

## **EFFECTS FOR GUIDANCE DOCUMENTS**

Two worksheets, the Site-Specific Practice Effects Worksheet (SSPEW) and the Resource Management Systems Options Worksheet (RMSOW), are used in conjunction with the Conservation Practice Physical Effects (CPPE) guidance documents to display the effects of conservation practices on resource concerns. Although the worksheets are designed primarily for training, they can be used as planning tools in the field.

### **Site Specific Practice Effects Worksheet (SSPEW)**

The resource concerns applicable to the site are listed as column headings across the top of the SSPEW. Conservation practices are selected that have a high potential of solving one or more of the identified resource concerns. The selected conservation practices are listed as row headings down the left-hand side of the worksheet.

Using the CPPE guidance documents, the effect of each practice on the resource concerns can be listed in the matrix. These effects can be listed using a plus (+) for a practice having a positive impact on a resource concern or minus (-) for a practice having a negative impact on the resource concern. The plus or minus can be further modified by adding the words slight, moderate, or significant. Conservation practices that have an insignificant effect on the resource concern can be designated with a (0) and practices that are not applicable to the resource concern can be designated with a (N/A). When the matrix is completed, a comparison of the relative value of each practice, including both positive and negative effects, on the resource concerns are identified. A SSPEW is attached for reference.

The effects shown on the CPPE documents are based on the assumption that the conservation practice being evaluated is not presently applied on the site and when it is applied, it will be applied as part of a Resource Management System and according to NRCS standards and specifications.

SSPEW have been developed for each of the management systems contained in Section III of the Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG).

### **Resource Management System Options Worksheet**

The Resource Management System Options Worksheet (RMSOW) is used to group combinations of conservation practices that have the potential to solve the resource concerns listed on the SSPEW. The RMSOW is used in the same way as the SSPEW except that a group or combination of conservation practices that meet the quality criteria are selected from the SSPEW. Once a combination of conservation practices has been identified and meets the quality criteria for each resource concern, a RMS option has been completed. Other combinations of practices can be developed in the same way to provide a number of viable RMS options to a landuser.

The effects of each practice on the resource concerns are also used on the RMSOW. The pluses and minuses are used to indicate the differences in the overall effects of the practices for each RMS option developed. For instance, while all RMS options meet the quality criteria, one option may be very strong in controlling soil erosion but weak in improving water quality. Therefore, a comparison of the strengths and weaknesses of all the RMS options can be made to determine which option meets the landowner's objective the best. A RMSOW is attached for reference.



