

Natural Resources Conservation Service

**Application Ranking Summary**  
**WY - Invasive Species - Russian Olive/Salt Cedar**

<b>Program:</b> EQIP 2008	<b>Ranking Date:</b>	<b>Application Number:</b>
<b>Ranking Tool:</b> WY - Invasive Species - Russian Olive/Salt Cedar		<b>Applicant:</b>
<b>Final Ranking Score:</b>		<b>Address:</b>
<b>Planner:</b>		<b>Telephone:</b>
<b>Farm Location:</b>		

**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 CO <sub>2</sub> (Carbon Dioxide), CH <sub>4</sub> (Methane), and N <sub>2</sub> O (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
1. Does the planned land unit(s) contain a significant amount of Russian Olive or Salt Cedar species? (Significant is defined as 1 or more noxious/invasive plant species infesting 3 or more acres in an identified area.)	100 Point(s)
2. Is ALL of the identified Russian Olive and/or Salt Cedar infestation being addressed on all of the offered acres?	125 Point(s)

3. Will the proposed practices restore desired native vegetative cover to protect soils, control erosion, reduce sediment, improve water quality, and enhance stream flow?	75 Point(s)
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**Local Issues Addressed**

<b>Issue Questions</b>	<b>Responses</b>
1. Does the application address Russian Olive and/or Salt Cedar species control on an area(s) that is likely the seed source that has potential to spread to other lands? (i.e. infestations at the head of a drainage, or lone seed source?) Do not take these points if the species of concern was located on adjacent lands that were higher in the drainage or surround the proposed treatment area.	35 Point(s)
2. Will the treatment of the invasive specie(s) assist in restoring the hydrology and natural conditions to an associated (live/perennial) water body (wetland, pond, stream, etc)? (Do not take any points if the planned control efforts are not directly associated with a live/perennial water body).	40 Point(s)
3. Is the project contiguous to other areas that are being actively treated and managed for invasive/noxious specie(s) control? (If adjacent lands contain Russian Olive or Salt Cedar Species and no control efforts are planned then do not take points)	30 Point(s)
4. Is there currently a comprehensive Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Plan in place utilizing PAMS strategies to control the identified noxious weeds and the producer can provide documentation of (or has implemented) either bio-control, mechanical or cultural control efforts on the proposed treatment area (or species)? (An IPM plan developed by the Weed and Pest District or other entity is acceptable provided it meets IPM (595) practice standard)	50 Point(s)
5. Will the producer implement an IPM plan to control invasive/noxious pests and weeds while utilizing PAMS strategies?	35 Point(s)
6. Will Endangered or Threatened species and/or designated critical habitat be directly benefited from the planned practices/management?	50 Point(s)

7. Will Candidate or Proposed Candidate species and/or designated critical habitat be directly benefited from the planned practices/management?	30 Point(s)
8. Will the planned practices improve food/cover/water for non-T&E terrestrial or aquatic wildlife by ONLY removing the the noxious/invasive specie(s)?	20 Point(s)
9. Will this application include any additional management practices to control noxious or invasive species? (Practices such as: Grass and/or forb seeding, Livestock exclusion, range seeding, mowing, burning, etc.)	20 Point(s)
10. If the predominate landuse is pasture or range, used for grazing; will a prescribed grazing system (528) be developed and implemented that provides for sustainability through increased vigor and production of desirable perennials while controlling noxious/invasive species?	30 Point(s)
11. Will the proposed planned practices improve forage quality and quantity for livestock?	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>