# **Natural Resources Conservation Service**

# Application Ranking Summary Crop BF/LRP

This is the FY 2014 Ranking Tool for Beginner Farmer and/or Limited Resource Producer (Historically Underserved) Pacific Islands Area participants addressing "Crop" land use, including irrigated, grazed, and/or wildlife modifiers. This will be used for all 2014 EQIP applications assigned to the county "Crop BF/LRP" fund code. Priority Pacific Islands Area cropland resource concerns along with conservation practices to resolve those concerns will be considered for funding. Conservation Activity Plans (CAP) are available within this funding pool and are set to receive the highest priority for funding when ranked within this funding pool. Field Offices are required to follow all programmatic and technical policies when planning and implementation practices.

# **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
Application/Contract Addresses Development of a Conservation Activity Plan:	
1. Is the program application for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP) for a TSP prepared Conservation Plan? 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
Resource Concerns Addressed by this Application/Contract:	
1. Soil Erosion Issues Addressed: Sheet, Rill, and Wind, or; Concentrated Flow Erosion, or; Excessive Bank Erosion	Yes O or No O
2. Soil Quality Issue Addressed: Organic Matter Depletion	Yes O or No O
3. Water Quality Issue Addressed: Excessive Nutrients in Surface or Ground Waters	Yes O or No O
4. Water Quality Issue Addressed: Excessive Pathogens and Chemicals from Manure, Bio-Solids or Compost Applications	Yes O or No O
5. Water Quality Issue Addressed: Excessive Sediment in Surface Waters	Yes O or No O
6. Inadequate Habitat for Fish and Wildlife: Habitat Degradation	Yes O or No O
7. 1-2 Resource Concerns from this list: Water Quality - Excessive Pesticides in Surface or Ground Waters; Soil Quality - Compaction; Insufficient Water - Inefficient Use of Irrigation Water or Inefficient Moisture Management; Degraded Plant Condition - Inadequate Structure and Composition or Wildfire Hazard, Excessive Biomass Accumulated; Livestock Production Limitation - Inadequate Water/Feed or Forage/Shelter; Air Quality - Objectionable Odors or Emissions of Particulate matter and PM Precursors.	Yes O or No O
8. 3 or more Resource Concerns from this list: Water Quality - Excessive Pesticides in Surface or Ground Waters; Soil Quality - Compaction; Insufficient Water - Inefficient Use of Irrigation Water or Inefficient Moisture Management; Degraded Plant Condition - Inadequate Structure and Composition or Wildfire Hazard, Excessive Biomass Accumulated; Livestock Production Limitation - Inadequate Water/Feed or Forage/Shelter; Air Quality - Objectionable Odors or Emissions of Particulate matter and PM Precursors	Yes O or No O
Conservation Plan Type Addressed by the Application/Contract:	
1. Conservation Plan is RMS plan (all identified resource concerns treated to the planning criteria - refer to Conservation Planning Tech Note #1).	Yes O or No O
2. A Progresive Plan addressing at least 4 resource concerns.	Yes O or No O
3. A Progressive Plan addressing at least 1 resource concern.	Yes O or No O

# **Local Issues Addressed**

Issue Questions	Responses
Application/Contract Addresses Development of a Conservation Activity Plan:	
1. Is the program application for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP) for a TSP prepared Conservation Plan? 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
Answer "Yes" to each conservation practice that is planned for installation as part of this application:	
2. Residue and Tillage Management, Seasonal (344)	Yes O or No O
3. Residue and Tillage Managemnet, No-Til/Strip Till/diurect Seed (329)	Yes O or No O
4. Irrigation Water Management (449)	Yes O or No O
5. Vegetative Barrier (601)	Yes O or No O
6. Conservation Crop Rotation (328)	Yes O or No O
7. Nutrient Management (590)	Yes O or No O
8. Integrated Pest Management (595)	Yes O or No O
9. Cover Crop (340)	Yes O or No O
Is wildlife pollinator habitat being established as part of this application/contract?	
1. Yes. This application will include wildlife habitat establishment for pollinators.	Yes O or No O
Does this application include energy conservation related practices? Energy conservation = a reduction in fossil fuel usage.	
1. Yes. This application will include energy conservation.	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.