Checklist of Resource Concerns

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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 outlined in Section III of the FOTG sets the minimum level of treatment. 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. For questions with no listed screening questions, move directly to the assessment. 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 NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment	YES	NO	Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria YES = Meets Planning Criteria NO = Identified Resource Concern	YES	NO
SOILS RESOURCES							
1a.SOIL EROSION: ***Sheet and Rill erosion****	Is soil surface organic residue cover < 80%?			➢ Visual inspection	Is site is stable and without visible signs of erosion?		
1b. SOIL EROSION: ***Wind erosion****				➢ Visual inspection	Is site is stable and without visible signs of erosion?		
2b.SOIL EROSION: ***Classic gully erosion****	Are classic gullies present?			➢ Field measurements ➢ Observations	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; banks are stable or commensurate with normal geomorphological processes? **AND** If bank erosion is present, it is beyond the client's control or commensurate with normal geomorphological processes? **AND** For streambanks; SVAP2 bank condition element score >=5?		
4. SOIL QUALITY DEGRADATION: ***Subsidence***	Are Histosol soils present?			➢ Client input ➢ Planner observations	Is subsidence adequately managed to meet client's objectives?		
	OR Are there Histosols present 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?		

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6. SOIL QUALITY DEGRADATION: ***Organic matter depletion****	Is soil organic matter depletion a problem? **AND** Do activities cause soil organic matter depletion?			➢ Client input ➢ Planner observation	Does ground cover meet state criteria specific to ecological site? **OR** Is soil organic matter managed to meet Client objectives?	

WATER RESOURCES						
8a. EXCESS WATER: ***Ponding and Flooding***	Is ponding or flooding a problem? **AND** Do activities cause ponding/flooding problems?			➢ Client Input ➢ Planner Observations	Is excess water managed to meet Client's objectives?	
8b. EXCESS WATER: ***Seasonal high water table***	Does a seasonal high water table cause a problem?			➢ Client Input ➢ Planner Observations	Is excess water managed to meet Client's objectives?	
8c. EXCESS WATER: ***Seeps***	Does excess water from seeps cause a problem?			➢ Client Input ➢ Planner Observations	Is excess water managed to meet Client's objectives?	
8d. EXCESS WATER: ***Drifted snow***	Does drifted snow cause a problem?			➢ Client Input ➢ Planner Observations	Is excess water managed to meet Client's objectives?	
9. INSUFFICIENT WATER: ***Inefficient moisture management***	Is Moisture Management a problem? **AND** Do activities cause inefficient moisture management?			➢ 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?			➢ FIRI worksheet	State established system type criteria?	
11a. WATER QUALITY: ***Excess nutrients in <u>surface</u> water ****	Are organic or inorganic nutrients applied?			➢ Client input ➢ Planner observation ➢ Nutrient budget	Are nutrients applied based on a soil test, tissue tests or nutrient budget? **AND** Are conservation practices and management in place to minimize surface water impacts?	
11b. WATER QUALITY: ***Excess nutrients in <u>ground</u>water ****				➢ Client input ➢ Planner observation ➢ Nutrient budget	Are nutrients applied based on a soil test, tissue tests or nutrient budget? **AND** Are conservation practices and management in place to minimize groundwater impacts?	

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12a. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: ***Pesticides transported to Surface waters***	Are pest control chemicals applied?			➢ 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?	
12b. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: ***Pesticides transported to Groundwaters***				➢ 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?	
13a. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: ***Pathogens, pharmaceuticals and Other Chemicals in Surface water****	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?	
13b. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: ***Pathogens, pharmaceuticals and Other Chemicals in Groundwater****				➢ Client input ➢ Planner observation	Are organic materials applied, stored, and/or handled to mitigate negative impacts to water sources?	
14a. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Excessive salts in Surface waters	Is excess salt a problem? **OR** Do activities contribute to excess salt production?			➢ Client input ➢ Planner observation	Are salt concentrations managed to mitigate off-site transport to surface waters?	
14b. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: ***Excessive salts in Ground waters***				➢ Client input ➢ Planner observation	Are salt concentrations managed to mitigate off-site transport to groundwaters?	

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Resource Concern * required response	Screening Questions NO = Met Screening (Not a RC) YES = Go to Assessment	YES	NO	Assessment Tools	Assessment Level Required to Meet Planning Criteria YES = Meets Planning Criteria NO = Resource Concern	YES	NO
15a. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: ***Petroleum and heavy metals and other pollutants transported to surface waters***	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?	☐	☐
15b. WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: ***Petroleum and heavy metals and other pollutants transported to groundwater***				➢ Client input ➢ Planner observation	Are petroleum, heavy metals or other potential pollutants stored and handled to avoid runoff or leaching?	☐	☐
16. WATER QU**ALITY DEGRADATION:** ***Excessive sediment in surface waters****	Are untreated sources of erosion present? **AND** Are streams, shoreline or channels on or adjacent to site?	☐	☐	➢ Client input ➢ Planner observation ➢ SVAP2	Are upslope treatments and buffer practices in place to address concentrated flows to water bodies? **AND** Are heavy use areas are stable? **AND** Is 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? **AND** Is water course temperature a client concern?	☐	☐	➢ 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?	☐	☐
					OR Are existing practices in place to address water temperature?	☐	☐

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AIR RESOURCES							
18. AIR QUALITY IMPACTS - *Emissions of Particulate Matter - PM - and PM Precursors*	Have episodes or complaints of emissions of PM (dust, smoke, exhaust, etc.), or chemical drift occurred? **AND** 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?		
19. AIR QUALITY IMPACTS - *Emissions of Greenhouse Gases - GHGs*	Are GHGs regulated in this planning area? **AND** Do activities produce GHGs emissions?			➢ Client input ➢ Planner observation	Are greenhouse gas emissions managed to meet client objectives?		
20. AIR QUALITY IMPACTS - *Emissions of Ozone Precursors*	Do operations produce ozone precursor emissions?			➢ Client input ➢ Planner observation	Are ozone precursor emissions are managed to meet client objectives?		

PLANT RESOURCES							
22. DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION: *Undesirable plant productivity and health*	Are plant production and health a client objective?			➢ Forest Inventory plots and/or transects	Are forest species adapted to site? **AND** Do composition and stand density meet Client's objectives and production goals?		
23. 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?			➢ Client input ➢ Planner observation ➢ Forage Suitability Groups	Do Plant communities contain adequate diversity, composition and structure to support desired ecological functions?		

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24. DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION: ***Excessive plant pest pressure***	Is plant productivity limited from pest pressure?			➢ 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 are managed to meet client objectives?		
25. DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION: ***Wildfire hazard, excessive biomass accumulation***	Is wildfire hazard a concern?			➢ Client input ➢ Planner observation	Are fuel loads and fuel ladders managed to provide defensible space and meet client objectives?		

ANIMAL RESOURCES							
26a. INADEQUATE HABITAT FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE – ***Quantity, quality of food is inadequate to meet requirements of identified fish, wildlife or invertebrate species***	Is PLU managed for wildlife?			➢ Species-specific wildlife habitat assessment tools ➢ SVAP2 ➢ Generalized WHS Index finalized by States, and detailed models by selected species and habitat type	WHSI rating ≥ 0.5 **AND** (when surface stream present) SVAP2 – fish habitat complexity element score ≥ 7 **AND** SVAP2 – aquatic invertebrate habitat element score ≥ 7 **OR** Are conservation practices and management are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds? **OR** Is food available in quality and extent to support habitat requirements for the species of interest?		
26b. INADEQUATE HABITAT FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE – ***Quantity, quality of water is inadequate to meet requirements of identified fish, wildlife or invertebrate species***	Is PLU managed for wildlife?			➢ Species-specific wildlife habitat assessment tools ➢ SVAP2 ➢ Generalized WHS Index finalized by States, and detailed models by selected species and habitat type	WHSI rating ≥ 0.5 **AND** (when surface stream present) SVAP2 – fish habitat complexity element score ≥ 7 **AND** SVAP2 – aquatic invertebrate habitat element score ≥ 7 **OR** Are conservation practices and management are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds? **OR** Is water available in quality and extent to support habitat requirements for the species of interest?		

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26c. INADEQUATE HABITAT FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE – ***Quantity, quality or cover/shelter is inadequate to meet requirements of identified fish, wildlife or invertebrate species***	Is PLU managed for wildlife?			➢ Species-specific wildlife habitat assessment tools ➢ SVAP2 ➢ Generalized WHS Index finalized by States, and detailed models by selected species and habitat type	WHSI rating ≥ 0.5 **AND** (when surface stream present) SVAP2 – fish habitat complexity element score ≥ 7 **AND** SVAP2 – aquatic invertebrate habitat element score ≥ 7 **OR** Are conservation practices and management are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds? **OR** Are Space and cover available in quality and extent to support habitat requirements for the species of interest?		
26d. INADEQUATE HABITAT FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE – ***Habitat continuity is inadequate to meet requirements of identified fish, wildlife or invertebrate species***	Is PLU managed for wildlife? (Wildlife Modifier)			➢ Species-specific wildlife habitat assessment tools ➢ SVAP2 ➢ Generalized WHS Index finalized by States, and detailed models by selected species and habitat type	WHSI rating ≥ 0.5 **AND** (when surface stream present) SVAP2 – fish habitat complexity element score ≥ 7 **AND** SVAP2 – aquatic invertebrate habitat element score ≥ 7 **OR** Are conservation practices and management are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds? **OR** Is connectivity of habitat components are adequate to support stable populations of targeted species?		
27. LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION LIMITATION: ***Inadequate feed and forage****	Is PLU grazed? (Grazed Modifier)			➢ Client input ➢ Planner observation	Are livestock forage, roughage and supplemental nutritional requirements addressed?		
28. LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION LIMITATION: ***Inadequate livestock shelter****				➢ Client input ➢ Planner observation	Do artificial or natural shelters meet animal health needs and client objectives?		
29. LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION LIMITATION: ***Inadequate livestock water****				➢ Client input ➢ Planner observation	Is water of acceptable quality and quantity adequately distributed to meet animal needs?		

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Energy Resources							
30. INEFFICIENT ENERGY USE – *Equipment and facilities*	Is the Client interested in improving equipment and facilities energy efficiency?			➢ Client input ➢ Planner observation ➢ NRCS Energy Estimator ➢ USDA approved Energy Audit	Has a USDA approved energy audit been implemented that address equipment and facilities to meet client objectives? OR Are on- farm renewable energy and/or energy conserving practices been implemented to meet client objectives?		
31. INEFFICIENT ENERGY USE – *Farming and ranching practices and field operations*	Is Client interested in improving energy use in farm and ranch field 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? OR Are on- farm renewable energy and/or energy conserving practices been implemented to meet client objectives?		

Technical Assistance Notes	