

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Application Ranking Summary

NWQI - TCAA

Program:	Ranking Date:	Application Number:
Ranking Tool: NWQI - TCAA		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.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
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)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. b. Implementing the practices in a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
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)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. d. Reducing the impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides in a “non-impaired water body”?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. e. Implementing practices that improve water quality through animal mortality and carcass management?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Water Conservation – Will the proposed project conserve water by: (select all that apply)	
3. a. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce aquifer overdraft.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. b. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce on-farm water use?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. c. Implementing practices in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
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?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
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?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. b. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm emissions of particulate matter (PM2.5, PM10)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. c. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm generated greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide (CO2), methane (CH4), and nitrous oxide (N2O)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. d. Implementing practices that increase on-farm carbon sequestration?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Soil Health:– Will the proposed project improve soil health by: (select all that apply)	
5. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil “T”)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. b. Increasing organic matter and carbon content, and improving soil tilth and structure?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
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.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. b. Implementing practices that retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Reserve Program (CRP) or other set-aside program?	
6. c. Implementing practices benefitting honey bee populations or other pollinators?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. d. Implementing land-based practices that improve habitat for aquatic wildlife?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
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?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. b. Implementing practice in an Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Energy Conservation– Will the proposed project reduce energy use by: (select all that apply)	
8. a. Reducing on-farm energy consumption?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. b. Implementing practice(s) identified in an approved AgEMP or energy audit, which meet ASABE S612 criteria?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
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?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

State Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
Conservation Activity Plans - 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. 1a. Is the program application for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP) for a TSP prepared Conservation Plan? If answer is “Yes”, do not answer any other questions in this section. If answer is “No”, proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Water Quality - EPA Watersheds:	
1. 2a. Does the application include core conservation practices that will be implemented within 1/4 mile of a stream 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 TDML in place and therefore not on the 303(d) list (or other critical stream or water body authorized by the Regional Conservationist)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Geographic Impacts:	
1. 3a. Are core conservation practices planned on the offered acres? i. Greater than 75 percent of the offered acres are within the focused watershed AND ii. Greater than 75 percent of the offered acres have a core conservation practice planned for application.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Collaborative Efforts:	
1. 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?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Effort to Address Watershed Impairments:	
1. 5a: Does this program application include the implementation of a system of conservation practices which address the NWQI primary resource concerns?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
High Risk Soils:	
1. 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)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
CONSERVATION ACTIVITY PLAN - 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. 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.	
1. 1a. Is the program application for development of a TSP prepared Conservation Activity Plan (CAP) If answer is "Yes", do not answer any other local level questions. If answer is "No", proceed with	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	
SOIL EROSION	
1. Will soil erosion be reduced to “T” or below with installed enduring conservation practices by the funding of this contract?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. Will soil erosion be reduced to “T” or below through annual conservation practices by the funding of this contract?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. Does acreage offered contains 33% or more of PHE/HE soils?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. Is gully erosion currently present that will be treated to acceptable level though funding of this contract?”	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. Does the RUSLE Worksheet Erosion Calculation Record have a Soil Condition Index (SCI) score of at least 0.0 OR will the STIR rating be equal to or less than 30 to implement a Cropping/Permanent Cover System?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
WATER QUALITY	
1. Is applicant willing to plant legumes as a cover crop (340) in a Residue Management System (No-till/Strip-till)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. Are there at least 60% medium or high leach/run soils within the treatment area covered by this contract?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. Will Nutrient and/or IPM conservation practice(s) be applied according to NRCS standards, within the treatment area, by the funding of this contract?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. Will Precision farming conservation practice(s) be applied according to Program requirements?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. Will Residue Management conservation practice(s) be applied within 300 ft of sensitive areas such wetlands?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. Will nutrient/chemical applications be reduced/eliminated by landuse conversion to permanent cover through the funding of this contract?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. Will livestock be excluded from sensitive areas, such as wetlands or sinkhole areas, by permanent fence constructed to NRCS standards and specifications?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
PLANT & ANIMAL HEALTH - Will Livestock System include one or more of the following practices installed to NRCS standards and specifications: Watering Facility (614), Cross fencing (382), and/or Prescribed Grazing (528). Answer “YES” to only one question and “NO” to the rest:	
1. a) Only one practice installed?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. b) Two practices installed?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. c) All three practices installed?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
OTHER	
1. Has the applicant been following a forest management plan within the last 5 years (must provide a copy to NRCS)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. Will prescribed burning be scheduled during the contract period on suitable forestland?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. Will installed practices on contracted acreage result in a minimum score of 0.50 on the Wildlife Suitability Habitat Index?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Land Use:

Resource Concerns	Practices
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Ranking Score

Efficiency:
Local Issues:
State Issues:
National Issues:
Final Ranking Score:

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.

Notes:

NRCS Representative: Signature Date:	Applicant Signature Not Required on this report for Contract Development unless required by State policy: Signature Date:
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