



# Conservation Programs and Planning for Nurseries

Hudson Minshew, District  
Conservationist, Lancaster CA

***Helping People Help the Land***

An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer





# The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), formerly known as the Soil Conservation Service (SCS)

Established in 1935 following the “Dust Bowl”



# Conservation Planning with NRCS

- NRCS Goal: Improve farm or nursery profitability while improving the natural environment—compatible goals.
- Our clients own their individual, customized plans, while using NRCS technical and or financial assistance to achieve their goals.

# Resource Concerns Addressed in Farm/Conservation Planning

- Addressing resource concerns for SWAPA + H + E
- Soil, Water, Air, Plants, Animals and Humans
- Animals = Domestic and Wildlife
- Humans—social and economic issues.
- Energy

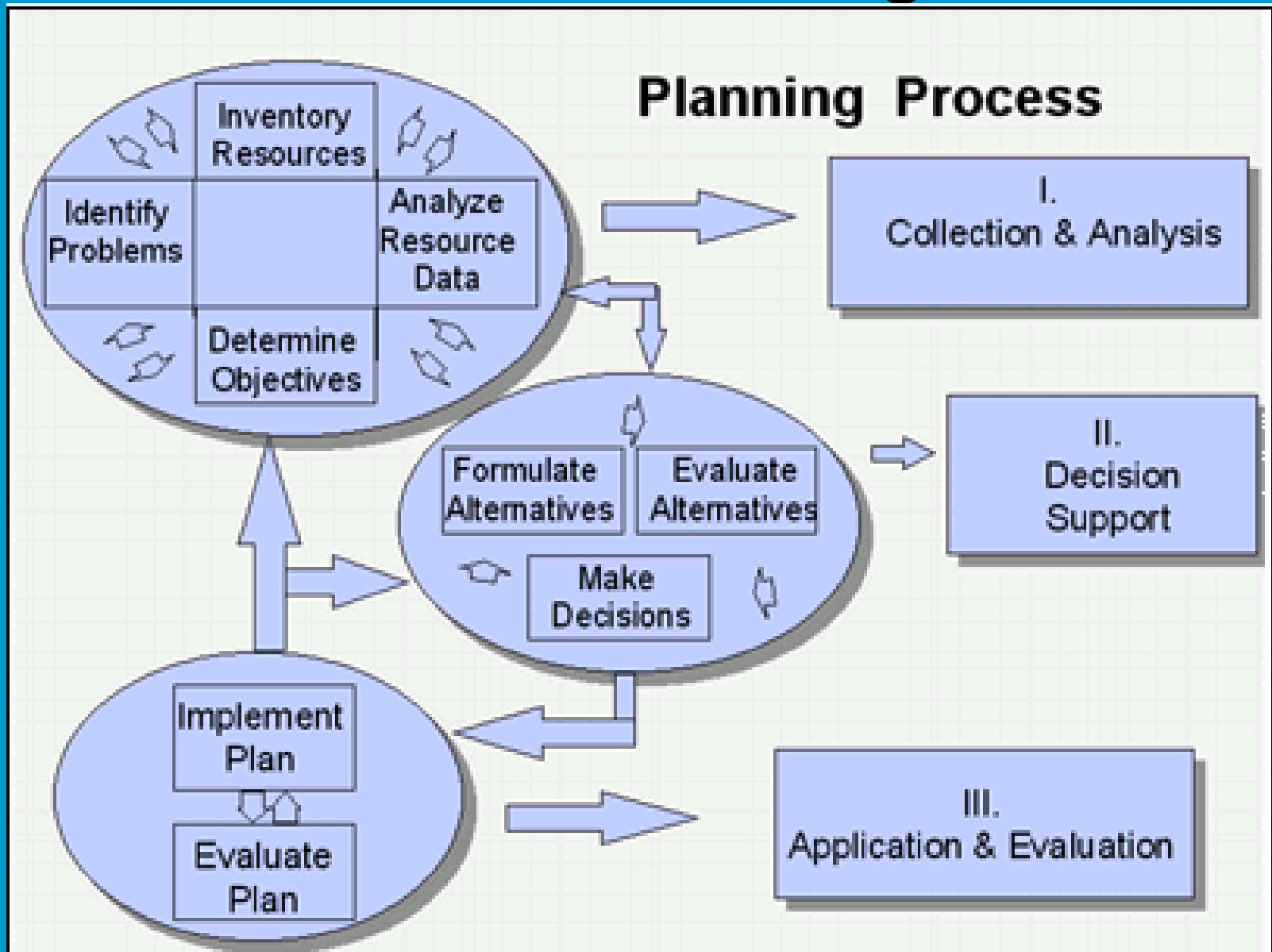


# Planning

- Planning is Critical to any Successful Endeavor
  - Business, Marketing, Retirement, Education



# Conservation Planning Process



# NRCS Competitive Programs

- Folks with an NRCS Approved Conservation Plan have a competitive advantage.
- Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)
- A voluntary program designed to promote environmental quality.
  - Provides financial and technical assistance to eligible farmers and growers to address soil, water, air qualities, wildlife habitat, surface and ground water conservation, energy conservation, and related natural resource concerns.





# What things can I do under EQIP?

## Environmental Quality Incentive Program

- Improve Irrigation Efficiency—through improved irrigation systems or irrigation water management.
- Improve Water Quality—Irrigation water management, nutrient and pest management.
- Reduce Soil Erosion





# Energy Improvements with EQIP

- Energy Audit
- Greenhouse Energy/Shade Screens
- Greenhouse Horizontal Air Flow Fan
- Lighting Replacement-Fluorescent
- Lighting Replacement-LED
- Wind
- Solar



# Energy Improvements with EQIP

- Lighting Replacement-Industrial Grade CFL
- Variable Speed Drive and Motor Replacement-general
- Ventilation Fan VSD
- Vacuum Pump VSD



# How to Contact Us

- Hudson Minschew, District Conservationist  
(661)945-2604 Ext. 110
- Paul Nguyen, Soil Conservationist  
(661)945-2604 Ext. 108

**Corner of Date and Milling St. Lancaster, CA**

- NRCS Webpage:  
**<http://www.ca.nrcs.usda.gov/>**



# 2012 EQIP Sign Up Deadline

- Friday November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2011

## Future Year Deadlines

- June 1<sup>st</sup>.







# Questions?

