Outcome #2: Anticipate, Analyze, and Evaluate Natural Resource Issues and Opportunities

	Exemplary	Competent	Emerging	Undeveloped
Anticipate NR Issues and Opportunities	Expects new issues and opportunities to arise, foresees and describes integrated social, ecological and economic (**SEE**) ramifications of both issues and opportunities. Ably incorporates evidence from the past and different geographic areas in predicting potential outcomes. Provides specific predictive examples and fully enumerates possible alternative outcomes. Fully describes both intended and unintended consequences of actions (or inaction) and their cascading effects.	Anticipates new issues and opportunities, and can describe separate **SEE** components affected by them. Incorporates outside evidence to predict outcomes. Provides general and complete examples of potential outcomes. Describes intended and unintended consequences of actions.	May not anticipate emerging issues and/or opportunities, partially describes possible social, ecological or economic effects. Provides few examples of potential outcomes. Provides limited evidence of ability to identify unintended consequences.	Unable to provide evidence of anticipating natural resource issues or opportunities. Presents very limited evidence for predictions. Does not articulate intended or unintended consequences of actions.
Analyze NR Issues and Opportunities	Incorporates relevant and appropriate information in an organized manner from a variety of sources to aid logical analysis of integrated **SEE** systems and processes. Seamlessly considers both parts and wholes, demonstrates clarity, sophistication, and mastery in analyses to develop multiple probable solutions.	Uses appropriate and organized information to analyze **SEE** systems and processes, and recognizes parts and wholes. Correctly performs sufficient analyses to develop potential solutions.	Uses some information to analyze **SEE** systems. Information presented as "lists". Does not provide clear distinctions for holistic analyses. Performs limited analysis to develop few solutions.	Unable to effectively organize and use information to assess issues and opportunities. Uses limited or incorrect approaches to develop and analyze solutions.
Evaluate NR Issues and Opportunities	Clearly describes context of NR issues and opportunities, and identifies advantages and disadvantages (comparisons and contrasts) of potential solutions. Judiciously weighs alternatives for integrated **SEE** systems. Provides and clearly justifies evidence and criteria used to assess solutions.	Recognizes NR issue and opportunity context, demonstrates awareness of advantages/ disadvantages of potential solutions. Compares or contrasts solutions. Effectively uses evidence and criteria to evaluate solutions.	Is peripherally aware of issue context. Able to identify either advantages or disadvantages of resource decisions. Does not adequately compare/contrast alternatives. Justification not provided for decision-making criteria.	Provides only limited evidence of context awareness. Does not use sound judgment in issue assessment. Does not provide justification for recommendations or decisions to identify solutions.

Prepared by members of the Natural Resource Ecology and Management Department Outcomes Assessment Committee (Iowa State University), 2012.