

New Jersey Checklist of Resource Concerns

**PASTURE**

<b>CLIENT:</b>				<b>LOCATION :</b>	
<b>PLANNER:</b>				<b>DATE:</b>	
<b>FARM #:</b>		<b>TRACT #:</b>		<b>FIELD #:</b>	
<b>MODIFIER (if applicable):</b>		<b>IRRIGATED</b>		<b>WILDLIFE</b>	<b>GRAZED</b>

This checklist is designed to assist planners and clients in identifying resource concerns during the planning process. The planning criteria outlined in Section III of the FOTG sets the minimum level of treatment, as well as required assessments based on land use. 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.

Color key for the checklist:

- Gray (found in first column): All resource concerns shaded in gray must be evaluated for the Cropland land use
- Blue (third column): All screening questions that are answered yes are checked in the blue column. Checking this column will require further evaluation of the resource concern to determine if planning criteria are met.
- Green (fourth column): Answering no to the screening question indicates the planning criteria have been met and no further assessment is required.
- Green (seventh column): Answering yes to the assessment level question indicated the planning criteria have been met.
- Red (eighth column): Answering no to the assessment level question indicates planning criteria has not been met for the evaluated resource concern. This resource concern must then be documented on the CPA-52 form.

Resource Concerns	Screening Questions NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment	Screening Questions		Assessment Tools Used to Determine if Planning Criteria is met (check all that were used for planning)	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria YES = Meets Planning Criteria NO = Identified Resource Concern	Assessment Level	
		YES	NO			YES	NO
<b>SOILS RESOURCES: All resource concerns shaded in gray must be evaluated.</b>							
<b>SOIL EROSION: Sheet and Rill erosion and/or Wind erosion</b>	If permanent ground cover is > 90% and slope < 10%, answer NO.  If both ground cover and slope thresholds are not met, answer YES and continue to screening.			RUSLE2  <b>AND/OR</b>  WEPS	Water erosion rate <=T  <b>AND/OR</b>  Wind erosion rate <=T		
<b>SOIL EROSION: Ephemeral gully and/or Classic gully erosion</b>	Are classic gullies present?			Field measurements  <b>AND/OR</b>  Observations	Is classic gully management adequate to stop the progression of head cutting and widening <b>and</b> are offsite impacts minimized by vegetation and/or structures?		
<b>SOIL EROSION: Excessive bank erosion from streams, shorelines or water conveyance channels</b>	Are streams or shoreline on or adjacent to site?			SVAP2  Pasture Condition Score	Is bank erosion beyond the client's control or commensurate with normal geomorphological processes? <b>AND</b> Is the Pasture Condition Score – Streambank/Shoreline Erosion Element score ≥ 4?		

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<b>SOIL QUALITY DEGRADATION: Subsidence</b>	Are Histosol soils present?			Client input Planner observations	Is subsidence adequately managed to meet client's objectives?		
<b>SOIL QUALITY DEGRADATION: Compaction</b>	Is soil compaction a problem? <b>OR</b> Do activities cause soil compaction problems?			Pasture Condition Score	Is the Pasture Condition Score – Compaction Element score ≥ 4?		
<b>SOIL QUALITY DEGRADATION: Organic matter depletion</b>	Is permanent ground cover < 80%?			RUSLE2  Pasture Condition Score	Is the SCI>0? <b>OR</b> Is the Pasture Condition Score – Plant Cover Element score is ≥ 4? <b>AND</b> Is the Pasture Condition Score – Plant Residue Element score is ≥ 4?		
<b>WATER RESOURCES: All resource concerns shaded in gray must be evaluated</b>							
<b>EXCESS WATER: Ponding and Flooding and/or Seasonal high water table and/or Seeps</b>	Is ponding or flooding a problem? <b>OR</b> Do activities cause ponding/flooding problems? <b>OR</b> Does a seasonal high water table cause a problem? <b>OR</b> Does excess water from seeps cause a problem? <b>OR</b> Does drifted snow cause a problem?			Client Input  Planner Observations	Is excess water managed to meet Client's objectives?		
<b>INSUFFICIENT WATER: Inefficient moisture management</b>	Is moisture management a problem? <b>OR</b> Do activities cause inefficient moisture management?			Pasture Condition Score	Is the Pasture Condition Score – Compaction Element score ≥ 4? <b>AND</b> Is the Pasture Condition Score – Plant Cover Element score ≥ 4?		
<b>INSUFFICIENT WATER: Inefficient use of irrigation water</b>	Is the PLU irrigated?			NJ Irrigation Guide  FIRI worksheet	State established system type criteria		
<b>WATER QUALITY: Excess nutrients in ground or surface waters</b>	Are there excessive nutrient in surface or ground waters?			Pasture Condition Score  Nutrient Budget	Is the Pasture Condition Score – Streambank/Shoreline Erosion Element score ≥ 4? <b>AND</b> Is the Pasture Condition Score – Livestock Concentration Areas Element score ≥ 4?		
<b>WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Pesticides transported to ground or surface waters</b>	Are pest control chemicals applied?			Client input  Planner observation  WinPST	Are pesticides stored, handled, disposed and managed to prevent runoff, spills, leaks and leaching? <b>AND</b> Are conservation practices and managements in place to minimize offsite impacts?		

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<b>WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION:</b> <i>Pathogens, pharmaceuticals and Other Chemicals in ground or surface water</i>	Are potential sources of pathogens or pharmaceuticals applied on the land?			Client input  Planner observation	Are organic materials applied, stored, and/or handled to mitigate negative impacts to water sources?		
<b>WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION:</b> <i>Excessive salts in ground and surface waters</i>	Is excess salt a problem? <b>OR</b> Do activities contribute to excess salt production?			Client input  Planner observation	Are salt concentrations managed to mitigate off-site transport to surface or ground waters?		
<b>WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION:</b> <i>Petroleum and heavy metals and other pollutants transported to receiving waters</i>	Do activities present the potential for contamination?			Client input  Planner observation	Are petroleum, heavy metals or other potential pollutants stored and handled to avoid runoff or leaching?		
<b>WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION:</b> <i>Excessive sediment in surface waters</i>	Are permanent ground cover < 90% and slope > 10%? <b>OR</b> Are classic gullies present? <b>OR</b> Are streams or shoreline on or adjacent to site?			Client input  Planner observation  RUSLE2  SVAP2  WEPS	Do upslope treatment and buffer practices address concentrated flows to water bodies? <b>AND</b> SVAP2 - bank condition ≥ 5. <b>AND</b> Are livestock and vehicle water crossings stable? <b>AND</b> Is water erosion rate ≤ T? <b>OR</b> Is wind erosion rate ≤ T?		
<b>WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION:</b> <i>Elevated water temperature</i>	Is there a water course on or adjacent to the site with State Agency identified temperature impairment? <b>OR</b> Is water course temperature a client concern?			Client input  Planner observation  SVAP2	Is SVAP2 - riparian area quality element score ≥ 5? <b>AND</b> Is SVAP2 - riparian area quantity quality element score ≥ 5? <b>AND</b> Is SVAP2 - canopy cover element score ≥ 6? <b>OR</b> Are existing practices in place to address water temperature?		
<b>PLANT RESOURCES: All resources shaded in gray must be evaluated</b>							
<b>DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION:</b> <i>Undesirable plant productivity and health</i>	Are plant production and health a client objective?			Pasture Condition Score	Is the Pasture Condition Score ≥ 30? <b>AND</b> Are plants adapted to the site, meeting production goals, and do not negatively impact other resources?		
<b>DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION:</b> <i>Inadequate structure and composition</i>	Do the plant communities support the intended land use and desired ecological functions?			Forage Budget  Planner Observation  Grazing Plan	Do the plant communities contain adequate diversity, composition and structure to support the desired ecological functions?		

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<p><b>DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION:</b> <i>Excessive plant pest pressure</i></p>	<p>Is plant productivity limited from pest pressure?</p>			<p>Pasture Condition Score</p>	<p>Is the Pasture Condition Score – Insect and Disease Pressure Element score <math>\geq</math> 4? <b>AND</b> Is the Pasture Condition Score – Site Adaptation Element score <math>\geq</math> 4?</p>		
<p><b>ANIMAL RESOURCES: All resource concerns shaded in gray must be evaluated. Resource concerns shaded in tan must be evaluated for the planned land unit (PLU) when the wildlife modifier is assigned. Resource concerns shaded in orange must be evaluated for the planned land unit when the grazed modifier is assigned.</b></p>							
<p><b>INADEQUATE HABITAT FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE –</b> <i>Quantity, quality of food and water is inadequate to meet requirements of identified fish, wildlife or invertebrate species</i></p> <p><b>**Required for planned land units with the wildlife modifier</b></p>	<p>Is PLU managed for wildlife?</p>			<p>SVAP2 Client Input Planner Observation WHSI</p>	<p>WHSI rating <math>\geq</math> 0.5 <b>AND</b> When surface stream is present: SVAP2 – fish habitat complexity element score <math>\geq</math> 7 <b>AND</b> SVAP2 – aquatic invertebrate habitat element score <math>\geq</math> 7 <b>OR</b> Are conservation practices and management are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds? <b>OR</b> Is food and water available in quality and extent to support habitat requirements for the species of interest?</p>		
<p><b>INADEQUATE HABITAT FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE –</b> <i>Quantity, quality or cover/shelter or habitat continuity is inadequate to meet requirements of identified fish, wildlife or invertebrate species</i></p> <p><b>**Required for planned land units with the wildlife modifier</b></p>	<p>Is PLU managed for wildlife?</p>			<p>SVAP2 Client Input Planner Observation WHSI</p>	<p>WHSI rating <math>\geq</math> 0.5 <b>AND</b> When surface stream is present: SVAP2 – fish habitat complexity element score <math>\geq</math> 7 <b>AND</b> SVAP2 – aquatic invertebrate habitat element score <math>\geq</math> 7 <b>OR</b> Are conservation practices and management are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds? <b>OR</b> Are Space and cover available in quality and extent to support habitat requirements for the species of interest?</p>		
<p><b>LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION LIMITATION:</b> <i>Inadequate feed and forage, or inadequate shelter, or inadequate livestock water</i></p> <p><b>**Required for planned land units with the grazed modifier</b></p>	<p>Is Client actively grazing animals?</p>			<p>Client input Planner observation</p>	<p>Are livestock forage, roughage and supplemental nutritional requirements addressed? <b>OR</b> Do artificial or natural shelters meet animal health needs and client objectives <b>OR</b> Is water of acceptable quality and quantity adequately distributed to meet animal needs</p>		

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ENERGY RESOURCES: All resource concerns shaded in gray must be evaluated						
<b>INEFFICIENT ENERGY USE – Equipment and facilities and farming and ranching practices and field operations</b>	Is the Client interested in improving equipment and facilities energy efficiency? <b>OR</b> Is the client interested in improving energy use in farm and ranch operations?			Client input Planner observation NRCS Energy Estimator USDA approved Energy Audit Conservation on the Farm Checklist	Has a USDA approved energy audit been implemented that address equipment and facilities to meet client objectives? <b>OR</b> Are on- farm renewable energy and/or energy conserving practices been implemented to meet client objectives?	
AIR RESOURCES: All resource concerns shaded in gray must be evaluated. Air Quality resource concerns must be evaluated if the planned practices are expected to increase emissions of particulate matter, greenhouse gases, or ozone precursors or when objectionable odors currently or may occur on the farm.						
<b>AIR QUALITY IMPACTS - Emissions of Particulate Matter - PM - and PM Precursors</b>	Have episodes or complaints of emissions of PM (dust, smoke, exhaust, etc.), or chemical drift occurred? <b>OR</b> Do activities contribute to agricultural source PM or PM precursor emissions?			Client input Planner observation	Are PM and PM Precursor emissions managed to meet client objectives?	
<b>AIR QUALITY IMPACTS - Emissions of Greenhouse Gases - GHGs</b>	Are GHGs regulated in this planning area? <b>OR</b> Do activities produce GHGs emissions?			Client input Planner observation	Are greenhouse gas emissions managed to meet client objectives?	
<b>AIR QUALITY IMPACTS - Emissions of Ozone Precursors</b>	Do operations produce ozone precursor emissions?			Client input Planner observation	Are ozone precursor emissions are managed to meet client objectives?	
<b>AIR QUALITY IMPACTS - Objectionable odors</b>	Do activities contribute to odor nuisance air quality conditions? <b>OR</b> Are odor sources regulated in this planning area? <b>OR</b> Have odor episodes or complaints of odor nuisance occurred?			Client input Planner observation	Are odors managed to meet client objectives?	

#### Additional Requirements:

All resource concerns that have been identified must be documented on the CPA-52 form.

Attach supporting documentation (assessment tools, trip reports, references, etc.) in case file and/or in the Conservation Assistance Notes (CPA-6).

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*Notes:*