

NH NRCS 2011 WETLAND RESERVE PROGRAM EASEMENT & RESTORATION RANKING SHEET

The NRCS Wetland Reserve Program (WRP) was established to protect, restore and enhance the functions and values of wetland ecosystems that have been degraded as a result of agricultural/silvicultural activities.

Landowner Name:			
Landowner Address:			
	<i>Street</i>	<i>City/Town State, Zip</i>	
Landowner Number:			
	<i>Home</i>	<i>Cell</i>	
Landowner Email:			
Parcel Town & County:			
Application ranked for (choose one): Easement with restoration <u> x </u> Restoration only <u> </u>			

Category	Environmental Benefit Considerations	Maximum Points	Parcel Points	
Conservation/Wildlife Benefit Factors	1	The parcel directly abuts other permanently protected lands. <i>Yes = 300 Points, No = 0 Points</i>	300	
	2	Proposed easement has probable occurrences of endangered, threatened, species of concern, or monitored species as determined by the NH Natural Heritage Bureau (NHB). <i>E=200 points, T=150 pts, SC=100 pts, M=50 pts</i>	200	
	3	Easement area contains rare or exemplary natural communities that appear in NHB records or have been identified by a qualified professional (documentation required). <i>Yes=150 points No=0 Points</i>	150	
	4	WAP Tiers Highest Ranked Habitat in NH = 150 Pts or Highest Ranked Habitat in Biological Region = 100 Pts or Supporting Landscape = 50 Pts	150	
	5	NH Conservation Priority Areas as listed in a local, state, or regional plan including but not limited to: -NH Aquifer -NHDES Impaired Water Buffers -NH Coastal & Estuarine Land Conservation Protection Plan -Quabbin to Cardigan Initiative -Upper Ammonoosuc & Israel River Watersheds -Important Bird Area -Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture -New England Cottontail Initiative <i>(50 points for each occurrence - maximum 200 points)</i>	200	

Hydrology Restoration Potential	6	Preliminary Restoration Plan (see attached Field Assessment Worksheet) <i>*Maximum capped at 1500 points</i>	1500	
	7	Percent of the easement, after proposed restoration, that will provide: (1) hydrologic conditions suitable for the needs of the native wetland dependent wildlife species and (2) appropriate wetland functions and values that existed prior to degradation - 50 points for each 10%.	500	
	<i>* If parcel cannot demonstrate hydrology restoration potential (score of zero on Category 6 & 7), parcel is ineligible for WRP.</i>		-	-
Maximum Points for Environmental Benefit Factors			3000	0

Category	Economic Considerations		Maximum Points	Parcel Points				
Cost Effectiveness Factors	8	Applicant and/or partnership contributions exist that will reduce NRCS easement acquisition and/or restoration costs. 5 points for every \$1,000 contribution* with a maximum of 250 points. *Funds must be under NRCS financial control prior to closing (unless donated by landowner and agreed to in writing).	250					
	9	<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center; vertical-align: middle;">Cost Benefit Analysis</td> <td style="text-align: center; vertical-align: middle;"> $\frac{\text{Environmental Benefit Points}}{\text{GARC} + \text{Restoration (cost per acre)}} \times 100$ </td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: center;"><i>(Maximum capped at 50 points)</i></td> </tr> </table>	Cost Benefit Analysis	$\frac{\text{Environmental Benefit Points}}{\text{GARC} + \text{Restoration (cost per acre)}} \times 100$	<i>(Maximum capped at 50 points)</i>		50	
	Cost Benefit Analysis	$\frac{\text{Environmental Benefit Points}}{\text{GARC} + \text{Restoration (cost per acre)}} \times 100$						
<i>(Maximum capped at 50 points)</i>								
Maximum Points for Cost Effectiveness Factors			300	0				
Management Effectiveness Factors	10	Operation and maintenance of restoration practices, once installed, will be: <i>Required, but less often than every 5 years - 50 points</i> <i>Required more often than every 5 years - 0 points</i>	50					
	11	Ownership will be transferred to a qualified third party (such as a state wildlife agency, land trust, etc) after the easement has closed. Agreement must be documented in writing prior to ranking. <i>Yes = 150 Points No = 0 Points</i>	150					
	12	Additional land will be conserved on property or abutting land in parallel with WRP easement. Agreement must be documented in writing prior to ranking. <i>Yes = 500 Points No = 0 Points</i>	500					
	Maximum Points for Management Factors			700	0			
Maximum Points for Economic Considerations			1000	0				

Category	Special Considerations		Maximum Deducted	Parcel Deducted
Farmland Productivity	13	Acres offered do not include prime or statewide important farmland. If so, points will be <i>deducted</i> as follows: <5 acres = 0 points 5-10 acres = 100 points 11-20 acres = 150 points 20+ acres = 200 points	200	
Total Deduction for Special Considerations			200	0

TOTAL RANKING SCORE	Maximum Points	Parcel Points
Total Score for Environmental Benefit Considerations:	3000	0
Total Score for Economic Considerations:	1000	0
Total Deduction for Special Considerations:	-200	0
FINAL RANKING SCORE:	0	

SIGNATURE BLOCK	
Landowner Signature: _____ Date: _____ PRINT NAME: _____	
NRCS Representative: _____ Date: _____ PRINT NAME: _____	
<p><i>**CHANGES TO PROPOSED EASEMENT BOUNDARY, SITE HYDROLOGY, VEGETATIVE COVER, OR RESTORATION PRACTICES AFTER RANKING MAY VOID THIS SCORE. LANDOWNERS WHO MAKE THESE CHANGES WILL BE DEFERRED.</i></p>	

2011 WRP Preliminary Restoration Plan - Field Assessment Worksheet

Resource Concern Categories	Units	Estimated Field Units	Points/Field Unit	Ranking Points	Restoration Practices Selected	Estimated Restoration Cost/Unit	Estimated Cost
I: SURFACE HYDROLOGY							
Number of improperly sized, placed, or degraded perennial stream crossings	Each		50	0			
Length of incised or degraded perennial streams	Feet		0.5	0			
Number of improperly sized, placed, or degraded intermittent stream crossings	Each		25	0			
Length of incised or degraded intermittent streams	Feet		0.25	0			
II: WETLAND FILL							
Square feet of filled wetlands	Feet ²		0.05	0			
III: SURFACE & SUBSURFACE DRAINS							
Length of surface or subsurface drainage	Feet		5	0			
IV: RIPARIAN BUFFER							
Square feet of eroding stream bank	Feet ²		0.02	0			
Square feet of riparian area to be restored to native plant community	Feet ²		0.01	0			
V: FOREST TRAILS & ACCESS ROADS							
Length of roads/trails within wetlands that degrade hydrologic function	Feet		0.5	0			
Length of roads/trails that contribute to unnatural drainage patterns (seeps, sinks, etc)	Feet		0.25	0			
VI: AGRICULTURAL LANDS							
Length of field edge with inadequate wetland buffer	Feet		1	0			
Acres of hydric soils previously shaped +/- smoothed for agriculture	Acre		50	0			
VII: INVASIVE SPECIES							
Acres colonized by wetland invasive species	Acre		25	0			
Acres colonized by upland invasive species	Acre		10	0			
VIII: FORESTED WETLANDS & VERNAL POOLS							
Acres degraded by timber harvest (decreased hydroperiod, lack of coarse woody debris, etc)	Acre		25	0			
IX: ADDITIONAL RESOURCE CONCERNS							
				0			
<i>(*Maximum ranking score capped at 1500 points)</i>				TOTAL RANKING SCORE:	0	TOTAL ESTIMATED COST:	

SIGNATURE BLOCK

Landowner Signature: _____ **PRINT NAME:** _____ **Date:** _____
NRCS Representative: _____ **PRINT NAME:** _____ **Date:** _____

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