Natural Resources Conservation Service
Application Ranking Summary
FY17 Tribal Traditional Plant Restoration

National Priorities Addressed

Issue Questions	Point(s)
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
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
2. b. Implementing the practices in a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP)?	10
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
2. d. Reducing the impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides in a "non-impaired water body"?	10
2. e. Implementing practices that improve water quality through animal mortality and carcass management?	10
Water Conservation – Will the proposed project conserve water by: (select all that apply)	
3. a. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce aquifer overdraft.	15
3. b. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce on-farm water use?	10
3. c.Implementing practices in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	10
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
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
4. b. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm emissions of particulate matter (PM2.5, PM10)?	10
4. c.Implementing practices that reduce on-farm generated greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide (CO2), methane (CH4), and nitrous oxide (N2O)?	10
4. d. Implementing practices that increase on-farm carbon sequestration?	10
Soil Health:– Will the proposed project improve soil health by: (select all that apply)	
5. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil "T")?	10
5. b.Increasing organic matter and carbon content, and improving soil tilth and structure?	10
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

6. b. Implementing practices that retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) or other set-aside program?	10
6. c. Implementing practices benefitting honey bee populations or other pollinators?	10
6. d. Implementing land-based practices that improve habitat for aquatic wildlife?	10
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
7. b. Implementing practice in an Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM)?	10
Energy Conservation– Will the proposed project reduce energy use by: (select all that apply)	
8. a. Reducing on-farm energy consumption?	10
8. b. Implementing practice(s) identified in an approved AgEMP or energy audit, which meet ASABE S612 criteria?	10
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
State Issues Addressed	
Issue Questions	Point(s)
State Category One – DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION: Inadequate Structure and Composition (Select "Yes," if applicable)	
1. a. Conservation treatments will re-establish, or enhance, and manage tribe-listed plant communities necessary to sustaining indigenous ecosystems for producing culturally important food, fiber and medicine.	150
State Category Two – INADEQUATE HABITAT FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE: Habitat Degradation Food, Water, Cover/Shelter, Habitat Continuity/Space Habitat Degradation is evaluated using one of the following assessment protocols: Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Guide (WHEG) or Pollinator Habitat Assessment (PHA); the 'planned' assessment score must be: greater than or equal to 0.5 (>=0.5) for the WHEG; equal to or greater than 90 points (=>90 points) for the PHA. (Select "Yes" to One Answer Only, if applicable)	
2. a. Fish or wildlife habitat improvements that directly benefit Federal or State, threatened, endangered, rare, proposed, candidate, fully protected and selected species and/or Tribal designated species of concern and the WHEG or PHA the 'planned' assessment score is met.	100
2. b. Fish or wildlife habitat improvements that directly benefit habitat for Species of Special Concern (as identified by California Department of Fish and Wildlife) animals and the WHEG, SVAP or PHA the 'planned' assessment score is met.	50
Local Issues Addressed	
Issue Questions	Point(s)
Local Category One – SOIL EROSION: Sheet and Rill (Select "Yes," if applicable)	
1. a. Conservation treatment reduces soil loss by treating sheet and rill erosion through structural, management and/or vegetative practices.	25
Local Category Two – SOIL EROSION: Ephemeral Gullies (Select "Yes," if applicable)	
2. a. Conservation treatment on cropland includes vegetative, structural or management practices for actively eroding ephemeral gullies that will result in control of surface water runoff to stabilize small channels and prevent reoccurrence of new channels.	25

Local Category Three – SOIL EROSION: Classic Gullies (Select "Yes," if applicable)	
3. a. Conservation treatment includes vegetative, structural or management practices for actively eroding classic gullies that will result in control of surface water runoff to stop progression of head cutting and widening of existing gully.	25
Local Category Four – SOIL EROSION: Excessive Bank Erosion from Streams, Shorelines or Water Conveyance Channels (Select "Yes," if applicable)	
4. a. Conservation treatment will reduce soil loss on channel banks where current agricultural management activities are impacting streambank stability and integrity.	30
Local Category Five - DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION: Undesirable Plant Productivity and Health (Select "Yes" to All Applicable Answers)	
5. a. Conservation treatment will directly benefit one or more plant species identified in a Tribal Management Plan.	45
5. b. Conservation treatment will directly benefit one or more plant species identified as a listed threatened, endangered or species of concern with a State and/or Federal agency.	35
5. c. Conservation treatment will enhance culturally significant plant communities in targeted areas where identified plants are suitable for establishment.	35
Local Category Six - DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION: Inadequate Structure and Composition The benchmark condition for the site includes at least one of the following: 1. Encroachment of brush and conifers in oak woodlands impact culturally important food (e.g. acorns) and fiber (e.g. hunting and ceremonial wood products) production; 2. Encroachment of Non-native grasses, forbs, shrubs and trees in riparian areas used for culturally important food (e.g. roots, tubers, corms) and fiber (e.g. basketry) production. 3. Desired plants are not present in quantity needed to produce an adequate source of food, fiber and medicine. (Select "Yes" to One Answer Only, if applicable)	
6. a. Conservation treatment will remove undesirable plants and replace with culturally important species and manage using traditional cropping techniques in the treated areas following a Tribal Resource Management Plan or equivalent for culturally important food and fiber production.	90
6. b. Conservation treatment will remove undesirable plants and replace with desirable species and will manage the treated areas for culturally important food and fiber production.	80
6. c. Conservation treatment will establish culturally significant plants where site characteristics are determined suitable for species selection.	70
Local Category Seven – DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION: Excessive Plant Pest Pressure (Select "Yes" to All Applicable Answers)	
7. a. Conservation treatment will address invasive exotic plant pests such as sudden oak death (SOD) and golden spotted oak borer (GSOB) and has the potential to spread into uninfected stands.	30
7. b. Conservation treatment includes 85 percent removal of noxious and/or invasive plant populations on treatment unit. Unwanted plants include those on the local weed management area (WMA), California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) invasive species list or identified as threatening declining forest/woodland habitats, such as riparian, aspen, oak woodland, cottonwood or sycamore.	30