

<b>Local Working Group:</b>	
<b>Chairperson</b>	
<b>NRCS Community</b>	
<b>District Conservationist</b>	

**General Recommendations**

1. Any general feedback on local NRCS conservation program application and funding criteria from FY26:

2. Any feedback on Payment Rate percentages or other payment related items:

3. Do eligible practice lists address the resource concerns priorities in the LWG area?

4. Are the current ranking criteria addressing the resource concerns that exist locally?

5. What are the most effective ways to communicate with the producer about program sign up, etc.?

Similar to last year, people wish they could hear about NRCS programs directly from an NRCS social media rather than relying on partner organizations. It was again noted that this is an area the RCD could do more to step up into. Facebook in particular was identified as a useful resource. There was some disagreement over the current effectiveness of reaching producers. One producer identified that they were cold-called by NRCS from a neighbor's recommendation, and another noted that they felt they didn't receive the same personalized outreach. It might be worth considering how our targetted outreach may exclude some producers. Other concrete suggestions were to host more workshops, have an NRCS presence at the fair, connect with 4H and FFA, and host a training for partners (ie. county, federal partners) so they can talk about our programs with the producers they interact with.

6. Are there any high priority areas needing assistance?

7. Are there any impaired waterbodies? Has a conservation action plan or needs assessment identified the need for watershed projects to address impairments?

8. Are there any recommendations for prioritizing projects through screening?

9. Other recommendations or issues brought forth by LWG.

**Program Specific Information**

**1. EQIP Priority Resource Concerns. Recommend selecting no more than 10.**

Resource Concern	Resource Concern	Resource Concern
Air Quality (Emissions of airborne reactive nitrogen)	Soil Erosion (Classic gully erosion)	Water Quality (Pesticides transported to surface water)
Air Quality (Emissions of greenhouse gases - GHGs)	Soil Erosion (Ephemeral gully erosion)	Water Quality (Petroleum, heavy metals and other pollutants transported to groundwater)
Air Quality (Emissions of ozone precursors)	Soil Erosion (Sheet and rill erosion)	Water Quality (Petroleum, heavy metals and other pollutants transported to surface water)
Air Quality (Emissions of particulate matter (PM) and PM precursors)	Soil Erosion (Wind erosion)	Water Quality (Salts transported to groundwater)
Air Quality (Objectionable odor)	Soil Health (Aggregate instability)	Water Quality (Salts transported to surface water)
Aquatic Habitat (Aquatic habitat for fish and other organisms)	Soil Health (Compaction)	Water Quality (Sediment transported to surface water)
Aquatic Habitat (Elevated water temperature)	Soil Health (Concentration of salts or other chemicals)	Water Quantity (Drifted snow)
Energy Use (Energy efficiency of equipment and facilities)	Soil Health (Organic matter depletion)	Water Quantity (Groundwater depletion)
Energy Use (Energy efficiency of farming/ranching practices and field operations)	Soil Health (Soil organism habitat loss or degradation)	Water Quantity (Inefficient irrigation water use)
Livestock Health (Feed and forage balance)	Soil Health (Subsidence)	Water Quantity (Naturally available moisture use)
Livestock Health (Inadequate livestock shelter)	Terrestrial Habitat (Terrestrial habitat for wildlife and invertebrates)	Water Quantity (Ponding and flooding)
Livestock Health (Inadequate livestock water quantity, quality and distribution)	Water Quality (Nutrients transported to groundwater)	Water Quantity (Seasonal high water table)
Plant Health (Plant pest pressure)	Water Quality (Nutrients transported to surface water)	Water Quantity (Seeps)
Plant Health (Plant productivity and health)	Water Quality (Pathogens and chemicals from manure, biosolids or compost applications transported to)	Water Quantity (Surface water depletion)
Plant Health (Plant structure and composition)	Water Quality (Pathogens and chemicals from manure, biosolids or compost applications transported to)	Wildfire Hazard (Wildfire hazard from biomass accumulation)
Soil Erosion (Bank erosion from streams, shorelines or water conveyance channels)	Water Quality (Pesticides transported to groundwater)	

Attachment A: Locally Led Conservation Feedback

3. CSP Priority Resource Concern Categories. Select up to 8.

Resource Concern Category	Resource Concern Category	Resource Concern Category
Air (Air quality emissions)	Plants (Fire management)	Water (Field sediment, nutrient and pathogen loss)
Animals (Aquatic habitat)	Plants (Pest pressure)	Water (Salt losses to water)
Animals (Livestock production limitation)	Soil (Concentrated erosion)	Water (Source water depletion)
Animals (Terrestrial habitat)	Soil (Soil quality limitations)	Water (Storage and handling of pollutants)
Energy (Inefficient energy use)	Soil (Wind and water erosion)	Water (Weather resilience)
Plants (Degraded plant condition)	Water (Field pesticide loss)	

4. CSP Program Improvement Recommendations