

### SECTION III

### TECHNICAL GUIDE

**TABLE CSP: RESOURCE CONCERNS AND QUALITY CRITERIA FOR CSP WATERSHEDS IN LOUISIANA - FY06**

NATURAL RESOURCE CONCERN	NATIONAL QUALITY CRITERIA	STATE QUALITY CRITERIA	TOOLS FOR CSP	ELIGIBILITY 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>RUSLE2</li> </ul>	SCI > 0 and Soil Loss T or less
<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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Visual assessment</li> <li>Volume calculation.</li> </ul>	Stabilize
<b>Soil Erosion– Classic Gully</b>	Surface water runoff is controlled sufficiently to stop progression of headcutting and widening.	SAME AS NATIONAL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Visual assessment</li> <li>Volume calculation</li> <li>Aerial photo trend analysis.</li> </ul>	Stabilize
<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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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/wqam/svapfnl.pdf">ftp://ftp.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov/downloads/wqam/svapfnl.pdf</a></li> <li>Aerial photo trend analysis</li> <li>Engineering Field Handbook, Chapter 16</li> </ul>	≥7.5
<b>Soil Condition– Organic Matter Depletion</b>	Soil Conditioning Index is positive.	SAME AS NATIONAL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>RUSLE2</li> <li>Soil Quality Kit</li> </ul>	SCI > 0
<b>Soil Condition – Contaminants: Animal Waste and Other Organics – N</b>	Nitrogen nutrient application levels do not exceed soil storage/plant uptake capacities based on soil test recommendations and risk assessment results.	SAME AS NATIONAL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nutrient Management Plan/Soil Test</li> <li>Phosphorus Index</li> </ul>	Current soil test no older than 3 years from a recognized soils laboratory and annual manure/litter analysis

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<b>SOIL</b>				
<b>Soil Condition – Contaminants: Animal Waste and Other Organics – P</b>	Phosphorus nutrient application levels do not exceed soil storage/plant uptake capacities based on soil test recommendations and risk assessment results.	SAME AS NATIONAL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nutrient Management Plan/Soil Test</li> <li>• Phosphorus Index</li> </ul>	Current soil test no older than 3 years from a recognized soils laboratory and annual manure/litter analysis

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<b>WATER</b>				
<b>Water Quantity– Inefficient Water Use on Irrigated Land</b>	Land and water management is planned and coordinated to provide optimal use of natural and applied moisture.	SAME AS NATIONAL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Irrigation Enhancement Index Assessment Tool (IEI)</li> </ul>	≥ 50
<b>Water Quality- Harmful Levels of Pesticides in Surface Water</b>	Pesticides are applied, stored, handled, disposed of, and managed such that surface water uses are not adversely affected	SAME AS NATIONAL- Apply pesticides according to label instructions and LSU Agricultural Center’s recommendations and implement mitigation practices as applicable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WIN-PST (Windows Pesticide Screening Tool – USDA/NRCS)</li> <li>State Water Quality Standards</li> <li>Water Quality Index Tool (WQIT)</li> </ul>	Yes on WQIT
<b>Water Quality– Excessive Nutrients and Organics in Groundwater</b>	Nutrients and organics are stored, handled, disposed of, and applied such that groundwater uses are not adversely affected.	SAME AS NATIONAL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water Quality Index Tool (WQIT)</li> </ul>	Yes on WQIT
<b>Water Quality– Excessive Nutrients and Organics in Surface Water</b>	Nutrients and organics are stored, handled, disposed of, and managed such that surface water uses are not adversely affected.	SAME AS NATIONAL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Phosphorus Index</li> <li>State Water Quality Standards</li> <li>Water Quality Index Tool (WQIT)</li> </ul>	Yes on WQIT
<b>Water Quality- Excessive Suspended Sediment and Turbidity in Surface Water</b>	Movement of mineral and organic particles is managed such that surface water uses are not adversely affected	Water is held for 15 days after soil disturbing activities in rice fields	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Visual assessment</li> <li>State Water Quality Standards</li> <li>Water Quality Index Tool (WQIT)</li> </ul>	Yes on WQIT

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<b>PLANTS</b>				
<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>Pastureland:</b> Forage yields are at least 75% of high management estimates cited in FSG Reports, or Soil Survey Report.</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</b>—SAME AS NATIONAL</p> <p><b>Pastureland</b>—SAME AS NATIONAL</p> <p><b>Hayland</b>—SAME AS NATIONAL. Plants chosen for agroforest applications are consistent with Conservation Tree and Shrub Groups (CTSG) listings or soil interpretation records and height performance.</p> <p><b>Forestland/Agroforest</b>—SAME AS NATIONAL</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Client Interview</li> <li>• National Range and Pasture Handbook</li> <li>• Forage Suitability Groups (FSG)</li> <li>• Pasture Condition Scoring</li> <li>• Stocking measurement for the tree stands</li> <li>• Conservation Tree and Shrub Groups (CTSG)</li> <li>• Producer answers in the National CSP Self-Assessment book.</li> </ul>	<p>Requirements for Tier I.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Animal demand and forage supply is in balance, or within 10% of animal demand amount.</li> <li>2. Livestock are properly distributed to allow for healthy plant communities.</li> <li>3. Change in the timing of use for pastures/fields/ grazing units within the identified grazing plan.</li> <li>4. Manages livestock access to water courses.</li> <li>5. Gully erosion must be stabilized.</li> </ol>

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<b>PLANTS</b>				
<b>Plant Condition– Noxious and Invasive Plants</b>	The site is managed to control noxious and invasive plants and to minimize their spread.	SAME AS NATIONAL –	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Client interviews</li> <li>• Inventory site</li> <li>• State or noxious weed list</li> <li>• PLANTS website: <a href="http://www.plants.usda.gov">http://www.plants.usda.gov</a></li> <li>• Written plan to control noxious weeds</li> </ul>	Documentation that they are controlling and minimizing the spread of noxious.

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<b>ANIMALS</b>				
<b>Fish and Wildlife– Inadequate Cover/Shelter*</b>	The ecosystem or habitat 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.	SAME AS NATIONAL	Wildlife Habitat Inventory Worksheet $\geq .5$	Yes on Wildlife Resource Assessment Tool
<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.	SAME AS NATIONAL	CSP Grazing Lands Conservation Records Book	Adequate and balanced. Within 10% of animal demand amount.

\* Third resource concern to be addressed in the Red Chute and Tensas Watersheds to meet requirements for Tier II.

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### 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?

- |                              |                             |                              |   |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> N/A | Fertilizer/pesticide storage and preparation sites are located a safe distance from downgradient wells or surface water <u>or</u> sites are in a designed containment area. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> N/A | Waste oil/petroleum product storage areas are located a safe distance from down gradient wells or surface water <u>or</u> sites are in a designed containment area.         |

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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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