

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Farm Service Agency
Washington, DC 20250

Environmental Quality Programs 1-EQ (Revision 2)	Amendment 3
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Approved by: Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



Amendment Transmittal

A Reasons for Amendment

Paragraph 41 has been amended to clarify that SEC should be contacted if special circumstances exist or additional assistance is needed during the environmental review process.

Exhibit 31 has been withdrawn because it was outdated resulting in unnecessary confusion about environmental compliance requirements.

Page Control Chart		
TC	Text	Exhibit
1, 2	4-3, 4-4	1, pages 1, 2 page 3 31, pages 1-16 (remove) page 17 (remove)

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41 Introduction (Continued)**A Background (Continued)**

- soils
- air quality
- noise
- national natural landmarks
- important land resources
 - prime and unique farmland
 - prime forestland
 - prime rangeland
- wilderness areas
- social and economic impacts
- environmental justice.

B Eliminating Resource Areas

According to CEQ (40 CFR 1501.15), EA's should focus **only** on protected resources potentially impacted by a proposed action and all other resource areas should be eliminated from any detailed review. This allows EA to be clear, concise, and focused on important issues.

41 Introduction (Continued)

C Acceptable Forms of Documentation

FSA requires a variety of forms to either accompany the NEPA document or serve as the NEPA documentation, depending on the type of action being proposed and the protected *--resources that may be affected. Refer to the relevant section of this handbook for a discussion of each type of compliance documentation.--*

* * *

FSA understands that the environmental compliance process **cannot** be completely *--standardized and special circumstances will occur. Contact SEC when special circumstances exist or if additional assistance is needed during the environmental review process.--*

Reports, Forms, Abbreviations, and Delegations of Authority

Reports

None

Forms

This table lists all forms referenced in this handbook.

Number	Title	Display Reference	Reference
AD-1006	Farmland Conversion Impact Rating		55
AD-1026	Highly Erodible Land Conservation and Wetland Conservation Certificate		4, 51
FSA-850	Environmental Evaluation		6, 23, Part 4
NRCS-CPA-052	Environmental Assessment and Resource Inventory Checklist		23, 49, Ex. 9
NRCS-CPA-106	Farmland Conversion Impact Rating for Corridor Type Projects		55
RD 1940-20	Request for Environmental Information		4, 33, 58
RD 1940-21	Environmental Assessment for Class I Action		4, 6, 23, 32-34, Part 4
RD 1940-22	Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions		4-6,23, 32-34, Part 4

Reports, Forms, Abbreviations, and Redelegations of Authority (Continued)

Abbreviations Not Listed in 1-CM

The following abbreviations are not listed in 1-CM.

Approved Abbreviation	Term	Reference
ACHP	The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation	50, Ex. 9
AFO	animal feeding operation	4, 34, 52, Ex. 2
APE	area of potential effect	2, 33, 50, 56, Ex. 9
ARPA	Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979	50
AU	animal unit	34, Ex. 2
BMP	best management practices	42, 45
CAFO	concentrated animal feeding operation	4, 42, 52, Ex. 2
CATEX	categorical exclusion	3-6, 22, 32-34, 49
CBRA	Coastal Barrier Resources Act of 1982	48
CBRS	Coastal Barrier Resources System	48
CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality	1-3, 23, 24, 34, 41
CNMP	Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan	4, 42
CONACT	Consolidated Farm And Rural Development Act	43
CWA	Clean Water Act	5, 42, 43, 46, Ex. 2, 11
CZMA	Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972	5, 33, 41, 47, Ex. 10
DFN	Debt for Nature Program also known as the Debt Cancellation Conservation Contract Program	32
EA	environmental assessment	Text, Ex. 12, 21-24
EE	environmental evaluation	Text
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement	3, 6, 23, 24, 34, 50, Ex. 2
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency	5, 42, 43, 45, 52, Ex. 2
EQ	environmental quality	42, 47, 52
ESA	Endangered Species Act of 1973	5, 49, Ex. 8
FONSI	Finding of No Significant Impact	3, 5, 6, 24, 34, 55, Ex. 23, 24
FP	farm programs	Text, Ex. 2
FPO	federal preservation officer	4, 50, Ex. 9

Reports, Forms, Abbreviations, and Redelegations of Authority (Continued)

Abbreviations Not Listed in 1-CM (Continued)

Approved Abbreviation	Term	Reference
MOA	Memorandum of Agreement	5, 50, Ex. 8, 10, 11
NECM	national environmental compliance manager	4, 6, 23, 24, 34, 49, 54, 58
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act of 1969	Text, Ex. 2, 21
NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act	4-6, 22, 50, Ex. 2, 9
NOA	Notice of Availability	6, 34, Ex. 12, 24
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	47, 49
NOI	notice of intent	43, 44, Ex. 2
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System	42, 52
NPS	National Park Service	46, 50, 54, 56
NRHP	National Registry of Historic Places	33, 50, Ex. 9
RAO	responsible agency official	54, 58, Ex. 2, 12
SEC	State environmental coordinator	4-6, 34, 41, 42, 49, 50, 52, 54, 58, Ex. 2, 9
SHPO	State historic preservation officer	4, 5, 50, Ex. 2, 6, 9, 21
SLA	State Level Agreement	5, 50, Ex. 9
THPO	tribal historic preservation officer	4, 5, 50, Ex. 2, 6, 9
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers	5, 43, 46, Ex. 11

Re delegations of Authority

None.

