

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Application Ranking Summary

NE-NY Forestry Initiative

Program:	Ranking Date:	Application Number:
Ranking Tool: NE-NY Forestry Initiative		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?	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?	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?	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)?	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?	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?	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?	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)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. c. Increase carbon sequestration?	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")?	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?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. b. Retain wildlife and plant benefits on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)?	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?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. b. Increase, improve or establish pollinator habitat?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. c. Implement precision agricultural methods?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. d. Properly dispose of animal carcasses?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. e. Implement an Integrated Pest Management plan?	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?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. b. Increase on-farm energy efficiency with more efficient equipment?	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?	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?	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?	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?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
9. b. Did the applicant successfully complete any past contract(s) in full compliance?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
9. c. Is this the applicant's first EQIP application?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

State Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
Level of Conservation Improvement - ANSWER 'YES' TO QUESTION 1, 2 or 3 BUT NOT MORE THAN ONE. IF THERE IS A LOW LEVEL OF IMPROVEMENT THEN ANSWER NO TO ALL.	
1. Significant Level of Improvement: Will the treatment(s) result in a significant habitat improvement?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. Moderate Level of Improvement: Will the treatment(s) result in a moderate habitat improvement?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. Minimum Level of Improvement: Will the treatment result in only the minimum level of improvements?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Number of Priority Habitats Addressed on the Tract (2 or more)	
4. Will the treatment(s) and project address habitat restoration or management for 2 or more priority species groups or habitats?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Site Suitability: ANSWER 'YES' TO QUESTION 5 or 6 BUT NOT BOTH. THE INTENT IS TO SEPARATE THE SITE CONDITIONS WHICH ARE GOOD VERSUS SITES WITH POTENTIAL CONSTRAINTS OR ISSUES THAT MAY LIMIT SUCCESS OF THE PROPOSED PRACTICE	
5. Is the site very well suited for the proposed practice(s)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. Is the site moderately well suited for the proposed practice(s)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Long Term Habitat Benefits	
7. Will the proposed land unit provide long term habitat benefits or is it targeted in Statewide forest plans?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Conservation Planning	
8. Is there a pre-existing conservation plan or forest management plan with a wildlife habitat objective that will add to the quality and or efficiency of the proposed project?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Partnerships	
9. Will the project involve cooperation and financial support from partners?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Rare Species	
10. Does the proposed project benefit rare species?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Upland Wildlife	
11. Does the proposed project provide important mast areas for wildlife?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Priority Habitats	
12. Will the proposed practice benefit prioritized habitats and forest lands in Vermont?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
Bennington Local Working Group	
1. Does this application include practices that will protect or improve natural communities for improved native species diversity?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

2. Will this application address habitat concerns for threatened and endangered species and/or species of special concern listed by Vermont's Wildlife Action Plan as Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. Is the invasive species for which management is proposed for this site also being managed on adjacent lands or nearby lands where the species is also a threat?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. Does this application include the early detection/rapid response of an outlier population of invasive species, for a species present but not yet firmly established in Bennington County?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. Does the application improve habitat connectivity for threatened and endangered species and/or species of special concern listed by VT Wildlife Action Plan as Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Franklin & Grand Isle Local Working Group	
6. Does this application prevent or control invasive species?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. Does this application reduce or prevent sediment into water?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. Does this application establish or enhance pollinator habitat?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
9. Does this application include practices that improve or enhance habitat connectivity?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
10. Has the applicant commenced or completed a Vermont Audubon Forest Bird Habitat Assessment?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Poultney Mettawee Local Working Group	
11. Will this application address invasive treatment that is connected to a larger treatment area.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
12. Will this application include practices that, in addition to creating or enhancing wildlife habitat, also address water quality where this is an identified resource concern through the installation or enhancement of buffers, planting and management of wildlife-friendly grasses, or critical area planting?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
13. Will this application address early detection/rapid response for outlier populations of invasive species.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
14. Will this application be located in an area highlighted as a priority by TNC Staying Connected program or PMNRCD wildlife assessment priority area (upper Poultney River)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
15. Will this application follow guidance provided by a river corridor plan or geomorphic assessment (i.e. implementation in a reach of a river document as stable)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Rutland Local Working Group	
16. Will this application address invasive treatment that is connected to a larger treatment area.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
17. Will this application address declining species, species of concern and or other special status species	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
18. Will this application address early detection/rapid response for outlier populations of invasive species.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
19. Will this application address habitat connectivity by creating or enhancing wildlife corridors between patches of forest land or between other habitat types for black bear, moose, bobcat, and/or fisher?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
20. Will this application address water quality issues identified in a river corridor plan or other plan.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Ottauquechee Local Working Group	
21. Does this application address invasive species identified in the participant's forest/vegetation management plan, and does the plan also include practices to promote native species regeneration?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
22. Does this application address habitat fragmentation to improve wildlife habitat quality and wildlife corridors?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
23. Will this application include practices to address resource concerns in the riparian area for improved water quality?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
24. Does this application include practices that will protect or improve natural communities for native species diversity?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
25. Will this application address threatened and endangered species and/or species of special concern listed by Vermont's Wildlife Action Plan as Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Windham Local Working Group	
26. Will this application include practices that will address invasive species?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
27. Will this application include practice include early successional practices that will not cause habitat fragmentation concerns?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

28. Will this application include practices that, in addition to creating or enhancing wildlife habitat, also address water quality where this is an identified resource concern through the installation or enhancement of buffers, planting and management of wildlife-friendly grasses, or critical area planting?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
29. Will this application include practices to address threatened and endangered species or species of concern?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
30. Will this application include practices that address resource concerns identified in the applicant's land management plan?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Caledonia & Essex Local Working Group	
31. Does the application address a high priority species from the State Wildlife Action Plan?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
32. Does the application include invasive species control?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
33. Does the application help protect waterways?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
34. Does the application address floodplain forest habitat?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
35. Does the application enhance conditions for early successional bird habitat?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Lamoille Local Working Group	
36. Does this application prevent or control invasive species?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
37. Does this application reduce or prevent sediment into surface water?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
38. Does this application maintain roads and trails that follow Best Management Practices?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
39. Does this application include practices that maintain habitat connectivity?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
40. Does this application include bird habitat that is shown on the Vermont Forest Birds Priority Map?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Orleans Local Working Group	
41. Does this application include practices that improve riparian areas?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
42. Does this application include practices that improve food and cover for deer wintering areas?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
43. Does this application include invasive species control?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
44. Does this application improve fish passage?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
45. Are there known threatened or endangered species where the practices in application are planned?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
White River Local Working Group	
46. Will this application have or specify developing/updating a Forest Management Plan?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
47. Will this application include practices to control invasive species?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
48. Will this application include practices for establishment of forest riparian buffers and/or for erosion control on stream crossing, log roads and landings?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
49. Will this application include practices that discourage habitat fragmentation in the land management plan?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
50. Will this application establish native tree plantings and encourage native competition in areas where invasive control has been done?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Otter Creek Local Working Group	
51. Will this WHIP application address the management of invasive species?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
52. Will this WHIP application address streambank erosion to include stream crossing (code 578)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
53. Will this WHIP application protect aquatic species?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
54. Will this WHIP application address the enhancement of managed forest stand health and productivity?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
55. Will this WHIP application address the enhancement of early successional habitat for forest species?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Winooski Local Working Group	
56. Will the proposed project provide long term habitat benefits on 10% or more of the applicants forest land?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
57. Will this application increase habitat continuity?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
58. Will this application lead to improved forest health?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
59. Does the project address and support existing conservation initiatives?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
60. Is there a pre-existing conservation plan or forest management plan with a wildlife habitat objective	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

that will add to the quality and or efficiency of the proposed project?	
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Land Use:

Resource Concerns	Practices
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Ranking Score

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