

CSP-2017-1_ND - Ag Lands - Beginning Farmer Range

Soil Erosion

Sheet and Rill Erosion

Planning Criteria

Screening level: State established criteria. Assessment level: RHA - soil site stability - slight to moderate or less OR Rangeland Planned Trend is positive

Planning Criteria Met

Yes No

Evaluation Tests

Plant cover controls active erosion (shallow <1 foot deep rills/gullies) and runoff from normal rain events. Litter and soil stay in place during normal rain events.

Evaluation Test Met

Yes No

Wind Erosion

Planning Criteria

Screening level: State established criteria. Assessment level: RHA - soil site stability - slight to moderate or less OR Rangeland Planned Trend is positive

Planning Criteria Met

Yes No

Evaluation Tests

Plant cover controls wind erosion. No blow outs, deposition along fence lines, or on the leeward side of objects is present.

Evaluation Test Met

Yes No

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Classic Gully Erosion

Planning Criteria

Screening level: Classic gullies are not present. Assessment level: Classic gully management is adequate to stop the progression of head cutting and widening and are offsite impacts are minimized by vegetation and/or structures.

Planning Criteria Met

Yes No

Evaluation Tests

All areas expected to have high erosion rates are stable.

Evaluation Test Met

Yes No

Plant cover controls active erosion (gullies <1 foot deep).

Yes No

Streambank, Shoreline, Water Conveyance Channels

Planning Criteria

Screening level: Streams, shoreline or channels are not adjacent to site. Assessment level: 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.

Planning Criteria Met

Yes No

Evaluation Tests

Current plant cover controls active stream bank erosion.

Evaluation Test Met

Yes No

Excluding all fundamentally unstable, natural geomorphic streambanks/shorelines, all streambanks/shorelines on the operation show few signs of erosion or bank failure. Each is stable and protected with natural materials.

Yes No

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Soil Quality Degradation

Organic Matter Depletion

Planning Criteria

Planning Criteria Met

Screening level: Soil organic matter depletion is not a problem AND activities do not cause soil organic matter depletion. Assessment level: The RHA - soil site stability is slight to moderate or less AND the RHA - biotic integrity attribute rating is slight to moderate departure or less, OR Rangeland Planned Trend is positive.

Yes No

Evaluation Tests

Evaluation Test Met

Plants growing are expected, desired, and suited to the site.

Yes No

Compaction

Planning Criteria

Planning Criteria Met

Screening level: Soil compaction is not a problem AND activities do not cause soil compaction problems. Assessment level: The RHA - soil site stability is slight to moderate or less OR compaction is managed to meet client's production and management objectives.

Yes No

Evaluation Tests

Evaluation Test Met

Soils are not compacted past a point that limits plant root depth and growth.

Yes No

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Concentration of Salts and other Chemicals

Planning Criteria

Screening level: Activities do not cause salinity/sodicity problems.
Assessment level: Conservation practices and managements are in place to mitigate on-site effects.

Planning Criteria Met

Yes No

Evaluation Tests

All erodible areas with high chemical concentrations (such as high salts) have been stabilized with permanent vegetation.

Evaluation Test Met

Yes No

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Water Quality Degradation

Pesticides in Surface Water

Planning Criteria

Screening level: Pest control chemicals are not applied. Assessment level: Pesticides are stored, handled, disposed and managed to prevent runoff, spills, leaks and leaching AND conservation practices and managements are in place to minimize surface water impacts.

Planning Criteria Met

Yes No

Evaluation Tests

If pesticides are applied, they are applied according to label and an environmental risk screening tool is utilized (such as WIN-PST).

Evaluation Test Met

Yes No

Pesticides in Ground Water

Planning Criteria

Screening level: Pest control chemicals are not applied. Assessment level: Pesticides are stored, handled, disposed and managed to prevent runoff, spills, leaks and leaching AND conservation practices and managements are in place to minimize ground water impacts.

Planning Criteria Met

Yes No

Evaluation Tests

Pesticides are applied using a site-specific mixture of prevention, avoidance, monitoring, and suppression (PAMS) strategies. Environmental risk screening tool are used (such as WIN-PST or similar LGU approval tool).

Evaluation Test Met

Yes No

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Nutrients in Surface Water

Planning Criteria

Planning Criteria Met

Screening level: Organic or inorganic nutrients are not applied AND the PLU is not grazed AND there are no confined livestock areas.
Assessment level: Nutrients if applied, are based on a soil test, tissue tests or nutrient budget AND conservation practices and managements are in place to minimize surface water impacts.

Yes No

Evaluation Tests

Evaluation Test Met

Livestock access to stream is controlled OR limited to small watering or crossing areas

Yes No

Nutrients in Ground Water

Planning Criteria

Planning Criteria Met

Screening level: Organic or inorganic nutrients are not applied AND the PLU is not grazed AND there are no confined livestock areas.
Assessment level: Nutrients if applied, are based on a soil test, tissue tests or nutrient budget AND conservation practices and managements are in place to minimize ground water impacts.

Yes No

Evaluation Tests

Evaluation Test Met

When sinkholes are present in karst regions, livestock utilization of immediate sinkhole watershed area is managed to avoid nutrient additions to groundwater.

Yes No

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Excess Pathogens and Chemicals from Manure, Bio-solids or Compost Applications in Surface Water

Planning Criteria

Planning Criteria Met

Screening level: Potential sources of pathogens or pharmaceuticals are not applied on the land. Assessment level: Organic materials are applied, stored, and/or handled to mitigate negative impacts to surface water sources.

Yes No

Evaluation Tests

Evaluation Test Met

Livestock access to stream is controlled OR limited to small watering or crossing areas

Yes No

Petroleum, Heavy Metal and Other Pollutants Transported to Surface Water

Planning Criteria

Planning Criteria Met

Screening level: Activities do not present the potential for contamination by petroleum, heavy metals and other pollutants. Assessment level: Petroleum, heavy metals or other potential pollutants are stored and handled to avoid runoff to surface water.

Yes No

Evaluation Tests

Evaluation Test Met

The fuel storage area and tank is located: - above the 100-year floodplain, - a minimum of 100 feet from any river, stream, ditch, pond, lake, sinkhole, wetland, or water well, and - within a stable place designed to provide secondary containment if the primary means were to fail.

Yes No

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Petroleum, Heavy Metal and Other Pollutants Transported to Ground Water

Planning Criteria

Screening level: Activities do not present the potential for contamination by petroleum, heavy metals and other pollutants.
Assessment level: Petroleum, heavy metals or other potential pollutants are stored and handled to avoid runoff to groundwater.

Planning Criteria Met

Yes No

Evaluation Tests

The fuel storage area and tank is located: - above the 100-year floodplain, - a minimum of 100 feet from any river, stream, ditch, pond, lake, sinkhole, wetland, or water well, and - within a stable place designed to provide secondary containment if the primary means were to fail.

Evaluation Test Met

Yes No

Excessive Sediment in Surface Water

Planning Criteria

Screening level: There are no untreated sources of erosion AND streams or shoreline are not on or adjacent to site. Assessment level: The RHA - hydrologic function attribute - is slight to moderate or less AND the SVAP2 - bank condition is ≥ 5 .

Planning Criteria Met

Yes No

Evaluation Tests

Plant cover controls active erosion (shallow <1 foot deep rills/gullies) and runoff from normal rain events. Litter and soil stay in place during normal rain events.

Evaluation Test Met

Yes No

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Elevated Water Temperature

Planning Criteria

Screening level: Water courses on or adjacent to the site are not designated by a State Agency as a temperature impairment OR water course temperature is not a client concern. Assessment level: The SVAP2 - riparian area quality element score is ≥ 5 AND the SVAP2 - riparian area quantity quality element score is ≥ 5 AND the SVAP2 - canopy cover element score is ≥ 6 , OR existing conservation practices are in place to address water temperature.

Planning Criteria Met

Yes No

Evaluation Tests

Surface water temperatures in perennial streams do not limit use for the intended purposes.

Evaluation Test Met

Yes No

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Air Quality Impacts

Emissions of Particulate Matter (PM) and PM Precursors

Planning Criteria

Screening level: Activities are not present that contribute to agricultural source PM or PM precursor emissions AND episodes or complaints of emissions of PM (dust, smoke, exhaust, etc.), or chemical drift have not occurred. PM producing activity examples are: Prescribed Burn is conducted, Travel ways unpaved or untreated with binding agents, Engines (combustion source), Tillage, Pesticides are applied, Fertilization (manure/ commercial), CAFO/manure management). Assessment level: PM and PM Precursor emissions are managed to meet client objectives.

Planning Criteria Met

Yes No

Evaluation Tests

If prescribed burning is implemented, a prescribed burn plan has been developed and followed by competent, trained fire personnel.

Evaluation Test Met

Yes No

If prescribed burning is employed, the smoke management objectives in the burn plan are followed.

Yes No

Emission of Greenhouse Gases (GHGs)

Planning Criteria

Screening level: Activities are not present that produce GHGs emissions. GHG producing activities are: Fertilization(manure/commercial), CAFO/manure management, Engines (combustion source), Tillage, AND GHGs are not regulated in this planning area. Assessment level: Greenhouse gas emissions are managed to meet client objectives.

Planning Criteria Met

Yes No

Evaluation Tests

Forage Supply and Demand Balance is achieved.

Evaluation Test Met

Yes No

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Degraded Plant Condition

Undesirable Plant Productivity and Health

Planning Criteria

Planning Criteria Met

Assessment level: Vegetation meet similarity index or range condition score of 60 or greater for desired plant community and has a positive trend OR RHA - biotic integrity attribute rating - is slight to moderate departure or less.

Yes No

Evaluation Tests

Evaluation Test Met

When prescribed burning is needed and utilized, a prescribed burn plan has been developed and followed by competent, trained fire personnel.

Yes No

Plant yield, vigor, and quality are as expected.

Yes No

Inadequate Structure and Composition

Planning Criteria

Planning Criteria Met

Screening level: Plant communities support the intended land use and desired ecological functions. Assessment level: Plant communities contain adequate diversity, composition and structure to support desired ecological functions OR the RHA - biotic integrity attribute rating is slight to moderate departure or less OR vegetation meet similarity index of 60 or greater for desired plant community and has a positive trend.

Yes No

Evaluation Tests

Evaluation Test Met

Plants growing are expected, desired, and suited to the site.

Yes No

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Excessive Plant Pest Pressure

Planning Criteria

Planning Criteria Met

Screening level: Plant productivity is not limited from pest pressure. Assessment level: Pest damage to plants are below economic or environmental thresholds or client-identified criteria AND plant pests, including noxious and invasive species are managed to meet client objectives.

Yes No

Evaluation Tests

Evaluation Test Met

If prescribed burning is needed and utilized, a prescribed burn plan has been developed and followed by competent, trained fire personnel.

Yes No

The current plants provide the desired plant community for the site.

Yes No

Wildfire Hazard, Excessive Biomass Accumulation

Planning Criteria

Planning Criteria Met

Screening level: Wildfire hazards is not a concern. Assessment level: Fuel loads and fuel ladders are managed to provide defensible space and meet client objectives.

Yes No

Evaluation Tests

Evaluation Test Met

A prescribed burn plan has been developed and followed by competent, trained fire personnel, where needed.

Yes No

Active management occurs to avoid too much buildup of likely wildfire fuels.

Yes No

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Fish and Wildlife - Inadequate Habitat

Inadequate Habitat - Food

Planning Criteria

Planning Criteria Met

Assessment level: The WHSI rating is ≥ 0.5 AND (when surface stream present) the SVAP2 - fish habitat complexity element score is ≥ 7 AND the SVAP2 - aquatic invertebrate habitat element score is ≥ 7 , OR conservation practices and managements are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds, OR food is available in quality and extent to support habitat requirements for the species of interest.

Yes No

Evaluation Tests

Evaluation Test Met

Plants growing are expected, desired, and suited to the site.

Yes No

Plant growth and cover is managed to develop and maintain habitat for the benefit of wildlife species

Yes No

A prescribed burn plan has been developed and followed by competent, trained fire personnel.

Yes No

The land adjacent to a waterbody on the side or sides you control does:
- have diverse, natural plant cover typical to that along streams in your area,
- extend from the stream bank/shoreline for a distance of 35 feet or 2.5 times channel width (for streams/rivers), whichever is greater,
AND - have few places where concentrated runoff flows through.

Yes No

The plant cover provides cover and food for the chosen wildlife species.

Yes No

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Inadequate Habitat - Cover/Shelter

Planning Criteria

Planning Criteria Met

Assessment level: The WHSI rating is ≥ 0.5 AND (when surface stream present) the SVAP2 - barriers to movement element score is ≥ 7 AND the SVAP2 - fish habitat complexity element score is ≥ 7 AND the SVAP2 - aquatic invertebrate habitat element score is ≥ 7 , OR conservation practices and managements are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds, OR cover is of available quality and extent to support habitat requirements for the species of interest.

Yes No

Evaluation Tests

Evaluation Test Met

A prescribed burn plan has been developed and followed by competent, trained fire personnel.

Yes No

The stream(s) have: - a natural, unaltered configuration, with minimal channel straightening, dredging, or bank alteration by armoring with rip-rap or other non-natural materials, - stable banks with limited erosion or bank failure, and - human uses and/or grazing levels that do not negatively impact bank condition.

Yes No

The plant cover provides cover for the chosen wildlife species.

Yes No

Livestock access to streams is limited to short periods of time and smaller pastures where feasible.

Yes No

Plants growing are expected, desired, and suited to the site.

Yes No

Plant growth and cover is managed to develop and maintain habitat for the benefit of wildlife species.

Yes No

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Inadequate Habitat - Water

Planning Criteria

Planning Criteria Met

Assessment level: The WHSI rating is ≥ 0.5 AND (when surface stream present) the SVAP2 - aquatic invertebrate habitat element score is ≥ 7 , OR conservation practices and managements are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds, OR water is available in quality and extent to support habitat requirements for the species of interest.

Yes No

Evaluation Tests

Evaluation Test Met

The plant cover provides cover and food for the chosen wildlife species.

Yes No

Watering facilities have escape ramps installed. The water surface can be safely accessed.

Yes No

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Inadequate Habitat - Habitat Continuity (Space)

Planning Criteria

Planning Criteria Met

Assessment level: The WHSI rating is ≥ 0.5 AND (when surface stream present) the SVAP2 - barriers to movement element score is ≥ 7 AND the SVAP2 - aquatic invertebrate habitat element score is ≥ 7 , OR conservation practices and managements are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds, OR The connectivity of habitat components are adequate to support stable populations of targeted species.

Yes No

Evaluation Tests

Evaluation Test Met

The land adjacent to a waterbody on the side or sides you control does:
- have diverse, natural plant cover typical to that along streams in your area, - extend from the stream bank/shoreline for a distance of 35 feet or 2.5 times channel width (for streams/rivers), whichever is greater, AND - have few places where concentrated runoff flows through.

Yes No

Existing fences allow wildlife movement without harm.

Yes No

Connectivity between food resources and cover and shelter is provided for the chosen wildlife species. <see State Wildlife Action Plan>

Yes No

Plant growth and cover is managed to develop and maintain habitat to help chosen wildlife species. <see State Wildlife Action Plan>

Yes No

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Livestock Production Limitation

Inadequate Feed and Forage

Planning Criteria

Planning Criteria Met

Assessment level: When the land use has a "grazed" modifier, livestock forage, roughage and supplemental nutritional requirements addressed.

Yes No

Evaluation Tests

Evaluation Test Met

Plant cover includes desired plants that are sufficient for the dietary needs and production goals of the livestock.

Yes No

Plants growing are expected, desired, and suited to the site.

Yes No

Inadequate Shelter

Planning Criteria

Planning Criteria Met

Assessment level: When the land use has a "grazed" modifier, artificial or natural shelters meet animal health needs and client objectives.

Yes No

Evaluation Tests

Evaluation Test Met

Livestock have adequate shelter.

Yes No

Inadequate Water

Planning Criteria

Planning Criteria Met

Assessment level: When the land use has a "grazed" modifier, water of acceptable quality and quantity adequately distributed to meet animal needs.

Yes No

Evaluation Tests

Evaluation Test Met

The livestock have enough drinking water of good quality.

Yes No