

CONSERVATION PLANNING TOOL

SHORT VERSION FOR EXPERIENCED AGRICULTURAL SERVICE PROVIDERS

CONTACT INFORMATION

Person Conducting Site Visit: _____ **Date:** _____
Producer & Farm Name: _____
Address: _____
Email: _____ **Phone:** _____

FARM OVERVIEW

Operation Size (acres): _____ Cropland _____ Hayfield _____ Pasture _____ Forest
Operation Ownership (acres) _____ Owned _____ Rented
Farming Experience: _____
Easements or Restrictions: _____
Farmland Preseved & Expection Areas: _____
Operations
 Crop (Grain/Bean) Hay Pasture Orchard/Fruit
 Horses Beef Dairy Other Livestock
 Nursery Poultry Forestry Vineyard
 Crop (Vegetable) Mushroom Other: _____
Management: Conventional Organic, Not Certified Organic, Certified

FARM GOALS:

Priorities/Goals (Profit, growth, diversification, stewardship, community, enjoyment)

Long-term Plans: Expand Reduce No change in operation size anticipated

Anticipated Changes (Land size, herd/flock size, diversification, etc)

Existing Challenges (Deer, weeds, erosion, yields, equipment, etc)

CONSENT STATEMENT

I, _____ certify that the above information accurately represents the producer, land and agricultural operation associated with this survey.

Further, to help initiate planning and/or seek funding to help implement conservation practices, I understand that this information may be made available to USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), soil conservation districts, pertinent state agencies, technical service providers (TSPs) and/or potential funders.

Signature

Date

ANNUAL CROPS

Type of Crop:

- Corn Soy Wheat
 Vegetable Other

Soil Testing:

- No Yes, _____

Drainage Concern:

- No Yes, _____

Tillage Types (Circle Type)

- Conventional; (Moldboard , Chisel, Disk)
 Conservation (No-till, Reduced Till)

Typical Crop Rotation:

Cover Crops (species, and application method)

- No Yes, _____

Highly Erodible Land (HEL):

- No Yes, _____

Satisfied with crop yields and fertilizer use?

What weed or pests are a concern? Are you interested in reducing pesticide applications?

IRRIGATION SUPPLEMENT

Do you irrigate? No Yes

Type of irrigation:

- Drip Pivot
 Gun Other: _____

Irrigation Water Management No Yes

Chemicals through irrigation lines?

- Fertilizer
 Pesticide (with or without backflow preventer)

Aspect of irrigation system to improve (uniformity/ water use)?

ANIMAL INFORMATION

Type, Number, Operation Details and Feed

Drinking Water Source

- Well Stream Pond Spring

Muddy Heavy Use Area:

- No Yes, _____

Silage Leachate Handled:

- No Yes, _____

ANIMAL INFORMATION

Describe animal waste management and storage:

Runoff from waste storage:

- No Yes, _____

Manure used as farm asset?

- No Yes, _____

Pleased with Manure Management:

PASTURE OR HAYFIELD

Grazing Management Plan

- No Yes, _____

Type of Grazing:

- Rotationally Grazed Length of Rotation: _____
 Continuous Grazing

Sacrifice Paddock or Drylot: No Yes

Access of Waterbody (restricted or unrestricted)

- No Yes, _____

Satisfied with pasture quality, fencing, and watering?

Interest in more pasture or rotations; what impediments faced?

Interest in delayed mowing?

- No Yes, _____

WATERBODIES

Streams or Water Bodies on Property? Size and seasonality?

Management of areas along waterbodies

Interest in practices to improve water quality?

FORESTRY

Forest Management Plan (by whom and when)

- No Yes, _____

What is harvested from land? Any Concerns? Goals or objectives for managing fish, wildlife or natural areas?

CONSERVATION CONCERNS

Pleased with soil quality and fertility?

Excessively wet areas?

Problems with erosion?

Heavy use area muddy or problematic?

Quality / Quantity of Drinking Water?

Chemical, fertilizer and petroleum storage

USDA ELIGIBILITY

Have you participated in USDA programs before?

Do you file records with FSA? No Yes

Does farmer meet the criteria for any of the following?

- Limited Resource Farmers or Rancher
- Beginning Farmer or Rancher
- Socially Disadvantaged Farmer or Rancher
- Veteran Farmer or Rancher

Which NRCS plans does the farmer have?

- Comprehensive nutrient management plan (CNMP)
- Nutrient management plan (NMP)
- Integrated pest management plan (IPM)
- Grazing management / Prescribed grazing
- Forest management plan
- Transition to organic plan

CONSERVATION PRACTICE INTEREST AND IMPLEMENTATION

For Practices farmer implements – Add Checkbox ✓

For Practices farmer is interested in - Circle

Reducing Soil Erosion

No-till / Reduced till	Crop rotations
Cover crops	Contour farming
Crop residue management	Diversions
Grassed waterways	

Improving Soil Health

No-till / Reduced till	Cover crop
Residue management	(single species)
Soil Fertility testing	Cover crop (multispecies)

Improving Manure Management

Manure stacking pad	Composting
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Practice for Improving Water Quality

Cattle crossing	Stream-side buffers
Exclusion fencing	

Animal Operations

Heavy Use Area Protection	Composting Facility
Waste Storage Facility	

Farmstead Improvement

Agrichemical handling facility	Run-off structures (ie. gutters)
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Irrigation Improvement

Irrigation pipeline	Micro-irrigation
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Managing Grazing Lands

Watering facility	Forage planting
Prescribed grazing	Weed treatment
Fencing	Improved trails and walkways

Establishing Wildlife Habitat

Pollinator habitat	Stream habitat improvement
Early successional habitat	Delayed mowing

Managing Forestlands

Forest stand improvement

Other