

Natural Resources Conservation Service

**Application Ranking Summary
2012 Maine EQIP Water Conservation (Irrigation)**

Program:	Ranking Date:	Application Number:
Ranking Tool: Maine Water Conservation (Irrigation)	Applicant:	
Final Ranking Score:	Address:	
Planner:	Telephone:	
Farm Location:		

National Priorities Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
Clean and Abundant Water: Water Quality - Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
1. a. Meet regulatory requirements relating to animal feeding operations, or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures? 15 points	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
1. b. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a designated impaired water body? 10 points	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
1. c. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a water body? 5 points	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Clean and Abundant Water: Water Conservation - Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
2. a. Increase groundwater recharge in identified groundwater depletion areas (http://water.usgs.gov/ogw/rasa/html/TOC.html)? 15 points	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. b. Conserve water from irrigation system improvements and result in estimated water savings of at least 5% and saved water will be available for other beneficial uses? 10 points	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. c. Conserve water in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project? 5 points	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Clean Air: Treatment of Air Quality from Agricultural Sources - Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
3. a. Meet regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures? 15 points	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. b. Reduce green house gases such as methane, nitrous oxide, and volatile organic compounds (VOC)? 15 points	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. c. Increase carbon sequestration? 5 points	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
High Quality, Productive Soils Erosion Reduction - Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
4. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil "T")? 15 points	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Healthy Plant and Animal Communities Wildlife Habitat Conservation - Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
5. a. Benefit threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern as identified in a State wildlife plan? 15 points	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. b. Retain wildlife and plant benefits on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)? 15 points	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
High Quality, Productive Soils, Healthy Plant and Animal Communities: Special Environmental Efforts/Initiatives - Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
6. a. Eradicate or control noxious or invasive species? 10 points	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. b. Increase, improve or establish pollinator habitat? 10 points	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. c. Implement precision agricultural methods? 10 points	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. d. Properly dispose of animal carcasses? 5 points	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. e. Implement an Integrated Pest Management plan? 5 points	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Energy Conservation – Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
7. a. Reduce energy consumption on the agricultural operation? 15 points	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. b. Increase on-farm energy efficiency with more efficient equipment? 10 points	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

7. c. Assist in implementing energy conservation measures that reduce emissions from GHGs and air pollutants? 10 points	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Business Lines - Conservation Implementation Additional Ranking Considerations - Will the proposed project result in:	
8. a. Implementation of all planned conservation practices within three years of contract obligation? 10 points	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. b. Improvement of existing conservation practices or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is accepted, or will complete an existing conservation system? 10 points	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Does the applicant meet the following conditions:	
9. a. If the applicant has an existing EQIP contract, has it been, and is it now, on schedule and in full compliance? 5 points	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
9. b. Did the applicant successfully complete any past contract(s) in full compliance? 5 points	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
9. c. Is this the applicant's first EQIP application? 5 points	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

State Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. STATE PRIORITY ISSUE: Is the irrigation water source subject to State of Maine low flow rules? If yes, award 100 pts.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Answer only ONE of ranking elements 2a, 2b, or 2c as applicable:	
2. a. STATE PRIORITY ISSUE: Has the Maine DEP established an aquatic base flow for a river or stream providing the irrigation water AND are benchmark and planned pumping rates less than 1%7Q10, OR is the total volume of planned water withdrawal from a lake or pond less than 1 foot of surface water volume before July 31 of each year and less than 2 feet of surface water volume in annual total? If yes, subtract 100 pts.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. b. STATE PRIORITY ISSUE: Has the Maine DEP established an aquatic base flow or water level for the water body providing the irrigation water AND are planned pumping rates greater than those described in 2a, above, AND will the application assist the producer to comply with the established aquatic base flow or water level? If yes, award 100 pts.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. c. STATE PRIORITY ISSUE: Has the Maine DEP established an aquatic base flow for the water body providing the irrigation water AND do benchmark pumping rates exceed those described in 2a, above, AND does the application include Irrigation Storage Reservoir to replace the regulated water source as a direct supply? If yes, award 300 pts.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Answer as applicable for this application:	
3. STATE PRIORITY ISSUE: WATER QUALITY – Excessive nutrients and organics in surface water - not at the QC at the benchmark condition but will be with proposed action? If yes, award 100 pts.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. STATE PRIORITY ISSUE: ANIMALS – Fish and Wildlife - T and E species: fish and wildlife species listed, or candidates for listing under FEDERAL ESA - not at the QC at the benchmark condition but will be with proposed action? If yes, award 200 pts.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. STATE PRIORITY ISSUE: ANIMALS – Fish and Wildlife - State T and E species: declining species, species of concern, and/or STATE ESA species - not at the QC at the benchmark condition but will be with proposed action? If yes, award 100 pts.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. STATE PRIORITY ISSUE: Are surface water withdrawals coming from within a watershed listed as Essential Fish Habitat? If yes, award 100 pts.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
AWARD POINTS FOR ONLY ONE OF 1a - 1g: What was the score from the Irrigation Management Assessment tool?	
1. a. Was the score from the Irrigation Management Assessment tool <35? If yes, award 150 pts	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
1. b. Was the score from the Irrigation Management Assessment tool 35-39? If yes, award 125 pts	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
1. c. Was the score from the Irrigation Management Assessment tool 40-44? If yes, award 100 pts	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
1. d. Was the score from the Irrigation Management Assessment tool 45-49? If yes, award 75 pts	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
1. e. Was the score from the Irrigation Management Assessment tool 50-54? If yes, award 50 pts	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

1. f. Was the score from the Irrigation Management Assessment tool 55-60? If yes, award 25 pts	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
1. g. Was the score from the Irrigation Management Assessment tool greater than 60? If yes, subtract 1 pt.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Answer ranking elements 2 - 8 as applicable for Water Use/Water Conservation category applications ONLY:	
2. SOIL CONDITION – Organic matter depletion is not at the QC at the benchmark condition but will be with proposed action? If yes, award 10 pts.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. WATER QUANTITY – Insufficient flows - not at the QC at the benchmark condition but will be with proposed action? If yes, award 10 pts.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. ANIMALS – Fish and Wildlife – Inadequate food - not at the QC at the benchmark condition but will be with proposed action? If yes, award 10 pts.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. ANIMALS – Fish and Wildlife – Inadequate cover/shelter - not at the QC at the benchmark condition but will be with proposed action? If yes, award 10 pts.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. ANIMALS – Fish and Wildlife – Inadequate water - not at the QC at the benchmark condition but will be with proposed action? If yes, award 10 pts.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. Soil Organic Matter and Carbon Sequestration. If Cropland, will soil condition index change from less than 0.5 to 0.5 or greater when contract is implemented? If yes, award 10 pts.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. Does the producer agree not to use any associated water savings to bring new land, other than incidental land needed for efficient operations, under irrigated production? If yes, award 400 pts.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Land Use:

Resource Concerns	Practices
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Ranking Score

<p>Efficiency:</p> <p>Local Issues:</p> <p>State Issues:</p> <p>National Issues:</p> <p>Final Ranking Score:</p>

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:

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