

## **Section I - General Resource References**

This section provides general state maps, descriptions of Major Land Resource Areas, watershed information, and links to NRCS reference manuals and handbooks. This information helps people understand the natural resources within the field office service area and helps them make decisions about resource use and management systems. It also provides references or electronic links to researchers, universities, and cooperating agencies, as well as conservation practice costs, agricultural laws and regulations, and computer-based tools used in resource analysis.

## **Section II – Natural Resource Information**

This section contains information, data, and interpretations about soil, water, air, plant, and animal resources. This information includes soils information; climatic data; cultural resources information; threatened and endangered species lists; ecological site descriptions; and forage suitability group descriptions.

## **Section III - Resource Management Systems and Quality Criteria**

Quality Criteria are used to establish treatment levels necessary to adequately address natural resource concerns and human considerations that help provide sustained and enhanced use of natural resources.

## **Section IV - Practice Standards and Specifications**

Section IV contains the standards for each of the conservation practices adopted for use within a State. Practice standards establish the minimum level of acceptable quality for planning, designing, installing, operating, and maintaining conservation practices. Practice specifications establish the technical details and workmanship required to install a practice on specific sites and the quality and extent of the materials to be used.

## **Section V - Conservation Effects**

Conservation Effects provides background information on how the implementation of Conservation Practices affects each identified resource concern in the state.