

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Application Ranking Summary

Indian Earmark - Crow, Cheyenne, Turtle Mtn

Program:	Ranking Date:	Application Number:
Ranking Tool: Indian Earmark - Crow, Cheyenne, Turtle Mtn		Applicant:
Final Ranking Score:		Address:
Planner:	Telephone:	
Farm Location:		

National Priorities Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
Clean and Abundant Water: Water Quality – Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
1. a. Meet regulatory requirements relating to animal feeding operations, or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
1. b. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a designated impaired water body?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
1. c. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a water body?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Clean and Abundant Water: Water Conservation – Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
2. a. Increase groundwater recharge in identified groundwater depletion areas (http://water.usgs.gov/ogw/rasa/html/TOC.html)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
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?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. c. Conserve water in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Clean Air: Treatment of Air Quality from Agricultural Sources – Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
3. a. Meet regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. b. Reduce green house gases such as methane, nitrous oxide, and volatile organic compounds (VOC)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. c. Increase carbon sequestration?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
High Quality, Productive Soils Erosion Reduction – Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
4. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil “T”)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Healthy Plant and Animal Communities Wildlife Habitat Conservation – Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
5. a. Benefit threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern as identified in a State wildlife plan?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. b. Retain wildlife and plant benefits on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
High Quality, Productive Soils, Healthy Plant and Animal Communities: Special Environmental Efforts/Initiatives – Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
6. a. Eradicate or control noxious or invasive species?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. b. Increase, improve or establish pollinator habitat?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. c. Properly dispose of animal carcasses?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. d. Implement an Integrated Pest Management plan?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. e. Implement precision agricultural methods?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Strategic Initiative – Energy Conservation and Sustainable Production Energy Conservation – Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
7. a. Reduce energy consumption on the agricultural operation?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Business Lines – Conservation Implementation Additional Ranking Considerations - Will the proposed project result in:	
8. a. Implementation of all planned conservation practices within three years of contract obligation?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
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?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Does the applicant meet the following conditions:	
9. a. If the applicant has an existing EQIP contract, has it been, and is it now, on schedule and in full compliance?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
9. b. Did the applicant successfully complete any past contract(s) in full compliance?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
9. c. Is this the applicant's first EQIP application?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

State Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
WATER RESOURCES	
1. Will the application result in reduced sedimentation into streams through riparian area enhancement (391)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. Will the application result in reduced sedimentation into streams by increased buffer zones (390, 393)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. Will the application result in reduced sedimentation into streams by stabilizing critically eroding areas, e.g., streambanks or roads (580, 584, 342)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. Will the application result in improved animal waste management (328, 329, 340, & 633)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. Will the application result in reduce animal waste discharges into a stream (328, 329, 340, & 633)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. Will the application result in result in reduced aquifer contamination by sealing abandoned wells (351)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. Will the application result in improved nutrient and/or pesticide management (590, 797)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. Will the application result in reduced nutrient and/or pesticides entering a water source (590, 797)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
9. Will the application result in reduced nutrient and/or pesticides entering streams or rivers upstream of domestic water supplies (590, 797)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
10. Will the application result in reduced nutrient and/or pesticides entering ponds, wetlands, or lakes (590, 797)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
CROPLAND	
11. Will the application result in the installation of permanent practices that treat wind erosion beyond tillage systems (380, 650, 603, 589C)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
12. Will the application result in the installation of permanent practices that will reduce soil loss from water erosion beyond tillage systems (393, 412, 638)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
13. Will the application result in the installation of practices for saline recharge areas that reduce saline areas (610)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
14. Will the application result in the conversion from conventional or minimum tillage to a no-till system (346)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
15. Will the application result in improved soil condition through the utilization of any of the soil enhancing practices in Conservation Crop Rotation (328)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
16. Will the application result in improved soil condition through the utilization of any of the soil enhancing practices in Cover and Green Manure crops (340)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
IRRIGATED LAND	
17. Will this application result in an improved field irrigation system and/or conveyance system?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
18. Will this application result in the conversion of an inefficient surface system to a sprinkler system (442)? Conversion from one sprinkler system to another sprinkler system (e.g., a pivot) is not allowable!	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
19. Will this application result in the improvement of surface irrigation by land leveling (464) in order to improve efficiency?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
20. Will this application result in the conversion of open earthen ditching to an efficient delivery system such as underground pipe, gated pipe, or lined conveyance system (430 or 428)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

21. Will this application result in the conversion of a high-pressure pivot system or retrofit to a low-pressure pivot, drop-tube system (442)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
22. Will this application result in increased in-stream flows?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
23. Will this application result in increased in-stream flows to waters identified as habitat for T&E species or species of special concern?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
24. Will this application result in the reduction of irrigation-induced salinity?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
25. Will this application result in the reduction of irrigation-induced sedimentation to streams?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
26. Will this application result in improved fish passage and/or restrict fish access to the irrigation conveyance system?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
IMPROVED PASTURE ESTABLISHMENT: Answer only one question with a yes.	
27. Will the application result in the ESTABLISHMENT of improved pastures on cropland for spring and fall grazing (512, 550)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
28. Will the application result in the ESTABLISHMENT of improved pastures on cropland for mid-summer grazing (512, 550)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
SALINITY ISSUES: Answer only one question with a yes.	
29. Will the application result in reduced saline impacts by seeding recharge areas to perennial vegetation?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
30. Will the application result in reduced saline impacts by implementing a flexible cropping system (571, 610)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
GRAZING LAND HEALTH	
31. Will the application result in the implementation of conservation practices that have a positive environmental benefit to the rangeland health resource?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
32. Will the application result in the installation of fences for riparian management to facilitate controlled access and improved grazing in riparian areas (382)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
33. Will the application result in the installation of watering facilities to replace watering access to state or tribal waters (516, 614, 574, 378)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
34. Will the application result in the installation of a watering facility in the uplands to facilitate improved livestock distribution (516, 614, 574, 378)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
35. Will the application result in the installation of fences or cross fences on uplands to facilitate improved upland grazing (382)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
36. Will the application result in the installation of a livestock access ramp to control access to state or tribal waters by livestock (575)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
37. Will the application result in the installation of a watering facility that is installed with considerations for wildlife access (648)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
38. Will the application result in accelerated treatment of NATIVE RANGELANDS (548, 314)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
39. Will the application result in the enhancement or protection of wildlife habitat or plant species identified as T&E species or species of special concern?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
40. Will the application result in noxious weed control (797)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
41. Will the application result in a 2-year grazing deferment recovery period due to natural disaster (fire or drought) (528)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
42. Will the application result in the implementation of a prescribed grazing (528) system that balances forage production with livestock numbers for the period of the contract?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
FOREST LAND	
43. Will the application result in the improvement to forest stand health by utilizing pre-commercial thinning techniques in Forest Stand Improvement (666)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
44. Will the application result in the treatment of noxious weeds on forested lands to reduce competition for resources with non-weed species and to prevent further spread of undesirable highly competitive species through Herbaceous Weed Control (797) or Prescribed Grazing (528)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
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General Questions - Select all that apply.	
1. Could this application assist the producer meet or avoid the need for their animal feeding operations (AFO) to be regulated as a point source under the Clean Water Act and/or Montana Water Quality Act?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. Does the proposed project lie in a 16-digit watershed listed on the 303(d)-list identified by NRCS through the determination tool AND does the application propose to address a water quality criteria that is listed as an impairment for the stream?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. Does the land offered with this application fall within the boundaries of a local group conservation effort or plan and the contracted practices will address the resource objectives of that conservation effort?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. Does the application include the contracting of cost-shareable management practices?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. If funded, would this be the applicant's first EQIP contract?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Conservation Planning - Select no more than one of the following.	
6. Does the applicant use a Resource Management System (RMS) conservation plan developed/re-evaluated within the last 5 years?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. Does the applicant use progressive implementation of a conservation plan developed/re-evaluated within the last 5 years?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Pest Management - Select no more than one of the following.	
8. Does the application include the development and implementation of an integrated pest management plan (IPM) for noxious weeds on the impacted non-cropland acres of the operation? (Herbaceous Weed Control is not eligible for cost-share on cropland.)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
9. Does the application include the development and implementation of a treatment plan for noxious weeds on the impacted non-cropland acres of the operation? (Herbaceous Weed Control is not eligible for cost-share on cropland.)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Critical Species - Select no more than one of the following.	
10. Does the application benefit critical fish, wildlife, or plant species habitat and assist the producer meet or avoid the need to be regulated under the Endangered Species Act?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
11. Does the application benefit critical fish, wildlife, or plant species habitat identified as Species of Concern by Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks and the Montana Natural Heritage Program?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
12. Does the application directly benefit fish and/or wildlife species habitat (not covered above)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
13. Does the application benefit pollinator species through the seeding of pollinator friendly seeding mixes on more than 5 acres of land? (Must be in accordance with Montana NRCS Biology Technical Note Number MT-20, March 2009)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
14. Does the application benefit pollinator species through the seeding of pollinator friendly seeding mixes on ½ to 5 acres of land? (Must be in accordance with Montana NRCS Biology Technical Note Number MT-20, March 2009)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Land Use:

Resource Concerns	Practices
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Ranking Score

Efficiency:
Local Issues:
State Issues:
National Issues:
Final Ranking Score:

This ranking report is for your information. It does not in any way guarantee funding. When funding becomes available, you will be notified if your application is selected for funding. Some changes to the application may be required before a final contract is awarded.

Notes:

NRCS Representative:

**Application Signature Not Required for Contract
Development unless required by State policy:**

Signature Date:

Signature Date: