

Resource Concern Checklist

FOREST

CLIENT		LOCATION	
PLANNER		DATE	
LAND UNITS		TOOLS	

This check sheet is designed to assist planners and clients in identifying resource concerns during the planning process. The planning criteria in Section III of the FOTG sets the minimum level of treatment needed. If a screening question is **NO**, this indicates no resource concern exists and no assessment is required. If a screening question is **YES**, the assessment must be completed to evaluate if there is a resource concern. If the Assessment is **YES**, Planning Criteria is met. If the Assessment is **NO**, the Planning Criteria is not met and a Resource Concern exists.

Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions			Assessment Tools	Assessment and Determination		
	NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment	YES	NO		Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria YES = Meets Planning Criteria NO = Resource Concern	YES	NO
SOILS RESOURCES							
1. SOIL EROSION: Sheet, rill and wind *	Is soil surface organic residue cover < 80%?			➤ Visual inspection	Is the site stable and without visible signs of erosion?		
2.SOIL EROSION: Concentrated flow erosion *	Are classic gullies present?			➤ Field measurements ➤ Planner observation	Is classic gully management adequate to stop the progression of head cutting and widening and are offsite impacts minimized by vegetation and/or structures?		
3.SOIL EROSION: Excessive bank erosion from streams, shorelines or water conveyance channels	Are streams or shoreline on or adjacent to site?			➤ SVAP2	For shorelines and water conveyance channels; Are banks stable or commensurate with normal geomorphological processes? AND For streambanks; Is SVAP2 bank condition element score ≥5?		
	Is bank erosion from streams, shorelines or conveyance channels present?				OR If present, is bank erosion caused by upstream land use and beyond the client's control?		
4. SOIL QUALITY DEGRADATION: Subsidence	Are Histisol soils present?			➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation	Is subsidence adequately managed to meet client's objectives?		
	If Histosols are present, are the soils exhibiting subsidence?						
5. SOIL QUALITY DEGRADATION: Compaction	Is soil compaction a problem? AND Do activities cause soil compaction problems?			➤ Soil Quality Test Kit ➤ Observation of soil and plant condition ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation	Is compaction managed to meet Client's production and management objectives?		
6. SOIL QUALITY DEGRADATION: Organic matter depletion	Is soil organic matter depletion a problem?			➤ Forest Health Assessment	Does ground cover meet state criteria specific to ecological site?		
	AND Do activities cause soil organic matter depletion?				OR Is soil organic matter managed to meet Client objectives?		

Refer to the **Farmstead and Associated Agriculture Land** Resource Concern checklist for a screening and assessment of the **Air and Energy** resource concerns. If other landuses within the planning area are being evaluated, the Air and Energy resource concerns should be evaluated once for the entire planning area.

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WATER RESOURCES							
8. EXCESS WATER: Ponding, flooding, seasonal high water table, seeps and drifted snow	Is excess water/snow a problem? AND Do activities cause ponding/flooding/driftin g problems?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client Input ➤ Planner observation 	Is excess water/snow managed to meet Client's objectives?		
9. INSUFFICIENT WATER: Inefficient moisture management	Is Moisture Management a problem? AND Do activities cause inefficient moisture management?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client Input ➤ Planner observation 	Are runoff and evapotranspiration levels minimized to meet Client's management objectives?		
10. INSUFFICIENT WATER: Inefficient use of irrigation water *	Is the PLU irrigated?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ FIRI-Farm Irrigation Rating Index 	Is FIRI ≥ 85% of system potential?		
11. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Excess nutrients in surface and groundwater	Are organic or inorganic nutrients applied? OR Is the PLU grazed? OR Are there confined livestock areas?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Nutrient budget 	If nutrients are applied, are they based on a soil test, tissue tests or nutrient budget? AND Are conservation practices and managements in place to minimize offsite impacts?		
12. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Pesticides transported to surface and groundwaters	Are pest control chemicals applied?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ WinPST 	Are pesticides stored, handled, disposed and managed to prevent runoff, spills, leaks, and leaching? AND Are conservation practices and managements in place to minimize offsite impacts?		
13. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Excess pathogens and chemicals from manure, biosolids or compost applications	Are potential sources of pathogens or pharmaceuticals applied on the land?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are organic materials applied, stored, and/or handled to mitigate negative impacts to water sources?		

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14. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Excessive salts in surface and groundwater	Is salt concentration a limiting factor?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are salt concentrations managed to mitigate off-site transport to surface or ground waters?		
15. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Petroleum, heavy metals and other pollutants transported to receiving waters	Do activities present the potential for contamination?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are petroleum, heavy metals or other potential pollutants stored and handled to avoid runoff or leaching?		
16. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Excessive sediment in surface waters*	Are there untreated sources of erosion? AND Are streams or shoreline on or adjacent to site?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ SVAP2 	Do upslope treatment and buffer practices address concentrated flows to water bodies? AND Are heavy use areas stable? AND SVAP2 - bank condition ≥ 5?		
17. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Elevated water temperature	Is there a water course on or adjacent to the site with State Agency identified temperature impairment?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ SVAP2 	Is SVAP2 - riparian area quality element score ≥ 5? AND Is SVAP2 - riparian area quantity quality element score ≥ 5? AND Is SVAP2 - canopy cover element score ≥ 6?		
	Is water course temperature a client concern?				OR Are existing practices in place to address water temperature?		
PLANT RESOURCES							
18. DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION: Undesirable plant productivity and health	Are plant production and health a client concern? OR Is an RMS alternative being developed?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Forest inventory plots ➤ Transect forms ➤ Current Illinois Forest Management Plan 	Are forest species adapted to site? AND Do composition and stand density meet Client's objectives and production goals?		
					OR Does Forest consist of healthy stands with vigorous growth having a "fully stocked" stand condition of desirable trees?		
19. DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION: Inadequate structure and composition	Will changes to the plant community structure or composition better support the desired ecological functions and intended land use?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Ecological Site Descriptions 	Do plant communities contain adequate diversity, composition and structure to support desired ecological functions?		
20. DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION: Excessive plant pest pressure*	Is plant productivity limited from pest pressure?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Is pest damage to plants below economic or environmental thresholds or client-identified criteria? AND Are plant pests, including noxious and invasive species managed to meet client objectives?		

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21. DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION: Wildfire hazard, excessive biomass accumulation	Is wildfire hazard a concern?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation 	Are fuel loads and fuel ladders managed to provide defensible space and meet client objectives?		
ANIMAL RESOURCES							
22. INADEQUATE HABITAT FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE- Habitat degradation	Does the Client want to actively manage for wildlife?			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Biology Tech Note 18 ➤ Species-specific wildlife habitat assessment tools. ➤ SVAP2 	Is TN 18 rating ≥ 0.5 ? AND (when surface stream present and fish habitat is a concern) Is SVAP2 – barriers to movement element score > 7 ? AND Is SVAP2 – fish habitat complexity element score > 7 ?		
	OR Is an RMS alternative being developed?				OR Are conservation practices and management in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds?		
23. LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION LIMITATION: Inadequate feed and forage	Is PLU Grazed? (Grazing Modifier)			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ Livestock Inventory Worksheet ➤ Graze 4 Worksheet 	Are livestock forage, roughage and supplemental nutritional requirements addressed?		
24. LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION LIMITATION: Inadequate livestock shelter	Is PLU Grazed? (Grazing Modifier)			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ Livestock Inventory Worksheet ➤ Graze 4 Worksheet 	Do artificial or natural shelters meet animal health needs and client objectives?		
25. LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION LIMITATION: Inadequate livestock water	Is PLU Grazed? (Grazing Modifier)			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Client input ➤ Planner observation ➤ Livestock Inventory Worksheet ➤ Graze 4 Worksheet 	Is water of acceptable quality and quantity adequately distributed to meet animal needs?		
NOTES:							