

## CLIENT AUTHORIZATION FOR RELEASE OF RECORD

**NRCS is required by law to protect the confidentiality of information provided by program participants and applicants in order to participate in USDA programs. The participant or applicant may authorize NRCS to release confidential information to a third party by completing this form. Please note the following:**

- 1. Releasing this information is voluntary:** You are not required to approve the release any information to a third party in order to participate in, or receive any benefit under, a USDA program.

Additional points to consider for USDA-NRCS administered Farm Bill Programs:

- *For federal EWP funding to be approved for hurricane response work, NRCS must meet all its required National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) responsibilities.*
- *NRCS NEPA responsibilities include completion of an Environmental Evaluation assessing potential EWP activity impact on Special Environmental Concerns, such as the Clean Water Act, Coastal Zone Management Act, and Endangered Species Act.*
- *When projected EWP activities may affect certain Special Environmental Concerns, NRCS or the EWP project sponsor is required to consult with responsible external local, state, and/or federal agencies for further expert analysis of potential environmental impacts.*
- *Without permission granted to NRCS to release sufficient information allowing responsible external agencies analysis of potential environmental impacts on identified Special Environmental Concerns, NRCS will be unable to complete its Environmental Evaluation and meet NEPA responsibilities.*
- *If the client chooses not to provide authorization for release of necessary records, you (the client) must provide pertinent project information directly to all appropriate fed/state/local agencies for USDA-NRCS to complete NEPA consultation requirements and analysis-based findings required for the proposed project to proceed.*
- *Without this authorization of records release, you will be required to provide NRCS with copies of personal correspondence with agencies regarding this project.*

- 2. NRCS cannot protect the confidentiality of released information:** NRCS cannot control the use or further distribution of any information released by a program participant through this authorization. NRCS is not responsible for protecting the confidentiality of any information once it leaves the agency's control.

- 3. False statements punishable by law:** Any person willfully making false statements on this release form may be prosecuted under 18 U.S.C. §1001. This form is only to be completed by a requestor to access information relating that person, or who is authorized to access confidential information related to the identified agricultural operation.

## CLIENT AUTHORIZATION FOR RELEASE OF RECORDS

### Authorization to Release Information to another Person or Entity

This form is to be completed by a client (requestor) who is authorizing information relating to him/herself to be released to another person or entity, pursuant to USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) General Manual Title 120- Administrative Services and Section 1619 of the 2008 Farm Bill, as amended.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, authorize the USDA-NRCS to release the following information relating to me:

All information contained in my cooperator case file.

OR

Specific information contained in my cooperator case file as checked below:

Conservation Plan  
Schedule of Operations  
Environmental Compliance  
Certified and/or official wetland determination and related information.  
Other specific information listed here:

The above information may only be released to the following individuals or entities:

- |          |          |
|----------|----------|
| 1. _____ | 5. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 6. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 7. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 8. _____ |

The information may be released to the above individuals/entities until \_\_\_\_\_

Full name of requestor: \_\_\_\_\_

Current address: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**By signing this document, I certify that I have read the above information and understand that 1) releasing this information is voluntary, 2) NRCS cannot protect the confidentiality of released information, and 3) False statements are punishable by law.**