Natural Resources Conservation Service

Application Ranking Summary

Cropland

Program:	**Ranking Date:**	**Application Number:**
Ranking Tool: Cropland		**Applicant:**
Final Ranking Score:		**Address:**
Planner:		**Telephone:**
Farm Location:		

National Priorities Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
Clean and Abundant Water: Water Quality - Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
1. a. Meet regulatory requirements relating to animal feeding operations, or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	Yes O or No O
1. 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
1. 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:	
2. a. Decrease aquifer overdraft?	Yes O or No O
2. b. Conserve water from irrigation system improvements and saved water will be available for other beneficial uses?	Yes O or No O
2. 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 on-farm agricultural sources - Will the proposed project assist the producer to implement practice(s) which:	
3. a. Meet on-farm regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	Yes O or No O
3. b. Reduce on-farm generated green house gases such as CO2 (Carbon Dioxide), CH4 (Methane), and N2O (Nitrous Oxide)?	Yes O or No O
3. 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:	
4. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil "T")?	Yes O or No O
4. 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:	
5. 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
5. 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:	
6. a. Help manage or control noxious or invasive species on non-cropland?	Yes O or No O
6. b. Increase, or improve habitat to benefit pollinator or other targeted wildlife species?	Yes O or No O
6. c. Properly dispose of livestock carcasses?	Yes O or No O
6. d. Are identified in an Integrated Pest Management plan?	Yes O or No O
6. e. Are identified in a Nutrient Management plan?	Yes O or No O
6. 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:	
7. a. Reduce energy consumption on the agricultural operation?	Yes O or No O
7. 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
7. 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:	
8. 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
8. b. Improvement of existing conservation practices or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is accepted?	Yes O or No O
8. 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
Limited Resource Questions	
1. Is the applicant a limited resource producer?	Yes O or No O
Irrigation Questions	
2. Are the majority of soils in the area planned for the irrigation system classified as sands, loamy sands, or sandy loams?	Yes O or No O
3. Will any of the planned irrigation system be used for frost protection?	Yes O or No O
4. ANSWER YES TO QUESTION 4 OR 5. Is the planned irrigation system the first irrigation system for the farm?	Yes O or No O
5. Is the planned irrigation system an expansion of an existing system?	Yes O or No O
6. Will the planned irrigation system result in either of the following: Conversion in all or part to microirrigation where an irrigation system already exists. Or, implementation in all or part to microirrigation where a new irrigation system is being installed	Yes O or No O

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
Franklin & Grand Isle LWG	
1. Does this application include irrigation practices that will increase the operations' existing irrigation system?	Yes O or No O
2. Does this application include new irrigation practices on droughty soils (hydrologic soils A&B)?	Yes O or No O
3. Will this practice reduce the consumption of water in comparison to the existing system?	Yes O or No O
4. Is the planned irrigation system the first irrigation system on the farm?	Yes O or No O
5. Will this practice reduce the consumption of electricity in comparison to the existing system?	Yes O or No O
Lamoille LWG	
6. Will this practice reduce the consumption of electricity in comparison to the existing system?	Yes O or No O
7. Does this application deliver water during the high risk drought periods in the summer?	Yes O or No O
8. Does this application include irrigation practices that will increase the productivity of the operations' existing irrigation system?	Yes O or No O
9. Does this application include new irrigation practices on droughty soils (hydrologic soils A&B)?	Yes O or No O
10. Does this application increase water use efficiency?	Yes O or No O
Orleans LWG	
11. Is this application with in the Mud Creek, Sterns brook, Black river or Johns river watersheds?	Yes O or No O
12. Will this application market it's products within a 100 mile radius?	Yes O or No O

13. Does this application include practices that promote water conservation?	Yes O or No O
14. Does this application promote farm diversification?	Yes O or No O
15. Does this application include erosion control and/or improved soil quality?	Yes O or No O
White River LWG	
16. Will this application included practices that mitigate pathogen, nutrient and sediment to the 1st, 2nd or 3rd branches of the White River?	Yes O or No O
17. Will this application include practices that minimize nitrogen and other Agricultural runoff related to nutrients into the Connecticut river?	Yes O or No O
18. Will this application incorporate nutrient management planning and soil fertility practices?	Yes O or No O
19. Will this application address vegetable operation nutrient management practices?	Yes O or No O
20. Will this application address soil health concerns by implementing soil sampling practices?	Yes O or No O
Ottauquechee LWG	
21. Does this application include an efficient irrigation system that will help reduce nitrogen loading in any surface water in the Connecticut River Watershed?	Yes O or No O
22. Does this application include practices which will improve availability of local foods for local markets (source to market distance of less than 50 miles)?	Yes O or No O
23. Are the majority of soils in the area planned for the irrigation system classified as sands, loamy sands, or sandy loams?	Yes O or No O
24. Is the planned irrigation system the first for the farm?	Yes O or No O
25. Does this application include an irrigation system which will provide adequate water during the summer months?	Yes O or No O
Poultney Mettowee LWG	
26. Is the planned irrigation system the first on the farm?	Yes O or No O
27. Does this application include an irrigation system which will provide for adequate water during the summer months, and which will not negatively affect the aquatic resources of streams and rivers?	Yes O or No O
28. Are the majority of soils in the area planned for the irrigation system classified as sands, loamy sands, or sandy loams; or, is the soil of a gravelly texture or otherwise considered “well drained”?	Yes O or No O
29. Will this application include an efficient irrigation system that will help reduce nutrient loading in any surface water in the Poultney Watershed?	Yes O or No O
30. Will any of the planned irrigation system be used for frost protection?	Yes O or No O
Rutland LWG	
31. Is the planned irrigation system the first on the farm?	Yes O or No O
32. Does this application include an irrigation system which will provide for adequate water during the summer months, and which will not negatively affect the aquatic resources of streams and rivers?	Yes O or No O
33. Are the majority of soils in the area planned for the irrigation system classified as sands, loamy sands, or sandy loams; or, is the soil of a gravelly texture or otherwise considered “well drained”?	Yes O or No O
34. Will this application include an efficient irrigation system that will help reduce nutrient loading in any surface water in the Otter Creek Watershed?	Yes O or No O
35. Will any of the planned irrigation system be used for frost protection?	Yes O or No O
Caledonia LWG	
36. Does this application include practices that reduce soil compaction?	Yes O or No O
37. Does this application include practices to reduce erosion on crop fields?	Yes O or No O
38. Does the application include an irrigation practice that promotes water conservation?	Yes O or No O
39. Does the application facilitate energy conservation?	Yes O or No O
40. Does the application include practices that reduce nutrient runoff on cropland?	Yes O or No O
Essex LWG	
41. Does this application include practices that reduce soil compaction?	Yes O or No O
42. Does this application include practices to reduce erosion on crop fields?	Yes O or No O

43. Does the application include an irrigation practice that promotes water conservation?	Yes O or No O
44. Does the application facilitate energy conservation?	Yes O or No O
45. Does the application include practices that reduce nutrient runoff on cropland?	Yes O or No O
Bennington LWG	
46. Is the planned irrigation system the first irrigation system on the farm?	Yes O or No O
47. Is this farm producing local foods for a food desert area as indicated on the website http://www.ers.usda.gov/data/fooddesert/?	Yes O or No O
48. Are the majority of soils in the area planned for the irrigation system classified as sands, loamy sands, or sandy loams; or, is the soil of a gravelly texture or otherwise considered "well drained"?	Yes O or No O
49. Does this application include an irrigation system which will provide for adequate water during the summer months, and which will not negatively affect the aquatic resources of streams and rivers?	Yes O or No O
50. Will any of the planned irrigation system be used for frost protection?	Yes O or No O
Windham LWG	
51. Does this application include an irrigation system which will provide for adequate water during the summer months?	Yes O or No O
52. Does this application include irrigation practices to increase the availability, affordability, and sustainability of local foods?	Yes O or No O
53. Are the majority of soils in the area planned for the irrigation system classified as sands, loamy sands, or sandy loams; or, is the soil of a gravelly texture or otherwise considered "well drained"?	Yes O or No O
54. Is this the first irrigation system for the farm?	Yes O or No O
55. Does this application include an efficient irrigation system that will help reduce nitrogen loading in any surface water in the Connecticut River Watershed?	Yes O or No O
Winooski LWG	
56. Will this application reduce erosion from agricultural operations located within a field that drains to a water body or drainage ditch?	Yes O or No O
57. Will the proposed project reduce the use of fertilizers, chemicals, or pesticides on the farm?	Yes O or No O
58. Does the proposed project increase energy efficiency or water conservation on the farm?	Yes O or No O
59. Will the application increase crop quantity and diversity available to residents within 25 miles of the farm?	Yes O or No O
60. Will the applicant follow the "Water Quality Testing Guidelines for Agricultural Water Sources," February 2012, UVM Extension, VT Agency of Agriculture Food and Markets/Department of Health guidance for water testing for e-coli (reference). http://www.uvm.edu/vtvegandberry/GAPS/VT%20Water%2 0Quality%20Criteria.pdf Or, As a result of this application will the applicant will drill a well and change from surface water to well source of water?	Yes O or No O
Otter Creek LWG	
61. Will this AMA application result in improved water supply with an improved water conservation component or irrigation system?	Yes O or No O
62. Will this AMA application reduce petrochemical energy use and result in improved energy conservation on and/off the farm?	Yes O or No O
63. As a component of an IPM system, will this AMA application result in reduced pesticide use?	Yes O or No O
64. Will this AMA application reduce runoff from the use site?	Yes O or No O
65. Will this AMA application enhance local food supply?	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:**