

## Ranking Tool Summary

### for FY2013 - Greenhouse Gas Project

(Released 12/19/2012 )

#### Description:

This ranking tool is to be used to score applications for the Greenhouse Gas Project on the Eastern Shore of Virginia.

#### Land Uses:

Crop, Hay, Pasture

#### Efficiency Score:

Scoring Multiplier: 100.000

Scoring Ranges and Results Text:

High: 100 - 75	Medium: 74 - 50	Low: 49 - 0
The conservation practices included in the proposed contracted provide a High score	The conservation practices included in the proposed contracted provide a Medium score	The conservation practices included in the proposed contracted provide a Low score

#### Optional Notes:

#### National Priorities:

Scoring Multiplier: 1.000

Scoring Ranges and Results Text:

High: 250 - 175	Medium: 174 - 90	Low: 89 - 0
The application score is considered High for National Priorities	The application score is considered Medium for National Priorities	The application score is considered Low for National Priorities

#### 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 <sub>2</sub> (Carbon Dioxide), CH <sub>4</sub> (Methane), and N <sub>2</sub> 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: 300 - 200	Medium: 199 - 100	Low: 99 - 0
The application score is considered High for State Issues	The application score is considered Medium for State Issues	The application score is considered Low for State Issues

Questions:

Sub-heading Number	Question Number	Question	Points
1		Answer all questions that apply to the application	
	1	The applicant has a current Nutrient Management Plan for the land that will be in the Greenhouse Gas Project	50
	2	The proposed contract will include Nutrient Management, Code 590 Level C techniques that include adaptive nutrient management practices such as tissue testing, soil nitrogen tests, precision agricultural practices, etc.	50
	3	The applicant has the historical data required to participate in the Greenhouse Gas Project and is willing to share the data with researchers	50
	4	The applicant will plant corn and or small grain on the land entered into the Greenhouse Gas Project	50
	5	The applicant has agreed to use adaptive nutrient management technology and acquire the agronomic information necessary to apply the DNDC model	50
	6	The applicant is willing to have at least one field day on the farm to support the Greenhouse Gas Project	50
Maximum Points:			Total Points
			300

**Local Issues:**

Scoring Multiplier: 1.000

Scoring Ranges and Results Text:

High: 100 - 50	Medium: 49 - 25	Low: 24 - 0
The application score is considered High for Local concerns	The application score is considered Medium for Local concerns	The application score is considered Low for Local concerns

Questions:

Sub-heading Number	Question Number	Question	Points
	1	The land included in the proposed contract is in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed	50
	2	The land included in the proposed contract is in the Onancock Watershed	50

		Maximum Points:	Total Points	100
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**Selected Resource Concerns and Practices:**

Air Quality: Excessive Greenhouse Gas - CH<sub>4</sub> (methane)  
Nutrient Management (590)

Air Quality: Excessive Greenhouse Gas - CO<sub>2</sub> (carbon dioxide)  
Nutrient Management (590)

Air Quality: Excessive Greenhouse Gas - N<sub>2</sub>O (nitrous oxide)  
Nutrient Management (590)

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