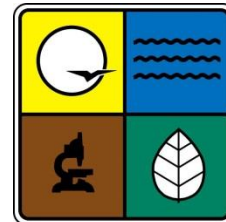


Needs Assessment

Soil and Water Conservation
Program



MISSOURI
DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES

Why a needs assessment?

- Revised Statutes of Missouri chapter 278
- Soil and Water Districts Commission rules
- The commission is charged with the responsibility of allocating the cost-share funds to districts based on districts' needs

What to include in the needs assessment?

- The district's need by resource concern
- If applicable, address needs created by natural disasters (i.e. flooding or storm damage)
- Be as accurate as possible when estimating your district's needs so the Commission can fairly assess and allocate funds

Needs Assessment Outline

- Designed to allocate Cost-Share dollars
- Break Cost-Share needs into resource concern areas
- Provide information for treatments of the resource concerns
- Five year plan – Focus on years 1 and 2 to determine allocation

Resource Concerns

- Animal Waste Management
- Grazing Management
- Irrigation Management
- Nutrient and Pest Management
- Sensitive Areas
- Sheet, Rill, and Gully Erosion
- Woodland Erosion

Resource Concern: Sheet, Rill, and Gully Erosion

- **DSL-01** Permanent Vegetative Cover Establishment
- **DSL-02** Permanent Vegetative Cover Improvement
- **DSL-04** Terrace System
- **DSL-44** Terrace System w/ Tile
- **DSL-05** Diversions
- **DSL-11** Permanent Vegetative Cover: Critical Areas
- **DSL-111** Permanent Vegetative Cover:
Confined Animal Feed Lot
- **DSL-15** No-Till Systems

Resource Concern:

Sheet, Rill, and Gully Erosion (cont'd)

- **DWC-01** Water Impoundment Reservoir
- **DWP-01** Sediment Retention, Erosion, or Water Control Structure
- **DWP-3** Sod Waterways
- **N332** Contour Buffer Strips
- **N380** Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment
- **N410** Drop Pipe
- **N585** Contour Stripcropping

Resource Concern: Grazing Management

- **DSP-02** Permanent Vegetative Cover Enhancement
- **DSP 3.1** Grazing System Water Development
- **DSP 3.2** Grazing System Water Distribution
- **DSP 3.3** Grazing System Fence
- **DSP 3.4** Grazing System Lime
- **DSP 3.5** Grazing System Seed

Resource Concern: Irrigation Management

- **N430** Irrigation Water Conveyance
- **N442** Irrigation System, Sprinkler
- **N443** Irrigation System, Surface and Subsurface
- **N447** Irrigation System, Tail Water Recovery
- **N554** Drainage Water Management
- **N587** Structure for Water Control

Resource Concern: Animal Waste Management

- **N312** Beef Waste Management System
- **N312** Dairy Waste Management System
- **N312** Poultry Waste Management System
- **N312** Swine Waste Management System
- **N316** Incinerator
- **N317** Composting Facility

Resource Concern: Nutrient and Pest Management

- **N590** Nutrient Management
- **N595** Pest Management

Resource Concern: Sensitive Areas

- **C650** Streambank Stabilization
- **DSP-31** Sinkhole Improvement
- **BDSP-31** Buffer Sinkhole Improvement
- **N351** Well Decommissioning
- **N380** Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment
- **N386** Field Border
- **N391** Riparian Forest Buffer
- **N393** Filter Strip
- **N574** Spring Development
- **N725** Sinkhole Treatment
- **WQ10** Stream Protection

Resource Concern: Woodland Erosion

- **C100** Timber Harvest Plans
- **DFR-04** Forest Plantation
- **N472** Livestock Exclusion
- **N655** Restoration of Skid Trails, Logging Roads, Stream Crossings, and Log Landings

Building the Assessment

- Districts will use many different types of media to build their District Needs Assessment
- Cost-Share waiting list (or MoSWIMS pending contracts)
- Cares Website - <http://cares.missouri.edu/default.aspx>
 - District will be able to get census information, farm number, and total acres available in its respective county
- National Agricultural Statistics Service
www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Missouri/index.asp

Building the Assessment

- District Office/Landowner Interaction
 - District gathers information from landowners and their needs by discussing the practices in the office or in the field
- District may hold landowner meetings to obtain information from landowners
- Landowner Survey Form
 - Survey form located on districts' intranet
 - May be mailed or included in district newsletter
 - Asks landowners what need or would like to implement on their properties

Building the Assessment

- Cost-Share Usage Background
 - State average cost per cost-share claim and the average size per claim of each practice
- Cost-share Evaluation for past fiscal years
 - District average of the average size and the cost per cost-share claim
- Needs Assessment Worksheet
 - Details the resource concerns, dollars needed, and dollars spent per year, etc.
 - Sample on intranet
 - Log into MoSWIMS to fill out final numbers

Building the Assessment

- The district board, managers, and technician(s) identify their respective district's resource concerns
- Use the different information items previously listed to determine the estimated funding needed for each resource concern
- District fills out the five year proposed Cost-Share usage in MoSWIMS
- The district will submit a narrative that helps justify the districts needs assessment totals.
 - Any changes that affect the districts needs
 - Land usages (ie. CRP conversions) that affect erosion and water quality needs.

Needs Assessment Timeline

- **Each Autumn:** Districts submit their Needs Assessment Narrative and enter final numbers into MoSWIMS
- **Late December:** Areas of advance allocation are chosen
- **January:** Districts receive advance allocation funds
- **July 1:** New fiscal year begins and remaining allocation amounts are awarded
- As appropriate, the Commission may award supplemental allocations to utilize the full appropriation authority

Needs Assessment Process

- After the assessments are entered into MoSWIMS, they are reviewed and analyzed.
- Needs Assessment information entered from all 114 county assessments is presented to the Commission

Commission Responsibility

- The Commission formulates their goals for treating the resource concern areas.
- The Commission then allocates the available cost-share dollars to the districts based on:
 - Dollar amounts requested
 - Dollar amounts available
 - Number of practices to treat a resource concern
 - Goals of the commission to treat resource concerns statewide.

Needs Assessment Allocation

- Once the Commission establishes goals and allocates cost-share funds to resource concern areas, district allocations for each resource concern are entered into MOSWIMS.
- Funds cannot be moved from one category to another by the districts.
- The Commission may review their goals and provide supplemental allocation(s) to:
 - Utilize the full appropriation authority
 - Reward districts actively engaged with landowners
 - Reduce solely depending on the Needs Assessment to provide all information for allocations

Summary

- The Needs Assessment:
 - Addresses districts' needs by resource concern
 - Is a tool that allows districts to utilize the full appropriation authority each year
 - Uses district input to gain local information to address local conservation issues