

**West Area – Washington State
FY08 WHIP RANKING CRITERIA**

Description:

WASHINGTON STATE WEST AREA 2008 WHIP RANKING

In Washington State, WHIP will be used on lands where fish and wildlife habitat has been negatively impacted by agricultural activities, urban development, or invasive species.

One or more eligible WHIP cost-shared conservation practice(s) will be applied to address each Local Issue, State Issue, or National Priorities question answered yes.

National Priorities:

Number	Question	Points
1	Will the treatment you intend to implement using WHIP result in the restoration, development or enhancement of declining or important native wildlife habitats, such as brush, grass, forbs, or waterways?	20
2	Will the treatment you intend to implement using WHIP result in the protection, restoration, development or enhancement of wildlife habitat for at-risk species which can include candidate species and State listed threatened and endangered species, such as habitat for sage grouse?	20
3	Will the treatment you intend to implement using WHIP result in the protection, restoration, development or enhancement of wildlife habitat for Federally listed threatened and endangered wildlife species?	35
4	Will the treatment you intend to implement using WHIP result in the reduction of invasive species on wildlife habitats, such as trees, brush, or aquatic plant species?	100
5	Will the treatment you intend to implement using WHIP result in the protection, restoration, development or enhancement of declining or important aquatic wildlife species' habitats such as stream habitat improvement, removal of impairments on waterways, etc?	10
Total Points		185

State Issues:

Number	Question	Points
1	Will the likelihood of success of the project be HIGH, with few or no habitat restoration problems during and after the establishment period?	150
2	Will the likelihood of success of the project be MEDIUM, with moderate problems associated with the restoration activity?	100
3	Will the likelihood of success of the project be LOW, with a high degree of disturbance, competition, indefinite use of irrigation, and/or continued maintenance of structures?	-200
4	Will the cost of Operations and Maintenance be LOW, with minimal or no maintenance after establishment?	10
5	Will the cost of Operations and Maintenance be MEDIUM, with structures, systems, or plantings requiring periodic (less than annual) maintenance or replacement?	5
6	Will the cost of Operations and Maintenance (O&M) be HIGH, with structures, systems, or plantings requiring at least annual maintenance and/or management?	-50

7	Will the applicant (with landowner agreement) allow public access for educational or recreational use, such as outdoor recreation site, outdoor classroom, and/or onsite research?	10
8	Will all contracted practices be management, vegetative or non-engineering type practices, or if engineering practices are included will the participant supply the engineering design certified by a licensed professional engineer? (This includes producer-selected TSP designs)	100
	Total Points	125

Local Issues:

Number	Question	Points
1	Will the project result in restoration or enhancement of native prairie vegetation or oak savanna of less than 10 acres?	50
2	Will the project result in restoration or enhancement of native prairie vegetation or oak savanna of greater than or equal to 10 ac?	75
3	Will the project result in restoration or enhancement of oak woodland of less than 5 acres?	50
4	Will the project result in restoration or enhancement of oak woodland of greater than or equal to 5 acres?	75
5	Will the project result in restoration/enhancement of small wetlands less than 5 acres?	20
6	Will the project result in restoration/enhancement of small wetlands greater than or equal to 5 acres?	30
7	Will the project result in restoration or enhancement of riparian areas less than 2 acres?	20
8	Will the project result in restoration or enhancement of riparian areas greater than or equal to 2 acres?	30
9	Will the project result in restoration or enhancement of estuarine habitats?	75
10	Will the project result in the restoration of fish passage?	30
11	Will the project result in forage establishment/improvement for Roosevelt Elk?	40
12	Will the project benefit a federal or state listed threatened or endangered plant or animal species, federal proposed species, or designated critical habitat?	25
13	Will the project benefit multiple federal or state listed threatened or endangered plant or animal species, federal proposed species, or designated critical habitat?	35
14	Will the project benefit a plant or animal Federal Species of Concern, State Candidate, or State Sensitive (Federal Candidate) species State Priority Plant, or Animal Species (Only designated/mapped key areas, see PHS maps)?	20
15	Will the project benefit multiple plant or animal Federal Species of Concern, State Candidate, or State Sensitive (Federal Candidate) species State Priority Plant, or Animal Species (Only designated/mapped key areas, see PHS maps)?	30
16	Will invasive species be controlled on a WHIP Primary Priority Habitat?	60
17	Will invasive species be controlled on a WHIP Secondary Habitat?	30
18	Is "Priority Habitat" native cover greater than or equal to 50% (or will be) of the target habitat area?	50
19	Is "Priority Habitat" native cover greater than 20% but less than 50% (or will be) of the target habitat area?	25
20	Is there an unfavorable soil condition that will reduce the success of plantings or plant enhancement activities?	-100

21	Is there little or no damaging human/animal (livestock or wildlife) disturbance expected?	50
22	Has a fish passage impediment been identified & evaluated by state, federal or tribal biologists?	50
23	Has a fish passage impediment NOT been identified & evaluated by state, federal or tribal biologists?	-50
24	Does the preliminary cultural resources review indicate that detailed cultural resources surveys or construction monitoring will be required?	-100
25	Is ESA & EFH consultation NOT needed, or if needed, has consultation been completed, or will it be compiled by another entity?	10
26	This project will NOT require an engineering design?	100
	Total Points	730