



Natural Resources Conservation Service
210 Walnut Street, Room 693
Des Moines, IA 50309-2180

March 31, 2009

IOWA INSTRUCTION 180-380 – ENVIRONMENTAL EVALUATION WORKSHEET, IA-CPA-52

Part 380.0 PURPOSE

This Iowa Instruction provides direction on using the revised Environmental Evaluation Worksheet, IA-CPA-52.

Part 380.1 SCOPE

These instructions will be followed by all Iowa NRCS employees.

Part 380.2 FILING INSTRUCTIONS

This Iowa Instruction will be posted on the Iowa NRCS Employee Website, which can be accessed at <http://www.ia.nrcs.usda.gov/intranet/> under the Iowa NRCS eDirectives System section.

Part 380.3 EXHIBITS

See the attachment.

/s/Richard Sims
State Conservationist

Attachment

E

(IA Instruction 180-380 First Edition – March 2009)

Helping People Help the Land

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1. PURPOSE:

This Iowa Instruction provides direction on using the revised Environmental Evaluation Worksheet, IA-CPA-52.

2. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

NRCS field office employees will now use this revised Environmental Evaluation Worksheet, IA-CPA-52.

3. EXPLANATION:

The IA-CPA-52 Environmental Evaluation Worksheet has been revised to improve the accuracy, efficiency, and documentation of the anticipated effects of planned conservation systems. This form serves as the NRCS NEPA compliance documentation for most field office planning and implementation activities and should be completed by addressing all resource concerns and documenting alternatives considered.

If you have any questions please contact John Myers, SRC, at 515 323-2223 or john.myers@ia.usda.gov.

Approved By:

/s/Richard Sims
State Conservationist
Natural Resources Conservation Service
210 Walnut Street, Room 693
Des Moines, IA 50309-2180

Date:

March 31, 2009

Instructions for Completing Form IA-CPA-52 Environmental Evaluation Worksheet

Form IA-CPA-52 is the instrument used to summarize the effects of conservation practices and systems. It also provides summary documentation for the Environmental Evaluation (EE) of the planned actions. The EE is “a concurrent part of the planning process in which the potential short-term and long-term impacts of an action on people, their physical surroundings, and nature are evaluated and alternative actions explored” (NPPH-Amendment 3, January 2000). The EE applies to all assistance provided by NRCS (GM190, Part 410.5).

Attach assistance notes and/or additional pertinent information used to complete IA-CPA-52.

A – D. Complete.

E – G. Identify resource concerns and expected effects during planning or scoping.

H. Note all alternatives that were considered. Always include “No Action.”

I. The individual responsible for completing IA-CPA-52 must sign and date. NRCS will sign and date here when completing this evaluation for another agency. (i.e. FSA). Technical Service Providers (TSP) will sign and date here for all of their determinations.

J. NRCS or FSA must check the applicable finding. The responsible FSA official will complete this section if the evaluation is for a CRP practice. This finding will determine the appropriate NEPA action requirements.

K. NRCS responsible official must sign and date unless the evaluation is for a CRP practice. If CRP, NRCS does not sign Block K, FSA is the lead agency and the responsible FSA official will sign and date this Block

L. Document field observations on IA-CPA-15 Conservation Assistance Notes if additional information is needed.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE		IA-CPA-52 March 2009		A. Client:	
ENVIRONMENTAL EVALUATION WORKSHEET				B. Tract No:	
				C. Fields:	
D. Client objective and proposed action(s):					
<p>PURPOSE: To evaluate the effects of planned conservation practices/systems to individual farm units, geographic priority areas, and area-wide plans. It provides summary documentation for an environmental evaluation of the planned actions.</p> <p>INSTRUCTIONS: During the planning process complete the evaluation of the effects of each practice and conservation management system (CMS). Short term refers to installation period and long term refers to the effects during the life span of the practice or system. Effect codes: (+) beneficial, (-) adverse, (0) no effect. N/A does not apply. <u>Effects should be described in the Comments section.</u></p>					
E. Resource Concerns		F. Effects			Comments
		No Action	Short-Term	Long-Term	
SOIL					
1. Erosion					
2. Condition					
WATER					
1. Quantity					
Reduced Capacity or Reduced Storage					
Excessive Runoff/Ponding					
2. Quality					
Excessive Nutrients & Organics					
Excessive Pesticides					
Excessive Sediment					
AIR					
1. Quality					
Dust (particulate matter)					
Excessive Carbon Dioxide					
Odors					
PLANTS					
1. Suitability					
2. Condition					
Productivity, Health, & Vigor					
Noxious & Invasive Plants					
3. Threatened & Endangered Species					
ANIMALS					
1a. Fish – Aquatic Habitat					
1b. Wildlife – Terrestrial Habitat					
2. Threatened & Endangered Species					
3. Domestic Animals					
Inadequate Quantities & Quality of Feed & Forage					
Inadequate Shelter					
Inadequate Stock Water					
Stress and Mortality					
HUMAN CONSIDERATIONS					
1. Economic		Evaluated (Y, N)		Remarks	
Land Use (use change and/or outputs)					
Sustainability					
2. Social					
Client Well Being					
Community Well Being					

G. Related Environmental Concerns		If 'Present' is Y, record 'Effect', then explain in 'Remarks'. Effect codes: (+) beneficial, (-) adverse, (0) no effect. For definitions & policy, see GM190.410 Subpart B and NECH 610.F.80-98.	
CONSIDERATION	Present (Y, N)	Effect (+, -, 0)	Remarks
Cultural Resources, does the planned practice have the potential to affect cultural resources?(see Part 601 Subpart G 601.69 National Cultural Resources Procedures Handbook Iowa Appendices Exhibit A <u>Conservation Practices Potential to Affect Cultural Resources</u>)			If yes, Complete IA CPA 420- <u>Cultural Resources Flowchart for Field Offices</u>
Environmental Justice: Minority or Protected Groups, Limited Resource Farmer			
Flood Plain Management			
Invasive Species			
Natural Area			
Prime & Unique Farmlands			
Riparian Area			
Scenic Beauty			
Wetland			
Stream /Channel Modification			
H. Alternatives considered, include "No Action:"			
I. The information recorded above is based on the best available information:			
Signature	Title	Date	
NEPA REQUIREMENTS IDENTIFIED			
J. Findings			
I have considered the effects of this action and the alternatives on the Resource, Economic, and Social Considerations; the Special Environmental Concerns; and extraordinary circumstances criteria in the instructions for Form IA-CPA-52. I find, for the reasons stated below, that the selected alternative:			
_____	is not a Federal action. No additional analysis is required.		
_____	is categorically excluded from further environmental analysis and there are no extraordinary circumstances. No additional analysis is required.		
_____	has been sufficiently analyzed in an existing NRCS environmental document. No additional analysis is required.		
_____	may require preparation of an EA or EIS. The action will be referred to the State Office.		
K. Signature Block			
Signature (Responsible NRCS Official)	Title	Date	
Signature (Responsible FSA Official CRP contracts)	Title	Date	
L. Field Observations (document on IA-CPA-15 Conservation Assistance Notes if additional information is needed)			