

# Idaho Ranking Criteria ---- Wetland Reserve Program

Name: _____	Date: _____		
Address: _____	Tract No.: _____		
	HUC Code: _____		
Phone: _____	Longitude _____ Latitude: _____		
County: _____	Congressional District: _____		
Type of Operation: _____	Percent of Shares to each Member:	Percentage	SS # for Each Individ.
	_____	_____ %	_____
	_____	_____ %	_____
	_____	_____ %	_____
	_____	_____ %	_____
	_____	_____ %	_____
	Total	<input type="text"/> Must = 100%	
Civil Rights Information:			
Sex: <input type="text"/>	Disability? <input type="text"/>	Race? <input type="text"/>	

Type of Easement:

EVALUATORS:

**TOTAL POINTS FOR EASEMENT OFFER (ITEMS I - XV)**

**LAND ELIGIBILITY (Acres of qualifying (restorable) wetlands within the area offered)**

Prior Converted Cropland (PC)	_____	<b>Total Acres of Existing Uplands or wetlands offered:</b>
Farmed Wetlands (FW)	_____	
Farmed Wetland Pasture (FWP)	_____	<input style="width: 100px;" type="text"/>
Wetland Farmland Under Natural Conditions (WFUNC)	_____	
Degraded Wetlands	_____	
Riparian	_____	<b>Grand Total Acres Offered:</b> <input style="width: 100px;" type="text" value="0"/>
Lands Altered by Flooding (LABF)	_____	
<b>Total Qualifying Acres:</b> <input style="width: 100px;" type="text" value="0"/>		<b>Qualifying Acres must be 50% or greater of total offered:</b> <input style="width: 100px;" type="text" value="#DIV/0!"/>

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List the current wetland manipulations \*(ex. Cropped wetland, ditches, tile, filling, levees, etc.

ATTACH THE ADDITIONAL INFORAMTION OR REMARK BELOW:

Landowner Objective (This can be prepared by District Conservationist or Landowner

Explain the functions and values that will be restored on these degraded wetland areas:

Hydrology regimes that will be restored:

Name the wildlife speices benefitted. Are any endangered? Note which ones.

**Wetland Habitat Type and Number of Acres:**

**Historic Condition**

0	Acres Forested/Shrub Wetlands
0	Acres Wet Paririe/Medow Wetlands
0	Acres Emergent Freshwater Wetlands
0	Acres Permanent, Semi-Permanent or Seasonal Open Water
<u>0</u>	<u>Total</u>

Percentage Change

#DIV/0!

#DIV/0!

#DIV/0!

#DIV/0!

**Planned Condition**

	Acres Forested/Shrub Wetlands
	Acres Wet Paririe/Medow Wetlands
	Acres Emergent Freshwater Wetlands
	Acres Permanent, Semi-Permanent or Seasonal Open Water
<u>0</u>	<u>Total</u>

#DIV/0! Total Change

What resources (aerial photos, interviews, soils data, etc) were used to determine historic wetland types. Explain below:

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**SPECIAL FOCUS AREAS** - Maximum 10 points - 2 point maximum per identified focus area. Parcel can be identified in more than one focus area (identify focus area)

**Watershed Pick Below**

\_\_\_\_\_ EPA Priority Watershed (Coeur d' Alene Lake WS, Cascade Lake, W/S, Mid Snake River W/S - Milner Dam to King Hill)

\_\_\_\_\_ Salmon and Steelhead Critical Habitat Areas (Pick from list at right)

\_\_\_\_\_ Riparian areas that link two or more wetlands protected by an easement or similar interest

\_\_\_\_\_ Priority wetland acquisition sites (See Idaho Priority Wetlands 4/14/00 list) Call the State Office if you don't have this list and need it.

\_\_\_\_\_ Designated state water quality limited segments - parcel must be within the floodplain

\_\_\_\_\_ USFWS priority areas (contact USFWS Partners program coordinator)

**Points for Item I**

**0**

**II CONTRIBUTIONS TO SENSITIVE SPECIES** - Maximum 20 Points (Identify species and critical habitat restored or enhanced. Consultation with USFWS or NOAA Fisheries is needed before points can be taken for this questions. NOTE: When more than one species occurs in the project area, a cumulative total of points for all species will be used. The cumulative total for any site will not exceed 20 points.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Federal Listed Threatened/Endangered (T/E) Species**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Federal candidate species**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Species of Special Concern**

\_\_\_\_\_ **None**

**Points for Item II**

**0**

An area used by a species must be identified as critical for the protection or enhancement of the species and habitat. (A bald eagle flying overhead typically would not be considered as using the site unless it was nesting on the site or the site was adjacent to nest sites or an actively used wintering areas.)

The State Conservationist in consultation with the State Technical Advisory Committee may consider wetland restoration projects with measurable benefits to Federal listed T/E or candidate species separately from the established ranking criteria. This process will be handled on a case-by-case basis. Proposals submitted to the State Conservationist will need written support from the local work group, USFWS, IDFG, and NOAA Fisheries (for anadromous fish issues).

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III. TOTAL EASEMENT SIZE (Not just restoration acres) - 20 point maximum ( 1 extra point per 50 acres for projects over 100 acres)

- 600 Acres
- 100 Acres - 599 acres
- 50 Acres - 99 acres
- 10 Acres - 49 acres
- < 10 Acres

Points for Item III

0

IV. FLOODPLAIN WETLANDS - 15 point maximum (post project conditions support a functioning floodplain with river/creek having access to the floodplain)

- Yes
- No

Points for Item IV

0

V. SPECIAL AREAS - SPRINGS/PEATLAND(S) <sup>1/</sup> - 15 point maximum (identify spring or peatland. Spring or peatland must be on easement area. Identify special area on plan map.)

- Yes
- No

Points for Item V

0

<sup>1/</sup> -- Peatlands are typically associated with waterlogged (yr. round) organic soils, water chemistry acidic and supports a spongy covering of mosses. Peatlands occur mostly associated with shallow lake basins, and along sluggish streams. Vegetation can be woody, herbaceous or both. These wetlands occur more often in the northern portions of the state but can occur in isolated areas throughout the state. Peatlands are any waterlogged area containing an accumulation of peat 40 cm or more thick.

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### VI. CROP OR FORAGE - Has production occurred within the previous 5 years?

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes

\_\_\_\_\_ No

**Points for Item VI**

**0**

**VII. BUFFER AREA VEGETATION** (within easement area) 10 point maximum. Buffer area is the non-wetland area surrounding the wetland restoration site. The points given are for the existing plant community OR planned project conditions. The buffer provides wildlife cover habitat and water quality benefits. Presence of a mixture of non-native and native vegetation limits the point score to 5 or less

\_\_\_\_\_ Two native plant communities (i.e. grass/forb, shrub, tree) with a minimum of three native species per community type.

\_\_\_\_\_ One native plant community with a minimum of three native species in community type

\_\_\_\_\_ Mixed (native/non-native) plant community with a minimum of three species in community type

\_\_\_\_\_ All other plant communities not listed above

**Points for Item VII**

**0**

### VIII. RESTORATION PER UNIT COST - 5 point maximum

If overall restoration practice unit costs are estimated to be equal to established FOTG cost list unit costs, rate 0 points. For each 10% greater than the established cost list, subtract 2 points. For each 10% less than the established cost list, add 2 points.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Points based on formula above**

**Points for Item VIII**

**0**

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### IX. EASEMENT COST PER ACRE - 10 point maximum (use dominant land-use category)

\_\_\_\_\_ <= 50% of the statewide cap

\_\_\_\_\_ 51 - 75% of the statewide cap

\_\_\_\_\_ 76 - 90% of the statewide cap

\_\_\_\_\_ 90% of the statewide cap

**Points for Item IX**

**0**

### X. LIKELIHOOD OF BIOLOGICAL SUCCESS - 15 Point maximum

\_\_\_\_\_ **High** – wetland functions and values easily restored – easy restoration of vegetation and hydrology on the proposed easement parcel (i.e. small earth plugs, log drop structures, breaking tile, natural revegetation on most of the parcel).

\_\_\_\_\_ **Medium** – Moderate problems restoring wetland functions and values (i.e. purple loosestrife, major revegetation proposal).

\_\_\_\_\_ **Low** – wetland functions and values not easily restored, difficulty in restoring vegetation and hydrology on proposed easement parcel (i.e., large water control structures, irrigation water rights required for functioning of wetland).

**Points for Item X**

**0**

### XI. OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE (O&M) - 10 Points maximum

\_\_\_\_\_ **High O&M** – practices that require a high degree of O&M. Practices that will require a high cost to replace in the future. Practices with a short life expectancy or a high degree of risk due to location of structures (i.e. structures located in floodplains requiring operation and/or maintenance 3 times or more per year, large water control structure)

\_\_\_\_\_ **Medium O&M** – practices that require a moderate degree of O&M. Practices with a moderate life expectancy and moderate maintenance requirements (i.e. fences in floodplain, structures requiring operation and/or maintenance 1 to 2 times per year.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Low O&M** – practices that require a low degree of O&M. Practices with a low replacement cost and long life expectancy (small earthen water control structures, fences outside of influence of flood waters).

**Points for Item XI**

**0**

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**XII. PARTNERSHIP CONTRIBUTIONS** that reduce NRCS restoration cost (e.g., in-kind services or funding). Need to have a letter of intent from partner. 5 point maximum. **Identify partner and contribution.**

<input type="checkbox"/> 25% or greater	Partner: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> 10-24%	Contribution Amount: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> 1-9%	

**Points for Item XII**

(Example: NRCS cost share = \$10,000 - Partnership contribution = \$2,500)  
(\$2,500 divided by \$10,000 = 25% reduction to NRCS)

**XIII. INCREMENT OF HYDROLOGY RESTORATION** on easement (wetland portion) to pre-agricultural conditions. 75 point maximum. Identify increment of hydrology restored .

**Example: % hydrology post-project – % hydrology pre-project = increment**

<input type="checkbox"/> 80% or greater	Estimated % of Hydrology to be Restored: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> 60 - 79 %	
<input type="checkbox"/> 40 - 59%	
<input type="checkbox"/> 20 - 39%	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 - 19%	

**Points for Item XIII**

**XIV. PERCENT OF EASEMENT** (wetland portion) area that will have wetland hydrology restored. 75 point maximum. Identify percent of area having hydrology restored.

Estimated % of Hydrology restored in wetland:

<input type="checkbox"/> 90% or greater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> 75 - 89%	
<input type="checkbox"/> 50 - 74%	
<input type="checkbox"/> 25 - 49%	
<input type="checkbox"/> less than 25%	

**Points for Item XIV**

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**XV. DIVERSITY OF WETLAND TYPES** (post project condition) within and immediately adjacent to the easement. Utilize the "Classification of Wetlands and Deepwater Habitats of the United States" referenced in the FOTG Section I. Include restored wetlands and wetlands immediately adjacent to the easement site with the following systems and/or classes: **PEM, PSS, PFO, and R**. 10 point maximum.

\_\_\_\_\_ 4 systems and/or classes

\_\_\_\_\_ 3 systems and/or classes

\_\_\_\_\_ 1 or 2 systems and/or classes

**Points for Item XV**

**0**

**Total Points for Easement Offer (Items I - XV):**

**0**

(Maximum Possible Points: 300)