

Section III – Vermont's Quality Criteria For Resource Management Systems (RMS) and Human Considerations

RMS. II. Human Considerations

These guidelines are designed as a checklist for planners to consider the human aspects in formulating and evaluating RMS.

A. Economics

1. Cost Effectiveness

There is a reasonable relationship between the cost of the system and the changes in resource conditions it brings about.

2. Financial Condition

There is an ability to acquire funds to install and maintain the system over time without destroying the financial viability of the operation.

3. Markets

There are adequate or sufficient management skills, land, materials, and equipment present or obtainable to operate and maintain the system.

4. Input Level

There are adequate or sufficient management skills, land, labor, material and equipment present or obtainable to operate and maintain the system.

5. Base Acreage

Base acreage for USDA programs is adequately maintained.

6. USDA Programs

The system would not preclude a normal degree of participation in USDA programs.

7. Sustainability

There is a reasonable expectation of long-term profitability for the operation as a whole.

B. Social Considerations

1. Public Health and Safety

Local community standards regarding public health and safety are followed.

2. Values

Social, family, religious values, peer pressure, and societal goals are considered.

3. Client Characteristics

Client characteristics, including age, planning horizon, special emphasis groups, and limited resources and otherwise are considered

4. Risk Tolerance/Aversion

The degree of risk is reasonable compared to the alternatives.

5. Tenure

Tenure (owner or renter) or time available (e.g. part-time, absentee) does not affect the ability to install, manage or maintain the system.

C. Cultural Considerations

1. Absence or Presence

Absence or presence of cultural resources must be established. The definition of cultural resources is that used by the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO).

2. Significance

Significance will be determined by qualified cultural resources personnel according to the National Register of Historic Places criteria.

3. Neutral or Positive Effects

The system can be applied to an area containing significant cultural resource if it has a neutral or positive effect on that resource.

4. Negative Effects/Mitigation Consulting parties as defined in GM 420, Part 401, agree that a system with negative effects on the cultural resources can still be applied if mitigation occurs to lessen those negative effects.