Natural Resources Conservation Service

Application Ranking Summary

Area 1 - Dry Cropland - Beginning Farmer/Rancher

Program:	**Ranking Date:**	**Application Number:**
Ranking Tool: Area 1 - Dry Cropland - Beginning Farmer/Rancher		**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 (122,124)?	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
1. Is the program application to support the development of a 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.	Yes O or No O
2. Wildlife – Will the practices installed facilitate improvement in the habitat for sensitive, threatened, or endangered species?	Yes O or No O
3. Weeds - Will the practices installed control all invasive species present on the offered acres?	Yes O or No O
4. Water Quality – Will practices be installed to improve the identified TMDL impairment adjacent to and/or located less than 1320 feet from a TMDL identified water body?	Yes O or No O
5. Grazing Lands - Will the practices installed result in the implementation of a planned grazing system?	Yes O or No O
6. Pollinator Habitat – Will this application include development of food, cover, and/or nest sites for native pollinators in accordance with Utah Technical Guide Notice UT238?	Yes O or No O

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
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1. Is the program application to support the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is "Yes", do not answer any other Local level questions. If answer is "No", proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	Yes O or No O
Integrated Pest Management (Answer YES to only one of the following 2-3.)	
2. Will this application implement an intensive IPM plan to control local/county/state invasive/noxious pests and weeds? (plan must include maintaining records for scouting, alternative treatment methods, timing of application,least hazardous chemical use, etc.)	Yes O or No O
3. Will this application implement a basic IPM plan to control local/county/state invasive/noxious pests and weeds? (limited scouting, timing of application & following label required)	Yes O or No O
Impaired Water Quality (Answer YES to only one of the following 4-6.)	

4. Will practices be installed to improve water quality adjacent to and/or located less than 1320 feet from an identfied water body (lake, stream, reservoir, TMDL nutrient impaired watershed, etc.) ?	Yes O or No O
5. Will practices be installed to improve water quality between 1321 and 2640 feet from an identified water body (lake, stream, reservoir, TMDL nutrient impaired watershed, etc.)?	Yes O or No O
6. Will practices be installed to improve water quality between 2641 and 5280 feet from an identified water body (lake, stream, reservoir, TMDL nutrient impaired watershed, etc. ?	Yes O or No O
Soils	
7. Does the applicant have a current soils test AND are they applying manure/fertilizers as not to exceed the recommendations of this test for all lands this application will service. (current year test on annual crop or within three years on perennial crops)?	Yes O or No O
8. Will practice(s) be applied to HEL soils?	Yes O or No O
Conservation Planning	
9. Will one or more of the following conservation practices be installed? (buffer strips, field border, filter strips, grassed waterway, or strip cropping)?	Yes O or No O
10. Will one or more of the following conservation practices be installed (terrace, sedminent basin, diversion)?	Yes O or No O
11. Will permanent vegetation on terrraces and diversions be installed to protect the structures and provide habitat for wildlife?	Yes O or No O
12. Will there be Cover crops in the rotation?	Yes O or No O
Answer YES to only one of the following 13-14.	
13. Is the cooperator willing to address 2 or more additional resource concerns?	Yes O or No O
14. Is the cooperator willing to address 1 additional resource concern?	Yes O or No O
Answer YES to only one of the following 15-16.	
15. Will the applicant implement in the contract the No-Till management practice?	Yes O or No O
16. Will the applicant implement in the contract the Mulch Till reduced tillage management practice?	Yes O or No O
Change in Soil Conditioning Index (Answer Yes to only one of the following 17-22.)	
17. Is the change from the Benchmark to the Projected Future SCI less than or equal to .08?	Yes O or No O
18. Is the change from the Benchmark to the Projected Future SCI greater than .08 and less than or equal to .4?	Yes O or No O
19. Is the change from the Benchmark to the Projected Future SCI greater than .4 and less than or equal to .6	Yes O or No O
20. Is the change from the Benchmark to the Projected Future SCI greater than .6 and less than or equal to .8?	Yes O or No O
21. Is the change from the Benchmark to the Projected Future SCI greater than .8 and less than or equal to .9?	Yes O or No O
22. Is the change from the Benchmark to the Projected Future SCI greater than .9?	Yes O or No O
Change in Soil Tillage Intensity Rating (STIR) (Answer yes to only one of the following 23-26.)	
23. The projected future STIR is less than or equal to 20.	Yes O or No O
24. The projected future STIR is greater than 21 and less than or equal to 40.	Yes O or No O
25. The projected future STIR is greater than 41 and less than or equal to 60.	Yes O or No O
26. The projected STIR is greater than 60.	Yes O or No O
Partner Contribution (Answer Yes to only one of the following 27-28.)	
27. Will this application have secured partner funding for financial and technical assistance that will result in reduced NRCS obligations? (Select yes if secured funding is >25-50% of the total project cost.)	Yes O or No O
28. Will this application have secured partner funding for financial and technical assistance that will result in reduced NRCS obligations? (Select yes if secured funding is 25% or less of the total project cost.)	Yes O or No O
Contract Compliance (if applicable)	
29. Has the applicant had a Farm Bill Contract terminated for non-compliance?	Yes O or No O

30. Does the applicant have an active Farm Bill contract that is currently not on schedule, in non-compliance or practices in arrears?	Yes O or No O

Land Use:

Resource Concerns	Practices

Ranking Score

Efficiency:

Local Issues:

State Issues:

National Issues:

Final Ranking Score:

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Notes:

NRCS Representative: **Signature Date:**	**Applicant Signature Not Required on this report for Contract Development unless required by State policy:** **Signature Date:**

Natural Resources Conservation Service

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2. a. Meet regulatory requirements relating to animal feeding operations, or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	Yes O or No O
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5. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil "T")?	Yes O or No O
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Resource Concerns	Practices

Ranking Score

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Final Ranking Score:

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Notes:

NRCS Representative: **Signature Date:**	**Applicant Signature Not Required on this report for Contract Development unless required by State policy:** **Signature Date:**

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Application Ranking Summary

Area 1 - Dry Cropland - Socially Disadvantaged

Program:	**Ranking Date:**	**Application Number:**
Ranking Tool: Area 1 - Dry Cropland - Socially Disadvantaged		**Applicant:**
Final Ranking Score:		**Address:**
Planner:		**Telephone:**
Farm Location:		

National Priorities Addressed

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19. Is the change from the Benchmark to the Projected Future SCI greater than .4 and less than or equal to .6	Yes O or No O
20. Is the change from the Benchmark to the Projected Future SCI greater than .6 and less than or equal to .8?	Yes O or No O
21. Is the change from the Benchmark to the Projected Future SCI greater than .8 and less than or equal to .9?	Yes O or No O
22. Is the change from the Benchmark to the Projected Future SCI greater than .9?	Yes O or No O
Change in Soil Tillage Intensity Rating (STIR) (Answer yes to only one of the following 23-26.)	
23. The projected future STIR is less than or equal to 20.	Yes O or No O
24. The projected future STIR is greater than 21 and less than or equal to 40.	Yes O or No O
25. The projected future STIR is greater than 41 and less than or equal to 60.	Yes O or No O
26. The projected STIR is greater than 60.	Yes O or No O
Partner Contribution (Answer Yes to only one of the following 27-28.)	
27. Will this application have secured partner funding for financial and technical assistance that will result in reduced NRCS obligations? (Select yes if secured funding is >25-50% of the total project cost.)	Yes O or No O
28. Will this application have secured partner funding for financial and technical assistance that will result in reduced NRCS obligations? (Select yes if secured funding is 25% or less of the total project cost.)	Yes O or No O
Contract Compliance (if applicable)	
29. Has the applicant had a Farm Bill Contract terminated for non-compliance?	Yes O or No O

30. Does the applicant have an active Farm Bill contract that is currently not on schedule, in non-compliance or practices in arrears?	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:**