

ACEP-Agricultural Land Easement (ALE) 2018 Farm Bill FY 20____ RANKING - GEORGIA

ENTITY NAME: _____ PARCEL NAME: _____

County: _____ APPLICATION NUMBER: 54-4310-_____ - _____

PARCEL NUMBER: 54-4310-_____ - _____ ALE ACREAGE: _____

APPLICABILITY QUESTIONS: ELIGIBLE LAND (NO POINTS)

Does the ALE entity and parcel application meet eligibility requirements?

No Points	ELIGIBLE LAND	Check for Yes
Eligibility	YES or NO	

CATEGORY RANKING QUESTION: ALE PURPOSES (PROGRAM)

Is application for a parcel that has grasslands of special environmental significance that will benefit from the protection under the long-term easement? NOTE: This will most likely NOT be true in Georgia.

Available Points	GSS	Score
5	YES = 5, NO = 0	

PROGRAM RANKING QUESTIONS

Percent of prime, unique, and important farmland in the parcel to be protected.

Available Points	PERCENT PRIME SOILS	Score
25	91-100%	
20	81-90%	
15	71-80%	
10	61-70%	
5	51-60%	
0	<50%	
		OUT OF 25

Percent of cropland, pastureland, grassland, and rangeland in the parcel to be protected

Available Points	PERCENT OF CROP/GRASS/PASTURE	Score
25	91-100%	
20	81-90%	
15	66-80%	
10	51-65%	
5	34-50%	
0	<33%	
		OUT OF 25

Evaluate the RATIO of the parcel acreage to average farm size in the county. *Note: according to the most recent USDA Census of Agriculture.* Calculate by dividing the parcel acreage by average farm size.

Parcel Acreage: _____ Average Farm size acreage in County: _____ RATIO: _____

Available Points	RATIO OF PARCEL ACRES TO AVG FARM SIZE	Score
15	Ratio GREATER than 2.0	
7	Ratios between 1.0 and 2.0	
0	Ratio Less than 1.0	
OUT OF 15		

Evaluate the percent DECREASE of acreage of farmland in the county in which the parcel is located between the last two USDA Censuses of Agriculture. Calculate by dividing newest year by last year and multiplying by 100, then subtracting from 100. (for example, acreage in 2017 census by 2012 census)

20__ census acreage of farmland: _____ 20__ census acreage of farmland: _____

Available Points	DECREASES IN FARMLAND IN COUNTY	Score
15	Decreases of more than 15%	
8	Decreases of 10-15%	
5	Decreases of 5-10 %	
3	Decreases of 0-5%	
0	Decreases of less than 0%	
OUT OF 15		

Evaluate the percent DECREASE in the acreage of permanent grassland, pasture and rangeland, other than cropland and woodland pasture, in the county in which the parcel is located between the last two USDA Censuses of Agriculture. Evaluate by dividing 2017 by 2012 and subtracting from 100.

20__ census acreage: _____ 20__ census acreage: _____ Percent Decrease: _____%

Available Points	DECREASES IN GRASSLAND/PASTURE IN THE COUNTY	Score
15	Decreases of more than 15%	
8	Decreases of 10-15%	
5	Decreases of 5-10 %	
3	Decreases of 0-5%	
0	Decreases of less than 0%	
OUT OF 15		

Evaluate the Population Growth Rate of the county the parcel is in compared to the state growth rate
 Calculate by dividing the county growth rate by the state growth rate. NOTE: *as documented by the United States Census*

State Growth rate: _____ % County Growth Rate: _____ % Ratio: _____

Available Points	POPULATION GROWTH RATES OF COUNTY / STATE	Score
15	Growth rate of county >3.0 times the state growth rate	
7	Growth rate of county 2.0-2.9 times the state growth rate	
4	Growth rate of county 1.0-1.9 times the state growth rate	
0	Growth rate of county less than the state growth rate	

Evaluate the Population density (population per square mile) of the county the parcel is in compared to the state population density, by dividing the county density by the state density. NOTE: *as documented by the most recent United States Census*

State Density: _____ County Density: _____ Ratio: _____

Available Points	POPULATION DENSITY OF COUNTY / STATE	Score
15	Population density of county >3.0 times the state population density	
7	Population density of county 2.0-2.9 times the state population density	
4	Population density of county 1.0-1.9 times the state population density	
0	Population density of county is less than the state population density	

Does the parcel have a Farm Succession or Business Plan in place at time of application?

Available Points	FARM SUCCESSION/BUSINESS PLAN	Score
5	YES = 5, NO = 0	

What is the proximity to other protected lands? As a crow-flies is appropriate measurement.

Points will be awarded to properties that are adjacent or near already protected areas, ie state-owned, federally owned, existing easements, both federal or entity-held or if other area, documentation provided.

Available Points	PROXIMITY TO OTHE PROTECTED LANDS	Score
15	Adjacent or adjoining protected property as described above	
10	Within 1 mile of protected property	
5	Within 1 - 5 miles of protected property	
0	Greater than 5 miles from protected property	

Evaluate the ALE parcel ability to maximize the protection of contiguous or proximal acres devoted to AGRICULTURAL use.

Available Points	PROXIMITY TO AG PROTECTED PROPERTIES	Score
15	Links 2 parcels protected specifically for ag use	
7	Adjacent or adjoining a property protected specifically for ag use	
0	Does not link protected ag use areas	

Evaluate the proximity of the parcel to other AGRICULTURAL operations and infrastructure to support continued ag use of parcel

Available Points	PROXIMITY TO AG INFRASTRUCTURE	Score
15	GREATER THAN 500 acres of ag operations within mile of parcel	
7	250-500 acres of other ag operations within a mile of parcel	
0	Less than 250 acres of other ag operations within a mile of parcel	

Is the ALE parcel proposed currently enrolled in a CRP contract that is set to expire within a year?

Available Points	CRP	Score
5	YES = 5, NO = 0	

Does the entity provide proof any cash match to the ALE transaction?

Either via the entity itself or 3rd party cash contribution. Cash match for this question only calculated based upon the percent of the FMV of the ALE easement that will be provided at closing

Available Points	CASH MATCH	Score
25	25% of the FMV of the ALE cash match provided	
15	10-24% of the FMV of the ALE cash match provided	
7	1-9% of the FMV of the ALE cash match provided	
0	<1 % or No cash match provided	

Is the applicant a member of a historically underserved group?

Available Points	MEMBER OF HU GROUP	Score
30	YES = 30, NO = 0	

RESOURCE RANKING QUESTIONS:

Is the ALE Parcel in an identified Priority Area, such as a rural greenway, designated scenic byway, a South GA County with Ag land protection in their comprehensive community plans, a Source water protection area, or other environmentally sensitive landscape, as determined by NRCS (supporting documentation should be provided by entity)

Available Points	FOCAL/PRIORITY AREA	Score
15	YES = 15, NO = 0	

Does the ALE Parcel have any eligible historic or cultural resources for listing with the National or State Historic Preservation Office? *Note: No points will be awarded for this factor if Historical/Archaeological status was used for eligibility*

Available Points	CULTURAL RESOURCES	Score
15	YES=15, NO=0	

Is the proposed ALE parcel located within a 303D impaired watershed?

Available Points	IMPAIRED WATERSHED	Score
20	YES = 20, NO = 0	

Is the entity a Certified Entity, as defined by the ACEP manual, or have distinct experience with ACEP-ALE easements (demonstrated by greater than 5 enrollments in the 2014 Farm Bill)?

Available Points	ENTITY PERFORMANCE: CERTIFICATION	Score
25	YES = 25, NO = 0	

Is the entity applying for funding up to date on monitoring (specifically for FRPP/ALE) and/or no monitoring for any held easement is more than 2 years past due?

Available Points	ENTITY PERFORMANCE: MONITORING	Score
25	YES =25, NO = 0	

Is the entity applying willing to use the ALE Minimum Deed Terms?

Available Points	ENTITY PERFORMANCE: MINIMUM DEED TERMS	Score
25	YES = 25, NO = 0	

Is the farmer interested in addressing resource concerns on the farm? Evaluate the Conservation Plan.

Available Points	RESOURCE CONCERNS IN CONSERVATION PLAN	Score
30	4 or more resource concerns addressed	
20	3 resource concerns addressed	
10	2 resource concerns addressed	
5	1 resource concern addressed	
0	No plan or no resource concerns to be addressed	
		OUT OF 30

ALE FY 20_____ ENTITY NAME: _____ PARCEL NAME: _____

RANKING POINTS SUMMARY: SCORE: _____/400 DATE OF SITE VISIT: _____

Question	SCORE	AVAILABLE	CART Display Pool
Land Eligibility			Applicability
GSS easement		5	Category/Program
Prime/Statewide Soils		25	Program
Percent Crop/Pasture		25	Program
Ratio of acreage to avg farm size		15	Program
Decreases in farmland in county		15	Program
Decreases in grassland/pasture in county		15	Program
Population Growth ratios		15	Program
Population Density ratios		15	Program
Farm Plan		10	Program
Proximity to other protected Lands		15	Program
Proximity to protected lands for AG		15	Program
Proximity to Ag infrastructure		15	Program
CRP		5	Program
Cash Match		25	Program
HU		30	Resource
Focal/Priority Area		15	Resource
Cultural Resources		15	Resource
Impaired Watershed		20	Resource
Entity Performance: Certification		25	Resource
Entity Performance: Monitoring		25	Resource
Entity Performance: Min Deed Terms		25	Resource
Resource Concerns		30	Resource
TOTAL		400	