

**FY 2012**  
**MASSACHUSETTS NRCS WRP RANKING WORKSHEET**

Landowner Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Farm #: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Tract #: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 County: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Evaluators: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Landowners Objectives: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**ENROLLMENT AREA INFORMATION**

1. TYPE OF APPLICATION:                     Permanent       30 Year       10 year-Restoration Only
2. PORTION OF PROPERTY OFFERED FOR ENROLLMENT: (check one)                     Whole     Portion  
 Describe: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

3. ENROLLMENT AREA:  
Eligible Acres: (historically wetlands, altered by agriculture or forestry where hydrology has been altered and will be restored)

Acres of natural historic wetlands altered by agriculture/forestry : \_\_\_\_\_

Acres of land altered by flooding: (Ex: created wetlands for agric.) \_\_\_\_\_

Other acres: (Ex: previously restored wetlands, riparian corridors, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

Describe: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Eligible acres currently being farmed:  Yes \_\_\_\_\_ acres       No

Associated Acres:

Existing natural wetlands, non-agriculture \_\_\_\_\_

Upland natural vegetation \_\_\_\_\_

Restorable upland \_\_\_\_\_

Total Associated Acres: \_\_\_\_\_

Other: (describe) \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enrollment Acres: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Agricultural Acres: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Non-Ag Acres: \_\_\_\_\_

4. ASSOCIATED ACRES: How will the associated acres contribute to the functions and values of the restored wetland? (Check all that apply)
- Provide buffering and filtering from surrounding land uses
- Increase habitat value by providing additional nesting habitat, etc.
- Provide species specific upland habitat for targeted species (explain) \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
- Reduce fragmentation of, or increases the area of, the wetland complex
- Explain \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

1. HYDRIC SOILS: (Soil Scientist confirmation needed.)

How were hydric soils confirmed? (check one)  Onsite       In Office (if so, please explain)

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

## 2012 WRP RANKING FACTORS

**HYDROLOGY & VEGETATION  
CONNECTIVITY  
COSTS (Easement and Restoration)**

**WATER QUALITY  
WILDLIFE  
OPERATION & MAINTENANCE**

HYDROLOGIC RESTORATION & VEGETATION	POSSIBLE POINTS	POINTS RECEIVED
<b>Percent of Eligible Acres on which hydrology will be restored to <u>historic conditions</u> and will result in a predominance of historic native vegetation after restoration</b>		
>75%	6	
50% ≤ 75%	3	
< 50%	0	
<b>CROPPING HISTORY</b>		
<b>Number of years since the last cropping or forage operation</b>		
0 – 5 years	3	
> 5 – 10 years	1	
> 10 years	0	
<b>ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS</b>		
<b>WILDLIFE</b>		
<b>Easement is located within NHESP Priority Habitat and restoration will benefit identified species (Document)</b> The Priority Habitats of Rare Species datalayer contains polygons representing the geographic extent of Habitat of state-listed rare species in Massachusetts based on observations documented within the last 25 years in the database of the Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program (NHESP). Priority Habitat polygons are the filing trigger for project proponents, municipalities, and all others for determining whether or not a proposed project or activity must be reviewed by the NHESP for compliance with the Massachusetts Endangered Species Act (MESA) and its implementing regulations. Areas delineated as Priority Habitats can include wetlands, uplands, and marine habitats.	1	
<b>WATER QUALITY</b>		
<b>Enrollment area is located within Zone II or discharges directly into a Zone II</b> Zone II is that area of an aquifer which contributes water to a well under the most severe pumping and recharge conditions that can be realistically anticipated (180 days of pumping at approved yield, with no recharge from precipitation). It is bounded by the groundwater divides which result from pumping the well and by the contact of the aquifer with less permeable materials such as till or bedrock.	1	
<b>Enrollment area discharges into or is located within an Outstanding Resource Water:</b> The ORW datalayer delineates those watershed areas in which most waters are afforded Outstanding Resource Waters classification under the Massachusetts Surface Water Quality Standards of 2007. According to 314 CMR 4.00: "Certain waters shall be designated for protection under this provision in 314 CMR 4.06(3) including Public Water Supplies (314 CMR 4.06(1)(d)1.). These waters constitute an outstanding resource as determined by their outstanding socioeconomic, recreational, ecological and/or aesthetic values. The quality of these waters shall be protected and maintained".	1	
<b>Enrollment area is located less than 1 mile from the coast.</b> Plymouth and Bristol County Conservation District Local Work Group priority.	1	
<b>Enrollment area is located within 303(d) Cat 4 or 5 (impaired due to agricultural activities) or discharges directly into 303(d) Cat 4 or 5 (impaired due to agricultural activities):</b> Under Section 303(d) of the CWA, states, territories, and authorized tribes are required to develop lists of impaired waters. These are waters that are too polluted or otherwise degraded to meet the state water quality standards. The law requires that these jurisdictions establish priority rankings for waters on the lists and develop TMDLs for these waters. A TMDL, is a calculation of the maximum amount of a pollutant that a waterbody can receive and still safely meet water quality standards. Category 5 waters are impaired because at least one designated use is not being supported or is threatened and a TMDL is needed. Category 4 waters indicate that at least one designated use is not being supported but a TMDL is not needed.	1	
<b>CONNECTIVITY</b> Permanently protected land includes land in a conservation easement, state WMA lands, APR/FRPP lands, DCR/MA wildlife lands in a natural state, natural ponds and lakes, and NGO lands in a natural state. Does not include lands that are only in tax reduction program such as MA Chapter 61.	<b>POSSIBLE POINTS</b>	<b>POINTS RECEIVED</b>
<b>Enrollment area abuts permanently protected land on &gt; 75% of perimeter (contiguous)</b>	3	
<b>Enrollment area abuts permanently protected land on 50% - 74% of perimeter (contiguous)</b>	2	
<b>Enrollment area abuts permanently protected land on 25% - 49% of perimeter (contiguous)</b>	1	
<b>Enrollment area does not abut permanently protected land.</b>	0	
<b>SUBTOTAL: Sum Hydrologic Restoration/Vegetation &amp; Environmental Points</b>		

ECONOMICS		POSSIBLE POINTS	POINTS RECEIVED
<b>RESTORATION COST per ACRE</b> (RC/ac. = total restoration cost/total enrollment acres)			
<b>Example:</b> Restoration Cost = \$10,000 Total Enrollment/Easement Acres = 10 acres Restoration Cost/Acre = \$ 1000			
<b>Restoration Cost per Acre ≤ \$500</b>		3	
<b>Restoration Cost per Acre ≥ \$500 to ≤ \$1,000</b>		2	
<b>Restoration Cost per Acre &gt; \$1,000</b>		1	
<b>COST-ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFIT ANALYSIS</b>			
<b>Example:</b>			
<b>Step 1:</b> Determine Total Cost per Restorable Wetland Acre ( <u>easement cost + restoration cost</u> ) eligible acres			
Easement Cost: \$174,000 (\$17,400 (GARC) x 10 acres <i>NOTE: For all active bog applications use \$17,400/acre to estimate easement cost; for all other applications use \$4,600/acre</i>			
Restoration Cost: <u>\$ 10,000</u>			
Total Restoration Cost: \$184,000			
Eligible Acres: 5 acres			
<b>Cost per Restorable Wetland Acre: \$184,000/ 5 acres = \$36,800</b>			
<b>Step 2:</b> Determine Cost-Environmental Benefit <u>cost per restorable wetland acre</u> (hydrology pts + cropping pts + environmental pts + connectivity pts)			
Cost per Restorable Wetland Acre: \$36,800			
Hyd., Crop, Envir. Points: 8			
<b>Cost-Benefit: \$36,800/8 points = 4,600</b>			
<b>Active Cranberry Bog Applications</b>	<b>All other applications</b>		
<b>Cost-Benefit &lt; 1500</b>	<b>Cost-Benefit &lt;700</b>	3	
<b>Cost-Benefit &gt; 1500 ≤ 2500</b>	<b>Cost-Benefit &lt;850</b>	2	
<b>Cost-Benefit &gt; 2500 ≤ 3500</b>	<b>Cost-Benefit &lt;950</b>	1	
<b>Cost-Benefit &gt; 3500</b>	<b>Cost-Benefit ≥ 1100</b>	0	
<b>OPERATION &amp; MAINTENANCE</b>		<b>POSSIBLE POINTS</b>	<b>POINTS RECEIVED</b>
<b>Minimal or No maintenance will be required to maintain the restored wetland conditions.</b> All of the following must be true:			
a. No water level manipulation is required		3	
b. Control structures are not designed for water level manipulation			
c. Invasive species are not expected to significantly impact the wetland			
<b>Minimal management will be required to maintain the restored wetland conditions.</b> All of the following must be true:			
a. No water level manipulation is required		2	
b. Control structures may or may not be designed for water manipulation			
c. Invasive species make up < 15% or the easement area and are not expected to jeopardize wetland function			
<b>Long term management or Intensive management is required to maintain restored wetland conditions:</b> At least one is true:			
a. Water level manipulation is required		0	
b. Invasive species make up > 15% or the easement area and may jeopardize wetland function or			
c. Invasive species are expected to jeopardize the restored wetland function or the easement area			
<b>PARTNER ORGANIZATION MONETARY CONTRIBUTION</b> (Award points only if NRCS has secured partner funding)			
<b>Describe:</b>		1	
<b>TOTAL POINTS</b>			
<b>ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS</b>			

SIGNATURES			
_____	_____	_____	_____
Landowner	Date	District Conservationist	Date
_____	_____		
NRCS, WRP Program Specialist	Date		

Complete WRP Ranking Spreadsheet and Upload into Customer Service Toolkit