

## **Idaho NRCS EQIP Special Projects –Sensitive Species Protocol /Ranking**

Instructions: Complete this question in consultation with USFWS, NOAA Fisheries or Idaho Dept. of Fish and Game. This application is for special funding under the 2004 Idaho Environmental Quality Incentives Program. The completed application must be postmarked or hand delivered to the Idaho Natural Resources Conservation Service State Office in Boise, Idaho by 4/30/04. Applications should be mailed to:

**USDA, NRCS  
9173 W. Barnes Dr., Suite C  
Boise, Idaho 83709**

**Attn: Bob Bartholomew**

Applications will be considered complete as received. Answer the questions as completely as possible.

- Is the species on the identified species list? What species is being benefited?
  - If yes, continue with application
  - If no, not eligible for Special Project
- Is the landowner under a “court order” to do any or all of the proposed conservation practice(s)?
  - If yes, not eligible for Special Project
- Explain the relationship between each conservation practice being proposed and the direct or supporting benefit to the species. Be specific and quantify the expected benefit(s).
- Does the application propose conservation practices that offer no benefit to the selected species?
  - No – 10 pts
  - Yes – 0 pts
- Benefits:
  - Significant Benefit – Direct 15 Pts
  - Moderate Benefit – Direct or Indirect 10 Pts
  - Low Benefit – Direct or Indirect 5 Pts

- Identify how the project action positively impacts an identified reason for decline or current threat.

Yes – 10 pts.

- Are there conditions out of the direct control of the grantee that may negate the positive benefits? Example: Removing the source of 100 tons of sediment from the stream reach, however the current stream loading upstream is so heavy that no real benefit could be realized or might be lost due to upstream conditions.

- No – 10 pts.
- Partial – 5 pts
- Yes – 0 pts.

- Might the benefits of this application be related to any other known application for this program that would benefit selecting both applications for funding?

- Identify the other application
- Describe the synergism effects.
- Benefits another application – 10 pts.

- Will this application assist the landowner in compliance with the Federal and/or State laws in a manner which may benefit the species?

- Yes – 10 pts.
- No – 0 pts.

- Does the activity compliment other agencies or individual efforts to restore identified habitat for the species in the project area (i.e. 319 project).

Yes – 5 pts.