Louisiana
FY2024 ACEP-WRE Ranking Criteria

The following Ranking Criteria will be used in FY20243 to prioritize eligible ACEP-WRE applications with priority screening for funding selection. Ranking criteria are based on program and resource priorities.

1. Location Significance

Proximity of application to permanently protected areas (i.e., WMAs, NWRs, State Parks, National Forests, WRP Easements, FMHA Easements, Mitigation Banks, etc.) OR properties location within the FBBRDSM
Properties Adjoining a protected area or within red zone of FBBRDSM where permanent cover is being established on 50% or more of the offered acres
Properties Adjoining a protected area or within red zone of FBBRDSM
Properties within 1/4 mile of a protected area or within yellow zone of FBBRDSM where permanent cover is being established on 50% or more of the offered acres
Properties within 1/4 mile of a protected area or within yellow zone of FBBRDSM
Properties 1/4 to 1/2 mile of a protected area or within green zone of FBBRDSM where permanent cover is being established on 50% or more of the offered acres
Properties 1/4 to 1/2 of a mile protected area or within green zone of FBBRDSM
Properties 1/2 to 1 mileof a protected area or within light blue zone of FBBRDSM where permanent cover is being established on 50% or more of the offered acres
Properties 1/2 to 1 mile of a protected area or within light blue zone of FBBRDSM
Properties within 1 mile to 2 mile of a protected area

2. Wildlife Habitat

Threatened & Endangered Species

Location of Easement Relative to T&E Species.
Within or adjacent to areas identified within the USFWS/LDWF Threatened & Endangered Species Priority Habitats - Conservation Program Ranking Maps
High with T&E species habitat benefiting practices implemented on 50% or more of the offered acres
Medium with T&E species habitat benefiting practices implemented on 50% or more of the offered acres

Low with T&E species habitat benefiting practices implemented on 50% or more of the offered acres
High with 49% or less restorable habitat benefits
Medium with 49% or less restorable habitat benefits
Low with 49% or less restorable habitat benefits
Areas Not identified within the USFWS/LDWF Threatened & Endangered Species Priority Habitats - Conservation Program Ranking Maps
Additional/ Bonus T & E Points
Application that benefit more than one species as identified within the USFWS/LDWF Threatened & Endangered Species Priority Habitats - Conservation Program Ranking Maps

3. Water Quality

Surface Water Filtering Effect

Easements that contain depressional "sump" areas
50 % or more of proposed acreage
41% - 50%
31% - 40%
21% - 30%
11%- 20%
0% - 10%

Site Location Related to Water Bodies
Sites Located within subsegments of water bodies partially or not meeting designated uses as identified in the Water Quality Inventory 305b or 303d reports where water quality will be substantially improved through the establishment of permanent coveron at least 50 percent of the offered acres.
Sites Located within subsegments of water bodies partially or not meeting designated uses as identified in the Water Quality Inventory 305b or 303d reports not meeting the 50% permanent cover criteria.
Sites with potential to restore riparian areas. Riparian areas are considered adjoining perennial or intermittent streams, lakes, sloughs, etc. Identified as blue lines on USGS Topographic maps
Sites not identified within previous two categories.

4. Easement Duration

Eaement Duration
Offered application is being condsidered for a permanent easement.
Offered application is being considered for a 30 year easement.

5. Hydrology

Existing Condition	Hydrology After Restoration
Existing Cropland/Pasture	Semi-Permanently to permanently flooded
	Seasonally Flooded for Long Duration
	Irregular Flooding Increased
	Micro-Lows Pond more water
	No Measures Taken to Improve Hydrology
Shrub/Scrub - 3 to 7 years fallow	Semi-Permanently to permanently flooded
	Seasonally Flooded for Long Duration
	Irregular Flooding Increased
	Micro-Lows Pond more water
	No Measures Taken to Improve Hydrology
Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) Active or within 5 years of expiration	Semi-Permanently to permanently flooded
	Seasonally Flooded for Long Duration
	Irregular Flooding Increased
	Micro-Lows Pond more water
	No Measures Taken to Improve Hydrology
Degraded Fresh Marsh	Semi-Permanently to permanently flooded
	Seasonally Flooded for Long Duration
	Irregular Flooding Increased
	Micro-Lows Pond more water
	No Measures Taken to Improve Hydrology
Degraded Intermediate Marsh	Semi-Permanently to permanently flooded
	Seasonally Flooded for Long Duration
	Irregular Flooding Increased
	Micro-Lows Pond more water
	No Measures Taken to Improve Hydrology
Degraded Cypress Brake	Semi-Permanently to permanently flooded
	Seasonally Flooded for Long Duration
	Irregular Flooding Increased
	Micro-Lows Pond more water
	No Measures Taken to Improve Hydrology
Degraded Bottom Land Hardwood/ Wet Pine Forest/CRP expired > 5 years	Seasonally Flooded for Long Duration
	Irregular Flooding Increased
	Micro-Lows Pond more water
	No Measures Taken to Improve Hydrology

Degraded Brackish/Saline Marsh	Semi-Permanently to permanently flooded
	Seasonally Flooded for Long Duration
	Irregular Flooding Increased
	Micro-Lows Pond more water
	No Measures Taken to Improve Hydrology

Existing Woodlands	Seasonally Flooded for Long Duration
	Irregular Flooding Increased
	Micro-Lows Pond more water
	No Measures Taken to Improve Hydrology

6. Habitat Diversity

Restorable or Existing Habitat types include: Shallow Water Area, Bottomland Hardwood, Native Grass, Saturated Wetland, Existing Pond, Slough, Marsh, Ridge/Swale, or Pine Forest

Habitat Types:
Four or more habitat types:
Three habitat types:
Two habitat types:
One habitat type:

7. O&M and Management

Amount of O&M Required
No Operation and Maintenance of restoration practices above normal management and maintenance activities.
Operation and Maintenance of restoration practices required above normal management and maintenance activities.(Includes large levee and water control structure maintenance in batture and coastal marshes, and heavy flood areas.)

8. Cost Benefit Comparison

_____ Estimated Easement Cost (GARC or Landowner offer)
_____ Estimated Restoration Cost
_____ Environmental Benefits (Point values taken from 1-6 above.)
_____ Total Dollar Amount Received from Third Party/Partners

Formula= ((Total Environmental Points* Total Eligible Acres*10)/((Estimated Easement Cost)+(Estimated Restoration Cost*10))*100