

RESOURCE CONCERNS - USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service Conservation Planning Process

A **resource concern** is the resource condition that does not meet minimum acceptable condition levels as established by the USDA NRCS resource planning criteria in their state Electronic Field Office Technical Guide, Section III at <https://tinyurl.com/USDANRCSFOTG>. A **resource concern** implies an expected degradation of the soil, water, air, plant, animal or energy (SWAPAE) resource base to the extent that the sustainability or intended use of the resource is impaired. To learn more, visit the USDA NRCS National Resource Concern Planning Handbook at <https://tinyurl.com/USDANRCSNationalRCHandbook>.

SWAPAE	Sub-Category	Resource Concern	Learn More
Soil	Wind and water erosion	Sheet and rill erosion	tinyurl.com/soilsheetrill
		Wind erosion	tinyurl.com/soilwind
	Concentrated erosion	Ephemeral gully erosion	tinyurl.com/soilephemeralgully
		Classic gully erosion	tinyurl.com/soilclassicgully
		Bank erosion	tinyurl.com/soilbankerosion
	Soil quality limitations	Subsidence	tinyurl.com/soilsubsidence
		Compaction	tinyurl.com/soilcompaction
		Organic matter depletion	tinyurl.com/soilOMdepletion
		Concentration of salts or other chemicals	tinyurl.com/soilsaltconcentration
		Soil organism habitat loss or degradation	tinyurl.com/soilorganismhabitatloss
		Aggregate instability	tinyurl.com/soilaggregateinstability
Water	Weather resilience	Ponding and flooding	tinyurl.com/waterpondingflooding
		Seasonal high water table	tinyurl.com/waterseasonalhighwatertable
		Seeps	tinyurl.com/waterseeps
		Drifted snow	tinyurl.com/waterdriftedsnow
		Naturally available moisture	tinyurl.com/waternaturallyavailablemoist
	Source water depletion	Surface water depletion	tinyurl.com/watersurfacewaterdepletion
		Groundwater depletion	tinyurl.com/watergroundwaterdepletion
		Inefficient irrigation water use	tinyurl.com/waterinefficientirrigation
	Field sediment, nutrient and pathogen loss	Nutrients transported to surface water	tinyurl.com/waternutrientsurfacewater
		Nutrients transported to groundwater	tinyurl.com/waternutrientsgroundwater
		Pathogens transported to surface water	tinyurl.com/waterpathogenssurfacewater
		Pathogens transported to groundwater	tinyurl.com/waterpathogensgroundwater
		Sediment transported to surface water	tinyurl.com/watersedimenttransport
	Field pesticide loss	Pesticides transported to surface water	tinyurl.com/waterpesticidesurfacewater
		Pesticides transported to groundwater	tinyurl.com/waterpesticidesgroundwater
	Storage and handling of pollutants	Pollutants transported to surface water	tinyurl.com/waterpollutantsurfacewater
Pollutants transported to groundwater		tinyurl.com/waterpollutantsgroundwater	
Salt losses to water	Salts transported to surface water	tinyurl.com/watersaltssurfacewater	
	Salts transported to groundwater	tinyurl.com/watersaltsgroundwater	
Air	Air quality emissions	Emissions of particulate matter (PM) and PM precursors	tinyurl.com/airparticulatematter
		Emissions of greenhouse gases	tinyurl.com/airgreenhousegases
		Emissions of ozone precursors	tinyurl.com/airozoneprecursors
		Objectionable odors	tinyurl.com/airobjectionableodors
		Emissions of airborne reactive nitrogen	tinyurl.com/airairbornereactivenitrogen
Plants	Pest pressure	Plant pest pressure	tinyurl.com/plantpestpressure
	Degraded plant condition	Plant productivity and health	tinyurl.com/plantproductivityhealth
		Plant structure and composition	tinyurl.com/plantstructurecomposition
Fire management	Wildfire hazard from biomass accumulation	tinyurl.com/plantwildfirehazard	
Animals	Livestock production limitation	Feed and forage balance	tinyurl.com/animalfeedforagebalance
		Inadequate livestock shelter	tinyurl.com/animalinadequateshelter
		Inadequate livestock water	tinyurl.com/animalinadequatewater
	Terrestrial habitat	Terrestrial habitat for wildlife and invertebrates	tinyurl.com/animalterrestrialhabitat
	Aquatic habitat	Aquatic habitat for fish and other organisms	tinyurl.com/animalaquatichabitat
Energy	Inefficient energy use	Elevated water temperature	tinyurl.com/waterelevatedwatertemperature
		Energy efficiency of equipment and facilities	tinyurl.com/energyequipmentfacilities
		Energy efficiency of field operations	tinyurl.com/energyfieldopspractices