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Ranking Tool Summary

for FY2012 - Beginning Farmer

(Draft)

Description:

Land Uses:

Crop, Forest, Hay, Headquarters, Pasture, Wildlife

Efficiency Score:

Scoring Multiplier: 100.000

Scoring Ranges and Results Text:

High: 100 - 75	Medium: 74 - 50	Low: 49 - 0
The conservation practices that will be established in the proposed contract are in the high point score range	The conservation practices that will be established in the proposed contract are in the medium point score range	The conservation practices that will be established in the proposed contract are in the low point score range

Optional Notes:

National Priorities:

Scoring Multiplier: 1.000

Scoring Ranges and Results Text:

High: 250 - 175	Medium: 174 - 90	Low: 89 - 0
The application is in the high point score range for addressing national priorities	The application is in the medium point score range for addressing national priorities	The application is in the low point score range for addressing national priorities

Questions:

Number	Question	Points
1	a. Meet regulatory requirements relating to animal feeding operations, or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	15
1	b. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a designated impaired water body?	10
1	c. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a water body?	5
2	a. Increase groundwater recharge in identified groundwater depletion areas (http://water.usgs.gov/ogw/rasa/html/TOC.html)?	15
2	b. Conserve water from irrigation system improvements and result in estimated water savings of at least 5% and saved water will be available for other beneficial uses?	10
2	c. Conserve water in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	5
3	a. Meet regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	15
3	b. Reduce green house gases such as methane, nitrous oxide, and volatile organic compounds (VOC)?	15
3	c. Increase carbon sequestration?	5
4	a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil "T")?	15
5	a. Benefit threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern as	15

	identified in a State wildlife plan?	
5	b. Retain wildlife and plant benefits on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)?	15
6	a. Eradicate or control noxious or invasive species?	10
6	b. Increase, improve or establish pollinator habitat?	10
6	c. Implement precision agricultural methods?	10
6	d. Properly dispose of animal carcasses?	5
6	e. Implement an Integrated Pest Management plan?	5
7	a. Reduce energy consumption on the agricultural operation?	15
7	b. Increase on-farm energy efficiency with more efficient equipment?	10
7	c. Assist in implementing energy conservation measures that reduce emissions from GHGs and air pollutants?	10
8	a. Implementation of all planned conservation practices within three years of contract obligation?	10
8	b. Improvement of existing conservation practices or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is accepted, or will complete an existing conservation system?	10
9	a. If the applicant has an existing EQIP contract, has it been, and is it now, on schedule and in full compliance?	5
9	b. Did the applicant successfully complete any past contract(s) in full compliance?	5
9	c. Is this the applicant's first EQIP application?	5
	Total Points	250

State Issues:

Scoring Multiplier: 1.000

Scoring Ranges and Results Text:

High: 400 - 300	Medium: 299 - 200	Low: 199 - 0
The application is in the high point score range for addressing state resource concerns	The application is in the medium point score range for addressing state resource concerns	The application is in the low point score range for addressing state resource concerns

Questions:

Sub-heading Number	Question Number	Question	Points
1		The proposed contract includes priority practices - Pick only one answer that applies	
	1	A. Includes implementation of 3 or more priority conservation practices	100
	2	B. Includes implementation of 2 priority conservation practices	50
	3	C. Includes implementation of 1 priority conservation practice	25
2		Conservation Planning	
	1	A Conservation Plan has been developed prior to the application cut-off date. The Conservation Plan addresses the same resource concerns and land contained in the proposed contract. The Conservation Plan is signed and dated by the applicant and certified conservation planner	100
3		Choose all answers that apply to the application	
	1	The applicant has certified that he or she is a Limited Resource Farmer	100
	2	The applicant is a member of a Historically Underserved Group as defined in National Bulletin 440-9-6	100
	3	The applicant has certified that he or she is a New or Beginning Farmer	100
4		Water Quality Vulnerability	
	1	The Water Quality Vulnerability GIS layer is High (Red) within a field	15

		boundary that is treated in the proposed contract	
	2	The Water Quality Vulnerability GIS layer is Medium (Yellow) within a field boundary that is treated in the proposed contract	5
		Maximum Points: Total Points	595

Local Issues:

Scoring Multiplier: 1.000

Scoring Ranges and Results Text:

High: 250 - 200	Medium: 199 - 100	Low: 99 - 0
The application is in the high point score range for addressing local resource concerns	The application is in the medium point score range for addressing local resource concerns	The application is in the low point score range for addressing local resource concerns

Questions:

Sub-heading Number	Question Number	Question	Points
1		Select all that apply to the application	
	1	The applicant has had an EQIP or CBWI contract terminated within the past 3 years	-100
	2	The area being considered for an EQIP contract is within an impaired watershed shown on the "Impaired Waters of Virginia" Toolkit GIS layer	100
	3	The proposed EQIP contract includes at least one conservation practice that will reduce sediment or nutrient delivery to streams containing a listed aquatic species on the the Toolkit T&E Aquatic Species GIS layer	100
	4	The proposed EQIP contract includes the establishment of Riparian Forest Buffers (391) or Tree/Shrub Establishment along a stream that contains a listed aquatic species on the the Toolkit T&E Aquatic Species GIS layer	100
		Maximum Points: Total Points	200

Selected Resource Concerns and Practices:

Air Quality: Ammonia (NH3)
- Amendments for Treatment of Ag Waste (591)
- Anaerobic Digestor, Ambient Temp. (365)
- Waste Treatment Lagoon (359)
- Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment (380)

Air Quality: Objectionable Odors
- Amendments for Treatment of Ag Waste (591)
- Anaerobic Digestor, Ambient Temp. (365)
- Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
- Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment (380)

Domestic Animals: Inadequate Quantities and Quality of Feed and Forage
- Access Road (560)
- Brush Management (314)
- Pasture and Hay Planting (512)
- Prescribed Grazing (528)
- Water Well (642)
- Watering Facility (614)

Domestic Animals: Inadequate Shelter

Domestic Animals: Inadequate Stock Water
- Pipeline (516)
- Pumping Plant (533)
- Spring Development (574)
- Water Well (642)

- Watering Facility (614)
- Domestic Animals: Stress and Mortality
  - Animal Trails and Walkways (575)
  - Brush Management (314)
  - Pasture and Hay Planting (512)
  - Pipeline (516)
  - Prescribed Grazing (528)
  - Pumping Plant (533)
  - Spring Development (574)
  - Water Well (642)
  - Watering Facility (614)
- Fish and Wildlife: Inadequate Cover/Shelter
  - Access Control (472)
  - Conservation Cover (327)
  - Early Successional Habitat Development/M (647)
  - Field Border (386)
  - Firebreak (394)
  - Hedgerow Planting (422)
  - Prescribed Burning (338)
  - Riparian Forest Buffer (391)
  - Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390)
  - Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
  - Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment (380)
- Fish and Wildlife: Inadequate Food
  - Access Control (472)
  - Conservation Cover (327)
  - Early Successional Habitat Development/M (647)
  - Field Border (386)
  - Firebreak (394)
  - Hedgerow Planting (422)
  - Prescribed Burning (338)
  - Riparian Forest Buffer (391)
  - Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390)
  - Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
  - Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment (380)
- Plant Condition: Forage Quality and Palatability
  - Access Control (472)
  - Brush Management (314)
  - Fence (382)
  - Forest Stand Improvement (666)
  - Herbaceous Weed Control (315)
  - Nutrient Management (590)
  - Pasture and Hay Planting (512)
  - Prescribed Grazing (528)
- Plant Condition: Noxious and Invasive Plants
  - Brush Management (314)
  - Forest Stand Improvement (666)
  - Herbaceous Weed Control (315)
  - Prescribed Burning (338)
- Plant Condition: Productivity, Health and Vigor
  - Access Control (472)
  - Brush Management (314)
  - Conservation Crop Rotation (328)
  - Fence (382)
  - Firebreak (394)
  - Forest Site Preparation (490)
  - Forest Stand Improvement (666)
  - Nutrient Management (590)
  - Pasture and Hay Planting (512)
  - Prescribed Burning (338)
  - Prescribed Grazing (528)

- Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
- Soil Condition: Compaction
  - Conservation Crop Rotation (328)
  - Cover Crop (340)
  - Residue Mgmt, Mulch Till (345)
  - Residue Mgmt-No-Till/Strip Till/Direct S (329)
- Soil Condition: Contaminants-Animal Waste and Other Organics - N
  - Cover Crop (340)
  - Nutrient Management (590)
- Soil Condition: Contaminants-Animal Waste and Other Organics - P
  - Nutrient Management (590)
- Soil Condition: Contaminants-Commercial Fertilizer - N
  - Cover Crop (340)
  - Nutrient Management (590)
- Soil Condition: Contaminants-Commercial Fertilizer - P
  - Nutrient Management (590)
- Soil Condition: Organic Matter Depletion
  - Conservation Crop Rotation (328)
  - Cover Crop (340)
  - Residue Mgmt, Mulch Till (345)
  - Residue Mgmt-No-Till/Strip Till/Direct S (329)
- Soil Erosion: Classic Gully
  - Conservation Cover (327)
  - Critical Area Planting (342)
  - Diversion (362)
  - Grade Stabilization Structure (410)
  - Grassed Waterway (412)
  - Lined Waterway or Outlet (468)
  - Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
- Soil Erosion: Ephemeral Gully
  - Conservation Cover (327)
  - Conservation Crop Rotation (328)
  - Contour Buffer Strips (332)
  - Contour Farming (330)
  - Cover Crop (340)
  - Critical Area Planting (342)
  - Diversion (362)
  - Grassed Waterway (412)
  - Lined Waterway or Outlet (468)
  - Residue Mgmt, Mulch Till (345)
  - Residue Mgmt-No-Till/Strip Till/Direct S (329)
  - Stripcropping (585)
  - Terrace (600)
  - Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
- Soil Erosion: Sheet and Rill
  - Conservation Cover (327)
  - Conservation Crop Rotation (328)
  - Contour Buffer Strips (332)
  - Contour Farming (330)
  - Cover Crop (340)
  - Critical Area Planting (342)
  - Diversion (362)
  - Pasture and Hay Planting (512)
  - Residue Mgmt, Mulch Till (345)
  - Residue Mgmt-No-Till/Strip Till/Direct S (329)
  - Stripcropping (585)
  - Terrace (600)
  - Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
- Soil Erosion: Streambank
  - Stream Crossing (578)
  - Streambank and Shoreline Protection (580)

Water Quality: Excessive Nutrients and Organics in Groundwater
- Animal Mortality Facility (316)
- Closure of Waste Impoundment (360)
- Composting Facility (317)
- Conservation Cover (327)
- Cover Crop (340)
- Field Border (386)
- Nutrient Management (590)
- Riparian Forest Buffer (391)
- Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390)
- Sinkhole and Sinkhole Area Treatment (527)
- Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
- Waste Storage Facility (313)
- Waste Treatment Lagoon (359)
- Well Decommissioning (351)

Water Quality: Excessive Nutrients and Organics in Surface Water
- Access Control (472)
- Animal Mortality Facility (316)
- Closure of Waste Impoundment (360)
- Composting Facility (317)
- Conservation Cover (327)
- Cover Crop (340)
- Fence (382)
- Field Border (386)
- Filter Strip (393)
- Heavy Use Area Protection (561)
- Nutrient Management (590)
- Prescribed Grazing (528)
- Residue Mgmt, Mulch Till (345)
- Riparian Forest Buffer (391)
- Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390)
- Roof Runoff Structure (558)
- Stream Crossing (578)
- Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
- Vegetated Treatment Area (635)
- Waste Storage Facility (313)
- Waste Transfer (634)
- Waste Treatment Lagoon (359)

Water Quality: Excessive Suspended Sediment and Turbidity in Surface Water
- Access Control (472)
- Conservation Cover (327)
- Cover Crop (340)
- Fence (382)
- Field Border (386)
- Filter Strip (393)
- Heavy Use Area Protection (561)
- Prescribed Grazing (528)
- Residue Mgmt, Mulch Till (345)
- Riparian Forest Buffer (391)
- Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390)
- Stream Crossing (578)
- Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
- Vegetated Treatment Area (635)
- Water and Sediment Control Basin (638)

Water Quality: Harmful Levels of Pathogens in Groundwater
- Animal Mortality Facility (316)
- Closure of Waste Impoundment (360)
- Composting Facility (317)
- Conservation Cover (327)
- Nutrient Management (590)
- Riparian Forest Buffer (391)

- Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390)
- Sinkhole and Sinkhole Area Treatment (527)
- Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
- Waste Storage Facility (313)
- Waste Treatment Lagoon (359)
- Well Decommissioning (351)

Water Quality: Harmful Levels of Pathogens in Surface Water

- Access Control (472)
- Animal Mortality Facility (316)
- Composting Facility (317)
- Conservation Cover (327)
- Fence (382)
- Field Border (386)
- Filter Strip (393)
- Heavy Use Area Protection (561)
- Nutrient Management (590)
- Prescribed Grazing (528)
- Riparian Forest Buffer (391)
- Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390)
- Roof Runoff Structure (558)
- Stream Crossing (578)
- Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
- Vegetated Treatment Area (635)
- Waste Storage Facility (313)
- Waste Transfer (634)
- Waste Treatment Lagoon (359)

Water Quality: Harmful Temperatures of Surface Water

- Riparian Forest Buffer (391)
- Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)

Water Quantity: Aquifer Overdraft

- Irrigation Storage Reservoir (436)
- Irrigation System, Microirrigation (441)
- Irrigation System, Sprinkler (442)
- Irrigation System, Tailwater Recovery (447)
- Irrigation Water Management (449)

Water Quantity: Inefficient Water Use on Irrigated Land

- Irrigation Storage Reservoir (436)
- Irrigation System, Microirrigation (441)
- Irrigation System, Sprinkler (442)
- Irrigation System, Tailwater Recovery (447)
- Irrigation Water Management (449)

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