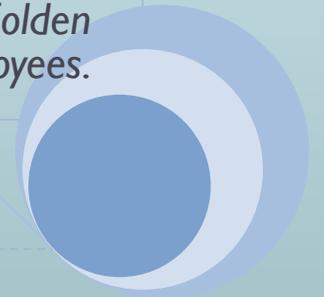


# **THE INTERAGENCY COORDINATION TOOL (ICT)**

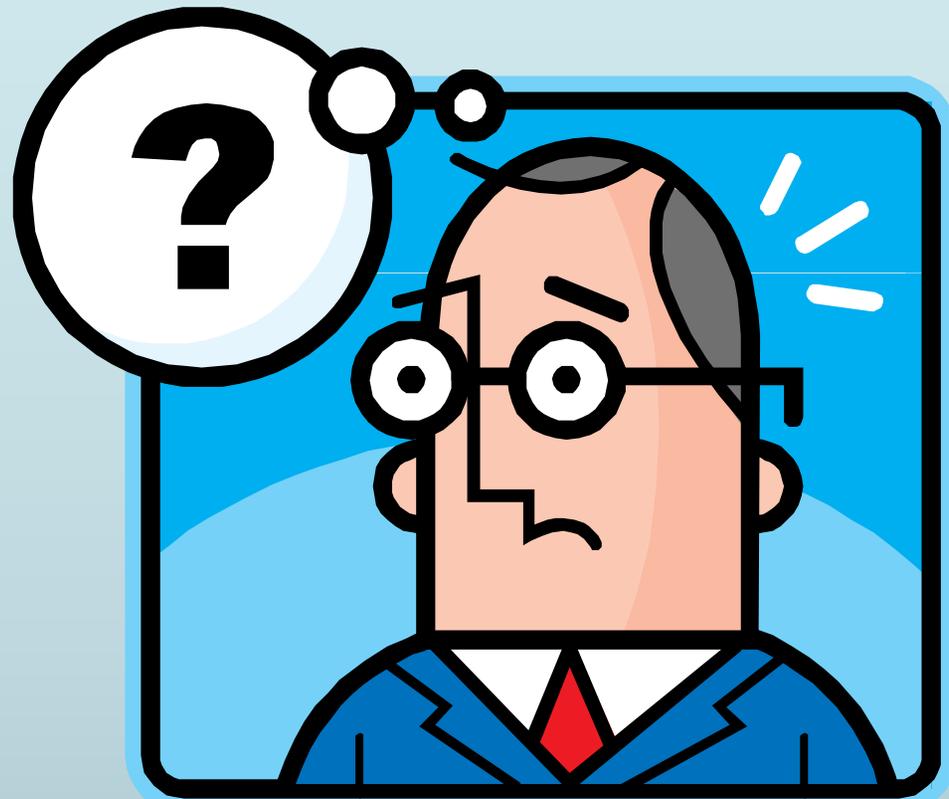
*A tool for compliance with the Endangered Species Act and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act for West Virginia NRCS employees.*



# Introduction

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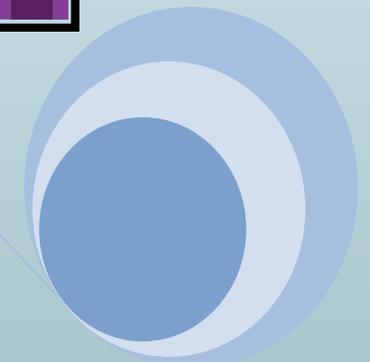
- ▶ How do we currently comply with the requirements of the ESA or BGEPA?
- ▶ When we complete the CPA-52 worksheet, how do we know we are not impacting listed species?
- ▶ How do we address Farm Bill program ranking criteria that ask about listed species?



# Introduction

## ▶ Problems

- ▶ NRCs/USFWS lacked information
  - ▶ habitats
  - ▶ natural history
  - ▶ population locations
  - ▶ practice application/installation
- ▶ privacy issues
- ▶ trust issues
- ▶ agency coordination
- ▶ maps/IT/maintenance



# Interagency Coordination Tool (ICT)

---

- ▶ What is the ICT?
- ▶ Why is it necessary?
- ▶ How does the ICT Function?
- ▶ How to use the ICT
- ▶ Understanding the Results of the ICT
- ▶ Assistance with the ICT



# Introduction

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- ▶ The “Black Box” Idea
  - ▶ allow NRCS to submit non-sensitive landowner info
  - ▶ allow USFWS/DNR to provide information w/o disclosing sensitive location info



# Introduction

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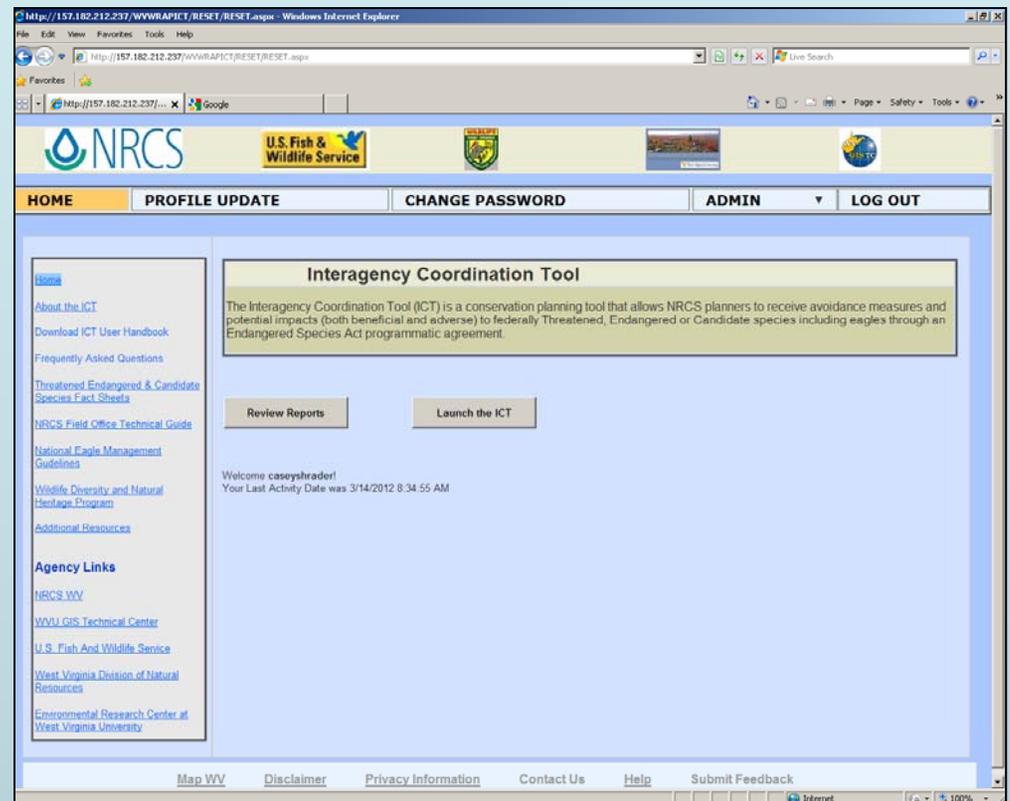
- ▶ Why is the ICT necessary?
- ▶ NEPA Compliance
  - ▶ Bald & Golden Eagle Protection Act Compliance
  - ▶ Endangered Species Act Compliance
  - ▶ State Species of Concern \*
  - ▶ Rare Habitats \*
  - ▶ Cultural Resources \*
  - ▶ CWA \*

*\* potential future development*



# Getting Started With The ICT

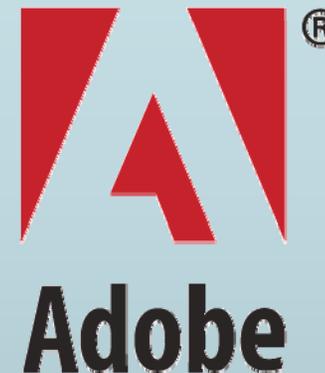
- ▶ What the heck are you talking about?!
  - ▶ web based
  - ▶ GIS layered
  - ▶ geospatially referenced
- ▶ It uses:
  - ▶ species habitat models
  - ▶ known location data
  - ▶ statistical probability on threshold habitat models
  - ▶ species-practice matrix



# Getting Started With The ICT

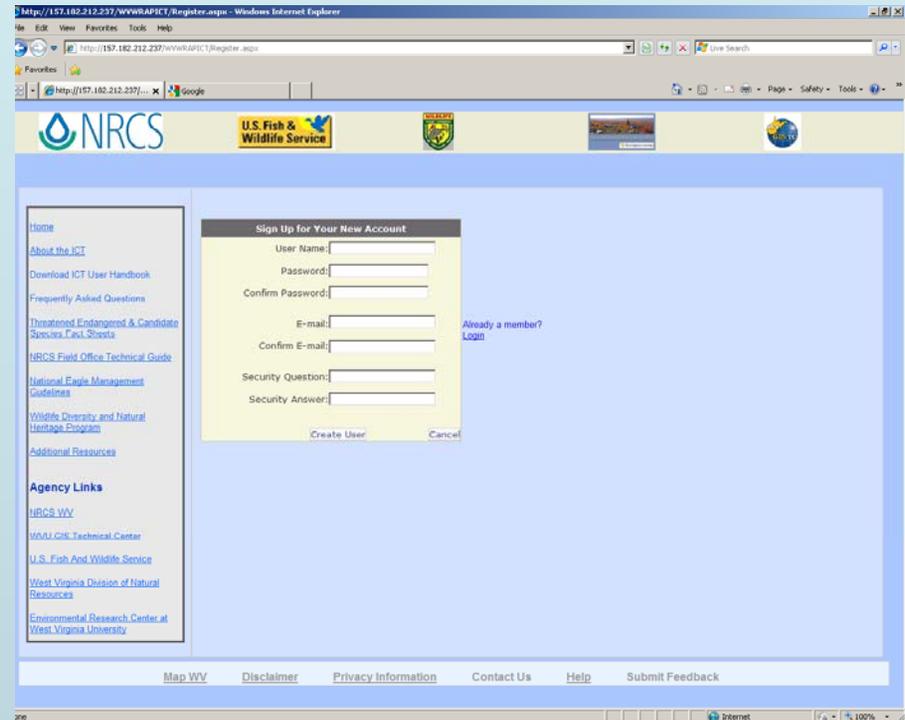
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- ▶ What do I need?
  - ▶ internet connection
  - ▶ web browser (IE version 8.0 +)
  - ▶ Adobe Acrobat Reader, etc.
  
- ▶ <http://www.wvmap.gov/ICT>
- ▶ <http://157.182.212.237/WVWRAPICT/Default.aspx>



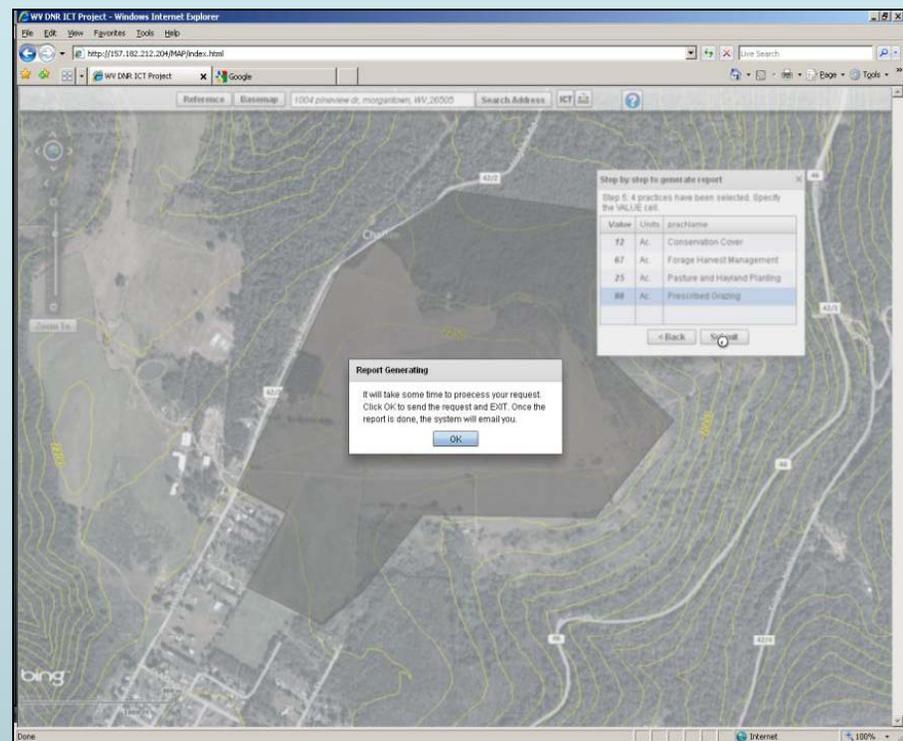
# Getting Started With The ICT

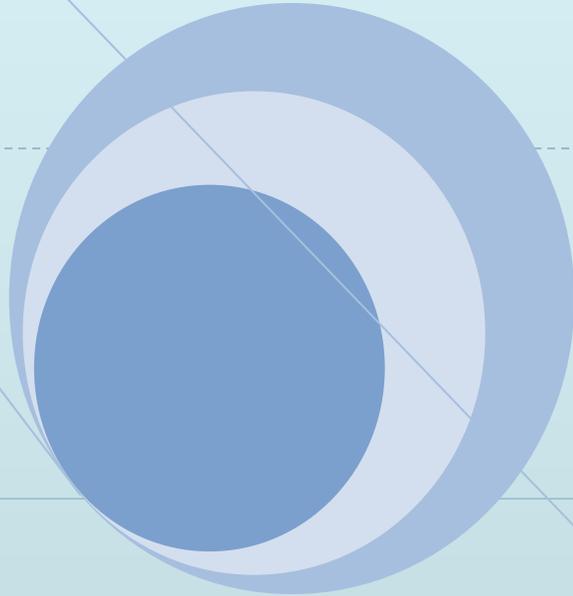
- ▶ To set up an ICT account
  1. Go to the ICT website.
  2. Select *Register* to setup an account.
  3. Create a password.
  4. Receive account approval via email.
  5. Login and use the tool.



# Getting Started With The ICT

- ▶ Running a Query in the ICT
  1. login to the ICT
  2. locate & identify the site
  3. select the practices
  4. identify the extents/amounts of each practice
  5. submit the query
  6. receive report





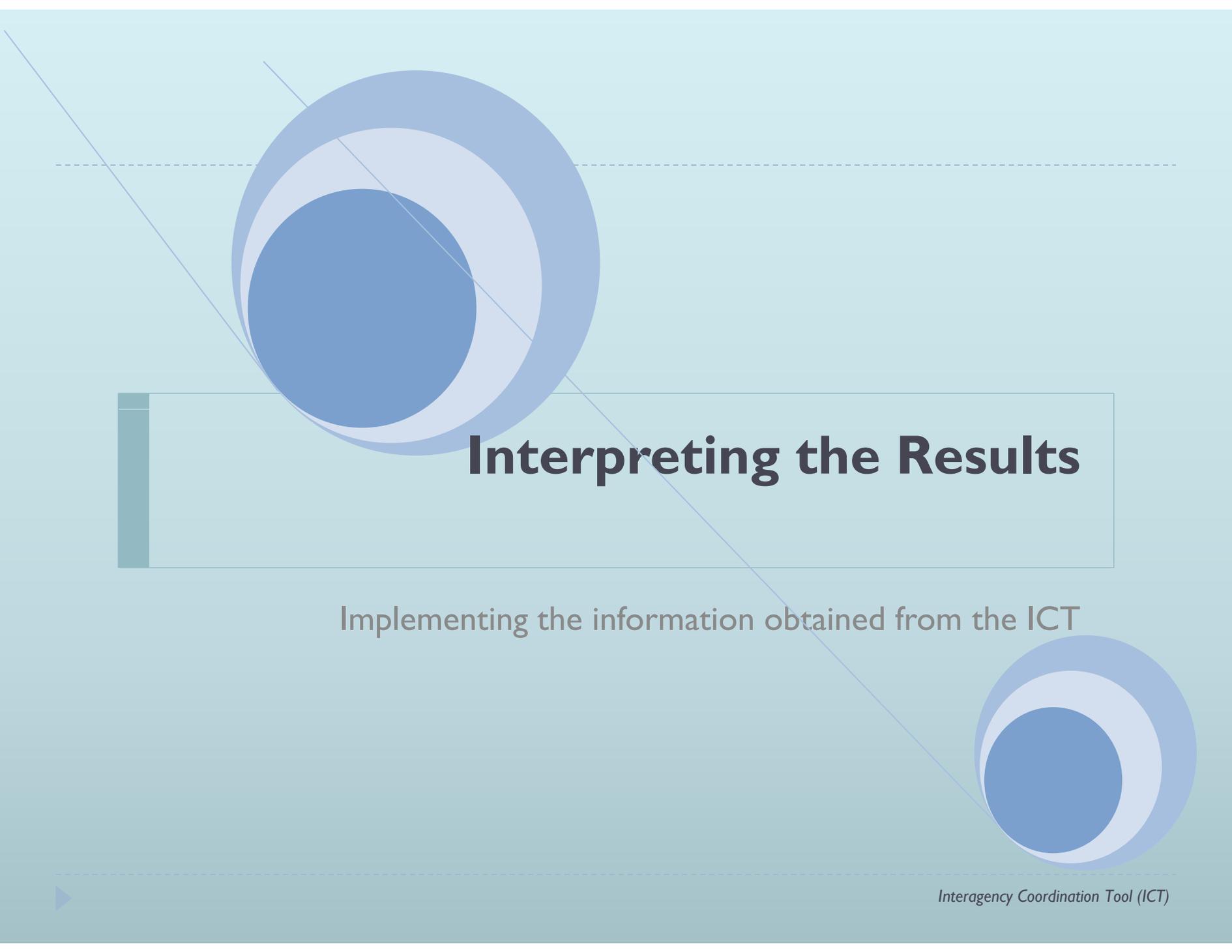
# ICT Demo

<http://www.mapwv.gov/ICT>



*Interagency Coordination Tool (ICT)*



A decorative graphic consisting of several overlapping circles in shades of blue and light blue, with thin lines intersecting them. A large circle is positioned in the upper left, and a smaller one is in the lower right. A horizontal dashed line is near the top, and a vertical dashed line is on the left side. A rectangular box with a light blue border and a dark blue vertical bar on its left side is centered horizontally.

# Interpreting the Results

Implementing the information obtained from the ICT

# Interpreting the Results

- ▶ Users will receive an email from the ICT
  - ▶ refers you to the ICT home page
  - ▶ go to the *View Reports* section of the tool
  - ▶ reports are stored in the ICT for a period of time
  - ▶ reports may be sorted
    - ▶ county
    - ▶ name
    - ▶ date
    - ▶ etc

**FROM:** donotreply@mail.wvu.edu  
**To:** Shrader, Casey - NRCS, Morgantown, WV  
**Subject:** Status of the ICT Report  
Your [Report Name] is ready to be viewed. Please click on the following link and login to view the report at <http://157.182.212.237/WWRAPICT/default.aspx>.  
Sincerely,  
The ICT

The screenshot shows the ICT web interface. At the top, there are logos for NRCS and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. Below the logos is a navigation bar with links: HOME, PROFILE UPDATE, CHANGE PASSWORD, ADMIN, and LOG OUT. The main content area is titled 'Review Previous Reports' and contains a search filter with dropdown menus for 'UserName', 'DateOfRequest', 'Species', 'County', and 'SiteName', along with a 'ShowAllReports' button. Below the search filter is a table of reports.

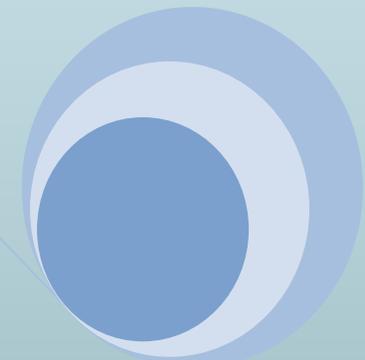
UserName	Date	Site Name	County	Species	Reports	Preview
admin	3-12-2012	yyyyyy	Preston	Indiana Bat,Running buffalo clover	<a href="#">View Report</a>	
admin	3-01-2012	237Test5	Lewis		<a href="#">View Report</a>	
admin	2-24-2012	w222222222	Marion		<a href="#">View Report</a>	
admin	2-22-2012	mm	Tucker	Running buffalo clover,Indiana Bat,Virginia big-eared bat,Virginia spiraea,Chest Mountain salamander	<a href="#">View Report</a>	
admin	2-10-2012	Coalton	Randolph	Running buffalo clover	<a href="#">View Report</a>	
admin	2-10-2012	Unity	Lewis	Clubshell mussel,Virginia spiraea	<a href="#">View Report</a>	

Interagency Coordination Tool (ICT)



# Interpreting the Results

- ▶ Report format provides basis for ESA determination
  - ▶ location and project description
  - ▶ potential impact
  - ▶ reasonable prudent measures for avoidance
  - ▶ final determination

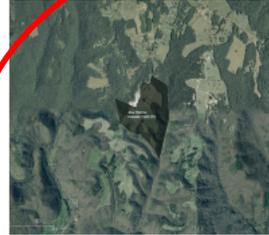


# Interpreting the Results

- ▶ General Information
  - ▶ map – Area of Interest (AOI)
  - ▶ date of inquiry
  - ▶ client's name
  - ▶ county
  - ▶ location
  - ▶ acreage (AOI)
  - ▶ practices submitted for review

**Intragency Coordination Tool**  
**Threatened, Endangered, Candidate, Eagle and Rare Species Report**

Inquiry Date: 7/2/2012	County: Summers	Acreage: 134.83
Client: Casey Brader	SiteName: Test site	Location: Summers Tract



PRACTICES SUBMITTED FOR REVIEW	AMOUNT	UNIT
Access Control (472)	1	Ac.
Fence (382)	5280	Ft.
Forage and Biomass Planting (512)	15	Ac.
Nutrient Management (590)	25	Ac.
Pipeline (516)	660	Ft.
Prescribed Grazing (528)	125	Ac.
Pumping Plant for Water Control (533)	1	No.
Riparian Forest Buffer (391)	1	Ac.
Water Well (642)	1	No.
Watering Facility (614)	2	No.

**I. POTENTIAL SPECIES AND IMPACT INFORMATION**

Based on the information submitted, there appear to be no known populations or critical habitat of any federally listed species. It has been determined that the following adverse impacts could potentially occur as a result of installation of one or more of the conservation practices listed above:

POTENTIAL ADVERSE IMPACTS
No known potential adverse impacts are provided by installation of this practice(s).

1

# Interpreting the Results

- ▶ Section I – Potential Adverse Impacts
  - ▶ identifies the specie(s) that could be impacted by the practices submitted
  - ▶ forms the basis of the remainder of the report
  - ▶ format of this section will vary depending on the results of the query

### Intragency Coordination Tool

#### Threatened, Endangered, Candidate, Eagle and Rare Species Report

Inquiry Date: 7/2/2012	County: Summers	Acreage: 134.83
Client: Casey Shrader	SiteName: Test site	Location: Summers Tract



PRACTICES SUBMITTED FOR REVIEW	AMOUNT	UNIT
Access Control (472)	1	Ac.
Fence (382)	5280	Ft.
Forage and Biomass Planting (512)	15	Ac.
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Riparian Forest Buffer (391)	1	Ac.
Water Well (642)	1	No.
Watering Facility (614)	2	No.

#### I.POTENTIAL SPECIES AND IMPACT INFORMATION

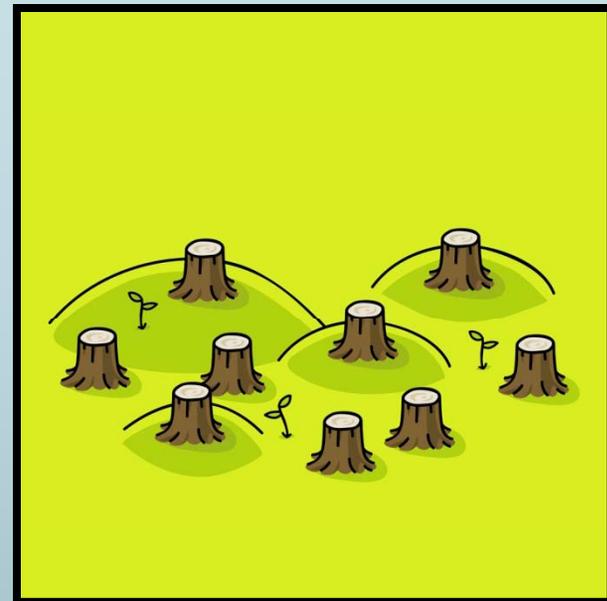
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POTENTIAL ADVERSE IMPACTS
No known potential adverse impacts are provided by installation of this practice(s).

1

# Interpreting the Results

- ▶ Seven potential adverse impacts
  1. Pollution of surface water
  2. Pollution of ground water
  3. Removal of trees or tree cover
  4. Crushing, trampling or direct disturbance
  5. Manipulation of water regimes
  6. Changes in landuse
  7. Chemical toxicity



# Interpreting the Results

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- ▶ **Bald & Golden Eagles**
  - ▶ audible disturbance
  - ▶ visual disturbance
- ▶ **Nesting Eagles**
- ▶ Nest locations are identified in the ICT



# Interpreting the Results

- ▶ Section II – Required Strategies & Effect Determination
  - ▶ lists all required strategies to avoid adverse impacts to listed species
  - ▶ If listed, these strategies must become part of the conservation plan (specifications)
  - ▶ Section II also contains the effect determination

**Intragency Coordination Tool**

**Threatened, Endangered, Candidate, Eagle and Rare Species Report**

**II. REQUIRED STRATEGIES & EFFECT DETERMINATION**

Based on the information submitted, the following strategies are **REQUIRED** to be implemented to avoid adverse effects. The strategies listed below must be incorporated into the conservation plan, layout and/or specifications.

PRACTICE	REQUIRED ADDITIONAL STRATEGIES FOR PRACTICE IMPLEMENTATION
Access Control (472)	No additional strategies are required
Fence (382)	No additional strategies are required
Forage and Biomass Planting (512)	No additional strategies are required
Nutrient Management (580)	No additional strategies are required
Pipeline (516)	No additional strategies are required
Prescribed Grazing (508)	No additional strategies are required
Pumping Plant for Water Control (533)	No additional strategies are required
Riparian Forest Buffer (381)	No additional strategies are required
Water Well (642)	No additional strategies are required
Watering Facility (614)	No additional strategies are required

No further consultation under the Endangered Species Act is required with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Proceed with planning and implementation. Maintain a copy of this report as documentation of investigation according to NRCS policy. If practices are added, quantities, locations or other significant changes occur prior to installation, conservation planners must revise and resubmit this data. **NOTE: If any of the required strategies listed above cannot be implemented, or the strategy specifically requires coordination or consultation with USFWS the proposed practice is determined as May Adversely Affect (MAA) as a direct or indirect result of implementation and will then require consultation with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.**

**III. MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS**

The following are considerations that may be used to support conservation activities, but are not required to avoid adverse effects. When possible utilize these recommendations during conservation planning of this area:

SUBJECT	MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATION
N/A	None

2

# Interpreting the Results

Based on the information submitted, the following strategies are **REQUIRED** to be implemented to avoid adverse affects to listed species. These strategies listed below must be incorporated into the conservation plan, layout and/or specifications.

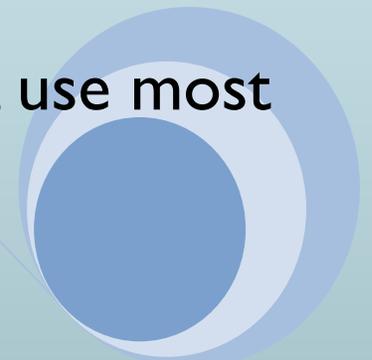
PRACTICE	REQUIRED ADDITIONAL STRATEGIES FOR PRACTICE IMPLEMENTATION
Fence (382)	The use of construction equipment, green concrete or other pollutants including fuel and oil products within flowing streams or natural waterbodies during construction activities is prohibited. Plan and install appropriate measures to minimize sediment and turbidity during practice installation or application.
	During practice installation, implement measures to ensure that the transport of excess nutrients, sediments, pesticides or toxic substances to streams, wetlands and adjacent waterbodies does not occur.
	The placement or application of this practice shall not be within 50 feet of streams, wetlands or other permanent waterbodies.
	The removal or impacts to existing trees, shrubs or other native vegetation shall be avoided to the extent possible.
	Mechanized or chemical site preparation methods shall not be used in areas that are not existing hayland, pastureland or cropland.



# Interpreting the Results

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- ▶ In many instances if you follow the general criteria in the practice standard, you will comply with the required additional strategies.
- ▶ Most avoidance measures deal with modification of the placement, timing or method of implementation.
- ▶ Use common sense.
- ▶ Required avoidance measures  $\neq$  existing populations present.
- ▶ Read all of the avoidance measures. (If multiple, use most restrictive)
- ▶ **Most importantly.....**



# Interpreting the Results

## ▶ **DO NOT PANIC**

- ▶ ICT is an evolving entity
- ▶ not every situation under every condition can be anticipated
- ▶ exceptions will occur



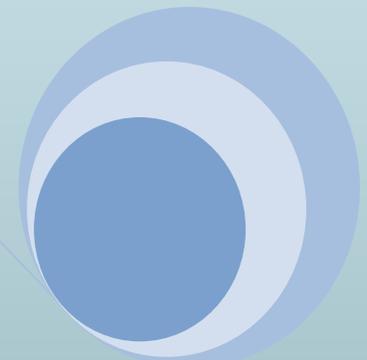
# Interpreting the Results

## Example

Based on the information submitted, the following strategies are **REQUIRED** to be implemented to avoid adverse affects to listed species. These strategies listed below must be incorporated into the conservation plan, layout and/or specifications.

	<b>REQUIRED ADDITIONAL STRATEGIES FOR PRACTICE IMPLEMENTATION</b>
Prescribed Grazing (528)	This practice shall be designed and implemented to ensure that no adverse water quality impacts to surface and groundwater from animal wastes shall occur.
	Practice shall only be installed or applied to existing actively managed cropland and cropping systems.
	Practice shall only be installed or applied in existing actively managed pasture, hayland or other grassland system (this includes farm headquarters areas).

**Read the RASPI!!**



# Interpreting the Results

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- ▶ Three RASPI's requiring some special consideration
  - ▶ inspections for mussels and darters (only 578 Stream Crossing)
  - ▶ practice occurring within 2.5 miles of Indiana bat maternity colony where tree removal will occur
  - ▶ initiating consultation (i.e. MAA)



# Interpreting the Results

- ▶ Final Effect Determination (Section II)
  - ▶ will be one of the official ESA determinations or N/A
  - ▶ dependent upon implementation of all avoidance measures
  - ▶ most important part of the report to conservation planning

**Intragency Coordination Tool**  
**Threatened, Endangered, Candidate, Eagle and Rare Species Report**

**II. REQUIRED STRATEGIES & EFFECT DETERMINATION**

Based on the information submitted, the following strategies are **REQUIRED** to be implemented to avoid adverse effects. The strategies listed below must be incorporated into the conservation plan, layout and/or specifications.

PRACTICE	REQUIRED ADDITIONAL STRATEGIES FOR PRACTICE IMPLEMENTATION
Access Control (472)	No additional strategies are required
Fence (382)	No additional strategies are required
Forage and Biomass Planting (512)	No additional strategies are required
Nutrient Management (580)	No additional strategies are required
Pipeline (516)	No additional strategies are required
Prescribed Grazing (508)	No additional strategies are required
Pumping Plant for Water Control (533)	No additional strategies are required
Riparian Forest Buffer (381)	No additional strategies are required
Water Well (642)	No additional strategies are required
Watering Facility (614)	No additional strategies are required

No further consultation under the Endangered Species Act is required with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Proceed with planning and implementation. Maintain a copy of this report as documentation of investigation according to NRCS policy. If practices are added, quantities, locations or other significant changes occur prior to installation, conservation planners must revise and resubmit this data. **NOTE: If any of the required strategies listed above cannot be implemented, or the strategy specifically requires coordination or consultation with USFWS the proposed practice is determined as May Adversely Affect (MAA) as a direct or indirect result of implementation and will then require consultation with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.**

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**III. MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS**

The following are considerations that may be used to support conservation activities, but are not required to avoid adverse effects. When possible utilize these recommendations during conservation planning of this area:

SUBJECT	MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATION
N/A	None

2

# Interpreting the Results

- ▶ Section III – Management Considerations
  - ▶ lists management alternatives for consideration
  - ▶ optional
  - ▶ majority of reports will not contain them
  - ▶ broad statements
  - ▶ deal with species of concern, practice implementation or other items

**Intragency Coordination Tool**

**Threatened, Endangered, Candidate, Eagle and Rare Species Report**

**II. REQUIRED STRATEGIES & EFFECT DETERMINATION**

Based on the information submitted, the following strategies are **REQUIRED** to be implemented to avoid adverse effects. The strategies listed below must be incorporated into the conservation plan, layout and/or specifications.

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---

**III. MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS**

The following are considerations that may be used to support conservation activities, but are not required to avoid adverse effects. When possible utilize these recommendations during conservation planning of this area:

SUBJECT	MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATION
N/A	None

2

# Interpreting the Results

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## Example

SUBJECT	MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATION
Fence (382)	Larger than required buffers are more beneficial to the species and may aid in its recovery.

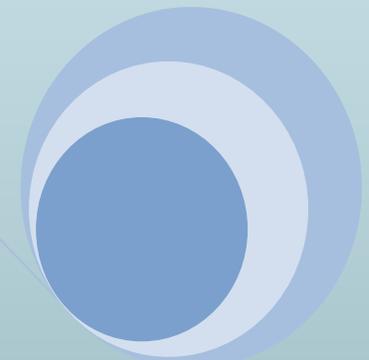


# Interpreting the Results

- ▶ This section will be improved upon in future versions

## Example

SUBJECT	MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATION
Golden-winged warbler	This area could support the golden-winged warbler. Uneven aged timber management and early successional habitat above 2800 feet in elevation favors habitat for this rare songbird. Contact the WVDNR for more information or conservation practices that are beneficial to its habitat.



# Interpreting the Results

- ▶ Section IV – Potential Benefits
  - ▶ practices that could be beneficial if implemented under specific conditions
  - ▶ applicability is interpreted by the planner
  - ▶ currently not tracked or retrievable in a meaningful format

Intragency Coordination Tool	
Threatened, Endangered, Candidate, Eagle and Rare Species Report	
<b>IV. POTENTIAL BENEFITS</b>	
If all avoidance and required measures are implemented as outlined in this report, the following practices may beneficially affect TEC species or their habitats.	
PRACTICE	POTENTIAL BENEFITS PROVIDED BY THIS ACTIVITY
Brush Management (314), Riparian Forest Buffer (391), Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)	This practice is considered beneficial if it provides additional habitat in the form of cover (native woody vegetation), pollinating insects (native forbs), or restores natural, light, thermal or hydrologic regimes.
Access Control (472), Brush Management (314), Fence (382), Riparian Forest Buffer (391)	This practice may be beneficial if planned and conducted in coordination with WVDNR and/or USFWS for benefit of the species. Contact the NRCS State Biologist and/or USFWS to initiate these efforts.
Access Control (472), Brush Management (314), Fence (382), Riparian Forest Buffer (391), Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)	This practice may have a beneficial effect on designated habitats or listed species when installed for the purpose of restoration and/or management of native vegetation (e.g. red spruce forest).
Access Control (472), Fence (382)	This practice may be beneficial if it facilitates exclusion of people, vehicles, livestock or equipment to resources used by the species, the species, or designated habitats of listed species.
Access Control (472), Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)	This practice may have a beneficial effect on designated habitats or listed species when installed for the purpose of restoration and/or management of aquatic restoration (e.g. riparian, streams and wetlands).
Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)	This practice may have a beneficial effect to listed species if installed on or in conjunction with forested riparian zones, adjacent to cropland, pasture, streams and wetlands.
<p><i>Intended Use:</i> This document is to be utilized for planning and documenting compliance with NRCS policy, the Endangered Species Act, Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act and some components of the National Environmental Policy Act. It is specific to activities in which NRCS staff is providing individual conservation technical assistance and/or funding under various Farm Bill programs; or for purposes of ranking to enroll in USDA programs. Projects that are larger in scope are not to utilize this methodology and will continue to follow NRCS policy and procedures as stated in GM Title 190, Part 410 - Compliance with NEPA and 190-VI-National Environmental Compliance Handbook (NECH).</p> <p><i>Disclaimer:</i> The information provided in this report is based on the best current data available to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources. However, errors or gaps in information and data may occur. Therefore planners should always check the site to determine the exact locations or suitability of habitat through on-site analysis. Occurrences of species or habitats could be located within the identified area of interest that is not included in this report. Responses provided by the ICT indicating the absence of TEC species may indicate that the area has not been surveyed or unknown data exists, rather than confirmation that the area lacks critical habitat or species. Verification of this information should always be performed on site. Upon discovery of protected resources or modification to original designs, further coordination may be required. If nesting eagles, Endangered, Threatened or Candidate species or their habitats are identified during implementation or construction activities, immediately cease the activity and contact your agency representative responsible for activities under the Endangered Species Act or Bald and Golden Eagle Act activities. This information is relevant only for the practices/activities identified and does not constitute formal consultation with the USFWS. The information contained herein should not be distributed to third parties without the written consent of the landowner. If you feel the information contained in this report is erroneous please contact the NRCS West Virginia State Biologist at (304) 284-7581.</p>	
3	

# Interpreting the Results

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- ▶ Not all practices provide benefits
- ▶ Multiple benefits may apply to a single practice installation
- ▶ Potential benefits are contingent upon application of practice according to the NRCS standard and any avoidance measures
- ▶ The use of this section to answer ranking criteria questions dealing with listed species is highly encouraged



# Interpreting the Results

---

## ▶ Coordination of Benefits

- ▶ encouraged but not required (*low priority for early versions*)
- ▶ habitat restoration
- ▶ share and combine financial and technical resources
- ▶ If shown on the report in conjunction with required consultation it means that the overall benefit to the species will likely be beneficial as a result of consultation



# Interpreting the Results

---

- ▶ **Reasons for Benefit Coordination**
  - ▶ tracking of conservation (i.e. watershed)
  - ▶ reporting delisting progress
  - ▶ tracking a recovery plan item by USFWS
  - ▶ recommended timing or notification of practice commencement
  - ▶ specific modification to a specification(s)
  - ▶ investigation of the area by biologists to determine local habitat/populations
  - ▶ additional technical assistance by endangered species and/or partner biologists
  - ▶ providing /documenting existing population locations information
  - ▶ additional/potential financial assistance
  - ▶ educational benefits



# Interpreting the Results

---

- ▶ NRCS /USFWS will establish a direct protocol for field offices to contact the USFWS
- ▶ Coordination of benefits should be a very low priority for field offices
- ▶ If coordination is still desired, contact the State Biologist to determine the appropriate method and points of contact.

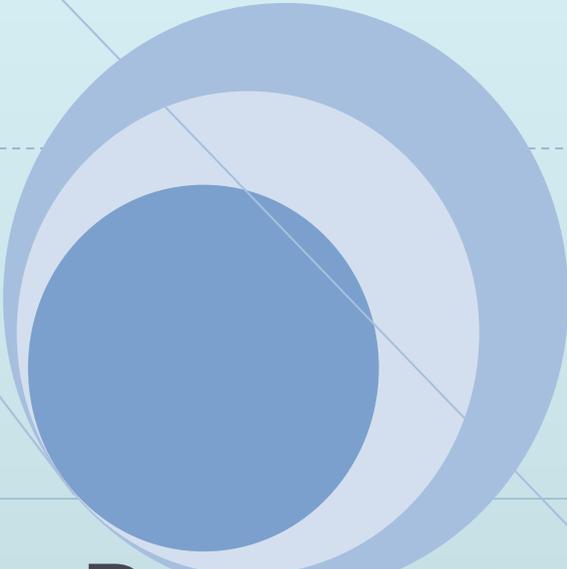


# Interpreting the Results

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- ▶ In most instances this should be the USFWS Partners for Fish and Wildlife Biologist
- ▶ Planners should always obtain the permission of the landowner to coordinate benefits prior to contacting USFWS.
- ▶ Written authorization is not required as it is for consultation; but it should at least be documented in the assistance notes





# Documentation of Compliance

How to document compliance with ESA using the ICT

# Documentation of Compliance

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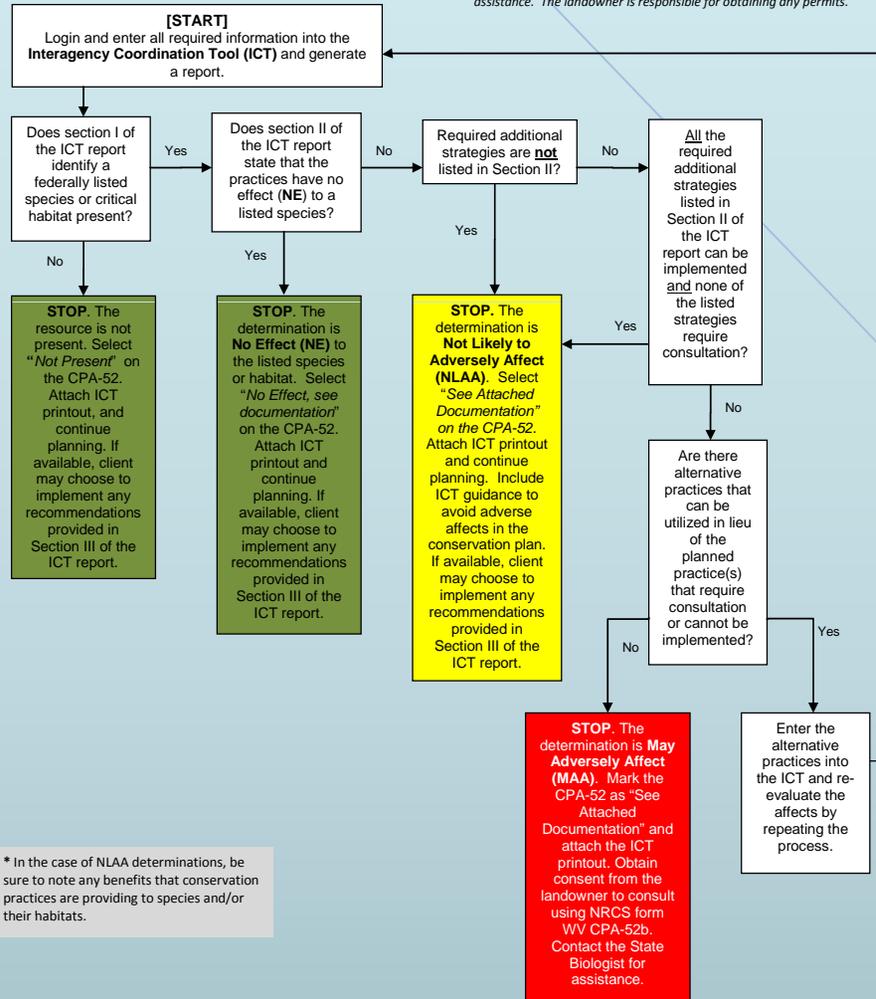
- ▶ Print out the report
- ▶ If alternatives are required make sure they are incorporated into specifications and agreed to by the client (jobsheets, report, etc.)
- ▶ Select the appropriate result on the CPA-52
- ▶ Attach the report to the CPA-52 and/or store with other electronic documents
- ▶ Revise if practices or quantities change
- ▶ Refer to the flow chart in the ICT Handbook



# Documentation of Compliance

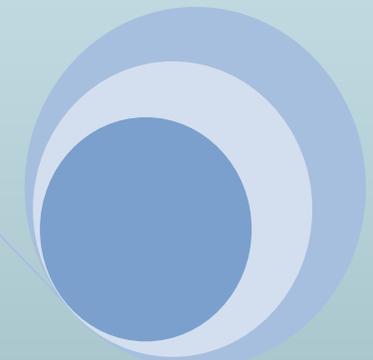
## ICT REPORT DECISION DIAGRAM

*For HEL and WC planning only, NRCS should inform the landowner if protected species may be impacted and continue to provide planning assistance. The landowner is responsible for obtaining any permits.*



\* In the case of NLAA determinations, be sure to note any benefits that conservation practices are providing to species and/or their habitats.

The flow chart is an easy way to interpret the results of an ICT report and determine how to document compliance.



# Documentation of Compliance

**STOP.** The resource is not present. Select *“Not Present”* on the CPA-52. Attach ICT printout, and continue planning. If available, client may choose to implement any recommendations provided in Section III of the ICT report.

**N/A**

**STOP.** The determination is **No Effect (NE)** to the listed species or habitat. Select *“No Effect, see documentation”* on the CPA-52. Attach ICT printout and continue planning. If available, client may choose to implement any recommendations provided in Section III of the ICT report.

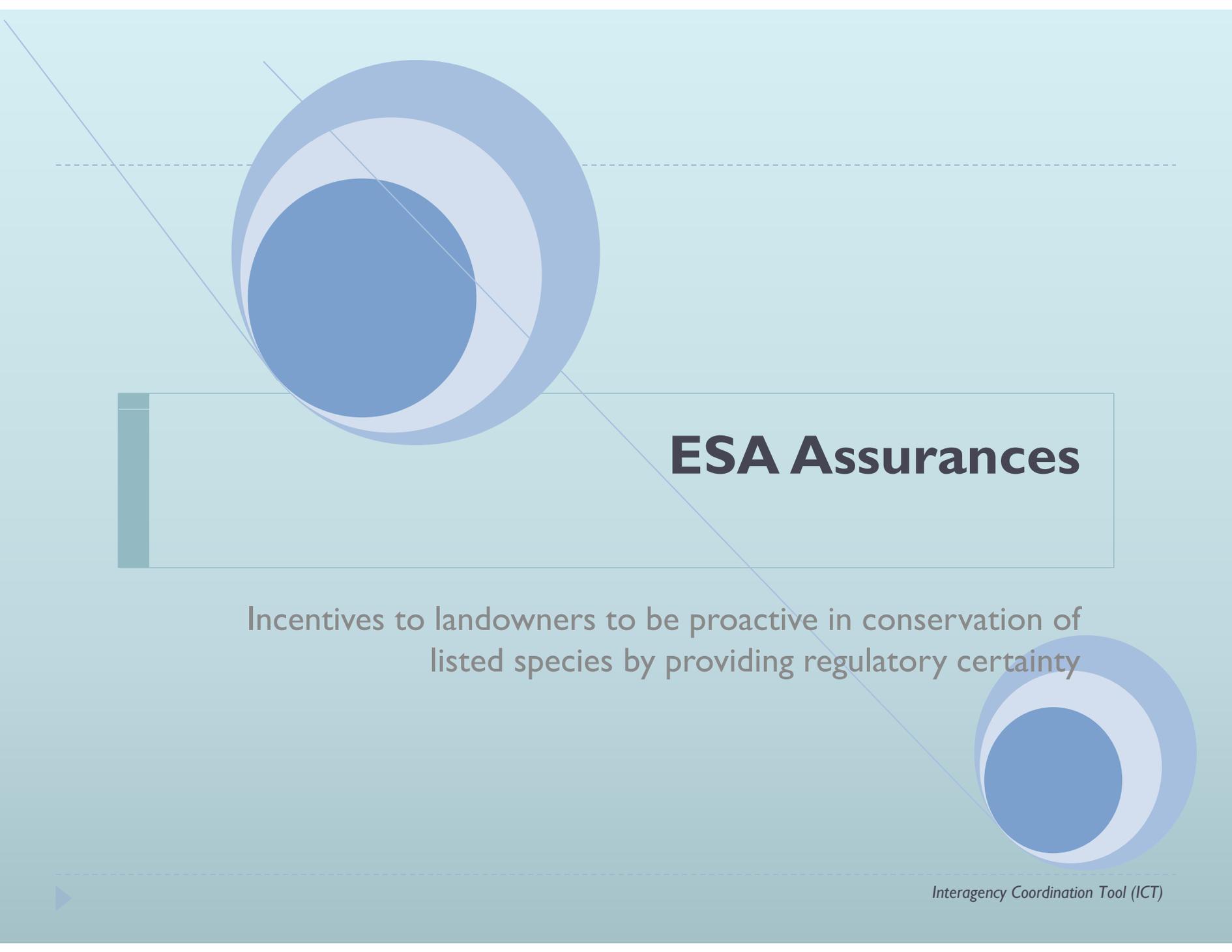
**NE**

**STOP.** The determination is **Not Likely to Adversely Affect (NLAA)**. Select *“See Attached Documentation”* on the CPA-52. Attach ICT printout and continue planning. Include ICT guidance to avoid adverse affects in the conservation plan. If available, client may choose to implement any recommendations provided in Section III of the ICT report.

**NLAA**

**STOP.** The determination is **May Adversely Affect (MAA)**. Mark the CPA-52 as *“See Attached Documentation”* and attach the ICT printout. Obtain consent from the landowner to consult using NRCS form WV CPA-52b. Contact the State Biologist for assistance.

**MAA**



# ESA Assurances

Incentives to landowners to be proactive in conservation of listed species by providing regulatory certainty

# ESA Assurances

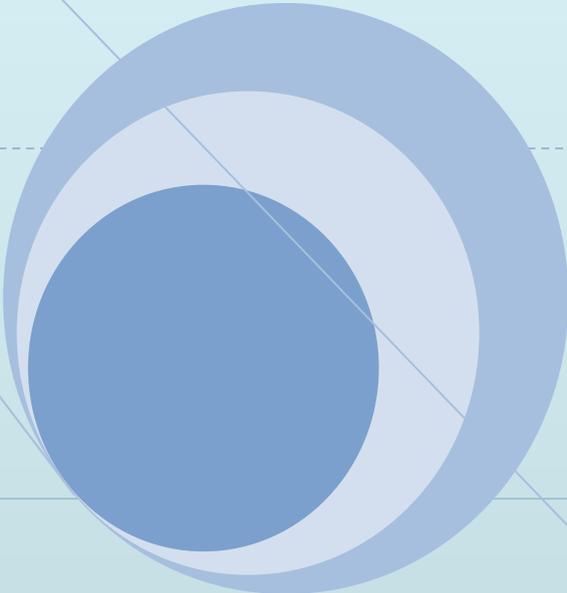
- ▶ **Safe Harbor Agreements**
  - ▶ A voluntary arrangement between the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the landowner that provide benefits to listed species while giving the landowners assurances from additional restrictions.
  - ▶ USFWS establishes a baseline condition (usually a number) for each species and determine whether the proposed actions will result in a net conservation benefit.
  - ▶ The landowner may incidentally take listed species as long as baseline conditions are maintained.



# ESA Assurances

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- ▶ **Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances**
  - ▶ A formal agreement between the USFWS and one or more parties to address the conservation needs of proposed or candidate species, or species likely to become candidates, before they become listed as endangered or threatened.
  - ▶ The participant voluntarily commits to implementing specific actions that will remove or reduce the threats to these species, thereby contributing to stabilizing or restoring the species so that listing is no longer necessary.
  - ▶ If species are listed in the future the landowners in CCA agreements are protected from future restrictions imposed due to listing.

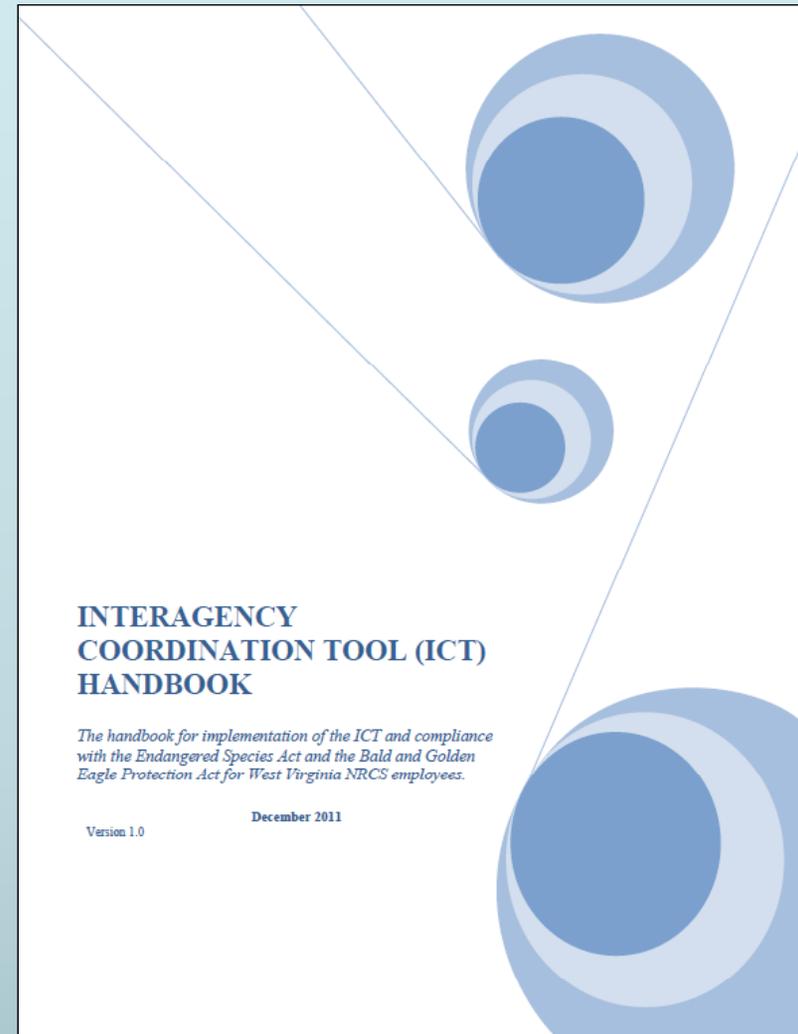


# ICT Assistance

Where field office staff can go for help with the ICT

# Assistance

- ▶ **ICT Handbook**
  - ▶ FAQ's
  - ▶ Species Fact Sheets
  - ▶ Training
  - ▶ Shared Positions
  - ▶ ICT State Administrator
- ▶ **FOTG**
  - ▶ Section II
    - ▶ matrix
    - ▶ agreements
    - ▶ recovery plans
    - ▶ mussel information
    - ▶ other info



# Assistance

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- ▶ Instances when you should call *(early versions)*
  1. Required consultation where no alternatives are available
  2. Required by alternative strategy (e.g. inspection)
  3. “Problems” with the ICT
  4. Coordination of benefits *(very low priority)*



# Assistance

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1. Contact one of the following individuals first for assistance in utilizing or interpreting the results of the ICT. Select the individual closest to your field office location. **NOTE: Contact one of these individuals for assistance prior to contacting the ICT State Administrator.**

## NRCS East & South Areas

### **John Moore**

WVDNR/NRCS  
Partner Biologist  
223 N. Main Street  
Moorefield, WV 26836

Phone: **(304) 530-2826**  
Email: [John.Moore@wv.usda.gov](mailto:John.Moore@wv.usda.gov)

### **Idun Guenther**

WVDNR/NRCS  
Partner Biologist  
RR2, Box 51B  
Buckeye, WV 24924

Phone: **(304) 799-4317**  
Email: [Idun.Guenther@wv.usda.gov](mailto:Idun.Guenther@wv.usda.gov)

## NRCS West & South Areas

### **Jake Owens**

WVDNR/NRCS  
Partner Biologist  
2631 5<sup>th</sup> St. Rd.  
Huntington, WV 25701

Phone: **(304) 697-6033**  
Email: [Jake.Owens@wv.usda.gov](mailto:Jake.Owens@wv.usda.gov)

### **Noah McCoard**

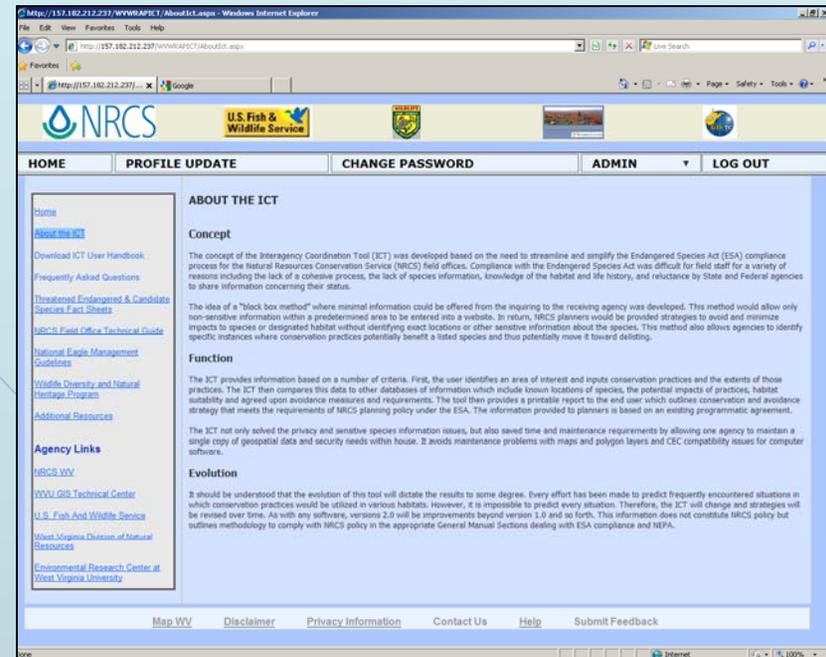
WVDNR/NRCS  
Partner Biologist  
One Ball Park Dr.  
McMechen, WV 26040

Phone: **(304) 242-0576**  
Email: [Noah.McCoard@wv.usda.gov](mailto:Noah.McCoard@wv.usda.gov)



# Future Developments

- ▶ ICT will evolve
- ▶ Improve functionality
- ▶ Hopefully could include CWA, cultural resources, rare habitats, species of concern
- ▶ Updates (FOTG, versions)
- ▶ Other agencies



Interagency Coordination Tool (ICT)

# Development Timeline

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Date	Event
<b>Feb 2007</b>	USFWS, NRCS and the AFWA signed National MOU
<b>July 2007</b>	NRCS/USFWS Workshops
<b>June 2008</b>	WV NRCS requested programmatic consultation with USFWS
<b>Sept 2009</b>	Formed the WVESA Working Group
<b>Sept 2010</b>	First practice-species matrix developed & agencies signed MOA for ICT development & data sharing
<b>Jan 2011</b>	USFWS West Virginia Programmatic Concurrence
<b>Jan - Dec 2011</b>	Pre-release versions of ICT
<b>Jan – May 2012</b>	Beta Version
<b>June 2012</b>	ICT Version 1.0

# Acknowledgements

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*Barb Douglas, Patrick Bowen, Deb Carter, Mike Daugherty, Evan Fedorko, Lee Haggerty, Walt Kordek, Frank LaFone, Noah McCoard, John Schmidt, Veeru Talreja, Matthew Ware, Nicole Ziatyk, Kevin Wickey*

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