

NH NRCS 2013 WETLAND RESERVE PROGRAM EASEMENT & RESTORATION RANKING SHEET

The NRCS Wetland Reserve Program (WRP) was established to protect, restore and enhance the functions and values of wetland ecosystems that have been degraded as a result of agricultural/silvicultural activities.

Landowner Name:			
Landowner Address:			
	<i>Street</i>	<i>City/Town State, Zip</i>	
Landowner Number:			
	<i>Home</i>	<i>Cell</i>	
Landowner Email:			
Parcel Town & County:			
Application ranked for (choose one): Easement with restoration__ Restoration only__			

Category	Environmental Benefit Considerations	Maximum Points	Parcel Points
Landscape Benefit Factors	1 Proposed easement has direct: -riparian connection to protected lands=400 pts -riparian connection to lands under agreement=300 pts* -upland connection to protected lands=300 pts -upland connection to lands under agreement=200 pts* <i>*Permanent land protection agreement must be in writing prior to receiving points.</i>	400	
	2 Proposed easement has probable occurrences of endangered, threatened, species of concern, or monitored species as identified by qualified professionals (documentation required). <i>E=400 points, T=300 pts, SC=100 pts, M=50 pts</i>	400	
	3 Proposed easement area contains rare or exemplary natural communities that appear in NHB records or have been identified by a qualified professional (documentation required). <i>Yes=100 points No=0 Points</i>	150	
	4 WAP Tiers Highest Ranked Habitat in NH = 250 Pts or Highest Ranked Habitat in Biological Region = 150 Pts or Supporting Landscape = 75 Pts	250	
Hydrology Restoration Potential	5 Preliminary Restoration Plan (see attached Field Assessment Worksheet) <i>*Maximum capped at 1200 points</i>	1200	0
	6 Percent of the easement, after proposed restoration, that will provide: (1) hydrologic conditions suitable for the needs of the native wetland dependent wildlife species and (2) appropriate wetland functions and values that existed prior to degradation - 25 points for each 10%.	250	
	<i>* If parcel cannot demonstrate hydrology restoration potential (score of zero on Category 5 & 6), parcel is ineligible for WRP.</i>		-
Maximum Points for Environmental Benefit Considerations		2650	0

Category	Economic Considerations		Maximum Points	Parcel Points							
Cost Effectiveness Factors	7	Applicant and/or partnership contributions exist that will reduce NRCS easement acquisition and/or restoration costs*. 5 points for every \$1,000 contribution with a maximum of 250 points. Contributions must be documented in writing prior to ranking. *Restoration costs may include implementation expenses and/or in-kind final WRPO development by qualified professionals after APCE is signed.	250								
	8	<table border="1"> <tr> <td rowspan="2">Cost Benefit Analysis</td> <td>Environmental Benefit Points</td> </tr> <tr> <td>----- x 100</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">GARC + Restoration (cost per acre)</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">(Maximum capped at 50 points)</td> </tr> </table>	Cost Benefit Analysis	Environmental Benefit Points	----- x 100	GARC + Restoration (cost per acre)		(Maximum capped at 50 points)		50	
	Cost Benefit Analysis	Environmental Benefit Points									
----- x 100											
GARC + Restoration (cost per acre)											
(Maximum capped at 50 points)											
Maximum Points for Cost Effectiveness Factors			300	0							
Management Effectiveness Factors	9	Operation and maintenance of restoration practices, once installed, will be: <i>Required, but less often than every 5 years - 50 points</i> <i>Required more often than every 5 years - 0 points</i>	50								
	10	Ownership will be transferred to a qualified third party (such as a state wildlife agency, land trust, etc) after the easement has closed. Agreement must be documented in writing prior to ranking. <i>Yes = 250 Points No = 0 Points</i>	250								
	Maximum Points for Management Factors			300	0						
Maximum Points for Economic Considerations			600	0							

Category	Special Considerations		Maximum Points	Parcel Points
Conservation Priority Areas	11	<p>NH Conservation Priority Areas as listed in a local, state, or regional plan including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -NH Aquifer -Important Bird Area -NHDES Impaired Water Buffers -Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture -New England Cottontail Focus Area -Quabbin to Cardigan Initiative -NH Coastal & Estuarine Land Protection Plan -Upper Ammonoosuc and Israel River Watersheds -NRCS Rivers Initiative (Connecticut, Great Bay, Merrimack, Saco) <p><i>(50 points for each occurrence - maximum 250 points)</i></p>	250	
Farmland Productivity	12	<p>Acres offered do not include prime or statewide important farmland soils. If so, points will be <i>deducted</i> as follows:</p> <p><i><5 acres = 0 points 5-10 acres = 100 points</i> <i>11-20 acres = 150 points 20+ acres = 200 points</i></p>	200	
Total for Special Considerations			250	0

TOTAL RANKING SCORE	Maximum Points	Parcel Points
Total Score for Environmental Benefit Considerations:	2650	0
Total Score for Economic Considerations:	600	0
Total for Special Considerations:	250	0
FINAL RANKING SCORE:	3500	0

SIGNATURE BLOCK	
<p>Landowner Signature: _____ Date: _____</p> <p>PRINT NAME: _____</p>	
<p>NRCS Representative: _____ Date: _____</p> <p>PRINT NAME: _____</p>	
<p><i>**CHANGES TO PROPOSED EASEMENT BOUNDARY, SITE HYDROLOGY, VEGETATIVE COVER, OR RESTORATION PRACTICES AFTER RANKING MAY VOID THIS SCORE. LANDOWNERS WHO MAKE THESE CHANGES WILL BE DEFERRED.</i></p>	

2013 WRP Preliminary Restoration Plan - Field Assessment Worksheet

LANDOWNER NAME:

Resource Concern Categories	Units	Estimated Field Units	Points/Field Unit	Ranking Points	Restoration Practices Selected	Plan Reference	Estimated Cost	Benefited Acres (Q#6)	
I: SURFACE HYDROLOGY									
improperly sized, placed, or degraded perennial stream crossings	Each		50	0					
Length of incised or degraded perennial streams	Feet		0.5	0					
improperly sized, placed, or degraded intermittent stream crossings	Each		25	0					
Length of incised or degraded intermittent streams	Feet		0.25	0					
II: WETLAND FILL									
Square feet of filled wetlands	Feet ²		0.05	0					
III: RIPARIAN BUFFER									
Square feet of of eroding stream bank	Feet ²		0.02	0					
Square feet of riparian area to be restored to native plant community	Feet ²		0.01	0					
IV: FOREST TRAILS & ACCESS ROADS									
Length of roads/trails within wetlands that degrade hydrologic function	Feet		0.2	0					
Length of roads/trails that contribute to unnatural drainage patterns (seeps, sinks, etc)	Feet		0.1	0					
V: AGRICULTURAL LANDS									
Length of surface or subsurface drainage	Feet		2	0					
Length of field edge with inadequate wetland buffer	Feet		1	0					
Acres of hydric soils previously shaped +/- smoothed for agriculture	Acre		50	0					
VI: INVASIVE SPECIES									
Treatment acres colonized by wetland invasive species	Acre		25	0					
Treatment acres colonized by upland invasive species	Acre		10	0					
VII: FORESTED WETLANDS & VERNAL POOLS									
Acres degraded by past or present activities for food and fiber production (decreased hydroperiod, increased runoff, lack of coarse woody debris, altered vegetative community, etc)	Acre		25	0					
VIII: ADDITIONAL RESOURCE CONCERNS									
				0					
				TOTAL RANKING SCORE:	0	TOTAL ESTIMATED COST:		\$0.00	0.0

(*Maximum ranking score capped at 1200 points)

SIGNATURE BLOCK

Landowner Signature: _____	PRINT NAME: _____	Date: _____
NRCS Representative: _____	PRINT NAME: _____	Date: _____

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