

## *Ranking Tool Summary* for FY2017 - FY17 DALCI

### National Priorities:

Questions:

Number	Question	Points
1	a. Is the program application to support the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is "Yes", do not answer any other national level questions. If answer is "No", proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	250
2	a. Implementing the practices in a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP)?	15
2	b. Implementing the practices in a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP)?	10
2	c. Reducing impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides on land adjoining a designated "impaired water body" (TMDL, 303d listed waterbody, or other State designation)?	10
2	d. Reducing the impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides in a "non-impaired water body"?	10
2	e. Implementing practices that improve water quality through animal mortality and carcass management?	10
3	a. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce aquifer overdraft.	15
3	b. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce on-farm water use?	10
3	c. Implementing practices in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	10
3	d. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm water use as a result of changing to crops with lower water consumptive use, the rotation of crops, or the modification of cultural operations?	10
4	a. Meeting on-farm regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	10
4	b. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm emissions of particulate matter (PM2.5, PM10)?	10
4	c. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm generated greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide (CO <sub>2</sub> ), methane (CH <sub>4</sub> ), and nitrous oxide (N <sub>2</sub> O)?	10
4	d. Implementing practices that increase on-farm carbon sequestration?	10
5	a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil "T")?	10
5	b. Increasing organic matter and carbon content, and improving soil tilth and structure?	10
6	a. Implementing practices benefitting threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern.	10
6	b. Implementing practices that retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) or other set-aside program?	10
6	c. Implementing practices benefitting honey bee populations or other pollinators?	10
6	d. Implementing land-based practices that improve habitat for aquatic wildlife?	10
7	a. Implementing practices that result in the management control of noxious or invasive plant species on non-cropland?	10
7	b. Implementing practice in an Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM)?	10
8	a. Reducing on-farm energy consumption?	10
8	b. Implementing practice(s) identified in an approved AgEMP or energy audit, which meet ASABE S612 criteria?	10
9	a. Enhancement of existing conservation practice(s) or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is received?	10
	Total Points	500

## State Issues:

### Questions:

Sub-heading Number	Question Number	Question	Points
	1	Is the program application to support the development of a conservation activity plan (CAP)? If answer is "Yes," do not answer any other State-level questions. If answer is "No," proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	250
	2	Application includes two of the following practices: Conservation Cover (327), Contour Buffer Strips (332), Cover Crop (340), Field Border (386), Filter Strip (393), Forage and Biomass Planting (512), Grade Stabilization Structure(410), Residue Management, No-Till (329), Terrace(600),Tree/Shrub Establishment (612), Water and Sediment Control Basin(638).	100
	3	Application includes one of the following practices: Riparian Forest Buffer (391), Stripcropping (585).	35
	4	Application is located in the upstream catchment area that drains to a designated trout stream. (Utilize GIS layer for determination of location for scoring, yellow areas.)	75
	5	Application is for Streambank and Shoreline protection (580), Stream Habitat management (395), or Channel Bank Shaping under (342) and will be part of an adjoining project area addressing one of these practices as well.	40
		Maximum Points: Total Points	500

## Local Issues:

### Questions:

Sub-heading Number	Question Number	Question	Points
1		If the application is for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP) the agency will assign significant ranking priority and conservation benefit by answering "Yes" to the following question. Answering "Yes" to question 1.1 will result in the application being awarded the maximum amount of points that can be earned for the local priority category.	
	1	Is the program application for the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is "Yes" do not answer any other local level questions. If answer is "No" proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	400
2		WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION	
	1	WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Application area is located within the Driftless targets all 1:100k local catchments draining into targeted streams (Us the EQIP2017 GIS map to determine, yellow areas)	45
3		SOIL EROSION	
	1	SOIL EROSION: Application includes management practices that address sheet and rill erosion.	64

	2	SOIL EROSION: Application will address a source of significant streambank erosion. Significant is defined as 20% or more of streambank length on project site requires use of riprap scenarios under Practice 580 and/or channel bank shaping under Practice 342	48
	3	SOIL EROSION: Application includes practices to keep lands in expiring Conservation Reserve Program contracts in perennial cover (no annual crops). Entire field must remain in this cover in order to receive the points	60
	4	SOIL EROSION: Application includes Prescribed Grazing (528).	48
	5	SOIL EROSION: Application includes Grassed Waterway (412) or Grade Stabilization Structure (410).	12
4		FISH & WILDLIFE	
	1	FISH & WILDLIFE - INADEQUATE HABITAT: Application includes practices that benefit prairie/savanna and are located in State Acres For wildlife Enhancement area (SAFE) or other recognized state focus or priority area for prairie/savanna.	31
	2	FISH & WILDLIFE - INADEQUATE HABITAT: Application includes practices to benefit state or federally listed threatened or endangered grassland animal species documented within one mile of site through an NHI review?	19
	3	FISH & WILDLIFE - INADEQUATE HABITAT: Application includes practices to benefit state listed grassland animal species of concern documented within one mile of site through an NHI review?	8
	4	FISH & WILDLIFE - INADEQUATE HABITAT: Application includes practice(s) with approved seeding/planting mix for perennial pollinator habitat.	31
5		DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION	
	1	DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION: Application includes practices to manage for oak in existing stand(s) with at least 25% oak canopy.	12
	2	DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION: Application includes practices to manage for oak in stand(s) with significant oak advance regeneration present (>200 stems/acre of oak	5
	3	DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION: Application includes practices to manage for oak on south- or southwest-facing slopes and/or soil types that favor oak over shade-adapted species. An oak component must currently be present on site	4
	4	DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION: Application includes reforestation of cropland and other open areas on slopes >15% in areas of high forest connectivity.	3
6		OTHER	
	1	OTHER: A perpetual public access easement is already established on the project site.	10
		Maximum Points: Total Points	800