



Pennsylvania NRCS Healthy Forest Reserve Program (HFRP) Ranking Scoring Worksheet

March 10, 2021

Landowner Name: _____ County: _____ Fiscal Year: _____

Application Date: _____ Tract: _____

FINAL RANKING SCORE: _____

State Biologist Review/Concurrence (Y/N): _____ **Date:** _____ **State Forester Review/Concurrence (Y/N):** _____ **Date:** _____

<i>Applicability Question</i>	
Project Location - Pennsylvania	
a.	Is the project located in Pennsylvania (Y/N)?

<i>Category Question</i>	
Project Location - Indiana Bat Priority Area	
a.	Is the project located in an Indiana Bat Priority County (Y/N) (Geo spatial answered, GIS layer "HFRP Counties")?

<i>Program Priority Questions</i>		
1. Noxious or Invasive Species		
a.	<10% of the vegetation in the total easement area is noxious and/or invasive	50
b.	11-25% of the vegetation in the total easement area is noxious and/or invasive	20
c.	>25% of the vegetation in the total easement area is noxious and/or invasive	0
	subtotal	0
2. Total easement enrollment size		
a.	Proposed enrollment is 75-100 acres or larger	50
b.	Proposed enrollment is 50-74 acres	25
c.	Proposed enrollment is 25-49 acres	15
d.	Proposed enrollment is 10-24 acres	10
e.	Proposed enrollment is less than 10 acres	0
	subtotal	0
3. Proximity to known Indiana Bat hibernacula or maternity colony (question must be answered only after consultation with the State Biologist)		
a.	Project contains a known P2, P3, or P4 Indiana bat hibernacula or maternity roost	40
b.	Project is within 10 miles of a P2 or P3 Indiana bat hibernacula	25
c.	Project is within 2.5 miles of an Indiana bat maternity roost	15
d.	Project is within 10 miles of a P4 Indiana bat hibernacula	10
e.	Project is > 10 miles from a P2, P3, or P4 Indiana bat hibernacula and > 2.5 miles from an Indiana bat maternity roost	0
	<i>List known area here:</i> _____	subtotal
		0
4. Habitat connectivity with permanently protected areas (State or Federal forests/parks/easements, gamelands, other conservation easements)		
a.	Project connects two existing permanently protected areas	30
b.	Project is directly adjacent to an existing permanently protected area	20
c.	Project is within 5 miles of an existing permanently protected area	10
d.	Project greater than 5 miles away from an existing permanently protected area	0
	<i>List connecting permanently protected area(s) here:</i> _____	subtotal
		0
5. Riparian Habitat		
a.	The project includes or borders a perennial stream, pond, or wetland with surface water	30
b.	The project is within one mile of a perennial stream, pond, or wetland with surface water	15
c.	The project is > one mile from a perennial stream, pond, or wetland with surface water	0
	subtotal	0
Program Priority Total Points		_____



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Resource Priority Questions		
1. Contribution of non-Federal funds		
a. Project partner will contribute non-federal funding, implementation aid, or in-kind services to the project	40	
c. No non-federal funding, implementation aid, or in-kind services will be provided for the project	0	
subtotal		0
2. Potential for Increased Capability of Carbon Sequestration (select one)		
a. Landowner has an existing forest management plan that has goals and recommendations for carbon sequestration	40	
c. Will the applicant establish trees by reforestation in abandoned pastures, abandoned mine lands, un-forested riparian areas, or other areas not previously forested?	20	
e. A forest management plan that includes goals and recommendations for carbon sequestration will be written for the parcel	15	
d. Carbon sequestration will not be addressed on the parcel	0	
subtotal		0
3. Significance of Forest Ecosystem Functions and Values (select one)		
a. The majority of the parcel is located in a Forest High Priority Ecological Landscape area (CD Layer)	40	
b. The majority of the parcel is not located in a Forest High Priority Ecological Landscape area (CD Layer)	0	
subtotal		0
4. Estimated Improvement of Biodiversity (select one)		
a. Forest overstory, mid-story, and understory are all present.	30	
b. Forest is in an early successional state, with high densities of shrubby vegetation.	20	
c. Forest has a closed canopy in the overstory and is missing either the mid-story or understory layer.	15	
d. Forest has a closed canopy in the overstory and is missing both the mid-story and understory layers.	0	
subtotal		0
5. Parcel Boundary Configuration (select one option that best fits the easement offer)		
a. Easement offer boundary is simple with few corners, angles and turns, creating an easily managed polygon	25	
b. Easement offer boundary is moderately simple with minimal corners, angles and turns, creating a moderate to manage polygon	15	
c. Easement offer boundary is complicated with multiple corners, angles and turns creating a difficult to manage polygon	0	
subtotal		0
6. Parcel Fragmentation (select one option that best fits the easement offer)		
a. Easement offer parcel is one contiguous block of land (no right-of-ways, active agriculture, development, roads, etc.)	25	
b. Easement offer parcel is one contiguous block of land with right-of-ways only	20	
c. Easement offer parcel is divided by non-eligible acreage, right-of-ways, non-eligible CRP, or other areas not controlled by landowner	15	
d. Easement offer parcel is manipulated by landowner, is cut-up, divided among eligible acreage, or separated by cut-outs or in-holdings	0	
subtotal		0
Resource Priority Total Points		0

	Total Ranking Score: 0		
Employee Signature	Title	Date	(Maximum Points = 400)