



United States Department of Agriculture

Attachment E

National Water Quality Initiative (NWQI)

Description/Summary: The NWQI was established as a joint initiative with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in FY 2012 to address agricultural sources of water pollution, including nutrients, sediment, pesticides, and pathogens related to agricultural production, in priority watersheds (12-digit HUCs or, in some cases, 10-digit HUCs) throughout the country. State Conservationists and directors (STCs) worked with State water quality agencies, State Technical Committees, and other partners to select watersheds that would receive targeted, long-term investment in order to accelerate voluntary conservation efforts to improve water quality.

The following are FY 2014 offered NWQI watersheds:

12-digit HUC	HUC Name
160202030404	Lower Main Creek
160300010305	Hillsdale-Sevier River
160300010506	Tebbs Hollow-Sevier River

The following land uses are approved for the NWQI:

Land Use Type
Crop
Forest
Range
Pasture
Farmstead

The following resource concerns are approved for NWQI:

Primary Natural Resource Concerns:

Water Quality Degradation
Nutrients in Surface Water
Excessive Sediment in Surface Water
Excess Pathogens and Chemicals from Manure, Bio-solids or Compost Applications in Surface Water

Secondary Natural Resource Concerns:

Water Quality Degradation
Nutrients in Groundwater
Salts in Groundwater
Salts in Surface Water
Excess Pathogens and Chemicals from Manure, Bio-solids or Compost Applications in Groundwater
Pesticides in Groundwater
Pesticides in Surface Water
Elevated Water Temperature

Fish and Wildlife
Inadequate Habitat - Water

The following conservation practices are eligible for the NWQI:

Conservation Activity Plans	Code
Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan	102
Nutrient Management Plan	104
Irrigation Water Management Plan	118
Drainage Water Management Plan	130

The NWQI emphasizes a "systems approach" to address priority natural resource concerns. A cornerstone of this approach is to encourage producers to implement a system of practices that has been determined to address specific high-priority resource concerns in selected watersheds as well as incorporate selection of practices that address the concept for Avoiding, Controlling, or Trapping pollutants, or "ACT."

Core Conservation Practices Eligible for NWQI – FY 2014

Core Practices	Code	Avoiding	Controlling	Trapping
Waste Storage Facility	313	X	X	
Animal Mortality Facility	316		X	
Composting Facility	317	X	X	
Conservation Cover	327	X		X
Conservation Crop Rotation	328	X		
Residue and Tillage Management, No Till/Strip Till/Direct Seed	329		X	X
Contour Farming	330		X	X
Contour Orchard and Other Perennial Crops	331		X	X
Contour Buffer Strips	332			X
Cover Crop	340	X		X
Critical Area Planting	342		X	X
Residue Management, Seasonal	344		X	X
Residue and Tillage Management, Mulch Till	345		X	X
Residue and Tillage Management, Ridge Till	346		X	
Well Water Testing	355	X		
Waste Treatment Lagoon	359		X	
Waste Facility Closure	360	X		
Anaerobic Digester	366		X	
Field Border	386		X	X
Riparian Herbaceous Cover	390			X
Riparian Forest Buffer	391			X
Filter Strip	393		X	X
Stream Habitat Improvement and Management	395	X		
Grade Stabilization Structure	410		X	X
Grassed Waterway	412		X	
Irrigation Reservoir	436		X	

Core Practices	Code	Avoiding	Controlling	Trapping
Irrigation Water Management	449		X	
Access Control	472	X		
Prescribed Grazing	528	X		
Drainage Water Management	554		X	
Heavy Use Area Protection	561	X		
Animal Trails and Walkways	575		X	
Streambank and Shoreline Protection	580	X		
Nutrient Management	590	X		
Terrace	600		X	
Vegetative Barrier	601			X
Tree/Shrub Establishment	612	X		X
Waste Treatment	629		X	
Waste Recycling	633		X	
Waste Transfer	634	X		
Vegetated Treatment Area	635			X
Water and Sediment Control Basin	638		X	X
Constructed Wetland	656			X

Supporting Conservation Practices Eligible for NWQI – FY 2014

Supporting Practices	Code	Avoiding	Controlling	Trapping
Agrichemical Handling Facility	309	X		
Alley Cropping	311		X	X
Brush Management	314	X	X	
Herbaceous Weed Control	315	X		
Prescribed Burning	338	X		
Sediment Basin	350		X	
Water Well Decommissioning	351	X		
Dike	356		X	X
Diversion	362		X	
Roofs and Covers	367	X	X	
Pond	378			X
Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment	380		X	X
Silvopasture Establishment	381	X		
Fence	382	X		
Dam	402		X	X
Hedgerow Planting	422	X		X
Hillside Ditch	423		X	
Irrigation Ditch Lining	428	X	X	

Supporting Practices	Code	Avoiding	Controlling	Trapping
Irrigation Pipeline	430		X	
Irrigation System, Microirrigation	441	X		
Irrigation System, Sprinkler	442	X		
Irrigation System, Surface & Subsurface	443	X		
Land Reclamation, Landslide Treatment	453		X	
Precision Land Forming	462			X
Irrigation Land Leveling	464	X	X	
Lined Waterway or Outlet	468		X	
Mulching	484		X	X
Forage Harvest Management	511	X	X	
Forage and Biomass Planting	512	X		X
Livestock Pipeline	516	X	X	
Range Planting	550			X
Row Arrangement	557	X		
Roof Runoff Structure	558	X		
Access Road	560	X		
Spring Development	574	X		
Stream Crossing	578	X		
Open Channel	582		X	
Stripcropping	585		X	
Structure for Water Control	587		X	X
Cross Wind Ridges	588		X	
Cross Wind Trap Strips	589C		X	X
Amendments for the Treatment of Agricultural Waste	591	X	X	
Integrated Pest Management	595	X		
Herbaceous Wind Barriers	603		X	
Surface Drain, Field Ditch	607		X	
Surface Drain, Main or Lateral	608		X	
Surface Roughening	609	X		
Watering Facility	614	X		
Underground Outlet	620		X	
Solid/Liquid Waste Separation Facility	632		X	
Waterspreading	640		X	
Water Well	642	X		
Restoration and Management of Declining Habitats	643	X		
Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management	644		X	
Windbreak/Shelterbelt Renovation	650		X	X

Supporting Practices	Code	Avoiding	Controlling	Trapping
Wetland Restoration	657		X	
Wetland Creation	658		X	
Wetland Enhancement	659		X	

Screening is required for each eligible NWQI application. Business rules for ranking questions are available on the programs Utah SharePoint site: Programs -> FY 2014 -> Business Rules

Norm Evenstad is the Utah technical contacts for the National Water Quality Initiative: norm.evenstad@ut.usda.gov James Huggard is the Utah program contact for this initiative: james.huggard@ut.usda.gov.