

**Natural Resources Conservation Service**

**Application Ranking Summary**

**Grassland Frigid Soils-South**

<b>Program:</b>	<b>Ranking Date:</b>	<b>Application Number:</b>
<b>Ranking Tool:</b> Grassland Frigid Soils-South		<b>Applicant:</b>
<b>Final Ranking Score:</b>		<b>Address:</b>
<b>Planner:</b>	<b>Telephone:</b>	
<b>Farm Location:</b>		

**National Priorities Addressed**

<b>Issue Questions</b>	<b>Responses</b>
Healthy Plant and Animal Communities: Wildlife Habitat Conservation – Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
1. a. Retain wildlife and plant benefits on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
1. b. Address and support existing conservation initiatives such as but not limited to the following or new conservation initiatives that support State, National or tribal fish or wildlife plans: Sage Grouse, Lesser Prairie Chicken, Longleaf Pine, New England-New York Forestry	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
1. c. Benefit federally listed threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, fish or wildlife species of concern?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
1. d. Benefit prioritized native habitat critical to a fish or wildlife species?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
1. e. Increase, improve or establish pollinator habitat?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
1. f. Eradicate or control prioritized noxious or invasive species?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
1. g. Benefit declining or important aquatic wildlife species prioritized in the State WHIP Plan?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
1. h. Implement conservation practices which benefit prioritized fish or wildlife species in forested areas?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
1. i. Establish habitat on pivot corners and irregular areas on agricultural land?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
1. j. Provide self-sustaining habitat for prioritized fish and wildlife while reducing net carbon emissions or boosting carbon storage (e.g., warm season perennial grasses, trees or shrubs)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
1. k. Benefit migration and other movement corridors for prioritized wildlife?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Business Lines – Conservation Implementation - Additional Ranking Considerations – Will the applicant in the proposed project:	
2. a. Complete habitat development within the first two years of the agreement?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

**State Issues Addressed**

<b>Issue Questions</b>	<b>Responses</b>
1. Is this application from an individual or entity that has NOT had a contract cancelled or terminated with the last 3 years?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Will the WHMP specifically address the eradication and control (reduce to less than 10% of the stand) of Michigan's State Priority Species as listed in Michigan DNR publication "Meeting the Challenge of Invasive Plants: A Framework for Action." (see program documentation)	
2. Category A	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. Category B	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. Category C	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. Category D or none	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Grassland Acres Select yes for one answer	
6. > 40 acres	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. 30 - 40 acres	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. 20 - 29 acres	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
9. 10 - 19 acres	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

10. < 10 acres	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
For WHMP's that primarily benefit grassland-dependent wildlife, is the area located within 0.5 miles of an area identified as having contained pre-settlement prairie, savanna, or barren? (As found in the Pre-Settlement Vegetation maps located in Section 1 of the FOTG)	
11. Does the presettlement vegetation map show grassland within 0.5 miles	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
12. Other	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Stand Mixture. Will the WHIP grassland acres include a block or blocks of Native Warm Season Grass (NWSG) mixes only, a block(s) of Cool Season Grasses (CSG) only, or a combination that includes a block(s) of NWSG mix and a separate block(s) of CSG mix? Note: up to 10 percent of the NWSG may be a stand of straight switchgrass for winter cover. Select yes for one answer.	
13. 91 - 100% of grassland acres planted to WSG mixes and 0 - 9% of grassland acres planted to CSG mixes including firebreaks.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
14. 71 - 90% of grassland acres planted to WSG mixes and 10 - 29% of grassland acres planted to CSG mixes including firebreaks.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
15. 51 - 70% of grassland acres planted to WSG mixes and 30 - 49% of grassland acres planted to CSG mixes including firebreaks.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
16. 11 - 50% of grassland acres planted to WSG mixes and 50 - 89% of grassland acres planted to CSG mixes including firebreaks.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
17. 0- 10% of grassland acres planted to WSG mixes and 90 - 100% of grassland acres planted to CSG mixes.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Grassland Plant Mixture. Will the WHIP grassland acres be specifically planted to one or more of the General Mixtures for Wildlife Habitat as described in the Conservation Cover 327 standard? Choose the point value for the mix used on the majority of the WHIP grassland acres. Note: up to 10 percent of the NWSG may be a stand of straight switchgrass for winter cover. Select yes for one answer	
18. A Wildlife Biologist Mix, determined on a case by case basis, will be planted into a fitted field or crop stubble	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
19. The Pollinating Insect Mixture will be planted	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
20. One or more of the four Prairie Planting mixes will be planted	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
21. The Cool Season Grass Mixture will be planted	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Is the WHMA in your application in close proximity to lands under a wildlife-oriented, active long-term contracts of at least 40 acres in size with at least 4 plant species beneficial to wildlife (examples: CRP (40 or 50 point mixes), wildlife friendly EQIP, WHIP, FIP, LIP, WRP, USFWS Partners for Wildlife, CFA, Federally Recognized Tribes with a Land Protection Plan) OR other permanently protected habitat (examples: Federal, State, Local, Federally Recognized Tribe, or Privately Owned Lands that are managed for wildlife and are under permanent protection)? Select yes for one answer	
22. <= 0.5 miles from permanently protected land.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
23. <= 0.5 miles from land under long-term contract	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
24. <= 1.0 miles from permanently protected land.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
25. <= 1.0 miles from land under long-term contract	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
26. Other	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Cropping history. Select yes for one answer.	
27. Area row cropped or tilled within the last 2 years	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
28. Area hayed within the last 2 years	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
29. Area row cropped or tilled within the last 5 years	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
30. Area hayed within the last 5 years	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
31. Area is currently being actively grazed	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
32. Other	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
For WHMP's that benefit terrestrial wildlife through upland buffers, while improving water quality for aquatic wildlife, will the system to be buffered be? Select yes for one answer.	
33. Any lake, pond or wetland of at least 5 acres?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

34. Water bodies identified as impaired on DEQ's 303d list, altered stream (channelized, dredged, levees, dikes, etc.),	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
35. No buffer	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
For WHMP's that benefit terrestrial wildlife through upland buffers, while improving water quality for aquatic wildlife, will the buffer width be? Select yes for one answer	
36. < 101 ft average width	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
37. 66 ft - 100 ft average width	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
38. 35 ft - 65 ft average width	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
39. No buffer	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
For WHMP's that benefit terrestrial wildlife through upland buffers, while improving water quality for aquatic wildlife is the stream order? Select yes for one answer.	
40. First Order	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
41. Second Order	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
42. Thirds Order	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
43. Fourth or higher on no buffer	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Corridor Establishment Select yes for one answer	
44. Will the WHMP establish a grassland corridor (at least 66' wide) that will connect 2 non-cropland habitats that are at least 5 acres each?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
45. Will the WHMP establish a grassland travel lane (33"-65' wide) that will connect 2 non-cropland habitats that are at least 5 acres each?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
46. No Corridor	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

**Local Issues Addressed**

Issue Questions	Responses
1. Will the application improve management of invasive species, through the removal of invasive species listed on the Michigan Area 2 Invasive Species List?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. Will the application promote the establishment of native grasses?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. Will the application establish a plant community using a mix of at least 4 native grass species and 15 forbs found on Standard 327,table 5?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. Will the application connect two > 10 acre grasslands that are managed for wildlife with a 66 foot wide corridor or is the grassland located within a half mile of permanently protected grassland (State, Federal, or lands protected through a land conservancy)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. Will the application install a vegetative practice within 1/2 mile of a Historic Prairie using pre-settlement vegetation maps?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. Will the application result in a new riparian buffer at least 100 feet wide?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. Is there a wetland restoration/enhancement less than 5 years old on or adjacent to the planning unit?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

**Land Use:**

<b>Resource Concerns</b>	<b>Practices</b>
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**Ranking Score**

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

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:

<b>NRCS Representative:</b>	<b>Application Signature Not Required for Contract Development unless required by State policy:</b>
<b>Signature Date:</b>	<b>Signature Date:</b>