

Wildlife-Friendly Livestock Pond EQIP Fund Pool Fiscal Year 2017 Application Screening Worksheet <u>A Screening Worksheet must be completed for each eligible EQIP application.</u>		
Applicant Name:		
Evaluator Name:		
Date:	Batching Number:	Application No:
<p>EQIP is a competitive financial assistance program and applications are screened and ranked based on the expected conservation benefits of planned practices in the EQIP schedule of operations. This screening worksheet must be completed for each eligible applicant applying for financial assistance. Applications are accepted on a continuous basis; however, application batching periods are established for purposes of ranking and funding decisions. A screening worksheet can be processed for each application batching period. 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. Completion of this worksheet and documentation does not constitute an 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.</p>		
Screening Criteria Questions		Action
The applicant has reviewed and approved the EQIP schedule of operations that will be uploaded to the NRCS business tool, ProTracts, before or by the ranking deadline.		If Yes, continue to the next question. If No, Low Priority Status in ProTracts.
<p>In the last two EQIP program fiscal years, the applicant:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Had a NRCS contract terminated – and/or, b. Failed to implement contract items in an existing EQIP contract according to the schedule in Form, NRCS-CPA-1155, "Conservation Plan and Schedule of Operations," and the contract was modified to reschedule contract items - installation delays were not due to NRCS error or design delay – and/or, c. Failed to implement rescheduled contract items agreed to according to Form, NRCS-CPA-153, "Agreement Covering Non-Compliance with Provisions of Contract," and Form, NRCS-CPA-1156, "Revision of Plan/Schedule of Operations or Modification of a Contract," – and/or, d. Installed conservation practices with financial assistance from NRCS that have not been maintained according to the practice operations and maintenance for the practice lifespan. 		If Yes, Low Priority Status in ProTracts. If No, continue to the next question.

Screening Criteria Questions	Action
<p>At least one of the following scenarios is true:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. EQIP schedule of operations does not include practices associated with improving the aquatic breeding habitat for either California Red-legged frog (CRLF) and/or California Tiger Salamander (CTS). 2. Conservation treatment unit is in Santa Clara County, CTS is present on the property, and CTS may be impacted by the installation of planned practices, or the project does not fit within the designated work areas described by the Alameda County Voluntary Local Program. 3. The applicant is unable to acquire water rights as needed for practice installation. 4. Neither CTS nor CRLF are present and future colonization is not possible due to issues such as, but not limited to, presence of non-native predatory animal species, water regime, or physical barriers. 	<p>If Yes, Low Priority Status in ProTracts. If No, continue to the next question.</p>
<p>The applicant has an NRCS approved ponds evaluation and assessment supporting the planned practices and one of the following scenarios below is true:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All of the criteria below is true: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conservation treatments in the EQIP schedule of operations are planned on privately-owned land. • Conservation treatment unit does not have known populations of either CTS or RLF, but habitat for one or both of these species is present and there is potential for future colonization by either or both species. • Conservation treatment in the EQIP schedule of operations includes conservation practices to improve the aquatic breeding habitat for one or both species. • All required regulatory permits for EQIP schedule of operations implementation are in place or can be acquired through an existing coordinated permitting program. 2. All of the criteria below is true: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conservation treatments in the EQIP schedule of operations are planned on public land. • Either a or b is true: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Conservation treatment unit has known populations of CRLF and/or CTS. b. Conservation treatment unit does not have known populations of either CTS or RLF, but habitat for one or both of these species is present and there is potential for future colonization by either or both species. • Conservation treatment in the EQIP schedule of operations includes conservation practices to improve the aquatic breeding habitat for one or both species. • All required regulatory permits for EQIP schedule of operations implementation are in place or can be acquired through an existing coordinated permitting program. 	<p>If Yes, Medium Priority Status in ProTracts. If No, continue to the next question.</p>

Screening Criteria Questions		Action	
<p>The applicant has an NRCS approved ponds evaluation and assessment supporting the planned practices and one of the following scenarios below is true:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conservation treatments in the EQIP schedule of operations are planned on privately-owned land. • Conservation treatment unit has known populations of CRLF and/or CTS. • Conservation treatment in the EQIP schedule of operations includes conservation practices to improve the aquatic breeding habitat for one or both species. • All required regulatory permits for EQIP schedule of operations implementation are in place or can be acquired through an existing coordinated permitting program. 		<p>If Yes, High Priority Status in ProTracts. If No, Low Priority Status in ProTracts</p>	
Application Screening Priority:			
Designated Conservationist Approval Signature:		Date Approved:	