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Ranking Tool Summary

for FY2014 - EQIP 2014 Wildlife Beginning Farmer FA

(Draft)

Description:

EQIP 2014. This ranking is to used when ranking EQIP 2014 Wildlife Beginning Farmer applications.

Land Uses:

Crop, Pasture

Efficiency Score:

Scoring Multiplier: 122.220
Scoring Ranges and Results Text:

High: 100 - 70	Medium: 69 - 30	Low: 29 - 0
100-70	69-30	29-0

Optional Notes:

National Priorities:

Scoring Multiplier: 1.000
Scoring Ranges and Results Text:

High: 250 - 175	Medium: 174 - 100	Low: 99 - 0
250-175	174-100	99-0

Questions:

Number	Question	Points
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
2	a. Meet regulatory requirements relating to animal feeding operations, or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	15
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
2	c. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a "non-impaired water body"?	5
3	a. Decrease aquifer overdraft?	15
3	b. Conserve water from irrigation system improvements and saved water will be available for other beneficial uses?	10
3	c. Conserve water in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	5
4	a. Meet on-farm regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	15
4	b. Reduce on-farm generated green house gases such as CO2 (Carbon Dioxide), CH4 (Methane), and N2O (Nitrous Oxide)?	15
4	c. Increase on-farm carbon sequestration?	5
5	a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil "T")?	15
5	b. Improve soil tilth, organic matter, structure, health, etc.?	5

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
6	b. Help retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)?	10
7	a. Help manage or control noxious or invasive plant species on non-cropland?	10
7	b. Increase, or improve habitat to benefit pollinator or other targeted wildlife species?	10
7	c. Properly dispose of livestock carcasses?	5
7	d. Are identified in an Integrated Pest Management plan?	10
7	e. Are identified in a Nutrient Management plan?	10
7	f. Apply principles of adaptive nutrient management?	5
8	a. Reduce energy consumption on the agricultural operation?	15
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
8	c. Assist in implementing energy conservation measures that also reduce greenhouse gas emissions and other air pollutants?	10
9	a. Implementation of all conservation practices scheduled in the contract on the CPA-1155 within three years of date of obligation?	10
9	b. Improvement of existing conservation practices or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is accepted?	5
9	c. Implementation of practice(s) which will complete an existing conservation system or suite of practices?	5
	Total Points	500

State Issues:

Scoring Multiplier: 1.000

Scoring Ranges and Results Text:

High: 300 - 200	Medium: 199 - 100	Low: 99 - 0
300-200	199-100	99-0

Questions:

Sub-heading Number	Question Number	Question	Points
	1	FY14 EQIP planned practice will be for the development of the following Conservation Activity Plans (CAP), to be developed by a Technical Service Provider (TSP); 142 - Fish & Wildlife Habitat Development Plan OR 146 - Pollinator Habitat Enhancement Plan OR 112- Prescribed Burning Plan. NOTE: an FY14 EQIP applicant requesting financial assistance for both a CAP and CPS must be considered as separate applications and ranked accordingly.	300
	2	To address the resource concern Inadequate Habitat For Fish And Wildlife – Habitat degradation, Will at least one FY14 EQIP planned practices be implemented on 30% of the natural community habitats (prairie, glade, savanna, open woodland, or bottomland forest) on the offered acres?	130
	3	To address the resource concern Inadequate Habitat For Fish And Wildlife – Habitat Degradation, Will at least one FY14 EQIP planned practice be implemented on the offered acres to provide 10% diverse, native grass, 0.1 acre per 40 acres of dense woody cover, and 10% early successional habitat/bare ground for grassland birds? All habitat elements must be planned or existing per each 40 acres on the offered acres.	70
	4	To address the resource concern Inadequate Habitat For Fish And Wildlife – Habitat degradation, Will at least one of FY14 EQIP planned practice be implemented on 30% of the non-production open land (old field) habitat on the offered acres?	60

	5	To address the resource concern Inadequate Habitat For Fish And Wildlife – Habitat degradation, Will at least one of the FY14 EQIP planned practices be implemented on 3% of the offered acres to provide beneficial habitat for native pollinators?	40
		Maximum Points: 300 Total Points	600

Local Issues:

Scoring Multiplier: 1.000

Scoring Ranges and Results Text:

High: 350 - 200	Medium: 199 - 100	Low: 99 - 0
350-200	199-100	99-0

Questions:

Sub-heading Number	Question Number	Question	Points
	1	FY14 EQIP planned practice will be for the development of the following Conservation Activity Plans (CAP), to be developed by a Technical Service Provider (TSP); 142 - Fish & Wildlife Habitat Development Plan OR 146 - Pollinator Habitat Enhancement Plan OR 112- Prescribed Burning Plan. NOTE: an FY14 EQIP applicant requesting financial assistance for both a CAP and CPS must be considered as separate applications and ranked accordingly.	350
	2	To address the resource concern Inadequate Habitat For Fish And Wildlife – Habitat degradation, Will at least one FY14 EQIP planned practices be implemented on 30% of the natural community habitats (prairie, glade, savanna, open woodland, or bottomland forest) on the offered acres?	143
	3	To address the resource concern Inadequate Habitat For Fish And Wildlife – Habitat Degradation, Will at least one FY14 EQIP planned practice be implemented on the offered acres to provide 10% diverse, native grass, 0.1 acre per 40 acres of dense woody cover, and 10% early successional habitat/bare ground for grassland birds? All habitat elements must be planned or existing per each 40 acres on the offered acres.	83
	4	To address the resource concern Inadequate Habitat For Fish And Wildlife – Habitat degradation, Will at least one of FY14 EQIP planned practice be implemented on 30% of the non-production open land (old field) habitat on the offered acres?	72
	5	To address the resource concern Inadequate Habitat For Fish And Wildlife – Habitat degradation, Will at least one of the FY14 EQIP planned practices be implemented on 3% of the offered acres to provide beneficial habitat for native pollinators?	52
		Maximum Points: 350 Total Points	700

Selected Resource Concerns and Practices:

Air Quality Impacts: Emissions of Greenhouse Gases (GHGs)
- Fence (382)

Degraded Plant Condition: Excessive Plant Pest Pressure
- Herbaceous Weed Control (315)

Degraded Plant Condition: Undesirable Plant Productivity and Health
- Brush Management (314)
- Forest Stand Improvement (666)
- Prescribed Burning (338)
- Prescribed Burning Plan - Written (112)
- Tree/Shrub Site Preparation (490)

Degraded Plant Condition: Wildfire Hazard, Excessive Biomass Accumulation
- Firebreak (394)

Fish and Wildlife - Inadequate Habitat: Inadequate Habitat - Cover/Shelter
- Access Control (472)
- Conservation Cover (327)
- Early Successional Habitat Development/M (647)
- Field Border (386)
- Fish and Wildlife Habitat Plan - Written (142)
- Pollinator Habitat Plan - Written (146)
- Shallow Water Management (646)
- Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
- Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645)
- Wetland Restoration (657)
- Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment (380)

Fish and Wildlife - Inadequate Habitat: Inadequate Habitat - Water
- Structure for Water Control (587)

Soil Erosion: Sheet and Rill Erosion
- Critical Area Planting (342)
- Mulching (484)

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