

Natural Resources Conservation Service
Application Ranking Summary
FY17 Bay-Delta Initiative - Lower Snake River

STRIKETHROUGH TEXT FOR NATIONAL CRITERIA IS NOT APPLICABLE TO THIS FUND POOL. DO NOT ANSWER YES TO THESE CRITERIA.

National Priorities Addressed

| Issue Questions | Point(s) |
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| If the application is for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP), the agency will assign significant ranking priority and conservation benefit by answering "Yes" to the following question. Answering "Yes" to question 1a will result in the application being awarded the maximum amount of points that can be earned for the national priority category. | |
| 1. a. Is the program application to support the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is "Yes", do not answer any other national level questions. If answer is "No", proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section. | 250 |
| Water Quality Degradation – Will the proposed project improve water quality by: (select all that apply) | |
| 2. a. Implementing the practices in a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP)? | 15 |
| 2. b. Implementing the practices in a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP)? | 10 |
| 2. c. Reducing impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides on land adjoining a designated "impaired water body" (TMDL, 303d listed waterbody, or other State designation)? | 10 |
| 2. d. Reducing the impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides in a "non-impaired water body"? | 10 |
| 2. e. Implementing practices that improve water quality through animal mortality and carcass management? | 10 |
| Water Conservation – Will the proposed project conserve water by: (select all that apply) | |
| 3. a. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce aquifer overdraft. | 15 |
| 3. b. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce on-farm water use? | 10 |
| 3. c. Implementing practices in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project? | 10 |
| 3. d. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm water use as a result of changing to crops with lower water consumptive use, the rotation of crops, or the modification of cultural operations? | 10 |
| Air Quality – Will the proposed project improve air quality by: (select all that apply) | |
| 4. a. Meeting on farm regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures? | 10 |
| 4. b. Implementing practices that reduce on farm emissions of particulate matter (PM2.5, PM10)? | 10 |
| 4. c. Implementing practices that reduce on farm generated greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide (CO2), methane (CH4), and nitrous oxide (N2O)? | 10 |
| 4. d. Implementing practices that increase on farm carbon sequestration? | 10 |
| Soil Health: – Will the proposed project improve soil health by: (select all that apply) | |
| 5. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil "T")? | 10 |
| 5. b. Increasing organic matter and carbon content, and improving soil tillth and structure? | 10 |
| Wildlife Habitat – Will the proposed project improve wildlife habitat by: (select all that apply) | |
| 6. a. Implementing practices benefitting threatened and endangered, at risk, candidate, or species of concern. | 10 |
| 6. b. Implementing practices that retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) or other set-aside program? | 10 |
| 6. c. Implementing practices benefitting honey bee populations or other pollinators? | 10 |
| 6. d. Implementing land based practices that improve habitat for aquatic wildlife? | 10 |
| Plant and Animal Communities: Will the proposed project improve plant and animal communities by: (select all that apply) | |

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| 7. a. Implementing practices that result in the management control of noxious or invasive plant species on non-cropland? | 10 |
| 7. b. Implementing practice in an Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM)? | 10 |
| Energy Conservation – Will the proposed project reduce energy use by: (select all that apply) | |
| 8. a. Reducing on-farm energy consumption? | 10 |
| 8. b. Implementing practice(s) identified in an approved AgEMP or energy audit, which meet ASABE S612 criteria? | 10 |
| Business Lines – Will the practices to be scheduled in the “EQIP Plan of Operations” result in: | |
| 9. a. Enhancement of existing conservation practice(s) or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is received? | 10 |
| State Issues Addressed | |
| Issue Questions | Point(s) |
| State Category One – INSUFFICIENT WATER: Inefficient Use of Irrigation Water [California Irrigation Water Savings Tool found in the California eFOTG Section 1, Resource Assessment Tools.] Conservation treatment includes implementation of IWM and/or an irrigation system that results in an increase of: (Select "Yes" to One Answer Only, if applicable) | |
| 1. a. more than 30 percent annual water savings. | 140 |
| 1. b. 15 to 30 percent annual water savings. | 120 |
| 1. c. 10 to 14 percent annual water savings. | 100 |
| State Category Two – WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Excess Nutrients in Surface Water The Clean Water Act Section 303(d) List is found at the State Water Resources Control Board website: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/tmdl/integrated2010.shtml Conservation treatment will minimize the transport of nutrients to a surface waterbody on the 303(d) list for the pollutant category, “Nutrients,” where an existing pathway to the surface water exists; and, conservation treatment includes: (Select "Yes" to All Applicable Answers) | |
| 2. a. Management practices. | 30 |
| 2. b. Vegetative practices. | 30 |
| 2. c. Structural practices. | 30 |
| State Category Three – WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Pesticides Transported to Surface Water NRCS Agronomy Technical Note 5 (February 2011) is found at: www.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/stelprdb1043138.pdf The Windows Pesticide Screening Tool (WIN-PST) hazard rating is greater than ‘Low’ for surface water on the treatment unit and mitigation strategies are needed. (Select "Yes" to One Answer Only, if applicable) | |
| 3. a. Conservation treatment includes any combination of NRCS conservation practices from NRCS Agronomy Technical Note 5 (February 2011) that results in a reduction of the WIN-PST surface water hazard rating for at least one pesticide to ‘Low’ or ‘Very Low’ and adoption of a Year-Round University of California Integrated Pest Management (UC IPM), when available for the crop, or other comparable protocol. | 20 |
| 3. b. Conservation treatment includes any combination of NRCS conservation practices from NRCS Agronomy Technical Note 5 (February 2011) that results in a reduction of the WIN-PST surface water hazard rating to ‘Low’ or ‘Very Low’ for at least one pesticide. | 10 |
| Local Issues Addressed | |
| Issue Questions | Point(s) |

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| Local Category One – INSUFFICIENT WATER: Inefficient Use of Irrigation Water Will program application result in implementation of irrigation water management (449 - Irrigation Water Management) for an existing irrigation system, and for which NRCS has not previously paid for IWM at the proposed level? Answering "Yes" to question a. will result in the application being awarded the maximum amount of local ranking points that can be earned for the local priority category. | |
| 1. a. f answer is "Yes", do not answer any other local level questions. If answer is "No", proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section. | 400 |
| Local Category Two – INSUFFICIENT WATER: Inefficient Use of Irrigation Water [California Irrigation Water Savings Tool found in the California eFOTG Section 1, Resource Assessment Tools.] Conservation treatment includes implementation of IWM and/or an irrigation system that results in a water savings of: (Select "Yes" to One Answer Only, if applicable) | |
| 2. a. greater than 50 acre/inch per acre per year | 100 |
| 2. b. 45 to 49 acre/inch per acre per year. | 90 |
| 2. c. 40 to 44 acre/inch per acre per year. | 80 |
| 2. d. 35 to 39 acre/inch per acre per year. | 70 |
| 2. e. 30 to 34 acre/inch per acre per year. | 60 |
| 2. f. 25 to 29 acre/inch per acre per year. | 50 |
| 2. g. 20 to 24 acre/inch per acre per year. | 40 |
| 2. h. 15 to 19 acre/inch per acre per year. | 30 |
| 2. i. 10 to 14 acre/inch per acre per year. | 20 |
| 2. j. 5 to 9 acre/inch per acre per year. | 10 |
| 2. k. less than 5 acre/inch per year. | 5 |
| Local Category Three – INSUFFICIENT WATER: Inefficient Use of Irrigation Water [California Irrigation Water Savings Tool found in the California eFOTG Section 1, Resource Assessment Tools. Level I = Basic Irrigation Water Management; Level 2 = Intermediate Irrigation Water Management; Level III = Advanced Irrigation Water Management] Conservation treatment (structural and/or management) results in attainment of 449 – Irrigation Water Management: (Select "Yes" to One Answer Only, if applicable) | |
| 3. a. Conservation treatment will achieve Level II or III irrigation water management according to NRCS CA Bulletin 201-11-3, and the farm operation ranks as "High" in need for 449 – Irrigation Water Management as determined from the Irrigation Scheduling planning tool. | 60 |
| 3. b. Conservation treatment will achieve Level II or III irrigation water management according to NRCS CA Bulletin 201-11-3, and the farm operation ranks as "Medium" or "Low" in need for 449 – Irrigation Water Management as determined from the Irrigation Scheduling planning tool. | 30 |
| 3. c. Conservation treatment will achieve Level I irrigation water management according to NRCS CA Bulletin 201-11-3. | 20 |
| Local Category Four – WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Excess Nutrients in Surface Water Conservation treatment includes management practices that minimize the amount of nutrients material leaving the treated area; management practices may include NRCS conservation practice, 590 - Nutrient Management and/or 449 - Irrigation Water Management. The hydrologic soil group for the treatment unit is predominately: (Select "Yes" to One Answer Only, if applicable) | |

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| 4. a. soils with slow infiltration rates, and/or soils with very slow infiltration rates. | 40 |
| 4. b. soils with moderate infiltration rates. | 35 |
| 4. c. soils with high infiltration rates. | 30 |
| Local Category Five – WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Excess Nutrients in Surface Water Conservation treatment will – (Select "Yes" to All Applicable Answers) | |
| 5. a. Result in development and implementation of a nutrient management plan according to NRCS conservation practice standard, 590 – Nutrient Management, to reduce the potential for off-site transport of nutrients to surface water. | 60 |
| 5. b. Result in implementation of vegetative practice(s) that will reduce the potential for nutrients to enter surface water. | 40 |
| 5. c. Includes practices that will improve soil health and increase water infiltration, thus reducing runoff to surface water. Practices would include Residue and Tillage Management, Cover Crop, and Conservation Crop Rotation. | 30 |
| 5. d. Result in the installation of a tailwater recovery system that will reduce the potential for nutrients to enter surface water. | 5 |
| Local Category Six – WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Pesticides Transported to Surface Water NRCS Agronomy Technical Note 5 (February 2011) is found at: www.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/stelprdb1043138.pdf The Windows Pesticide Screening Tool (Win-PST) hazard rating is greater than 'Low' for the treatment unit and mitigation is needed. Conservation treatment includes any combination of NRCS conservation practices or IPM techniques from NRCS Agronomy Technical Note 5, Tables 1 and 2 (February 2011) that results in a reduction of the Win-PST pesticide hazard rating for surface water to 'Low' or 'Very Low' for at least one pesticide. (Select "Yes" to All Applicable Answers) | |
| 6. a. Conservation treatment includes mitigation measure(s) outlined in NRCS Agronomy Technical Note No. 5 to be implemented according to NRCS conservation practice standard, 595 - Integrated Pest Management. Mitigation measures may include techniques such as changing the timing of application, product substitution, or using precision application equipment. | 40 |
| 6. b. Reduce the potential for pesticides to enter a surface water body on the 303(d) list for the pollutant category 'Pesticides'. (If "Yes," to 6c then 6b must be "No".) | 20 |
| 6. c. Reduce the potential for pesticides to enter a surface water body or wetland complex not on the 303(d) list for the pollutant category 'Pesticides'. (If "Yes," to 6b then 6c must be "No".) | 15 |