

# NEVADA CONSERVATION CREDIT SYSTEM

## DEBIT PROJECT QUALITY ASSESSMENT FORM

This Quality Assessment (QA) process is intended to validate a project's debit estimate provided by certified verifiers. The following debit estimate has been confirmed by the SETT and is valid for five years, under the current HQT version listed below, from the date of the earliest field collection. Any changes to the proposed disturbance footprint will require an updated HQT analysis to verify potential changes in calculated debits. Any revisions within the five-year time frame will be completed in the HQT version listed below. A formal QA letter will be issued during the final stages of the NEPA process (to ensure additional HQT analysis is no longer required) that will incorporate the debit calculation, range of credit obligation, and other project details.

### SIGNATURE

The full Quality Assessment process has been completed and the information provided in this form is accurate to the best of my knowledge.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Credit System Administrator

\_\_\_\_\_  
Credit System Project Lead

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of QA Completion

### QA SUBMISSION STATUS

\_\_\_\_\_  
Debits calculated (Term/Perm)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Version/Year of Earliest Field Collection  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Acres Direct/Indirect

### PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Name \_\_\_\_\_ Term Length \_\_\_\_\_  
County \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_  
WAFWA Zone: \_\_\_\_\_ Biologically Significant Unit: \_\_\_\_\_ Population Management Unit: \_\_\_\_\_

### PROJECT PROPONENT INFORMATION

Project Proponent Name \_\_\_\_\_

### VERIFIER INFORMATION

Verifier Name \_\_\_\_\_

## QUALITY ASSESSMENT CHECKLIST

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1. Ensure all of the following have been received and are named and completed as appropriate.

- Verifier Project Assessment Submission Form
- Project Geodatabase and Map (.mxd)
- Debit System Calculator
- Debit Project Review Form
- Anthropogenic Features Review Form
- Map Unit Datasheets
- Transect Datasheets
- Transect Photographs

INITIAL WHEN COMPLETE:

Date completed:

Notes:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Review changes or revisions to pre-field map unit submission package. If changes have been made, please note why. For each layer listed below, check to make sure the post field submission layers are the same as what was QA'd during the pre-field submission:

- Proposed\_Surface\_Disturbance
- Current\_Anthro\_Features
- Map\_Units\_Dissolve

INITIAL WHEN COMPLETE:

Date completed:

Notes:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Confirm that all meadows, including stringer meadows, springs and seeps, are delineated accurately within the project area and confirm that the proper number of transects are sampled. After checking their Map Units Dissolve layer for accuracy, input a Map\_Units\_Dissolve\_ProjectName into Tool 5 and Run. Run an Intersect to ensure no overlaps.

INITIAL WHEN COMPLETE:

Date completed:

Notes:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Confirm proposed disturbance footprints are classified correctly (i.e. Term\_Reclaimed, Term\_Retired, Term\_Reclassified, Permanent) and do not contain private land.

INITIAL WHEN COMPLETE:

Date completed:

Notes:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5. Ensure any proposed disturbance polygons are not removed if there are overlaps with BROTEC or Conifer\_Phase III, they must be sampled.

INITIAL WHEN COMPLETE: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date completed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

6. Confirm transects have been completed to satisfaction (transect numbers, location, completion vs rejection, and reflections).

INITIAL WHEN COMPLETE: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date completed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Confirm anthropogenic features are delineated and categorized correctly. Review all squares in project area, including indirect and analysis area, for non-delineated features.

SUPER IMPORTANT – check for any overlaps and make sure they are labeled correctly. That is why it is always necessary to start from scratch on creating the current anthro layer from the base layers, so that the overlaps can be pulled out. What people are doing is adding new anthro features to their Current\_Anthro\_Features\_Project, forgetting about overlaps, and then having major problems. Also check to ensure ALL columns in the layer are filled out and accurate (Removed, Returned, Subtype as Modified).

INITIAL WHEN COMPLETE: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date completed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

8. Compare photos with datasheets/imagery to ensure the field results visually match (bearing; location; name; forb, grass, and shrub %; etc.).

INITIAL WHEN COMPLETE: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date completed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

9. Run the full HQT to ensure same results are calculated (e.g. same map unit and management category results).

INITIAL WHEN COMPLETE: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date completed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Review all tabs in project calculator for completeness and to identify errors:**

- If map units did not have transects collected, make sure you manually put in 100% for the HSIs to account for no data
  - Check to make sure the indirect Map Units of Phase III conifer generate 0 debits (by selecting Yes in tab 2.6 asking for field data)
    - By selecting Yes for 'was field data collected' if there is no data, then it has nothing to calculate so it returns 0, which can be used for other map units of non habitat or map units we don't want debits generated in for whatever reason.
  - Check for negative values in the Project Functional Acres in tab 3.1. This happens if there is overlap errors in the Current/Projected/Permanent anthro layers. This will need to be fixed in the Current\_Anthro\_Features in the Overlap columns. What the negative means is basically with overlaps you are saying that an existing anthropogenic feature that overlaps with a proposed disturbance is being reclaimed, therefore getting 'credit' for its reclamation.
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- Review Summary Tab for correct Project Information
  - Verify the Disturbance\_Type in Tab 1.1
  - Review tabs 2.2-2.4 for any obvious outliers in entered data (e.g. negative line intercept start/stop, Daubenmire frame entry greater than 6, incorrect units of measurement)
  - Review tab 2.5 to identify any potential outliers in transect data.
  - Check to ensure column G in tab 2.6 is populated appropriately depending on whether there is transect data available. Map units of no field sampling should only occur for map units of Phase III PJ, BROTEC, or other areas of non-habitat pre-approved by SETT; otherwise, 100% HSI is used in place of data.
  - Check to ensure the number of transects evaluated in Column I in tab 2.6 match data sheets submitted.

INITIAL WHEN COMPLETE:

Date completed: \_\_\_\_\_

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

**ISSUE TRACKING**

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List and describe any problems encountered during the Quality Assessment process. Feedback will be used to improve and refine the process for subsequent rounds of credit project submissions and debit projects.

ISSUE DESCRIPTION	ISSUE STATUS/RESOLUTION