# Objective

This document is designed to provide a guide on the branching strategy and steps for checking in the code. It is assumed that you are using Visual Studio and have the Git repository already configured. It is also assumed that you have a working knowledge of how to branch, pull/fetch, push, and check-in/merge.

## Development Process

1. Perform a Fetch/Pull to get the latest code
2. Create your branch using the topic folder for the release you are working from FeatureRelease\YourBranchName ( ex. FeatureHops\US11111)
   1. The format for the branch name are one of the following
      1. User Story and Number (US11111)
      2. SET followed by the number (SET22222)
      3. DSR followed by the number or name (DSR33333)
      4. Defect followed by the number or name (DEFECT44444)
   2. This is required for the continuous integration (CI)
   3. Do not have long running branches. Create a new branch for each feature
3. Make your changes
4. Perform a Fetch/Pull to ensure you have latest code
   1. Multiple developers could be working on the same code base. It is important that you do not check in an “older” branch
5. Push Changes to feature branch
6. Wait for the CI to pass successfully
   1. Check Azure Devops(formally known as VSTS) for Pass/Fail
   2. Look for CICD3A-DatabaseName in the Release Definitions found here <https://tfs.cert.sc.egov.usda.gov/DefaultCollection/NRCS/_release?definitionId=73&_a=releases>
7. Once the release is successful
   1. Create a “Pull Request” for the merge
   2. Instructions are here <https://colab.sc.egov.usda.gov/cb/displayDocument/NRCS+Database+Deployment+Workflow.docx?doc_id=1832833>