

TABLE 1. NATIONAL AND STATE—RESOURCE CONCERNS, QUALITY CRITERIA, AND MEASUREMENT UNITS

NATURAL RESOURCE CONCERN	DESCRIPTION OF CONCERN	NATIONAL QUALITY CRITERIA	STATE QUALITY CRITERIA	MEASUREMENT UNITS
SOIL				
Soil Erosion—Sheet and Rill	Detachment and transport of soil particles caused by rainfall splash and runoff degrade soil quality.	Sheet and rill erosion does not exceed the Soil Loss Tolerance "T".	SAME AS NATIONAL	Tons/Acre/Year – average annual tons of erosion reduced per acre for the field or planning area/unit
Soil Erosion—Wind	Detachment and transport of soil particles caused by wind degrade soil quality and/or damage plants.	Wind erosion does not exceed the Soil Loss Tolerance "T" or, for plant damage, does not exceed Crop Damage Tolerances.	SAME AS NATIONAL	Tons/Acre/Year – average annual tons of erosion reduced per acre for the field or planning area/unit
Soil Erosion—Ephemeral Gully	Small channels caused by surface water runoff degrade soil quality and tend to increase in size. On cropland, they can be obscured by heavy tillage.	Surface water runoff is controlled sufficiently to stabilize the small channels and prevent reoccurrence of new channels.	SAME AS NATIONAL	Tons/Year – average annual tons of erosion reduced for the field or planning area/unit
Soil Erosion—Classic Gully	Deep, permanent channels caused by the convergence of surface runoff degrade soil quality. They enlarge progressively by headcutting and lateral widening.	Surface water runoff is controlled sufficiently to stop progression of headcutting and widening.	SAME AS NATIONAL	Tons/Year – average annual tons of erosion reduced for the field or planning area/unit
Soil Erosion—Streambank	Accelerated loss of streambank soils restricts land and water use and management.	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.	Tons/Year – average annual tons of erosion reduced for the planning area

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SOIL				
Soil Erosion—Shoreline	Soil is eroded along shorelines by wind and wave action, causing physical damage to vegetation, limiting land use, or creating a safety hazard.	Shoreline erosion is stabilized to a level that does not restrict the use or management of adjacent land, water or structures.	NA	Tons/Year – average annual tons of erosion reduced for the planning area
Soil Erosion—Irrigation-induced	Improper irrigation water application and equipment operation are causing soil erosion that degrades soil quality.	Irrigation-induced erosion does not exceed the Soil Loss Tolerance “T”.	SAME AS NATIONAL	Tons/Acre/Year – average annual tons of erosion reduced per acre for the field or planning area/unit
Soil Erosion—Mass Movement	Soil slippage, landslides, or slope failure, normally on hillsides, result in large volumes of soil and rock movement.	Shallow slumps, slides, or slips are prevented or minimized so that the mass movement of earth material does not exceed naturally occurring rates.	NA	Tons/Year – average annual tons of erosion reduced for the field or planning area/unit
Soil Erosion—Road, road sides and Construction Sites	Soil loss occurs on areas left unprotected during or after road building and/or construction activities.	Sites are adequately protected from soil loss during and after road building and construction activities.	NA	Tons/Year – average annual tons of erosion reduced for the field or planning area/unit
Soil Condition—Organic Matter Depletion	Soil organic matter has or will diminish to a level that degrades soil quality.	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 – positive improvement in index for the field or planning area/unit
Soil Condition – Rangeland Site Stability	The capacity to limit redistribution and loss of soil resources (including nutrients and organic matter) by wind and water.	Indicators of Rangeland Health Attribute rating for Soil/Site Stability show Slight to Moderate or less departure from Ecological Reference Sheet (ESD).	SAME AS NATIONAL	Departure from Ecological Site Description categories as 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.

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SOIL				
Soil Condition—Compaction	Compressed soil particles and aggregates caused by mechanical compaction adversely affect plant-soil-moisture relationships.	Mechanically compacted soils are renovated sufficiently to restore plant root growth and/or water movement.	SAME AS NATIONAL	Non Measurable
Soil Condition—Subsidence	Loss of volume and depth of organic soils due to oxidation caused by above normal microbial activity resulting from excessive drainage or extended drought.	The timing and regime of soil moisture is managed to attain acceptable subsidence rates.	NA	Inches/Acre/Year – average annual inches of subsidence reduced per acre for the field or planning area/unit
Soil Condition—Contaminants—Salts and Other Chemicals	Inorganic chemical elements and compounds such as salts, selenium, boron, and heavy metals restrict the desired use of the soil or exceed the soil buffering capacity.	Salinity levels cause less than a 10% decrease in plant yield. Other contaminants do not exceed plant tolerances or are below toxic levels for plants or animals.	SAME AS NATIONAL	Electroconductivity (EC) – average reduction in EC for the field or planning area/unit
Soil Condition – Contaminants: Animal Waste and Other Organics – N	Nitrogen nutrient levels from applied animal waste and other organics restrict desired use of the land.	Nitrogen nutrient application levels do not exceed soil storage/plant uptake capacities based on soil test recommendations and risk analysis results.	SAME AS NATIONAL	Pounds/Acre/Year – average annual pounds of nitrogen (N) reduced per acre for the field or planning area/unit
Soil Condition – Contaminants: Animal Waste and Other Organics – P	Phosphorus nutrient levels from applied animal waste and other organics restrict desired use of the land.	Phosphorus nutrient application levels do not exceed soil storage/plant uptake capacities based on soil test recommendations and risk analysis results.	SAME AS NATIONAL	Pounds/Acre/Year – average annual pounds of phosphorus (P) reduced per acre for the field or planning area/unit
Soil Condition – Contaminants: Animal Waste and Other Organics – K	Potassium nutrient levels from applied animal waste and other organics restrict desired use of the land.	Potassium nutrient application levels do not exceed soil storage/plant uptake capacities based on soil test recommendations and risk analysis results.	SAME AS NATIONAL	Pounds/Acre/Year – average annual pounds of potassium (K) reduced per acre for the field or planning area/unit

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SOIL				
Soil Condition – Contaminants: Commercial Fertilizer – N	Over-application of nitrogen degrades plant health and vigor or exceeds the soil capacity to retain nutrients.	Soil nutrient levels of nitrogen do not exceed crop needs based on realistic yield goals and appropriate pH levels are maintained.	SAME AS NATIONAL	Pounds/Acre/Year – average annual pounds of nitrogen (N) reduced per acre for the field or planning area/unit
Soil Condition – Contaminants: Commercial Fertilizer – P	Over-application of phosphorus degrades plant health and vigor or exceeds the soil capacity to retain nutrients.	Soil nutrient levels of phosphorus do not exceed crop needs based on realistic yield goals and appropriate pH levels are maintained.	SAME AS NATIONAL	Pounds/Acre/Year – average annual pounds of phosphorus (P) reduced per acre for the field or planning area/unit
Soil Condition – Contaminants: Commercial Fertilizer – K	Over-application of potassium degrades plant health and vigor or exceeds the soil capacity to retain nutrients.	Soil nutrient levels of potassium do not exceed crop needs based on realistic yield goals and appropriate pH levels are maintained.	SAME AS NATIONAL	Pounds/Acre/Year – average annual pounds of potassium (K) reduced per acre for the field or planning area/unit
Soil Condition– Contaminants– Residual Pesticides	Residual pesticides in the soil have an adverse effect on non-target plants and animals.	Pesticides are applied, stored, handled, and disposed of so that residues in the soil do not adversely affect non-targeted plants and animals.	SAME AS NATIONAL	Non Measurable
Soil Condition– Damage from Sediment Deposition	Sediment deposition damages or restricts land use/management or adversely affects ecological processes.	Sediment deposition is sufficiently reduced to maintain desired land use/management and ecological processes.	SAME AS NATIONAL	Acres/Year – average annual acres of sediment deposition reduced for the field or planning area/unit

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WATER				
Water Quantity – Rangeland Hydrologic Cycle	The capacity to capture, store, and safely release water from rainfall, run-on, and snowmelt (where relevant).	Indicators of Rangeland Health Attribute rating for Hydrologic Cycle is Slight to Moderate or less departure from Ecological Reference Sheet (ESD).	SAME AS NATIONAL	Departure from Ecological Site Description categories as 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.
Water Quantity– Excessive Seepage	Subsurface water oozing to the surface restricts land use and management.	Subsurface water is managed to limit periods of saturation that are unfavorable to the present or intended land use. Management complies with wetland policies.	NA	Acres/Year – average annual acres of seep reduced for the field or planning area/unit
Water Quantity– Excessive Runoff, Flooding, or Ponding	The land becomes inundated restricting land use and management.	Excess water amounts and/or rates of flow are controlled; consistent with desired present or intended land use goals and wetland policies.	NA	Non Measurable
Water Quantity– Excessive Subsurface Water	Water saturates upper soil layers restricting land use and management.	Subsurface water is managed to limit periods of saturation compatible with the present or intended land use and wetland policies.	NA	Non Measurable
Water Quantity– Drifted Snow	Wind-blown snow deposits and accumulates around and over surface structures restricting ingress, egress and conveyance of humans and animals.	Snowdrifts are reduced or prevented to allow ingress, egress, and conveyance of humans and animals.	SAME AS NATIONAL	Non Measurable
Water Quantity– Inadequate Outlets	Natural or constructed outlets are too small to remove excess water in a timely manner.	Outlets are designed, installed, upgraded or maintained to adequately convey water for present or intended uses.	SAME AS NATIONAL	Non Measurable

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WATER				
Water Quantity—Inefficient Water Use on Irrigated Land	Limited water supplies are not optimally utilized.	Land and water management is planned and coordinated to provide optimal use of natural and applied moisture.	Irrigation water is applied according to an irrigation water management plan, which considers plant consumptive use requirements, soil water holding capacity, and minimizes losses to surface and groundwater to the extent feasible. A minimum on-farm seasonal irrigation efficiency of 30% will be met regardless of the type of system.	Acre-Inches/Acre/Year – average annual acre-inches of water per acre used more beneficially for the field or planning area/unit
Water Quantity—Inefficient Water Use on Non-irrigated Land	Natural moisture is not optimally utilized.	Management provides optimum use of natural moisture for the present or intended land use.	NA	Acre-Inches/Acre/Year – average annual acre-inches of water per acre used more beneficially for the field or planning area/unit
Water Quantity—Reduced Capacity of Conveyances by Sediment Deposition	Sediment deposits in ditches, canals, culverts, and other water conveyances reduce the desired flow capacity.	Conveyance structures are upgraded or maintained to adequately convey water for present or intended uses.	NA	Cubic yards – volume of sediment in cubic yards removed to maintain water conveyances for the field or planning area/unit
Water Quantity—Reduced Storage of Water Bodies by Sediment Accumulation	Sediment deposits in water bodies reduce the desired volume capacity.	Water bodies and contributing source areas are treated to allow sufficient water storage for present and intended uses.	NA	Acre-Inches/Year – average annual reduction in acre-inches in sediment deposition within water bodies for the field or planning area/unit
Water Quantity—Aquifer Overdraft	Water withdrawals exceed the safe yield for the aquifer.	Land and water management are coordinated to balance aquifer recharge and withdrawals to maintain the safe yield for the aquifer.	NA	Acre-Inches/Year – average annual reduction in acre-inches of groundwater overdraft for the field or planning area/unit

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WATER				
Water Quantity—Insufficient Flows in Water Courses	Water flows are not consistently available in sufficient quantities to support ecological processes and land use and management.	Authorized uses and management of water are coordinated to minimize the impacts on watercourse flows.	SAME AS NATIONAL	Non Measurable
Water Quality—Harmful Levels of Pesticides in Groundwater	Residues resulting from the use of pest control chemicals degrade groundwater quality.	Pesticides are applied, stored, handled, disposed of, and managed so that groundwater uses are not adversely affected.	NA	Non Measurable
Water Quality—Excessive Nutrients and Organics in Groundwater	Pollution from natural or human induced nutrients such as N, P, and S (including animal and other wastes) degrades groundwater quality.	Nutrients and organics are stored, handled, disposed of, and applied such that groundwater uses are not adversely affected.	SAME AS NATIONAL	Non Measurable
Water Quality—Excessive Salinity in Groundwater	Pollution from salts such as Ca, Mg, Na, K, HCO ₃ , CO ₃ , Cl, and SO ₄ degrades groundwater quality.	Salts are stored, handled, disposed of, applied, and managed such that groundwater uses are not adversely affected.	NA	Electroconductivity (EC) – average reduction in EC for the field or planning area/unit
Water Quality—Harmful Levels of Heavy Metals in Groundwater	Natural or human induced metal pollutants present in toxic amounts degrade groundwater quality.	Materials containing heavy metals are stored, handled, disposed of, applied, and managed such that groundwater uses are not adversely affected.	NA	Non Measurable
Water Quality—Harmful Levels of Pathogens in Groundwater	Kinds and numbers of viruses, protozoa, and bacteria are present at a level that degrades groundwater quality.	Materials that harbor pathogens are stored, handled, disposed of, applied, and managed such that groundwater uses are not adversely affected.	NA	Non Measurable
Water Quality—Harmful Levels of Petroleum in Groundwater	Fuel, oil, gasoline, and other hydrocarbons present in toxic amounts degrade groundwater quality.	Petroleum products are used, stored, handled, disposed of, and managed such that groundwater uses are not adversely affected.	NA	Non Measurable
Water Quality—Harmful Levels of Pesticides in Surface Water	Pest control chemicals present in toxic amounts degrade surface water quality.	Pesticides are applied, stored, handled, disposed of, and managed such that surface water uses are not adversely affected	SAME AS NATIONAL	Non Measurable

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WATER				
Water Quality—Excessive Nutrients and Organics in Surface Water	Pollution from natural or human induced nutrients such as N, P, and S (Including animal and other wastes) degrades surface water quality.	Nutrients and organics are stored, handled, disposed of, and managed such that surface water uses are not adversely affected.	SAME AS NATIONAL	Non Measurable
Water Quality—Excessive Suspended Sediment and Turbidity in Surface Water	Excessive concentrations of mineral or organic particles, algae, or organic stains degrade surface water quality.	Delivery or suspension of mineral and organic particles, and excessive algae growth or organic stains, are managed so that surface water uses are not adversely affected.	NA	Non-Measurable
Water Quality—Excessive Salinity in Surface Water	Pollution from salts such as Ca, Mg, Na, K, HCO ₃ , CO ₃ , Cl, and SO ₄ degrades surface water quality.	Salts are stored, handled, disposed of, applied, and managed such that surface water uses are not adversely affected.	NA	Electroconductivity (EC) – average reduction in EC for the field or planning area/unit
Water Quality—Harmful Levels of Heavy Metals in Surface Water	Natural or human induced metal pollutants are present in toxic amounts that degrade surface water quality.	Materials containing heavy metals are stored, handled, disposed of, applied, and managed such that surface water uses are not adversely affected.	NA	Non Measurable
Water Quality—Harmful Temperatures of Surface Water	Undesired thermal conditions degrade surface water quality.	Use and management of land and water are coordinated to minimize impacts on surface water temperatures.	NA	Non Measurable
Water Quality—Harmful Levels of Pathogens in Surface Water	Kinds and numbers of viruses, protozoa, and bacteria are present at a level that degrades surface water quality.	Materials that harbor pathogens are stored, handled, disposed of, applied, and managed such that surface water uses are not adversely affected.	NA	Non Measurable
Water Quality—Harmful Levels of Petroleum in Surface Water	Fuel, oil, gasoline, and other hydrocarbons present in toxic amounts degrade surface water quality.	Petroleum products are used, stored, handled, and disposed of such that groundwater uses are not adversely affected.	NA	Non Measurable

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WATER				
Water Quality – Colorado River Excessive Salinity.	Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Program (CRBSC) tracks effects of improved irrigation techniques to reduce salt entering Colorado River waters that eventually flow into Mexico.		NA	Tons/Acre/Year unit – average annual tons of salt entering Colorado River waters reduced per acre for the field or planning area/unit

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AIR				
Air Quality– Particulate matter less than 10 micrometers in diameter (PM 10)	Particulate matter less than 10 micrometers in diameter are suspended in the air causing potential health hazards to humans and animals.	Land use and management operations reduce PM-10 emissions into the atmosphere and comply with requirements of the State or Federal Implementation Plan and all applicable Federal, Tribal, State, and local regulations.	SAME AS NATIONAL	Pounds/Year – average annual pounds of reduced PM-10 emissions for the field or planning area/unit
Air Quality– Particulate matter less than 2.5 micrometers in diameter (PM 2.5)	Particulate matter less than 2.5 micrometers in diameter are suspended in the air causing potential health hazards to humans and animals.	Land use and management operations reduce PM-2.5 emissions into the atmosphere and comply with requirements of the State or Federal Implementation Plan and all applicable Federal, Tribal, State, and local regulations.	SAME AS NATIONAL	Pounds/Year – average annual pounds of reduced PM-2.5 emissions for the field or planning area/unit
Air Quality– Excessive Ozone	High concentrations of ozone (O ₃) are adversely affecting human health, reducing plant yields, and leading to the creation of smog.	Land use and management operations reduce ozone precursors and comply with requirements of the State or Federal Implementation Plan and all applicable Federal, Tribal, State, and local regulations.	NA	Pounds/Year – average annual pounds of reduced PM-10 emissions for the field or planning area/unit
Air Quality– Excessive Greenhouse Gas– CO₂ (carbon dioxide)	Increased CO ₂ concentrations are adversely affecting ecosystem processes.	Land use and management operations reduce CO ₂ emissions into the atmosphere and comply with requirements of the State or Federal Implementation Plan and all applicable Federal, Tribal, State, and local regulations.	NA	Non Measurable
Air Quality– Excessive Greenhouse Gas– N₂O (nitrous oxide)	Increased N ₂ O concentrations are adversely affecting ecosystem processes.	Land use and management operations reduce N ₂ O emissions into the atmosphere and comply with requirements of the State or Federal Implementation Plan and all applicable Federal, Tribal, State, and local regulations.	NA	Non Measurable

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AIR				
Air Quality– Excessive Greenhouse Gas– CH₄ (methane)	Increased CH ₄ concentrations are adversely affecting ecosystem processes.	Land use and management operations reduce CH ₄ emissions into the atmosphere and comply with requirements of the State or Federal Implementation Plan and all applicable Federal, Tribal, State, and local regulations.	NA	Non Measurable
Air Quality– Ammonia (NH₃)	Animal waste and inorganic commercial fertilizers emit ammonia that contributes to odor, is a PM 2.5 precursor, and contributes to acid rain.	Land use and management operations reduce NH ₃ emissions into the atmosphere and comply with requirements of all applicable Federal, Tribal, State, and local regulations.	NA	Pounds/Year – average annual pounds of reduced NH ₃ emissions for the field or planning area/unit
Air Quality– Chemical Drift	Materials applied for pest control drift downwind and contaminate/injure non-targeted fields, crops, soils, water, animals and humans.	Land use and management operations reduce chemical drift into the atmosphere and comply with all applicable Federal, Tribal, State, and local regulations, and applicable label directions.	SAME AS NATIONAL	Non Measurable
Air Quality– Objectionable Odors	Land use and management operations produce offensive smells.	Odor-producing facilities and activities are planned and sited to mitigate potential nuisance impacts and meets all applicable federal, tribal, state, and local regulations.	NA	Non Measurable
Air Quality– Reduced Visibility	Sight distance is impaired due to airborne particles causing unsafe conditions and impeded viewing of natural vistas especially in Class I viewing areas (primarily national parks and monuments).	Land use and management operations reduce particle emission into the atmosphere and comply with all applicable Federal, Tribal, State, and local regulations, including State and local smoke and/or burn management plans.	SAME AS NATIONAL	Non Measurable
Air Quality– Undesirable Air Movement	Wind velocities (too little or too much) reduce animal or plant productivity, impact human comfort and increase energy consumption.	Devices and practices are sited and planned to mitigate excess or deficient air movement.	SAME AS NATIONAL	Non Measurable

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AIR				
Air Quality—Adverse Air Temperature	Air temperatures (too cold or too hot) reduce animal or plant productivity, impact human comfort and increase energy consumption.	Devices and practices are planned and sited to mitigate temperature extremes.	NA	Non Measurable

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PLANTS				
Plants Not Adapted or Suited	Plants are not adapted and/or suited to site conditions or client objectives.	<p>Selected plants are adapted to the soil and climatic conditions or the site is modified to make it suitable for the desired plants. Plants are sustainable, do not negatively impact other resources, and meet client objectives. For specific land uses, additional criteria apply:</p> <p>Cropland: A healthy stand with vigorous growth. Yields 75% of client expectations.</p> <p>Rangeland: Plants on or planned for the site are listed in applicable Ecological Site Descriptions (ESD).</p> <p>Pastureland: Plants on or planned for the site have a site adaptation score greater than 3 using Pasture Condition Scoring (PCS) and are listed in applicable Forage Suitability Groups (FSG) reports.</p> <p>Hayland: Plants on or planned for the site are listed in applicable Forage Suitability Groups (FSG) reports.</p> <p>Forestland/Agroforest: Plants on or planned for the site are listed in Ecological Site Descriptions (ESD).</p>	NA	Non Measurable

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PLANTS				
<p>Plant-Condition-Productivity, Health, and Vigor</p>	<p>Plants do not produce the yields, quality, and soil cover to meet client objectives.</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>Cropland: A healthy stand with vigorous growth produces at least 75% of site potential.</p> <p>Rangeland: The plant community has a similarity index of at least 60% or an upward trend for similarity indices less than 60%.</p> <p>Pastureland: Forage yields are at least 75% of high management estimates cited in FSG reports.</p> <p>Hayland: Forage yields at least 75% of high mgt. estimates cited in Forage Suitability Groups (FSG) reports.</p> <p>Forestland/Agroforest: 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>Cropland—A 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>Grazingland—Maintaining a plant community with a Biotic Integrity Attribute Score of slight to moderate (2) or less.</p> <p>Pastureland—A 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>Non Measurable</p>

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PLANTS				
<p>Plant-Condition-Productivity, Health and Vigor (CONTINUED)</p>	<p>Plants do not produce the yields, quality, and soil cover to meet client objectives.</p>		<p>Hayland—A healthy, vigorous stand of desired, adapted species that meets the producer’s yield goals given the yield potential for the species for the given forage suitability group, or species listed on the Montana Desired Species List.</p> <p>Forestland—Forest overstory stocking levels are within 25% of the “D+X” spacing guide (See Practice 666—Forest Stand Improvement) or equivalent for the particular site and stand composition; trees within the stand are uniformly distributed. Understory plant community is comprised of 50% or more, by weight, of expected species for the site and is proportionate with over story canopy. Bare mineral soil comprises 25% or less of ground surface area.</p>	<p>Non Measurable</p>

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PLANTS				
Plant Condition—Threatened or Endangered Plant Species: Plant Species Listed or Proposed for Listing under the Endangered Species Act.	The site includes individuals, habitat or potential habitat for one or more plant species listed or proposed for listing under the Endangered Species Act.	Populations and/or habitats of Threatened and Endangered plant species are managed to maintain, increase or improve current populations, health, or sustainability.	SAME AS NATIONAL	Non Measurable
Plant Condition – Threatened or Endangered Plant Species, Declining Species, Species of Concern.	The site includes individuals, habitat or potential habitat for one or more plant species that the State or Tribal government with jurisdiction, or the State Technical Committee, has identified as a species of concern. This includes plant species which have been identified as candidates for listing under the Endangered Species Act.	Populations and/or habitats of plant species of concern are managed to maintain, increase or improve current populations, health, or sustainability.	SAME AS NATIONAL	Non Measurable
Plant Condition—Noxious and Invasive Plants	The site has noxious or invasive plants present.	The site is managed to control noxious and invasive plants and to minimize their spread.	SAME AS NATIONAL FOR PLANTS LISTED ON MONTANA’S NOXIOUS WEED LIST.	Non Measurable
Plant Condition—Forage Quality and Palatability	Plants do not have adequate nutritive value or palatability for the intended use.	Forage plants are managed to produce the desired nutritive value and palatability for the intended use.	SAME AS NATIONAL	Non Measurable
Plant Condition—Wildfire Hazard	The kinds and amounts of fuel loadings (plant biomass) pose risks to human safety, structures, and resources should wildfire occur.	Fuel loadings are reduced and/or isolated to meet client needs in minimizing the risk and incidence of wildfire.	SAME AS NATIONAL	Acres/Year – average annual acres protected from wildfire for the field of planning area/unit

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ANIMALS				
Fish and Wildlife—Inadequate Food	Quantity and quality of food are unavailable to meet the life history requirements of the species or guild of species of concern.	Food availability meets the life history requirements of the species or guild of species of concern.	Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Guide Index is 0.5 or greater.	Non Measurable; based on habitat evaluation guide
Fish and Wildlife—Inadequate Cover/Shelter	Cover/shelter for the species or guild of species of concern is unavailable or inadequate. This includes lack of hiding, thermal, and/or refuge cover.	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.	Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Guide Index is 0.5 or greater.	Non Measurable; based on habitat evaluation guide
Fish and Wildlife—Inadequate Water	The quantity and quality of water is unacceptable for the species or guild of concern.	The quantity and quality of water meets the life history requirements of the species or guild of concern.	Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Guide Index is 0.5 or greater.	Non Measurable; based on habitat evaluation guide
Fish and Wildlife—Inadequate Space	Lack of required areas disrupts the life history of the species or guild of species of concern.	Area is adequate to meet life history requirements of the species or guild of species of concern. (Examples: staging areas for rest and feeding, lekking areas for breeding, migratory movement corridors.)	Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Guide Index is 0.5 or greater.	Non Measurable; based on habitat evaluation guide
Fish and Wildlife—Habitat Fragmentation	Habitat has insufficient structure, extent, and connectivity to provide ecological functions and/or achieve management objectives.	Fish and wildlife habitats are connected and are maintained sufficiently to support the species or guild of species of concern.	Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Guide Index is 0.5 or greater.	Non Measurable; based on habitat evaluation guide
Fish and Wildlife—Imbalance Among and Within Populations	Populations are not in proportion to available quantities and qualities of food (plants, predator/prey), cover/shelter, water, and space and other life history requirements.	Land and water use and management are consistent with direct population management activities conducted by fish and wildlife agencies.	NA	Non Measurable; based on habitat evaluation guide

TABLE 1. NATIONAL AND STATE—RESOURCE CONCERNS, QUALITY CRITERIA, AND MEASUREMENT UNITS

NATURAL RESOURCE CONCERN	DESCRIPTION OF CONCERN	NATIONAL QUALITY CRITERIA	STATE QUALITY CRITERIA	MEASUREMENT UNITS
ANIMALS				
Fish and Wildlife–Threatened and Endangered Fish and Wildlife Species – Fish and Wildlife Species Listed or Proposed for Listing under the Endangered Species Act.	The site includes individuals, habitat or potential habitat for one or more fish or wildlife species listed or proposed for listing under the Endangered Species Act.	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	Non Measurable
Fish and Wildlife – Threatened and Endangered Species, Declining Species, and Species of Concern	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.	Populations and/or habitats of fish and wildlife species of concern are managed to maintain, increase or improve current populations, health, or sustainability.	SAME AS NATIONAL	Non Measurable
Domestic Animals–Inadequate Quantities and Quality of Feed and Forage	Total feed and forage are insufficient to meet the nutritional and production needs of the kinds and classes of livestock.	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.	Non Measurable
Domestic Animals–Inadequate Shelter	Livestock are not protected sufficiently to meet the production goals for the kinds and classes of livestock	Artificial and/or natural shelter is provided to meet production goals for the kinds and classes of livestock.	Domestic animals are provided adequate shelter and cover.	Non Measurable

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ANIMALS				
Domestic Animals—Inadequate Stock Water	The quantity, quality and distribution of drinking water are insufficient to meet the production goals for the kinds and classes of livestock.	Sufficient water of acceptable quality is provided and adequately distributed to meet production goals for the kinds and classes of livestock. To reduce potential for water contamination, watering facilities are constructed or modified to minimize mortality to wildlife.	Domestic animals are provided sufficient quantity and quality of water to meet their daily needs.	Non Measurable
Domestic Animals— Stress and Mortality	Animals exhibit illness or death from disease, parasites, insects, poisonous plants, or other factors.	Land and water use and management are consistent with activities conducted to alleviate stress and mortality factors.	NA	Non Measurable

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NO INFORMATION ON THIS PAGE.