NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY INCENTIVES PROGRAM
WORKING LANDS FOR WILDLIFE LESSER PRAIRIE-CHICKEN INITIATIVE
APPLICATION EVALUATION RANKING TOOL—STATE AND LOCAL QUESTIONS

State Ranking Questions-400 total points possible	2014 Points
Leks:	
1a. Is there a documented lek on or within 2 miles of the offered acres that will be under contract if approved? (If the lek is located on the applicant's operation they must be willing to share this information with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in order to receive points.)	100
Conservation Reserve Program Acres:	
2a. Will the offered acres include expired or expiring (this calendar year) Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) acres that will be maintained, enhanced, and or established to Lesser Prairie–Chicken (LPC) habitat? These acres must be managed under Conservation Practice (CP) 645, Upland Wildlife Habitat Management.	100
Woody Invasives:	
3a. Will the offered acres include treatment of woody vegetation to improve LPC habitat?	100
Conversion to LPC habitat:	
4a. Will the offered acres include cropland and/or non-cropland acres that will be converted to LPC habitat to address a need identified in the Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Guide (WHEG)?	25
Prescribed Burn:	
5a. Will a Prescribed Burn Plan promoting LPC habitat be applied under contract?	50
Current Plan:	
6a. Is the application supported by a current (less than 5 years old) approved NRCS conservation plan, that addresses LPC concerns?	25

Local Ranking Questions–250 total points possible	2014 Points
1. Does the application include a practice with a lifespan of at least 10 years (as documented in the electronic Field Office Technical Guide [eFOTG])?	30
2. Does the application include conservation practices that are scheduled to be completed within the first 4 years?	30
3. Has the applicant secured funding for the project from other contributors (i.e., Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism, conservation districts, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and Kansas Alliance for Wetlands and Streams)?	30
4. Will the planned treatment benefit natural wetlands exceeding one acre in size (a certified wetland determination is not required)?	30
5. Does the offered acreage have less than 51 percent of the section lines within a one–mile radius (2,000 acres) developed into primary roads (heavily maintained county roads, state highways, interstates, and gas/oil roads)?	30
6. Does the offered acreage have less than three vertical structures (transmission line poles, wind turbines, cell phone towers, buildings, tank batteries, etc.) present within a one-mile radius (2,000 acres)?	30
7. Does the offered acreage have less than two oil and gas wells within a one-mile radius (2,000 acres)?	30
8. Was the application deferred from a previous funding period in the Program Contracts System (ProTracts)?	40