Fiscal Year 2026 (FY26)

NMDA's Healthy Soil Program Conservation Planning Template required for Individual Applicants with rangeland USDA-NRCS in-field assessment and recommendations

NOTE: Conservation planning with USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is a **pre-application requirement** for Individual Applicants seeking Healthy Soil Program grants. If you are applying for a grant with a project that will occur on rangeland, you must submit this template (or an existing conservation plan from NRCS) as part of your application. **This template was <u>not</u> designed for the Individual Applicant to complete themselves. This template <u>must</u> be completed in cooperation with USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)* on or before February 21, 2025**. Failure to submit an NRCS conservation plan or this template (completed in cooperation with NRCS, including the planner's signature) as part of your Healthy Soil Program application will render your application incomplete and thus ineligible.

NOTE: NMDA's Healthy Soil Program requires grant applicants applying for rangeland projects to upload an Ecological Site Description map (<u>using https://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/</u>) as part of their online application. Because such a map indicates different ecological sites within the project site and is essential to the conservation planning process, NMDA recommends that all applicants create and study this map *prior to* their conservation-planning appointment with NRCS.

Rancher/Land Manager: Ranch Location: (Physical A	Address, Section/F	Range/Township, Lat	itude/Longitude)			
County:						
Pasture names with associat	ed acres/square fo	otage:				
Pasture name/number						
Acres/sq. ft.						
FOR THE INDIVIDUAL	APPLICANT: U	sing only the space be	elow, describe you	ır soil health-relate	ed goals.	



OR THE CONSERVATION PLANNER: Using only the space below	v. describe the Individu	al Applicant's current grazing system, types of
nimals grazed and age classification. Examples: Yearlong grazing, rest		
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OR THE CONSERVATION PLANNER: Using only the space below ealth-related resource concerns. Examples: Degraded plant condition, p		
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FOR THE CONSERVATION PLANNER: Complete the table below by listing the resource concerns you observe related to soil health, the agricultural/conservation practices you recommend to address each resource concern, and the soil health principle(s) that corresponds with that agricultural/conservation practice.

Reference these soil health principles (as defined in the Healthy Soil Act) when completing the table below.

- 1) Keeping soil covered
- 2) Minimizing soil disturbance on cropland and minimizing external inputs
- 3) Maximizing biodiversity
- 4) Maintaining a living root
- 5) Integrating animals into land management, including grazing animals, birds, beneficial insects or keystone species, such as earthworms

Agricultural/conservation practices must be planned in accordance with NRCS-NM Standards and Specifications. Please note if the practices will be completed in phases (Year 1, Year 2, etc.) as part of a soil health management system.

Planning criteria must include at a minimum:

- Planned implementation date
- Planned amount (acres/sq. ft. treated, lbs. applied, etc.)
- Planned species and seeding rates (cover crop, pollinator habitat, native grasses, field borders, etc.)

Soil Health-Related Resource	Agricultural Practice	Planning Criteria	Soil Health Principle
Concern	Please list all practices required for	Pasture name/number, planned date, amount	Use numbers 1-5 from the list
	project implementation	implemented, species, etc.	above
	1		



	, document any ad	ditional notes related to soil health	such as but no
,			
			Date
lame	Title	Local USDA Service Center	Date
	zing system	zing system	zing system

