

Update: Process to Develop Voluntary Clean Water Guidance for Nonpoint Sources



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- **Interviews**
- **Online survey**
- **Researched other states**
- **Meetings**
- **Webinar**

What have we done to get input



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Finish Interviews and
Close Survey

Webinar-Present
on what we have
heard and what it
means to process
design

Draft Process

Solicit Feedback on
Draft

January-February, 2017

Process Design
Completed
April 2017

Start Process to
Develop
Guidance
2017

Timeline



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Draft Process



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Produce Voluntary Clean Water Guidance for Agriculture.

Goal



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Changing our Approach:

- Work with an Advisory Group.
- Organize guidance around practices.
- Focus on evaluating effectiveness and implementation considerations.

Learning from Past Experiences



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- **Goal is to have a group with diverse perspectives.**
- **Balanced representation.**

Advisory Group



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- **Identifying Participants-Group participants will be identified through a solicitation process.**
- **Approximately 10-20 members.**

Advisory Group-Formation



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- *Step One-Work* with advisory group to compile the list of practices to evaluate.
- Cast a wide net.
- Include, but not be limited to, NRCS practices.

Identifying Practices



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- **Implementation Evaluation**
- **Effectiveness Evaluation**

Advisory Group Subgroups



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- **Compile, review, and synthesize information on implementation considerations:**
 - Capital cost
 - Operation and maintenance requirements and costs
 - Technical requirements
 - Lifespan, land area requirements
 - Barriers to implementation

Implementation Workgroup



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- **Compile information and data on the effectiveness of the identified practices.**
- **Review, and synthesize information and data to develop effectiveness estimates for each practice.**

Effectiveness Workgroup



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- **Combine information from implementation and effectiveness subgroups into one document.**
- **Public comment.**
- **Annual cycle.**

Finalizing Guidance



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- **The process should promote collaboration, transparency and common understanding.**
- **Effective practices support compliance with the water quality standards.**

Process Principles



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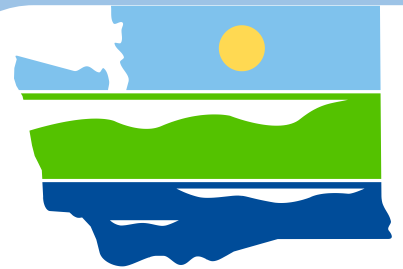
- Water quality protection is most likely achieved through using a combination of practices together at a site.
- Implementation support for voluntary clean water practices will be important.

Process Principles



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Comments



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- **Reviewing comments and completing responsiveness summary.**
- **Eighteen comments were received.**
- **Mix of stakeholders and perspectives.**

Comment Period (Jan 24-Feb 24)



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- **Structure of the Advisory Group.**
- **Timing.**
- **Decision Making.**
- **Better Define What Effectiveness Means**

Key Themes from Comments



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- **Clarification on Which Pollutants are Covered.**
- **Role of NRCS Standards.**
- **Suites of Practices.**
- **Other.**

Key Themes from Comments



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- **Keep the basic structure but provide more detail to clarify:**
 - The structure of the advisory group;
 - The qualifications for serving on the effectiveness subgroup;
 - How we will carry out the work of collecting literature and synthesize it;
 - The roles and purpose of each of the workgroups;
 - Ground rules.

Changes



- Build in more opportunities for the two subgroups to share information.
- Include a more detailed schedule-look for ways that we can expedite the process (while not sacrificing quality).
- Better define what we mean by “effectiveness” (i.e. pollutant removal and prevention).

Changes



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- **Considering limiting the advisory group to a smaller number of people (10-12).**
- **Clarify that we will be providing guidance for all water quality pollutants/parameters.**
- **More information on suites of practices and their effectiveness.**

Changes



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Questions and Discussion



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