

Ranking Tool Summary

for FY2013 - Aquaculture

(Released 12/19/2012)

Description:

Land Uses:

Crop, Headquarters

Efficiency Score:

Scoring Multiplier: 100.000

Scoring Ranges and Results Text:

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| High: 100 - 75 | Medium: 74 - 50 | Low: 49 - 0 |
| The practices in the application are in the high score range | The practices in the application are in the medium score range | The practices in the application are in the low score range |

Optional Notes:

National Priorities:

Scoring Multiplier: 1.000

Scoring Ranges and Results Text:

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| High: 250 - 125 | Medium: 124 - 75 | Low: 74 - 0 |
| The application is in the high score range for addressing national priority issues | The application is in the medium score range for addressing national priority issues | The application is in the low score range for addressing national priority issues |

Questions:

| Number | Question | Points |
|--------|--|--------|
| 1 | a. Is the program application to support the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is "Yes", do not answer any other national level questions. If answer is "No", proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section. | 250 |
| 2 | a. Meet regulatory requirements relating to animal feeding operations, or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures? | 15 |
| 2 | b. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a designated "impaired water body" (TMDL, 303d, etc.)? | 15 |
| 2 | c. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a "non-impaired water body"? | 5 |
| 3 | a. Decrease aquifer overdraft? | 15 |
| 3 | b. Conserve water from irrigation system improvements and saved water will be available for other beneficial uses? | 10 |
| 3 | c. Conserve water in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project? | 5 |
| 4 | a. Meet on-farm regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures? | 15 |
| 4 | b. Reduce on-farm generated green house gases such as CO ₂ (Carbon Dioxide), CH ₄ (Methane), and N ₂ O (Nitrous Oxide)? | 15 |
| 4 | c. Increase on-farm carbon sequestration? | 5 |
| 5 | a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil "T")? | 15 |
| 5 | b. Improve soil tilth, organic matter, structure, health, etc.? | 5 |
| 6 | a. Benefit on-farm habitat associated with threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern as identified in a State wildlife plan? | 15 |
| 6 | b. Help retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)? | 10 |
| 7 | a. Help manage or control noxious or invasive plant species on non-cropland? | 10 |
| 7 | b. Increase, or improve habitat to benefit pollinator or other targeted wildlife species? | 10 |
| 7 | c. Properly dispose of livestock carcasses? | 5 |

| | | |
|--------------|---|-----|
| 7 | d. Are identified in an Integrated Pest Management plan? | 10 |
| 7 | e. Are identified in a Nutrient Management plan? | 10 |
| 7 | f. Apply principles of adaptive nutrient management? | 5 |
| 8 | a. Reduce energy consumption on the agricultural operation? | 15 |
| 8 | b. Increase on-farm energy efficiency with practices and improvements identified in an approved energy audit equivalent to criteria required in Ag EMP (122,124)? | 10 |
| 8 | c. Assist in implementing energy conservation measures that also reduce greenhouse gas emissions and other air pollutants? | 10 |
| 9 | a. Implementation of all conservation practices scheduled in the contract on the CPA-1155 within three years of date of obligation? | 10 |
| 9 | b. Improvement of existing conservation practices or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is accepted? | 5 |
| 9 | c. Implementation of practice(s) which will complete an existing conservation system or suite of practices? | 5 |
| Total Points | | 500 |

State Issues:

Scoring Multiplier: 1.000

Scoring Ranges and Results Text:

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| High: 350 - 275 | Medium: 274 - 150 | Low: 149 - 0 |
| The application is in the high score range for addressing state resource issues | The application is in the medium score range for addressing state resource issues | The application is in the low score range for addressing state resource issues |

Questions:

| Sub-heading Number | Question Number | Question | Points |
|--------------------|-----------------|--|--------------|
| 1 | | Bottom Depth (answer yes to only one option) | |
| | 1 | The bottom depth of the acreage to be restored is greater than 12 feet. | 50 |
| | 2 | The bottom depth of the acreage to be restored is less than 12 feet. | 100 |
| 2 | | Type of shell to be used for bottom base. (answer yes to only one option) | |
| | 1 | Clam shells will be used for the bed restoration. | 50 |
| | 2 | Oyster shells will be used for the bed restoration. | 100 |
| 3 | | Bottom type. (answer yes to only one option; current field observation is preferred data) | |
| | 1 | Current information indicates that the bottom is soft. (<10% cultch by volume) or the acreage to be restored is classified as "mud" or "sand". | 25 |
| | 2 | Current information indicates that the bottom is hard. (>10% cultch by volume) | 75 |
| | 3 | Current information indicates that the bottom is hard. (>20% cultch by volume) or the acreage to be restored is classified as "cultch", "sand with cultch", or "mud with cultch". | 100 |
| 4 | | Virginia Division of Shellfish Sanitation (DSS) Classification. (Restricted waters are excluded from the EQIP Oyster Pilot no harvesting allowed; answer yes to only one of the options) | |
| | 1 | The lease is located in waters classified by DSS as "Conditionally Approved". | 0 |
| | 2 | The lease is located in waters classified by DSS as "Approved". | 50 |
| Maximum Points: | | | Total Points |
| | | | 550 |

Local Issues:

Scoring Multiplier: 1.000

Scoring Ranges and Results Text:

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| High: 325 - 225 | Medium: 224 - 125 | Low: 124 - 0 |
| The application is in the high score range for addressing local resource issues | The application is in the medium score range for addressing local resource issues | The application is in the low score range for addressing local resource issues |

Questions:

| Sub-heading Number | Question Number | Question | Points |
|--------------------|-----------------|--|--------|
| 1 | | (answer yes to only one option) | |
| | 1 | The applicant has held an Oyster Aquaculture Product Owner Permit for less than one year. | 25 |
| | 2 | The applicant has held an Oyster Aquaculture Product Owner Permit for between one and three years. | 75 |
| | 3 | The applicant has held an Oyster Aquaculture Product Owner Permit for more than three years. | 100 |
| 2 | | Answer any that apply | |
| | 1 | The applicant holds a Commercial Oyster Harvester License? | 25 |
| | 2 | The applicant reports their oyster harvest in the MRC Mandatory Reporting System? | 100 |
| | 3 | The applicant has completed all previous Farm Bill contracts without any terminations or cancellations, or not had any contracts at all? | 100 |
| | 4 | The applicant had a previous Farm Bill contract terminated within the last three years? | -100 |
| | | Maximum Points: Total Points | 325 |

Selected Resource Concerns and Practices:

- Water Quality: Excessive Nutrients and Organics in Surface Water
- Bivalve Aquaculture Gear and Biofouling (400)
- Restoration and Management of Declining (643)

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