Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA): Program Overview and NRCS Responsibilities

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USDA NRCS
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Natural Resources Conservation Service

Topics to be addressed:

- **Brief history of FPPA**
- **Where does it apply?**
- **Requirements and "who does what?"**
- **Land evaluation / site assessment (LESA)**
- **Reporting requirements (CPA-2)**
- **Other issues**
- **Questions**

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Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA)

Passed by Congress in 1981 (7 USC 4201 and 7 CFR Ch. VI Part 658)

Purposes:

Minimize Federally-aided conversion of farmland

Consider alternative actions

Assure that Federal programs are compatible with State and local programs to protect farmland.

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How does one "comply with FPPA"?

FPPA applies if an **activity** meets these conditions:

- **Federal funds** are involved
- **Irreversible conversion** of **prime, unique** or **important farmland** to **non-agricultural use**
- None of the **exemptions** to FPPA apply

Form (AD-1006 or CPA-106) required

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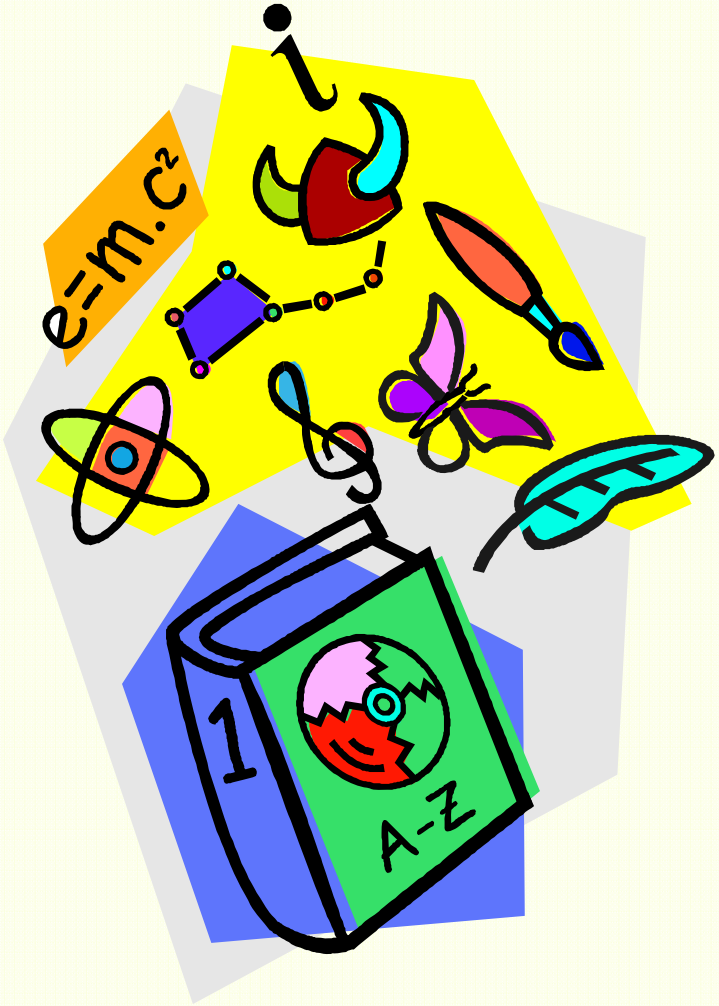
Key terms and concepts



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Activity

- Any action taken that affects farmland
- Examples
  - Building a housing development
  - Building (or widening) a road
  - Installing a pipeline
  - Expanding a sewage treatment plant
  - Developing a landfill
  - Etc…

Federal funds

- Money spent by a federal agency (any agency) on the activity
- Can be any agency (including NRCS)
- Most common agencies in FY2011
  - Rural Development (USDA-RD)
  - Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
  - Department of Transportation (DOT)
  - Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

Farmlands

- Prime farmlands
- Unique farmlands
- State and locally important farmlands

(7 CFR § 657)

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Irreversible conversion

- Land no longer usable for agriculture
- Conversion is "permanent"
  - Nothing lasts forever, but …
  - Land cannot be "restored" at all or at least not without significant time and expense.
- Some judgment is involved
  - **NOT NRCS DECISION** – depends on funding agency

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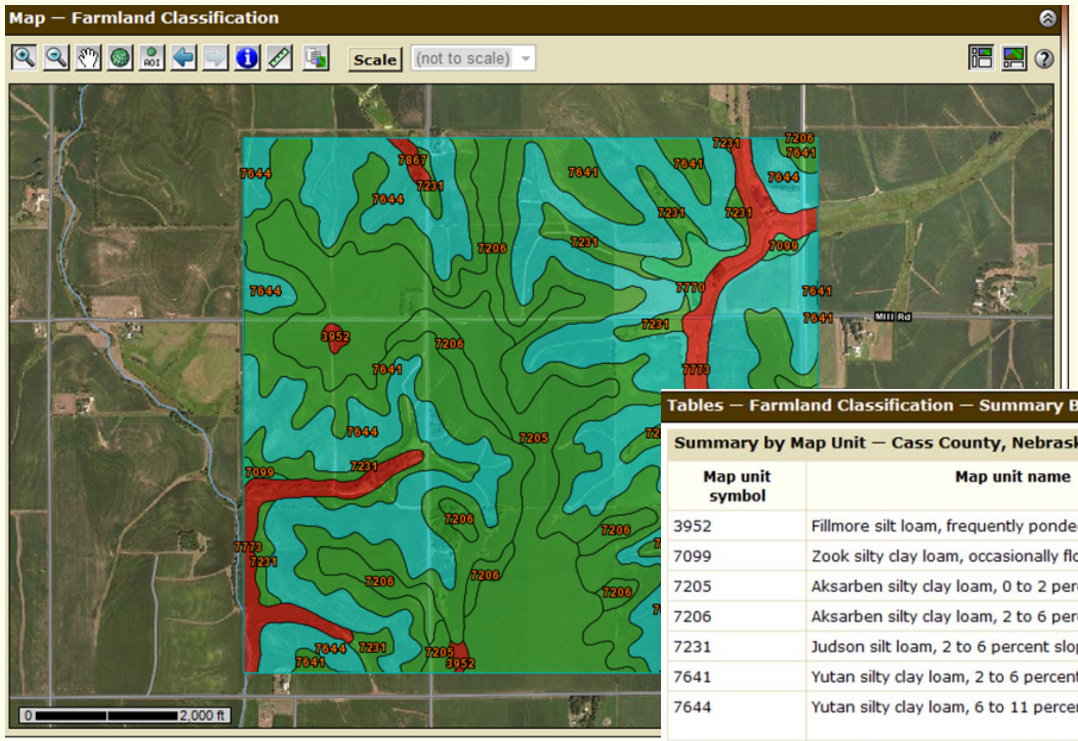
Exemptions (land)

- Land not considered “farmland” under FPPA
  - Land already “developed” or already irreversibly converted
    - US Census urban areas maps
    - Existing “footprint” including right-of-ways
  - Land already committed to urban development
  - Land committed to water storage

Exemptions (activities)

- Construction of non-farm structures necessary to support ongoing farm operations
  - Barns, manure storage lagoons, access roads, etc.
- Construction / land development for national defense purposes

Web Soil Survey Farmland Classification Report



Tables — Farmland Classification — Summary By Map Unit

Summary by Map Unit — Cass County, Nebraska (NE025)

Map unit symbol	Map unit name	Rating	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
3952	Fillmore silt loam, frequently ponded	Not prime farmland	4.1	0.3%
7099	Zook silty clay loam, occasionally flooded	Prime farmland if drained	5.0	0.4%
7205	Aksarben silty clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland	248.3	17.8%
7206	Aksarben silty clay loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland	77.9	5.6%
7231	Judson silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland	81.2	5.8%
7641	Yutan silty clay loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes, eroded	All areas are prime farmland	361.5	25.9%
7644	Yutan silty clay loam, 6 to 11 percent slopes, eroded	Farmland of statewide importance	509.1	36.5%
7770	Colo silty clay loam, occasionally flooded	Prime farmland if drained	11.4	0.8%
7773	Colo-Nodaway complex, frequently flooded	Not prime farmland	93.8	6.7%
7867	Nodaway silt loam, channeled, frequently flooded	Not prime farmland	3.8	0.3%
Totals for Area of Interest			**1,396.1**	**100.0%**

Description — Farmland Classification

Farmland classification identifies map units as prime farmland, farmland of statewide importance, farmland of local importance, or unique farmland. It identifies the location and extent of the soils that are best suited to food, feed, fiber, forage, and oilseed crops. NRCS policy and procedures on prime and unique farmlands are published in the "Federal Register," Vol. 43, No. 21, January 31, 1978.

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Federal agency requirements

- Follow the directions!
- The federal agency **must** submit:
  - One original copy of the form (AD-1006 or NRCS – CPA – 106) to NRCS
  - Parts I and III **must** be completed
  - Must include "appropriately scaled maps" indicating the location of the project site(s)
- Fill out parts VI and VII and return final form to NRCS (after NRCS determination)

NRCS requirements

- Determine whether the site(s) contain prime, unique or important farmland
- If FPPA applies – NRCS will complete parts II, IV and V of the form
- Return the form to the applicant and keep a copy for the record
- Response time requirements:
  - 10 working days (if standard)
  - 30 working days if site visit needed or no LE (must inform applicant)

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What else?

- Which form?
  - AD-1006 is default
  - NRCS-CPA-106 for corridor projects
- Data sources
  - SSURGO data for prime and unique farmland
  - eFOTG for farmland of state and local importance
    - Many states have this as GIS layer
    - State and local is only “legit” if certified by STC
  - State or local Land Evaluation (LE) values

LESA System for a County

- A LESA system may already exist and simply need to be updated
- The system may be for a county or an entire state
- Land Evaluation may be a problem in some counties because yield data has been deleted from the database
- Map units may have been added or deleted as well

Land Evaluation Criteria

- Land Evaluation Criteria and Points
  - Soils of an area, such as a county, are evaluated basis of their relative productivity for crops grown locally
  - Land capability classifications are considered
  - Important farmland maps are considered
  - Soils within the local government jurisdiction are examined and given a relative value score from 1 to 100 points
  - This is the Relative Value Rating (Part V) of the Form AD 1006

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Land Evaluation Criteria

- Process for using crop yields:
  - Using Web Soil Survey, set AOI to county
  - Go to the **Soil Data Explorer** tab
  - Under the **Vegetative Productivity** tab, select an appropriate yield report and view the rating
  - Highlight the table, copy and paste it into EXCEL

Sanitary Facilities

Vegetative Productivity

- Crop Productivity Index
- Forest Productivity (Cubic Feet per Acre per Year)
- Forest Productivity (Tree Site Index)
- Range Production (Favorable Year)
- Range Production (Normal Year)
- Range Production (Unfavorable Year)
- Yields of Irrigated Crops (Component)
- Yields of Irrigated Crops (Map Unit)
- **Yields of Non-Irrigated Crops (Component)**

View Description | View Rating

View Options

Map ☑
Table ☑
Description of Rating ☑
Rating Options ☑
Detailed Description ☐

Basic Options

Crop: Corn — Bu

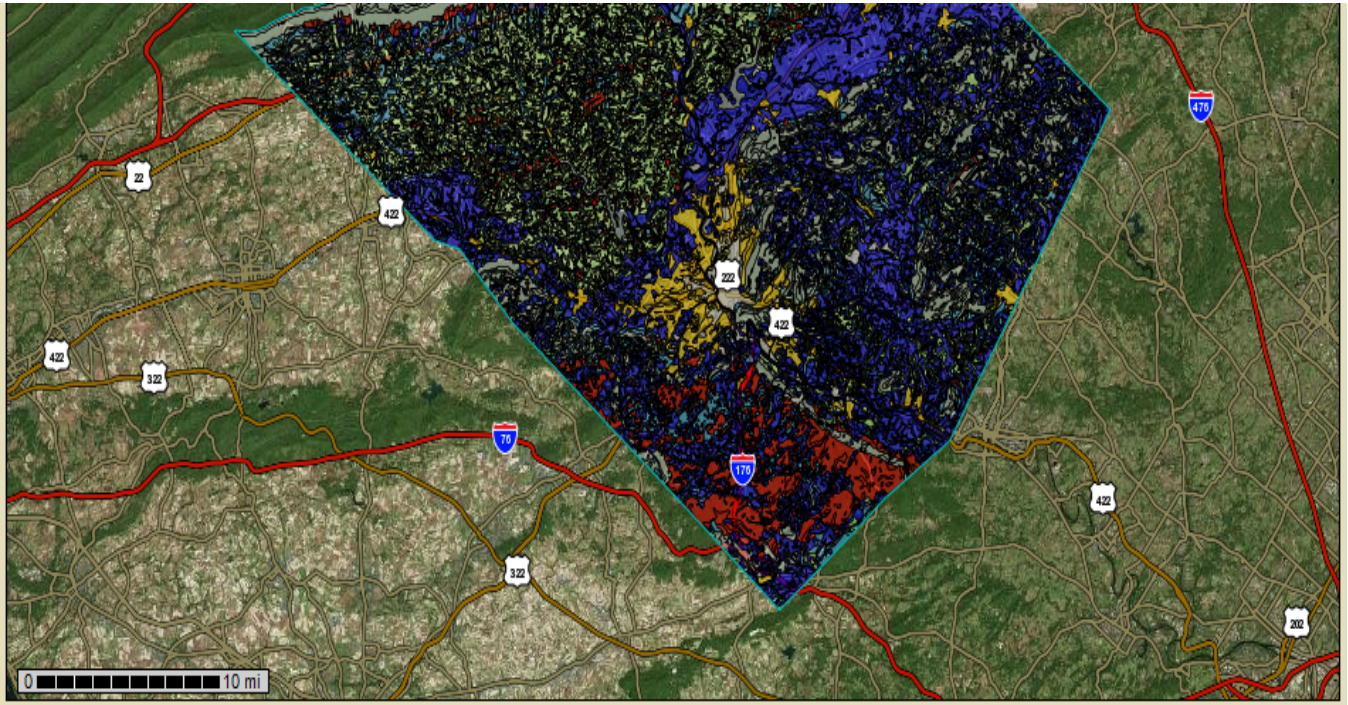
Advanced Options

View Description | View Rating

- Yields of Non-Irrigated Crops (Map Unit)

Waste Management

Water Management



Tables — Yields of Non-Irrigated Crops (Component): Corn (Bu) — Summary By Map Unit

Summary by Map Unit — Berks County, Pennsylvania (PA011)

Map unit symbol	Map unit name	Rating	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
AbA	Abbottstown silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	95.00	2,308.0	0.4%
AbB	Abbottstown silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	95.00	502.5	0.1%
AnA	Andover-Buchanan gravelly loams, 0 to 3 percent slopes	91.32	218.8	0.0%
AnB	Andover-Buchanan gravelly loams, 3 to 8 percent slopes	91.32	2,352.9	0.4%
AoB	Andover-Buchanan gravelly loams, 0 to 8 percent slopes, extremely stony		1,312.9	0.2%
AsB	Athol silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	125.00	1,717.9	0.3%
AsC	Athol silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	120.00	1,250.8	0.2%
AuD	Athol-Oatlands silt loams, 15 to 25 percent slopes	98.00	365.7	0.1%
AwD	Athol-Oatlands silt loams, 8 to 25 percent slopes, extremely bouldery		159.3	0.0%
BfB	Bedington-Berks complex, 3 to 8 percent slopes	107.74	6,483.2	1.2%
BfC	Bedington-Berks complex, 8 to 15 percent slopes	98.60	6,583.1	1.2%
BhD	Berks-Bedington complex, 15 to 25 percent slopes	90.53	3,071.4	0.6%
BkA	Berks-Weikert complex, 0 to 3 percent slopes	81.94	705.4	0.1%

Range Production (Favorable Year)

Range Production (Normal Year)

Range Production (Unfavorable Year)

Yields of Irrigated Crops (Component)

Yields of Irrigated Crops (Map Unit)

Yields of Non-Irrigated Crops (Component)

View Description | View Rating

View Options

Map ☑

Table ☑

Description of Rating ☑

Rating Options ☑

☐ Detailed Description

Basic Options

Crop: Corn — Bu

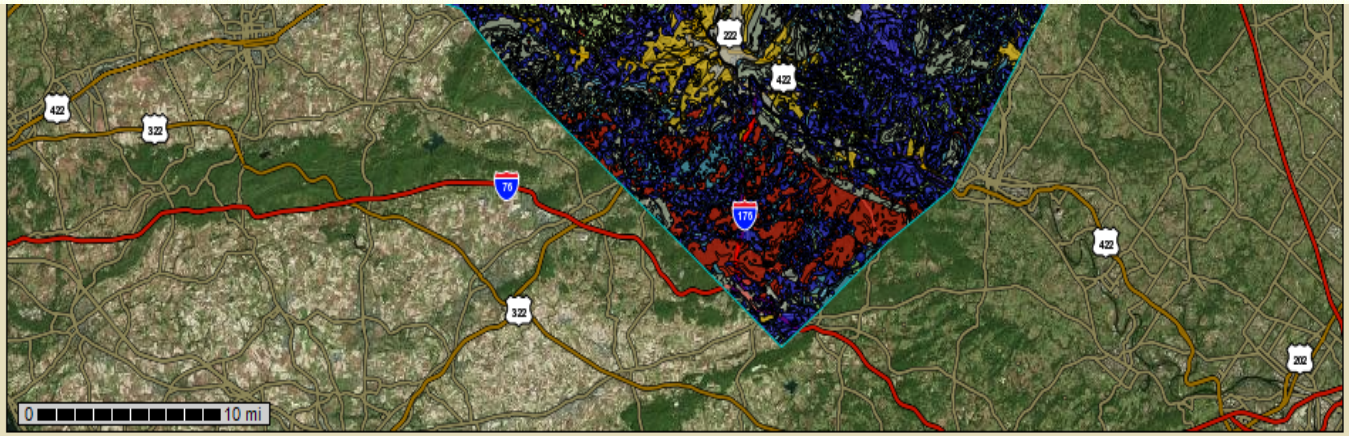
Advanced Options

View Description | View Rating

Yields of Non-Irrigated Crops (Map Unit)

Waste Management

Water Management



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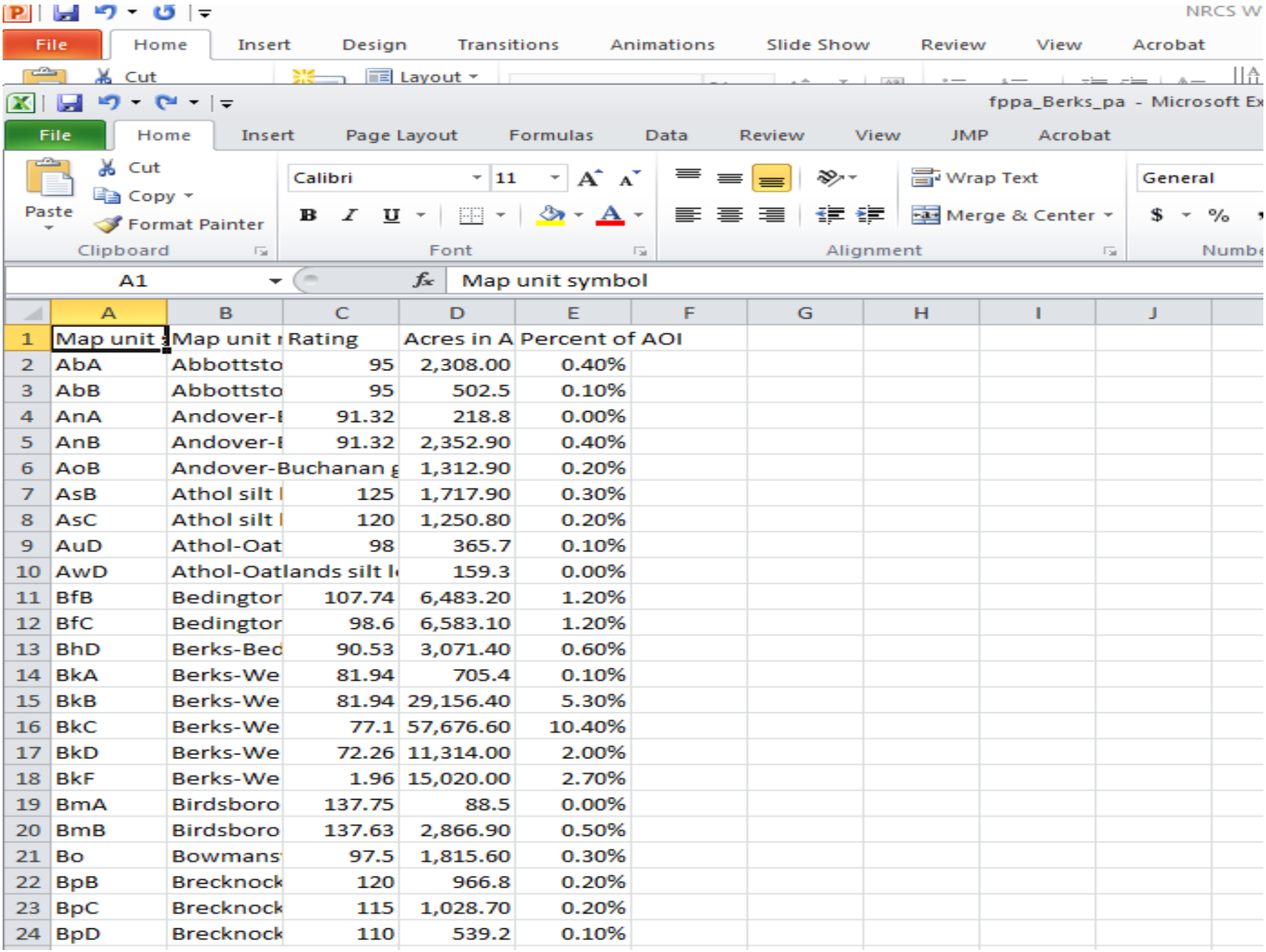
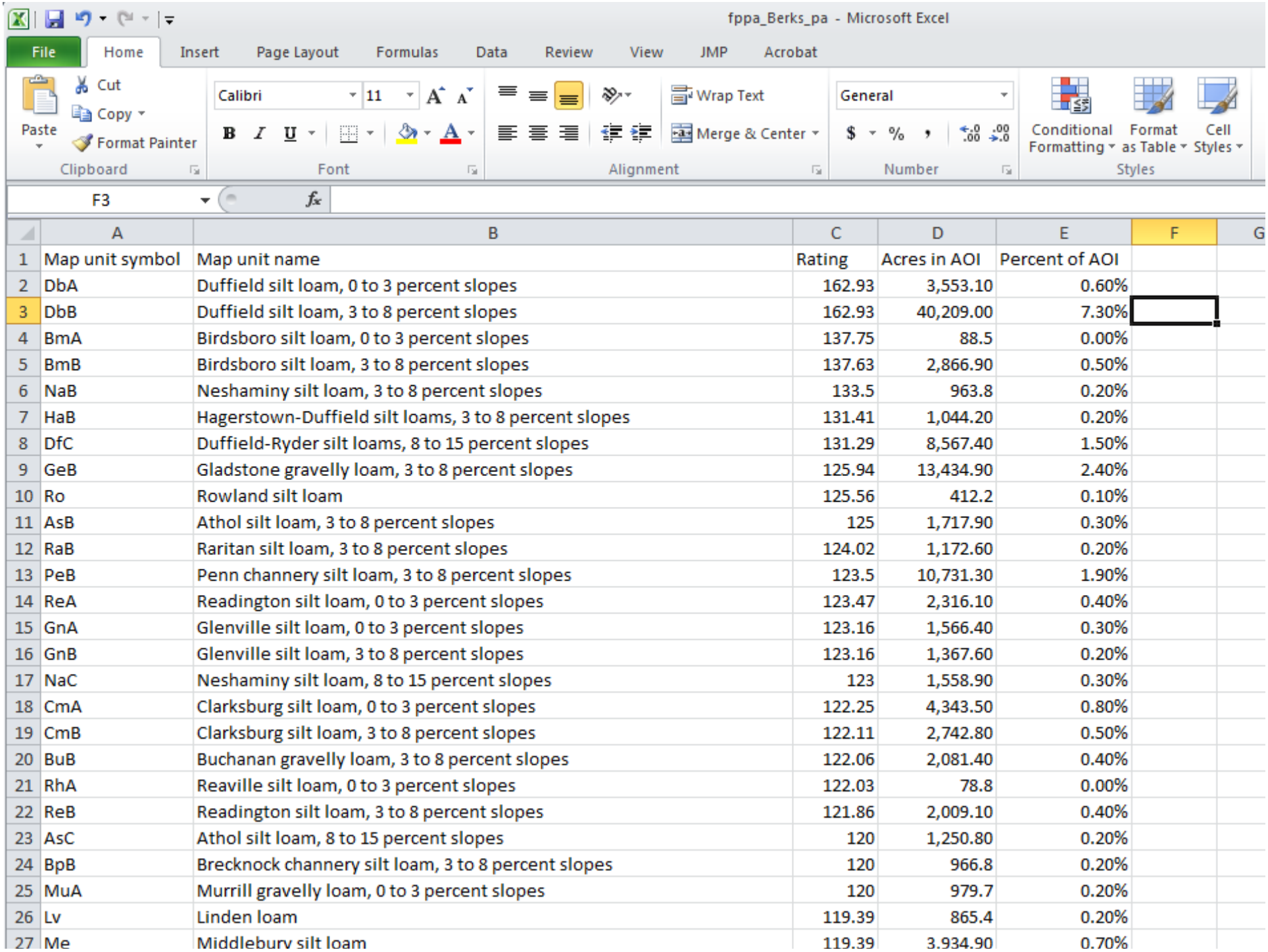
AoB	Andover-Buchanan gravelly loams, 0 to 8 percent slopes, extremely stony		1,312.9	0.2%
AsB	Athol silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	125.00	1,717.9	0.3%
AsC	Athol silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	120.00	1,250.8	0.2%
AuD	Athol-Oatlands silt loams, 15 to 25 percent slopes	98.00	365.7	0.1%
AwD	Athol-Oatlands silt loams, 8 to 25 percent slopes, extremely bouldery		159.3	0.0%
BfB	Bedington-Berks complex, 3 to 8 percent slopes	107.74	6,483.2	1.2%
BfC	Bedington-Berks complex, 8 to 15 percent slopes	98.60	6,583.1	1.2%
BhD	Berks-Bedington complex, 15 to 25 percent slopes	90.53	3,071.4	0.6%
BkA	Berks-Weikert complex, 0 to 3 percent slopes	81.94	705.4	0.1%
BkB	Berks-Weikert complex, 3 to 8 percent slopes	81.94	29,156.4	5.3%
BkC	Berks-Weikert complex, 8 to 15 percent slopes	77.10	57,676.6	10.4%
BkD	Berks-Weikert complex, 15 to 25 percent slopes	72.26	11,314.0	2.0%
BkF	Berks-Weikert complex, 25 to 60 percent slopes	1.96	15,020.0	2.7%
BmA	Birdsboro silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	137.75	88.5	0.0%
BmB	Birdsboro silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	137.63	2,866.9	0.5%



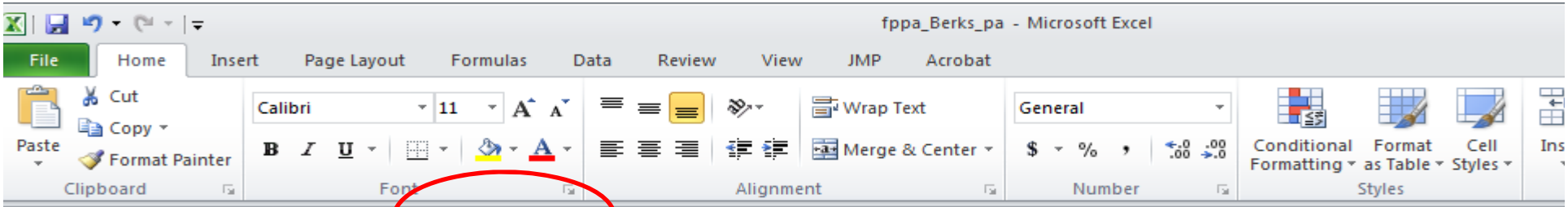
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
1	Map unit s	Map unit r	Rating	Acres in A	Percent of AOI					
2	AbA	Abbottsto	95	2,308.00	0.40%					
3	AbB	Abbottsto	95	502.5	0.10%					
4	AnA	Andover-E	91.32	218.8	0.00%					
5	AnB	Andover-E	91.32	2,352.90	0.40%					
6	AoB	Andover-Buchanan g		1,312.90	0.20%					
7	AsB	Athol silt l	125	1,717.90	0.30%					
8	AsC	Athol silt l	120	1,250.80	0.20%					
9	AuD	Athol-Oat	98	365.7	0.10%					
10	AwD	Athol-Oatlands silt l		159.3	0.00%					
11	BfB	Bedingtor	107.74	6,483.20	1.20%					
12	BfC	Bedingtor	98.6	6,583.10	1.20%					
13	BhD	Berks-Bed	90.53	3,071.40	0.60%					
14	BkA	Berks-We	81.94	705.4	0.10%					
15	BkB	Berks-We	81.94	29,156.40	5.30%					
16	BkC	Berks-We	77.1	57,676.60	10.40%					
17	BkD	Berks-We	72.26	11,314.00	2.00%					
18	BkF	Berks-We	1.96	15,020.00	2.70%					
19	BmA	Birdsboro	137.75	88.5	0.00%					
20	BmB	Birdsboro	137.63	2,866.90	0.50%					
21	Bo	Bowmans	97.5	1,815.60	0.30%					
22	BpB	Brecknock	120	966.8	0.20%					
23	BpC	Brecknock	115	1,028.70	0.20%					
24	BpD	Brecknock	110	539.2	0.10%					

Land Evaluation Criteria

- Process for using crop yields, continued:
  - Sort by crop yield
  - Normalize the highest yield to an index of 100



	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	Map unit symbol	Map unit name	Rating	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI		
2	DbA	Duffield silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	162.93	3,553.10	0.60%		
3	DbB	Duffield silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	162.93	40,209.00	7.30%		
4	BmA	Birdsboro silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	137.75	88.5	0.00%		
5	BmB	Birdsboro silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	137.63	2,866.90	0.50%		
6	NaB	Neshaminy silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	133.5	963.8	0.20%		
7	HaB	Hagerstown-Duffield silt loams, 3 to 8 percent slopes	131.41	1,044.20	0.20%		
8	DfC	Duffield-Ryder silt loams, 8 to 15 percent slopes	131.29	8,567.40	1.50%		
9	GeB	Gladstone gravelly loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	125.94	13,434.90	2.40%		
10	Ro	Rowland silt loam	125.56	412.2	0.10%		
11	AsB	Athol silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	125	1,717.90	0.30%		
12	RaB	Raritan silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	124.02	1,172.60	0.20%		
13	PeB	Penn channery silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	123.5	10,731.30	1.90%		
14	ReA	Readington silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	123.47	2,316.10	0.40%		
15	GnA	Glenville silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	123.16	1,566.40	0.30%		
16	GnB	Glenville silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	123.16	1,367.60	0.20%		
17	NaC	Neshaminy silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	123	1,558.90	0.30%		
18	CmA	Clarksburg silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	122.25	4,343.50	0.80%		
19	CmB	Clarksburg silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	122.11	2,742.80	0.50%		
20	BuB	Buchanan gravelly loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	122.06	2,081.40	0.40%		
21	RhA	Reaville silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	122.03	78.8	0.00%		
22	ReB	Readington silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	121.86	2,009.10	0.40%		
23	AsC	Athol silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	120	1,250.80	0.20%		
24	BpB	Brecknock channery silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	120	966.8	0.20%		
25	MuA	Murrill gravelly loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	120	979.7	0.20%		
26	Lv	Linden loam	119.39	865.4	0.20%		
27	Me	Middlebury silt loam	119.39	3,934.90	0.70%		



	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	Map unit symbol	Map unit name	Rating	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI	INDEX	
2	DbA	Duffield silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	162.93	3,553.10	0.60%	100	
3	DbB	Duffield silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	162.93	40,209.00	7.30%	100	
4	BmA	Birdsboro silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	137.75	88.5	0.00%	84.54551	
5	BmB	Birdsboro silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	137.63	2,866.90	0.50%	84.47186	
6	NaB	Neshaminy silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	133.5	963.8	0.20%	81.93703	
7	HaB	Hagerstown-Duffield silt loams, 3 to 8 percent slopes	131.41	1,044.20	0.20%	80.65427	
8	DfC	Duffield-Ryder silt loams, 8 to 15 percent slopes	131.29	8,567.40	1.50%	80.58062	
9	GeB	Gladstone gravelly loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	125.94	13,434.90	2.40%	77.297	
10	Ro	Rowland silt loam	125.56	412.2	0.10%	77.06377	
11	AsB	Athol silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	125	1,717.90	0.30%	76.72006	
12	RaB	Raritan silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	124.02	1,172.60	0.20%	76.11858	
13	PeB	Penn channery silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	123.5	10,731.30	1.90%	75.79942	
14	ReA	Readington silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	123.47	2,316.10	0.40%	75.78101	
15	GnA	Glenville silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	123.16	1,566.40	0.30%	75.59074	
16	GnB	Glenville silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	123.16	1,367.60	0.20%	75.59074	
17	NaC	Neshaminy silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	123	1,558.90	0.30%	75.49254	
18	CmA	Clarksburg silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	122.25	4,343.50	0.80%	75.03222	
19	CmB	Clarksburg silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	122.11	2,742.80	0.50%	74.9463	
20	BuB	Buchanan gravelly loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	122.06	2,081.40	0.40%	74.91561	
21	RhA	Reaville silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	122.03	78.8	0.00%	74.8972	
22	ReB	Readington silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	121.86	2,009.10	0.40%	74.79286	
23	AsC	Athol silt loam, 8 to 15 percent slopes	120	1,250.80	0.20%	73.65126	
24	BpB	Brecknock channery silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	120	966.8	0.20%	73.65126	
25	MuA	Murrill gravelly loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes	120	979.7	0.20%	73.65126	
26	Lv	Linden loam	119.39	865.4	0.20%	73.27687	
27	Me	Middlebury silt loam	119.39	3,934.90	0.70%	73.27687	
28	RhB	Reaville silt loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	119.08	68.1	0.00%	73.0866	
29	Gc	Gibraltar silt loam	119	1,067.50	0.20%	73.0375	
30	EhB	Edgemont channery loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	118.91	1,110.50	0.20%	72.98226	
31	MuB	Murrill gravelly loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	118.91	6,281.50	1.10%	72.98226	

Land Evaluation Criteria

- What if the crop yield data is not there?

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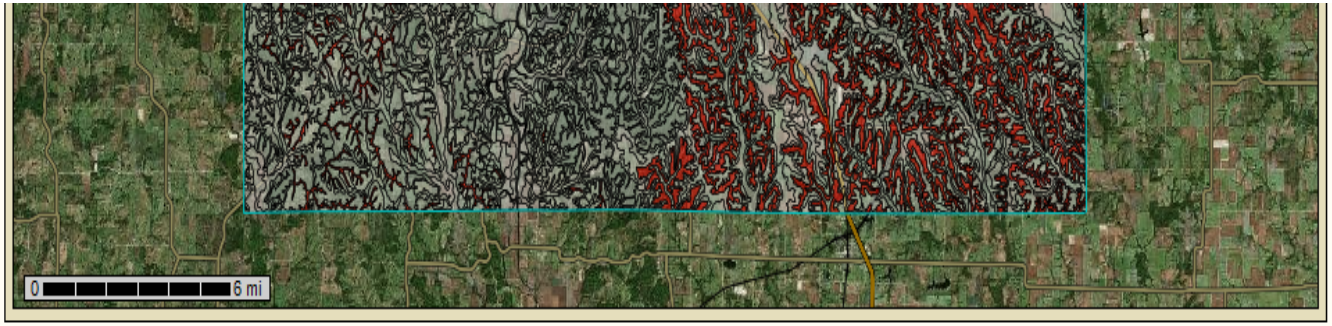
- Yields of Irrigated Crops (Component)
- Yields of Irrigated Crops (Map Unit)
- Yields of Non-Irrigated Crops (Component)
- **Yields of Non-Irrigated Crops (Map Unit)**
  - **Cannot run "Yields of Non-Irrigated Crops (Map Unit)":** Necessary data not available for specified AOI.
- Waste Management
- Water Management



Tables — Yields of Non-Irrigated Crops (Component): Corn (Bu) — Summary By Map Unit

Summary by Map Unit —

Map unit symbol	Map unit name	Rating	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
13505	Blackoar silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, occasionally flooded		139.1	0.0%
30027	Armstrong clay loam, 5 to 9 percent slopes, eroded		2,656.7	0.7%
30030	Armstrong clay loam, 9 to 14 percent slopes, eroded		21,360.3	5.9%
30053	Gara clay loam, 14 to 20 percent slopes, severely eroded		371.5	0.1%
30054	Gara clay loam, 9 to 14 percent slopes, eroded		135.0	0.0%
30055	Gara clay loam, 9 to 14 percent slopes, severely eroded		87.4	0.0%
30056	Gara fine sandy loam, 20 to 35 percent slopes, eroded		12,146.4	3.3%
30057	Gara loam, 14 to 20 percent slopes		488.1	0.1%
30058	Gara loam, 14 to 20 percent slopes, eroded		655.7	0.2%
30063	Gara loam, 9 to 14 percent slopes, eroded		11,211.1	3.1%
30094	Keswick clay loam, 5 to 14 percent slopes, eroded		74.6	0.0%
30106	Kilwinning silt loam, 1 to 5 percent slopes		6.8	0.0%
30175	Pershing silty clay loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes, eroded		349.8	0.1%
30211	Vanmeter silty clay loam, 14 to 30 percent slopes		10,191.5	2.8%
30213	Vigar loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes		126.3	0.0%
30214	Vigar loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes, rarely flooded		4,792.3	1.3%
30217	Vigar-Zook-Nodaway complex, 1 to 5 percent slopes		152.4	0.0%
30222	Winnegan clay loam, 14 to 20 percent slopes, eroded		203.7	0.1%
30230	Winnegan loam, 20 to 35 percent slopes, eroded		580.8	0.2%
30243	Vigar loam, 3 to 5 percent slopes, rarely flooded		17.8	0.0%

Land Evaluation Criteria

- Use the **state productivity index**, such as Iowa Corn Suitability Rating, if one exists
- The **National Commodity Crop Productivity Index (NCCPI)** is also available
- Normalize the highest index value in the county to 100

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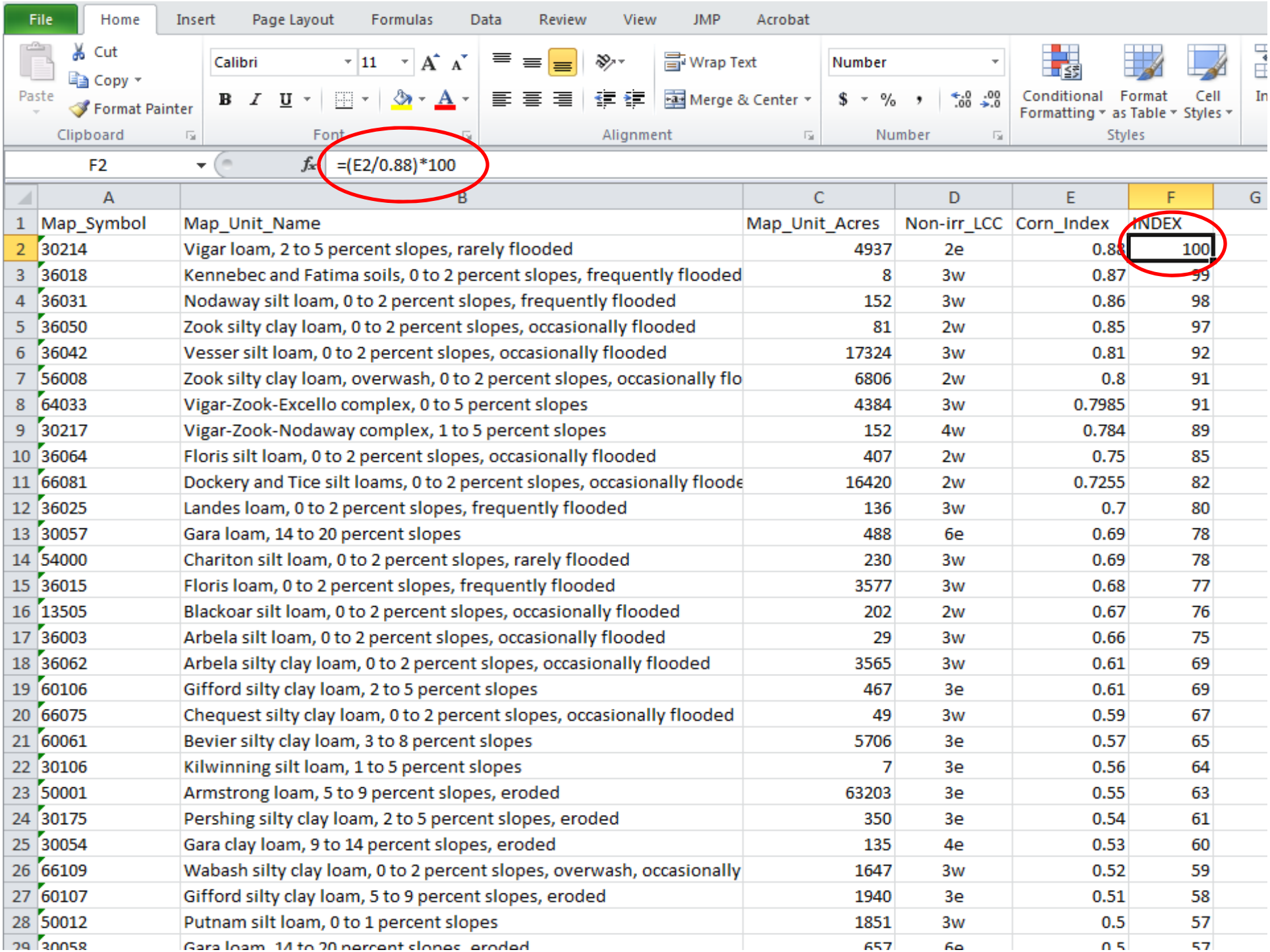

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	Map_Symbol	Map_Unit_Name	Map_Unit_Acres	Non-irr_LCC	Corn_Index	INDEX	
2	30214	Vigar loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes, rarely flooded	4937	2e	0.88	100	
3	36018	Kennebec and Fatima soils, 0 to 2 percent slopes, frequently flooded	8	3w	0.87	99	
4	36031	Nodaway silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, frequently flooded	152	3w	0.86	98	
5	36050	Zook silty clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	81	2w	0.85	97	
6	36042	Vesser silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	17324	3w	0.81	92	
7	56008	Zook silty clay loam, overwash, 0 to 2 percent slopes, occasionally flo	6806	2w	0.8	91	
8	64033	Vigar-Zook-Excello complex, 0 to 5 percent slopes	4384	3w	0.7985	91	
9	30217	Vigar-Zook-Nodaway complex, 1 to 5 percent slopes	152	4w	0.784	89	
10	36064	Floris silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	407	2w	0.75	85	
11	66081	Dockery and Tice silt loams, 0 to 2 percent slopes, occasionally floode	16420	2w	0.7255	82	
12	36025	Landes loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, frequently flooded	136	3w	0.7	80	
13	30057	Gara loam, 14 to 20 percent slopes	488	6e	0.69	78	
14	54000	Chariton silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, rarely flooded	230	3w	0.69	78	
15	36015	Floris loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, frequently flooded	3577	3w	0.68	77	
16	13505	Blackoar silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	202	2w	0.67	76	
17	36003	Arbela silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	29	3w	0.66	75	
18	36062	Arbela silty clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	3565	3w	0.61	69	
19	60106	Gifford silty clay loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes	467	3e	0.61	69	
20	66075	Chequest silty clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	49	3w	0.59	67	
21	60061	Bevier silty clay loam, 3 to 8 percent slopes	5706	3e	0.57	65	
22	30106	Kilwinning silt loam, 1 to 5 percent slopes	7	3e	0.56	64	
23	50001	Armstrong loam, 5 to 9 percent slopes, eroded	63203	3e	0.55	63	
24	30175	Pershing silty clay loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes, eroded	350	3e	0.54	61	
25	30054	Gara clay loam, 9 to 14 percent slopes, eroded	135	4e	0.53	60	
26	66109	Wabash silty clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, overwash, occasionally	1647	3w	0.52	59	
27	60107	Gifford silty clay loam, 5 to 9 percent slopes, eroded	1940	3e	0.51	58	
28	50012	Putnam silt loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes	1851	3w	0.5	57	
29	30058	Gara loam, 14 to 20 percent slopes, eroded	657	6e	0.5	57	

Site Assessment Criteria

- 7 CFR Chapter VI lists the Site Assessment criteria
- Also included in the FPPA handbook

http://www.itc.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/landuse/fppa

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Site Assessment Criteria

- Site Assessment Criteria and Points Example
  - Percentage nonurban land use within a mile of proposed project (15 points max)
  - Percentage of the site perimeter that borders nonurban land use (10 points max)
  - Percentage of the site that has been managed for a crop in 5 of the past ten years (15 points max)
  - Is the site subject to local farmland protection (20 points)
  - How close is the site to a built-up area (15 points max)
  - How close is the site to urban infrastructure (15 points)
  - Is the site an average size for the area (10 points)
  - How much land will be made non-farmable (10 points)

Site Assessment Criteria

- Amount of on-farm investment (barns, etc.) (20 points max)
- Are there farm support and markets (5 points max)
- Would removing this farm from production adversely affect other farms and businesses (10 points max)
- Is the proposed land use incompatible with the surrounding agriculture (10 points max)
- **Summation is the Site Assessment Points (Part VI and VII) of the AD-1006**
- **Actual point values are set by the team that makes the LESA in some instances**

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FARMLAND CONVERSION IMPACT RATING

PART I *(To be completed by Federal Agency)*	Date Of Land Evaluation Request
Name Of Project	Federal Agency Involved
Proposed Land Use	County And State
PART II *(To be completed by NRCS)*	Date Request Received By NRCS

Does the site contain prime, unique, statewide or local important farmland? *(If no, the FPPA does not apply -- do not complete additional parts of this form).*	Yes ☐	No ☐	Acres Irrigated	Average Farm Size

Major Crop(s)	Farmable Land In Govt. Jurisdiction Acres: %	Amount Of Farmland As Defined In FPPA Acres: %
Name Of Land Evaluation System Used	Name Of Local Site Assessment System	Date Land Evaluation Returned By NRCS

PART III *(To be completed by Federal Agency)*	Alternative Site Rating			
	Site A	Site B	Site C	Site D
A. Total Acres To Be Converted Directly				
B. Total Acres To Be Converted Indirectly				
C. Total Acres In Site	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
PART IV *(To be completed by NRCS)* Land Evaluation Information				
A. Total Acres Prime And Unique Farmland				
B. Total Acres Statewide And Local Important Farmland				
C. Percentage Of Farmland In County Or Local Govt. Unit To Be Converted				
D. Percentage Of Farmland In Govt. Jurisdiction With Same Or Higher Relative Value				
PART V *(To be completed by NRCS)* Land Evaluation Criterion Relative Value Of Farmland To Be Converted *(Scale of 0 to 100 Points)*	0	0	0	0

PART VI *(To be completed by Federal Agency)* Site Assessment Criteria *(These criteria are explained in 7 CFR 658.5(b)*	Maximum Points				
1. Area In Nonurban Use					
2. Perimeter In Nonurban Use					
3. Percent Of Site Being Farmed					
4. Protection Provided By State And Local Government					
5. Distance From Urban Builtup Area					
6. Distance To Urban Support Services					
7. Size Of Present Farm Unit Compared To Average					
8. Creation Of Nonfarmable Farmland					
9. Availability Of Farm Support Services					
10. On-Farm Investments					
11. Effects Of Conversion On Farm Support Services					
12. Compatibility With Existing Agricultural Use					
TOTAL SITE ASSESSMENT POINTS	160	0	0	0	0
PART VII *(To be completed by Federal Agency)*					
Relative Value Of Farmland *(From Part V)*	100	0	0	0	0
Total Site Assessment *(From Part VI above or a local site assessment)*	160	0	0	0	0
TOTAL POINTS *(Total of above 2 lines)*	260	0	0	0	0

Site Selected:	Date Of Selection	Was A Local Site Assessment Used? Yes ☐ No ☐

Reason For Selection:

(See Instructions on reverse side)

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Clear Form

Form AD-1006 (10-83)

What is CPA-2?

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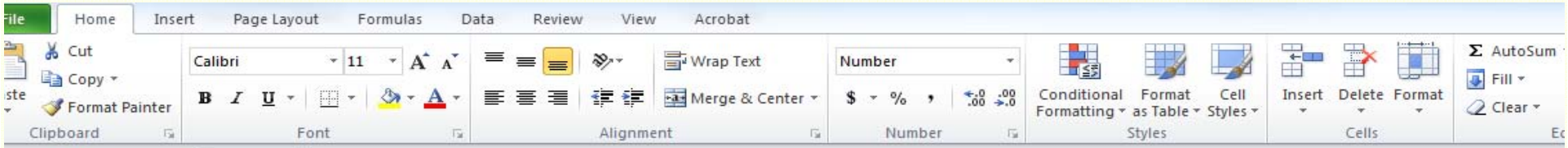

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Natural Resources Conservation Service

EVALUATING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FARMLAND PROTECTION ACT (FPPA) ANNUAL REPORT

STATE:	Fiscal Year:	Date of Report:
Person Completing Report:		

FEDERAL AGENCY ASSISTED

Federal Agency Reporting	I NRCS	II HUD	III FHWA	IV FEMA	V RD	VI EPA	VII FAA	VIII OSM	IX RUS	X DE	XI HRSA	XII VA	XII EDA	XIV DOT	XV	XVI	XV
A. AD-1006 and CPA-106 requests received																	
B. AD-1006 and CPA-106 forms completed																	
C. AD-1006 and CPA-106 returned by agency																	
D. Farmland Conversions:																	
1. Total land - acres proposed																	
Total land - acres converted																	
2. Total important farmland - acres proposed	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Total important farmland - acres converted	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
3. Prime and Unique farmland - acres proposed																	
Prime and Unique farmland - acres converted																	
4. State and Local farmland - acres proposed																	
State and Local farmland - acres converted																	
5. Average weighted relative value proposed																	
Average weighted relative value converted																	
E. Corridors evaluated (number)																	
F. Proposals with at least one alternative in addition to number proposed	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
G. Sites where local LESA was available	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
H. Sites where a local LESA was used for evaluation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
I. LESA systems on State Conservationist list																	
J. Land evaluation systems developed (total in state):																	

K. Narrative Report (Comments)

NRCS	Natural Resources Conservation Service	FAA	Federal Aviation Administration
HUD	Housing and Urban Development	OSM	Office of Surface Mining
FHWA	Federal Highway Administration	RUS	Rural Utilities Service
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency	DE	Department of Energy
RD	Rural Development	EDA	Economic Development Agency
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency	HRSA	Health Resources and Services Administration
DOT	Department of Transportation	VA	Veterans Administration
ARS	Agricultural Research Service	USACE	Army Corps of Engineers
BIA	Bureau of Indian Affairs	BLM	Bureau of Land Management
BOP	Bureau of Prisons	BOR	Bureau of Reclamation
CBP	Customs and Border Protection	DOA	Department of Army

A. AD-1006 and CPA-106 request received
B. AD 1006 and CPA-106 forms completed

D.1. Total land-acres proposed
Total land-acres converted

D.2. Total important farmland-acres proposed
Total important farmland-acres converted

D.3. Prime and unique farmland-acres proposed
Prime and unique farmland-acres converted

D.4. State and local farmland-acres proposed
State and local farmland-acres converted

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Natural Resources Conservation Service

EVALUATING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FARMLAND PROTECTION ACT (FPPA)

STATE: Fiscal Ye

Person Completing Report:

Federal Agency Reporting	I NRCS	II HUD	III FHWA	IV FEMA	V RD	VI EPA	VII FAA	VIII OSM	IX RUS	X DE	XI HRSA	XII VA	XII EDA	XIV DOT	XV	XVI	XV
A. AD-1006 and CPA-106 requests rece																	
B. AD-1006 and CPA-106 forms complet																	
C. AD-1006 and CPA-106 returned by ag																	
D. Farmland Conversions:																	
1. Total land - acres proposed																	
Total land - acres converted																	
2. Total important farmland - acres proposed	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Total important farmland - acres converted	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
3. Prime and Unique farmland - acres proposed																	
Prime and Unique farmland - acres c																	
4. State and Local farmland - acres pr																	
State and Local farmland - acres co																	
5. Average weighted relative value pr																	
Average weighted relative value co																	
E. Corridors evaluated (number)																	
F. Proposals with at least one alternative to number proposed	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
G. Sites where local LESA was available	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
H. Sites where a local LESA was used f													0	0	0	0	
I. LESA systems on State Conservationis																	
J. Land evaluation systems developed (t																	
K. Narrative Report (Comments)																	

FHWA	Federal Highway Administration	RUS	Rural Utilities Service
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency	DE	Department of Energy
RD	Rural Development	EDA	Economic Development Agency
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency	HRSA	Health Resources and Services Administration
DOT	Department of Transportation	VA	Veterans Administration
ARS	Agricultural Research Service	USACE	Army Corps of Engineers
BIA	Bureau of Indian Affairs	BLM	Bureau of Land Management
BOP	Bureau of Prisons	BOR	Bureau of Reclamation
CBP	Customs and Border Protection	DOA	Department of Army

CPA-2 | Instructions

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Land Use

- Cropland
- Farmland Protection Policy Act
- Forestry
- Range & Pasture

FPPA Forms and Resources

- Farmland Protection Policy Act Manual
- Farmland Protection Policy Act, Public Law
- FPPA Rule, 7 CFR 658
- Farmland Conversion Impact Rating (Form AD-1006)
- Farmland Conversion Impact Rating, Corridors (Form NRCS-CPA-106)
- Evaluating Implementation of the Farmland Protection Act (FPPA) Annual Report (for NRCS use only), NRCS-CPA-2

Annual Reports

- Farmland Protection Policy Act 2011 Annual Report
- Farmland Protection Policy Act 2010 Annual Report
- Farmland Protection Policy Act 2009 Annual Report
- Farmland Protection Policy Act 2008 Annual Report
- Farmland Protection Policy Act 2007 Annual Report
- Farmland Protection Policy Act 2006 Annual Report

Farmland Protection Policy Act

Background

The National Agricultural Land Study of 1980-81 found that millions of acres of farmland were being converted in the United States each year. The 1981 Congressional report, Compact Cities: Energy-Saving Strategies for the Eighties, identified the need for Congress to implement programs and policies to protect farmland and combat urban sprawl and the waste of energy and resources that accompanies sprawling development.

The Compact Cities report indicated that much of the sprawl was the result of programs funded by the Federal Government. With this in mind, Congress passed the Agriculture and Food Act of 1981 (Public Law 97-98) containing the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA) subtitle I of Title XV, Section 1539-1549. The final rules and regulations were published in the Federal Register on June 17, 1994.

Purpose

The FPPA is intended to minimize the impact Federal programs have on the unnecessary and irreversible conversion of farmland to nonagricultural uses. It assures that to the extent possible federal programs are administered to be compatible with state, local units of government, and private programs and policies to protect farmland. Federal agencies are required to develop and review their policies and procedures to implement the FPPA every two years.

The FPPA does not authorize the Federal Government to regulate the use of private or nonfederal land or, in any way, affect the property rights of owners.

For the purpose of FPPA, farmland includes prime farmland, unique farmland, and land of statewide or local importance. Farmland subject to FPPA requirements does not have to be currently used for cropland. It can be forest land, pastureland, cropland, or other land, but not water or urban built-up land.

Projects and Activities

Projects are subject to FPPA requirements if they may irreversibly convert farmland (directly or indirectly) to nonagricultural use and are completed by a Federal agency or with assistance from a Federal agency.

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Natural Resources Conservation Service

http://www.itc.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/landuse/fppa

Deadline for the CPA-2 submission: **Oct. 31, 2013**

For questions, you can call or email:

Mabel Kenyon
emmabelle.kenyon@wdc.usda.gov
202-692-0099

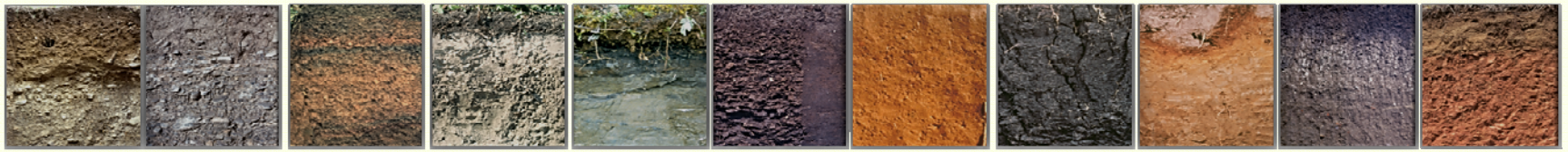
Thank You ☺

USDA NRCS
United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service

Other Issues and Questions

Issues not mentioned in the statute or rules

- Conversion of prime farmland to non-prime farmland
- Non-permanent conversion or How long is “irreversible”?
- How long determinations are valid – is there an “expiration date”?
- Minimum size requirements
- Prime and unique range and forest land and range and forest land of state and local importance



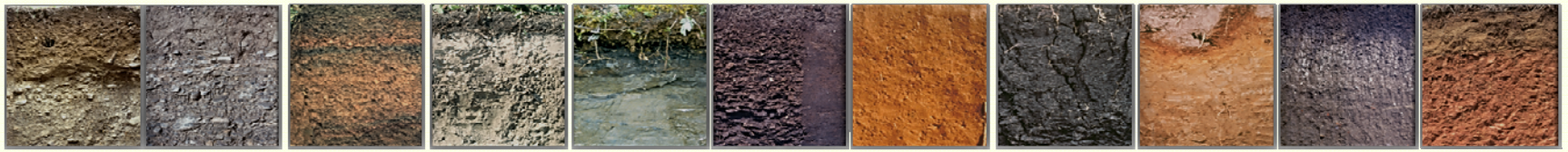
NRCS Activities

NRCS activities (including CTA) are subject to the provisions of FPPA

Virtually all NRCS activities are exempt from FPPA under the “supports existing agricultural use” exemption

FPPA is included in the CPA-52

FPPA could (in theory) apply to easements but would need to be unique circumstances ....



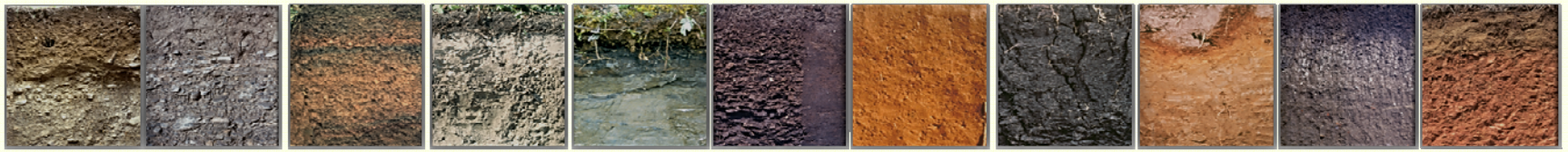
State requirements

Must have a designated lead FPPA contact (usually the SSS or Assistant SSS)

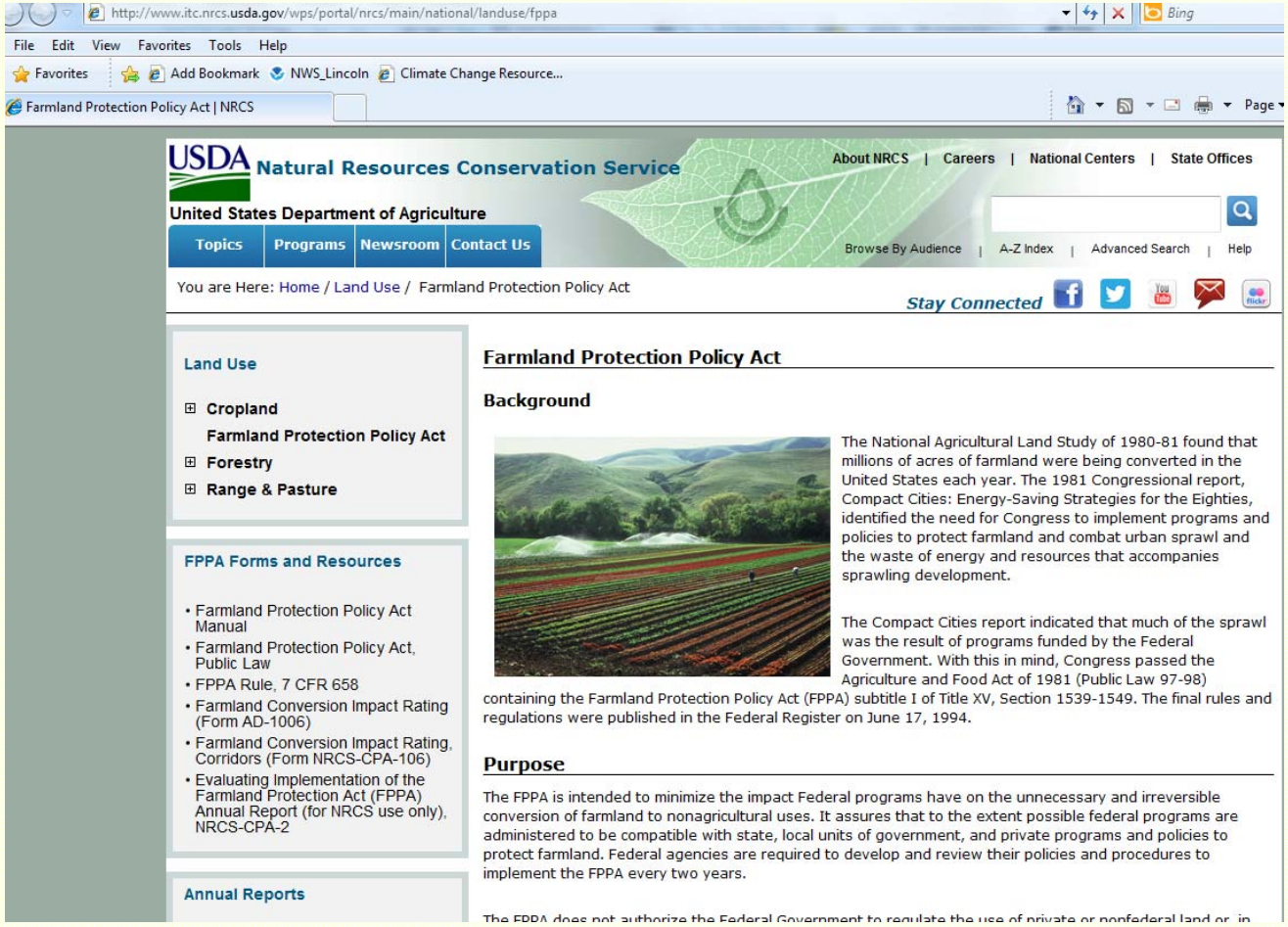
Must develop and implement a procedure to address FPPA requests in compliance with statutory timelines

– Can be at the state, area and/or local level

Must report annually via the CPA-2



Need more information -- see the FPPA web site:
://www.itc.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/landuse/fppa




Questions?