



M_440_501_B` - Subpart B - Local Working Groups

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501.10 Purpose

In accordance with 7 CFR Part 610, Subpart C, local working groups are subcommittees of the State Technical Committee and provide recommendations to USDA on local and state natural resource priorities, conservation activities and programs.

501.11 Responsibilities of the Local Working Group

It is the responsibility of the local working group to –

- (1) Ensure that a conservation needs assessment is developed using community stakeholders.
- (2) Utilize the conservation needs assessment to help identify program funding needs and conservation practices.
- (3) Identify priority resource concerns and identify, as appropriate, high-priority areas for program assistance.
- (4) Recommend USDA conservation program application and funding criteria, eligible (including limits on practice payments or units), and payment rates.
- (5) Participate in multicounty coordination where program funding and priority area p cross county boundaries.
- (6) Assist NRCS and the conservation district with public outreach and information efforts, educational and producers' training needs.
- (7) Recommend State and national program policy to the State Technical Committee.

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