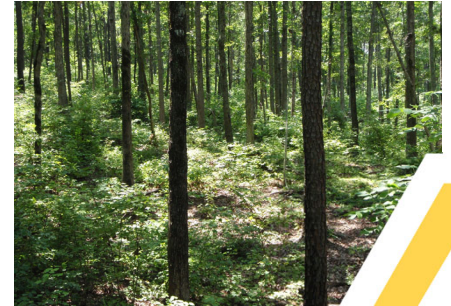


Basics of the Technical Service Provider (TSP) Program

Lynelle Knehans, P.E.
State Conservation Engineer
USDA NRCS WA State Office



Agenda

1. THE BASICS: TSP SERVICES AND NRCS POLICY
2. CONSERVATION PLANNING (STEPS 1-9) WITH TSPs and QIs
3. WORKING EFFECTIVELY WITH TSPs and QIs
4. QUESTION AND ANSWER





Natural Resources Conservation Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

THE BASICS: TSP Services and NRCS Policy



FARM PRODUCTION AND CONSERVATION

FSA | NRCS | RMA | Business Center

TSP PROGRAM BASICS

NRCS POLICY

Code of Federal Regulations

Title 7 Subtitle B Chapter VI Subchapter F Part 652

[https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-7/subtitle-B/chapter-VI/subchapter-F/part-652#p-652.5\(h\)](https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-7/subtitle-B/chapter-VI/subchapter-F/part-652#p-652.5(h))

Title 180 – General Manual, Part 411 – Technical Service Provider Assistance Policy, Subpart A – General, March 2024

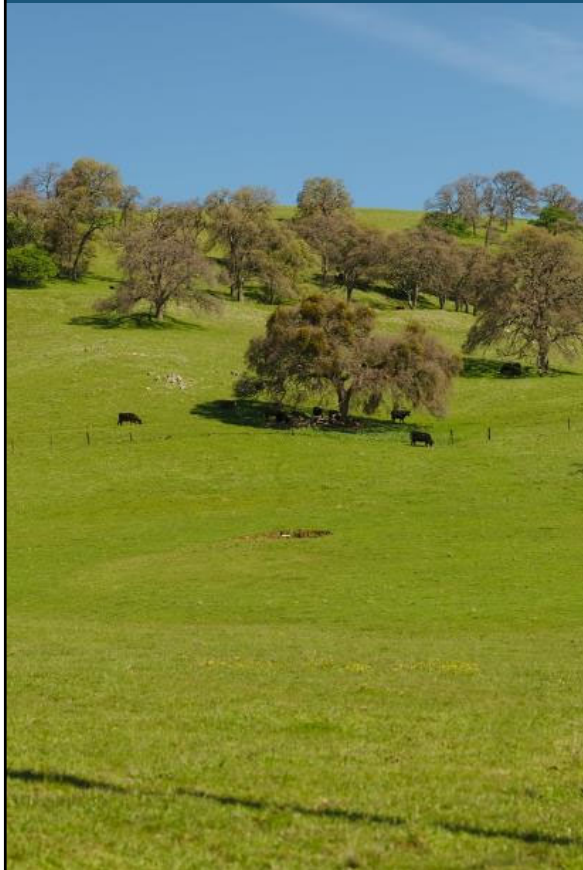
<https://directives.nrcs.usda.gov/sites/default/files2/1712929012/35914.pdf>

Title 440 – Conservation Programs Manual, Part 504 – Technical Service Provider Assistance, Subpart A – General Information, Amended December 2023

<https://directives.nrcs.usda.gov/sites/default/files2/1712933119/35595.pdf>

Title 440 – National Instruction Part 320 – Implementing and Managing Conservation Planning Activity, Design and Implementation Activity, and Conservation Evaluation and Monitoring Activity Amended October 2024

<https://directives.nrcs.usda.gov/sites.pdf>



NRCS Certified TSPs

TSPs are technical experts in their field.

TSPs are certified by NRCS for specific types of technical assistance.

- Developing conservation plans
- Designing conservation practices
- Overseeing the installation and certification of conservation practices

Certification requirements to be a TSP vary based on the services and location (state or territory) in which they apply.

TSPs are hired by NRCS Program Participants to provide technical assistance in reaching their conservation goals.

Types of TSPs



Range and Pasture Specialists



Agronomists



Foresters



Biologists



Soil Specialists



Organic Specialists



Engineers

TSP PROGRAM BASICS

TSP SERVICES

TSP services fall into two main categories.

Conservation Activities

- Conservation Planning Activities (CPA)
- Design and Implementation Activities (DIA)
- *Conservation Evaluation and Monitoring Activities (CEMA)**
CEMAs require a Qualified Individual (QI) not a TSP

900 Series

- Design of a Conservation Practice (911)
- Installation Oversight - *quality assurance* (912)
- Check-Out – certification of the completed conservation practices (913)

TSP PROGRAM BASICS

TSP SERVICES

TSP services fall into two main categories.

Conservation Activities

- Use Financial Assistance (FA) funds and are included with original contract obligation
- Use a single rate per Conservation Activity

900 Series

- States *choose* to offer 911, 912, 913
- 900s use Technical Assistance (TA) funds and can only be added through a contract modification
- Technical Service Provider Payment Rates (TSPRs)
 - time to complete deliverables x hourly rate
 - TSPRs are “not to exceed” rates and require an invoice for payment

TSP PROGRAM BASICS

TSP CERTIFICATION

TSPs apply for NRCS Certification via the Registry website.

Applications are for specific conservation practices and/or activities.

Applications are state specific.

Applicants must meet both National and State Criteria

Certification is based on a varying combination of these factors:

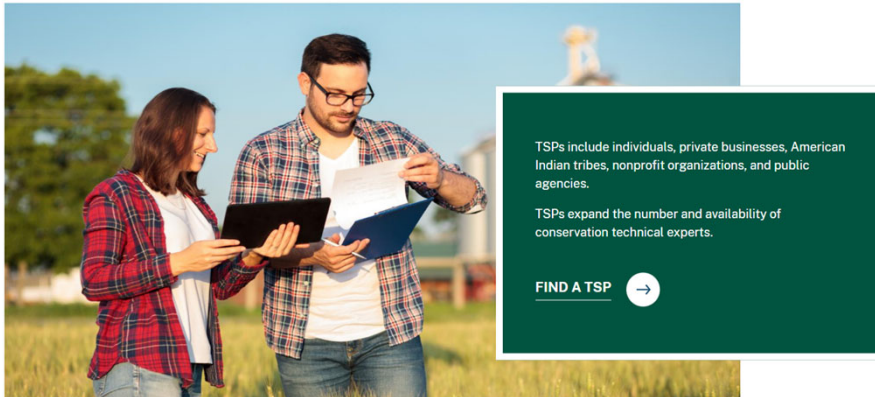
- Education
- Experience
- Professional Certification/Accreditation
- NRCS Required Training(s)
- Sample of Work

1. TSP Branch Regional Coordinators assist with the applications.
2. State TSP Coordinators review/facilitate the review of the sample of work (if required) typically from state technical staff.
3. TSP Branch Regional Certifiers complete the final approval.

Review the TSP Program Website

- The TSP Program website has **training guides** and **videos** for producers and TSPs.
- The TSP Program website is your one-stop shop for all things related to the TSP program.

<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/getting-assistance/technical-assistance/technical-service-providers>



“FIND A TSP”

An official website of the United States government

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Find a Technical Service Provider

TECHNICAL SERVICES **PROVIDERS**

State
California

Technical Services

Search...

- ☐ Feed Management
Non-Engineering • Animal Husbandry • Practice • 592
- ☐ Feed Management Design
Non-Engineering • Animal Husbandry • DIA • 158
- ☒ Fence
Non-Engineering • Grazing • Practice • 382
- ☐ Field Border
Non-Engineering • Agronomy • Practice • 386
- ☐ Field Operations Emissions Reduction
Non-Engineering • Agronomy • Practice • 376
- ☐ Filter Strip
Non-Engineering • Agronomy • Practice • 393
- ☐ Firebreak

CLEAR FILTERS **APPLY FILTERS**

Technical Service Providers 6

PRINT RESULTS

B	AgSpire TSP-B-23-00179 • derekv@agspire.com • (605) 641-2479 • Brandt, SD • 12 Technical Services	VIEW PROFILE
I	Clayton Koopmann TSP-13-9517 • koopmann.consulting@gmail.com • (925) 819-0413 • Sunol, CA • 11 Technical Services	VIEW PROFILE
I	JED FREITAS TSP-04-4096 • jed@jedfreitas.com • (925) 580-6415 • Livermore, CA • 7 Technical Services	VIEW PROFILE
I	Matthew Delbar TSP-22-24427 • matthewd@agspire.com • (707) 391-9558 • Brookings, SD • 6 Technical Services	VIEW PROFILE
B	Resilience Permaculture Design, LLC TSP-B-22-00073 • taoorion@gmail.com • (541) 556-1426 • Cottage Grove, OR • 31 Technical Services	VIEW PROFILE
I	Tao Orion TSP-19-22878 • taoorion@gmail.com • (541) 556-1426 • Cottage Grove, OR • 31 Technical Services	VIEW PROFILE

Conservation Planning (Steps 1-9) with TSPs and QIs



TSP PROGRAM BASICS

TSP SERVICES

Conservation Activities Website
<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs-initiatives/eqip-environmental-quality-incentives/cpas-dias-and-cemas>

Conservation Planning Activities (CPA)

Design and Implementation Activities (DIA)

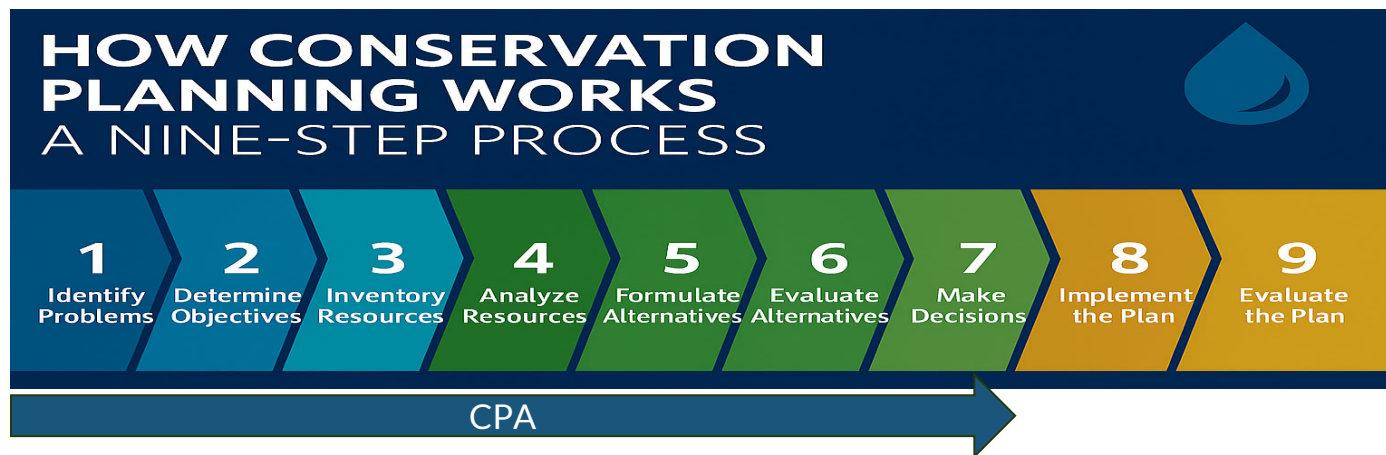
Conservation Evaluation and Monitoring Activities (CEMA)

900 Series

- Design of a Conservation Practice (911)
- Installation Oversight - *quality assurance* (912)
- Check-Out – certification of the completed conservation practices (913)

Conservation Planning Activities (CPA)

- Activities typically performed in Steps 1-7 of the conservation planning process (inventory of natural resources, analysis of resource data, formulating and evaluating alternative systems, and documenting the client's decisions as a component conservation plan).
- Results of the CPA will include the client decisions regarding future implementation of conservation practices that treat a resource concern.



Conservation Planning Activities (CPA)

Activity Code	Activity Name
CPA 102	Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan
CPA 199	Conservation Plan
CPA 138	Conservation Plan Supporting Organic Transition
CPA 106	Forest Management Plan
CPA 116	Soil Health Management Plan
CPA 110	Grazing Management Plan



TSP DELIVERABLES

CONSERVATION PLANNING ACTIVITIES (CPA)

STEPS 1-7

Fiscal Year 2025 Conservation Activities

Conservation Planning Activities (CPAs)

[CPA 102 Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan 10-2024](#) (834.4 KB)
[CPA 106 Forest Management Plan 10-2024](#) (853.75 KB)
[CPA 110 Grazing Management Plan 10-2024](#) (795.6 KB)
[CPA 116 Soil Health Management Plan 10-2024](#) (858.28 KB) →
[CPA 138 Conservation Plan Supporting Organic Transition 10-2024](#) (871.3 KB)
[CPA 199 Conservation Plan 10-2024](#) (707.2 KB)



United States Department of Agriculture

CPA 116 - Page 1

Conservation Planning Activity

Soil Health Management Plan CPA 116

Definition

Component of a conservation plan that identifies soil health concerns related to the physical, biological and chemical properties of the soil and identifies conservation practices for use in an adaptive soil health management plan.

Applicable Land Uses

This conservation planning activity applies to annual and perennial cropland (including orchards and vineyards), pasture and range.

REQUIREMENTS

General Requirements

This Conservation Planning Activity (CPA) involves a Technical Service Provider (TSP), hired by a Farm Bill Program participant, providing a conservation plan to document participant objectives, benchmark (current) conditions, resource concerns, alternative actions, the evaluation of alternative actions, and the participant's preferred alternative with the intent to achieve specific ecological, economic and management objectives.

This activity will meet the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) planning criteria for one or more of the plant, animal, water, air, and soil resource concerns. The overall conservation plan must accomplish one or more purposes as described in the criteria and considerations for each conservation practice, as described in the conservation planning process as outlined in the NRCS National Planning Procedures Handbook (NPPH), steps 1-7. A summary of those seven steps is in [Appendix A, Conservation Planning Activity, General Requirements](#) at the end of this document. Do not overlook the General Requirements – they are important for this CPA's development.

State-specific conservation planning reference information and technology is provided in the NRCS Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG). The FOTG home page hyperlink is: <https://efotg.sc.egov.usda.gov/>

Technical Requirements

The TSP must:

- 1) Arrange a pre-work meeting between participant, TSP and NRCS field office in order to establish collaboration and address any questions among the parties.
- 2) Maintains a written and date-ordered record of discussions with the participant that are related to this planning activity.
- 3) Conducts an on-site inventory of participant's planning area to inventory the current land uses and land management systems in the operation.
- 4) Uses NRCS-approved technology tools and protocols to assess resource concerns, as

Natural Resources Conservation Service

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Design and Implementation Activities (DIA)

- A planning activity performed in Step 8 of the conservation planning process that includes developing specific practice designs, management prescriptions, necessary to implement a selected conservation system.
- DIAs may include additional supporting practices needed to facilitate a primary practice.



Design and Implementation Activities (DIA)

Activity Code	Activity Name
DIA 120	Agricultural Energy Design
DIA 101	CNMP Design and Implementation Activity
DIA 164	Improved Management of Drainage Water Design
DIA 158	Feed Management Design
DIA 144	Fish and Wildlife Habitat Design
DIA 165	Forest Management Practice Design
DIA 159	Grazing Management Design
DIA 163	Irrigation Water Management Design
DIA 157	Nutrient Management Design and Implementation Activity
DIA 161	Pest Management Conservation System Design
DIA 148	Pollinator Habitat Design
DIA 160	Prescribed Burning Design
DIA162	Soil Health Management Design and Implementation Activity
DIA140	Transition to Organic Design

TSP DELIVERABLES

DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION ACTIVITIES (DIAs)

STEP 8

Design and Implementation Activities (DIAs)

[DIA 101 CNMP Design and Implementation Activity 10-2024](#) (615.5 KB) →
[DIA 120 Agricultural Energy Design 10-2024](#) (761.51 KB)
[DIA 140 Transition to Organic Design 10-2024](#) (905.02 KB)
[DIA 144 Fish and Wildlife Habitat Design](#) (677 KB)
[DIA 148 Pollinator Habitat Design](#) (578.75 KB)
[DIA 157 Nutrient Management Design-10-2024](#) (859.41 KB)
[DIA 158 Feed and Management Design](#) (549.08 KB)
[DIA 159 Grazing Management Design 10-2024](#) (639.78 KB)
[DIA 160 Prescribed Burning Design](#) (652.27 KB)
[DIA 161 Pest Management Conservation System Design](#) (942.9 KB)
[DIA 162 Soil Health Management System Design 10-2024](#) (247.94 KB)
[DIA 163 Irrigation Water Management Design 10-2024](#) (789.47 KB)
[DIA 164 Improved Management of Drainage Water Design 10-2024](#) (677.82 KB)
[DIA 165 Forest Management Practice Design 10-2024](#) (534.03 KB)



United States Department of Agriculture

DIA 101 - Page 1

Design and Implementation Activity

CNMP Design and Implementation Activity DIA 101

Definition

A site-specific design and implementation activity plan developed for an Animal Feeding Operation (AFO) that includes components for both structural and non-structural conservation practices. This will address the planned practices for land application of manure and nutrients, and the handling, transfer, storage and treatment of animal wastes.

REQUIREMENTS

General Requirements

A Design and Implementation Activity (DIA) assists a participant with implementing their conservation plan by providing site-specific instructions, requirements, plans, or specifications for planned structural and nonstructural conservation practices.

A DIA may involve providing assistance for a single conservation practice or a combination of structural, vegetative, or land management conservation practices, enhancements, and management activities.

Prior to initiation of the DIA, the Technical Service Provider (TSP) will schedule a conference with the participant and Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) field office staff to ensure an understanding of the participant objectives (including practices to be covered by the DIA), required deliverables, and characteristics of the DIA tasks. The meeting between all parties may take place in person or electronically.

The participant and conservation planner have determined which practices a TSP will provide DIA assistance for. The TSP must have certification in NRCS Registry for each practice they will provide assistance for through this DIA. If not certified for a practice(s), a TSP can use a subcontractor who is a certified TSP for the practice(s). If there are no available certified TSPs, then that practice shall be removed from the scope of the participant's DIA.

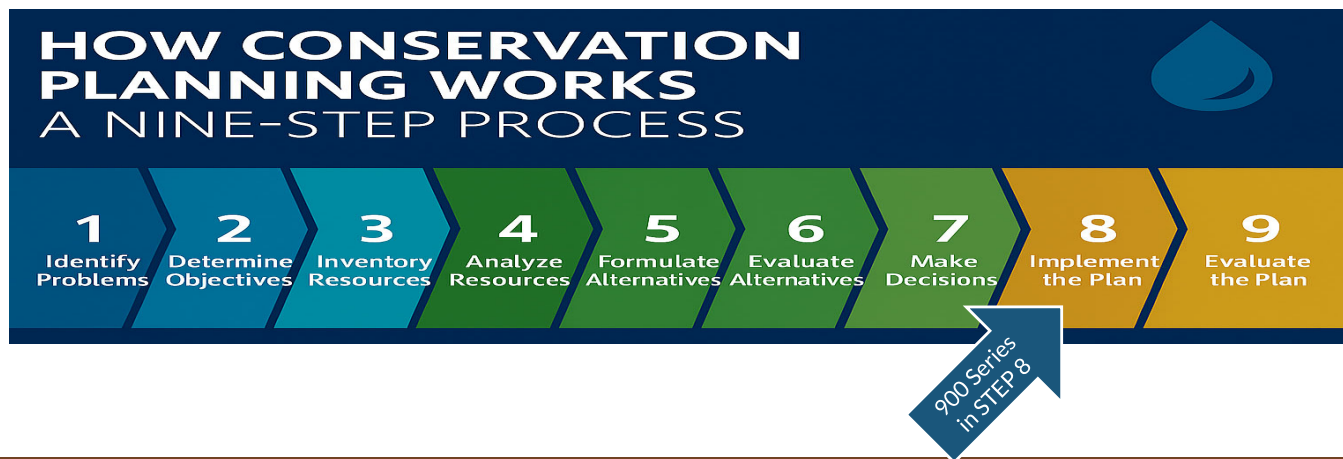
DIA assistance is based on the participant's conservation plan and applicable conservation practice standards and related technical guidance provided in the state's NRCS Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG). DIA assistance must conform with the conservation practice standards included in FOTG, Section 4 for the state where the practice(s) are to be implemented. A TSP may use conservation practice supporting documents found in the applicable state's FOTG, Section 4 to facilitate delivery of appropriate information to the participant. Examples of conservation practice supporting documents include statements of work (SOW), implementation requirements (IR), practice specifications (PS), standard drawings (SD), General Specifications (GS), Construction Specifications (CS), Material Specifications (MS), and design support tools. The FOTG homepage hyperlink is: [Field Office Technical Guide | NRCS - USDA](#)

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900 Series: Step 8 – Implement the Plan

- The 900 Series are in Step 8 of the conservation planning process that includes developing specific practice designs, implementation oversight, and check-out of conservation practices.
- 900 Series can cover all practices offered in the State. It is determined by the State if funding and practices are available.



900 Series: Step 8 – Implement the Plan

Deliverables for all 900 Series services are found on the individual statement of work (SOW) for that Conservation Practice in the Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG).

TSPs must complete all deliverables or document that deliverable was not applicable.

Payment for 911, 912, and 913 require an invoice from the TSP. The invoice should detail their costs as associated with each of the line items in the client's contract.

Payment rates in the contract are "not-to-exceed" rates

Step 8		
Implement the Plan		
8.1 Design	8.2 Installation Oversite	8.3 Check-Out
DIA (TSP) OR 911 (TSP)	912 (TSP)	913 (TSP)

TSP DELIVERABLES

911-DESIGN

912-INSTALLATION (QA)
913-CHECK OUT

STEP 8

ALL DELIVERABLES FOR
THE 900 SERIES ARE ON
THE STATEMENT OF WORK
(SOW) FOR EACH
PRACTICE



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service

STATEMENT OF WORK Fence (382) Utah

These deliverables apply to this individual practice. For deliverables for other planned practices, refer to those specific Statements of Work.

DESIGN

Deliverables

1. Design documentation that will demonstrate that the criteria in NRCS practice standard have been met and are compatible with other planned and applied practices.
 - a. Practice purpose(s) as identified in the conservation plan
 - b. List of required permits to be obtained by the client
 - c. Compliance with NRCS national and state utility safety policy (NEM Part 503-Safety, Subpart A - Engineering Activities Affecting Utilities 503.00 through 503.06)
 - d. Practice standard criteria related computations and analyses to develop plans and specifications including but not limited to:
 - i. Location/Alignment
 - ii. Height
 - iii. Size
 - iv. Spacing
 - v. Type of material
2. Written plans and specifications including sketches and drawings shall be provided to the client that adequately describes the requirements to install the practice and obtain necessary permits..
3. Identify fields where practice to be applied on a farm or ranch plan map
4. Operation and Maintenance Pla
5. Certification that the design meets practice standard criteria and comply with applicable laws and regulations (NEM Subpart A, 505.03 (a) (3))
6. Design modifications during installation as required.

TSP DELIVERABLES

911-DESIGN
912-INSTALLATION (QA)
913-CHECK OUT

STEP 8

ALL DELIVERABLES FOR
THE 900 SERIES ARE ON
THE STATEMENT OF WORK
(SOW) FOR EACH
PRACTICE

INSTALLATION

Deliverables

1. Pre Installation conference with client and contractor.
2. Verification that client has obtained required permits.
3. Staking and layout according to plans and specifications including applicable layout notes.
4. Installation inspection (according to inspection plan as appropriate).
 - a. Actual materials used (Part 512, Subchapter D Quality Assurance Activities, 512.33)
 - b. Inspection records
5. Facilitate and implement required design modifications with client and original designer
6. Advise client/NRCS on compliance issues with all federal, state, tribal, and local laws, regulations and NRCS policies during installation.
7. Certification that the installation process and materials meets design and permit requirements.

CHECK OUT

Deliverables

1. As-Built documentation.
 - a. Extent of practice units applied
 - b. Drawings
 - c. Final quantities
2. Certification that the installation meets NRCS standards and specifications and is in compliance with permits (NEM Subpart A, 505.03 (c) (1)).
3. Progress reporting.
4. Exit conference with client and contractor.

Conservation Evaluation and Monitoring Activities (CEMA)

- These activities include assessment, monitoring, recordkeeping or assessing the effectiveness of conservation practices and activities.
- CEMAs are typically performed in Step 9 of the conservation planning process; however, they may be used at any point in the planning process.



Conservation Evaluation and Monitoring Activities (CEMA)

There are 19
CEMAs
currently
available.

This is not the
full list.

Activity Code	Activity Name
CEMA 228	Agricultural Energy Assessment
CEMA 224	Aquifer Flow Test
CEMA 218	Carbon Sequestration and Greenhouse Gas Mitigation Assessment
CEMA 201	Edge-of-Field Water Quality Monitoring - Data Collection and Evaluation
CEMA 202	Edge-of-Field Water Quality Monitoring - System Installation
CEMA 297	Feral Swine Damage Assessment
CEMA 223	Forest Management Assessment
CEMA 222	Indigenous Stewardship Methods Evaluation
CEMA 209	PFAS Testing in Water or Soil
CEMA 207	Site Assessment and Soil Testing for Contaminants Activity
CEMA 217	Soil and Source Testing for Nutrient Management
CEMA 216	Soil Health Testing
CEMA 221	Soil Organic Carbon Stock Monitoring

QUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL (QI) DELIVERABLES

CONSERVATION EVALUATION AND MONITORING ACTIVITY (CEMA)

STEP 9 OR ANYTIME IN PROCESS

Deliverables for CEMAs are described in the CEMA document.

CEMAs do not require a TSP but instead require a Qualified Individual (QI). Each CEMA has different qualification requirements.

A QI must complete all deliverables or document that deliverable was not applicable.

The NRCS does not have a National Registry for QIs or an official list.



United States Department of Agriculture

CEMA 216 - Page 1

Conservation Evaluation and Monitoring Activity

Soil Health Testing CEMA 216

Definition

Quantitative testing for biological, chemical, and physical characteristics of soil and constraints using approved laboratory methods.

Applicable Land Uses

All Land Uses.

REQUIREMENTS

Qualified Individual Requirements

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) strongly encourages Conservation Evaluation and Monitoring Activity (CEMA) participants to know the Qualified Individual (QI) requirements to ensure the person they employ to provide the CEMA is fully qualified to meet the objectives of the activity.

A QI for Soil Health Testing CEMA 216 meets one of the following:

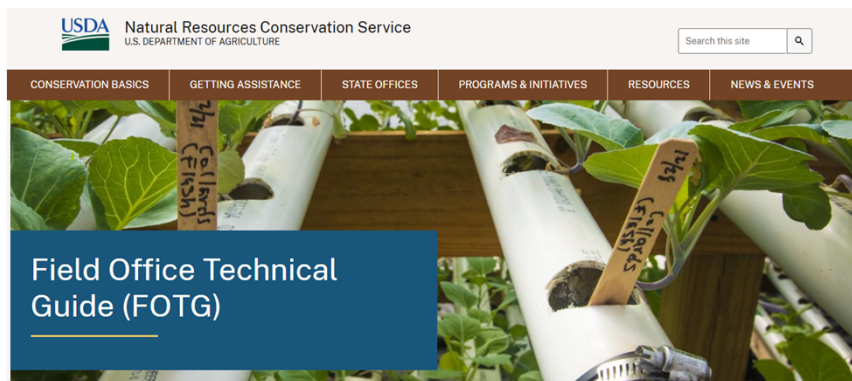
- 1) Certified Crop Advisor (CCA) or Certified Professional Agronomist (CPAg) through the American Society of Agronomy or a Certified Professional Soil Scientist (CPSS) or Associate Professional Soil Scientist (APSS) through the Soil Science Society of America.
- 2) Technical Service Providers (TSP) certified for Soil Health Management Plan Conservation Practice Activity (116) or Soil Health Management Design and Implementation Activity (162).
- 3) An associate degree or higher in an agricultural or soil science field with at least 2 years of experience collecting soil for laboratory analysis.
- 4) Individuals working under the guidance or management of a QI are allowed to collect soil samples for this CEMA.

General Requirements

- 1) This CEMA includes the performance of work and documentation of the tasks, results, interpretations, and other activities described herein by a QI.
- 2) Prior to initiation of the CEMA, the QI must arrange a pre-work conference to ensure all parties understand the participant's objectives, required deliverables, and characteristics of the CEMA tasks.
 - a) The parties in the pre-work conference must include the participant, the QI, and the NRCS field office staff. The parties should agree whether they will join in-person or join via phone, web-meeting, etc.

January 2026R

Conservation Activity Document Location



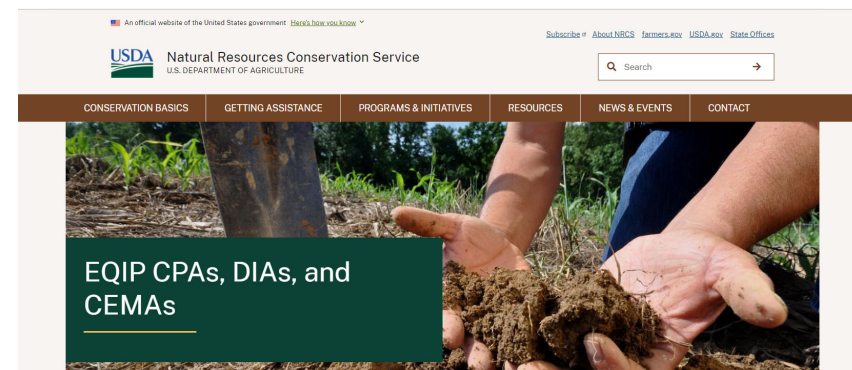
[Home](#) > [Resources](#) > Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG)

Technical guides are the primary scientific references for NRCS. They contain technical information about the conservation of soil, water, air, and related plant and animal resources.

<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/resources/guides-and-instructions/field-office-technical-guides>

<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs-initiatives/equip-environmental-quality-incentives/cpas-dias-and-cemas>

Located on National Equip website and linked from State FOTGs



[Home](#) > [Programs & Initiatives](#) > [Environmental Quality Incentives Program](#) > EQIP CPAs, DIAs, and CEMAs

Learn about EQIP Conservation Planning Activities (CPAs), Design and Implementation Activities (DIAs), and Conservation Evaluation and Monitoring Activities (CEMAs).

CPA, DIA, and 900 Series Delivery

- Require a Certified Technical Service Provider
 - TSPs are certified utilizing NRCS Registry
 - TSPs include individuals, private businesses, American Indian tribes, nonprofit organizations, and public agencies.
- Conservation Practice Criteria determines what is required of a TSP to become certified
- There are 1 to 3 certification options to qualify under for each conservation practice.
 - Certification, Education and Experience, and Experience alone.
 - A TSP only needs to qualify under one certification option but must meet all the certification criteria within the option to become Certified.



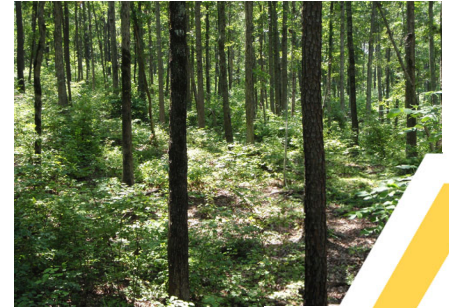
CEMA Delivery

- Requires a Qualified Individual (QI)
 - Any individuals, private businesses, American Indian tribes, nonprofit organizations, or public agencies must meet the qualifications.
- There is no certification process needed to complete work as a Qualified Individual
- Qualified Individuals advertise their services outside of NRCS Registry
- Qualification Criteria is defined within each CEMA Activity document.

Quick Summary

- **Conservation Planning Activities (CPA)**
 - Covers Steps 1-7 in the Planning Process
 - Require a Certified TSP
- **Design and Implementation Activities (DIA)**
 - Covers Step 8 in the Planning Process
 - Require a Certified TSP
- **900 Series**
 - Covers Step 8 in the Planning Process
 - Requires a Certified TSP
- **Conservation Evaluation and Monitoring Activities (CEMA)**
 - Can be adopted at anytime within the Planning Process as appropriate, mostly used in Step 9
 - Requires a Qualified Individual (QI)

Working Effectively with TSPs and QIs



TSP Assistance Process Overview



A TECHNICAL
EXPERT BECOMES
CERTIFIED BY
NRCS AS A TSP.
NAME APPEARS
ON "FIND A TSP"



TSP IS
CONTACTED BY A
PROGRAM
PARTICIPANT
WITH AN NRCS
CONTRACT



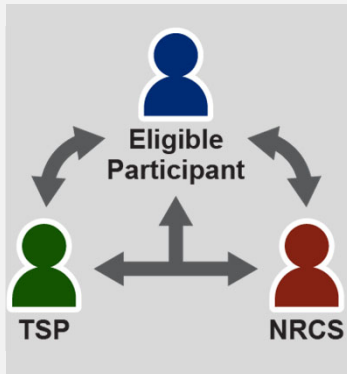
WHEN HIRED,
TSP PERFORMS
TECHNICAL
SERVICES AND
SUBMITS
COMPLETED
WORK



NRCS REVIEWS
DELIVERABLES &
PAYS THE PROGRAM
PARTICIPANT FOR
COMPLETED TSP
ITEMS IN RPP
CONTRACT

WORKING EFFECTIVELY WITH TSPS

(TIPS, TRICKS, &
IMPORTANT INFO)



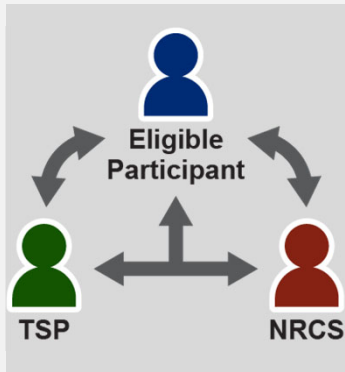
Program Participants must use an NRCS Certified TSPs in their State for CPAs and DIAs and 900 Series

If TSPRs and Funding are available, Program Participant can request the use of a TSP for 911, 912, and/or 913.

Use of a TSP is not based on NRCS staffing availability or other non-policy preferences.

WORKING EFFECTIVELY WITH TSPS

(TIPS, TRICKS, &
IMPORTANT INFO)



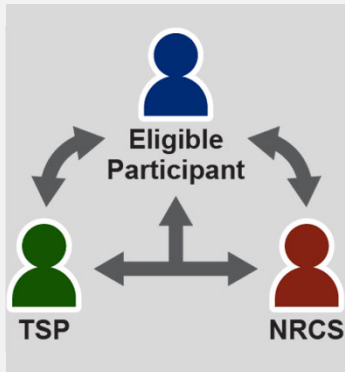
The program participant selects and hires the TSP or QI to complete the required deliverables for that service.

TSPs do not have Job Approval Authority (JAA) classification but are certified for all levels of the conservation practice in their Agreement.

NRCS staff is not responsible for confirming the *certification qualifications* of a TSP or a QI.

WORKING EFFECTIVELY WITH TSPS

(TIPS, TRICKS, &
IMPORTANT INFO)



For payment, NRCS staff completes an *administrative review* of the deliverables.

NRCS staff should not duplicate the technical work of the TSP or QI.

Annual Spot Checks & QARs confirm technical adequacy of the TSP's or QIs work.

Questions?

