

SECTION III

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS (RMS) AND QUALITY CRITERIA

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

A RMS is a combination of conservation practices that will solve the identified resource problems to the minimum level indicated in the Quality Criteria and meet the customer's objectives. Successful resource management is dependent on the correct application of the practices that are essential to prevent resource degradation and ensure sustainable use. Other practices are used to enhance the resource management system and/or adequately treat a resource concern.

Table 2: South Dakota Conservation Planning Guide, contains the framework for development and reporting of RMS level conservation plans in South Dakota. The table is sorted by common land uses, as listed in the National Planning Procedures Handbook (NPPH). Not all conservation practices contained in Section IV of the South Dakota Technical Guide (SDTG) are included in this table, only the more commonly used ones. Additional information on conservation practices may be found in the Conservation Planning and Physical Effects (CPPE) tables, filed in Section V of the SDTG.

All resource concerns listed in the "Resource Concern" column **must** be evaluated for **each** landuse in the planning unit, as a minimum, to achieve a RMS plan. Only resource concerns that can be measured are listed as "Resource Concerns." The column labeled "Primary Practices in South Dakota" includes conservation practices that will generally address the listed resource concerns. In most cases, these will be the minimum practices contained in the conservation plan.

Conservation practices listed alphabetically in the "Secondary Practices in South Dakota" column may be used in place of one or more of the "Primary Practices" to address identified resource concerns.

They may also be used to compliment the "Primary Practices," depending on the circumstances. Use of any "Secondary Practices" is **not required**. Any practice in the SDTG, Section IV can be included in the plan.

During the inventory and evaluation phases of conservation planning, additional resource concerns may be identified that are not listed in the attached guide. It is not required that these additional resource concerns are addressed to report a RMS conservation system in the Performance and Results Measurement System (PRMS); however, it is in the best interests of both the customer and the resources to include conservation practices in the plan which address these concerns. Technical judgement will be required to determine treatment levels for resource concerns that do not have measurable quality criteria.

Guidance is provided in the column labeled "PRMS Performance Measure" for reporting planning and application progress in PRMS. All conservation systems and practices that can be reported in PRMS are identified in the table.

All Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) policy must be adhered to throughout the planning, implementation, and evaluation process (environmental compliance, documentation and reporting, etc.). All practices contained in the SDTG, Section IV, must be applied according to their specifications. The respective measurement tools will be used to measure change in the primary resource concerns. Resource concerns without an assessment tool will be considered adequately treated when the practice(s) used to treat the resource concern has been installed according to specifications developed for the practice.