Natural Resources Conservation Service

Application Ranking Summary

NWQI 50400011002

Program:	**Ranking Date:**	**Application Number:**
Ranking Tool: NWQI 50400011002		**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. Is the program application for development of a TSP-Prepared Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is "YES", do not answer any other State-level questions. If the answer is "NO" proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	Yes O or No O
Water Quality - EPA Watersheds	
2. Does the application include core conservation practices that will be implemented within ¼ mile of a stream or water body that is threatened (i.e., receives significant runoff of excess nitrogen and/or phosphorous), on the EPA 303(d) list, or is impaired with a TMDL in place and therefore not on the 303(d) list (or other critical stream or water body authorized by the Regional Conservationist)?	Yes O or No O
Geographical Impacts	
3. Are core conservation practices planned on the offered acres? i. Greater than 75 percent of the offered acres are within the targeted watershed, AND ii. Greater than 75 percent of the offered acres have a core conservation practice planned for application	Yes O or No O
Collaborative Efforts	
4. Are core conservation practices planned within an existing State agency or other non-USDA water quality project area addressing the same or similar pollutants?	Yes O or No O
Efforts to Address Watershed Impairments	
5. Does this program application include the implementation of a system of conservation practices which address the primary NWQI primary resource concern?	Yes O or No O
High Risk Soils	
6. Are core conservation practices to be implemented on offered acres with a majority of soil types that are classified hydrologic group D (high runoff) or group A (high infiltration)?	Yes O or No O

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses

1. 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. If you answer yes to this questions no other questions need to be answered for the local ranking questions.	Yes O or No O
2. Will this application "NOT" address one of the primary resource concerns approved for the NWQI? i.e. application only includes secondary resource concerns approved for the NWQI?	Yes O or No O
3. Will this application "NOT" include any Core Conservation Practice(s) identified for the National Water Quality Initiative (NWQI)?	Yes O or No O
4. Will this application utilize EQIP funds to convert the landuse from a more intensive management system to a less intensive management system? i.e. Converting from a cropland land use to a pastureland	Yes O or No O
5. Will this application utilize EQIP funds to install fence (382) to exclude livestock from "ALL" environmentally sensitive areas such as riparian area or wetland?	Yes O or No O
6. Will this application utilize EQIP funds to install any of the following practices: Tree/Shrub Establish (612), Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment (380) or Windbreak/Shelterbelt Renovation (650)?	Yes O or No O
7. Will a cover crop be utilized on at least 25 percent of the offered acres?	Yes O or No O
8. Will the implementation of a Core or Supporting Conservation Practice on at least 25% percent of the offered acres result in the existence of a conservation system where at least one practice exist in each of the AVOID, TRAP, and CONTROL categories?	Yes O or No O
9. Will this application utilized EQIP funds for the installation of permanent vegetative buffers with a minimum width of 20 ft. adjacent to all intermittent or perennial streams located with the contracted acres? (Must either be installing or have buffers on all waterways)	Yes O or No O
10. Did the applicant have an approved Conservation Plan developed prior to the closing of the NWQI application deadline?	Yes O or No O
11. Will this application utilize EQIP funds to install Riparian Forest Buffers (391)?	Yes O or No O
12. Will this application utilize EQIP funds to install one or more of the following: Conservation Crop Rotation (328), Residue and Tillage Management (329) and Cover Crops (340)?	Yes O or No O
13. Will this application utilize EQIP funds to install or implement one or more of the following: Access Control (420), Watering Facilities (614) or Nutrient Management (590)?	Yes O or No O
14. Will this application utilize EQIP funds to install one or more of the following practices Water and Sediment Control Basin (638), and Blind Inlets (620)?	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:**