

Potential NFPORS Quality Assurance Rule Changes

Rule	Description	Quality Assurance Hard Rule	Comments	Findings	Russ - Comments	Recommendations 2/18/04
		(Answer Yes or No)			I think "hard"ness is on two levels: 1. It is a required element and must be added to the DCT (in many cases upon setting of another condition.) 2. "Hard" in the sense that a local, regional or bureau authority makes a declaration that the rule must not be violated.	
Planning and Activities						
8	The Activity is designated as WUI, but no Communities at Risk or Communities of Interest have been identified.	4 Yes/1 No	1. Imperative for reporting and for linking with new CA module. 2. This should link between the HZ and CA portal with one input.	Hard Rule 4Yes/ 1 No	I assume that the one "No" vote is Ted's. It may be determined that this is a "hard" rule, but with just one vote in opposition (BIA), can we justify a change to the DCT? This would cause BIA to enter bad data or change their business practice.	Recommendation speak with Ted regarding this issue to see why this could not be a hard rule.
9	For DOI, Risk Assessment Activities on non-federal land should be tracked in the Community Assistance module.	4 Yes/1 N/A	1. Talked with Al Murphy. He says it should be entered under the CA module if it is non-Federal land. 2. CA module should be use only if federal action is being used otherwise we would not be involved.	Questioned the issue? Pat Moore to ask the National Office the question, "Why would we track a project if no federal action/federal lands were included on a project?" 4Yes/1 No	This is a vestige of an early implementation of NFPORS HF. RA's are tracked in CA. Shouldn't the RA Type be removed from HF?	Hard Rule
16	The Activity is initiated but there is no Funding Obligation Fiscal Year indicated.	2 Yes/3 No	1. Can be added later upon approval of funding. 2. Should not be in QA, either. 3. It is important especially as we obligate funds in one year and implement in another year.	Hard Rule 3 Yes/ 2 No	What is the recommendation? I could see this as a "soft" rule. The management of Funding Year is a bureau/region/unit decision.	Hard Rule
17	The Activity is initiated but there is no Work Agent indicated.	3 Yes/2No	By the time it is initiated, you should know the work agent. 2. Should not be in QA, either.	Hard Rule 3Yes/2No	Work Agent is not currently a required element. I lean toward making this a "hard" rule and making the change in the DCT.	Hard Rule
18	The Activity is initiated but there is no Funding Source indicated.	3Yes/2 No	By the time it is initiated, you should know the funding source. Especially important for contributed funding. Would be better if we also required the "WHO" to the contributed funding.	Hard Rule 3Yes/2No	I think this should be a l/r/b "hard" rule also,	Hard Rule
24	For the US Forest Service, use of NEPA-DNA is not allowed.	1 N/A				Soft Rule
Treatment						
1	The Planned Accomplishment for the Treatment does not equal the Treatment Unit Area.	3 Yes/ 2 No	1. Our treatment units contain larger areas. 2. These should be equal.	Hard Rule 4Yes/ 1 No	I have little patience for this. At a minimum, the bureaus should declare this as a "hard" rule. But I feel strongly that the DCT needs to be changed.	Hard Rule
3	The Treatment is initiated but there is no Pre-Treatment Condition Class Observation.	5 Yes	1.Before the treatment is initiated, you should know the CC. 2.No work can be done until a pre obs entered.	Hard Rule 5 Yes	I agree. Make the change in the DCT.	Hard Rule

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5	The Treatment is complete but there is no Post-Treatment Class Observation.	2 Yes/ 3 No	This seems to be a requirement of the WO, so we'll do it! 2. Can come later.	Required field 1 year later 2Yes/3 No	The observation should be made by the end of the FY - in time for the annual report. I understand the issues related to delayed effect.	Peter and Russ to discuss this issue with DOI/USDA management to see if this input can be completed one year later.
19	The Treatment is initiated but there is no Funding Obligation Fiscal Year indicated.	2 Yes/ 3 No	1. Can be added later upon approval or funding. 2. Should not be in QA, either. 3. This should be included especially when track from one year to the next MIS does not track from one year to the next.	Hard Rule 3Yes/ 2 No	What is the recommendation? I could see this as a "soft" rule. The management of Funding Year is a bureau/region/unit decision.	Hard Rule
20	The Treatment is initiated but there is no Work Agent indicated.	2 Yes/ 3 No	1. Same as 17. 2. Have to know how it will be done. 3. Should not be in QA, either.	Hard Rule 3Yes/ 2 No	Work Agent is not currently a required element. I lean toward making this a "hard" rule and making the change in the DCT.	Hard Rule
21	The Treatment is initiated but there is no Funding Source indicated.	3 Yes/ 2 No	1. Same as 18 2. Should not be in QA, either. 3. The funding source may be another discipline and should be identified because of the HFRA requirements.	Hard Rule 4Yes/ 1 No	I think this should be a l/r/b "hard" rule also,	Hard Rule
25	The Treatment is planned but there is no Pre-Treatment Condition Class Observation.	3 Yes/ 2 No	1. The only two which seem to be required are previous to initiation and at completion of treatment. Should know at time of planning, but don't necessarily think it should be a hard rule. 2. Might know treatment needed, but no CC yet. 3. Is this really necessary for WUI projects (Treatments) , if not drop it.	This rule doesn't fit. We question a WUI project vs a Non-WUI project. If it is true that a WUI project does not require FRCC why are we tracking it? 2Yes/ 3 No	I think this is a "soft" rule. It should stay in the QA list.	Hard Rule
Treatment Unit						
10	The location of the Treatment Unit is in error.	4 Yes/1 No	The treatment unit location should be correct for the folks who will come along to do the mapping.	Hard Rule 4Yes/ 1 No	Clearly a "hard" rule that all Bureaus should adopt. The DCT could (perhaps) trap any outrageous positions.	Hard Rule
22	The Treatment Unit has no Fire Regime identified.	5 Yes	Mandatory for reporting.	Hard Rule 5 Yes	Agreed.	Hard Rule
<p>The intent of this sheet is to identify which Quality Assurance Rules should be changed to a hard rule in NFPORS. A hard rule will require a program change and will become a required field in NFPORS. Please complete and return to Sandy Gregory and Russ Berry by Feb 13, 2004.</p>						
		Pat Moore, Bob Lineback, Brandon Brown, Ted Tower, Sandy Gregory. 2/13/2004 responded to request.		Brandon Brown, Pat Moore, Sandy Gregory attended conference call lasting 40 minutes 2/17/2004.		