

**Natural Resources Conservation
Service**

**Application Ranking Summary
NWQI**

Program: EQIP 2014	Ranking Date:	Application Number:
Ranking Tool: NWQI		Applicant:
Final Ranking Score:		Address:
Planner:		Telephone:
Farm Location:		

National Priorities Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
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 Point(s)
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 Point(s)
2. b. Implementing the practices in a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP)?	10 Point(s)
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 Point(s)
2. d. Reducing the impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides in a “non-impaired water body”?	10 Point(s)

2. e. Implementing practices that improve water quality through animal mortality and carcass management?	10 Point(s)
Water Conservation – Will the proposed project conserve water by: (select all that apply)	
3. a. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce aquifer overdraft.	15 Point(s)
3. b. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce on-farm water use?	10 Point(s)
3. c. Implementing practices in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	10 Point(s)
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 Point(s)
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 Point(s)
4. b. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm emissions of particulate matter (PM2.5, PM10)?	10 Point(s)
4. c. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm generated greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide (CO2), methane (CH4), and nitrous oxide (N2O)?	10 Point(s)
4. d. Implementing practices that increase on-farm carbon sequestration?	10 Point(s)
Soil Health:– Will the proposed project improve soil health by: (select all that apply)	
5. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil “T”)?	10 Point(s)
5. b. Increasing organic matter and carbon content, and improving soil tilth and structure?	10 Point(s)
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 Point(s)

6. b. Implementing practices that retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) or other set-aside program?	10 Point(s)
6. c. Implementing practices benefitting honey bee populations or other pollinators?	10 Point(s)
6. d. Implementing land-based practices that improve habitat for aquatic wildlife?	10 Point(s)
Plant and Animal Communities: Will the proposed project improve plant and animal communities by: (select all that apply)	
7. a. Implementing practices that result in the management control of noxious or invasive plant species on non-cropland?	10 Point(s)
7. b. Implementing practice in an Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM)?	10 Point(s)
Energy Conservation– Will the proposed project reduce energy use by: (select all that apply)	
8. a. Reducing on-farm energy consumption?	10 Point(s)
8. b. Implementing practice(s) identified in an approved AgEMP or energy audit, which meet ASABE S612 criteria?	10 Point(s)
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 Point(s)

State Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
<p>If the application is for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP), the agency will assign significant ranking points and conservation benefits by answering "Yes" to the following question. Answer "Yes" to question 1a will result in the application being awarded the maximum amount of points that can be earned for the State priority category.</p>	
<p>1. 1a. Is the program application for development of a TSP prepared Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is "Yes", so not anser any other State-level questions. If the answer is "No", proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.</p>	400 Point(s)
Water Quality - EPA Watersheds:	
<p>2. 2a: Does the application include core conservation practices that will be implemented within 1/4 mile of a stream or water body that is threatened (i.e., receives significant runoff of excess nitrogen and/or phosphorous), on the EPA 303(d) list, or is impaired with a TMDL in place and therefore not on the 303(d) list (or other critical stream or water body authorized by the Regional Conservationist)?</p>	100 Point(s)
Geographic Impacts:	
<p>3. 3a: Are core conservation practices planned on the offered acres? i. Greater than 75 percent of the offered acres are within the targeted watershed, and ii. Greater than 75 percent of the offered acres have a core conservation practice planned for application.</p>	125 Point(s)
Collaborative Efforts:	
<p>4. 4a: Are core conservation practices planned within an existing State agency or other non-USDA water quality project area addressing the same or similar pollutants?</p>	75 Point(s)
Effort to address watershed impairments:	

5. 5a: Does this program application include the implementation of a system of conservation practices which address the primary watershed impairments?	50 Point(s)
High Risk Soils	
6. 6a. Are core conservation practices to be implemented on offered acres with a majority of soil types that are classified hydrologic group D (high runoff) or group A (high infiltration)?	50 Point(s)

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. Will livestock be excluded from all streams on the offered acres?	50 Point(s)
2. Will the application of conservation practices in this contract reduce the STIR rating to less than 30 on over 75% of the offered acres?	50 Point(s)
3. Are planned conservation practices within 1/4 mile of a blue line stream on a USGS topo map within the impaired watershed?	50 Point(s)
4. Will the contract include at least 1 conservation practice in each of the following categories: avoid, trap, and control?	25 Point(s)
5. Will the contract include at least 2 conservation practices in each of the following categories: avoid, trap, and control?	50 Point(s)
6. Will this contract include installation of a buffer (such as filter strip, riparian forest buffer or grassed waterway) that filters and traps pollutants, nutrients and or sediment from entering a stream and reduces pollutant delivery to a stream?	50 Point(s)

Land Use:

Crop;

Farmstead;

Forest;

Pasture;

Resource Concerns	Practices
Water Quality Degradation: Excess Pathogens and Chemicals from Manure, Bio-solids or Compost Applications in Surface Water	Animal Mortality Facility
Water Quality Degradation: Excess Pathogens and Chemicals from Manure, Bio-solids or Compost Applications in Surface Water	Composting Facility
Water Quality Degradation: Excess Pathogens and Chemicals from Manure, Bio-solids or Compost Applications in Surface Water	Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan -
Water Quality Degradation: Excess Pathogens and Chemicals from Manure, Bio-solids or Compost Applications in Surface Water	Fence
Water Quality Degradation: Excess Pathogens and Chemicals from Manure, Bio-solids or Compost Applications in Surface Water	Heavy Use Area Protection
Water Quality Degradation: Excess Pathogens and Chemicals from Manure, Bio-solids or Compost Applications in Surface Water	Livestock Pipeline
Water Quality Degradation: Excess Pathogens and Chemicals from Manure, Bio-solids or Compost Applications in Surface Water	Nutrient Management
Water Quality Degradation: Excess Pathogens and Chemicals from Manure, Bio-solids or Compost Applications in Surface Water	Waste Storage Facility
Water Quality Degradation: Excess Pathogens and Chemicals from Manure, Bio-solids or Compost Applications in Surface Water	Waste Treatment Lagoon
Water Quality Degradation: Excess Pathogens and Chemicals from Manure, Bio-solids or Compost Applications in Surface Water	Water Well

Water Quality Degradation: Excess Pathogens and Chemicals from Manure, Bio-solids or Compost Applications in Surface Water	Watering Facility
Water Quality Degradation: Excessive Sediment in Surface Water	Brush Management
Water Quality Degradation: Excessive Sediment in Surface Water	Conservation Cover
Water Quality Degradation: Excessive Sediment in Surface Water	Conservation Crop Rotation
Water Quality Degradation: Excessive Sediment in Surface Water	Contour Buffer Strips
Water Quality Degradation: Excessive Sediment in Surface Water	Cover Crop
Water Quality Degradation: Excessive Sediment in Surface Water	Critical Area Planting
Water Quality Degradation: Excessive Sediment in Surface Water	Field Border
Water Quality Degradation: Excessive Sediment in Surface Water	Filter Strip
Water Quality Degradation: Excessive Sediment in Surface Water	Forage and Biomass Planting
Water Quality Degradation: Excessive Sediment in Surface Water	Grade Stabilization Structure
Water Quality Degradation: Excessive Sediment in Surface Water	Grassed Waterway
Water Quality Degradation: Excessive Sediment in Surface Water	Lined Waterway or Outlet
Water Quality Degradation: Excessive Sediment in Surface Water	Residue Mgmt, Reduced Till
Water Quality Degradation: Excessive Sediment in Surface Water	Terrace
Water Quality Degradation: Excessive Sediment in Surface Water	Tree/Shrub Establishment
Water Quality Degradation: Excessive Sediment in Surface Water	Water and Sediment Control Basin
Water Quality Degradation: Nutrients in Surface water	Agrichemical Handling Facility
Water Quality Degradation: Nutrients in Surface water	Animal Mortality Facility
Water Quality Degradation: Nutrients in Surface water	Composting Facility
Water Quality Degradation: Nutrients in Surface water	Field Border
Water Quality Degradation: Nutrients in Surface water	Filter Strip
Water Quality Degradation: Nutrients in Surface water	Heavy Use Area Protection

Water Quality Degradation: Nutrients in Surface water	Irrigation System, Microirrigation
Water Quality Degradation: Nutrients in Surface water	Irrigation Water Management
Water Quality Degradation: Nutrients in Surface water	Irrigation Water Management Plan - Writt
Water Quality Degradation: Nutrients in Surface water	Land Smoothing
Water Quality Degradation: Nutrients in Surface water	Mulching
Water Quality Degradation: Nutrients in Surface water	Prescribed Grazing
Water Quality Degradation: Nutrients in Surface water	Pumping Plant
Water Quality Degradation: Nutrients in Surface water	Riparian Forest Buffer
Water Quality Degradation: Nutrients in Surface water	Sprinkler System
Water Quality Degradation: Nutrients in Surface water	Underground Outlet
Water Quality Degradation: Nutrients in Surface water	Waste Facility Closure
Water Quality Degradation: Nutrients in Surface water	Waste Treatment Lagoon
Water Quality Degradation: Pesticides in Surface Water	Agrichemical Handling Facility
Water Quality Degradation: Pesticides in Surface Water	Integrated Pest Management