Natural Resources Conservation Service

Application Ranking Summary

Socially Disadvantged Farmer - Limited Resource Farmer- Beginning Farmer

Program:	**Ranking Date:**	**Application Number:**
Ranking Tool: Limited Resource Farmer		**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 O or No O
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 O or No O
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 O or No O
2. c. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a "non-impaired water body"?	Yes O or No O
Clean and Abundant Water: Water Conservation - Will the proposed project assist the producer implement conservation practices which:	
3. a. Decrease aquifer overdraft?	Yes O or No O
3. b. Conserve water from irrigation system improvements and saved water will be available for other beneficial uses?	Yes O or No O
3. c. Conserve water in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	Yes O or No O
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 O or No O
4. b. Reduce on-farm generated green house gases such as CO2 (Carbon Dioxide), CH4 (Methane), and N2O (Nitrous Oxide)?	Yes O or No O
4. c. Increase on-farm carbon sequestration?	Yes O or No O
Soil Health: Will the proposed project assist the producer to implement practice(s) which:	
5. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil "T")?	Yes O or No O
5. b. Improve soil tilth, organic matter, structure, health, etc.?	Yes O or No O
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 O or No O
6. b. Help retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)?	Yes O or No O
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 O or No O
7. b. Increase, or improve habitat to benefit pollinator or other targeted wildlife species?	Yes O or No O
7. c. Properly dispose of livestock carcasses?	Yes O or No O
7. d. Are identified in an Integrated Pest Management plan?	Yes O or No O
7. e. Are identified in a Nutrient Management plan?	Yes O or No O
7. f. Apply principles of adaptive nutrient management?	Yes O or No O
Energy Conservation - Will the proposed project assist the producer to implement practices which:	
8. a. Reduce energy consumption on the agricultural operation?	Yes O or No O
8. b. Increase on-farm energy efficiency with practices and improvements identified in an approved energy audit equivalent to criteria required in Ag EMP?	Yes O or No O
8. c. Assist in implementing energy conservation measures that also reduce greenhouse gas emissions and other air pollutants?	Yes O or No O
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 O or No O
9. b. Improvement of existing conservation practices or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is accepted?	Yes O or No O
9. c. Implementation of practice(s) which will complete an existing conservation system or suite of practices?	Yes O or No O

State Issues 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 state priority category.	
1. 1a. Is the program application to support the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is “Yes”, do not answer any other state level questions. If answer is “No”, proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	Yes O or No O
Crop Only	
1. 1. Will this application include one of the following practice; (328, 329, 340, 345, 346, 554, 590, and/or 720) and the applicant (by Tax ID Number) has not received EQIP Financial Assistance (FA) for the same practice within the last 3 years? (FY 2011-13)	Yes O or No O
2. 2. Has the applicant had a contract cancelled and/or terminated due to non-complaince within last 3 fiscal years? (FY 2011-13)	Yes O or No O
3. 3. Will this application utilize EQIP funds to install a buffer strip practice that will help improve water quality?	Yes O or No O
4. 4. Will this application utilize EQIP funds to implement a Basic Level of (590) Soil Health and Water Quality Conservation Management System? -OR-	Yes O or No O
5. 5. Will this application utilize EQIP funds to implement a Enhanced Level of (590) Soil Health and Water Quality Conservation Management System?	Yes O or No O
6. 6. Does the applicant have a field within the EQIP offered acres that has had a soil test within the last 3 years that exceeds 150 lbs/Acre of P2O5 (Bray P1 Soil Test)?	Yes O or No O
7. 7. Will this application utilize EQIP funds to implement Cover Crops (340) after low residue crops?	Yes O or No O
Forest Only	
1. 1. Will this application include one of the following practice, (314, 315, 612, 645, and/or 666) and the applicant (by Tax ID Number) has not received EQIP Financial Assistance (FA) for the same practice within the last 3 years? (FY2011-13)	Yes O or No O
2. 2. Has the applicant had a cancelled contract and/or terminated due to non-complaince within last 3 fiscal years? (FY 2011-13)	Yes O or No O

3. 3 Will this application utilize EQIP funds to control Buckthorn, Bush Honeysuckle, Kudzu, and/or Tree of Heaven? -OR- (If question #3.1 is answered yes, don't answer question #3.2)	Yes O or No O
4. 4. Will this application utilize EQIP funds to control undesirable Grape Vine or other species listed on the FY 2014 Forestry Invasive Plant Species List?	Yes O or No O
5. 5. Will this application utilize EQIP funds to implement Forest Stand Improvement (666)?	Yes O or No O
6. 6. Will this application utilize EQIP funds to implement Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645)?	Yes O or No O
7. 7. Will this application utilize EQIP funds to implement Tree and Shrub Establishment (612)?	Yes O or No O
Pasture Only	
1. 1. Will this application include one of the following practice, (314, 315, 382, 511, 512, 528, 561 and/or 614) and the applicant (by Tax ID Number) has not received EQIP Financial Assistance (FA) for the same practice within the last 3 years? (FY2011-13)	Yes O or No O
2. 2. Has the applicant had a contract cancelled and/or terminated due to non-complaince within last 3 fiscal years? (FY 2011-13)	Yes O or No O
3. 3. Will this application increase the "Livestock Concentration Areas" score on the applicant's Pasture Condition Score Sheet by one point or more? (If they have No Pasture Condition Score Sheet answer No)	Yes O or No O
4. 4. Does this application include an EQIP practice to address unmanaged runoff from the winter feeding location? Such as 393, 472, 561, 365, 635, etc….	Yes O or No O
5. 5. Applicant will be implementing Prescribed Grazing (528) according to NRCS standards and specifications?	Yes O or No O
6. 6. Will this application increase the "Plant Cover" score on the Pasture Condition Score Sheet by one point or more? (If they have No Pasture Condition Score Sheet answer No)	Yes O or No O
7. 7. Noxious or Invasive species have been identified on the application's grazing operation and they will be addressed as part of this contract? (See attached FY 2014 Pasture Invasive Plant Species List)	Yes O or No O
8. 8. Applicant will convert all cropland in this EQIP application to permanent pasture land (Forage and Biomass Planting (512)) if addressing either a soil or water resource concern?	Yes O or No O
Livestock Only	
1. 1. Will this application include one of the following practice, (313, 317, 367, 561 and/or 558) and the applicant (by Tax ID Number) has not received EQIP Financial Assistance (FA) for the same practice within the last 3 years?	Yes O or No O
2. 2. Has the applicant had a contract cancelled and/or terminated due to non-complaince within last 3 fiscal years? (FY 2011-13)	Yes O or No O
3. 3. The producer has attended an Educational Training and/or Workshop within the last 3 years? (Examples: ODA Certified Livestock Manager Training, Livestock Mortality Composting Workshop, LEAP I, LEAP II, Equine LEAP or Soil Health)	Yes O or No O
4. 4. This application will result in all fields receiving manue at TRI-State Fertility Guide Rates (Agronomic Levels)?	Yes O or No O
5. 5. Will this application include conservation practice(s) that results in a change in management that will allow additional windows of manure application during the growing season?	Yes O or No O
6. 6. The application includes EQIP funds for the implementation of waste transfer to spread manure on land that can better utilize the nutrients (Soil test results less than 100lbs/acre of P2O5)?	Yes O or No O
7. 7. The EQIP application includes funds for the implementation of Cover Crops (340) on low residue crops?	Yes O or No O
8. 8. The livestock facility is within 300 feet of a water body and contaminated runoff is not being controlled but will be as part of this contract?	Yes O or No O
9. 9. Does the application have a practice(s) to address milk house waste and/or silage leachate? Such as 313, 356, 634, 635, etc….	Yes O or No O
10. 10. Current nutrient application method are subject preferitial flow or discharge to drainage systems or waterways and practice in CNMP will resolve issues?	Yes O or No O
Specialty Crop Only	
1. 1. Will this application include one of the following practice, (342, 362, 412, 441, 558 and/or 798) and the applicant (by Tax ID Number) has not received EQIP Financial Assistance (FA) for the same practice within the last 3 years? (FY 2011-13)	Yes O or No O

2. 2. Has the applicant had a contract cancelled and/or terminated due to non-complaince within last 3 fiscal years? (FY 2011-13)	Yes O or No O
3. 3. Will this application utilize EQIP funds to install a Grassed Waterway (412) practice that will help improve Ephemeral Gullies?	Yes O or No O
4. 4. Will this application utilize EQIP funds to implement a Seasonal High Tunnel practice to extend the growing season?	Yes O or No O
5. 5. Will this application utilize EQIP funds to implement Micro-Irrigation (442) to improve water use efficiency? (Note: Applied acres must been irrigated 2 out the last 5 years)	Yes O or No O
6. 6. Will this application utilize EQIP funds to implement Integrated Pest Management (595) or Conservation Cover (327)?	Yes O or No O

Local Issues 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 local priority category.	
1. 1a. Is the program application to support the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is "Yes", do not answer any other local level questions. If answer is "No", proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	Yes O or No O
Crop Only	
1. 1. Will this application utilize EQIP funds resulting in the adoption of Interim Practice Standard (720) Controlled Traffic Farming including the use of RTK Controlled Traffic Farming (CTF) system and reduce all high load wheel traffic to 50% or less of the soil surface?	Yes O or No O
2. 2. Will the implementation of this EQIP contract result in at least one field improving its SCI score from a negative or 0 SCI to a positive SCI?	Yes O or No O
3. 3. Will this application utilize EQIP funds to install a Grassed Waterway (412) practice that will help improve Ephemeral Gullies?	Yes O or No O
Forestry Only	
1. 1. Has the participant completed any practice(s) identified in his/her Woodland Stewardship and/or Forest Management Plan? (Other than marking property lines)	Yes O or No O
2. 2. Are property lines marked per Ohio Forestry Tax Law Standards?	Yes O or No O
3. 3. Is the property certified under the Ohio Forestry Tax Law Program?	Yes O or No O
Pasture Only	
1. 1. Will this application increase the "Sheet and Rill Erosion" score on the Pasture Condition Score Sheet by one point or more? (If they have No Pasture Condition Score Sheet answer No)	Yes O or No O
2. 2. Does the EQIP plan include the installation of an adequate watering facility (614) within 100 ft of the heavy use pad used for winter feeding? (The applicant can be utilizing an existing heavy use pad or plan on installing one as part of the contract to answer yes to this question)	Yes O or No O
Livestock Only	
1. 1. Does the producer have a approved current CNMP which will address the resource concerns in the application and will install a minimum of 6 months manure storage?	Yes O or No O
2. 2. Does the current livestock operation have a direct discharge and practices in the application will address this resource concern ?	Yes O or No O
3. 3. Is there excess roof or rain water contributing to manure runoff which will be addressed by practice(s) in this application?	Yes O or No O
Specialty Only	
1. 1. Will this application utilize EQIP funds to implement Irrigation Water Management (449) by controlling the volume, frequency, and application rate of irrigation?	Yes O or No O
2. 2. Does the applicant have an approved Intergrated Pest Management Plan?	Yes O or No O
3. 3. Will this application utilize EQIP funds to install a buffer strip practice that will help improve water quality?	Yes O or No O

Land Use:

Resource Concerns	Practices

Ranking Score

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

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:**