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Ranking Tool Summary

for FY2012 - FY12 Forest Land

(Released 02/17/2012)

Description:

Land Uses:

Crop, Forest, Hay, Headquarters, Pasture

Efficiency Score:

Scoring Multiplier: 66.660

Optional Notes:

National Priorities:

Scoring Multiplier: 1.000

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 identified in a State wildlife plan?	15
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	10

	obligation?	
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: 2.220

Questions:

Sub-heading Number	Question Number	Question	Points
	1	Is the project located in a stronghold watershed?	25
	2	Is the project located in an watershed impaired for both N & P above the 50th percentile?	25
	3	Is Landowner a beginning, limited resource, or small and disadvantaged farmer?	20
	4	Does the landowner have history of active management thru a current forest stewardship plan?	20
	5	Has the landowner demonstrated active management on parcel.	15
	6	Will implementing the practice result in achieving a higher management level of a conservation system?	15
	7	Will the activity aid in the restoration of native plant communities or Will the activity establish and/or advance the growth of desired native species?	25
	8	Will the activity enhance, protect or restore habitats that benefit rare, threatened or endangered species?	20
	9	Will the activity result in the reforestation of contiguous forest?	15
	10	Will the activity create, protect, or enhance forested corridors between existing forests?	15
	11	Will the activity help meet regulatory requirements for noxious weed control (in conjunction with native plant community restoration)?	10
	12	Will the activity occur adjacent to existing forest?	10
	13	Will forest or grassland buffers be established?	5
	14	For livestock exclusion and fencing, will it protect forested areas or grassed streamside buffers?	5
Maximum Points: Total Points			225

Local Issues:

Scoring Multiplier: 2.000

Questions:

Sub-heading Number	Question Number	Question	Points
	1	Does the applicant have a forest stewardship plan and or conservation plan?	75
	2	Has the applicant had a contract terminated in the last 3 years	-124
	3	Will the applicant get a forest stewardship plan (CAP) thru this application	50

			Maximum Points:	Total Points	1
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Selected Resource Concerns and Practices:

Plant Condition: Noxious and Invasive Plants

- Brush Management (314)
- Forest Stand Improvement (666)
- Restoration and Management of Rare and D (643)
- Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)

Plant Condition: Productivity, Health and Vigor

- Access Control (472)
- Brush Management (314)
- Fence (382)
- Forest Stand Improvement (666)
- Restoration and Management of Rare and D (643)
- Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)

Plant Condition: T&E Plant Species: Declining Species, Species of Concern

- Forest Stand Improvement (666)

Plant Condition: Threatened and Endangered Plant Species

- Forest Stand Improvement (666)

Plant Condition: Wildfire Hazard

- Firebreak (394)

Soil Erosion: Sheet and Rill

- Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)

Water Quality: Excessive Nutrients and Organics in Groundwater

- Access Control (472)
- Filter Strip (393)
- Pasture and Hay Planting (512)
- Riparian Forest Buffer (391)
- Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390)
- Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)

Water Quality: Excessive Nutrients and Organics in Surface Water

- Access Control (472)
- Fence (382)
- Filter Strip (393)
- Pasture and Hay Planting (512)
- Riparian Forest Buffer (391)
- Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390)
- Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)

Water Quality: Harmful Temperatures of Surface Water

- Restoration and Management of Rare and D (643)
- Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)