

**Connecticut Ranking Criteria Worksheet for Easements –  
Grasslands Reserve Program  
Land Evaluation and Site Assessment System (LESA)  
(LE = 35%, SA = 65%)**

**Land Evaluation (LE)**

1. Size of Parcel (*total acres to be enrolled*)

Acres	Factor Scale
> 40 acres	100
20 - 40 acres	50
10-19 acres	25
< 10 acres	0

\_\_\_\_\_ x .2 = \_\_\_\_\_

2. Percent of Grassland in Total Parcel Offered:

Percent	Factor Scale
100%	100
80% - 99%	50
< 80%	0

\_\_\_\_\_ x .05 = \_\_\_\_\_

3. Percent Parcel that Contains Prime and Statewide Important Farmland Soils:\*

Percent	Factor Scale
> 80%	100
61% - 80%	75
41% - 60%	50
20% - 40%	25
< 20%	0

\_\_\_\_\_ x .1 = \_\_\_\_\_

LE Subtotal = \_\_\_\_\_

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\*Indicates factors that represent threat of conversion.

**Site Assessment (SA)**

4. How is the Grassland Currently Managed?

Percent	Levels of Management	Factor Scale
100-50%	Managed for both Agriculture and Grassland Habitat	100
< 50%	Managed for both Agriculture and Grassland Habitat	50
	Managed for Agriculture Only	25
	Managed for Habitat Only	25

\_\_\_\_\_ x .1 = \_\_\_\_\_

5. Is Site in Need of Restoration?

Restoration Needs	Factor Scale
No restoration needed (100% grassland)	100
50% needs restoration	50
75% needs restoration	25
>75% needs restoration (cropland and shrubs)	0

\_\_\_\_\_ x .03 = \_\_\_\_\_

6. Active Farmland/Grasslands within 2 Mile Radius:\*

Acres	Factor Scale
> 700 acres	100
401 – 700 acres	80
201 – 400 acres	60
101 – 200 acres	40
< 100 acres	20

\_\_\_\_\_ x .07 = \_\_\_\_\_

7. Percent Land in Compatible Land Use Adjacent to the Parcel:\*

Percent	Factor Scale
> 75%	100
50% - 74%	75
25% - 49%	50
< 25%	25

\_\_\_\_\_ x .07 = \_\_\_\_\_

8. What is the Likelihood the Parcel will remain in Grasslands?\*

Long Term Commitment	Factor Scale
Permanent Easement	100
30 Year Easement	50

\_\_\_\_\_ x .15 = \_\_\_\_\_

9. Is the Parcel Part of a Threatened Agricultural or Grassland Habitat Community?\*

Agricultural/Habitat Community	Factor Scale
Connecticut River Corridor and Connecticut Valley (MLRA 145)	100
Within 10 Miles of Coast	75
Rest of State	50

\_\_\_\_\_ x .17 = \_\_\_\_\_

10. Is the Parcel Part of an Area Recognized as Special Concern or Environmental Value (*all that apply*)?

Special Concerns	Factor Scale
Ag Community/Cluster	25
Habitat for Threatened/Endangered (known species)	25
Designated or Proposed Greenway	25
Other Locally Important ( <i>i.e., cultural resources, public water supply, scenic vista</i> ) Must Identify	25

Local Concern: \_\_\_\_\_ x .05 = \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ x = \_\_\_\_\_

SA Subtotal = \_\_\_\_\_

GRAND TOTAL = \_\_\_\_\_

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\*Indicates factors that represent threat of conversion.