

**Application Ranking Summary  
HP - Wildlife/Wetland**

<b>Program:</b> EQIP 2008	<b>Ranking Date:</b>	<b>Application Number:</b>
<b>Ranking Tool:</b> HP - Wildlife/Wetland		<b>Applicant:</b>
<b>Final Ranking Score:</b>		<b>Address:</b>
<b>Planner:</b>		<b>Telephone:</b>
<b>Farm Location:</b>		

**National Priorities Addressed**

<b>Issue Questions</b>	<b>Responses</b>
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?	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
<p>If the application is for the 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 level questions.</p>	
<p>1. a. Is the program application for the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP) for a TSP prepared Integrated Pest Management Plan (114), Fish and Wildlife Habitat Plan (142) or a Pollinator Habitat (146)? If the 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.</p>	250 Point(s)
<p>Endangered, Threatened, Proposed, Candidate and State Species of Concern Benefitted (Check all that apply):</p>	
<p>1. Does the project enhance habitat for endangered species (see WY eFOTG, Sec II E)?</p>	75 Point(s)
<p>2. Does the project enhance habitat for threatened species (see WY eFOTG, Sec II E)?</p>	25 Point(s)
<p>3. Does the project enhance habitat for proposed species (see WY eFOTG, Sec II E)?</p>	20 Point(s)
<p>4. Does the project enhance habitat for candidate species (includes sage-grouse) (see WY eFOTG, Sec II E)?</p>	15 Point(s)
<p>5. Does the project enhance habitat for a State species of concern? See WY G&amp;F list of species by county. IRMA can be used to determine species by county.</p>	10 Point(s)
<p>6. Does the project enhance habitat for a wildlife species that does not fall into the categories listed above, but are present on the site?</p>	5 Point(s)
<p>Project Distance to Other Areas Managed for Fish and Wildlife (Select yes to only 1 question below):</p>	
<p>1. a. Is the project contiguous to other areas managed for fish and wildlife (includes CRP, WRP, WHIP, WG&amp;F or USFWS Partners projects, State &amp; Federal wildlife management units). OR</p>	100 Point(s)

<p>1. b. Is the project within 1/2 mile of other areas managed for fish and wildlife (includes CRP, WRP, WHIP, WG&amp;F or USFWS Partners projects, State &amp; Federal wildlife management units). OR</p>	<p>50 Point(s)</p>
<p>1. c. Is the project greater than 1 mile from other areas managed for fish and wildlife (includes CRP, WRP, WHIP, WG&amp;F or USFWS Partners projects, State &amp; Federal wildlife management units).</p>	<p>25 Point(s)</p>

**Local Issues Addressed**

<p><b>Issue Questions</b></p>	<p><b>Responses</b></p>
<p>If the application is for the 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 level questions.</p>	<p style="background-color: #cccccc;"></p>
<p>1. a. Is the program application for the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP) for a TSP prepared Integrated Pest Management (114), Fish and Wildlife Habitat Plan (142) or Pollinator Habitat Plan (146) ? If the 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.</p>	<p>250 Point(s)</p>

Wetland Habitat (Select only 1 answer per question): For Question 4 - A buffer is defined as permanent herbaceous and/or woody vegetative cover that is adjacent to riparian or wetland water source.	
2. a. Predominant vegetation consists of several species of the following: sedge, rush, cattail, bulrush, smartweed, duckweed, or other important forage plants (seek advice of biologist for other plants) OR	25 Point(s)
2. b. Predominant vegetation is monoculture of cattail or bulrush OR	10 Point(s)
2. c. Predominant vegetation is invasive species (thistles, etc.) and/or monoculture of any species (other than those in mentioned in the above question) and/or woody species (if woody species dominate, you are using the wrong model) OR	5 Point(s)
2. d. Does not apply	0 Point(s)
3. a. Wet meadows or marshes comprise >15% of the surrounding area OR	25 Point(s)
3. b. Wet meadows or marshes comprise 5-14% of the surrounding area OR	20 Point(s)
3. c. Wet meadows or marshes comprise <5% of surrounding area OR	15 Point(s)
3. d. Only wetland within 5 mile radius OR	5 Point(s)
3. e. Does not apply	0 Point(s)
4. a. Average buffer width surrounding wetland is at least 100' wide OR	25 Point(s)
4. b. Average buffer width surrounding wetland is between 50-100' wide	20 Point(s)
4. c. Average buffer width surrounding wetland is between 30-50' wide	15 Point(s)
4. d. Average buffer width surrounding wetland is less than 30' wide	10 Point(s)
4. e. There is no buffer surrounding the wetland OR	5 Point(s)
4. f. Does not apply	0 Point(s)
5. a. The proposed wetland development is in an area that is at least 1/2 mile but no more than 3 miles from an existing wetland. OR	25 Point(s)
5. b. The proposed wetland development is not in an area that is at least 1/2 mile but no more than 3 miles from an existing wetland. Select this answer if the application is not for a wetland project.	0 Point(s)

Wetland Habitat Practices to be Applied (Select all that apply):	
6. Will the project include installation of structures for nesting or perching?	40 Point(s)
7. Does the project include open water, with various water depths to benefit more than one species of wildlife?	40 Point(s)
Upland Habitat Treatment (Select only 1 answer per question):	
8. a. Will this application address sagebrush, mountain shrub or aspen where the current stand shows little or no rejuvenation? OR	40 Point(s)
8. b. Will this application address sagebrush, mountain shrub or aspen where the current stand shows a downward trend? OR	20 Point(s)
8. c. Will this application address sagebrush, mountain shrub or aspen where the current plant community is in a vigorous, healthy condition?	5 Point(s)
9. a. The application will include upland water (not for riparian health) where travel is 2 miles or greater to water. OR	40 Point(s)
9. b. The application will not include upland water (not for riparian health) where travel is 2 miles or greater to water. Select this answer if this application is not an upland habitat project.	0 Point(s)
Pollinator Habitat (Select only 1 answer per question):	
10. a. The purpose of this project is to plant vegetative species to enhance habitat for floral visitors or pollinators. OR	40 Point(s)
10. b. The purpose of this project is not to plant vegetative species to enhance habitat for floral visitors or pollinators. Select this answer if the application is not a pollinator habitat project.	0 Point(s)

11. a. The seeding will include a mixture of species that will provide flowering plants for the entire growing season. (Refer to WY Plant Materials Tech Note 17 for plant species and blooming periods)	40 Point(s)
11. b. The seeding will not include a mixture of species that will provide flowering plants for the entire growing season. (Refer to WY Plant Materials Tech Note 17 for plant species and blooming periods). Select this answer if the application is not a pollinator habitat project.	0 Point(s)
<b>General Wildlife Habitat Practices to be Applied (Select all that apply):</b>	
12. Will the application include brush management to improve wildlife habitat?	10 Point(s)
13. Will existing woven wire fence with known wildlife mortality or wildlife damage be replaced with wildlife friendly fence to allow wildlife travel within a migration corridor?	10 Point(s)
14. Will the application include grass and/or forb seeding?	10 Point(s)
15. Will the application include tree plantings to restore the woody component that has been lost from the native habitat?	10 Point(s)
16. If the applied practices include seedings for wildlife or pollinators, will seedings be protected from heavy grazing from wildlife and livestock?	10 Point(s)
17. Will the project be located greater than one-quarter mile from buildings, homes or livestock facilities?	10 Point(s)

**Ranking Score**

<p>Efficiency:</p> <p>Local Issues:</p> <p>State Issues:</p> <p>National Issues:</p> <p><b>Final Ranking Score:</b></p>
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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:

<b>NRCS Representative:</b>	<b>Applicant Signature Not Required on this report for Contract Development unless required by State policy:</b>
<b>Signature Date:</b>	<b>Signature Date:</b>