 (see Finding on next page) -- OR -- Finding 3 - NRCS Programmatic NEPA document -- OR --	
R.2 Applicable Categorical Exclusion(s) (more than one may apply)	Finding 2 - Cat. Ex. Numbers 1 and 20	
<i>I have considered the effects of the alternatives on the Resource Concerns, Economic and Social Considerations, Special Environmental Concerns, and Extraordinary Circumstances as defined by Agency regulation and policy.</i>		
S. Signature of Responsible Federal Official:		
RFO - District Conservationist and/or Supervisory DC	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Signature	Title	Date

Additional notes
T&E Species - PNDI needs further action. One potential impact, waiting for response from Game Commission. DEP GP-9 required before beginning construction.

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The following sections are to be completed by the Responsible Federal Official (RFO)		
Q. NEPA Compliance Finding (check one)		
The preferred alternative:		Action required
<input type="checkbox"/>	1) is not a federal action where the agency has control or responsibility.	Document in "R.1" below. No additional analysis is required
<input type="checkbox"/>	2) is a federal action that is categorically excluded from further environmental analysis and there are no <u>extraordinary circumstances</u> .	Document in "R.2" below. No additional analysis is required
<input type="checkbox"/>	3) is a federal action that has been sufficiently analyzed in an existing Agency state, regional, or national NEPA document and there are no predicted <u>significant adverse environmental effects or extraordinary circumstances</u> .	Document in "R.1" below. No additional analysis is required.
<input type="checkbox"/>	4) is a federal action that has been sufficiently analyzed in another Federal agency's NEPA document (EA or EIS) that addresses the proposed NRCS action and its' effects and has been formally adopted by NRCS . NRCS is required to prepare and publish the agency's own Finding of No Significant Impact for an EA or Record of Decision for an EIS when adopting another agency's EA or EIS document. Note: This box is not applicable to FSA.	Contact the State Environmental Liaison for list of NEPA documents formally adopted and available for tiering. Document in "R.1" below. No additional analysis is required
<input type="checkbox"/>	5) is a federal action that has NOT been sufficiently analyzed or may involve predicted significant adverse environmental effects or extraordinary circumstances and may require an EA or EIS.	Contact the State Environmental Liaison. Further NEPA analysis required.
R. Rationale Supporting the Finding		
R.1 Findings Documentation	Finding 3 - Field 5 - NRCS Programmatic NEPA	
R.2 Applicable Categorical Exclusion(s) (more than one may apply)		
<i>I have considered the effects of the alternatives on the Resource Concerns, Economic and Social Considerations, Special Environmental Concerns, and Extraordinary Circumstances as defined by Agency regulation and policy.</i>		
S. Signature of Responsible Federal Official:		
RFO - District Conservationist and/or Supervisory DC		
Signature	Title	Date

Additional notes