

**TABLE CSP: RESOURCE CONCERNS AND QUALITY CRITERIA FOR ALL CSP WATERSHEDS IN MONTANA**

NATURAL RESOURCE CONCERN	NATIONAL QUALITY CRITERIA	STATE QUALITY CRITERIA	TOOLS FOR CSP	ELIGIBILITY (E) AND CATEGORIES (C) CRITERIA FOR CSP
<b>SOIL</b>				
<b>Soil Erosion–Sheet and Rill</b>	Sheet and rill erosion does not exceed the Soil Loss Tolerance “T”.	SAME AS NATIONAL	RUSLE2 -- Cropland	SCI ≥ 0 E
<b>Soil Erosion–Wind</b>	Wind erosion does not exceed the Soil Loss Tolerance “T” or, for plant damage, does not exceed Crop Damage Tolerances.	SAME AS NATIONAL	WEQ -- Cropland	SCI ≥ 0 E
<b>Soil Erosion–Ephemeral Gully</b>	Surface water runoff is controlled sufficiently to stabilize the small channels and prevent reoccurrence of new channels.	SAME AS NATIONAL	Ocular analysis or volume calculation.	Stabilize E
<b>Soil Erosion–Classic Gully</b>	Surface water runoff is controlled sufficiently to stop progression of headcutting and widening.	SAME AS NATIONAL	Ocular analysis or volume calculation.	Stabilize E
<b>Soil Erosion–Streambank</b>	Accelerated streambank soil loss does not exceed a level commensurate with upstream land use and normal geomorphological processes on site.	Assessment tool shows condition of stream is healthy or if off-site conditions cause the stream to be unhealthy, then landowner is not contributing to the problem.	Visual assessment or volume calculation. Stream Visual Assessment Protocol (SVAP) using first 10 criteria. Locate the national SVAP at: <a href="ftp://ftp.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov/downloads/wgam/svapfnl.pdf">ftp://ftp.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov/downloads/wgam/svapfnl.pdf</a>	≥7.5 E
<b>Soil Erosion–Irrigation-induced</b>	Irrigation-induced erosion does not exceed the Soil Loss Tolerance “T”.	SAME AS NATIONAL	Water Use Index	≥ 50 E
<b>Soil Condition–Organic Matter Depletion</b>	Soil Conditioning Index is positive.	The calculation of the Soil Condition Rating Index Value will reflect a positive soil condition for cropland.	Soil Conditioning Index improvement – will reflect a positive soil condition for cropland.	SCI ≥ 0 E







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**PLANTS**

<p><b>Plant-Condition-Productivity, Health, and Vigor</b></p>	<p>Selected plants on or planned for the site are sufficiently productive to meet or exceed client needs. For specific land uses, additional criteria apply:</p> <p><b>Cropland:</b> A healthy stand with vigorous growth produces at least 75% of site potential.</p> <p><b>Rangeland:</b> The plant community has a similarity index of at least 60% or an upward trend for similarity indices less than 60%.</p> <p><b>Pastureland:</b> Forage yields are at least 75% of high management estimates cited in FSG reports.</p> <p><b>Hayland:</b> Forage yields at least 75% of high mgt. estimates cited in Forage Suitability Groups (FSG) reports.</p> <p><b>Forestland/Agroforest:</b> Forests consist of healthy stands with vigorous growth having a stand density within 25% of optimum stocking on a stems/acre basis. Plants chosen for agroforest applications are consistent with Conservation Tree/Shrub Suitability Groups (CTSG) listings and height performance.</p>	<p><b>Cropland-A</b> healthy, vigorous stand that meets the producer's yield goals given the yield potential for the soil map unit. Organic matter percent is 50% of native condition or if less than 50%, organic matter is improving; Electrical Conductivity (EC) below 4 mmhos.</p> <p><b>Grazingland-</b> Maintaining a plant community with a biotic integrity attribute score of Slight to Moderate (2) or less.</p> <p><b>Pastureland-A</b> healthy, vigorous stand that meets the livestock nutrition and forage needs, is adapted to the site for long-term production and protects the soil. Pasture Condition Score Sheet rating of "4" for Plant Vigor.</p>	<p>SCI</p> <p>Rangeland Health Assessment. Departure from Ecological Site Description Reference State. Categories are described for the Reference State identified on the Rangeland Health Ecological Reference Worksheet. Amount of departure is classified by choice of numerical category for the field or planning area/unit using dominant ecological site: 1=None to slight, 2=Slight to moderate, 3=Moderate, 4=Moderate to extreme, 5=Extreme.</p> <p>Pasture Condition Score Sheet.</p>	<p>SCI ≥ 0      C</p> <p>Biotic Integrity attribute score of <i>Slight to Moderate</i> (2) or less.      C</p> <p>Plant Vigor rating of ≥ 4.      C</p>
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**ANIMALS**

<b>Fish and Wildlife– Inadequate Food</b>	Food availability meets the life history requirements of the species or guild of species of concern.	≥ .5 on the WHAG	WHAG ≥ .5	Yes on Self Assessment Questions.  C
<b>Fish and Wildlife– Inadequate Cover/Shelter</b>	The ecosystem or habit types support the necessary plant species in adequate diversity, abundance, and physical structure; and the connectivity of fish and wildlife cover is adequate to support, over time, the species or guild of species of concern.	≥ .5 on the WHAG	WHAG ≥ .5	Yes on Self Assessment Questions.  C
<b>Fish and Wildlife– Inadequate Water</b>	The quantity and quality of water meets the life history requirements of the species or guild of concern.	≥ .5 on the WHAG	WHAG ≥ .5	Yes on Self Assessment Questions.  C
<b>Fish and Wildlife– Inadequate Space</b>	Area is adequate to meet life history requirements of the species or guild of species of concern. (Examples: staging areas for rest and feeding, lek areas for breeding, migratory movement corridors.)	≥ .5 on the WHAG	WHAG ≥ .5	Yes on Self Assessment Questions.  C
<b>Fish and Wildlife– Habitat Fragmentation</b>	Fish and wildlife habitats are connected and are maintained sufficiently to support the species or guild of species of concern.	≥ .5 on the WHAG	WHAG ≥ .5	Yes on Self Assessment Questions.  C
<b>Fish and Wildlife– Threatened and Endangered Fish and Wildlife Species – Fish and Wildlife Species Listed or Proposed for Listing under the Endangered Species Act.</b>	Populations and/or habitats of Threatened and endangered fish and wildlife species and/or habitats they occupy are managed to maintain, increase or improve current populations, health, or sustainability.	SAME AS NATIONAL	Fish and Wildlife– Threatened and Endangered Fish and Wildlife Species – Fish and Wildlife Species Listed or Proposed for Listing under the Endangered Species Act.	C

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**ANIMALS**

<b>Fish and Wildlife – Threatened and Endangered Species, Declining Species, and Species of Concern</b>	The site includes individuals, habitat or potential habitat for one or more fish or wildlife species that the State or Tribal government with jurisdiction, or the State Technical Advisory Committee, has identified as a species of concern. This includes fish and wildlife species that have been identified as candidates for listing under the Endangered Species Act.	SAME AS NATIONAL	Fish and Wildlife – Threatened and Endangered Species, Declining Species, and Species of Concern	C
<b>Domestic Animals– Inadequate Quantities and Quality of Feed and Forage</b>	Feed and forage, including supplemental nutritional requirements, are provided to meet production goals for the kinds and classes of livestock. Native grazers are factored into the total feed and forage balance computations.	Domestic animals are provided adequate food of sufficient quality and quantity with supplements to meet their nutritional requirements.	Forage and Animal Balance Worksheet (MT-CSP-01).	C

Any other resource concerns identified must be addressed, please refer to Table I, National and State Resource Concerns and Quality Criteria, Section III Field Office Technical Guide.

**ASSESSMENT CRITERIA AND TOOL FOR EVALUATION OF HEADQUARTERS AREA** (production areas and storage areas, including dairy, poultry, feeding operations, etc.) **FOR CSP- TIER III.**

Instructions: Check off components for each criterion to document that the resource issue has been visually reviewed and is adequately addressed. Use photos as needed to document conditions, especially if adverse conditions are noted. Reviewer to sign and date and then file in operating unit folder.

Name or identifier for the Parcel or Unit \_\_\_\_\_ Field Office \_\_\_\_\_  
 Watershed \_\_\_\_\_ Legal Location (Section/Township/Range \_\_\_\_\_)

1. Runoff from confinement area in livestock handling and feed areas (AFO or CAFO) is managed; i.e. clean water is physically separated from "dirty" water. "Dirty" water from manure pit, pond, pile does not contact state water through a pipe, channel, or other direct flow means.

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A	Diversion, berm, or other physical feature separates clean water from "dirty" water.
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A	Runoff is managed from loafing and feeding area (AFO or CAFO).
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A	Runoff is managed from manure storage area (AFO or CAFO).
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A	Runoff is managed from feeding area (AFO or CAFO).
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A	Runoff is managed from feed storage area (silage bin, pit, and/or liquid tank).
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A	Livestock do not have direct contact with state surface water.
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A	No leaks observed in pipelines, manure storage, and transfer facilities or equipment.

2. Livestock mortalities are disposed of in a manner that decomposing bodies do not add to potential surface or ground water contamination or create an attractive nuisance for endangered species.

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A	Mortalities are hauled away from the parcel and are properly disposed of offsite <u>or</u> mortalities disposed of onsite are buried at least 2 feet deep and at a distance of 200 yards from headquarters, floodplain, public highways, roads, or public property.
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A	Observed no open bone yards or garbage dumps.

3. Wells are at least 100 feet from livestock confinement areas.

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A	Livestock concentration/manure storage areas are at least 100 feet from downgradient wells.
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A	All wells (used or abandoned) are properly sealed and completed.

4. Wells and surface water are located a safe distance from a fertilizer/pesticide storage site and/or mixing/loading areas including waste oil or petroleum product storage areas?

Yes    No    N/A Fertilizer/pesticide storage and preparation sites are located a safe distance from downgradient wells or surface water or sites are in a designed containment area.

Yes    No    N/A Waste oil/petroleum product storage areas are located a safe distance from down gradient wells or surface water or sites are in a designed containment area.

5. Pesticide containers are properly disposed of; i.e. triple-rinsed and stored in a safe manner.

Yes    No    N/A Empty containers are hauled away or properly disposed of on the parcel.

Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Note: Tier III requires all Yes or N/A answers. Explain all negative answers, or note corrective actions to be made prior to Tier III eligibility approval.

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