

## 2024 KY WETLAND RESERVE EASEMENT ENVIRONMENTAL SITE EVALUATION

Owner(s) (as listed on Deed)  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

NEST Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_

FSN: \_\_\_\_\_

Tract: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Acres in Application: \_\_\_\_\_

Permanent offer: \_\_\_\_ 30-year offer: \_\_\_\_

Latitude: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Eligible\* Acres in App: \_\_\_\_\_

Longitude: \_\_\_\_\_


\*Eligible Acres can include a 300' riparian buffer on 1 order streams or larger when the buffer connects existing or restorable wetland areas that are protected by an easement or will be protected by the WRE easement.

Topo Quad Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### Ranking Weights

Factors	Algorithm	Allowable Min	Default	Allowable Max
Vulnerabilities	Default	10	10	50
Planned Practice Effects	Default	5	5	20
Resource Priorities	Default	20	70	70
Program Priorities	Default	15	15	30
Efficiencies	Default	0	0	0

### Display Group: FY24 KY ACEP WRE Display Group (Active)

 An asterisk will be displayed to show that it is a conditional section or conditional question.

### Survey: KY FY24 ACEP WRE Applicability Questions

Section: KY FY24 ACEP WRE Applicability		
Question	Answer Choices	Points
Is the property located within the state of Kentucky?	YES	--
	NO	--

### Survey: KY FY24 ACEP WRE Category Questions

**Section: KY FY24 ACEP WRE Categories**

Question	Answer Choices	Points
In which area is the project located?	Area 1 West (Purchase, Non WREP, non Clarks River, non Big Rivers)	--
	Area 1 Clarks River Priority Area	--
	Area 1 East	--
	Mississippi River/Ohio River Priority Area	--
	Green River CREP	--
	Area 2 or 3 (non CREP)	--

**Survey: KY FY24 ACEP WRE Program Ranking Questions**

**Section: KY FY24 ACEP WRE Ranking Program Questions**

Question	Answer Choices	Points
I. Local Significance: 1. Special Interest Areas: Restoration is in or near one of the special interest areas identified on the Special Interest Area Map. Note: For the Jackson Purchase Area only, offers inside identified WREP areas will receive 9 points and all other offers will receive 3 points.	Site is in area (choose this if in WREP for Purchase)	9
	Site is within 2 miles of area (Choose this for Non-WREP area in Purchase)	3
	Site is not in or within 2 miles of area	0
I. Local Significance: 2. Proximity to Protected Areas. Proximity of easement area to permanently protected conservation area (federal/state wildlife refuges, Nature Conservancy lands, and other permanently protected areas (i.e., WRE) with management objectives similar to the easement area).	Adjacent	18
	Within 1 mile in distance	12
	Greater 1 mile to 5 miles in distance	6
	Greater than 5 miles in distance	0
VII. Easement Operation, Maintenance and Management Factor 2. Easement Configuration: If more than one of the following applies, use the one that provides for the least points. NOTE: The easement offer must be of sufficient size and properly configured boundaries that allow for the efficient management of the easement.	The easement is made up of a contiguous block of land and existing water control structures that manage easement water are located on the easement.	15
	The easement offer is divided by non-eligible acres, a road right-of-way, non-eligible CRP, or other non-easement area that is beyond the control of the landowner.	5
	The boundary has been manipulated by the landowner so that the offer is cut-up, divided by eligible acres, or separated by non-easement area (block of non-easement area has been cut out of the middle or a long strip extends into the easement).	0
	Existing water control structures located on the easement (that cannot be removed by NRCS) manage water off the easement (unless landowner agrees to convey a non-revocable flooding easement), or existing water control structures located off the easement manage water on the easement.	0

**Section: KY FY24 ACEP WRE Ranking Program Questions**

Question	Answer Choices	Points
VIII. Cost Factors 1. Easement Cost Factor	Landowner offer is <=90% of the easement compensation value	12
	Landowner offer is <=95% of the easement compensation value	6
	Landowner offer is >95% of the easement compensation value	0
VIII. Cost Factors 2. Restoration Cost Factor: Total average restoration costs/Total RESTORED acres <=800 dollars/acre	YES	12
	NO	0
Are there existing easements on the application property?	YES	--
	NO	--

**Survey: KY FY24 ACEP WRE Resource Ranking Questions**

**Section: KY FY24 ACEP WRE Ranking Resource Questions**

Question	Answer Choices	Points
II. Wildlife Habitat 1. Benefits to Threatened and Endangered Species: This question applies to any contribution to protection/recovery of federally listed threatened, endangered, or candidate species or the copperbelly water snake. Benefits to these species will be determined and documented by the KY Interagency Coordination Tool (KCIT). Species benefited are identified in Section 1 of the KCIT report. Potential benefits are described in section IV of the report. (NOTE: benefits are contingent upon application of any avoidance measures described within the report). Points shall be awarded for the highest category that applies. If points are awarded for benefits, attach the supporting KICT report.	Practices planned benefit no species	0
	Practices planned benefit two species (i.e. NLEB and IBAT)	3
	Practices planned benefit species of concern (copperbelly watersnake)	6
	Practices planned benefit NLEB and IBAT and occur within 5 miles of hibernacula	9
	Practices planned benefit NLEB and IBAT and occur within 2.5 miles of maternity colony	12
	Practices planned benefit three or more species (excluding hibernacula and maternity colonies)	15
II. Wildlife Habitat 2. Wildlife Corridors: Will the easement provide a wooded corridor at least 100' wide that connects existing blocks of forested areas of at least 20 acres in size considered quality habitat? (To receive points the forested block must be at least 500' in width somewhere along its length).	YES	6
	NO	0
II. Wildlife Habitat 3. Proximity to Large Blocks of Forestland: NOTE: To receive points for planned forestland, the acreage must be covered by a CRP or WRE/WRP contract or conservation easement.	Adjacent to >500 acres of forestland or planned forestland	12
	Adjacent to >300 acres of forestland or planned forestland	8
	Adjacent to >100 acres of forestland or planned forestland	4
	None	0
II. Wildlife Habitat 4. Total Easement Acres Offered	Greater than 300 acres	35
	150-300 acres	25
	80-149 acres	15
	20-79 acres	5
	<20 acres	0

## Section: KY FY24 ACEP WRE Ranking Resource Questions

Question	Answer Choices	Points
III. Water Quality 1. Cropping History: Cropping history will be used to assign a point value for the amount of non-point pollution reduced as a result of wetland restoration on the easement area. The existing crop or last crop grown will be used for this factor. Offer must have had a crop grown within the last 5 years to receive points. CRP acreage will be considered as cropland for this question. Grassland must have been mowed or grazed in the last 5 years to receive points. Points will be assigned by a weighted average calculated on the paper ranking form and assigned points as described.	Score of 48-50 points	30
	Score of 45-47.9 points	27
	Score of 40-44.9 points	24
	Score of 35-39.9 points	21
	Score of 30-34.9 points	18
	Score of 25-29.9 points	15
	Score of 20-24.9 points	12
	Score of 15-19.9 points	9
	Score of 10-14.9 points	6
	Score of 5-9.9 points	3
	Score of less than 5 points	0
III. Water Quality 2. Proximity to Main Stem of River System: Offered easement is part of a floodplain area adjacent to the main stem of a fifth order or larger stream. (National Hydrography dataset shall be used for this determination).	YES	18
	NO	0
IV. Hydrology Restoration and Enhancement 1. Percentage of the Easement Composed of Prior Converted Cropland (PC): Percent of the easement composed of PC land. Farmed wetland will not receive points for this question. In the absence of a NRCS 026 wetland determination, hydric soils and soils with hydric inclusions that are cleared and drained and not FW may be used to estimate the amount of PC.	Between 76-100% of the easement acres composed of PC	56
	Between 51-75% of the easement acres composed of PC	38
	Between 26-50% of the easement acres composed of PC	18
	Between 0-25% of the easement acres composed of PC	0
IV. Hydrology Restoration and Enhancement 2. Adequate Source of Hydrology: Location of easement area ensures a source of hydrology adequate to maintain wetland functions and values.	Majority (>50%) of easement acreage will receive annual flooding from overbank flow	56
	Majority (>50%) of easement acreage will receive frequent (at least 3 of 5 years) overbank flow	38
	Majority (>50%) of easement acreage within a ponded, depressional area	18
	Majority (>50%) of easement acreage historically contained saturated soils due to groundwater or water table conditions	8
IV. Hydrology Restoration and Enhancement 3. Award points for each of the following practices that will be completed as part of the hydrology restoration plan.	Tile Break	12
	Ditch Plug (points may be awarded if an embankment will be used to control flow in a ditch that leaves the easement).	11
	Levee Break	9
	Wetland Microtopography Restoration	9
	None	0
VI. Riparian Area: Easement area includes riparian areas adjacent to a stream that will be restored or enhanced according to the NRCS riparian buffer standard	YES	6
	NO	0

## Section: KY FY24 ACEP WRE Ranking Resource Questions

Question	Answer Choices	Points
<p>V. Percent of Total Easement Area that meets identified categories (440-528.105) of land eligible for WRE: WRE provision allow for the enrollment of "adjacent lands" that will contribute significantly to the functions and values of the restored wetland ecosystem as long as the "adjacent lands" do not exceed 50% of the total easement area. However, the primary emphasis of WRE is on wetland restoration. Those intentions offering a lower percentage of "adjacent lands" will receive the highest rating for this factor. Lands eligible for WRE and not considered "adjacent lands" are defined in the ACEP Manual 440-528.105.</p>	>= 90% of the easement area	35
	80% - 89% of the easement area	25
	70% - 79% of the easement area	15
	60% - 69% of the easement area	5
	less than 60% of the easement area	0
<p>VII. Easement Operation, Maintenance and Management Factor 1. Management of Timber Quality: NO timber has been harvested from the offered acres in the last 3 years.</p>	YES	24
	NO	0