NRCS Pacific Islands Area FY 21 Priority Resource Concern Survey

Thank you for participating in the NRCS Pacific Islands Area FY 21 Priority Resource Concern Survey. Your input will help us ensure that local assistance and programs reflect the needs and priorities of the local community.

The survey will ask you to select three Priority Resource Concern Categories that you believe to be of the highest priority for your local Service Center area. Resource Concern Categories (RCC) group together resource concerns that most commonly are seen in the field and contribute to the larger category issue.

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Select the local Service Center (Soil and Water Conservation Districts) that you are responding for.

*For a map of the service center areas, go to* <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/pia/contact/local/>

* American Samoa (American Samoa)
* Guam (Northern Guam, Southern Guam)
* Hilo (Hamakua, Ka'u, Puna, Waiakea)
* Kahului (Central Maui, Hana, Olinda-Kula, West Maui)
* Kaunakakai (Molokai and Lanai)
* Kealakekua (Kona)
* Lihue (East Kauai, West Kauai)
* Oahu (South Oahu, West Oahu, Windward Oahu)
* Saipan (Luta, Saipan & Northern Islands, Tinian & Aguiguan)
* Waimea (Hamakua, Mauna Kea,)

Resource Concern Category - Priority

Select three resource concern categories that you feel should be Service Center's top priorities. Highest priority concerns are ones that are adversely impacting our environment (soil, water, air, etc.), that are the result of activity on privately managed land, and that could be improved by the implementation of NRCS conservation practices. \*

* Air Quality Emissions
* Aquatic Habitat
* Concentrated Erosion
* Degraded Plant Condition
* Field Sediment, Nutrient, and Pathogen Loss
* Field Pesticide Loss
* Fire Management
* Inefficient Energy Use
* Livestock Production Limitations
* Pest Pressure
* Soil Quality Limitations
* Source Water Depletion
* Storage and Handling of Pollutants
* Terrestrial Habitat
* Weather Resilience
* Wind and Water Erosion
* Long-term Protection of Land

Complete the sections below for the resource concern categories that you selected above. Number the resource concern categories as your #1, 2, and 3 priority.

* Air Quality Emissions – Priority # \_\_\_
  + *Select up to 2 AIR QUALITY EMMISSIONS resource concerns:*
    - Emissions of airborne reactive nitrogen: Emissions of airborne reactive nitrogen – ammonia and oxides of nitrogen – can negatively impact atmospheric chemistry, cause unwanted fertilization via deposition in sensitive ecosystems, and degrade regional visibility.
    - Emissions of greenhouse gases – GHGs: Emissions of methane, nitrous oxide, and carbon dioxide increase atmospheric concentrations of greenhouse gases
    - Emissions of ozone precursors: Emissions of ozone precursors – oxides of nitrogen and volatile organic compounds (VOCs) – result in formation of ground-level ozone, which can have negative impacts to human, plant, and animal health.
    - Emissions of particulate matter (PM) and PM precursors: Direct emissions of particulate matter – dust and smoke – as well as the formation of fine particulate matter in the atmosphere from other agricultural emissions – ammonia, oxides of nitrogen, and volatile organic compounds – can cause multiple negative environmental impacts
    - Objectionable odor: Emissions of odorous compounds – volatile organic compounds (VOCs) ammonia, and odorous sulfur compounds – can cause nuisance conditions.
  + Is there a specific location or producer group in the service center area where assistance for the selected resource concerns are needed to address this resource category? For example, cropland, pasture or rangeland, forest, watershed or region, etc. Are there specific examples or situations you have in mind?
* Aquatic Habitat – Priority # \_\_\_
  + *Select up to 2 AQUATIC HABITAT resource concerns:*
    - Aquatic habitat for fish and other organisms
    - Elevated water temperature: Surface water temperatures exceed State/Federal standards in downstream receiving waters which limits its use for identified fish or as aquatic habitat
  + Is there a specific location or producer group in the service center area where assistance for the selected resource concerns are needed to address this resource category? For example, cropland, pasture or rangeland, forest, watershed or region, etc. Are there specific examples or situations you have in mind?
* Concentrated Erosion – Priority # \_\_\_
  + *Select up to 2 CONCENTRATED EROSION resource concerns:*
    - Bank erosion from streams, shorelines, or water conveyances channels: Erosion resulting from poor land management practices, storm events, wave action, rain, ice, wind, runoff, loss of vegetation, hydrologic dynamics, stream isolation from floodplains, and/or other disturbed/altered geomorphological processes
    - Classic gully erosion: Gullies created by runoff that can enlarge a channel progressively by head cutting and/or lateral widening.
  + Is there a specific location or producer group in the service center area where assistance for the selected resource concerns are needed to address this resource category? For example, cropland, pasture or rangeland, forest, watershed or region, etc. Are there specific examples or situations you have in mind?
* Degraded Plant Condition – Priority # \_\_\_
  + *Select up to 2 DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION resource concerns:*
    - Plant productivity and health: Improper fertility, management or plants not adapted to site, negatively impact plant productivity, vigor and/or quality
    - Plant structure and composition: Plant communities have insufficient composition and structure to achieve ecological functions and management objectives. This resource concern includes degradation of wetland habitat, targeted ecosystems, or unique plant communities
  + Is there a specific location or producer group in the service center area where assistance for the selected resource concerns are needed to address this resource category? For example, cropland, pasture or rangeland, forest, watershed or region, etc. Are there specific examples or situations you have in mind?
* Field Sediment, Nutrient, and Pathogen Loss – Priority # \_\_\_
  + *Select up to 2 FIELD SEDIMENT, NUTRIENT, AND PATHOGEN LOSS resource concerns:*
    - Nutrients transported to groundwater: Nutrients (organic and inorganic) stored, concentrated, or applied are transported to groundwaters in quantities that degrade water quality and limit its use for intended purposes
    - Nutrients transported to surface water: Nutrients (organic and inorganic) stored, concentrated, or applied are transported to receiving surface waters in quantities that degrade water quality and limit its use for intended purposes
    - Pathogens and chemicals from manure, biosolids, or compost applications transported to surface water: Pathogens, pharmaceuticals, leachate and chemicals from manure, bio-solids or compost transported to receiving waters in quantities that degrade water quality and limit uses.
    - Sediment transported to surface water: Offsite transport of sediment to surface water degrades water quality and limits use for intended purposes
  + Is there a specific location or producer group in the service center area where assistance for the selected resource concerns are needed to address this resource category? For example, cropland, pasture or rangeland, forest, watershed or region, etc. Are there specific examples or situations you have in mind?
* Field Pesticide Loss – Priority # \_\_\_
  + *Select up to 2 FIELD PESTICIDE LOSS resource concerns:*
    - Pesticides transported to groundwater: Pesticide loses from the application area are transported to groundwater sources in quantities that degrade water quality and limit its use for intended purposes
    - Pesticides transported to surface water: Pesticide loses from the application area are transported as runoff or drift to surface water sources in quantities that degrade water quality and limit its use for intended purposes.
  + Is there a specific location or producer group in the service center area where assistance for the selected resource concerns are needed to address this resource category? For example, cropland, pasture or rangeland, forest, watershed or region, etc. Are there specific examples or situations you have in mind?
* Fire Management – Priority # \_\_\_
  + *The only resource concern for FIRE MANAGEMENT is: Wildfire hazard from biomass accumulation: The kinds and amounts of plant biomass create wildfire hazards that pose risks to human safety, structures, plants, animals, and air resources.*
  + Is there a specific location or producer group in the service center area where assistance for the selected resource concerns are needed to address this resource category? For example, cropland, pasture or rangeland, forest, watershed or region, etc. Are there specific examples or situations you have in mind?
* Inefficient Energy Use – Priority # \_\_\_
  + *Select up to 2 INEFFICIENT ENERGY USE resource concerns:*
    - Energy efficient equipment and facilities: Stationary equipment or facilities are using energy inefficiently. In addition to energy use in and around buildings on the farmstead, this includes other stationary equipment such as grain dryers or commodity storages as well as equipment in the field such as irrigation pumps, irrigation systems, and center pivots.
    - Energy efficient farming/ranching practices and field operations: Mobile on-farm, field operations are using energy inefficiently. This includes use of tractors, trucks or other mobile equipment as well as changes in farming/ranching and forestry practices that reduce energy use such as making fewer trips across the field or implementing practices that result in less energy use.
  + Is there a specific location or producer group in the service center area where assistance for the selected resource concerns are needed to address this resource category? For example, cropland, pasture or rangeland, forest, watershed or region, etc. Are there specific examples or situations you have in mind?
* Livestock Production Limitations – Priority # \_\_\_
  + *Select up to 2 LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION LIMITATION resource concerns:*
    - Feed and forage balance: Feed and Forage quality and/or quantity is inadequate for nutritional needs and production goals of the kinds and classes of livestock
    - Inadequate livestock shelter: Livestock lack adequate shelter from climatic conditions to meet basic needs
    - Inadequate livestock water quantity, quality, and distribution
  + Is there a specific location or producer group in the service center area where assistance for the selected resource concerns are needed to address this resource category? For example, cropland, pasture or rangeland, forest, watershed or region, etc. Are there specific examples or situations you have in mind?
* Pest Pressure – Priority # \_\_\_
  + *The only resource concern for PEST PRESSURE is: Plant pest pressure: Excessive pest damage to plants including that from undesired plants, diseases, animals, soil borne pathogens, and nematodes. This concern addresses invasive plant, animal and insect species*
  + Is there a specific location or producer group in the service center area where assistance for the selected resource concerns are needed to address this resource category? For example, cropland, pasture or rangeland, forest, watershed or region, etc. Are there specific examples or situations you have in mind?
* Soil Quality Limitations – Priority # \_\_\_
  + *Select up to 2 SOIL QUALITY LIMITATIONS resource concerns:*
    - Aggregate instability: Management-induced degradation of water stable soil aggregates resulting in destabilized soil carbon; surface crusting; reduced water infiltration, water holding capacity, and aeration; depressed resilience to extreme weather; increased ponding and flooding; increased soil erosion and plant stress; and reduced habitat and soil biological activity.
    - Compaction: Management-induced soil compaction at any level throughout the soil profile resulting in reduced plant productivity, biological activity, infiltration and aeration
    - Concentration of salts or other chemicals: Concentration of salts leading to salinity and/or sodicity reducing productivity or limiting desired use, or concentrations of other chemicals impacting productivity, populations of beneficial organisms or limiting desired use.
    - Organic matter depletion: Management-induced depletion of any or all pools of soil organic matter resulting in limited soil function and processes that support plant productivity, biological activity and water and nutrient cycling
    - Soil organism habitat loss or degradation: Quantity, quality, diversity or connectivity of food, cover, space, shelter and/or water is inadequate to meet requirements of beneficial soil organisms
    - Subsidence: Loss of volume and depth of organic soils due to oxidation caused by above normal microbial activity resulting from excessive water drainage, soil disturbance, or extended drought. This excludes naturally occurring sinkholes and issues, or depressions caused by underground activities
  + Is there a specific location or producer group in the service center area where assistance for the selected resource concerns are needed to address this resource category? For example, cropland, pasture or rangeland, forest, watershed or region, etc. Are there specific examples or situations you have in mind?
* Source Water Depletion – Priority # \_\_\_
  + *Select up to 2 SOURCE WATER DEPLETION resource concerns:*
    - Groundwater depletion: Underground water is used at a rate greater than aquifer recharge
    - Inefficient irrigation water use: Irrigation water is not stored, delivered, scheduled and/or applied efficiently
    - Surface water depletion: Water from collected precipitation runoff, ponds, lakes, surface watercourses and reservoirs is used at a rate that is detrimental to ecological functions or other identified uses and threatens sustained availability of surface water.
  + Is there a specific location or producer group in the service center area where assistance for the selected resource concerns are needed to address this resource category? For example, cropland, pasture or rangeland, forest, watershed or region, etc. Are there specific examples or situations you have in mind?
* Storage and Handling of Pollutants – Priority # \_\_\_
  + *Select up to 2 STORAGE AND HANDLING OF POLLUTANTS resource concerns:*
    - Nutrients transported to groundwater: Nutrients (organic and inorganic) stored, concentrated, or applied are transported to groundwaters in quantities that degrade water quality and limit its use for intended purposes
    - Nutrients transported to surface water Nutrients (organic and inorganic) stored, concentrated, or applied are transported to receiving surface waters in quantities that degrade water quality and limit its use for intended purposes
    - Pesticides transported to surface water: Pesticides are lost from their application area and transported to surface water sources in quantities that degrade water quality and limit its use for intended purposes
    - Petroleum, heavy metals, and other pollutants transported to groundwater: Petroleum, heavy metals, and other pollutants for on-farm use are lost from areas of concentration (handling, storage, or processing facilities and areas) to receiving groundwater in quantities that degrade water quality and limit its use for intended purposes. This resource concern does not cover pathogens/manure, sediment (although sediment contaminated with petroleum, heavy metals, or other pollutants would be covered), nor naturally occurring salts
    - Petroleum, heavy metals, and other pollutants transported to surface water: Petroleum, heavy metals, and other pollutants for on-farm use are lost from areas of concentration (handling, storage, or processing facilities and areas) to receiving surface waters in quantities that degrade water quality and limits its use for intended purposes. This resource concern does not cover pathogens/manure, sediment (although sediment contaminated with petroleum, heavy metals, or other pollutants would be covered), nor naturally occurring salts
  + Is there a specific location or producer group in the service center area where assistance for the selected resource concerns are needed to address this resource category? For example, cropland, pasture or rangeland, forest, watershed or region, etc. Are there specific examples or situations you have in mind?
* Terrestrial Habitat – Priority # \_\_\_
  + *The only resource concern for TERRESTRIAL HABITAT is: Terrestrial habitat for wildlife and invertebrates: Quantity, quality or connectivity of food, cover, space, and/or water is inadequate to meet requirements of identified terrestrial wildlife or invertebrate species.*
  + Is there a specific location or producer group in the service center area where assistance for the selected resource concerns are needed to address this resource category? For example, cropland, pasture or rangeland, forest, watershed or region, etc. Are there specific examples or situations you have in mind?
* Weather Resilience – Priority # \_\_\_
  + *Select up to 2 WEATHER RESILIENCE resource concerns:*
    - Naturally available moisture use: Natural precipitation is not optimally managed to support desired land use goals or ecological processes.
    - Ponding and flooding: Water covering the land surface, along with saturated conditions below the surface, degrades natural resources, or restricts capability of land to support its intended use
    - Seasonal high-water table: Groundwater or a perched water table causing saturated conditions near the surface degrades water resources or restricts capability of land to support its intended use.
    - Seeps: Sub-surface saturated flows that percolates slowly to the surface, degrades water resources, or restricts capability of land to support its intended use.
  + Is there a specific location or producer group in the service center area where assistance for the selected resource concerns are needed to address this resource category? For example, cropland, pasture or rangeland, forest, watershed or region, etc. Are there specific examples or situations you have in mind?
* Wind and Water Erosion – Priority # \_\_\_
  + *Select up to 2 WIND AND WATER EROSION resource concerns:*
    - Sheet and rill erosion: Detachment and transport of soil particles caused by rainfall, melting snow, or irrigation
    - Wind erosion: Detachment and transport of soil particles caused by wind.
  + Is there a specific location or producer group in the service center area where assistance for the selected resource concerns are needed to address this resource category? For example, cropland, pasture or rangeland, forest, watershed or region, etc. Are there specific examples or situations you have in mind?
* Long-term Protection of Land – Priority # \_\_\_
  + *Select up to 2 LONG TERM PROTECTION OF LAND resource concerns:*
    - Threat of Conversion: Development pressure
    - Loss of functions and values: No longer able to support agricultural or wildlife habitat purposes
  + Is there a specific location or producer group in the service center area where assistance for the selected resource concerns are needed to address this resource category? For example, cropland, pasture or rangeland, forest, watershed or region, etc. Are there specific examples or situations you have in mind?

Demographics

*Which of the following categories do you most identify with?*

* Farmer, rancher, private forest landowner or manager
* Conservation agency or NRCS partner
* Business
* Non-governmental organization
* Other: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

What land use(s) do you work with?

* Crop
* Pasture/Range
* Forest
* Other: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_