

# Local Working Group Stakeholder Input Form (FY2025)

Apr 8, 2025

Local Working Groups are community stakeholders solving local resource problems. This form is intended to record stakeholder input to assist NRCS with planning Program priorities in FY26. Stakeholders may respond to questions about the previous Fiscal Year and identify concerns and priorities for the new Fiscal Year.



## Payment Rates

This section is available to provide input for NRCS payments for conservation practices applied in a financial assistance contract. FY25 Payment schedules are available by County at <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/getting-assistance/payment-schedules>

1. Were NRCS payment rates adequate to provide financial assistance for conservation practices in FY25? Identify specific practices of concern, if any.

2. Select the option that indicates your experience with Cost of Living based payments. (COLA based payments utilized federal county cost of living adjustments to pay higher rates in some counties)

- Provided the needed amount of financial assistance
- Provided excessive payments
- provided inadequate payment

3. Additional Comments or Concerns regarding financial assistance payments

## Priority Areas and Practices

This section is available to provide input for determining priority areas of significant concern within a county and if any very effective practice should be prioritized for funding.

4. Are there any high priority areas needing assistance in the county?

Yes

No

5. Identify the high priority area needing further consideration:

6. Are the available conservation practices meeting the resource needs in the county? If Yes, please explain in the next question.

Yes

No

7. Please explain resource needs and types of practices NRCS should consider:

8. Are there any conservation practices that should be prioritized, either due to effectiveness or ability to treat priority resource concerns or priority areas?

## Screening and Ranking

This section is available to provide input for how NRCS evaluates applications for financial assistance. In general, NRCS evaluates conservation plans on their ability to address identified resource concerns and the expected conservation benefit.

9. Are the current ranking criteria addressing the resource concerns that exist locally? If No, please elaborate in Question 11.

Yes

No

10. Are there any recommendations for prioritizing projects through screening? Screening enables field offices to focus on applications that will likely receive high ranking scores based on local priorities. If Yes, please elaborate in Question 11.

Yes

No

11. Additional Comments or Concerns

## Resource Concerns

Resource Concerns are when resource conditions are degraded below an acceptable level, implying that sustainability or intended uses are impaired. Please select the top five priority resource concerns for each land use that is present in your area. Leave blank if not present or you do not wish to identify priority resource concerns.

### 12. Identify Top Five Priority Resource Concern Categories for Cropland

	Top 5	Not a Priority	Not a concern or Not Applicable
Soil Erosion	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Soil Quality	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Weather Resilience	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Source Water Depletion	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sediment or Nutrients in Waters	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Pesticides in Waters	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Salts in Waters	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Air Quality	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Plant Pests - chemical resistance or invasives	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Wildfire Hazard	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Plant Productivity/Health	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Plant Structure and Composition	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Livestock Production Limitation - forage, shelter or water	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Wildlife Habitat - Aquatic or Terrestrial	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Energy Use	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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13. Identify Top Five Priority Resource Concern Categories for Rangeland

	Top 5	Not a Priority	Not a concern or Not Applicable
Soil Erosion	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Soil Quality	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Weather Resilience	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Source Water Depletion	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sediment or Nutrients in Waters	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Pesticides in Waters	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Salts in Waters	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Air Quality	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Plant Pests - chemical resistance or invasives	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Wildfire Hazard	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Plant Productivity/Health	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Plant Structure and Composition	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Livestock Production Limitation - forage, shelter or water	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Wildlife Habitat - Aquatic or Terrestrial	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Energy Use	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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14. Identify Top Five Priority Resource Concern Categories for Pastureland

	Top 5	Not a Priority	Not a concern or Not Applicable
Soil Erosion	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Soil Quality	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Weather Resilience	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Source Water Depletion	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sediment or Nutrients in Waters	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Pesticides in Waters	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Salts in Waters	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Air Quality	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Plant Pests - chemical resistance or invasives	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Wildfire Hazard	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Plant Productivity/Health	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Plant Structure and Composition	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Livestock Production Limitation - forage, shelter or water	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Wildlife Habitat - Aquatic or Terrestrial	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Energy Use	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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15. Identify Top Five Priority Resource Concern Categories for Forestland

	Top 5	Not a Priority	Not a concern or Not Applicable
Soil Erosion	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Soil Quality	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Weather Resilience	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Source Water Depletion	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sediment or Nutrients in Waters	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Pesticides in Waters	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Salts in Waters	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Air Quality	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Plant Pests - chemical resistance or invasives	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Wildfire Hazard	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Plant Productivity/Health	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Plant Structure and Composition	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Livestock Production Limitation - forage, shelter or water	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Wildlife Habitat - Aquatic or Terrestrial	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Energy Use	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

16. Identify Top Five Priority Resource Concern Categories for Confined Animal Facilities

	Top 5	Not a Priority	Not a concern or Not Applicable
Soil Erosion	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Soil Quality	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Weather Resilience	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Source Water Depletion	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sediment or Nutrients in Waters	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Pesticides in Waters	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Salts in Waters	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Air Quality	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Plant Pests - chemical resistance or invasives	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Wildfire Hazard	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Plant Productivity/Health	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Plant Structure and Composition	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Livestock Production Limitation - forage, shelter or water	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Wildlife Habitat - Aquatic or Terrestrial	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Energy Use	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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