

Part 610 – National Environmental Compliance Handbook

Subpart H – Exhibits

610.110 Invasive Species Evaluation Procedure Guide Sheet

INVASIVE SPECIES EVALUATION PROCEDURE GUIDE SHEET

Note: Executive Order 13122 states that “a Federal agency shall not authorize, fund, or carry out actions that it believes are likely to cause or promote the introduction and spread of invasive species in the U.S. or elsewhere.” Remember that invasive species can include plants, fish, animals, insects, etc.

STEP 1

Is the proposed action or alternative in an area where invasive species are known to occur or where risk of an invasion exists? (**Note:** Executive Order 13112 (1999) directs Federal agencies to “prevent the introduction of invasive species, provide for their control, and to minimize the economic, ecological, and human health impacts that invasive species cause.”)

If “No,” additional evaluation is not needed concerning invasive species. **Document the finding on the NRCS-CPA-52 and proceed with planning.**

If “Yes,” go to Step 2

If “Unknown,” consult section II of the FOTG for a listing of invasive species in the area or consult the appropriate technical specialist to determine the potential for introduction of new invasive species into the area. **Repeat Step 1.**

STEP 2

Conduct an inventory of the invasive species and identify areas at risk for future invasions (Title 190, General Manual, Part 414, Subpart D, Section 414.30). Delineate these areas on the conservation plan map and document management considerations in the plan or assistance notes. Have all appropriate tools, techniques, management strategies, and risks for invasive species prevention, control, and management been considered in the planning process?

If “No,” you must consider and include all appropriate factors relating to the existing and potential invasive species for the planning area and **repeat Step 2.**

If “Yes,” describe strategies, techniques, and reasons, on the NRCS-CPA-52 and **go to Step 3.**

STEP 3

Is the proposed action or alternative consistent with the Executive Order 13112, the national invasive species management plan, and any applicable State or local invasive species management plan?

If “No,” modify the action and repeat Step 3. If the client is unwilling to modify the proposed action, NRCS must discontinue assistance. Document the circumstances on the NRCS-CPA-52 and in the case file.

If “Yes,” describe strategies, techniques, and reasons, on the NRCS-CPA-52 and proceed with planning.