

**CALIFORNIA
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT WORKSHEET**

Date _____

Client and/or Business Name: _____

Purpose and Need Statement (Client Objective): _____

Description of Proposed Project: _____

Treatment Unit: Farm #: _____ Tract #: _____ Field #: _____

Watershed: _____

Name of Person(s) Completing Worksheet: _____

- This worksheet is used to document the effects a proposed activity may have on natural, human, and cultural resources, in compliance with NEPA and NRCS NEPA Policy (General Manual 190, Section 410).
- Effects are documented in terms of: Short Term - those that occur during installation/construction; and Long Term - those that occur during and after the activity is finished. Onsite and offsite, positive and negative, and cumulative effects must be documented. If mitigation is proposed effects must be documented.

	Environmental Effects Element	Description of Effects
I.	SOIL:	
a.	Soil surface (e.g. disruptions, destruction of structure, displacements, compaction, deposition, removal of organic material, improvements)?	
b.	Soil fertility?	
c.	Unique geologic or natural physical features (e.g. covering, modification, partial destruction, protection, etc.)?	
d.	Wind or water erosion of soils, or soil erodibility, either on or off site?	
e.	Siltation, deposition or erosion which may impact or modify the channel of a river, stream, ocean shoreline, or other water?	
f.	Exposure of people or property to geologic hazards such as landslides, mudslides, subsidence or similar hazards?	
g.	Number of acres of prime &/or unique cropland?	
h.	Other?	
II.	WATER:	
a.	Stream channel dimension, pattern, and/or slope (including down stream impacts)?	
b.	Surface water infiltration rates, drainage patterns, velocities and/or volumes?	
c.	Quality or quantity of discharge into surface waters, including, but not limited to temperature, nutrients, bacteria, or turbidity?	
d.	Quantity of ground waters through either direct additions/withdrawals or interception of aquifers?	
e.	Ground water quality?	
f.	Amount of water available for public use?	
g.	Exposure of people or property to flooding?	
h.	Other?	

	Environmental Effects Element	Description of Effects
III.	AIR:	
a.	Air quality?	
b.	Odors?	
c.	Other?	
IV	PLANTS:	
a.	Diversity of species, or numbers of any plant species (upland, riparian, wetland, etc.)?	
b.	Numbers or health & vigor of any unique, species of concern, rare, threatened or endangered plants?	
c.	Normal recruitment of existing, native species?	
d.	Other?	
V.	ANIMALS:	
a.	Diversity of species, or numbers of any species of animals (birds, mammals, fish, invertebrates)?	
b.	Unique, species of concern, rare, threatened, or endangered animals (review T&E lists)?	
c.	Native animals (migration barriers, competition from non-natives, etc.)?	
d.	Existing fish & wildlife habitat or critical habitat (nesting, spawning, etc.)?	
e.	Human activity during sensitive life stages (nesting, spawning, etc.)?	
f.	Other?	
VI	OTHER HUMAN CONSIDERATIONS:	
I.		
a.	Noise levels?	
b.	Present or planned land uses?	
c.	Aesthetic resource, scenic value, or natural area?	
d.	Recreational opportunities?	
e.	Public health and safety?	
f.	Public interest related to the site or watershed?	
g.	Economic impacts to the clients, landowners, or public?	
h.	Client well being?	
i.	Environmental justice?	
J.	Other?	

SPECIAL ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS: Check each category. If the effect is adverse or positive to any of the following, explain in the notes section or on an attachment. . Under **Present** indicate **Yes** or **No**. For **Cultural Resources** purposes, if the activity is an "Undertaking", separate primary documentation is required. For other **Concerns** supplemental documentation may be required.

Concerns	NRCS Policy Procedure	Present	Positive/Adverse Effect
Threatened or Endangered Species (To ensure actions do not jeopardize T&E species)	190 GM- 410.22 , California Endangered Species Handbook		
Natural Area (To recognize and consider impacts when planning and recommending actions adjacent to nearby Natural Areas)	190 GM 410.23		
Landscape Resource (To preserve and enhance scenic beauty or improve landscape)	190 GM 410.24		
Floodplain Management (To conserve, preserve and restore existing natural and beneficial values of floodplains)	190 GM 410.25		
Wetland (To protect, maintain and restore wetland functions and values)	190 GM 410.26, NFSA Manual		
Stream Channel Modification (To maintain and restore streams, wetlands and riparian vegetation as functioning parts of a viable ecosystem)	190 GM 410.27-28		
Riparian Area (To protect, maintain, and restore riparian areas)	190 GM 411		
Prime and Unique Farmland (To minimize unnecessary and irreversible conversion of farmland to non agricultural use)	310 GM 403		
Cultural Resources (To preserve and prevent the destruction or degradation of cultural resources, including historical archaeological sites and traditional cultural places)	420 GM 401		
Coastal Zone Management Area (To ensure conservation of coastal resources)	Federal Register 6/25/99, PL 92-583		
Wild and Scenic River (Consideration of impacts when actions affect areas adjacent to Wild and Scenic Rivers)	Federal Register 9/7/82, p. 39454		
Special Aquatic Site (To protect, restore and maintain special aquatic sites)	Federal Register 12/24/80 EPA 404(b)(1) 230.3 & 230.10		
Essential Fish Habitat (To conserve and enhance fish habitat for salmon, shellfish, marine fish)	50 CFR 600.905-930 Federal Register 12/19/97		

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

Documentation of the following questions can be completed here.

a. If wetland impacts are proposed, conduct a wetland determination and complete the NRCS minimal effects procedure per the Food Security Act Manual. Make certain that the client contacts the US Army Corps of Engineers to determine the need for a Permit under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and Section 10 Rivers and Harbors Act and the Regional Water Quality Control Board for Section 401 Clean Water Act certification.

b. If a stream, lake or other water body is involved the client should contact the California Department of Fish and Game for a Section 1600 Stream Alteration Agreement.

c. Document mitigation planned or required to avoid, minimize, or compensate for negative impacts:

d. Document communications with USFWS, NMFS, Corps of Engineers, EPA, CDFG, RWQCB, NRCS Biologist, etc.

e. Discuss any **Cumulative Effects** (beneficial or adverse):

f. Alternatives to Proposed Action that were considered (include reasons why alternative was not selected):

1. No Action
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

g. Remarks or Other Considerations:

RECOMMENDATION (check one)

Based upon the conclusions below, I find that this action will not have significant adverse impacts on the quality of the human environment. No further environmental analysis is required. The assessment indicates work should proceed.

Further analysis is necessary, including the possible need to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement or a Finding Of No Significant Impact. The landowner will be informed not to proceed until further assessment is completed.

h. Conclusions, based upon the assessment (rationale for the findings above):

Signature (Planner)	Title	Date
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Reviewed/Concurred By	Title (District Conservationist)	Date
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