

**Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)
Ogallala Aquifer Initiative
Screening Criteria Worksheet –FY 2016**

Applicant Signature		Date:
DC Signature		Date:

Instructions:
 This screening worksheet must be completed for each eligible producer applying for EQIP Ogallala Aquifer Initiative assistance. Applications will be accepted on a continuous basis; however, an application period has been established for purposes of evaluation, ranking, and funding decisions. The goal of this screening tool is to ensure that conservation technical assistance and EQIP program benefits are managed efficiently to address priority conservation needs related to this National initiative. Completion of this worksheet and documentation does not constitute agreement to provide EQIP program benefits nor approval of a program contract. The original screening worksheet should be filed with the applicant case file or EQIP program file and unless the application is determined to be ineligible, the screening priority (high, medium, and low) must be recorded in ProTracts. Upon request, a copy of any completed screening worksheet may be provided to the applicant.

Detailed Screening Criteria Worksheet-Complete for each eligible EQIP Applicant

Applicant Name:		
Applicant Address:		
Application Number:		
Evaluators Name:		Date:
County		Field Office

Priority Determination for ProTracts – Select One:

<p>High Priority Category: Must meet criteria #1 and land must be included (at least 50% of the irrigated land offered within the focal area) within the Focal Area for the Ogallala Aquifer Initiative see OAI Focal Area Map.</p> <p>1) The proposed contract activities will result in a 100% reduction in the gross water applied on an operation that is currently drawing water from the Ogallala Aquifer?</p>	<p>High Priority Status in ProTracts</p>
<p>Medium Priority Category: Must meet criteria #1 and land must be included (at least 50% or of the land offered within the focal area) within the Focal Area for the Ogallala Aquifer Initiative see OAI Focal Area Map.</p> <p>1) The proposed contract activities will result in a reduction of 10% or more in the gross water applied on an operation that is currently drawing water from the Ogallala Aquifer and address both the following resource concerns</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">a. Insufficient Water- Inefficient use of Irrigation Water</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">b. Insufficient Water-Inefficient Moisture Management-</p>	<p>Medium Priority Status in ProTracts</p>
<p>Low Priority Category: Must meet criteria #1 and land must be included (at least 50% of the land offered within the focal area) within the Focal Area for the Ogallala Aquifer Initiative see OAI Focal Area Map.</p> <p>1) The proposed contract activities will result in a reduction of less than 10% in the gross water applied on an operation that is currently drawing water from the Ogallala Aquifer</p>	<p>Low Priority Status in ProTracts</p>
<p>The proposed contract activities will address other National, State, or Local identified resource concerns not consistent with the goal and purpose of the Ogallala Initiative.</p>	<p>Deferred The application does not currently meet the goals of this initiative</p>

A Screening Worksheet is required to be completed for each eligible EQIP application