

Vermont NRCS 2016 Financial Assistance Program - EQIP-RCPP-DEC (project #449) Screening Criteria Worksheet

Applications that are eligible in the participant information screen in ProTracts and have applied to either of the EQIP-RCPP-DEC funding pools must be evaluated using this worksheet.

Instructions:

This screening worksheet must be completed for each eligible application applying for funding consideration in only the EQIP-RCPP-DEC funding pools. Applications are not eligible until they are labeled as such in the application information screen in ProTracts. The goal of this screening tool is to ensure that conservation technical assistance and program benefits are efficiently allocated to address prioritized conservation needs. Completion of this worksheet and documentation does not constitute agreement to provide NRCS FA program benefits nor approval of a FA program contract. This screening worksheet should be filed with the applicant's case file and an electronic version uploaded to the Document Management System (DMS) with the screening priority (High, Medium, or Low) being recorded in ProTracts. This worksheet should be reviewed and updated for each unfunded contract upon change in ranking period. Upon request, a copy of the screening worksheet will be provided to the applicant.

Screening Criteria Worksheet - Complete for each eligible EQIP-RCPP-DEC applicant

Applicant Name:	County:	
Application Number:	Field Office:	
Evaluator Name:	Date:	

Step 1 - Evaluation		Yes?	Action	No?	Action
A ↓ B ↓ C ↓ D ↓ E ↓ F ↓ G ↓ H ↓ I ↓ J ↓	Is this application for practices within the Lake Champlain Basin?		Yes: Keep Going to Question B		No: STOP - the application is Low Priority - proceed to Step 2 - do not answer any additional screening questions - do not rank
	Is this application for practices on a farm that has conserved land or has been approved for conservation easement funding?		Yes: keep going and proceed to Question C		No: STOP - the application is Low Priority - proceed to Step 2 - do not answer any additional screening questions - do not rank
	Is this application for practices on a farm with less than 200 cows (or equivalent numbers for other species as described in Vermont state MFO regulations)?		Yes: keep going and proceed to Question D		No: STOP - the application is Low Priority - proceed to Step 2 - do not answer any additional screening questions - do not rank
	Is this application for a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)?		Yes: STOP - mark as High Priority in Step 2 - do not answer any additional screening questions - proceed to ranking. Conservation Activity Plans must stand alone contracts.		No: keep going and proceed to Question E
	Does EQIP policy require written management plan(s) from either NRCS or a TSP needed in order to support planned practices in their contract?		Yes: EQIP policy requires a written management plan to support planned practices in the application - Keep going and proceed to Question F		No or N/A: EQIP policy does NOT require a written management plan(s) in order to support planned practices - STOP - the application is High Priority - do not answer any additional screening questions - proceed to ranking
	Does the applicant only have the NMP and/or LTP portions of the CNMP complete?		Yes: Stop- the application is Low Priority- proceed to Step 2- do not answer any additional screening questions- do not rank.		No, proceed to G
	Does this applicant only have the MWWHP and LTP portion of the CNMP completed?		Yes: Stop- the application is Medium Priority- proceed to Step 2- do not answer any additional screening questions		No, proceed to H
	Is the full CNMP completed?		Yes: STOP- the application is High Priority- proceed to Step 2.		Yes, proceed to ranking
	Please select the status of the wastewater/waste management designs as expected by the ranking deadline. This will also be used to help determine the priority of the project.		A preliminary design is expected to be delivered by the ranking deadline - Keep going and proceed to Question H		
			A preliminary design is not expected to be ready until after the contract is signed - STOP - the application is Medium Priority - proceed to Step 2 and ranking		
Farmstead size and expansion: Does the applicant propose to expand their herd beyond 10% of existing animal units?		If No expansion will occur the application is High Priority - proceed to Step 2 and ranking			
		If the applicant proposes to expand their herd beyond 10% of existing animal units - STOP - the application is Medium priority - proceed to Step 2 and ranking			

Step 2 - Priority determination in ProTracts

The priority of this application is:	(Write in High, Medium, or Low and record in ProTracts. Load to DMS)
High Priority: Applications must be ranked by the applicable ranking Deadlines and include an estimated cost. Medium Priority: Applications must be ranked by the applicable ranking Deadlines and include an estimated cost. Low Priority: applications do not need to be ranked unless the State Office indicates otherwise. All applications must have this form completed and uploaded to the Document Management System (DMS) regardless of ranking priority. Designated Conservationists are to inform the State Office of the reasons for any application not being High priority by the ranking deadline.	

Soil Conservationist or DEC Planner Signature and Date:	Notes:
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