

**WILDLIFE HABITAT INCENTIVE PROGRAM (WHIP)  
NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE  
APPLICATION EVALUATION AND RANKING TOOL NATIONAL QUESTIONS  
FISCAL YEAR 2011**

<b>Ranking Tool Questions</b>	<b>Points</b>
1. Healthy Plant & Animal Communities - Wildlife Habitat Conservation – Will the proposed project assist the applicant to:	
a. Retain wildlife and plant benefits on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program?	40
b. Address and support existing conservation initiatives such as but not limited to the following or new conservation initiatives that support State, National or tribal fish or wildlife plans:	40
Sage Grouse	
Lesser Prairie Chicken	
Longleaf Pine	
New England-New York Forestry	
c. Benefit federally listed threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, fish or wildlife species of concern?	20
d. Benefit prioritized native habitat critical to a fish or wildlife species?	20
e. Increase, improve or establish pollinator habitat?	20
f. Eradicate or control prioritized noxious or invasive species?	20
g. Benefit declining or important aquatic wildlife species prioritized in the State WHIP Plan?	20
h. Implement conservation practices which benefit prioritized fish or wildlife species in forested areas?	15
i. Establish habitat on pivot corners and irregular areas on agricultural land?	10
j. Provide self-sustaining habitat for prioritized fish and wildlife while reducing net carbon emissions or boosting carbon storage (e.g., warm season perennial grasses, trees or shrubs)?	10
k. Benefit migration and other movement corridors for prioritized wildlife?	15
2. Business Lines – Conservation Implementation - Additional Ranking Considerations – Will the applicant in the proposed project:	
a. Complete habitat development within the first two years of the agreement?	20
<b>Total</b>	<b>250</b>