

Resource Concern Checklist

PASTURE

CLIENT		LOCATION	
PLANNER		DATE	
LAND UNITS		TOOLS	

This check sheet is designed to assist planners and clients in identifying resource concerns during the planning process. The planning criteria outlined in Section III of the FOTG sets the minimum level of treatment. If a screening question is **NO**, this indicates no resource concern exists and no assessment is required. If a screening question is **YES**, the assessment must be completed to evaluate if there is a resource concern. If the Assessment is **YES**, Planning Criteria is met. If the Assessment is **NO**, the Planning Criteria is not met and a Resource Concern exists.

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions			Assessment Tools	Assessment and Determination		
	NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment	Y E S	N O		Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria YES = Meets Planning Criteria NO = Resource Concern	Y E S	N O
SOIL RESOURCES							
1. SOIL EROSION: Sheet, rill and wind *	Are permanent ground cover < 90% and slope > 10%?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ RUSLE2 ➤ WEPS 	Water erosion rate ≤T? OR Is Pasture Condition Score – Soil Erosion element score ≥ 4?		
2. SOIL EROSION: Concentrated flow erosion *	Are classic gullies present?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Field measurements ➤ Observations 	Is classic gully management adequate to stop the progression of head cutting and widening and are offsite impacts minimized by vegetation and/or structures?		
3. SOIL EROSION: Excessive bank erosion from streams, shorelines or water conveyance channels*	Are streams or shoreline on or adjacent to site? OR Is bank erosion from streams, shorelines or conveyance channels present?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ SVAP2 ➤ PCS-Pasture Condition Score 	Is PCS - streambank/shoreline erosion element score ≥ 4? (Streambanks are grazed but stable. Mix of pasture plants and native water's edge species present. Muddy livestock stream crossing(s) or pond entrance(s) not used heavily. Alternative water sites present.) AND For shorelines and water conveyance channels; are banks stable or commensurate with normal geomorphological processes? OR If present, is bank erosion caused by upstream land use and beyond the client's control?		
4. SOIL QUALITY DEGRADATION: Subsidence	Are Histisol soils present? OR Are there Histisols present exhibiting subsidence?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observations 	Is subsidence adequately managed to meet client's objectives?		
5. SOIL QUALITY DEGRADATION: Compaction	Is soil compaction a problem? AND Do activities cause soil compaction problems?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ PCS 	Is PCS – compaction element score ≥ 4?		
6. SOIL QUALITY DEGRADATION: Organic matter depletion	Is permanent ground cover < 80%?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ RUSLE2 ➤ PCS 	IS SCI>0? OR Is PCS – Live Plant cover element score ≥ 4? AND Is PCS - Plant Residue element score ≥ 4?		

Refer to the **Farmstead and Associated Agriculture Land** Resource Concern checklist for a screening and assessment of the **Air and Energy** resource concerns. If other landuses within the planning area are being evaluated, the Air and Energy resource concerns should be evaluated once for the entire planning area.

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7. SOIL QUALITY DEGRADATION: Concentration of Salts or other chemicals	Do activities cause salinity/sodicity problems?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Soil diagnostic evaluations 	Are conservation practices and managements in place to mitigate on-site effects?		
WATER RESOURCES							
8. EXCESS WATER: Ponding, flooding, seasonal high water table, seeps and drifted snow	Is excess water/snow a problem? AND Do activities cause ponding/flooding/drifted problems?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client Input ➤ Planner Observations 	Is excess water/snow managed to meet Client's objectives?		
9. INSUFFICIENT WATER: Inefficient moisture management	Is Moisture Management a problem? AND Do activities cause inefficient moisture management?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client Input ➤ Planner Observations 	Is PCS - Compaction element score ≥ 4? AND Is PCS – Live Plant Cover element score ≥ 4?		
10. INSUFFICIENT WATER: Inefficient use of irrigation water *	Is the PLU irrigated?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ FIRI-Farm Irrigation Rating Index 	FIRI ≥85% of system potential		
11. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Excess nutrients in surface and groundwater *	Are organic or inorganic nutrients applied? OR Is the PLU grazed?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ PCS ➤ Nutrient budget 	Is PCS - streambank / shoreline erosion element score ≥ 4? AND Is PCS - livestock concentration areas element score ≥ 4? AND If nutrients are applied, are they based on a soil test, tissue tests or nutrient budget?		
12. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Pesticides transported to surface and groundwaters	Are pest control chemicals applied?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ WinPST 	Are pesticides stored, handled, disposed and managed to prevent runoff, spills, leaks, and leaching? AND Are conservation practices and managements in place to minimize offsite impacts?		
13. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Excess pathogens and chemicals from manure, biosolids or compost applications*	Are potential sources of pathogens or pharmaceuticals applied on the land?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are organic materials applied, stored, and/or handled to mitigate negative impacts to water sources?		

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14. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Excessive salts in surface and groundwater	Is salt concentration a limiting factor?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are salt concentrations managed to mitigate off-site transport to surface or ground waters?		
15. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Petroleum, heavy metals and other pollutants transported to receiving waters	Do activities present the potential for contamination?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are petroleum, heavy metals or other potential pollutants stored and handled to avoid runoff or leaching?		
16. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Excessive sediment in surface waters*	Are permanent ground cover < 90% and slope > 10%? OR Are classic gullies present? OR Are streams or shoreline on or adjacent to site?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ RUSLE2 ➤ WEPS ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ SVAP2 	Do upslope treatment and buffer practices address concentrated flows to water bodies? AND SVAP2 - Bank Condition ≥ 5. AND Are livestock and vehicle water crossings stable? AND Is Water erosion rate ≤T? AND Is Wind erosion rate ≤T?		
17. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Elevated water temperature	Is there a water course on, or adjacent to the site with State Agency identified temperature impairment?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ SVAP2 ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Is SVAP2 - riparian area quantity element score ≥ 5? AND Is SVAP2 - riparian area quality element score ≥ 5? AND Is SVAP2 - canopy cover element score ≥ 6?		
	OR Is water course temperature a client concern?				OR Are existing practices in place to address water temperature?		
PLANT RESOURCES							
18. DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION: Undesirable plant productivity and health*	Do activities present the potential for undesirable plant productivity and health?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ PCS 	Is PCS - Desirable Plants element score ≥ 3? AND Is PCS – Live Plant Cover element score ≥ 4? AND Is PCS - Plant Vigor element score ≥ 4? AND Are plants adapted to the site, meet production goals and do not negatively impact other resources?		
					OR Is forage yield 75% or more of the high management yield potential for the soil planning unit?		

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19. DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION: Inadequate structure and composition	Will changes to the plant community structure or composition better support the desired ecological functions and intended land use?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Ecological Site Descriptions 	Do plant communities contain adequate diversity, composition and structure to support desired ecological functions?		
20. DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION: Excessive plant pest pressure*	Is plant productivity limited from pest pressure?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ PCS 	Is PCS – Plant Vigor element score ≥ 4 ?		
21. DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION: Wildfire hazard, excessive biomass accumulation	Is wildfire hazard a concern?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are fuel loads and fuel ladders managed to provide defensible space and meet client objectives?		
ANIMAL RESOURCES							
22. INADEQUATE HABITAT FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE- Habitat degradation	Does the Client want to actively manage for wildlife? OR Is an RMS alternative being developed?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Biology Tech Note 18 ➤ Species-specific wildlife habitat assessment tools. ➤ SVAP2 	Is TN 18 rating ≥ 0.5 AND (when surface stream present and fish habitat is a concern) Is SVAP2 – barriers to movement element score > 7 ? AND Is SVAP2 – fish habitat complexity element score > 7 ? OR Are conservation practices and management in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds?		
23. LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION LIMITATION: Inadequate feed and forage*	Is PLU grazed? (Grazing Modifier)			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ Livestock Inventory Worksheet ➤ Graze 4 Worksheet 	Are livestock forage, roughage and supplemental nutritional requirements addressed?		
24. LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION LIMITATION: Inadequate livestock shelter*	Is PLU grazed? (Grazing Modifier)			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ Livestock Inventory Worksheet ➤ Graze 4 Worksheet 	Do artificial or natural shelters meet animal health needs and client objectives?		
25. LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION LIMITATION: Inadequate livestock water*	Is PLU grazed? (Grazing Modifier)			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ Livestock Inventory Worksheet ➤ Graze 4 Worksheet 	Is water of acceptable quality and quantity adequately distributed to meet animal needs?		