

<b>NEPA REQUIREMENTS</b>	<b>NRCS PLANNING PRODUCTS</b>
A statement of the purpose of the proposed action.	The client's or sponsor's objectives.
A statement of the need to be met.	The problems and opportunities.
Alternative ways to meet the underlying need, including a “no action” alternative. The no action alternative describes the conditions that will result if the underlying need is not met.	Alternatives developed as part of the nine step planning process. The no action alternative is a description of the benchmark conditions, focusing on the problem or the need to be met.
Impacts of the proposed action and alternatives.	Evaluation of alternatives referenced in the nine step planning process.
List of persons and agencies consulted.	This is not specifically identified as one of the nine steps in the NRCS planning process. However, it is often necessary to consult or coordinate with other persons and agencies to fully understand the impacts of proposed actions and alternatives and to comply with other environmental requirements, such as with the Endangered Species Act or the National Historic Preservation Act. Therefore, this information should already be included in the case file.
A discussion of the public participation that has occurred.	Public involvement occurs as a normal part of the NRCS planning process, though it is often done at an areawide level, particularly when planning for the delivery of conservation programs.