

Exhibit 501.51A – Locally Led Process Chart

Conservation Needs Assessment

The conservation district leads the effort to gather public input through local working groups made up of community stakeholders that have an interest in natural resource conditions and needs. The community stakeholders identify, evaluate, and prioritize the local natural resource conservation needs in the conservation needs assessment.

Development of Conservation Action Plan (CAP)

The conservation districts, in coordination with local working groups, use the conservation needs assessment to develop a conservation action plan that identifies natural resource concerns and priorities, sets measurable conservation goals, and identifies government and non-government conservation programs to meet those needs.

Implementation of CAP

The conservation district works with the local working groups to determine the availability of programs and services needed to address the problems identified in the conservation needs assessment, seeking financial, educational, and technical assistance as necessary.

Evaluation of CAP

The effectiveness of plan implementation should be evaluated to make sure that the planned goals and objectives are achieved. The evaluation should examine where the actual and anticipated results differ. The difference may result in retracing steps in the locally led conservation process.