Natural Resources Conservation Service

Application Ranking Summary

NWQI - Christie Creek

Program:	**Ranking Date:**	**Application Number:**
Ranking Tool: NWQI - Christie Creek		**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 answer is “No”, proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section. (400 points)	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)? (100 points)	Yes O or No O
Geographic Impacts:	
3. Are core conservation practices planned on the offered acres? i. Greater than 75 percent of the offered acres are within the focused watershed AND ii. Greater than 75 percent of the offered acres have a core conservation practice planned for application (125 points)	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? (75 points)	Yes O or No O
Effort to address watershed impairments:	
5. Does this program application include the implementation of a system of conservation practices which address the NWQI primary resource concerns? (50 points)	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)? (50 points)	Yes O or No O

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses

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 Local level questions.	
1. Is the program application for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is “Yes”, do not answer any other local level questions. If the answer is “No”, proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section. (250 points)	Yes O or No O
Practices in this application address a concentrated source of pollutants (manure, milking center runoff, pesticide runoff, etc) utilizing at least one Core Practice, uphill and located within what distance of a watercourse/waterbody (A lake, reservoir, pond, river, continuously flowing stream (solid or dashed line on a topographic map), NRCS GIS 100hydrok layer, or NYS DEC wetland. Only use these tools for the definition of a waterbody)? If multiple water quality resource concerns exist, award the points based on the closest concern. Select only one:	
2. 0-99’ of a watercourse/waterbody (55 points)	Yes O or No O
3. 100-199’ of a watercourse/waterbody (48 points)	Yes O or No O
4. 200-299’ of a watercourse/waterbody (35 points)	Yes O or No O
5. 300-399’ of a watercourse/waterbody (18 points)	Yes O or No O
6. 400’+ of a watercourse/waterbody (0 points)	Yes O or No O
Does this application include cover crops, residue management, enhanced nutrient management (higher than basic nutrient management), or prescribed grazing on fields being converted from row crops? Select only one:	
7. Practices being applied on greater than or equal to 75% of acres in the application (45 points)	Yes O or No O
8. Practices being applied on greater than or equal to 50% of acres in the application (37 points)	Yes O or No O
9. Practices being applied on greater than or equal to 25% of acres in the application (26 points)	Yes O or No O
Does this application include practices which address erosion concerns on: (Note: If this application includes multiple fields/areas, use the dominant slope as per the Soil Survey, based on acreage)? Select only one:	
10. Slopes>12% (greater than C slopes) (40 points)	Yes O or No O
11. Slopes 8-12% (C slopes) (28 points)	Yes O or No O
12. Slopes 5-8% (B slopes) (17 points)	Yes O or No O
13. Slopes <5% (A slopes) (0 points)	Yes O or No O
If application includes a waste storage facility, what was the Risk Mitigation Factor on the Evaluation Worksheet? You may only answer “Yes” to one of the following.	
14. 16 - 24 (10 points)	Yes O or No O
15. 25 - 39 (20 points)	Yes O or No O
16. 40 - 49 (30 points)	Yes O or No O
17. 50 or greater (40 points)	Yes O or No O
How many NWQI listed Core practices are included in this application?	
18. Three or more practices (30 points)	Yes O or No O
19. Two practices (17 points)	Yes O or No O
20. One practice (0 points)	Yes O or No O
Answer "Yes" or "No" to the following questions:	
21. Does this application include NWQI listed core practices identified in your certified/approved management plan (AEM Tier 3, CNMP, PGM, etc)? (20 points)	Yes O or No O
22. Does this application include practices that will positively impact high risk fields(high or very high P-indices, Karst topography, hydrologic group D)? (20 points)	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:**