Ranking Tool Summary
for FY2013 - Wildlife-Grassland 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	Comprehensive Landuse Plan with Wildlife Emphasis - Site has an existing grassland management plan developed or approved by a natural resource professional with wildlife as the objective.	40
3		Landuse history	
	1	Landuse history - Site is existing prairie remnant > 10 acres being renovated. (Answer Yes to one of questions 3.1 - 3.10)	80
	2	Landuse history - Site is cropland or hayland > 40 acres being converted to native grassland and forb system for native grassland wildlife. (Answer Yes to one of questions 3.1 - 3.10)	80
	3	Landuse history - Site is existing prairie remnant 5-10 acres being renovated. (Answer Yes to one of questions 3.1 - 3.10)	60
	4	Landuse history - Site is cropland or hayland 20-40 acres being converted to native grassland and forb system for native grassland wildlife. (Answer Yes to one of questions 3.1 - 3.10)	60
	5	Landuse history - Site is existing grassland system > 40 acres being enhanced and will be used to demonstrate wildlife and grazing compatibility. (Answer Yes to one of questions 3.1 - 3.10)	50
	6	Landuse history - Site is existing mixed stand of native grasses > 40 acres being enhanced by addition of forbs. (Answer Yes to one of questions 3.1 - 3.10)	40
	7	Landuse history - Site is existing grassland system > 20 acres being enhanced for demonstrating wildlife and grazing compatibility. (Answer Yes to one of questions 3.1 - 3.10)	35
	8	Landuse history - Site is cropland or hayland 5-20 acres being converted to native grassland and forb system for wildlife. (Answer Yes to one of questions 3.1 - 3.10)	30
	9	Landuse history - Site is existing mixed stand of native grasses of 10-40 acres being enhanced by addition of forbs. (Answer Yes to one of questions 3.1 - 3.10)	20
	10	Landuse history - Site fits none of the descriptions from questions 8-16. (Answer Yes to one of questions 3.1 - 3.10)	0
4		Prairie Improvement/ Enhancement	
	1	Prairie Improvement/ Enhancement - Prairie Remnant where quality condition for prairie can be achieved by: Fire only. (NOTE: Choose points from either questions 18-20 or 21-24 whichever applies to >75% of application site. (Answer Yes to one of questions 4.1 - 4.7)	80

	2	Prairie Improvement/ Enhancement - Prairie Remnant where quality condition for prairie can be achieved by: Tree removal and fire. (NOTE: Choose points from either questions 18-20 or 21-24 whichever applies to >75% of application site. (Answer Yes to one of questions 4.1 - 4.7)	60
	3	Prairie Improvement/ Enhancement - Prairie Remnant where quality condition for prairie can be achieved by: Modification of livestock grazing and fire. (NOTE: Choose points from either questions 18-20 or 21-24 whichever applies to >75% of application site. (Answer Yes to one of questions 4.1 - 4.7)	40
	4	Prairie Improvement/ Enhancement - Prairie Reconstruction: Site is prairie reconstruction with > 7 species of native grasses (with a minimum of one native cool season grass species) and > 30 native forbs. (NOTE: Choose points from either questions 18-20 or 21-24 whichever applies to >75% of application site. (Answer Yes to one of questions 4.1 - 4.7)	80
	5	Prairie Improvement/ Enhancement - Prairie Reconstruction: Site is prairie reconstruction with > 5 native grasses and > 20 native perennial forbs. (NOTE: Choose points from either questions 18-20 or 21-24 whichever applies to >75% of application site. (Answer Yes to one of questions 4.1 - 4.7)	60
	6	Prairie Improvement/ Enhancement - Prairie Reconstruction: Site is enhancement of existing warm season grassland stand with interseeding of >10 forb species but no grasses OR is a grassland reconstruction with > 3 native grass and > 10 forbs. (NOTE: Choose points from either questions 18-20 or 21-24 whichever applies to >75% of application site. (Answer Yes to one of questions 4.1 - 4.7)	35
	7	Prairie Improvement/ Enhancement - Prairie Reconstruction: Site is a planted grassland that needs mechanical disturbance to encourage annual wildlife plants. (NOTE: Choose points from either questions 18-20 or 21-24 whichever applies to >75% of application site. (Answer Yes to one of questions 4.1 - 4.7)	25
5		Privately owned under conservation easement	
	1	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.	25
6		Contribution to planned resource management system	
	1	The agreement will contribute to applying the planned resource management system for the property.	25
7		Historically Underserved	
	1	Is application with a Historically Underserved Producer?	50
		Maximum Points: 300 Total Points	1275

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		Geographical Priority Area	
	1	Southern Iowa Grasslands (Grand River Grasslands project area). NOTE: Grand River Project area will be deleted from the Grassland Priority if it receives separate special project funding. (Answer Yes to one of questions 2.1 - 2.6)	80
	2	Prairie Remnant within the Loess Hills Special Landscape Area. (Answer Yes to one of questions 2.1 - 2.6)	65
	3	Prairie Remnant within the Loess Hills Landform. (Answer Yes to one of questions 2.1 - 2.6)	55
	4	Upper Little Sioux River Prairie Remnant areas. (Answer Yes to one of questions 2.1 - 2.6)	45
	5	All other Grassland Iowa Bird Conservation Areas not already mentioned. (Answer Yes to one of questions 2.1 - 2.6)	25
	6	None of questions 1-5. (Answer Yes to one of questions 2.1 - 2.6)	0
3		Percentage of Grassland within One Mile	
	1	Percentage of Grassland within One Mile Radius Circle Measured from the Center of the Application Site (1 mile radius circle is ~ 2000 acres) is: More than 35 percent. (Answer Yes to one of questions 3.1 - 3.4)	110
	2	Percentage of Grassland within One Mile Radius Circle Measured from the Center of the Application Site (1 mile radius circle is ~ 2000 acres) is: > 20 but < 35 percent. (Answer Yes to one of questions 3.1 - 3.4)	80
	3	Percentage of Grassland within One Mile Radius Circle Measured from the Center of the Application Site (1 mile radius circle is ~ 2000 acres) is: > 10 but < 20 percent. (Answer Yes to one of questions 3.1 - 3.4)	45
	4	Percentage of Grassland within One Mile Radius Circle Measured from the Center of the Application Site (1 mile radius circle is ~ 2000 acres) is: Less than 10 percent. (Answer Yes to one of questions 3.1 - 3.4)	5
4		State of Iowa Grassland Wildlife T &E or Species of Concern	
	1	State of Iowa Grassland Wildlife T &E or Species of Concern - Site is verified by a resource professional in writing with the application as providing habitat for an animal T & E species AND the practices and management planned and applied to the site will improve habitat for that identified species. (Attach a list with specie(s) name and a copy of what the habitat improvement will be.) (Answer Yes to one of questions 4.1 - 4.2)	110
	2	State of Iowa Grassland Wildlife T &E or Species of Concern -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. (Attach a list with specie(s) name and a copy of what the habitat improvement will be.) (Answer Yes to one of questions 4.1 - 4.2)	55
5		Group Project	
	1	Application is for a group project where two or more adjacent landowners are applying practices to the same habitat resource.	25
6		Contiguous With Protected Land	
	1	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	1075