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| **Operation Name:** |  | **Date:** |  |

► Complete this form for all acreage to be included under certification, and all operations engaged in crop and animal production including greenhouses, poultry production, and other non-field organic production systems.

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| **NOP 205.200** An operation must implement production practices that maintain or improve the natural resources and biodiversity of the operation, including soil and water quality. “Natural resources” are defined as the physical, hydrological, and biological features of the operation, including soil, water, wetlands, woodlands and wildlife. NOP Guidance 5020, Natural Resources and Biodiversity Conservation, clarifies the responsibility of certified operations to implement practices in compliance with §205.200, monitor them as appropriate, and maintain any records necessary for a certifier to verify compliance. NOP Guidance 5020 Appendix A provides examples of conservation activities that could be performed on operations to comply with this requirement. |

## biodiversity Conservation AND Natural Resource Management

1. Do you have a current conservation plan or contract?  Yes  No
   1. If Yes, select the agency(ies) and describe the conservation and management practices below.

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

Farm Services Agency (FSA)

Salmon Safe

Soil Conservation District

Land trust

Other:

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1. How do you manage water for the needs of crops, livestock, native species, and riparian ecosystems?
2. I conserve water by doing the following:

Plant regionally appropriate crops  Plant drought-tolerant natives

Use efficient irrigation  Schedule irrigations/avoid over drafting groundwater/facilitate recharge

Monitor soil moisture  Encourage infiltration in fields and pastures

Locate ponds correctly (adhere to federal/state regulations)

b) I do the following to share my water resources:

Use fish screens  Provide clean water sources for drinking/bathing/nest building

Manage water for priority species (rare fish/ reptiles/amphibians/birds/beavers)

Retain/restore vegetated riparian buffers/wetlands

Protect/improve natural hydrology/ecological function of riparian areas

Other:

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1. In non-crop, fallow, border and adjacent areas, how are you improving and/or maintaining natural resources?

Manage native plants/wildlife specific to the site  Wildlife-friendly fences

Preserve/restore wildlife corridors  Leave areas as undisturbed habitat refuge

Preserve/restore wetlands and riparian areas  Preserve/restore grasslands and woodlands

Native habitats not converted to farmland since certification

Establish legal conservation areas  Replace weedy areas with native plants

Minimize erosion  Standing deadwood/ fallen/rotting trees

Allow degraded areas to be recolonized by noninvasive plants/wildlife

Recognize priority species/habitat and create protection plans

Other:

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1. How do you manage habitat for pollinators, natural enemy insects, and other wildlife throughout the production season?

Hedgerows  Windbreaks  Raptor perches or trees at field edge  Bird or bat boxes

Ensure a clean water source  Plant flowers interspersed with crops  Brush piles

Implement measures to support a variety of bee species  Provide extended food supply

Allow non-invasive plants in non-cropped, fallow, & border areas  Short, medium, and tall native habitat

Timing of field activities (ex: delayed mowing to avoid disturbing nesting birds)

Other:

1. What actions do you take to prevent or control invasive plant/animal species, especially those threatening natural areas?

Learn to identify invasive plants and animals  Monitor for new introductions and control immediately

Suppress or remove invasive species  Plant competing beneficial native plants

Use weed & pest-free seed/planting stock/soil amendments/mulches

State or Federal agency controls invasive species  Use grazing  Use biological control

Use prescribed burning

Other:

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## If you restrict wildlife from entering your production areas (for food safety requirements, crop protection, etc.) or eliminate wildlife habitat elsewhere, what practices do you use to mitigate loss of wildlife habitat or degradation of natural resources?

## Develop or enhance habitat in other areas Plant buffers between crop and habitat areas

## Leave room for habitat when using fencing (riparian or corridor)

Other:

Not applicable (explain):

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1. Describe additional measures taken to conserve natural resources and enhance biodiversity:

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## How do you monitor farm biodiversity?

## Before and after photos Plant, animal, insect surveys Maintain conservation maps

## Farm logs and journals Periodic expert evaluation and report (such as NRCS)

Other: