

**TENNESSEE
WETLANDS RESERVE PROGRAM
ENVIRONMENTAL RANKING CRITERIA**

Date _____

<p><u>Applicant Information</u></p> <p>Landowner Name _____</p> <p>County _____</p> <p>Address _____</p> <p>City _____</p> <p>State _____ Zip Code _____</p> <p>Contact Number (____) _____</p>	<p><u>Application Type</u></p> <p>Permanent Easement _____</p> <p>30-Year Easement _____</p> <p>10-Year Restoration Agreement _____</p> <p><u>Total Point Value</u></p> <div style="border: 1px solid red; width: 80px; height: 25px; margin: 5px auto;"></div> <p><u>Ranking Number</u></p> <div style="border: 1px solid red; width: 80px; height: 25px; margin: 5px auto;"></div>
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General Guidelines for Ranking Intentions

1. No points will be awarded if category is not applicable.
2. A ranking packet will be completed for each intention.
3. Intentions will be on a tract basis, if offered acres are not continuous.

(1) Application Type

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------|
| 1. Permanent Easement | _____ (5 pts) |
| 2. 30-Year Easement | _____ (2 pts) |
| 3. 10-Year Restoration Agreement | _____ (1 pt) |

(2) Potential to Retain Long-Term Wetland Functions/Values

- | | |
|---|---------------|
| Permanent Easement; Planned Hydrology Restoration | _____ (5 pts) |
| Permanent Easement; No Hydrology Restoration | _____ (4 pts) |
| 30-Year Easement; Planned Hydrology Restoration | _____ (3 pts) |
| 30-Year Easement; No Hydrology Restoration | _____ (2 pts) |
| 10-Year Wetland Restoration Agreement | _____ (1 pt) |

(3) Significant Habitat Values; Migratory Birds, Wildlife, Declining Species (Choose Highest Applicable Category)

Note: Eligible sites are listed in Appendix

Federal-or-State Listed Threatened or Endangered Species Occupies, and Restoration will Enhance Protection _____ (10 pts)

Easement is in one of the following targeted areas: _____ (6 pts)

- A. Mississippi Alluvial Valley
- B. Obion River Watershed
- C. Forked Deer River Watershed
- D. Hatchie River Watershed
- E. Wolf River Watershed

Site Contributes to Declining Species Habitat; Meets at Least One Item Below _____ (3 pts)

- A. Reforestation exceeds 50 acres in Middle or East Tennessee
- B. Reforestation exceeds 200 acres in West Tennessee
- C. Shallow Depressions Restored or Created; Structural Treatment Required (e.g., plugs, dikes, excavation, etc.)

(4) Restoration within Designated Special Interest Areas

West Tennessee

Obion/Forked Deer (including North, Middle, South Forks Primary Floodplains) _____ (5 pts)

Hatchie River Watershed _____ (4 pts)

Mississippi River Delta _____ (3 pts)

Wolf River Floodplain _____ (2 pts)

All Other Areas _____ (0 pts)

Middle Tennessee

Elk/Duck River Watersheds _____ (5 pts)

Barrens Area: Coffee/Adjacent Counties _____ (4 pts)

Cherry/Squeeze Bottoms; Humphreys Co. _____ (3 pts)

All Other Areas _____ (0 pts)

East Tennessee

Lick Creek-Greene, Washington Counties Clinch/Powell/Little Chucky/ Holston Watersheds	_____ (5 pts)
Shad Valley	_____ (4 pts)
Lower Sequatchie Valley-Marion County	_____ (3 pts)
Elk Fork Creek-Campbell County above Jellico	_____ (2 pts)
All Other Areas	_____ (0 pts)

(5) Percentage of Total Easement Area in PC, FW, FWP, WX, or Drained Forested Wetland

Percent Restorable Wetland in Offer

90-100%	_____ (5 pts)
80-89%	_____ (4 pts)
70-79%	_____ (3 pts)
60-69%	_____ (2 pts)
< 60%	_____ (1 pt)

(6) Percentage of acres in easement to be influenced by hydrology treatments (Refer to Hydrology Worksheet). Hydrology treatments consists of planned alterations to the site such as Ditch Plugs, Excavation of Depressions, Tile Breaks, etc. Waterfowl Impoundments installed prior to WRP applications are considered treatments if the features will be maintained as part of an easement.

Percent Easement with Planned "Hydrology Restoration Treatment"

≥ 30%	_____ (15 pts)
20-29%	_____ (10 pts)
10-19%	_____ (7 pts)
1-9%	_____ (3 pts)
< 1%	_____ (1 pt)

(7) Total Easement Acres Offered by Region of the State

Note: Round Offers to the Nearest Whole Number

West Tennessee (No. of Acres)

250+	_____ (5 pts)
200-249	_____ (4 pts)
150-199	_____ (3 pts)
100-149	_____ (2 pts)
50-99	_____ (1 pt)

Middle Tennessee (No. of Acres)

50+	_____ (5 pts)
25-49	_____ (4 pts)
10-24	_____ (3 pts)
5-9	_____ (2pts)
1-4	_____ (1 pt)

East Tennessee (No. of Acres)

10+	_____ (5 pts)
7-9	_____ (4 pts)
4-8	_____ (3 pts)
1-3	_____ (2 pts)
< 1	_____ (1 pt)

(8) Diversity of Wetland types by Coward Classification expected on site after restoration. Check All Appropriate.

Note: This Category may be determined by a review of the National Wetlands Inventory Map and taking into account the Planned Hydrologic Treatments and Vegetation Establishment for the site.

Check

Forested, Temporarily Flooded (Limited to from a few days to a few weeks at any times; PF01A	
Forested, Seasonally Flooded (Flooding typically for at least 2 months up to 6 months sometime during year; PF01C	
Forested, Semi-permanently to Permanently Flooded or Poned (Flooding or ponding 6 months or more in a typical year; would include beaver ponds, impoundments that cannot be totally drained, and closed outlet depressionnal or ponded areas; PF01B	
Forested, Saturated Condition Only; PF01B	
Emergent, Herbaceous, Temporarily Flooded; PEM1A	
Emergent, Herbaceous, Seasonally Flooded; PEM1C	
Emergent, Herbaceous, Semi-permanently or Permanently Flooded or Poned; PEM1F	
Emergent, Saturated Only; PEM1B	
Deepwater Habitat (Permanent open water deep enough to not readily support emergent vegetation)	

No. of Wetlands

6 or more	_____ (10 pts)
5	_____ (7 pts)
4	_____ (4 pts)
< 4	_____ (1 pt)

(9) The Number, Variety, and Quality of Restoration Treatments Planned for the Site

Treatment-High Quality Category

- A. Water Control Structure; Set to ensure minimum 20% undrained condition of impounded area _____
- B. Excavation of Shallow Depressions _____
- C. Tile Break _____
- D. Ditch Plug _____
- E. Tree Planting- Oaks Planted on Oak Site, or Non-Oak Planted on Non-Oak Site _____

Treatment- Medium Quality Category

- A. Levee Construction- Serpentine or Contour: Height < 6 Feet; > 80% of Leveed Area; <18-inch Water Depth _____
- B. Water Control Structure; with Complete Draining Capabilities _____
- C. Natural Regeneration on a Non-Oak Site _____
- D. Levee Breach on Unchannelized Stream System _____

Treatment- Low Quality Category

- A. Levee Construction- Straight Levees: Height < 6 Feet; > 80% of Leveed Area; <18-inch Water Depth _____
- B. Natural Regeneration on an Oak Site _____
- C. Levee Breach on a Channelized Stream System _____
- D. Nesting Islands _____

Planned Treatments

- A. Combination of 5 or More Different Treatments; At least 3 from High Category _____ (20 pts)
- B. Combination of 4 Different Treatments; At least 2 from High Quality Category _____ (15 pts)
- C. Combination of 3 Different Treatments _____ (7 pts)
- D. Less than 3 Different Treatments Planned _____ (0 pts)

(10) The Total Estimated Cost of Restoration Per Acre (Total Easement Area)

- A. Estimated to be less than cost list estimates due to landowner or partner inputs (by fund or in-kind) over program requirements _____ (5 pts)
- B. Estimated to be equal or more than cost list estimates _____ (0 pts)

(11) Operation and Maintenance Considerations

Level of Risk

- A. Potential level of risk for structure failure considered normal based on site conditions _____ (5 pts)
- B. Potential level of risk for structure failure considered high based on site location (Mississippi River Floodplain, High Gradient Stream Bottoms, Highly Restricted Floodplains, Offer with Existing Beaver Ponds) _____ (0 pts)

Ranking Summary Sheet

<u>Factor</u>	<u>Maximum Possible Points</u>	<u>Points Earned</u>
1	5	_____
2	5	_____
3	19	_____
4	5	_____
5	5	_____
6	15	_____
7	5	_____
8	10	_____
9	20	_____
10	5	_____
11	10	_____
Total Points for Site:		_____

Total Estimated USDA Cost For Restoration:

Permanent Easement- 100% _____

30-Year Easement- 75% _____

10-Year Contract- 75% _____

Estimated Cost of Easement to USDA:

Permanent (100% of Appraisal) _____

30-Year (75% of Appraisal) _____

Note: Estimated appraised value to be determined by DC based on local land values for Cropland, Woodland, and Water Areas

Total USDA Cost for Acquisition & Restoration

Total Easement Acres _____

Total Estimated Cost Per Acre _____

Total Cropland Acres _____

Total Pastureland Acres _____

Total Otherland Acres _____