

Natural Resources Conservation Service

**Application Ranking Summary
EQIP SGI - Idaho Sage-Grouse Initiative**

Program: EQIP 2008	Ranking Date:	Application Number:
Ranking Tool: EQIP SGI - Idaho Sage-Grouse 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.	250 Point(s)
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?	15 Point(s)
2. b. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a designated "impaired water body" (TMDL, 303d, etc.)?	15 Point(s)
2. c. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a "non-impaired water body"?	5 Point(s)
Clean and Abundant Water: Water Conservation - Will the proposed project assist the producer implement conservation practices which:	
3. a. Decrease aquifer overdraft?	15 Point(s)

3. b. Conserve water from irrigation system improvements and saved water will be available for other beneficial uses?	10 Point(s)
3. c. Conserve water in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	5 Point(s)
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?	15 Point(s)
4. b. Reduce on-farm generated green house gases such as CO2 (Carbon Dioxide), CH4 (Methane), and N2O (Nitrous Oxide)?	15 Point(s)
4. c. Increase on-farm carbon sequestration?	5 Point(s)
Soil Health: Will the proposed project assist the producer to implement practice(s) which:	
5. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil "T")?	15 Point(s)
5. b. Improve soil tilth, organic matter, structure, health, etc.?	5 Point(s)
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?	15 Point(s)
6. b. Help retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)?	10 Point(s)
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?	10 Point(s)
7. b. Increase, or improve habitat to benefit pollinator or other targeted wildlife species?	10 Point(s)
7. c. Properly dispose of livestock carcasses?	5 Point(s)
7. d. Are identified in an Integrated Pest Management plan?	10 Point(s)

7. e. Are identified in a Nutrient Management plan?	10 Point(s)
7. f. Apply principles of adaptive nutrient management?	5 Point(s)
Energy Conservation - Will the proposed project assist the producer to implement practices which:	
8. a. Reduce energy consumption on the agricultural operation?	15 Point(s)
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)?	10 Point(s)
8. c. Assist in implementing energy conservation measures that also reduce greenhouse gas emissions and other air pollutants?	10 Point(s)
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?	10 Point(s)
9. b. Improvement of existing conservation practices or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is accepted?	5 Point(s)
9. c. Implementation of practice(s) which will complete an existing conservation system or suite of practices?	5 Point(s)

State Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
Answer one of the next four questions on Habitat Priority:	
1. Is the application located in an area identified by the state as Priority 1 ?	200 Point(s)
2. Is the application located in an area identified by the state as Priority 2 ?	100 Point(s)
3. Is the application located in an area identified by the state as Priority 3 ?	50 Point(s)
4. Is the application located in an area identified by the state as Priority 4 ?	25 Point(s)
Answer one of the next three questions on enrolled/offered acreage (offered/enrolled acreage has to be greater than (0)):	
1. 100% eligible sagebrush/grassland enrolled	100 Point(s)
2. Greater than (>) 50% eligible sagebrush/grassland enrolled	75 Point(s)

3. Less than (<) 50% eligible sagebrush/grassland enrolled	25 Point(s)
Percent of Identified Threats Treated:	
1. 100 % of identified threats addressed	100 Point(s)
2. Greater than (>) 75% of identified threats addressed	75 Point(s)
3. Greater than (>) 50% of identified threats addressed	50 Point(s)
4. Less than (<) 50% of identified threats addressed	25 Point(s)

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 1 will result in the application being awarded the maximum amount of points that can be earned for the local priority category.	
1. Is the program application for development of a Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Activity Plan (CAP) practice code 142 prepared by a TSP? If the answer is "Yes", do not answer any other local level questions. If the answer is "No", proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	250 Point(s)
Will the proposed project implement conservation measures from the Sage Grouse Local Working Group Plan? Pick one of the next four questions :	
1. The project implements three or more conservation measures from the Sage Grouse Local Working Group Plan?	100 Point(s)
2. The project implements two conservation measures from the Sage Grouse Local Working Group Plan?	75 Point(s)
3. The project implements one conservation measure from the Sage Grouse Local Working Group Plan?	50 Point(s)
4. The project does not implement a conservation measure from the Sage Grouse Local Working Group Plan?	10 Point(s)
Partnership funds:	

<p>1. Have additional partnership funds been secured or in process of being secured? (Minimum documentation requires a letter of intent to provide funding for the project from the partner program person.)</p>	<p>150 Point(s)</p>
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