

## Appendix A: Conservation Planning Map Requirements.

Required maps stored for each Toolkit Customer will include:

- 1) Conservation Plan Map
- 2) Soils Map / Ecological Site Map
- 3) Land Ownership map if there are multiple ownerships (can be included on plan map)
- 4) HEL soils map for all cropland (showing sandy or non-sandy HEL)

The conservation plan map shows the land units that are “planned” for the operation. A digitized map of existing (benchmark) land units may be created and maintained in the plan benchmark folder if it is needed by the client, or helpful in documenting the conservation plan.

Optional maps stored for each Toolkit customer include, but are not limited to:

- 1) Resource Inventory Map showing the location of resource concerns
- 2) Location Map
- 3) Grazing Rotation System / Livestock Water Distribution Maps
- 4) Soil Limitation / Hazard Maps

Each required map will consist of the following required map elements which come from the National Planning Procedures Handbook (NPPH):

Title Block with the following:

- Title (e.g. Conservation Plan Map)
- Prepared with assistance from USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Name of Conservation District, County, and State
- Scale of the map
- Data needed to locate specific area (e.g. township, range, section numbers)
- Date prepared
- North Arrow

Body of map with the following:

- Boundary lines of the planning unit outlined
- Field boundaries
- Land use and acres for each land unit (3 row labels: Land Unit Number, Acres, Land Use)
- Appropriate map symbols and map symbol legend

Land unit designations must agree with the client land use stored electronically.

All structural practices shall be digitized, attributed, and symbolized on the Conservation Plan Map using the Standard for Geospatial Symbology (NRCS 2004). Conservation practices reported by number shall be digitized as point practices. Conservation practices reported by length shall be digitized as line practices. Conservation practices reported by area shall be digitized as polygons. Vegetative practices and other practices that will occur on only a portion of the land unit shall be also digitized.

The Soils Map (*symbolized by unique value, musym*) and HEL soils map is required for plans on cropland. The Ecological Site Map (*created through Soil Data Viewer and symbolized by unique value, Ecological Site Name*) is required for plans on rangeland. These maps will be labeled with the map unit symbol or ecological site name in the body of the map.

Plan maps that show planned conservation practices will be saved in the Toolkit Customer Folder plan maps folder as an Acrobat (.pdf) file under the Plan\_Maps, Plan folder. Soil maps and other resource maps shall be saved in the Resource\_Maps folder.

It is not required that the scale of the map be at a specific scale, or that the maps be at a specific page size. However, as a general rule, cropland plan maps should be on 8.5 x 11 inch paper, with an ortho base, at a 1:7920 scale. Rangeland plan maps should be a larger size (36 inch plotter map), with a topo base, at a 1:24,000 scale.