

Preliminary strategy to inform Soil Health Recommendations

Over the course of many months of work in response to the Administrator's charge to the FRRCC, a number of recommendations have emerged regarding the role of EPA relative to Soil Health. These have been distilled down for you in the following pages. Please note at the outset that this is not meant to be an exclusive list. Indeed, we are hoping that you will help identify and fill gaps. Here is an assessment tool that we hope will be helpful to you and your colleagues on the FRRCC to home in as the most salient. **This is not a final recommendation rating.** The Committee as a whole will then have an opportunity to revisit, develop and prioritize a list of final recommendations.

For this preliminary assessment, please rate the recommendations **High** or **Low** for the following criteria:

- **Potential Impact** – Degree to which the recommendation (if implemented) will lead to near term adoption of soil health (building/maintenance/protection) practices.
 - **High** = The recommendation will lead to widespread adoption of practices.
 - **Low** = The recommendation could lead to adoption of soil health practices but there is uncertainty as to their potential impact or level of acceptance.
- **Feasibility** – Degree to which EPA could implement the recommendation within likely time, financial, technical or other constraints.
 - **High** = The recommendation is technically, financially and legally feasible at this time.
 - **Low** = The recommendation is technically, financially or there is a legal impediment that cannot be overcome without substantial additional resources or change in authority.
- **Readiness for Implementation** – Degree to which the social and /or political context is ripe for successful implementation of the strategy.
 - **High** = There is sufficient social and political support to ensure successful implementation of the strategy in the next 2 - 6 years.
 - **Low** = There is currently limited social and/or political support for the strategy and increased support would require substantial investment of resources.
- **Collaboration/Partnership** – Degree to which the action engages the agricultural community with actions that advance soil health and/or EPA public relations.
 - **High** = The recommendation results in a specific collaboration or partnership that immediately advances the subject of soil health and/or results in a more effective and productive working relationship between EPA and the agricultural community.
 - **Low** = The recommendation results in general engagement with the broader agricultural community over soil health and/or public relations.

Soil Health Recommendations Ranking Tool

Recommendations	Potential Impact ¹ (High=H; Low=L)	Feasibility ² (H; L)	Implementation ³ (H; L)	Collaboration/ Partnership ⁴ (H; L)
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				

¹ **Potential Impact** – Degree to which the recommendation (if implemented) will lead to near term adoption of soil health (building/maintenance/protection) practices. **High** = The recommendation will lead to widespread adoption of practices. **Low** = The recommendation could lead to adoption of soil health practices but there is uncertainty as to their potential impact or level of acceptance.

² **Feasibility** – Degree to which EPA could implement the recommendation within likely time, financial, technical or other constraints. **High** – The recommendation is technically, financially and legally feasible at this time. **Low** – The recommendation is technically, financially or there is a legal impediment that cannot be overcome without substantial additional resources or change in authority

³ **Readiness for Implementation** – Degree to which the social and /or political context is ripe for successful implementation of the strategy. **High** – There is sufficient social and political support to ensure successful implementation of the strategy in the next 2 - 6 years. **Low** – There is currently limited social and/or political support for the strategy and increased support would require substantial investment of resources.

⁴ **Readiness for Implementation** – Degree to which the social and /or political context is ripe for successful implementation of the strategy. **High** – There is sufficient social and political support to ensure successful implementation of the strategy in the next 2 - 6 years. **Low** – There is currently limited social and/or political support for the strategy and increased support would require substantial investment of resources.