

**Natural Resources Conservation Service
Application Ranking Summary
CO - Acequias**

Program: EQIP 2014	Ranking Date:
Ranking Tool: CO - Acequias	
Final Ranking Score:	
Planner:	
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
Irrigation Efficiency Improvement (Answer only ONE of the following, (questions 1-4), if applicable.)	
1. Will the contracted practice(s) result in a projected increased irrigation efficiency improvement of >40%?	160 Point(s)
2. Will the contracted practice(s) result in a projected increased irrigation efficiency improvement of >20 – 40%?	140 Point(s)
3. Will the contracted practice(s) result in a projected increased irrigation efficiency improvement of >15 – 20%?	110 Point(s)
4. Will the contracted practice(s) result in a projected increased irrigation efficiency improvement of 5 – 15%?	80 Point(s)
Irrigation Induced Erosion	
5. Will the contracted practice(s) treat concentrated flow erosion caused by irrigation water?	80 Point(s)
Water Quality - Nutrients (Answer only ONE of the following, (questions 6-9), if applicable.)	

6. Does the EQIP Schedule of Operation include practices that improve the timing and method of applying nutrients on > 75% of the contracted acres?	60 Point(s)
7. Does the EQIP Schedule of Operation include practices that improve the timing and method of applying nutrients on 50 - 75% of the contracted acres?	40 Point(s)
8. Does the EQIP Schedule of Operation include practices that improve the timing and method of applying nutrients on <15-49% of the contracted acres?	20 Point(s)
9. Does the EQIP Schedule of Operation include practices that improve the timing and method of applying nutrients on < 15% of the contracted acres?	0 Point(s)
Perennial Vegetation Filters for run-off	
10. Will the contracted practice(s) result in perennial vegetation establishment that acts as a filter for runoff from cropland or hayland?	10 Point(s)
Establishing perennial vegetation on annually cropped lands	
11. Will the contracted practice(s) result in perennial vegetation establishment on lands that were annually cropped?	10 Point(s)
Soil Tillage Intensity (Answer only ONE of the following (questions 12-13), if applicable.)	
12. Does this contract include conversion from existing tillage operations to a No-till system on 75% or more of the contracted acres?	50 Point(s)
13. Does this contract include conversion from existing tillage operations to a No-till system on 50-74% of the contracted acres?	40 Point(s)
Crop Rotation	
14. Will the contracted practice(s) result in diversification of the cropping system?	10 Point(s)
Other	
15. If selected for funding, will this be the applicant's first EQIP implementation contract?	20 Point(s)

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
Answer any of the following questions (1-3), if applicable.	
1. Has the applicant completed previous contracts?	10 Point(s)

2. Will contracted area include more than one land use?	20 Point(s)
3. Will contracted practices include a water measuring device?	5 Point(s)
Answer only ONE of the following questions (4-5), if applicable.	
4. Is this a group project including 2 – 3 participants?	30 Point(s)
5. Is this a group project including 4 or more participants?	95 Point(s)
Answer any of the following questions (6-8), if applicable.	
6. Will the project eliminate ditch seepage by replacing ditch with gated pipe or buried pipe?	50 Point(s)
7. Will the current surface irrigation system be improved with installation of water control structures?	40 Point(s)
8. Will the current irrigation system be improved with land leveling to grade?	30 Point(s)

This ranking report is for your information. It does not in any way guarantee funding. When funding becomes available, you will be notified if your application is selected for funding. Some changes to the application may be required before a final contract is awarded.