

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
If the application is for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP), the agency will assign significant ranking priority and conservation benefit by answering "Yes" to the following question. Answering "Yes" to question 1a will result in the application being awarded the maximum amount of points that can be earned for the national priority category.	
1. a. Is the program application to support the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is "Yes", do not answer any other national level questions. If answer is "No", proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Clean and Abundant Water: Water Quality - Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
2. 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"/>
2. b. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a designated "impaired water body" (TMDL, 303d, etc.)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. c. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a "non-impaired water body"?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Clean and Abundant Water: Water Conservation - Will the proposed project assist the producer implement conservation practices which:	
3. a. Decrease aquifer overdraft?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. b. Conserve water from irrigation system improvements and saved water will be available for other beneficial uses?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. 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 implement practice(s) which:	
4. a. Meet on-farm regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. b. Reduce on-farm generated green house gases such as CO ₂ (Carbon Dioxide), CH ₄ (Methane), and N ₂ O (Nitrous Oxide)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. c. Increase on-farm carbon sequestration?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Soil Health: Will the proposed project assist the producer to implement practice(s) which:	
5. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil "T")?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. b. Improve soil tilth, organic matter, structure, health, etc.?	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 implement practice(s) which:	
6. a. Benefit on-farm habitat associated with 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"/>
6. b. Help retain wildlife and plant habitat 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: Will the proposed project assist the producer implement practices which:	

7. a. Help manage or control noxious or invasive plant species on non-cropland?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. b. Increase, or improve habitat to benefit pollinator or other targeted wildlife species?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. c. Properly dispose of livestock carcasses?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. d. Are identified in an Integrated Pest Management plan?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. e. Are identified in a Nutrient Management plan?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. f. Apply principles of adaptive nutrient management?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Energy Conservation - Will the proposed project assist the producer to implement practices which:	
8. a. Reduce energy consumption on the agricultural operation?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. b. Increase on-farm energy efficiency with practices and improvements identified in an approved energy audit equivalent to criteria required in Ag EMP (122,124)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. c. Assist in implementing energy conservation measures that also reduce greenhouse gas emissions and other air pollutants?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Business Lines - Conservation Implementation Additional Ranking Considerations - Will the proposed project result in:	
9. a. Implementation of all conservation practices scheduled in the contract on the CPA-1155 within three years of date of obligation?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
9. b. Improvement of existing conservation practices or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is accepted?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
9. c. Implementation of practice(s) which will complete an existing conservation system or suite of practices?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

State Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
12. Will the proposed practice benefit prioritized habitats and forest lands in Vermont?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
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"/>
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Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
Franklin & Grand Isle LWG	
1. Does this application prevent or control invasive species?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. Does this application establish or enhance pollinator habitat?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. Will this application provide quality habitat where native grasses encompass 75% or more of the open area?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. Does this application include management of old field areas that are equal to or greater than five contiguous acres?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. Does this application include practices that improve or enhance habitat connectivity?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Bennington NRCD LWG	
6. Are practices included in this application that would improve tree species diversity and/or vertical stratification for improved forest health and wildlife habitat?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. Will this application include practices which will address invasive plants?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. 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"/>
9. 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"/>
10. Will this application address an identified erosion problem?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Caledonia LWG	
11. Does the application address a high priority species from the State Wildlife Action Plan?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
12. Does the application include invasive species control?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
13. Does the application help protect waterways?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
14. Does the application address floodplain forest habitat?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
15. Does the application enhance conditions for early successional bird habitat?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Essex LWG	
16. Does the application address a high priority species from the State Wildlife Action Plan?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
17. Does the application include invasive species control?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
18. Does the application help protect waterways?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
19. Does the application address floodplain forest habitat?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
20. Does the application enhance conditions for timber songbird habitat?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Otter Creek NRCD LWG	
21. Will this WHIP application address the management of invasive species?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
22. Will this WHIP application protect aquatic species?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
23. Will this WHIP application address the enhancement of managed forest stand health?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
24. Will this WHIP application address the enhancement of early successional habitat for forest species?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
25. Will this WHIP application address streambank erosion to include stream crossing (578)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Winooski NRCD LWG	
26. Will the proposed project provide long term habitat benefits on 10% or more of the applicant's forest land?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
27. Will this application increase habitat continuity?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
28. Will this application lead to improved forest health and diversity?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
29. Does the project address and support existing conservation initiatives?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
30. 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"/>

Lamoille LWG	
31. Does this application prevent or control invasive species?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
32. Does this application reduce or prevent sediment into surface water?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
33. Does this application maintain roads and trails that follow Best Management Practices?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
34. Does this application include practices that maintain habitat connectivity?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
35. 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 County District LWG	
36. Does this application include practices that improve riparian areas?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
37. Does this application include practices that improve food and cover for deer wintering areas?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
38. Does this application include invasive species control?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
39. Does this application improve fish passage?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
40. Are there known threatened or endangered species where the practices in application are planned?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Ottauquechee LWG	
41. Does this application address invasive species identified in the participant's forest management plan, and does the plan also include practices to promote native species regeneration?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
42. Does this application address habitat fragmentation to improve wildlife habitat quality and wildlife corridors?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
43. Will this application include practices to address wildlife resource concerns in a riparian area, vernal pool area, wetland area, or pond?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
44. Does this application include practices to improve songbird and other wildlife habitat in mature interior forests by enhancing structural diversity, promoting mast trees, and/or increasing standing and downed course woody material?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
45. 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"/>
Poultney Mettowee NRCD LWG	
46. Are practices included in this application that would improve tree species diversity and/or vertical stratification for improved forest health and wildlife habitat?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
47. Will this application include practices which will address invasive plants?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
48. 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"/>
49. 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"/>
50. Will this application address an identified erosion problem?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Rutland NRCD LWG	
51. Are practices included in this application that would improve tree species diversity and/or vertical stratification for improved forest health and wildlife habitat?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
52. Will this application include practices which will address invasive plants?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
53. 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"/>
54. 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"/>
55. Will this application address an identified erosion problem?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
White River District LWG	
56. Will this application have or specify developing/updating a Forest Management Plan?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
57. Will this application include practices to control invasive species?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
58. 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"/>

59. Will this application include practices that discourage habitat fragmentation in the land management plan?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
60. 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"/>
Windham LWG	
61. Will this application include practices that will address invasive species?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
62. 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"/>
63. 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"/>
64. Will this application include practices to address threatened and endangered species or species of concern?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
65. Are practices included in this application that would improve tree species diversity and/or vertical stratification for improved forest health and wildlife habitat?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

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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