

Part 501 – Local Working Group Feedback Process

FL 501.0 Purpose

To establish the process for obtaining Local Working Group feedback

FL 501.1 Background

Local working groups (LWG) are subcommittees of the State Technical Committee and provide recommendations to NRCS on local natural resource priorities and criteria for conservation activities and programs. LWGs are normally chaired by the Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD). In the event the SWCD is unable to chair the LWG, the NRCS District Conservationist (DC) in that county is responsible for those duties.

FL 501.2 Procedures

This process will be followed to collect LWG feedback for NRCS programs and natural resource priorities:

1. The first week of July of each fiscal year, the ASTC Partnerships will release a State Bulletin with the updated NRCS online questionnaire, process, and deadline to obtain LWG feedback.
2. The DC will notify the SWCD that:
 - a. The NRCS online questionnaire, process and deadline is available for LWG feedback for the following fiscal year agency priorities.
 - b. The LWG meetings will be convened any time between the first business day of October to the last business day of November to complete the NRCS online questionnaire and have their recommendations considered.
 - c. The NRCS online questionnaire will be due the last business day of November.
 - d. The SWCD will organize the LWG meeting. In the event the SWCD is unable to organize the meeting, the DC in that county will be responsible for that duty.
3. LWG meeting details must be gathered and posted on the NRCS website at least 30 days in advance of meetings.
4. NRCS will analyze the questionnaire responses and provide a summary report of the LWG feedback during the January State Technical Committee meeting.
5. NRCS will provide final agency decisions for the following fiscal year program and natural resource priorities at the June State Technical Committee meeting.

Juan Hernandez
State Conservationist