

National and State Resource Concerns and Quality Criteria

Air

National Natural Resource Concern	Description of Concern	Quality Criteria	State Quality Criteria	Measurement Units	Assessment Tools for Quality Criteria Evaluation
Air Quality - Excessive Ozone	High concentrations of ozone (O ₃) are adversely affecting human health, reducing plant yields, and leading to the creation of smog.	Land use and management operations comply with requirements of the State or Federal Implementation Plan and all applicable Federal, Tribal, State, and Local regulations.	SAME AS NATIONAL	Pounds/Year – average annual pounds of reduced ozone precursors emissions for the field or planning area/unit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specific guidelines contained in State or Federal Implementation Plan; or other approved NRCS tools
Air Quality - Ammonia (NH₃)	Animal waste and inorganic commercial fertilizers emit ammonia that contributes to odor, is a PM _{2.5} precursor, and contributes to acid rain.	Land use and management operations comply with requirements of all applicable Federal, Tribal, State, and Local regulations.	SAME AS NATIONAL	Pounds/Year – average annual pounds of reduced NH ₃ emissions for the field or planning area/unit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approved NRCS technical guidance and tools
Air Quality - Chemical Drift	Materials applied for pest control drift downwind and contaminate/injure non-targeted fields, crops, soils, water, animals and humans.	Land use and management operations comply with all applicable Federal, Tribal, State, and Local regulations, and applicable label directions.	Land use and management operations comply with all applicable Federal, Tribal, State, and Local regulations, and applicable label directions. <i>Installation of vegetative buffers can be used when drift is from areas not controlled by the client.</i>	Non Measurable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approved NRCS technical guidance and tools • Visual assessment of drift damage or potential damage

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Air Quality - Objectionable Odors	Land use and management operations produce offensive smells.	Odor-producing facilities and activities are planned and sited to mitigate potential nuisance impacts and meets all applicable Tribal, State, and Local regulations.	Odor-producing facilities and activities are planned and sited to mitigate potential nuisance impacts and meets all applicable Tribal, State, and Local regulations. <i>Airborne odors are minimized by use of vegetative screening or site selection of waste storage structures that minimize off-site effects.</i>	Non Measurable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Olfactory assessment • Agricultural Waste Management Field Handbook (AWMFH) • NRCS approved tools Conservation Practice Physical Effects (CPPE) Practice List Sec.5 Field Office Technical Guide
Air Quality - Undesirable Air Movement	Wind velocities (too little or too much) reduce animal or plant productivity, impact human comfort and increase energy consumption.	Devices and practices are sited and planned to mitigate excess or deficient air movement.	SAME AS NATIONAL	Non Measurable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visual assessment • Anemometers • Approved NRCS technical guidance and tools • Windbreak/Shelterbelt (380) standard