

**Indiana Instructions for Completing Form NRCS-CPA-52,  
"Environmental Evaluation Worksheet" Special Environmental Concerns**

Source: National Environmental Compliance Handbook  
(190-VI-NECH, First Edition, October 2003)

**610.71 Evaluation Procedures**

**CLEAN WATER ACT AND WATERS OF THE U.S. (Check with Engineers)**

**STEP 1.** Will the planned action or activity involve or likely result in, the discharge of dredged or fill material or other pollutant into "waters of the United States," or is the project in proximity of a water that has been listed by the state as "impaired" under Section 303(d)?

NO [ ]            YES [ ]            UNKNOWN [ ]

- a. If your answer is "No," document this on form NRCS-CPA-52 or equivalent and proceed with planning.
- b. If your answer is "Yes," go to step 2.
- c. If your answer is "Unknown," meaning that you do not know if the action will involve the discharge of dredged or fill material or other pollutant into waters of the United States, or if the project is in proximity to a Section 303(d) water, the client should contact the appropriate Corps or state water quality office for a determination. Repeat step 1.

**STEP 2.** Has the client obtained a Section 404 and/or a NPDES (Section 402) permit or a determination of an exemption?

YES [ ]            NO [ ]            UNKNOWN [ ]

- a. If your answer is "Yes," document this on form NRCS-CPA-52 or equivalent and proceed with planning. The final plan should not be contrary to the provisions of the permit authorization or exemption. Changes made during the planning process that may impact the applicability of the permit, such as amount or location of fills or discharges of pollutants should be coordinated with the Corps.
- b. If your answer is "no," determine if the client has applied for a permit. If a permit has been applied for, document this, and continue the planning process in consultation with the client and the regulatory agencies. If a permit has not been applied for, the client should apply. Continue the planning process in consultation with the client and the regulatory agencies. The permit authorization should reflect the final plan and documentation.
- c. If your answer is "Unknown," meaning that you do not know if authorization has been obtained or applied for, consult the client and repeat step 2

**COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT AREAS (Only Around Lake Michigan)**

**STEP 1. Is the proposed action or activity in an officially designated "Coastal Zone Management Area"?**

NO [ ]            YES [ ]            UNKNOWN [ ]

- a. If your answer is "No," additional evaluation is not needed concerning coastal zones. Document the finding on form NRCS-CPA-52 or equivalent and proceed with planning.
- b. If your answer is "Yes," go to step 2.

c. If your answer is "Unknown," consult Section II of the FOTG for a listing of Coastal Zone Management Areas and repeat step 1.

**STEP 2. Is the proposed action or activity "consistent" with the goals and objectives of the State's Coastal Zone Management Plan?**

NO [ ] YES [ ]

- a. If your answer is "No," go to step 3.
- b. If your answer is "Yes," no additional evaluation is needed concerning coastal zones. Document the finding, including the reasons, on form NRCS-CPA-52 or equivalent and proceed with planning.

**STEP 3. Can the proposed action or activity be modified so it will be consistent with the State's Coastal Zone Management Plan?**

NO [ ] YES [ ]

- a. If your answer is "No," document and describe the inconsistency on the NRCS-CPA-52 or equivalent and go to step 4.
- b. If your answer is "Yes," modify the action or activity and go to Step 2 and repeat.

**STEP 4. Will a Federal agency other than NRCS provide funding or otherwise control implementation of the action?**

NO [ ] YES [ ]

- a. If your answer is "No," go to step 5.
- b. If your answer is "Yes," recommend that the funding or controlling agency consult with the State Coastal Zone Management Office before the action is implemented. Proceed with planning.

**STEP 5. Is NRCS providing financial assistance or otherwise controlling the action?**

NO [ ] YES [ ]

- a. If your answer is "No," an alternative conservation system that does not result in a violation of enforceable policies of a State's Coastal Zone Management Plan must be identified as the proposed action or NRCS must discontinue assistance. If assistance is terminated, indicate the circumstances on the NRCS-CPA-52 or equivalent or contact the NRCS State office for assistance.
- b. If your answer is "Yes," the NRCS District Conservationist or an NRCS State office employee must consult with the State's Coastal Zone Management Office before the action is implemented. NRCS shall not provide assistance if the proposed action or activity would result in a violation of enforceable policies of a State's Coastal Zone Management Plan. A consistency determination must be provided to the State agency no later than 90 days before final approval of the activity. When consultation is complete, document the agreements reached, and reference them or attach them to the NRCS-CPA-52 or equivalent.

**CULTURAL RESOURCES** (Follow guidance from Cultural Resource Specialist)

**STEP 1. Is the proposed action or activity (i.e. "undertaking") funded in whole or part or under the control of NRCS? To make this determination, answer the following:**

**Is it carried out by or on behalf of NRCS?**

YES [ ] NO [ ] UNKNOWN [ ]

**Is it carried out with NRCS financial assistance?**



**Local Governments, historical societies & commissions?**

YES [ ] NO [ ] UNKNOWN [ ]

**All interested parties who have requested consultation?**

YES [ ] NO [ ] UNKNOWN [ ]

- a. If any responses are "No" or "Unknown," continue consultation or ensure that consultation has been completed (by the appropriate NRCS official) with each interested party prior to implementation or installation.
- b. If all responses are "Yes," document each consultation and proceed with the project.

**ENDANGERED AND THREATENED SPECIES (Check with Biologist)**

**STEP 1. Do endangered or threatened species, designated critical habitat, or species that have been proposed for listing as endangered or threatened exist, or could they exist, in the area of the proposed action or activity or the area of potential effects?**

NO [ ] YES [ ] UNKNOWN [ ]

- a. If your answer is "No," additional evaluation is not needed concerning endangered and threatened species. Document the finding, including the basis for the determination, on form NRCS-CPA-52 or equivalent and proceed with planning.
- b. If your answer is "Yes," go to step 2.
- c. If your answer is "Unknown," consult Section II of the FOTG for a listing of endangered and threatened species and repeat step 1. If you are still uncertain about the status of endangered or threatened species in the planning area, consult your State Biologist or contact the FWS/NOAA Fisheries, as appropriate.

**STEP 2. What are the short and long-term impacts of the proposed action or activity on the endangered or threatened species, designated critical habitat or species or habitat proposed for listing? More than one may apply.**

NO EFFECT [ ]

MAY AFFECT BUT NOT LIKELY TO ADVERSELY AFFECT (e.g., beneficially affect) [ ]

MAY ADVERSELY AFFECT [ ]

EFFECTS ARE UNKNOWN [ ]

- a. If your answer is "No effect," additional evaluation is not needed concerning endangered and threatened species. Document the finding, including the reasons for your determination on form NRCS-CPA-52 or equivalent and proceed with planning.
- b. If your only answer is "May affect but not likely to adversely affect" document the finding, including the reasons, on form NRCS-CPA-52 or equivalent. Go to step 3.
- c. If your answer includes "May adversely affect," modify the action if possible to avoid adverse effects. If the action can be modified, repeat step 2. If the action can not be modified, go to step 3.
- d. If your answer is "Effects are unknown," contact the NRCS State Biologist for assistance and repeat step 2.

**STEP 3. Will a Federal agency other than NRCS provide funding or otherwise control implementation of the action?**

NO [ ] YES [ ]

- a. If your answer is "No," go to step 4.
- b. If your answer is "Yes," ensure that potential adverse effects are avoided to the extent feasible, document and describe the effects on the NRCS-CPA-52 or equivalent. Include both short-term and long-term effects. Document on the NRCS-CPA-52 the need for the lead Federal agency to consult (if listed species or habitat may be affected beneficially or adversely) or conference (if proposed species or habitat are likely to be adversely affected) with the FWS/NOAA Fisheries, as appropriate. Inform the client and continue planning.

**STEP 4. Is NRCS providing financial assistance or otherwise controlling the action?**

NO [ ]            YES [ ]

- a. If your answer is “No,” and your answer in step 2 was “May affect but not likely to adversely affect” and there is no possibility of any short-term or long-term adverse effects to threatened or endangered species, designated critical habitat or species or habitat proposed for listing, continue with planning but ensure the client is aware of the effects.
- b. If your answer is “No,” and your answer in step 2 was “May adversely affect,” inform the client of NRCS's policy concerning endangered and threatened species and the need to use alternative conservation treatments to avoid adverse effects on species or their habitat. Further NRCS assistance will be provided only if one of the alternative conservation is selected that avoids adverse effects or the landowner obtains a “take” permit from the FWS/NOAA Fisheries, as appropriate.
- c. If your answer is “Yes,” and your answer in step 2 was “May affect but not likely to adversely affect” and the effects are to species or habitat that has been **proposed for listing**, continue with planning. Neither consultation nor conferencing is required.
- d. If your answer is “Yes,” and your answer in step 2 was either “May affect but not likely to adversely affect” or “May adversely affect,” inform the client that the NRCS District Conservationist or the NRCS State Biologist must consult or conference with FWS/NOAA Fisheries, as appropriate. The action will only be implemented according to the terms of the consultation. When consultation is complete, reference or attach the consultation documents to the NRCS-CPA-52 or equivalent.

**ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE (Be Aware- Not usually an issue)**

**STEP 1. In the area affected by the NRCS action, are there low-income populations, minority populations or Indian tribes?**

NO [ ]            YES [ ]

- a. If your answer is "No," additional evaluation is not needed concerning environmental justice. Document the finding on form NRCS-CPA-52 or equivalent and proceed with planning.
- b. If yes, then go to Step 2.

**STEP 2. Is the proposed action the type that might have a disproportionately adverse environmental or human health effect on any population?**

NO [ ]            YES [ ]

- a. If your answer is "No," additional evaluation is not needed concerning environmental justice. Document the finding on form NRCS-CPA-52 or equivalent and proceed with planning.
- b. If yes, then go to step 3.

**STEP 3. Initiate community outreach to affected and interested parties that are categorized as low-income, minority, or as Indian Tribes. The purpose of this is to encourage participation and input on the proposed program or activity and any alternatives or mitigating options. Participation of these populations may require adaptive or innovative approaches to overcome linguistic, institutional, cultural, economic, historic, or other potential barriers to effective participation. Go to step 4.**

**STEP 4. Considering the results of the outreach initiative together with other information gathered for the decision making process, will the proposed activity have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on the human health or the environment of minority, low-income, or Indian populations?**

NO [ ]            YES [ ]

- a. If “No,” then go to Step 6.
- b. If “Yes,” then go to Step 5.

**STEP 5. Consider the feasibility and appropriateness of alternatives or mitigating options and their effects.**

**STEP 6. Notify interested and affected parties of agency decision.**

**FISH AND WILDLIFE COORDINATION (Check with Biologist)**

**STEP 1. Does the action or activity propose or authorize any stream or other body of water to be impounded, diverted, the channel deepened, controlled or otherwise modified for any purpose?**

**NO [ ]            YES [ ]**

a. If your answer is "No," additional evaluation is not needed concerning Fish and Wildlife Coordination. Document the finding on form NRCS-CPA-52 or equivalent and proceed with planning.

b. If your answer is "Yes," go to step 2.

**STEP 2. Is the proposed action to impound water with a surface area less than 10 acres?**

**NO [ ]            YES [ ]**

a. If your answer is "No," go to step 3.

b. If your answer is "Yes," document the finding on form NRCS-CPA-52 or equivalent and proceed with planning.

**STEP 3. Will a Federal agency other than NRCS provide funding or otherwise control implementation of the action?**

**NO [ ]            YES [ ]**

a. If your answer is "No," the NRCS District Conservationist or NRCS State office employee must initiate consultation with the FWS and the State agency that administers wildlife resources. NRCS shall give full consideration to the recommendations and those recommendations shall be referenced in or attached to the NRCS-CPA-52 and made an integral part of the plan.

b. If your answer is "Yes," indicate on the NRCS-CPA-52 that consultation with the FWS and the State agency that administers wildlife resources may be required before the action is implemented. Proceed with planning.

**FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT (Check with Engineers)**

**This determination criterion is intended for non-project technical and financial assistance only. For project assistance criteria, consult (GM-190, Part 410.25(c) 2).**

**STEP 1. Is a base (100-year) floodplain present in or near the planning area?**

**NO [ ]            YES [ ]            UNKNOWN [ ]**

a. If your answer is "No," additional evaluation is not needed concerning floodplain areas. Document the finding on form NRCS-CPA-52 or equivalent and proceed with planning.

b. If your answer is "Yes," go to step 2.

c. If your answer is "Unknown," review the FEMA flood insurance rate maps or make an onsite determination and repeat step 1.

**STEP 2. Does the floodplain have an agricultural area that has been used to produce food, fiber, feed, forage or oilseed for at least 3 of the last 5 years before the request for assistance?**

**NO [ ]            YES [ ]**

a. If your answer is "No," the land user is not eligible for technical and/or financial assistance from the NRCS for the area of the floodplain.

b. If your answer is "Yes," document the crop history and go to step 3.

**STEP 3. Is the floodplain's agricultural production in accordance with official state or designated area water quality plans?**

NO [ ]                      YES [ ]

- a. If your answer is "No," the land user is not eligible for technical and/or financial assistance from the NRCS for the area of the floodplain
- b. If your answer is "Yes," document the finding, including the reasons. The land user is eligible to receive technical and/or financial assistance. Go to step 4.

**STEP 4. Will the proposed action or alternative likely result in an adverse effect, incompatible development, or an increased flood hazard?**

NO [ ]                      YES [ ]

- a. If your answer is "No," additional evaluation is not needed concerning floodplain areas. Document the finding, including the reasons, on form NRCS-CPA-52 or equivalent and proceed with planning.
- b. If your answer is "Yes," The District Conservationist shall determine and inform the land user of alternative methods of achieving the objective, as well as alternative locations outside of the base floodplain. If the action involves building a structure, inform the participant of the hazards of locating actions in the floodplain. Document the effects of all alternatives on form NRCS-CPA-52 or equivalent and go to step 5.

**STEP 5. Is one or more of the alternative methods or locations practical?**

NO [ ]                      YES [ ]

- a. If your answer is "No," the District Conservationist will determine whether to continue to providing assistance. Go to step 6.
- b. If your answer is "Yes" and the landuser agrees to implement the alternative, no additional evaluation is needed concerning floodplain areas. Document the finding, including the reasons, on form NRCS-CPA-52 or equivalent and proceed with planning. If otherwise, go to step 6.

**STEP 6. Will assistance continue to be provided?**

NO [ ]                      YES [ ]

- a. If your answer is "No," written notification of the decision to terminate assistance shall be provided to the land user and the local conservation district. Document the finding, including the reasons, on form NRCS-CPA-52 or equivalent.
- b. If your answer is "Yes," the proposed action should be designed or modified to minimize the adverse effects to the extent possible. A written public notice shall be locally circulated explaining why the action is proposed to be located in the base flood plain. Document the finding, including the reasons, on form NRCS-CPA-52 or equivalent and proceed with planning.

**INVASIVE SPECIES (Be Aware- Check with Agronomist, Biologist & Forester)**

**STEP 1. Is the proposed action or activity in an area where invasive species are known to occur or where risk of an invasion exists?**

NO [ ]                      YES [ ]                      UNKNOWN [ ]

- a. If your answer is "No," additional evaluation is not needed concerning invasive species. Document the finding on form NRCS-CPA-52 or equivalent and proceed with planning.
- b. If your answer is "Yes," go to step 2.
- c. If your answer is "Unknown," consult Section II of the FOTG for a listing of invasive species in the area and/or the appropriate technical specialist to determine the potential for introduction of new invasive species into the area.

**STEP 2. Conduct an inventory of the invasive species and identify areas at risk for future invasions. Delineate these areas on the conservation plan map. Have all appropriate tools, techniques, management strategies, and risks for invasive species prevention, control, and management been considered in the planning process?**

**NO** [  ]                      **YES** [  ]

- a. If your answer is "No," you must consider and include all appropriate factors relating to the existing and potential invasive species for the planning area and repeat step 2.
- b. If your answer is "Yes," document the finding, including the reasons, on form NRCS-CPA-52 or equivalent and go to step 3.

**STEP 3. Is the proposed action or alternative consistent with the Invasive Species Management Plan and in cooperation with the stakeholders?**

**NO** [  ]                      **YES** [  ]

- a. If your answer is "No," modify the action and repeat step 3.
- b. If your answer is "Yes," document the finding, including the reasons, on form NRCS-CPA-52 or equivalent and proceed with planning.

**MIGRATORY BIRDS** (Be Aware- Check with Biologist as needed)

**STEP 1. Will the proposed action or activity result in a migratory bird or any part, nest or egg of the bird, being pursued, hunted, taken, captured, or killed, or will it result in an attempt to take, capture kill or possessed a migratory bird or any part, nest or egg?**

**NO** [  ]                      **YES** [  ]

- a. If your answer is "No," additional evaluation is not needed concerning migratory birds. Document the finding, including the reasons, on form NRCS-CPA-52 or equivalent and proceed with planning.
- b. If your answer is "Yes," go to step 2.

**STEP 2. Can the proposed action be modified to avoid the effects?**

**NO** [  ]                      **YES** [  ]

- a. If your answer is "No," document the effects, including the reasons, on form NRCS-CPA-52 or equivalent. After discussing the situation with the client, indicate on the NRCS-CPA-52 which of the following options will be pursued:
  - the client will obtain a permit from FWS before the action is implemented; or
  - an alternative conservation system will be implemented that avoids the effect; or
  - NRCS will terminate assistance. If assistance is terminated, indicate the circumstances on the NRCS-CPA-52 or equivalent or contact the NRCS State office for assistance.
- b. If your answer is "Yes," modify the alternative and repeat step 1.

**NATURAL AREAS** (Be Aware- Check with Biologist as needed)

**STEP 1. Are natural areas present in or near the planning area?**

**NO** [  ]                      **YES** [  ]                      **UNKNOWN** [  ]

- a. If your answer is "No," additional documentation is not needed concerning natural areas. Document the finding on form NRCS-CPA-52 or equivalent and proceed with planning.
- b. If your answer is "Yes," go to step 2.
- c. If your answer is "Unknown," consult section II of the FOTG for a list or the location of designated natural areas and repeat step 1.

**STEP 2. Will the land user's proposed action or any alternative activity affect the natural area?**

**NO** [  ]                      **YES** [  ]

- a. If your answer is "No," additional evaluation is not needed concerning natural areas. Document the finding, including the reasons on form NRCS-CPA-52, or equivalent, and proceed with planning.
- b. If your answer is yes, you must inform the land users about the effects of the proposed action or alternatives on natural areas. You must also encourage the land user to consult with concerned

parties to arrive at a mutually satisfactory alternative [GM 190, part 410.23(c) 4]. Document the effects of the alternatives and communications with the land user on form NRCS-CPA-52, or equivalent, and proceed with planning.

**PRIME & UNIQUE FARMLANDS (Be Aware- Check with Soils Information)**

**STEP 1. Are prime or unique farmlands or farmlands of statewide or local importance present in or near the area that will be affected by the proposed action or activity?**

NO [ ]            YES [ ]            UNKNOWN [ ]

**If your answer is "No," additional evaluation is not needed concerning prime and unique farmlands. Document the finding on form NRCS-CPA-52 or equivalent and proceed with planning.**

- a. If your answer is "Yes," go to step 2.
- b. If your answer is "Unknown," consult section II of the FOTG and repeat step 1. If you are still uncertain about the effects of prime and unique farmlands in your planning area, consult your State Environmental Coordinator.

**STEP 2. Using the criteria found in (658.5), does the proposed action convert farmland to a Nonagricultural use?**

**Note: Conversion does not include construction of on-farm structures necessary for farm operations.**

NO [ ]            YES [ ]

- a. If your answer is "No," additional evaluation is not needed concerning prime and unique farmlands. Document the finding, including the reasons, on form NRCS-CPA-52 or equivalent and proceed with planning.
- b. If your answer is Yes, go to step 3.

**STEP 3. Can the proposed action be modified to avoid the adverse effect or conversion?**

NO [ ]            YES [ ]

- a. If your answer is "No," document the adverse effects on form NRCS-CPA-52 or equivalent and proceed with planning.
- b. If your answer is "YES," repeat Step 2.

**RIPARIAN AREA (Be Aware- Check with Biologist as needed)**

**STEP 1. Is a riparian area present in or near the planning area?**

NO [ ]            YES [ ]

- a. If your answer is "No," additional evaluation is not needed concerning Riparian Areas. Document the finding on form NRCS-CPA-52 or equivalent and proceed with planning.
- b. If your answer is "Yes," go to step 2.

**STEP 2. Do the land user's objectives conflict with the conservation needs of the riparian area?**

NO [ ]            YES [ ]

- a. If your answer is "No," go to step 3.
- b. If your answer is "Yes," alternatives must be developed which resolve the conflicts. Repeat step 2

**STEP 3. Does the planned action or alternatives maintain or improve water quality and quantity benefits provided by the riparian area?**

NO [ ]            YES [ ]

- a. If your answer is "No," alternatives must be developed which maintain or improve water quality and quantity benefits. Repeat step 3.
- b. If your answer is "Yes," no additional evaluation is needed concerning Riparian Areas. Document the finding on form NRCS-CPA-52 or equivalent and proceed with planning.

**SCENIC BEAUTY (Be Aware- Check Local Conditions)**

**STEP 1. In the planning area are there unique or high-quality scenic landscapes?**

**NO** [  ]      **YES** [  ]      **UNKNOWN** [  ]

- a. If your answer is "No," additional evaluation is not needed concerning scenic beauty. Document the finding on form NRCS-CPA-52 or equivalent and proceed with planning.
- b. If your answer is "Yes," go to step 2.
- c. If your answer is "Unknown," consult Section II of the FOTG for a listing of identified as areas of scenic beauty and repeat step 1.

**STEP 2. Will the proposed action or activity affect the scenic quality of the landscape?**

**NO** [  ]      **YES**[  ]

- a. If your answer is "No," No additional evaluation is needed concerning scenic beauty. Document the finding, including the reasons, on form NRCS-CPA-52 or equivalent and proceed with planning.
- b. If your answer is "Yes," go to step 3.

**STEP 3. Can the proposed action be modified to avoid the adverse effect on the scenic quality of the landscape?**

**YES**[  ]      **NO** [  ]

- a. If your answer is "Yes," modify the alternative and repeat step 2.
- b. If your answer is "No," document the finding, including the reasons, on form NRCS-CPA-52 or equivalent and proceed with planning.

**WETLANDS (Be Aware- Check with Biologist as needed)**

**STEP 1. Are wetlands present in or near the planning area?**

**NO** [  ]      **YES** [  ]

- a. If your answer is "No," document this on the NRCS Environmental Effects Worksheet (NRCS-CPA-52). (If the area could qualify as an "other water of the U.S." such as lakes, streams, channels, or other impoundment or conveyances a CWA Section 404 permit may be required from the Corps of Engineers. Refer to the Waters of the U.S./Clean Water Act Help Sheet).
- b. If your answer is "Yes," document and go to step 2.

**STEP 2. Will the proposed activity impact any wetland areas?**

**NO** [  ]      **YES** [  ]

- a. If your answer is "No," document this on the NRCS Environmental Effects Worksheet (NRCS-CPA-52) and proceed with planning.
- b. If your answer is "Yes," describe (on the CPA -52) the effects of the proposed activity on the wetland area. Proceed to Step 3.

**STEP 3. Do practicable alternatives exist which either enhance wetland functions and values, or avoid or minimize harm to wetlands?**

**NO** [  ]      **YES** [  ]

- a. If your answer is "No," meaning that the findings of the environmental evaluation show that no practicable alternatives exist, NRCS may provide technical assistance which allows for the conversion of the wetland and develop a mitigation plan for compensation of the functions and values that were lost through the conversion activity. Prior to or concurrent with NRCS assistance, the client should obtain all necessary permits or approvals related to work in wetlands.

b. If your answer is “Yes” meaning that a practicable alternative exists, inform the client, and advise them of the available options and the benefits of those options. Proceed to Step 4.

**STEP 4. Does the client wish to pursue an identified practicable alternative that enhances wetland functions and values, or avoids or minimizes harm to wetlands?**

**NO** [  ]      **YES** [  ]

a. If the answer is “No” meaning the client chooses to pursue an activity other than an identified practicable alternative, advise the client regarding eligibility criteria under the FSA as amended, and that the NRCS may assist with the development of an acceptable associated mitigation plan, but can not offer further financial or technical assistance for the wetland conversion activity itself. Prior to or concurrent with NRCS assistance, the client should obtain all necessary permits or approvals related to work in wetlands.

b. If the answer is “yes,” meaning the client selects one of the alternative options, continue with planning and technical assistance for the conversion activity, as well as the development of an associated mitigation plan and document effects on form NRCS-CPA-52. Prior to or concurrent with NRCS assistance, the client should obtain all necessary permits or approvals related to work in wetlands.

**WILD & SCENIC RIVERS (Be Aware- Check with Local Conditions)**

**STEP 1. Is there a designated Wild, Scenic, or Recreational River segment in or near the planning area?**

**NO** [  ]      **YES** [  ]      **UNKNOWN** [  ]

a. If your answer is "No," additional evaluation is not needed concerning wild and scenic rivers. Document the finding on form NRCS-CPA-52 or equivalent and proceed with planning.

b. If your answer is "Yes," go to step 2.

c. If your answer is "Unknown," consult section II of the FOTG for a list or the location of Wild, Scenic or Recreational Rivers and repeat step 1.

**STEP 2. Will the proposed action or activity have an effect on the natural, cultural and recreational values of the Wild, Scenic, or Recreational River?**

**NO** [  ]      **YES** [  ]

a. If your answer is "No, additional evaluation is not needed concerning wild and scenic rivers. Document the finding, including the reasons, on form NRCS-CPA-52 or equivalent and proceed with planning.

b. If your answer is “Yes,” Document the finding, including the reasons, on form NRCS-CPA-52 or equivalent and go to step 3.

**STEP 3. Will a Federal agency other than NRCS provide funding or otherwise control implementation of the action?**

**NO** [  ]      **YES** [  ]

a. If your answer is "No, the NRCS District Conservationist or an NRCS State office employee must consult the agency responsible for management of the Wild, Scenic, or Recreational River. The consultation is to determine if the action or activity requires a permit and if it is compatible with the management plan for the river. Further assistance may be provided only with the concurrence of the regulatory agency.

b. If your answer is “Yes,” indicate on the NRCS CPA-52, or equivalent, that the lead agency should consult with the agency responsible for management of the Wild, Scenic, or Recreational River to determine if the action or activity requires a perm