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Environmental Evaluation & NEPA Compliance Overview

Emergency Watershed Protection Program (EWP)

North Carolina Natural Resources Conservation Service

Jeremy B. Roston (Conservation Planning Specialist)
Ecological Sciences Section
NC USDA-NRCS

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Conservation Planning & Environmental Evaluation Refresher

- AgLearn Course: [The NRCS-CPA-52 Environmental Evaluation Worksheet \(NRCS-NHQ-000048\)](#)
- NRCS Conservation Webinars:
 - [Environmental Evaluation Series No. 1: Environmental Evaluation Series No. 1: Primer on NRCS Environmental Compliance](#)
 - [Environmental Evaluation Series No. 2: Documenting the Environmental Evaluation on the NRCS CPA-52 Environmental Evaluation Worksheet](#)

AgLearn
Ask AgLearn Now (Help)
<https://aglearn.usda.gov/>

CONSERVATION WEBINAR PORTAL
<http://www.conservationwebinars.net/>

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Day-to-Day Conservation Planning

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EWP- Technical Adequacy Expectations

- NRCS must ensure that the measures and assistance provided through EWP are economically, socially, and environmentally defensible and technically sound.
- All work is subject to NRCS standards and must be carried out in accordance with the:
 - National Planning Procedures Handbook (NPPH)
 - Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG)
 - National Engineering Manual (210-NEM, Section 501.24), and
 - National Agronomy Manual (NAM)

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EWP-Environmental Compliance Expectations

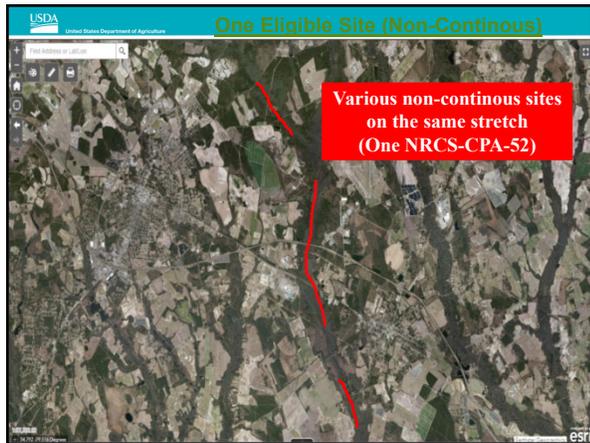
- The Disaster Survey Report (DSR) and Environmental Evaluation (EE) (NRCS-CPA-52) are the primary documents in the planning process to record all assessments, evaluation, and planning decisions for EWP recovery measures.
- A DSR and EE must be completed for every site determined eligible for EWP assistance.
 - One eligible site per DSR (site-by-site)
 - Groups of similarly impaired sites within a limited geographic area per DSR

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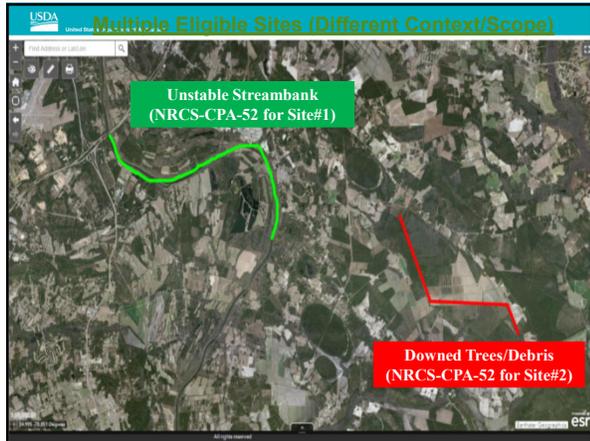
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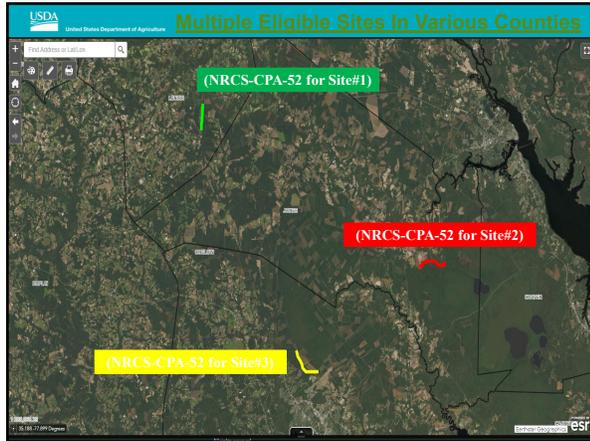
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o Any exceptions granted by NHQ for the number of DSRs and EEs required for every eligible site will be communicated by the EWP Program Manager.

o If in doubt, please ask!

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EWP-Environmental Compliance Responsibilities

- Through the Environmental Evaluation (EE) process, **NRCS must consider and document the effect of proposed emergency measures on natural and cultural resources.**
- Compliance with NEPA and all other local, State, Tribal, and Federal environmental laws
 - Clean Water Act/Waters of the U.S.
 - Cultural Resources/Historic Properties
 - Endangered & Threatened Species
 - Essential Fish Habitat
 - Coastal Zone Management
 - Natural Areas
 - Riparian Areas
 - Wetlands
 - Wild & Scenic Rivers
- As well as any other applicable Federal Laws, Executive Orders, State and Tribal statute.

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Area of Potential Effect Mapping Web Tool

APE Mapping Web Tool North Carolina, USA-NRCS

APR Planning Information System

--- APE Mapping Web Tool ---

Description: The APE Mapping Web Tool was created by the NRCS USA-NRCS to assist in the identification of potential areas of impact of proposed actions. The APE Mapping Web Tool is intended for use by project managers, resource specialists, and other staff involved in the planning and implementation of proposed actions. The tool is intended to be used as a decision support tool for decision-making.

Tool Performance: The tool on this site is made available for informational purposes only. It is not intended to be used as a decision-making tool. Some of the data and tools on this web service, which may affect the overall performance of the tool, are not updated frequently. This tool is available for use by project managers, resource specialists, and other staff involved in the planning and implementation of proposed actions. The tool is intended to be used as a decision support tool for decision-making.

Terms of Use: USDA-NRCS is not responsible for data for any service the user. The user is responsible for ensuring that the data is accurate and up-to-date. The user is also responsible for ensuring that the data is used in accordance with the applicable laws and regulations. The user is also responsible for ensuring that the data is used in accordance with the applicable laws and regulations. The user is also responsible for ensuring that the data is used in accordance with the applicable laws and regulations.

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<https://ares.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=cb36dae5anc0449aab4b1199779d4397d1>

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EWP-Environmental Compliance Consultations

- NRCS is responsible for conducting the necessary consultations with the appropriate Federal, State, Local, or Tribal agency for Special Environmental Concerns that **may potentially be affected** as a result of proposed EWP activities.
- In many cases, the effects of the proposed actions are either covered by a CatEx or are sufficiently described in the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS).
- However, to comply with the ESA, NHPA, or other environmental requirements, additional analysis or documentation may be required.

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EWP-Environmental Compliance (Endangered Species Act)

- For the USFWS, NRCS will continue to satisfy ESA's Section 7 responsibilities by conducting environmental evaluations (EE), following the ICM (USFWS-NRCS MOU), and completing the NRSC-CPA-52.
- Staff need to notify NC NRCS State Biologist per guidance provided in the ICM (+/- determinations).

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EWP-Environmental Compliance (Endangered Species Act)

- NOAA has identified the following NC designated critical habitat for Atlantic sturgeon in the following river runs:

State	Water Body	Upper extent	River mile
NC	Roanoke River	Roanoke Rapids Dam	132
NC	Tar - Pamlico River	Rocky Mount Mill Pond Dam	124
NC	Neuse River	Milburnie Dam	214
NC	Cape Fear River	Lock and Dam #2	94
NC	Northeast Cape Fear River	Upstream side of Rones Chapel Road Bridge	136

Note: From River mile 0 to the River mile indicated above

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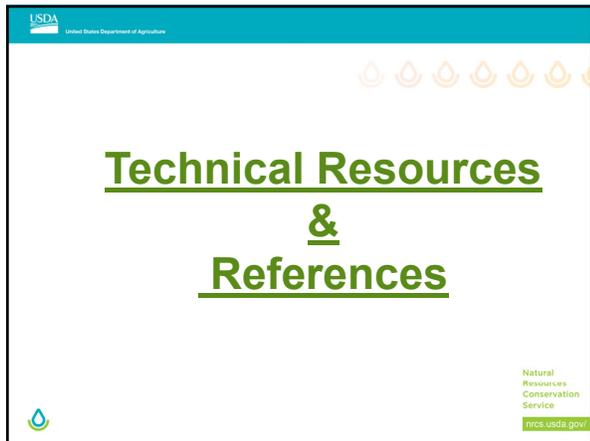
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EWP-Environmental Compliance (Cultural Resources)

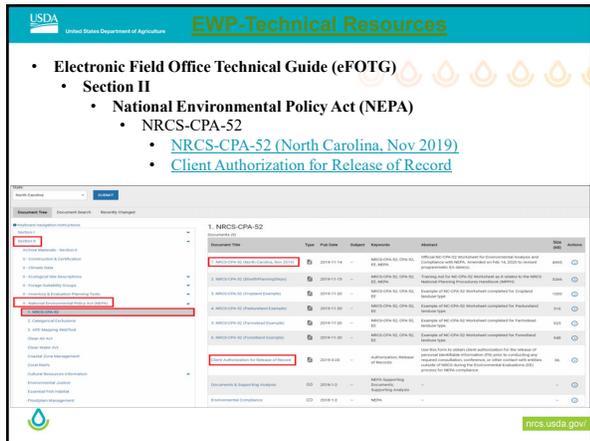
- Continue to submit requests through the [CRR SharePoint Site Tracker](#).
- Requirements for CRR Requests**
 - Use Form NC-ECS-01 (10/17, v.002)
 - Complete Sections 1-15 only.
 - Define the length and width of area to be disturbed.
- Requirements for CRR Maps**
 - Include a 1:24,000 Scale USGS topo quad map
 - Clearly designate the APE on the map with a point, line or polygon, depending on the nature of the proposed work.
 - Only use the USGS topo map as the Basemap.
 - Other than the APE, do not include other layers, features, or imagery on the cultural resources map.

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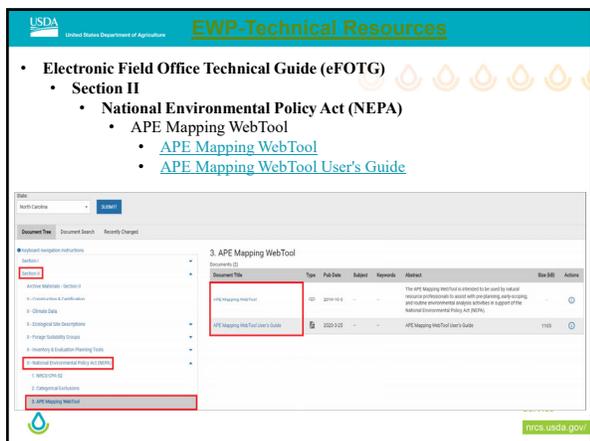
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