

Exhibit 1 – Level 1 Conservation Planner Core Competencies and Course Requirements

Figure 409E-1: Level 1 Conservation Planner Core Competencies and Course Requirements

Core Competency	Course Requirements	Training Source	Hours	Proficiency Exam
Conservation Planning Basics	<p>NRCS-NEDC-000019 Conservation Planning, Part 1 or NRCS-NEDC-000191 TSP Orientation and Conservation Planning (<i>TSPs Only</i>)</p>	AgLearn/Web-based	3 to 4	N/A
Conservation Planning Basics	<p>NRCS-NHQ-000008 Planning Criteria Training (OJT/State/National) or NRCS-NEDC-000486 Using Planning Criteria in Conservation Planning</p>	OJT/State/National or AgLearn/Web-based	8 or 3	N/A
Conservation Planning Basics	<p>Complete one of the following: NRCS-NHQ-LOCAL-000002 Conservation Planning Business Tool Training or NRCS-NHQ-000068 Conservation Desktop (CD) and Conservation Assessment Ranking Tool (CART) Local/State Hands-on Training</p> <p><i>Note: This training must cover the use of business tools through step 7 of the conservation planning process. TSPs are exempt from this training. Partners who do not have access to NRCS conservation planning business tools are also exempt from this training requirement so long as they are not using NRCS business tools. They should meet the conservation plan criteria in 180 H § 600.31.</i></p>	OJT/Local - Self-Certified or Local/State Hands-on Training Events	8 or 32	N/A

Core Competency	Course Requirements	Training Source	Hours	Proficiency Exam
Field Office Technical Guide Basics	NRCS-NEDC-000149 Introduction to the Field Office Technical Guide or NRCS-NEDC-000191 TSP Orientation and Conservation Planning (<i>TSPs Only</i>)	AgLearn/Web-based	4	NRCS-NHQ-000081 Field Office Technical Guide Basics
Conservation Communication Basics	NRCS-NEDC-000501 Conservation Skills for Conservation Professionals: The Art of Helping People Help the Land	AgLearn/Web-based	4	N/A
Cultural Resources Basics	NRCS-NEDC-000141 Cultural Resources Training Series, Part 1	AgLearn/Web-based	4	N/A
Environmental Evaluations Basics	NRCS-NHQ-000011 Environmental Evaluation Webinar Series No 1: Primer on NRCS Environmental Compliance and NRCS-NHQ-000012 Environmental Evaluation Webinar Series No 2: Documenting the Environmental Evaluation	S&T Training Library for content; completion marked/self-certified in AgLearn	2	NRCS-NHQ-000075 Level 1 Environmental Evaluation
Soils Basics	NRCS-NHQ-000009 Basic Soils and Web Soil Survey to Interpret Land Capabilities & Limitations (State Instructor Led) or NRCS-NEDC-000416 Using Basic Soil Survey Information in Conservation Planning	AgLearn/Instructor Led by State or AgLearn/Web-based	4	NRCS-NHQ-000077 Soils Interpretations

Core Competency	Course Requirements	Training Source	Hours	Proficiency Exam
Water Quality Basics	<p>NRCS-NHQ-000038 Overview of Water Quality for Conservation Planners - No. 1 and NRCS-NHQ-000039 Nitrogen Management and Concerns – No. 2 and NRCS-NHQ-000040 Phosphorous Management and Concerns – No. 3 and NRCS-NHQ-000041 Sediment Management for Water Quality – No. 4</p>	AgLearn/Web-based	4 to 7	<p>NRCS-NHQ-000078 Level 1 Water Quality Resource Assessment</p>
State Specific Requirements	<p>NRCS-NHQ-000024 State-Specific Training & Required Deliverables-Level 1 Conservation Planner</p> <p><i>Note: This includes any additional training or licensing required by state laws or regulations in the state where work is being performed. TSPs must also take the TSP State Specific-Training Module for each state where they are seeking certification. Training modules are located at TSP State-Specific Training Modules.</i></p>	OJT/State/TSP Website; completion marked/self-certified in AgLearn		N/A
Verification	<p>NRCS-NHQ-000025 Supervisor Certification for Level 1 Conservation Planner Role</p> <p><i>Note: For TSPs, verification in NRCS Registry meets this requirement.</i></p>	Completion marked in AgLearn	N/A	N/A