Ranking Pool Report

Ranking Pool FY 25 ACEP-WRE General MA

Program ACEP-WRE | **Pool Status** Active | **Tags**

Template FY 2021 ACEP-WRE General | **Template Status** Active | **National Pool** No

Last Modified By Natashia Sawabi | **Last Modified** 09/06/2024 | **Include States** MA (Admin)

Land Uses and Modifiers

Land Use	Grazed	Wildlife	Irrigated	Hayed	Drained	Organic	Water Feature	Protected	Urban	Aquaculture
Associated Ag Land	--	--	--	--	N/A	--	--	--	--	--
Crop	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Forest	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	--	--	--	--	--
Other Rural Land	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	--	--	--	--	--
Pasture	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Range	--	--	N/A	--	N/A	--	--	--	--	--
Water	N/A	--	N/A	N/A	N/A	--	--	--	--	--

Resource Concern Categories

Categories			
Category	**Min %**	**Default %**	**Max %**
Aquatic habitat	10	10	80
Concentrated erosion	0	--	70
Degraded plant condition	0	2	70
Field pesticide loss	0	2	70
Field sediment, nutrient and pathogen loss	0	2	70
Fire management	0	--	5
Long term protection of land	10	65	80
Pest pressure	0	2	70
Salt losses to water	0	--	5
Source water depletion	0	2	70
Storage and handling of pollutants	0	--	70
Terrestrial habitat	10	15	80
Weather resilience	0	--	20
Wind and water erosion	0	--	15

Aquatic habitat

Resource Concern	Min %	Default %	Max %
Aquatic habitat for fish and other organisms	50	90	100
Elevated water temperature	0	10	50

Concentrated erosion

Resource Concern	Min %	Default %	Max %
Bank erosion from streams, shorelines or water conveyance channels	0	70	100
Classic gully erosion	0	15	50
Ephemeral gully erosion	0	15	50

Degraded plant condition

Resource Concern	Min %	Default %	Max %
Plant productivity and health	0	50	100
Plant structure and composition	0	50	100

Field pesticide loss

Resource Concern	Min %	Default %	Max %
Pesticides transported to groundwater	0	5	75
Pesticides transported to surface water	25	95	100

Field sediment, nutrient and pathogen loss

Resource Concern	Min %	Default %	Max %
Nutrients transported to groundwater	0	--	100
Nutrients transported to surface water	0	90	100
Pathogens and chemicals from manure, biosolids or compost applications transported to groundwater	0	--	15
Pathogens and chemicals from manure, biosolids or compost applications transported to surface water	0	5	100
Sediment transported to surface water	0	5	100

Fire management

Resource Concern	Min %	Default %	Max %
Wildfire hazard from biomass accumulation	100	100	100

Long term protection of land

Resource Concern	Min %	Default %	Max %
Loss of functions and values	85	100	100
Threat of conversion	0	--	15

Pest pressure

Resource Concern	Min %	Default %	Max %
Plant pest pressure	100	100	100

Salt losses to water

Resource Concern	Min %	Default %	Max %
Salts transported to groundwater	0	50	100
Salts transported to surface water	0	50	100

Source water depletion

Resource Concern	Min %	Default %	Max %
Groundwater depletion	25	25	60
Surface water depletion	40	75	75

Storage and handling of pollutants

Resource Concern	Min %	Default %	Max %
Nutrients transported to groundwater	0	--	100
Nutrients transported to surface water	0	100	100
Petroleum, heavy metals and other pollutants transported to groundwater	0	--	50
Petroleum, heavy metals and other pollutants transported to surface water	0	--	100

Terrestrial habitat

Resource Concern	Min %	Default %	Max %
Terrestrial habitat for wildlife and invertebrates	100	100	100

Weather resilience

Resource Concern	Min %	Default %	Max %
Drifted snow	0	--	25
Naturally available moisture use	0	10	25
Ponding and flooding	0	45	100
Seasonal high water table	0	35	100
Seeps	0	10	25

Wind and water erosion

Resource Concern	Min %	Default %	Max %
Sheet and rill erosion	0	85	100
Wind erosion	0	15	100

Practices

Practice Name	Practice Code	Practice Type
Wildlife Habitat Planting	420	Conservation Practices
Long-Term Protection of Land - Permanent Easement	LTPPE	Easements
Structures for Wildlife	649	Conservation Practices
Long-Term Protection of Land - Maximum Duration Allowed by State Law	LTPMAS	Easements
Long-Term Protection of Land - 30-Year Easement	LTP30YE	Easements
Long-Term Protection of Land - 30-Year Contract	LTP30YC	Easements
Acquisition Process - Title Search	LTAPTS	Easements
Acquisition Process - Environmental Database Records Search	LTAPERS	Easements
Acquisition Process - Full Phase I	LTAPFP1	Easements
Acquisition Process - Appraisal	LTAPA	Easements
Acquisition Process - Appraisal Update	LTAPAU	Easements
Acquisition Process - Appraisal Technical Review First Review	LTAPTR1	Easements
Acquisition Process - Appraisal Technical Review Second Review	LTAPTR2	Easements
Acquisition Process - Boundary Survey	LTAPBS	Easements
Acquisition Process - Closing Services	LTAPCS	Easements
Brush Management	314	Conservation Practices
Clearing and Snagging	326	Conservation Practices
Conservation Cover	327	Conservation Practices
Prescribed Burning	338	Conservation Practices
Cover Crop	340	Conservation Practices
Critical Area Planting	342	Conservation Practices
Dam, Diversion	348	Conservation Practices
Well Decommissioning	351	Conservation Practices
Dike and Levee	356	Conservation Practices
Diversion	362	Conservation Practices
Pond	378	Conservation Practices
Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment and Renovation	380	Conservation Practices
Fence	382	Conservation Practices
Field Border	386	Conservation Practices

Practice Name	Practice Code	Practice Type
Riparian Herbaceous Cover	390	Conservation Practices
Riparian Forest Buffer	391	Conservation Practices
Filter Strip	393	Conservation Practices
Firebreak	394	Conservation Practices
Stream Habitat Improvement and Management	395	Conservation Practices
Aquatic Organism Passage	396	Conservation Practices
Dam	402	Conservation Practices
Grade Stabilization Structure	410	Conservation Practices
Grassed Waterway	412	Conservation Practices
Land Clearing	460	Conservation Practices
Land Smoothing	466	Conservation Practices
Access Control	472	Conservation Practices
Mulching	484	Conservation Practices
Tree/Shrub Site Preparation	490	Conservation Practices
Obstruction Removal	500	Conservation Practices
Pumping Plant	533	Conservation Practices
Range Planting	550	Conservation Practices
Drainage Water Management	554	Conservation Practices
Access Road	560	Conservation Practices
Trails and Walkways	575	Conservation Practices
Streambank and Shoreline Protection	580	Conservation Practices
Channel Bed Stabilization	584	Conservation Practices
Structure for Water Control	587	Conservation Practices
Nutrient Management	590	Conservation Practices
Pest Management Conservation System	595	Conservation Practices
Terrace	600	Conservation Practices
Subsurface Drain	606	Conservation Practices

Practice Name	Practice Code	Practice Type
Surface Roughening	609	Conservation Practices
Tree/Shrub Establishment	612	Conservation Practices
Underground Outlet	620	Conservation Practices
Restoration of Rare or Declining Natural Communities	643	Conservation Practices
Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management	644	Conservation Practices
Upland Wildlife Habitat Management	645	Conservation Practices
Shallow Water Development and Management	646	Conservation Practices
Early Successional Habitat Development-Mgt	647	Conservation Practices
Windbreak/Shelterbelt Renovation	650	Conservation Practices
Forest Trails and Landings	655	Conservation Practices
Constructed Wetland	656	Conservation Practices
Wetland Restoration	657	Conservation Practices
Wetland Creation	658	Conservation Practices
Wetland Enhancement	659	Conservation Practices
Forest Stand Improvement	666	Conservation Practices
Well Plugging	755	Interim Conservation Practices
Stream Crossing	578	Conservation Practices
Fuel Break	383	Conservation Practices
Woody Residue Treatment	384	Conservation Practices
Road/Trail/Landing Closure and Treatment	654	Conservation Practices
Acquisition Process - Ingress Egress	LTAPIE	Easements
Drainage Ditch Covering	775	Interim Conservation Practices
Herbaceous Weed Treatment	315	Conservation Practices

Ranking Weights

Factors	Algorithm	Allowable Min	Default	Allowable Max
Vulnerabilities	Default	10	10	50

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

Display Group: FY 25 ACEP-WRE General MA (Active)

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

Survey: Applicability Questions

Section: Applicability Question		
Question	**Answer Choices**	**Points**
This assessment seeks to restore, protect, and enhance wetlands with an ACEP-WRE easement or 30-year contract?	YES	--
	NO	--

Survey: Category Questions

Section: Category Question		
Question	**Answer Choices**	**Points**
Is this assessment located in Massachusetts?	Massachusetts	--
	Otherwise	--

Survey: Program Questions

Section: Program Priority Points		
Question	**Answer Choices**	**Points**
RESTORATION COST PER ACRE (= total restoration cost/total enrollment acres)	Restoration Cost per Acre < $1000	30
	Restoration Cost per Acre > $1000 to < $2000	20
	Restoration Cost per Acre > $2000 to < $3000	10
	Restoration Cost per Acre > $3000	0
COST-ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFIT ANALYSIS: Total Cost per Restorable Wetland Acre = (total estimated easement cost + restoration cost)/eligible acres	Cost-Benefit < 150	30
	Cost-Benefit < 150 < 300	20
	Cost-Benefit < 300 < 450	10
	Cost-Benefit > 450	0
PARTNER FUNDING: Will a partnership contribution reduce NRCS costs? (only award points if NRCS has secured partner funding documentation required)	YES	20
	NO	0

Section: Program Priority Points		
Question	**Answer Choices**	**Points**
Is the landowner willing to contribute towards the cost of the easement? (Determined by GARC or appraised value by NRCS)	Greater than 50%	20
	Between 25 to 50%	10
	Less than 25 %	5
Operation and maintenance: (Assign maximum points on sites where original hydrology is already restored and only vegetative restoration is needed)	Minimal or no maintenance will be required to maintain the restored wetland (e.g., tile removal, fill removal, dike removal, macro & micro topography grading, etc.)	30
	Low Moderate maintenance or management will be required to maintain the restored wetland (e.g., rock weirs, ditch plugs, earthen dike construction, other earthen structures)	20
	Moderate maintenance or management will be required to maintain the restored wetland (e.g., locked flumes, culverts, etc.)	10
	Long term management or Intensive management is required to maintain the restored wetland (e.g., water level manipulation is required)	0
The proposed easement contains one or more in-holdings/ out parcel that could impact restoration and/or easement boundary management? An in-holding is any portion cut out of the easement area that significantly increases the easement boundary edge . Example: a long cut out extending into the easement for an access road and area for building structures.	YES	-20
	NO	0
PREVIOUS APPLICATIONS Landowner withdrew previous WRP/WRE Agreement, refused an NRCS WRE Offer more than once or NRCS terminated the Agreement. These actions are avoidable, and therefore costly to the government in time and expense (Within last 5 years).	YES	-20
	NO	0
FARMLAND PRODUCTIVITY Proposed enrollment area does NOT include any cropland identified as prime or important soils	YES	10
	NO	0

Survey: Resource Questions

Section: ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS- Resource Priority Points		
Question	**Answer Choices**	**Points**

Section: ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS- Resource Priority Points		
Question	**Answer Choices**	**Points**
Extent of original hydrology likely to be restored on the eligible acres - Consider the manipulations that have occurred (ex., ditching, filling, berms, etc. and the main hydrology source)	High: all hydrologic alterations will be removed or if all hydrologic alterations can not be fully removed, the proposed restoration will include practices that can replicate the original hydrology	30
	Medium High: all hydrologic alterations can not be removed but proposed restoration will include practices that can replicate the original hydrology of the site	20
	Medium: restoration of original hydrology is somewhat compromised- all hydrologic manipulations cannot be restored to original levels	10
	Low: Restoration of original hydrology is severely limited, (e.g.-dam, dikes, water control structures will not be removed).	0
Percent of the eligible acres with restorable hydrology. On sites where, original hydrology is already restored and only vegetation restoration is required, assign the maximum points.	> 75% of eligible acres will have restored hydrology	20
	> 50 - <75% of eligible acres will have restored hydrology	10
	> 25 - < 50% of eligible acres will have restored hydrology	5
	Less than 25% of eligible acres will have restored hydrology	0
Extent of ecological integrity in the buffer area around proposed enrollment area- 250 feet (e.g., the high integrity of a buffer includes areas free from human stressors such as heavily traveled roads, buildings, heavy invasions of invasive species, etc. affecting hydrologic restoration).	High: buffer around proposed enrollment area has high ecological integrity	30
	Med High: buffer area includes some stressors (low impact access roads invasive plants, etc.)	20
	Medium: Buffer area includes moderate stressors (buildings tnot be flooded, invasive species)	10
	Low: Buffer area has residential development, buildings, roads, heavy infestations of invasive plants, etc. that will be affect the ecological integrity and hydrology of the restoration.	0
Restoration of hydrologic connectivity and severity of existing/ historic hydrologic alterations (water diversions, impoundments, culverts, water control structures, ditching and channelizing upstream or downstream limit the ability to restore natural flow regime.)	Proposed enrollment restores hydrologic connectivity with removal of few hydrologic alterations	20
	Proposed enrollment restores hydrologic connectivity with removal of moderate hydrologic alterations	10
	Proposed enrollment does not restore connectivity or hydrologic manipulations directly upstream or downstream of proposed enrollment area limit the hydrologic restoration.	0
SITE CONFIGURATION- If the site configuration for land does NOT limit the ability to restore hydrology. (potential to flood infrastructure, roads, nearby residential housing, or other buildings.)	YES	20
	NO	0
Groundwater resources for wetland restoration are viable and competing groundwater demands are low. Site is NOT located within a Wellhead Protection Zone 1 or 2 or IWPA.	Yes, in a Zone I or IWPA	0
	Yes, in a Zone II	5
	Not in a Zone I, II or IWPA	20

Section: ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS- Resource Priority Points		
Question	**Answer Choices**	**Points**
Proposed enrollment area is located within Federally listed, NHESP Priority Habitat or a WLFW focus area and restoration will benefit identified species in the MA Wetland Restoration Criteria and Guidelines (WRCG). (Pick one)	Yes, Site has known occurrence or is connecting with site with known occurrence of Federally listed or candidate species, or WLFW species	30
	Yes, restoration is likely to benefit Federally listed or candidate species, WLFW species	20
	Yes, State listed species	10
	No	0
Proposed enrollment area is located within or directly adjacent to a BioMap Core Habitat or Critical Natural Landscape data layer specific to aquatic or wetland species or habitats (select only one). BioMap was designed to guide strategic biodiversity conservation in Massachusetts by focusing land protection and stewardship on the areas that are most critical for ensuring the long-term persistence of rare and other native species and their habitats, exemplary natural communities, and a diversity of ecosystems.	BioMap- Core & Components: Species of Conservation Concern Core, Aquatic Core, Wetland Core, or Vernal Pool Core	20
	BioMap _Critical Natural Landscape: Coastal Adaptation, Critical Natural Landscape Blocks or Critical Natural Landscape Upland Buffer of Wetland and Aquatic Core	10
	Not in or adjacent to BioMap Habitats	0
Proposed enrollment area restores or protects waters in a Mass Wildlife Coldwater Fish Resource data layer. Coldwater Fish Resources are waterbodies (stream, river, or tributary thereto) used by reproducing cold-water fish to meet one or more of their life history requirements.	YES	10
	NO	0
Proposed enrollment area abuts (contiguous) permanently protected land on: Permanently protected land includes land in a conservation easement, state WMA lands, APR/FRPP/ACEP-ALE lands, DCR/MA Wildlife lands in a natural state, natural ponds, lakes, and rivers. Does not include lands that are only in tax reduction program such as MA Chapter 61.	> 50% of perimeter	30
	>20 - <50% of perimeter	20
	< 20% of perimeter	10
	0 % does not abut protected land	0
Proposed preliminary restoration plan includes the following habitat features: vernal pools, shrub thickets, Micro/microtopography, cavity trees, wildlife dens, open winter water, turtle nesting areas, fallen logs/ large wood	6 to 8 Wildlife Habitat Features	10
	5 to 3 Wildlife Habitat Features	5
	1 to 2 Wildlife Habitat Features	1
Enrollment area size (total acres offered) for wildlife habitat	More than 150 acres	10
	150- 75acres	5
	Less than 75 acres	0
What is the wetland habitat diversity of the offered area (based on soils maps and site evaluation) - Choose one:	The proposed easement contains 3 or more wetland habitat types	10
	The proposed easement contains 2 wetland habitat types	5
	Otherwise (1 or 0 wetland habitat types)	0
Proposed enrollment area is in an Outstanding Resource Water polygon:	YES	10
	NO	0
Proposed enrollment area is in a MA Source Water Priority Areas polygon:	YES	10
	NO	0

Detailed Assessments

Name	Type	Jurisdiction	Status