

## NH NRCS 2014 WETLAND RESERVE EASEMENT RANKING SHEET

NRCS Wetland Reserve Easements (WRE) were established to protect, restore and enhance the functions and values of wetland ecosystems that have been degraded as a result of agricultural/silvicultural activities.

Landowner Name:			
Landowner Address:			
	<i>Street</i>	<i>City/Town State, Zip</i>	
Landowner Number:			
	<i>Home</i>	<i>Cell</i>	
Landowner Email:			
Parcel Town & County:			

Category	Environmental Benefit Considerations	Maximum Points	Parcel Points
<b>Landscape Benefit Factors</b>	1 Proposed easement has direct: -riparian connection to protected lands=400 pts -riparian connection to lands under agreement=300 pts* -upland connection to protected lands=300 pts -upland connection to lands under agreement=200 pts* <i>*Permanent land protection agreement must be in writing prior to receiving points.</i>	400	
	2 Proposed easement has probable occurrences of endangered, threatened, species of concern, or monitored species as identified by qualified professionals (documentation required). <i>E=400 points, T=300 pts, SC=100 pts, M=50 pts</i>	400	
	3 Proposed easement area contains rare or exemplary natural communities that appear in NHB records or have been identified by a qualified professional (documentation required). <i>Yes=100 points No=0 Points</i>	150	
	4 <b>WAP Tiers</b> Highest Ranked Habitat in NH = 250 Pts or Highest Ranked Habitat in Biological Region = 150 Pts or Supporting Landscape = 75 Pts	250	
<b>Hydrology Restoration Potential</b>	5 Preliminary Restoration Plan (see attached Field Assessment Worksheet) <i>*Maximum capped at 1200 points</i>	1200	<b>0</b>
	6 Percent of the easement, after proposed restoration, that will provide: (1) hydrologic conditions suitable for the needs of the native wetland dependent wildlife species and (2) appropriate wetland functions and values that existed prior to degradation - 25 points for each 10%.	250	
	<i>* If parcel cannot demonstrate hydrology restoration potential (score of zero on Category 5 &amp; 6), parcel is ineligible for WRP.</i>	-	-
<b>Maximum Points for Environmental Benefit Considerations</b>		<b>2650</b>	<b>0</b>

Category	Economic Considerations		Maximum Points	Parcel Points							
Cost Effectiveness Factors	7	Applicant and/or partnership contributions exist that will reduce NRCS easement acquisition and/or restoration costs*. 5 points for every \$1,000 contribution with a maximum of 250 points. Contributions must be documented in writing prior to ranking. *Restoration costs may include implementation expenses and/or in-kind final WRPO development by qualified professionals after APCE is signed.	250								
	8	<table border="1"> <tr> <td rowspan="2">Cost Benefit Analysis</td> <td>Environmental Benefit Points</td> </tr> <tr> <td>----- x 100</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">GARC + Restoration (cost per acre)</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2"><i>(Maximum capped at 50 points)</i></td> </tr> </table>	Cost Benefit Analysis	Environmental Benefit Points	----- x 100	GARC + Restoration (cost per acre)		<i>(Maximum capped at 50 points)</i>		50	
	Cost Benefit Analysis	Environmental Benefit Points									
----- x 100											
GARC + Restoration (cost per acre)											
<i>(Maximum capped at 50 points)</i>											
<b>Maximum Points for Cost Effectiveness Factors</b>			<b>300</b>	<b>0</b>							
Management Effectiveness Factors	9	Operation and maintenance of restoration practices, once installed, will be: <i>Required, but less often than every 5 years - 50 points</i> <i>Required more often than every 5 years - 0 points</i>	50								
	10	Ownership will be transferred to a qualified third party (such as a state wildlife agency, land trust, etc) after the easement has closed. Agreement must be documented in writing prior to ranking. <i>Yes = 250 Points No = 0 Points</i>	250								
	<b>Maximum Points for Management Factors</b>			<b>300</b>	<b>0</b>						
<b>Maximum Points for Economic Considerations</b>			<b>600</b>	<b>0</b>							

Category	Special Considerations		Maximum Points	Parcel Points
Conservation Priority Areas	11	NH Conservation Priority Areas as listed in a local, state, or regional plan including but not limited to: -NH Aquifer -Important Bird Area -NHDES Impaired Water Buffers -Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture -New England Cottontail Focus Area -Quabbin to Cardigan Initiative -NH Coastal & Estuarine Land Protection Plan -Upper Ammonoosuc and Israel River Watersheds -NRCS Rivers Initiative (Connecticut, Great Bay, Merrimack, Saco) <i>(50 points for each occurrence - maximum 250 points)</i>	250	
Farmland Productivity	12	Acres offered do not include prime or statewide important farmland soils. If so, points will be deducted as follows: <i>&lt;5 acres = 0 points      5-10 acres = 100 points</i> <i>11-20 acres = 150 points      20+ acres = 200 points</i>	200	
<b>Total for Special Considerations</b>			<b>250</b>	<b>0</b>

<b>TOTAL RANKING SCORE</b>	<b>Maximum Points</b>	<b>Parcel Points</b>
<b>Total Score for Environmental Benefit Considerations:</b>	<b>2650</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total Score for Economic Considerations:</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total for Special Considerations:</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>FINAL RANKING SCORE:</b>	<b>3500</b>	<b>0</b>

<b>SIGNATURE BLOCK</b>	
<b>Landowner Signature:</b> _____ <b>Date:</b> _____ PRINT NAME: _____	
<b>NRCS Representative:</b> _____ <b>Date:</b> _____ PRINT NAME: _____	
<p align="center"><i>**CHANGES TO PROPOSED EASEMENT BOUNDARY, SITE HYDROLOGY, VEGETATIVE COVER, OR RESTORATION PRACTICES AFTER RANKING MAY VOID THIS SCORE. LANDOWNERS WHO MAKE THESE CHANGES WILL BE DEFERRED.</i></p>	

## 2014 WRE Preliminary Restoration Plan - Field Assessment Worksheet

LANDOWNER NAME:

Resource Concern Categories	Units	Estimated Field Units	Points/Field Unit	Ranking Points	Restoration Practices Selected	Plan Reference	Estimated Cost	Benefitted Acres (Q#6)	
<b>I: SURFACE HYDROLOGY</b>									
improperly sized, placed, or degraded perennial stream crossings	Each		50	0					
Length of incised or degraded perennial streams	Feet		0.5	0					
improperly sized, placed, or degraded intermittent stream crossings	Each		25	0					
Length of incised or degraded intermittent streams	Feet		0.25	0					
<b>II: WETLAND FILL</b>									
Square feet of filled wetlands	Feet <sup>2</sup>		0.05	0					
<b>III: RIPARIAN BUFFER</b>									
Square feet of eroding stream bank	Feet <sup>2</sup>		0.02	0					
Square feet of riparian area to be restored to native plant community	Feet <sup>2</sup>		0.01	0					
<b>IV: FOREST TRAILS &amp; ACCESS ROADS</b>									
Length of roads/trails within wetlands that degrade hydrologic function	Feet		0.2	0					
Length of roads/trails that contribute to unnatural drainage patterns (seeps, sinks, etc)	Feet		0.1	0					
<b>V: AGRICULTURAL LANDS</b>									
Length of surface or subsurface drainage	Feet		2	0					
Length of field edge with inadequate wetland buffer	Feet		1	0					
Acres of hydric soils previously shaped +/- smoothed for agriculture	Acre		50	0					
<b>VI: INVASIVE SPECIES</b>									
Treatment acres colonized by wetland invasive species	Acre		25	0					
Treatment acres colonized by upland invasive species	Acre		10	0					
<b>VII: FORESTED WETLANDS &amp; VERNAL POOLS</b>									
Acres degraded by past or present activities for food and fiber production (decreased hydroperiod, increased runoff, lack of coarse woody debris, altered vegetative community, etc)	Acre		25	0					
<b>VIII: ADDITIONAL RESOURCE CONCERNS</b>									
				0					
				<b>TOTAL RANKING SCORE:</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>TOTAL ESTIMATED COST:</b>		<b>\$0.00</b>	0.0

(\*Maximum ranking score capped at 1200 points)

### SIGNATURE BLOCK

Landowner Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PRINT \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

NRCS Representative: \_\_\_\_\_ NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PRINT \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*CHANGES TO PROPOSED EASEMENT BOUNDARY, SITE HYDROLOGY, VEGETATIVE COVER, OR RESTORATION PRACTICES AFTER RANKING MAY VOID THIS SCORE. LANDOWNERS WHO MAKE THESE CHANGES WILL BE DEFERRED.