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Ranking Tool Summary

for FY2013 - KPBB Electric Fence

(Released 11/28/2012)

Description:

This tool applies to FY2012 WHIP applications for State WHIP Priority 4: Kenai Peninsula Brown Bear (KPBB)-Permanent Electric Fence; KPBB's are a designated Alaska State Species of Concern (see AK Wildlife Action Plans (CWCS)). Their habitat has been fragmented by human encroachment, development and landuse activities. This Priority seeks to deter bears from using/ accessing sites made attractive by a human-induced non-native landuse activity or site feature. These activity sites are not considered bear habitat. The Priority seeks to encourage bears to use available traditional habitat outside the electrically fenced area. In this way, electric bear-exclusion fencing projects meet the NRCS National Priority of affecting at-risk species habitat by encouraging bears to use their available habitat outside of the fenced areas. The fence structure has an effect on bear habitat, but does not inherently constitute a habitat management condition. This Priority seeks to reduce the deaths of individual bears as a result of Defense Of Life and Property Killings (DLP's), the potential for fatal encounters to both bears and humans, promote human health and safety, reduce negative impacts to livestock and private property, and requires the development of site management plans to control bear attracting conditions. 2. This Priority is only applicable to the Kenai Peninsula, within the boundaries of the ADF&G, GMU 7 and all GMU 15 subunits where this bear sub-population lives; Secondary residences or remote sites occupied less than 75% of the period between the dates May 1st through October 30th are not eligible for funding; 5. A KPBB SITE Questionnaire must be filled out by the landowner and/ or District Conservationist.

Land Uses:

Crop, Hay, Headquarters, Native/Naturalized Pasture, Pasture, Wildlife

Efficiency Score:

Scoring Multiplier: 7.467

Scoring Ranges and Results Text:

High: 1000 - 455	Medium: 450 - 310	Low: 305 - 0
Represents projects which meet intent of program, and are high priority for funding.	Represents projects which meet intent of program, and are medium level priority for funding.	Represents projects which meet intent of program, but are low priority for funding.

Optional Notes:

National Priorities:

Scoring Multiplier: 1.000

Scoring Ranges and Results Text:

High: 250 - 100	Medium: 95 - 50	Low: 45 - 0
Represents projects which meet intent of program, and are high priority for funding.	Represents projects which meet intent of program, and are medium level priority for funding.	Represents projects which meet intent of program, but are low priority for funding.

Questions:

Number	Question	Points
1	a. Retain wildlife and plant benefits on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)?	40
1	b. Support existing or new national or landscape initiatives that support State, National or tribal fish or wildlife plans such as: Working Lands for Wildlife	40
1	c. Benefit federally listed threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, fish or	25

	wildlife species of concern?	
1	d. Benefit State WHIP Plan (SWP) prioritized native habitat critical to a fish or wildlife species?	20
1	e. Increase, improve or establish pollinator habitat?	20
1	f. Eradicate or control SWP prioritized noxious or invasive plant species on non-cropland?	15
1	g. Benefit declining or important aquatic wildlife species prioritized in the SWP?	20
1	h. Benefit SWP prioritized fish or wildlife species in forested areas?	15
1	i. Establish habitat on pivot corners and irregular areas on agricultural land?	10
1	j. Provide self-sustaining habitat for SWP prioritized fish and wildlife while reducing net carbon emissions or boosting carbon storage (e.g., warm season perennial grasses, trees or shrubs)?	10
1	k. Benefit migration and other movement corridors for SWP prioritized wildlife?	15
2	a. Implement wildlife habitat practices scheduled in the Schedule or Plan of Operations (NRCS-CPA-1155) within the first two years of date of obligation of the agreement?	20
	Total Points	250

State Issues:

Scoring Multiplier: 1.250

Scoring Ranges and Results Text:

High: 400 - 250	Medium: 245 - 160	Low: 150 - 0
Represents projects which meet intent of program, and are high priority for funding.	Represents projects which meet intent of program, and are medium level priority for funding.	Represents projects which meet intent of program, but are low priority for funding.

Questions:

Sub-heading Number	Question Number	Question	Points
1		Historic Visitation - Take points where applicable for one question from questions 1 through 3.	
	1	This project site has a provable history of visitation and investigation by KPBB's and has been subject to livestock loss and/ or property damage within the last three years.	40
	2	This project site has a provable history of visitation and investigation by KPBB's but has not been subject to livestock loss and/ or property damage within the last three years.	20
	3	This project site has no provable history of visitation and investigation by KPBB's.	10
2		Longevity of Site Operation - Take points where applicable for one question from questions 4 through 6.	
	4	This site and its potential bear-attracting conditions have existed or been in operation for a minimum of five years before time of application.	40
	5	This site and its potential bear-attracting conditions have existed or been in operation between two and five years before time of application.	25
	6	This site and its potential bear-attracting conditions have existed or been in operation less than two years before time of application.	10
3		Site Geographic location - Take points where applicable for one question from questions 7 through 9.	
	7	This project site is located in the vicinity (w/in .5 miles) of Cooper Landing, Moose Pass, Hope, Sunrise, Russian Gap, Kiley River, Funny River or Skilak Lake. Or, is a private in-holding on the Chugach National Forest.	50
	8	This project site is not located in the vicinity of area's identified in Question #6, but is adjacent to, on or within an important travel corridor or site for	30

		bear foraging or seasonal migration. Include sites within ¼ mile of the Anchor River (both forks) and its tributaries and Deep Creek in this category.	
	9	This project does not occur within a known or currently identified area of bear concentration, travel corridor or resource use area.	10
	10	Bear-baiting for legal hunting purposes occurs on the landowner's property within two miles of the proposed fencing location.	-30
4		Bear Attractant Containment Efforts - Take points where applicable for one question from questions 11 through 13.	
	11	Attractant containment/ confinement/ suppression efforts are in place at the potential project fencing site to the greatest degree practicable. Site management is already in mostly fully practiced condition, but bears are still attracted to the site by provable evidence.	40
	12	Some degree of site control and/ or attractant containment is in evidence; however the site still presents significant features requiring attention to lower bear attraction.	25
	13	No efforts are in evidence of site attractant management or containment. Landowner has made little effort to address issues of concern.	5
5		Project Proximity to Residence (live animal site) - Homestead - Take points where applicable for one question from questions 14 through 15. If more than one attractant type (live animal from Subheading #5 -AND- other organic or inorganic attractant ,Subheading #6 (questions 16 or 17)) you may take points from both Subheadings. Inusre all attractants are characterized and documented in the Wildlife Plan of Operations.	
	14	This project site contains a live-animal attractant condition/activity within 200' of a primary residence.	50
	15	This project site contains a live-animal attractant condition greater than 200' from a primary residence.	25
6		Project Proximity to Residence (other inorganic or organic material containment) - Homestead - Take points where applicable for one question from questions 16 through 17.	
	16	This project site contains a non-living organic, or inorganic food product or activity such as waste, compost, feed, process or storage buildings, eligible equipment (ex. not boats, planes, non-commercial individual fish cleaning stations), dead-pit, etc., within 200' of a primary residence.	40
	17	This project site contains a non-living organic, or inorganic food product or activity such as waste, compost, feed, process or storage buildings, eligible equipment (ex. not boats, planes, non-commercial individual fish cleaning stations), dead-pit, etc., greater than 200' from a primary residence.	20
7		If applicable to the project setting; Take points from either question 18 or 19, but not both.	
	18	This project site/ area contains two or more discrete attractant sources that cannot be combined to containment and management of a single site; sites are over 300' distant from each other; site plan will integrate and reduce attracting conditions such that all attracting elements are fully reduced and protected. No more than a total of three acres representing all fenced areas (1 acre per fenced area) are eligible for application.	40
	19	This project site/ area contains three or more discrete attractant source sites currently over 200' distant from each other; site plan will integrate and reduce attracting conditions such that all attracting elements are fully contained within one fenced area and fully managed. All attractants are contained and managed within one 1 acre electric fence.	60
	20	Site applicant is willing to allow observance of their site and attracting condition as part of a study/ data gathering effort to determine bear response to fenced conditions including activity at fenced site. May include use of all-weather outdoor cameras to record bear behavior and interaction with fenced site.	30
		Maximum Points: 400 Total Points	540

Local Issues:

Scoring Multiplier: 1.000

Scoring Ranges and Results Text:

High: 250 - 110	Medium: 105 - 70	Low: 65 - 0
Represents projects which meet intent of program, and are high priority for funding.	Represents projects which meet intent of program, and are medium level priority for funding.	Represents projects which meet intent of program, but are low priority for funding.

Questions:

Sub-heading Number	Question Number	Question	Points
	1	This project addresses locally identified noxious or invasive species of concern.	35
	2	This project is specifically focused on one or more identified priority subsistence species.	50
	3	This project addresses locally identified plant species of concern.	40
	4	This project occurs in, or within 3 miles of, a locally identified special ecological management area.	60
1		Local Priority Value - Take points as a result of selecting Question 5 alone, or Question 5 plus Question 7; Or Question 6 alone, or Question 6 plus 7; or Question 7 alone. Do not take combined points from Question's 5 plus 6, or Question's 5 plus 6 plus 7.	
	5	This project has a benefit to the highest priority locally identified wildlife species.	50
	6	This project has a benefit to secondary priority locally identified wildlife species.	30
	7	This project has a benefit to secondary priority or other locally identified wildlife species.	15
		Maximum Points: 250 Total Points	280

Selected Resource Concerns and Practices:

Fish and Wildlife: Imbalance Among and Within Populations

Brush Management (314)

Fence (382)

Fish and Wildlife: T&E Species: Declining Species, Species of Concern

Brush Management (314)

Fence (382)

Soil Erosion: Sheet and Rill

Critical Area Planting (342)

Heavy Use Area Protection (561)