

Natural Resources Conservation Service

**Application Ranking Summary
CCPI Manure Injection/Residue Mgmt**

National Issue Questions
Clean and Abundant Water: Water Quality – Will the proposed project assist the producer to:
1. a. Meet regulatory requirements relating to animal feeding operations, or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?
1. b. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a designated impaired water body?
1. c. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a water body?
Clean and Abundant Water: Water Conservation – Will the proposed project assist the producer to:
2. a. Increase groundwater recharge in identified groundwater depletion areas (http://water.usgs.gov/ogw/rasa/html/TOC.html)?
2. b. Conserve water from irrigation system improvements and result in estimated water savings of at least 5% and saved water will be available for other beneficial uses?
2. c. Conserve water in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?
Clean Air: Treatment of Air Quality from Agricultural Sources – Will the proposed project assist the producer to:
3. a. Meet regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?
3. b. Reduce green house gases such as methane, nitrous oxide, and volatile organic compounds (VOC)?
3. c. Increase carbon sequestration?
High Quality, Productive Soils Erosion Reduction – Will the proposed project assist the producer to:
4. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil “T”)?
Healthy Plant and Animal Communities Wildlife Habitat Conservation – Will the proposed project assist the producer to:
5. a. Benefit threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern as identified in a State wildlife plan?
5. b. Retain wildlife and plant benefits on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)?
High Quality, Productive Soils, Healthy Plant and Animal Communities: Special Environmental Efforts/Initiatives – Will the proposed project assist the producer to:
6. a. Eradicate or control noxious or invasive species?
6. b. Increase, improve or establish pollinator habitat?
6. c. Properly dispose of animal carcasses?
6. d. Implement an Integrated Pest Management plan?
6. e. Implement precision agricultural methods?
Strategic Initiative – Energy Conservation and Sustainable Production Energy Conservation – Will the proposed project assist the producer to:
7. a. Reduce energy consumption on the agricultural operation?
Business Lines – Conservation Implementation Additional Ranking Considerations - Will the proposed project result in:

8. a. Implementation of all planned conservation practices within three years of contract obligation?
8. b. Improvement of existing conservation practices or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is accepted, or will complete an existing conservation system?
Does the applicant meet the following conditions:
9. a. If the applicant has an existing EQIP contract, has it been, and is it now, on schedule and in full compliance?
9. b. Did the applicant successfully complete any past contract(s) in full compliance?
9. c. Is this the applicant's first EQIP application?
State Issue Questions
1. Will this CCPI-EQIP application correct deficiencies in agricultural waste or water quality land management practices on one or more land units located within Missisquoi Bay, St. Albans Bay, or South Lake watersheds of Lake Champlain?
2. Will this CCPI-EQIP application correct deficiencies in agricultural waste or water quality oriented land management practice associated with one or more land units located in a watershed containing an agriculturally stressed segment of water identified on the State of Vermont 303(d) list of impaired waters, surface water source protection areas, or in a public wellhead protection area?
3. Has a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP) that meets NRCS' standards and specifications been developed and/or updated within the last 3 years for the fields treated with this CCPI-EQIP application?
4. Are livestock numbers on the farm, based on animal units per acre, in balance with land currently available for grazing and/or spreading manure?
5. Did the applicant check that they are Historically Underserved on their EQIP application (Beginning Farmer, Limited Resource Farmer, Socially Disadvantaged Farmer)?
6. Will the treatment you intend to implement using CCPI-EQIP be performed on fields with slopes greater than 5%?
7. Will the treatment you intend to implement using CCPI-EQIP be performed on fields with Hydrologic Soil Groups C or D?
8. Will the treatment you intend to implement using CCPI-EQIP be performed on 25% or more of the land currently utilized by the farm for crop/forage/pasture production?
9. Will the treatment you intend to implement using CCPI-EQIP include more than one eligible practice?
10. Will this treatment include mulch tillage, no-tillage, or strip tillage?
Local Issue Questions
Franklin Local Working Group
1. Does practice prevent or reduce sediment and nutrient loading to water
2. Does this application include a waste storage facility where a system does not already exist on the farm, and where field stacking is not feasible and where significant water quality concerns need to be addressed?
3. Does this application include a waste storage facility where an existing system has failed, not due to herd expansion or lack of proper management?
4. Does practice prevent or reduce silage leachate into water
5. Does application include access roads that will minimize the amount of manure and sediment being deposited on public roads and into water
Otter Creek Local Working Group
6. Will this EQIP application reduce Phosphorus loading in surface waters?

7. Will this EQIP application reduce Phosphorus runoff by addressing animal waste storage and/or by addressing inadequate waste storage including leachate storage treatment systems?
8. Will this EQIP application improve water quality by addressing clean water diversion?
9. Will this EQIP application improve water quality by means of alternative manure management (including odor), solid manure handling and /or low level application for ag wastes?
10. Will this EQIP application address alternative energy production?
Poultney-Mettawee Local Working Group
11. Does this application include a practice to control invasive species?
12. Does this application include a practice that will reduce soil erosion?
13. Does this application include a practice that will improve soil quality/soil health?
14. Does this application include a practice that will improve forest health/upland wildlife habitat?
15. Does this application address concerns highlighted in the South Lake Nutrient Reduction workplan or the PM basin plan?
Rutland Local Working Group
16. Does this application include a practice to control invasive species?
17. Does this application include a practice that will reduce soil erosion?
18. Does this application include a practice that will improve soil quality/soil health?
19. Does this application include a practice that will improve forest health/upland wildlife habitat?
20. Does this application include a practice that addresses water quality?