

# USDA Ranking Pool Report

**Ranking Pool** 2764 EHE FY2025

**Program** RCPP18

**Pool Status** Active

**Tags**

**Template** RCPP 2018 Entity Held Easement Activity ver 1.0 FY 21-22

**Template Status** Active

**Existing Practice Included** No

**Last Modified By** Marissa Markus

**Last Modified** 01/21/2025

**National Pool** No

**Include States** CO (Admin)

## Land Uses and Modifiers

Land Use	Grazed	Wildlife	Irrigated	Hayed	Drained	Organic	Water Feature	Protected	Urban	Aquaculture
Associated Ag Land	--	--	--	--	N/A	--	--	--	--	--
Crop	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Farmstead	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	--	--	--	--	--
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 %
Air quality emissions	0	--	70
Aquatic habitat	0	--	70
Concentrated erosion	0	--	70
Degraded plant condition	0	15	70
Field pesticide loss	0	--	70
Field sediment, nutrient and pathogen loss	0	--	70
Fire management	0	--	70
Inefficient energy use	0	--	70
Livestock production limitation	0	--	70
Long term protection of land	30	55	100
Pest pressure	0	--	70

## Categories

Category	Min %	Default %	Max %
Salt losses to water	0	--	70
Soil quality limitations	0	--	70
Source water depletion	0	--	70
Storage and handling of pollutants	0	--	70
Terrestrial habitat	0	15	70
Weather resilience	0	15	70
Wind and water erosion	0	--	70

## Air quality emissions

Resource Concern	Min %	Default %	Max %
Emissions of airborne reactive nitrogen	0	20	100
Emissions of greenhouse gases - GHGs	0	20	100
Emissions of ozone precursors	0	20	100
Emissions of particulate matter (PM) and PM precursors	0	20	100
Objectionable odor	0	20	100

## Aquatic habitat

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

## Concentrated erosion

Resource Concern	Min %	Default %	Max %
Bank erosion from streams, shorelines or water conveyance channels	0	34	100
Classic gully erosion	0	33	100
Ephemeral gully erosion	0	33	100

## 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	50	100
Pesticides transported to surface water	0	50	100

## Field sediment, nutrient and pathogen loss

Resource Concern	Min %	Default %	Max %
Nutrients transported to groundwater	0	20	100
Nutrients transported to surface water	0	20	100
Pathogens and chemicals from manure, biosolids or compost applications transported to groundwater	0	20	100
Pathogens and chemicals from manure, biosolids or compost applications transported to surface water	0	20	100
Sediment transported to surface water	0	20	100

## Fire management

Resource Concern	Min %	Default %	Max %
Wildfire hazard from biomass accumulation	0	100	100

## Inefficient energy use

Resource Concern	Min %	Default %	Max %
Energy efficiency of equipment and facilities	0	50	100
Energy efficiency of farming/ranching practices and field operations	0	50	100

## Livestock production limitation

Resource Concern	Min %	Default %	Max %
Feed and forage balance	0	34	100
Inadequate livestock shelter	0	33	100
Inadequate livestock water quantity, quality and distribution	0	33	100

## Long term protection of land

Resource Concern	Min %	Default %	Max %
Loss of functions and values	0	50	100
Threat of conversion	0	50	100

## Pest pressure

Resource Concern	Min %	Default %	Max %
Plant pest pressure	0	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

## Soil quality limitations

Resource Concern	Min %	Default %	Max %
Aggregate instability	0	19	100
Compaction	0	18	100
Concentration of salts or other chemicals	0	17	100
Organic matter depletion	0	16	100
Soil organism habitat loss or degradation	0	15	100
Subsidence	0	15	100

## Source water depletion

Resource Concern	Min %	Default %	Max %
Groundwater depletion	0	34	100
Inefficient irrigation water use	0	33	100
Surface water depletion	0	33	100

## Storage and handling of pollutants

Resource Concern	Min %	Default %	Max %
Nutrients transported to groundwater	0	25	100
Nutrients transported to surface water	0	25	100
Petroleum, heavy metals and other pollutants transported to groundwater	0	25	100
Petroleum, heavy metals and other pollutants transported to surface water	0	25	100

## Terrestrial habitat

Resource Concern	Min %	Default %	Max %
Terrestrial habitat for wildlife and invertebrates	0	100	100

## Weather resilience

Resource Concern	Min %	Default %	Max %
Drifted snow	0	20	100
Naturally available moisture use	0	20	100
Ponding and flooding	0	20	100
Seasonal high water table	0	20	100
Seeps	0	20	100

## Wind and water erosion

Resource Concern	Min %	Default %	Max %
Sheet and rill erosion	0	50	100
Wind erosion	0	50	100

## Practices

Practice Name	Practice Code	Practice Narratives	Practice Type
Acquisition Process - Buy-Protect-Sell Transfer	LTAPBPST	00N	Easements
Acquisition Process - Environmental Database Records Search	LTAPERS	00N	Easements
Acquisition Process - Ingress Egress	LTAPIE	00N	Easements
Acquisition Process - Appraisal Technical Review First Review	LTAPTR1	00N	Easements
Acquisition Process - Appraisal Technical Review Second Review	LTAPTR2	00N	Easements
Long-Term Protection of Land - Permanent Easement	LTPPE	00N	Easements
FA for Innovative Easement Activities per Project Agreement	RFPE	00N	RCPPE

## Ranking Weights

Factors	Algorithm	Allowable Min	Default	Allowable Max
Vulnerabilities	Default	5	5	45
Planned Practice Effects	Default	5	5	45
Resource Priorities	Default	25	45	65
Program Priorities	Default	25	45	65
Efficiencies	Default	0	0	0

## Display Group: 2764 EHE BPS FY2025 (Active)



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

## Survey: Applicability Questions

Section: The Southern High Plains Initiative Area		
Question	Answer Choices	Points
Is the project located in The Southern High Plains Initiative Area	YES	--
	NO	--

## Survey: Category Questions

Section: Is this Entity Held Easement application for the Southern High Plains RCPPE Project Area?		
Question	Answer Choices	Points

## Section: Is this Entity Held Easement application for the Southern High Plains RCPP Project Area?

Question	Answer Choices	Points
Which type of entity-held easement is this application for?	Highly Restrictive	--
	Moderately Restrictive	--
	Minimally Restrictive	--

## Survey: Program Questions

### Section: 2764 EHE Supplemental FY25 Program Questions

Question	Answer Choices	Points
Outcome: Does the application directly address one or more resource concerns for which outcome metrics have been included in the PPA?	Resource concerns with three or more outcome metrics from the PPA	75
	Resource concerns with two outcome metrics from the PPA	45
	Resource concerns with one outcome metric from the PPA	35
	Resource concerns with no outcome metrics from the PPA	0
Outcome: What percent of the parcel to be protected is prime, unique, and other important farmland soils?	Greater than 80%.	10
	Greater than 70% and less than or equal to 80%.	8
	Greater than 60% and less than or equal to 70%.	6
	Greater than 50% and less than or equal to 60%.	4
	Less than or equal to 50%.	0
Outcome: What percent of the parcel to be protected is cropland, rangeland, grassland, historic grassland, pastureland, or nonindustrial private forest land?	Greater than 90%.	10
	Greater than 75% and less than or equal to 90%.	8
	Greater than 50% and less than or equal to 75%.	6
	Less than or equal to 50%.	0
Outcome: Does the farm or ranch have a succession plan or similar plan established covering the parcel to be protected that addresses agricultural viability for future generations?	Parcel has a written plan completed by an industry professional that directly addresses agricultural viability for future generations.	10
	Parcel has a written plan that directly addresses agricultural viability for future generations not developed by an industry professional.	5
	Parcel has no written plan documented.	0
Outcome: What is the proximity of the parcel to be protected to other protected land, such as (1) military installations; (2) land owned in fee title by the United States or an Indian Tribe, State or local government, or by a nongovernmental organization whose purpose is to protect agricultural use and related conservation values; or (3) land that is already subject to an easement or deed restriction that limits the conversion of the land to non-agricultural uses or protects grazing uses and related conservation values?	Parcel boundary adjoins a protected land boundary.	10
	Parcel is within one mile of a protected land boundary.	8
	Parcel is within three miles of a protected land boundary.	6
	Parcel is greater than three miles from a protected land boundary.	0

## Section: 2764 EHE Supplemental FY25 Program Questions

Question	Answer Choices	Points
Outcome: What is the proximity of the parcel to be protected to other agricultural operations and agricultural infrastructure?	Parcel boundary adjoins the boundary of an agricultural operation or other agricultural infrastructure.	10
	Parcel is within one mile of an agricultural operation or other agricultural infrastructure.	8
	Parcel is within three miles of an agricultural operation or other agricultural infrastructure.	6
	Parcel is greater than three miles from an agricultural operation or other agricultural infrastructure.	0
Outcome: How does the parcel to be protected maximize the protection of contiguous or proximal acres devoted to agricultural use?	Parcel links two noncontiguous corridors of protected agricultural land.	10
	Parcel is contiguous to or within one mile of a cluster of protected agricultural land.	5
	Parcel does not increase a protected agricultural area.	0
Contributions: PPA exhibits identify direct relationship between proposed entity- held easement activities, land management activities, and partner contributions, and the application directly leverages RCPP funding with partner contributions?	YES	40
	NO	0
Historically Underserved Producers: PPA Exhibits identify ranking priority for HU producers, and application meets those requirements?	YES	25
	NO	0

## Survey: Resource Questions

## Section: 2764 EHE Supplemental FY25 Resource Questions

Question	Answer Choices	Points
Is the land offered for enrollment located within a Source Water Protection Area as designated by Colorado NRCS?	Tier 1	15
	Tier 2	10
	Tier 3	5
	No, the application does not meet these parameters	0
Offer area enrollment maximizes environmental benefits per dollars expended?	Easement value <200 dollars/acre	20
	Easement value 201 to 400 dollars/acre	10
	Easement value >400 dollars/acre	5
Offer area is located in an area zoned for agricultural use?	YES	5
	NO	0
Eligible entity has demonstrated performance in managing and enforcing easements by monitoring 80% or more of its easements each year and closing within time frames set in original Cooperative Agreements?	YES	20
	NO	0
Offer area contains state-specific factors for grasslands of special environmental significance (GSS)?	YES	20
	NO	0

## Section: 2764 EHE Supplemental FY25 Resource Questions

Question	Answer Choices	Points
Offer area contains habitat for species of interest?	Federally listed threatened and endangered species with critical habitat identified.	20
	State species in need of conservation critical habitat identified.	10
	No species of interest identified.	0
Enrollment of offer area will provide diversity of natural resource protections?	Offer area has a conservation plan approved by NRCS at the time of the application that addresses 3 or more primary resource concerns.	20
	Offer area has a conservation plan approved by NRCS at the time of application that addresses 1 to 2 primary resource concerns.	10
	No plan exists with NRCS.	0
Landowners are a historically underserved group, small scale farmer, limited resource landowner, new or beginning farmer or rancher, or veteran landowner?	YES	10
	NO	0
Offer area contains historical or archaeological resources that will be protected by easement area?	YES	10
	NO	0
Offer area is within CO's designated Grassland Region of Concern (Geospatial) and is greater than 75% native grass sod, never broken?	YES	20
	NO	0
Does the parcel fall within Tier 1, Tier 2, or Tier 3 habitat?	Tier 1 (Chico Basin, Big Sandy, Arkansas River, Lower Purgatoire, Huerfano Uplands, Upper Dry Cimarron Mesas, Lower Dry Cimarron Mesas, Mesa De Maya, Upper Cimarron)	15
	Tier 2 (Arkansas Valley)	10
	Tier 3 (Horse Creek and Indian Lakes)	5
	Application does not fall within a tier habitat	0
Does the parcel to be protected directly protect or improve natural resources as determined by NRCS and the Programmatic Partnership Agreement?	Protection will directly address three (3) or more NRCS resource concerns.	15
	Protection will directly address two (2) or more NRCS resource concerns.	10
	Protection will directly address one (1) or more NRCS resource concern.	5
	Protection will not directly address any NRCS resource concerns.	0
Will one or more of the following measures be used to maintain or increase agricultural viability on the parcel to be protected?	A basic RCPP plan, grasslands management plan, and/or forest management plan will be complete before closing and included in the deed provisions.	10
	Entity deed terms that specifically address long-term agricultural viability will be included in the recorded easement deed.	5
	None of these measures will be used to maintain or increase agricultural viability.	0

## Detailed Assessments



Name	Type	Jurisdiction	Status
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