

**FISCAL YEAR 2012–KANSAS
WILDLIFE HABITAT INCENTIVES PROGRAM
RANKING WORKSHEET**

Kansas Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP) applications will be accepted on a continuous basis.

NAME _____ **COUNTY** _____

TOTAL WHIP PLAN OF OPERATIONS (WPO) ACRES TO BE ENROLLED IN WHIP _____ **ac.** _____

Prepared by _____ Date _____

Fish and Wildlife Resource Concerns

(Check all that apply)

1) Habitat Fragmentation	_____	5) Threatened and Endangered (T&E) Species: Declining Species, Species of Concern	_____
2) Inadequate Cover/Shelter	_____	6) T&E Fish and/or Wildlife Species	_____
3) Inadequate Food	_____		
4) Inadequate Water	_____		

Eligible Land Uses (acres)

Cropland	_____	Hayland	_____
Grazed Range	_____	Pasture	_____
Forest	_____	Wildlife	_____

National Priorities (Select all questions that apply) Maximum points = 250

1	Healthy Plant and Animal Communities: Wildlife Habitat Conservation–Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	_____
	a) Retain wildlife and plant benefits on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program? (40 points)	_____
	b) Address and support existing conservation initiatives such as but not limited to the following or new conservation initiatives that support state, national, or tribal fish or wildlife plans: Sage Grouse, Lesser Prairie-Chicken, Longleaf Pine, New England–New York Forestry. (40 points)	_____
	c) Benefit federally listed threatened and endangered, at–risk, candidate, fish or wildlife species of concern? (20 points)	_____
	d) Benefit prioritized native habitat critical to a fish or wildlife species? (20 points)	_____
	e) Increase, improve or establish pollinator habitat? (20 points)	_____
	f) Eradicate or control prioritized noxious or invasive species? (20 points)	_____
	g) Benefit declining or important aquatic wildlife species prioritized in the State WHIP Plan? (20 points)	_____
	h) Implement conservation practices which benefit prioritized fish or wildlife species in forested areas? (15 points)	_____
	i) Establish habitat on pivot corners and irregular areas on agricultural land? (10 points)	_____
	j) Provide self–sustaining habitat for prioritized fish and wildlife while reducing net carbon emissions or boosting carbon storage (e.g., warm season perennial grasses, trees or shrubs)? (10 points)	_____
	k) Benefit migration and other movement corridors for prioritized wildlife? (15 points)	_____
2	Business Lines–Conservation Implementation–Additional Ranking Considerations–Will the applicant in the proposed project.	_____
	a) Complete habitat development within the first two years of the agreement? (20 points)	_____

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State Priorities		Maximum points= 310
1	<p>Answer ONE of the following questions related to the Kansas WHIP priority concerns. If none apply, leave the answers "NO":</p> <p>a) Will the WHIP Plan of Operations (WPO) meet the minimum requirements for a priority species of statewide concern (pheasants, northern bobwhite quail, greater or lesser prairie-chicken) based on Kansas WHIP Species Specific Habitat Assessment? <input type="text"/></p> <p>b) Will the WPO restore or enhance critical habitat for Threatened and Endangered (T&E) species or provide habitat for species in need of conservation (SINC)? (40 <input type="text"/>)</p> <p>c) Will the WPO restore, enhance, and/or create priority natural communities? (wetlands, prairie, or riparian areas) (30 points) <input type="text"/></p> <p>d) Will the WPO target priority species of statewide concern, but not meet the minimum habitat requirements for those species, based on the Kansas WHIP Species Specific Habitat Assessment? (10 points) <input type="text"/></p> <p>e) Will the WPO address habitat for non-priority species? (5 points) <input type="text"/></p>	
2	<p>Answer ONE of the following questions related to native grass. If none apply, leave the answers "NO." Will the WPO acres include a native grass seeding or an existing stand of native grass that is:</p> <p>a) greater than or equal to 80 acres (50 points) <input type="text"/></p> <p>b) between 21.0 to 79.9 acres (20 points) <input type="text"/></p> <p>c) less than or equal to 20.9 acres (10 points) <input type="text"/></p>	
3	<p>Answer the following question related to the priority wildlife species and brush management: Will the WPO acres address brush management for the priority wildlife species on all of the applicable WPO acres on Kansas Grasslands? (10 points) <input type="text"/></p>	
4	<p>What level of infestation of a tree species with invasive potential is present (refer to Section IV of electronic Field Office Technical Guide [eFOTG], Conservation Practice Construction Specifications 314 Brush Management, Table 2, for percentages).</p> <p>a) None to low infestation (50 points) <input type="text"/></p> <p>b) Medium level of infestation (25 points) <input type="text"/></p> <p>c) High level of infestation (10 points) <input type="text"/></p>	
5	<p>Answer the following question related to the use of prescribed fire, if applicable: Will Conservation Practice 338, Prescribed Burning, be included in the WPO to improve habitat for the priority species? (50 points) <input type="text"/></p>	
6	<p>Answer the following questions related to native grass mix plantings: Will the WPO include vegetative establishment meeting Conservation Practice 550, Range Planting, that is (choose only one of the following):</p> <p>a) Greater than or equal to 20 acres? (30 points) <input type="text"/></p> <p>b) Greater than or equal to 10 acres but less than 20 acres? (20 points) <input type="text"/></p> <p>c) Less than 10 acres? (10 points) <input type="text"/></p>	
7	<p>How many complementary conservation programs, other than WHIP, are actively managed for wildlife on the applicant's land or land adjacent to the WPO acres? If none apply, leave the answers "NO" (other complementary conservation programs may include Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program (FRPP), Grassland Reserve Program (GRP), Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP), Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), Continuous CRP (CCRP), Conservation Security Program (CSP2002), Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP2008), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Partners for Wildlife, Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism's (KDWPT) Walk-In Hunting Acres (WIHA), KDWPT's Fishing Impoundments Stream Habitat (FISH) or other similar</p> <p>a) 4 complementary programs actively present (15 points) <input type="text"/></p> <p>b) 3 complementary programs actively present (11 points) <input type="text"/></p> <p>c) 2 complementary programs actively present (8 points) <input type="text"/></p> <p>d) 1 complementary program actively present (6 points) <input type="text"/></p>	
8	<p>Answer the following question related to the WPO acres: Are the WPO acres adjacent to property with long-term (greater than 10 years) conservation easements that are actively managed for wildlife? (10 points) <input type="text"/></p>	

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State Priorities (continued)		Maximum points= 310	
9	<p>Answer the following question <i>if and only if</i> there is another partner's financial assistance contribution: Is the partner's financial assistance contribution to the WPO greater than or equal to 10 percent?</p>		<input type="text"/>
			(10 points)
Local Priorities		Total possible points 45	
1	<p>Answer the following question related to the planned habitat improvement score from the eFOTG Kansas Wildlife Habitat Assessment Guide (KWHAG): Will the planned habitat value improvement score from the KWHAG meet the minimum threshold for the location of the offered acres (West-18; Central- 21; East- 24).</p>		<input type="text"/>
			(20 points)
2	<p>Answer the following question related to wetland habitat, if applicable: Will the WPO acres include a shallow water development area or a wetland development area of less than 10.0 acres in size, that includes either an existing or planned buffer of native grass at least 30.0 feet wide?</p>		<input type="text"/>
			(15 points)
3	<p>Answer the following question related to KDWPT's Quail Initiative, if applicable: Will the WPO meet the minimum habitat requirements for northern bobwhite quail AND does at least 50 percent of the WPO acres fall within the Quail Focus areas in southeast Kansas (see KDWPT Quail Initiative Area map)?</p>		<input type="text"/>
			(10 points)