

Ranking Tool Summary for FY2013 - Wildlife-Forestland Habitat

State Issues:

Questions:

Sub-heading Number	Question Number	Question	Points
1		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 1.1 will result in the application being awarded the maximum amount of points that can be earned for the State priority category.	
	1	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.	300
2		Comprehensive Landuse Plan with Wildlife Emphasis	
	1	State of Iowa Forestland Wildlife T&E or Species of Concern - Site is verified by a Comprehensive Landuse Plan with Wildlife Emphasis - Site has an existing forestland management plan that has wildlife habitat as the main objective which was developed or reviewed by a natural resource professional.	60
3		Site Objective Emphasis is on Producing Hard Mast Species at Maturity (DBH >12")	
	1	Site Objective Emphasis is on Producing Hard Mast Species at Maturity (DBH >12") - Site will have >80% of optimal stocking rate of hardmast trees at maturity OR site is a savanna identified in writing by a resource professional and approved as such by NRCS that is under active management and protection to maintain that condition. (Answer Yes to one of questions 3.1-3.4)	50
	2	Site Objective Emphasis is on Producing Hard Mast Species at Maturity (DBH >12") - Site will have > 60% but < 75% optimal stocking rate at maturity.(Answer Yes to one of questions 3.1 - 3.4)	35
	3	Site Objective Emphasis is on Producing Hard Mast Species at Maturity (DBH >12") - Site will have > 35% but < 60% optimal stocking rate at maturity.(Answer Yes to one of questions 3.1 - 3.4)	10
	4	Site Objective Emphasis is on Producing Hard Mast Species at Maturity (DBH >12") - Site will have <35% optimal stocking rate at maturity.(Answer Yes to one of questions 3.1 - 3.4)	0
4		Diversity of Native Hard Mast Tree Species in Forestland Stand at Maturity	
	1	Diversity of Native Hard Mast Tree Species in Forestland Stand at Maturity - Woodland stand will have > 4 species of hardwoods with both the white and red oak groups represented. All Species counted must be native woody plants, do not include introduced species. Species must comprise at least two percent of the tree species to be counted as part of the stand. (Answer Yes to one of questions 4.1 - 4.6)	50
	2	Diversity of Native Hard Mast Tree Species in Forestland Stand at Maturity - Woodland stand will have > 4 species of hardwoods with only either the white oak or the red oak group represented. All Species counted must be native woody plants, do not include introduced species. Species must comprise at least two percent of the tree species to be counted as part of the stand. (Answer Yes to one of questions 4.1 - 4.6)	25

	3	Diversity of Native Hard Mast Tree Species in Forestland Stand at Maturity - Woodland stand will have < 4 species of hardwoods. All Species counted must be native woody plants, do not include introduced species. Species must comprise at least two percent of the tree species to be counted as part of the stand. (Answer Yes to one of questions 4.1 - 4.6)	0
	4	Diversity of Oak Savanna Restoration at Maturity - Savanna will have either Burr Oak or White Oak woodland community and appropriate associated shrub community at maturity. Appropriate shrub community species includes hazelnut, lead plant, New Jersey tea, smooth sumac, pasture rose, and prairie willow. (Answer Yes to one of questions 4.1 - 4.6)	50
	5	Diversity of Oak Savanna Restoration at Maturity - Savanna will have either Burr Oak or White Oak woodland community but will not have the appropriate shrub community. Appropriate shrub community species includes hazelnut, lead plant, New Jersey tea, smooth sumac, pasture rose, and prairie willow. (Answer Yes to one of questions 4.1 - 4.6)	25
	6	Diversity of Oak Savanna Restoration at Maturity - Savanna will not have either Burr Oak or White Oak woodland community or appropriate associated shrub community at maturity. Appropriate shrub community species includes hazelnut, lead plant, New Jersey tea, smooth sumac, pasture rose, and prairie willow. (Answer Yes to one of questions 4.1 - 4.6)	0
5		Age Class of the Forest Stand with Which the EQIP Project is Associated	
	1	Age Class of the Forest Stand with Which the EQIP Project is Associated - Forestland is > 50 percent pole timber (4-12 " DBH). (Answer Yes to one of questions 5.1 - 5.4)	25
	2	Age Class of the Forest Stand with Which the EQIP Project is Associated - Forestland is > 50 percent is saw timber (> 12 " DBH). (Answer Yes to one of questions 5.1 - 5.4)	20
	3	Age Class of the Forest Stand with Which the EQIP Project is Associated - Forestland is > 50 percent regeneration (< 4" DBH). (Answer Yes to one of questions 5.1 - 5.4)	10
	4	Age Class of the Forest Stand with Which the EQIP Project is Associated - Forestland does not meet the criteria in question 21, 22, or 23. (Answer Yes to one of questions 5.1 - 5.4)	0
6		Easement Protected or Group Project	
	1	EQIP project will be applied to privately owned land that is under a conservation easement on ground that stays in private ownership, farmland protection easements, etc. Land ownership by conservation organizations or governmental agencies does not qualify.	10
7		Contiguous Proximity Factor	
	1	The EQIP financial assistance agreement will contribute to applying the planned resource management system for the property.	10
8		Historically Underserved	
	1	Is application with a Historically Underserved Producer?	95
		Maximum Points: 300 Total Points	775

Local Issues:

Questions:

Sub-heading Number	Question Number	Question	Points
1		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 1.1 will result in the application being awarded the maximum amount of points that can be earned for the Local priority category.	
	1	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.	350
2		Geographic Priority Area	
	1	Site is within the primary Forestland Priority Area. (If site is within both the primary and secondary Forestland Priority Areas, select the priority area with the most acres for this application)(Answer Yes to one of questions 2.1 - 2.3)	120
	2	Site is within the secondary Forestland Priority Area. (If site is within both the primary and secondary Forestland Priority Areas, select the priority area with the most acres for this application)(Answer Yes to one of questions 2.1 - 2.3)	45
	3	Site is not within an identified Forestland Priority Area. (Answer Yes to one of questions 2.1 - 2.3)	0
3		State of Iowa Forestland Wildlife T & E or Species of Concern	
	1	Site is verified by a resource professional in writing with the application as providing habitat for such a species AND the practices and management planned and applied to the site will improve habitat for that identified species. Document in file the specie(s) name and a copy of what the habitat improvement will be.(Answer Yes to one of questions 3.1 - 3.2)	90
	2	Site is verified by a resource professional in writing with the application as providing habitat for an animal Species of Special Concern AND the practices and management planned and applied to the site will improve habitat for that identified species. Document in file the specie(s) name and a copy of what the habitat improvement will be.(Answer Yes to one of questions 3.1 - 3.2)	45
4		Percentage of Forestland within One Mile Radius	
	1	Percentage of Forestland within One Mile Radius Circle Measured from the Center of Forestland EQIP Application Site (1 mile radius circle is ~ 2000 acres) is more than 60 percent. (Answer Yes to one of questions 4.1 - 4.5)	45
	2	Percentage of Forestland within One Mile Radius Circle Measured from the Center of Forestland EQIP Application Site (1 mile radius circle is ~ 2000 acres) is 40 - 60 percent. (Answer Yes to one of questions 4.1 - 4.5)	35
	3	Percentage of Forestland within One Mile Radius Circle Measured from the Center of Forestland EQIP Application Site (1 mile radius circle is ~ 2000 acres) is 20 - 39 percent. (Answer Yes to one of questions 4.1 - 4.5)	25
	4	Percentage of Forestland within One Mile Radius Circle Measured from the Center of Forestland EQIP Application Site (1 mile radius circle is ~ 2000 acres) is 5 - 19 percent. (Answer Yes to one of questions 4.1 - 4.5)	15
	5	Percentage of Forestland within One Mile Radius Circle Measured from the Center of Forestland EQIP Application Site (1 mile radius circle is ~ 2000 acres) is less than 5 percent. (Answer Yes to one of questions 4.1 - 4.5)	0

5		Total Size of the Entire Forestland Area with Which the Project is Associated	
	1	Total Size of the Entire Forestland Area with Which the Project is Associated - Forestland is > 150 acres. This is for forestland not savanna. Count the total contiguous forestland acres, not just the acres on the tract owned by the EQIP applicant. (Linear areas must average at least 66 feet wide to be counted as forest for this category.) (Answer Yes to one of questions 5.1 - 5.10)	45
	2	Total Size of the Entire Forestland Area with Which the Project is Associated - Forestland is > 100 but < 150 acres. This is for forestland not savanna. Count the total contiguous forestland acres, not just the acres on the tract owned by the EQIP applicant. (Linear areas must average at least 66 feet wide to be counted as forest for this category.) (Answer Yes to one of questions 5.1 - 5.10)	35
	3	Total Size of the Entire Forestland Area with Which the Project is Associated - Forestland is > 65 but < 100 acres. This is for forestland not savanna. Count the total contiguous forestland acres, not just the acres on the tract owned by the EQIP applicant. (Linear areas must average at least 66 feet wide to be counted as forest for this category.) (Answer Yes to one of questions 5.1 - 5.10)	25
	4	Total Size of the Entire Forestland Area with Which the Project is Associated - Forestland is > 25 but < 65 acres. This is for forestland not savanna. Count the total contiguous forestland acres, not just the acres on the tract owned by the EQIP applicant. (Linear areas must average at least 66 feet wide to be counted as forest for this category.) (Answer Yes to one of questions 5.1 - 5.10)	15
	5	Total Size of the Entire Forestland Area with Which the Project is Associated - Forestland is < 25 acres. This is for forestland not savanna. Count the total contiguous forestland acres, not just the acres on the tract owned by the EQIP applicant. (Linear areas must average at least 66 feet wide to be counted as forest for this category.) (Answer Yes to one of questions 5.1 - 5.10)	0
	6	Total Size of the Oak Savanna Area being Managed - Savanna is > 40 acres. Savanna includes the entire area, both the tree-shrub areas and the associated open areas of prairie. (Answer Yes to one of questions 5.1 - 5.10)	45
	7	Total Size of the Oak Savanna Area being Managed - Savanna is >30 but < 40 acres. Savanna includes the entire area, both the tree-shrub areas and the associated open areas of prairie. (Answer Yes to one of questions 5.1 - 5.10)	35
	8	Total Size of the Oak Savanna Area being Managed - Savanna is > 15 acres but < 30 acres. Savanna includes the entire area, both the tree-shrub areas and the associated open areas of prairie. (Answer Yes to one of questions 5.1 - 5.10)	25
	9	Total Size of the Oak Savanna Area being Managed - Savanna is > 5 acres but < 15 acres. Savanna includes the entire area, both the tree-shrub areas and the associated open areas of prairie. (Answer Yes to one of questions 5.1 - 5.10)	15
	10	Total Size of the Oak Savanna Area being Managed - Savanna is < 5 acres. Savanna includes the entire area, both the tree-shrub areas and the associated open areas of prairie. (Answer Yes to one of questions 5.1 - 5.10)	0
6		Group project	
	1	Application is for a group project where two or more adjacent landowners are applying practices to the same habitat resource.	25
7		Contiguous to Protected Land	
	1	EQIP application site is adjacent to (contiguous with) a site under the ownership of a public or non-governmental organization or the adjacent site is protected by a conservation easement.	25
		Maximum Points: 350 Total Points	1060

