

**West Area – Washington State
FY09 WHIP RANKING CRITERIA**

Description:

WASHINGTON STATE WEST AREA 2009 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 Addressed: | | |
|--|--|--------|
| Number | Issue Questions | Points |
| 1 | Will the treatment intended to implement using WHIP result in the restoration of declining or important native fish and wildlife habitats? | 10 |
| 2 | Are the planned restoration of declining or important native fish and wildlife habitat conservation practices of a self-sustaining nature such as native perennial plant? | 20 |
| 3 | Will the treatment intended to implement using WHIP result in the protection, restoration, development or enhancement of wildlife habitat to benefit at-risk species? | 25 |
| 4 | 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? | 20 |
| 5 | Will the treatment intended to implement using WHIP result in the reduction of invasive species on fish and wildlife habitats? | 100 |
| 6 | Will the treatment intended to implement using WHIP result in the protection, restoration, development or enhancement of declining or important aquatic wildlife species' habits? | 10 |
| Total Points | | 185 |
| State Issues Addressed: | | |
| Issue Questions | | Points |
| Likelihood of Success: Select "yes" only one time for the next three questions | | |
| 1. Will the likelihood of success of the project be HIGH, with few or no habitat restoration problems during and after the establishment period? | | 75 |
| 2. Will the likelihood of success of the project be MEDIUM, with moderate problems associated with the restoration activity? | | 50 |
| 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 |
| O and M Cost: Select "yes" only one time for next three questions | | |
| 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 |

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| 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? | 1 |
| Select "yes" to all that apply: | |
| 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? | 5 |
| 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 |
| 9. Is applicant certified as Socially Disadvantaged, Beginning, or Limited Resource Farmer/Rancher? | 10 |
| Total Points | 56 |

| Local Issues: | | |
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| Number | Question | Points |
| 1 | Will the prairie restoration project occur within 1/4 mile of another project where the primary objective is to manage for native prairie habitat? | 75 |
| 2 | Will the prairie restoration/enhancement project occur within 1 mile of another project where the primary objective is to manage for native prairie habitat? | 50 |
| 3 | Is the prairie restoration/enhancement project isolated from other projects (ie. greater than 1 mile) where the primary objective is to manage for native prairie habitat? | 25 |
| 4 | Will the oak woodland restoration/enhancement occur within 1/4 mile of another project where the primary objective is to manage for native oak habitat? | 75 |
| 5 | Will the oak woodland restoration/enhancement occur within 1 mile of another project where the primary objective is to manage for native oak habitat? | 50 |
| 6 | Is the oak woodland restoration/enhancement isolated from other projects (ie. greater than 1 mile) where the primary objective is to manage for native oak habitat? | 25 |
| 7 | Will the project restore or enhance wetland habitat by establishing or managing native vegetation, by adding snags or down logs, or by enhancing microtopography? | 20 |
| 8 | Will the project restore or enhance riparian habitat by establishing or managing native vegetation or by adding snags or down logs? | 20 |
| 9 | Will the project result in restoration or enhancement of estuarine habitats? | 75 |
| 10 | Will the project result in the restoration of fish passage? | 20 |
| 11 | Will the project result in forage establishment/improvement for Roosevelt Elk? | 40 |
| 12 | Will the applicant enhance understory vegetation that is beneficial to wildlife and enhances habitat diversity in existing upland forest? | 20 |
| 13 | Will the applicant enhance standing snag or downed wood habitat in existing upland forest? | 20 |
| 14 | Will the project benefit 1-3 priority fish, wildlife or plant species? Refer to PHS template or local habitat biologists for site specific data. | 25 |
| 15 | Will the project benefit 4 or more priority fish, wildlife or plant species? Refer to PHS template or local habitat biologists for site specific data. | 35 |

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| 16 | Will the project benefit a wildlife species concentration area as mapped in the PHS database? | 20 |
| 17 | Will the project benefit 1 or more Federally listed plant species? | 20 |
| 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 |
| | Total Points | 590 |