

# Appendix H

## Section I: Acronyms

**AOA** - Annual Operating Agreement. Document that describes the work and operational agreement between an individual conservation district and their corresponding NRCS field office.

**ASC** - Assistant State Conservationist. The United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resource Conservation Service (USDA NRCS) person that the District (DC) Conservationist reports to. A middle management position between the DC and the state office of NRCS.

**AFO** - Animal Feeding Operations. Agricultural enterprises where animals are kept and raised in confinement.

**CAFO** - Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations. Those animal feeding operations with 1,000 or more animal feeding units.

**CD** - Conservation District

**CES** (now MSUE) - Cooperative Extension Service. Term formerly used to describe Michigan State University Extension

**CMI** - Clean Michigan Initiative. Bond initiative passed to fund various environmental programs in the State of Michigan

**CNMP** - Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan

**CREP** - Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program

**CRP** - Conservation Reserve Program

**CWA** - Cooperative Working Agreement. Document that defines the working relationship between USDA NRCS, the Michigan Conservation Districts and the Michigan Department of Agriculture.

**DC** - District Conservationist. (USDA NRCS) person who has overall supervision of a NRCS service unit.

**DEQ or MDEQ** - Michigan Department of Environmental Quality

**DNR or MDNR** - Michigan Department of Natural Resources

**ESD** - Environmental Stewardship Division. Part of the Michigan Department of Agriculture (MDA) that has administrative oversight of Conservation District activities.

**EBI** - Environmental Benefits Index. Criteria used to determine enrollment of land in CRP.

**EI** - Erosion Index

**EPA or USEPA** - U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

**EQIP** - Environmental Quality Incentives Program. This is a federal program that provides funds on a competitive basis for cost-share. This was part of the 1996 Farm Bill.

**FAIRAct** - Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act. Better known as the 1996 Farm Bill.

**FCA** - Farm Credit Agency

**FEMA** - Federal Emergency Management Act. Federal agency that provides disaster relief.

**FIP** - Forestry Incentives Program. Federal program providing assistance for forestry.

**FOCS** - Field Office Computing System. NRCS database used for documenting conservation planning efforts

**FOIA** - Freedom of Information Act

**FSA** - USDA Farm Services Agency

**GIS** - Geographic Information Systems

**GPS** - Global Positioning System

**HEL** - Highly Erodible Land

**ICM** - Integrated Crop Management

**IPM** - Integrated Pest Management

**LAN/WAN** - Local Area Network / Wide Area Network. Information transfer and management systems involving phones, internet, etc., used in USDA Service Centers.

**MACD** - Michigan Association of Conservation Districts. A non-profit organization that supports the work of districts throughout the state.

**MACDE** - Michigan Association of Conservation District Employees.

**MDA** - Michigan Department of Agriculture.

**MDEQ or DEQ** - Michigan Department of Environmental Quality

**MDNR or DNR** - Michigan Department of Natural Resources

**MDOT** - Michigan Department of Transportation

**MGSP** - Michigan Groundwater Stewardship Program. A state program providing technical assistance and cost-share to farmers and landowners to identify and decrease risk to groundwater from pesticide and nitrogen fertilizer contamination. Administered through MDA.

**MOU** - Memorandum of Understanding. Agreements between agencies on how they will support each other's activities.

**MSUE** - Michigan State University Extension

**NACD** - National Association of Conservation Districts. A non-profit organization that supports the work of districts nationwide.

**NASCA** - National Association of State Conservation Agencies. Made up of state agencies that have administrative oversight of their respective state conservation districts. MDA is the state conservation agency in Michigan.

**NRCS** - USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service.

**OMB** - U.S. Office of Management and Budget. Federal agency that has regulatory authority on budget and management and budget issues.

**PL-566** - Federal NRCS program that focuses on small watersheds and projects that provide flood control.

**PRMS** - Performance and Results Measurement System. Internet based reporting system developed by USDA NRCS.

**RC** - Resource Conservationist. (USDA NRCS) person assigned to the district office. The person who is responsible for NRCS programs in the local NRCS field office

**RC&D** - Resource Conservation and Development. Non-profit organizations staffed by NRCS employees. RC&Ds help communities improve their economies and quality of life through wise use and development of natural resources.

**RUSLE** - Revised Universal Soil Loss Equation. A formula used to determine the amount of erosion from a given field under varying circumstances. Replaces USLE or the Universal Soil Loss Equation.

**SIP** - Stewardship Incentives Program. Federal program providing assistance for forestry programs.

**319** - A federal EPA program that provides funds for water quality programs. This program is administered by MDEQ.

**USDA** - United States Department of Agriculture

**USDOJ** - United State Department of the Interior

**USF&WS** - United States Fish and Wildlife Service. Within the United States Department of the Interior (DOI)

**USFS** - United States Forest Service

**USGS** - United States Geological Survey

**WHIP** - Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program. A program or the 1996 Farm Bill to help improve wildlife habitat.

**WRP** - Wetlands Reserve Program. Federal program to improve wetlands.