

1		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 state priority category	
	1	a. Is the program application for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is "Yes", do not answer any other state level questions. If answer is "No", proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	400
2		Soil Health: Answer one of the following (Maximum of 65 points).	
	2	a. Will the proposed project result in the implementation of 3 practices that address three or more of the following soil health principals: 1) Using plant diversity to increase diversity in the soil, 2) Managing soils more by disturbing them less, 3) Growing a living root throughout the year, 4) Keeping the soil covered as much as possible?	65
	2	b. Will the proposed project result in the implementation of two practices that address two of the following soil health principals: 1) Using plant diversity to increase diversity in the soil, 2) Managing soils more by disturbing them less, 3) Growing a living root throughout the year, 4) Keeping the soil covered as much as possible?	40
	2	c. Will the proposed project result in the implementation of one practice that address one of the following soil health principals: 1) Using plant diversity to increase diversity in the soil, 2) Managing soils more by disturbing them less, 3) Growing a living root throughout the year, 4) Keeping the soil covered as much as possible?	15
3		Soil Erosion:	
	3	a. Will the proposed project result in the implementation of practices that will result in the long term reduction of soil erosion?	75
4		Water Quality Degradation – Will the proposed project improve water quality by: (Answer all that apply for a maximum of 100 points)	
	4	a. Reducing impacts from sediment, nutrients, or pesticides on land within 300 feet from a designated impaired water body (TMDL, 303d listed waterbody)?	30
	4	b. Reducing impacts from sediment, nutrients, or pesticides on land within 300 feet from a non-impaired water body?	15
	4	c. Will the proposed project result in the implementation of 595 Integrated Pest Management and/or (590) Nutrient Management?	25
	4	d. Will the proposed project improve water quality by resulting in development of a drainage water management plan or result in the implementation of targeted practices?	30
5		Healthy Plants and Wildlife: Will the proposed project address Plant Structure and Composition, Plant Pests and Animal Habitat Degradation? (Answer all that apply for a maximum of 60 points)	
	5	a. Will the proposed project result in the implementation of practices for the management of noxious and invasive species ONLY on "non-cropland" acreage?	20
	5	b. Will the proposed project result in the implementation of practices that increase habitat and forage for pollinators and/or beneficial insects?	20
	5	c. Land enrolled in this application establishes native grassland and/or manages grassland habitat within a "prairie core" or "prairie corridor" as defined by the MN Prairie Conservation Plan (refer to GIS layer).	20
6		Insufficient water – inefficient use of irrigation water resource concern:	
	6	a. Will the proposed project result in the implementation of practices that will improve the efficiency of an existing irrigation system and/or result in the implementation of practices that will improve irrigation water management?	25
7		Livestock Resource Concerns:	
	7	a. EQIP Schedule of Operations includes implementation of practices that solve resource concerns on a livestock operation?	25
8		DWSMA:	
	8	a. Will the proposed project result in solving a surface or ground water resource concern located within a Drinking Water Supply Management Area that is identified in the FY16 EQIP DWSMA GIS layer?	50
		Maximum Points: 400 Total Points	855