BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES

Tracking Alternative Practices in BuffCAT & Examples

Buffer Law Implementation Guidance

September 16, 2019

Best Practices for Tracking/Documenting Alternative Practices in BuffCAT

- **Are All Alternative Practices Compliant? (Required Field)**
  Yes = Once the Alternative Practices have been installed and verified this field should be updated.

  Are all buffer compliant?

- **Is Parcel Compliant Based on Review? (Required Field)**
  Yes = The parcel status should be marked "Yes" if the alternative practice(s) have been installed and verified.

- **Notes Field**
  Notes = A simple statement in the notes of how/what alternative combination was used.
  I.E. Common Alternative Practice 4A, 393 Standard, Negative Slope, Cover Crops, No-Till

  **Notes field will be overridden when batch editor is used. We recommend attaching a Word document to the parcel to keep detailed notes in BuffCAT

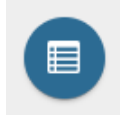 **The notes field is essential to tracking alternative practices long-term. When filtering parcels in BuffCAT, these key words associated with alternative practices can be searched to pull up all parcels in a county with a certain alternative practice.

  Example of alternative practices tracked in BuffCAT:

Filtering to Search for Alternative Practices:

Example: This spring I want to spot check all parcels that have no-till as an alternative practice. To come up with a ma and/or list of parcels that that meet this criteria, the following settings should be put into the filtering tool (icon in lower right-hand corner of BuffCAT):

Screenshot of Filtering settings for no-till alternative practices in Brown County: