

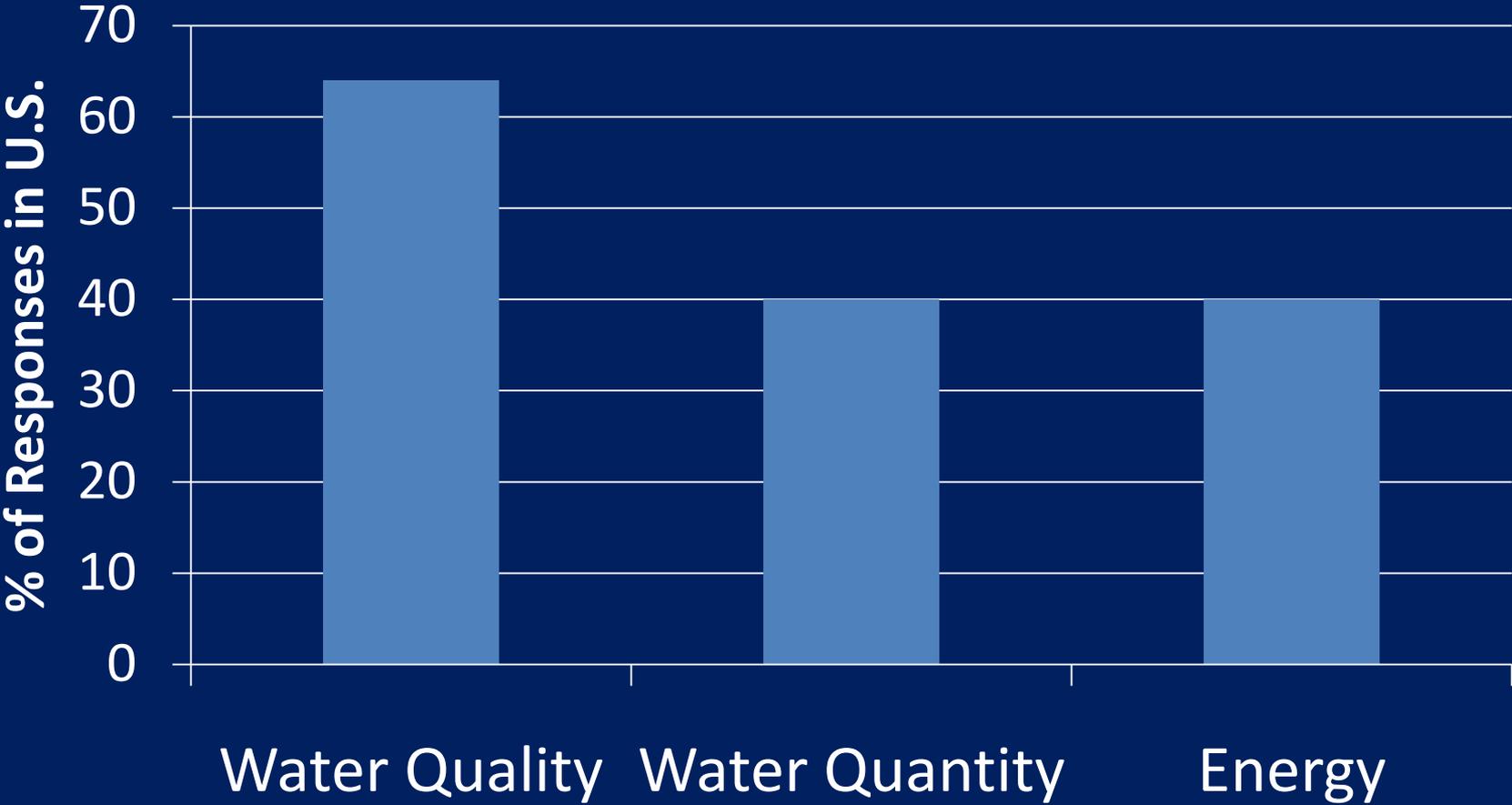
Opportunities for Enhancing Partnerships in Energy Production & Conservation

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Major Natural Resource Issues



NRCS Profile

Approx. \$4.5 B

12,000 Employees

Many Disciplines

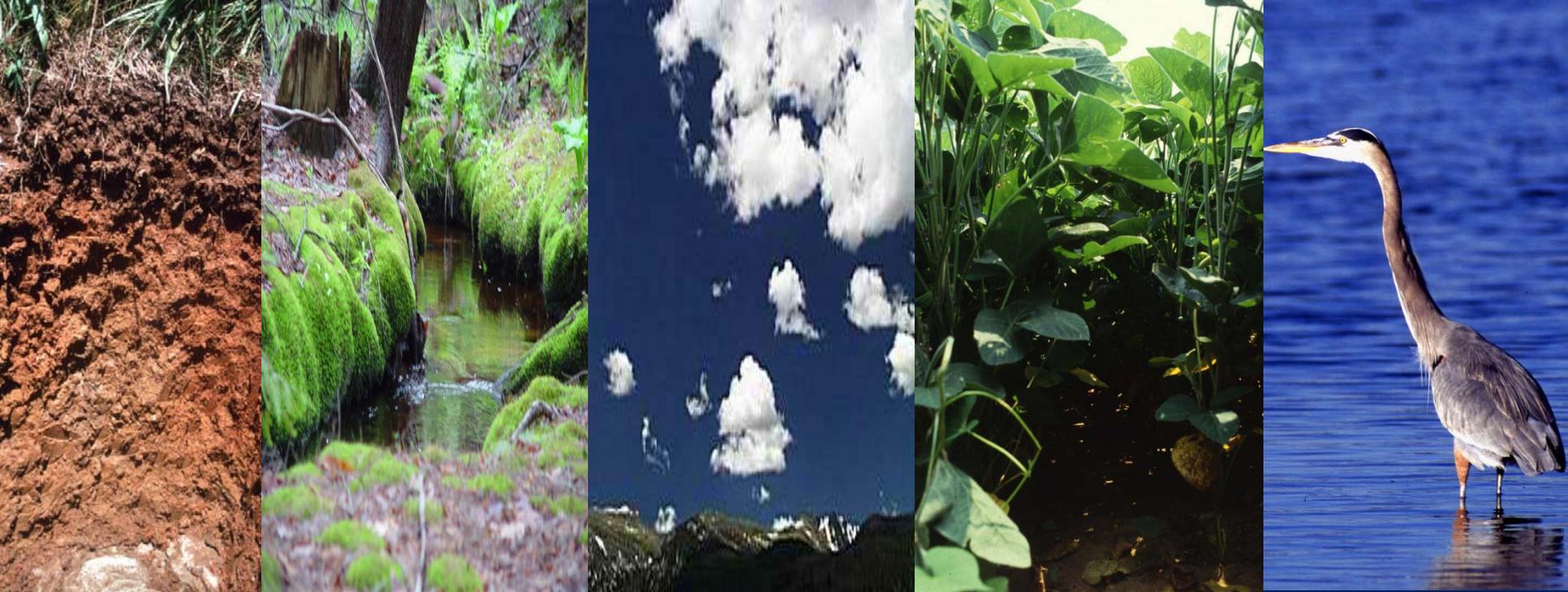


~ 8400 Employees in 2880 Field Offices



PRIMARY DETERMINANT:
**IS IT A “RESOURCE
CONCERN?”**





S W A P A



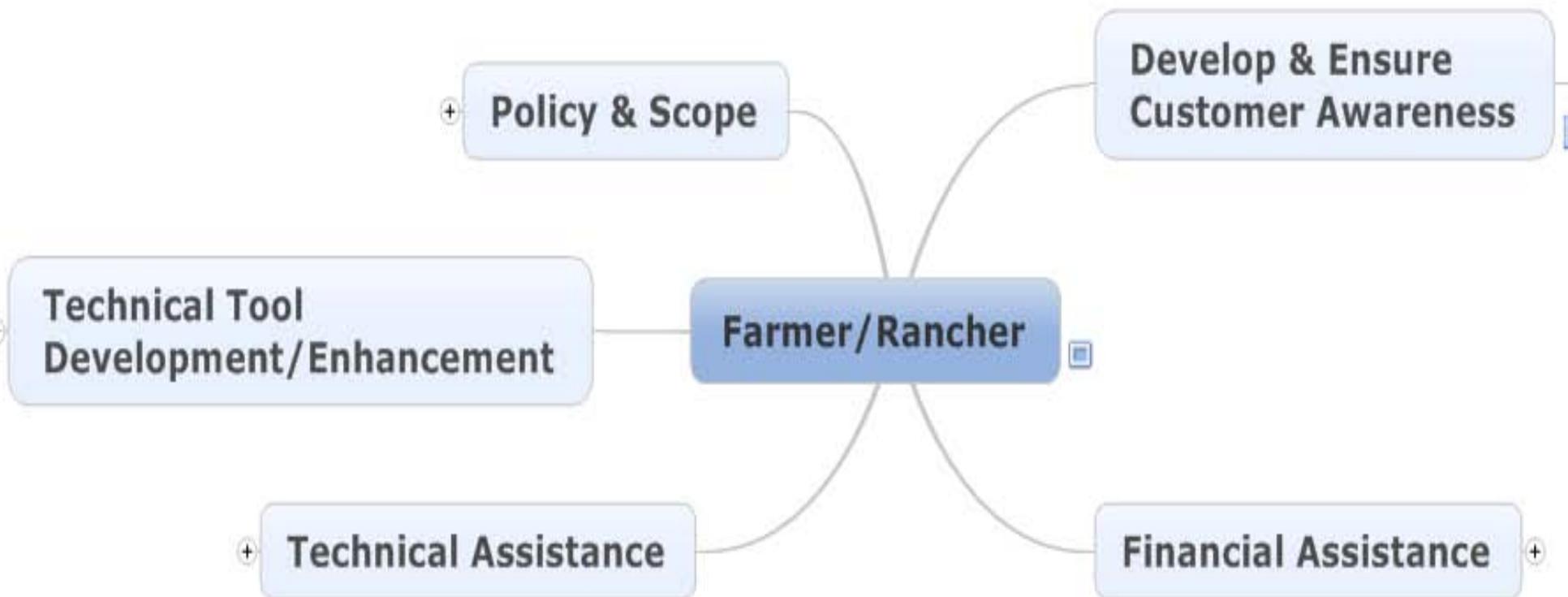
S W A P A E

NRCS Policy

(10/25/2010)

- “It is NRCS Policy to recognize the national goal of reducing reliance on fossil fuels through energy conservation and replacement of fossil fuel-based energy with renewable energy sources.”

- “This national goal will be addressed through conservation planning technical assistance and financial assistance programs.”
- “NRCS will provide technical and financial assistance as appropriate to support biomass feedstock production that is environmentally and economically sustainable.”



Develop & Ensure Customer Awareness

(Conserving Energy, Producing Renewable Energy,
Sources of T.A./F.A.)

I. Obtaining Energy Audit

II.Reducing Energy Use

A. Irrigation Efficiencies

B. Field Operations

III. Sustainable Renewable Energy Production

- A. Oilseeds
- B. Biomass
- C. Growing Own N
- D. Anaerobic Digesters

IV. Mechanisms

- A. Update Energy Webpage
- B. Fact Sheets
 - 1. Review/Revise Existing*
 - 2. Develop/Distribute New*

- C. Technical/Informational Notes
(Review/Develop/Distribute)
- D. News Releases, TV/Radio Spots
(Public Affairs)

Technical Assistance

- I. Training NRCS & Partners (TSPs, State/Local Agencies, SWCDs)
 - A. Assessing On-Farm Energy Efficiencies & Opportunities
 1. Using Existing & New Conservation Practices
 - a. Reducing Fossil Fuel Derived Energy Use
 - b. Sustainable Production of Renewable Energy Feedstocks
 - c. Energy Production & Conservation to Support/Enhance other Cons. Practices

2. Tools & Mechanisms

- a. AgLearn - Air Quality, Climate Change, Energy
- b. Energy Estimators for Animal Housing, Irrigation, N, Tillage
- c. WEPS & RUSLE2 Energy Calculators

B. Integrating Energy into Conservation Planning

C. Roles of other Federal, State, Local, Private Entities for Energy T.A. & F.A.

Financial Assistance

- I. Program Policy & Scope
 - A. Define Scope of EQIP Authority
 - B. Revise EQIP Program Policy
 1. Incorporate Energy Resource Concern
 2. Define Scope of Support for Practices / Activities
 3. Define Eligible/Ineligible Practices/Costs
 4. Develop & Support Screening & Ranking Criteria
 5. Develop & Support Payment Schedules
 6. Develop Protocol to Report Financial Support

PRACTICE STANDARDS

- Describes Why & Where Practice Should Be Applied
- Minimum Quality Criteria to Meet Intended Purpose
- Approx. 39 will now address Energy

SUMMARY

- Partnership Opportunities Abound
 - NRCS Policy
- NRCS Needs Technology
- ARS Needs Impact

