

Natural Resources Conservation Service

**Application Local Ranking Questions
General EQIP - Cropland/Farmstead/Grazing**

Belknap & Merrimack

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. Does this application facilitate livestock exclusion from ALL sensitive areas (i.e., wetlands) with a 15 foot buffer? You may only answer yes to question 1 or 2 -not both. Value = 20 pts	20 Point(s)
2. Does this application facilitate livestock exclusion from ALL sensitive areas (i.e., wetlands) with a 50 foot buffer? You may only answer yes to question 1 or 2 -not both. Value = 45 pts	45 Point(s)
3. Does the application include the prescribed (rotational) grazing practice for an operation? Value = 35 pts	35 Point(s)
4. Will the applicant incorporate legumes or native grasses into 15% or more of the forage base? Value = 15 pts	15 Point(s)
5. Will the intended practice(s) include creation or restoration of a vegetated buffer of suitable width to meet the State BMPs? Value = 40 pts	40 Point(s)
6. Will the practice(s) include the addition of new or the replacement of culverts, stone fords, or other in-stream structures with bridges, open-bottom culverts spanning bankfull width, or other designs to promote fisheries and wildlife passage? Value = 30 pts	30 Point(s)
7. Does the application include practices to benefit New England Cottontail? Value = 15 pts	15 Point(s)
8. Is the applicant following the BMPs according to their Cornell Soil Health or other standard soil test? Value = 30 pts	30 Point(s)
9. Does the application include vegetative or cultural practices to control erosion or reduce sediment/ nutrients from entering surface water or wetlands? Value = 40 pts	40 Point(s)

Carroll

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. Does the property have a perpetual conservation easement? Value = 45 pts	45 Point(s)

2. Are conservation practices in the contract addressing at least 2 of the following natural resource concerns? Soil Quality, Water Quality, Plant Quality (Crops and Forest), Animal Quality (Domestic and Wild)? Value = 45 pts	45 Point(s)
3. Is at least one practice in the contract to address wildlife or pollinator concerns? Value = 45 pts	45 Point(s)
4. Has the applicant successfully completed a contract in the past or is it a first time applicant? Value = 70 pts	70 Point(s)
5. Does the property have a farm plan a business plan, a forest management plan or a wildlife management plan? Value = 45 pts	45 Point(s)

Cheshire & Sullivan

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. Does the application include practices to limit sediment, nutrients, pathogens or pesticides from entering surface water? Value = 60 pts	60 Point(s)
2. Does the application include use exclusion in a grazing system? Value = 20 pts	20 Point(s)
3. Does the application include conservation buffers that are the Beltwidth corridor of the stream or up to 150 feet? Value = 60 pts	60 Point(s)
4. Does this application include practices to enhance soil health/quality? Value = 50 pts	50 Point(s)
5. Does the application include at least one practice to benefit wildlife on the treatment area? Value = 30 pts	30 Point(s)
6. Will the practices in the application be implemented on land protected by a permanent conservation easement? Value = 30 pts	30 Point(s)

Coos

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. Is the majority of the treatment area within a state listed impaired watershed and will it address the particular impairment? Value = 20 pts	20 Point(s)
2. Will direct discharge of sediment/nutrients into surface waters be controlled by practices in this application? Value = 20 pts	20 Point(s)
3. Will practices in this application control non-native invasive species? Value = 10 pts	10 Point(s)
4. Does the application include conservation buffers that are a minimum of 35 feet in width? Value = 35 pts	35 Point(s)

5. Does the application include practices to benefit Eastern Brook Trout or other native aquatic species? Value = 25 pts	25 Point(s)
6. Does the application include at least one practice to benefit wildlife on the treatment area? Value = 25 pts	25 Point(s)
7. Will practices in the application impact products you sell within 50 miles of your farm? Value = 15 pts	15 Point(s)
8. Will the practices in the application be implemented on land protected by a permanent conservation easement? Value = 35 pts	35 Point(s)
9. Does the application include practices to help the farm/operation recover from documented storm damage? Value = 20 pts	20 Point(s)
10. Does the application include practices to decrease pest pressures affecting agricultural operations or public health? Value = 25 pts	25 Point(s)
11. Does this application include repair and maintenance of any erosion that impacts soil productivity whatever the use? Value = 20 pts	20 Point(s)

Grafton

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. Does the application include practices to limit sediment/nutrients from entering surface water, or control of direct discharge? Value = 34 pts	34 Point(s)
2. Will practices in this application control non-native invasive species and noxious weeds, or decrease pest pressures affecting agricultural or forestry operations? Value = 20 pts	20 Point(s)
3. Does the application include conservation buffers that are at least 15 feet in width? Value = 20 pts	20 Point(s)
4. Does the application include practices to benefit Eastern Brook Trout, Woodcock, Ruffed Grouse or other Species of Concern identified in the NH Wildlife Action Plan or does the application include at least one practice to benefit wildlife on the treatment area? Value = 34 pts	34 Point(s)
5. Practices in the application will positively impact locally grown food products you sell in New England? Value = 34 pts	34 Point(s)
6. Will the practices in the application be implemented on land protected by a permanent conservation easement? Value = 20 pts	20 Point(s)

7. Practices in the application are consistent with recommendations in your farm, business, wildlife or forestry management plan. Value = 20 pts	20 Point(s)
8. Is this the applicant's first EQIP contract or has the applicant completed all previous contracts? Value = 34 pts	34 Point(s)
9. Does this application address energy efficiency or water conservation? Value = 34 pts	34 Point(s)

Hillsborough

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. Will continuous no-till/zone-till/strip-till be adopted on all or a portion of annually tilled cropland? Value = 40 pts	40 Point(s)
2. Will at least 30% of currently irrigated land be converted to water conserving irrigation systems? Value = 40 pts	40 Point(s)
3. Will runoff from chemical (fuel, pesticides), food processing (wash water), and nutrient (manure) sources be captured and/or treated? Value = 40 pts	40 Point(s)
4. Will the applicant utilize no-till seeding methods for pasture, hayland, and/or wildlife rejuvenation? Value = 40 pts	40 Point(s)
5. Does the application include practices to improve soil health and fertility on working lands? Value = 40 pts	40 Point(s)
6. Will invasive species be controlled? Value = 40 pts	40 Point(s)
7. Does the land have a conservation easement? Value = 10 pts	10 Point(s)

Rockingham & Strafford

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. Is the majority of the treatment area within a state listed impaired watershed and will it address the particular impairment? Value = 50 pts	50 Point(s)
2. Will practices in this application control non-native invasive species? Value = 50 pts	50 Point(s)
3. Is the application on land on which conservation buffers will be established that are greater than or equal to 35 feet in width? If applicable answer yes to question 3 or 4 - NOT both. Value = 35 pts	35 Point(s)
4. Is the application on land on which conservation buffers will be established that are 15 feet to 34 feet in width? If applicable, answer yes to question 3 or 4 - NOT both. Value = 15 pts	15 Point(s)

5. Does the application include at least one practice to benefit wildlife on the treatment area? Value = 35 pts	35 Point(s)
6. Will the practices in the application be implemented on land protected by a permanent conservation easement? Value = 30 pts	30 Point(s)
7. Does the application include practices to limit nitrogen, phosphorus, or sediment from entering surface water in the Great Bay Watershed? Value = 50 pts	50 Point(s)

Natural Resources Conservation Service

**Application Local Ranking Questions
General EQIP - Forestry**

Belknap, Coos, Hillsborough, Merrimack, Rockingham, Strafford

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. Will at least 1 ac of riparian forest buffer be installed through this contract? Value = 75 pts	75 Point(s)
2. Will stream crossings be resized, repaired or removed? Value = 50 pts	50 Point(s)
3. Will uneven age management techniques such as group selections, and regeneration harvests be planned to encourage a diversity of species and age classes? Value = 50 pts	50 Point(s)
4. Will state listed invasive species be controlled by chemical and/or mechanical techniques? Value = 30 pts	30 Point(s)
5. Is the land under contract protected by a perpetual conservation easement? Value = 25 pts	25 Point(s)
6. Is the land under contract directly adjacent (must share a direct border) to land protected by a conservation easement or state/county/town owned conservation land? Value = 10 pts	10 Point(s)
7. This contract does not include wildlife habitat management practices for which the applicant has previously received payments from NRCS. Value = 10 pts	10 Point(s)

Carroll

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. Does the property have a perpetual conservation easement? Value = 45 pts	45 Point(s)
2. Are conservation practices in the contract addressing at least 2 of the following natural resource concerns? Soil Quality, Water Quality, Plant Quality (Crops and Forest), Animal Quality (Domestic and Wild)? Value = 45 pts	45 Point(s)
3. Is at least one practice in the contract to address wildlife or pollinator concerns? Value = 45 pts	45 Point(s)
4. Has the applicant successfully completed a contract in the past or is it a first time applicant? Value = 70 pts	70 Point(s)

5. Does the property have a farm plan a business plan, a forest management plan or a wildlife management plan? Value = 45 pts	45 Point(s)
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Cheshire & Sullivan

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. Does this application include practices to protect soil health/quality? Value = 30 pts	30 Point(s)
2. Does this application improve aquatic organism passage? Value = 50 pts	50 Point(s)
3. Ground-disturbing practices will NOT occur within 100 feet from intermittent and perennial surface water. Value = 75 pts	75 Point(s)
4. Will threatened and endangered or rare natural species be protected through invasive species control? Value = 25 pts	25 Point(s)
5. Is the land included in this application protected by a perpetual conservation easement? Value = 25 pts	25 Point(s)
6. Is the land included in this application directly adjacent (must share a direct border) to land protected by a conservation easement or state/county/town-owned conservation land? Value = 10 pts	10 Point(s)
7. Will uneven-age management techniques such as group selection and regeneration harvests be planned to encourage a diversity of species and age classes? Value = 25 pts	25 Point(s)
8. This application does NOT include wildlife habitat management practices for which the applicant has previously received payments. Value = 10 pts	10 Point(s)

Grafton

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. Does the application include practices to limit sediment/nutrients from entering surface water, or control of direct discharge? Value = 34 pts	34 Point(s)
2. Will practices in this application control non-native invasive species and noxious weeds, or decrease pest pressures affecting agricultural or forestry operations? Value = 20 pts	20 Point(s)
3. Does the application include conservation buffers that are at least 15 feet in width? Value = 20 pts	20 Point(s)

<p>4. Does the application include practices to benefit Eastern Brook Trout, Woodcock, Ruffed Grouse or other Species of Concern identified in the NH Wildlife Action Plan or does the application include at least one practice to benefit wildlife on the treatment area? Value = 34 pts</p>	<p>34 Point(s)</p>
<p>5. Practices in the application will positively impact locally grown food products you sell in New England? Value = 34 pts</p>	<p>34 Point(s)</p>
<p>6. Will the practices in the application be implemented on land protected by a permanent conservation easement? Value = 20 pts</p>	<p>20 Point(s)</p>
<p>7. Practices in the application are consistent with recommendations in your farm, business, wildlife or forestry management plan. Value = 20 pts</p>	<p>20 Point(s)</p>
<p>8. Is this the applicant's first EQIP contract or has the applicant completed all previous contracts? Value = 34 pts</p>	<p>34 Point(s)</p>
<p>9. Does this application address energy efficiency or water conservation? Value = 34 pts</p>	<p>34 Point(s)</p>