

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Application Ranking Summary

FY16 EQIP Specialty Crop Initiative - Area 1

Program:	Ranking Date:	Application Number:
Ranking Tool: FY16 EQIP Specialty Crop Initiative - Area 1	Applicant:	
Final Ranking Score:	Address:	
Planner:	Telephone:	
Farm Location:		

National Priorities Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
If the application is for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP), the agency will assign significant ranking priority and conservation benefit by answering “Yes” to the following question. Answering “Yes” to question 1a will result in the application being awarded the maximum amount of points that can be earned for the national priority category.	
1. a. Is the program application to support the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is “Yes”, do not answer any other national level questions. If answer is “No”, proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Water Quality Degradation – Will the proposed project improve water quality by: (select all that apply)	
2. a. Implementing the practices in a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. b. Implementing the practices in a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. c. Reducing impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides on land adjoining a designated “impaired water body” (TMDL, 303d listed waterbody, or other State designation)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. d. Reducing the impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides in a “non-impaired water body”?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. e. Implementing practices that improve water quality through animal mortality and carcass management?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Water Conservation – Will the proposed project conserve water by: (select all that apply)	
3. a. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce aquifer overdraft.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. b. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce on-farm water use?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. c. Implementing practices in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. d. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm water use as a result of changing to crops with lower water consumptive use, the rotation of crops, or the modification of cultural operations?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Air Quality - Will the proposed project improve air quality by: (select all that apply)	
4. a. Meeting on-farm regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. b. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm emissions of particulate matter (PM2.5, PM10)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. c. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm generated greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide (CO2), methane (CH4), and nitrous oxide (N2O)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. d. Implementing practices that increase on-farm carbon sequestration?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Soil Health:– Will the proposed project improve soil health by: (select all that apply)	
5. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil “T”)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. b. Increasing organic matter and carbon content, and improving soil tilth and structure?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Wildlife Habitat – Will the proposed project improve wildlife habitat by: (select all that apply)	
6. a. Implementing practices benefitting threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. b. Implementing practices that retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Reserve Program (CRP) or other set-aside program?	
6. c. Implementing practices benefitting honey bee populations or other pollinators?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. d. Implementing land-based practices that improve habitat for aquatic wildlife?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Plant and Animal Communities: Will the proposed project improve plant and animal communities by: (select all that apply)	
7. a. Implementing practices that result in the management control of noxious or invasive plant species on non-cropland?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. b. Implementing practice in an Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Energy Conservation– Will the proposed project reduce energy use by: (select all that apply)	
8. a. Reducing on-farm energy consumption?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. b. Implementing practice(s) identified in an approved AgEMP or energy audit, which meet ASABE S612 criteria?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Business Lines – Will the practices to be scheduled in the “EQIP Plan of Operations” result in:	
9. a. Enhancement of existing conservation practice(s) or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is received?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

State Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
If the application is for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP), the agency will assign significant ranking priority and conservation benefit by answering "Yes" to the following question. Answering "Yes" to question 1 will result in the application being awarded the maximum amount of points that can be earned for the state priority category.	
1. Is the program application for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP) for a TSP (102, 104, 118, 130, 146, or 154)? If answer is "Yes", do not answer any other state level questions. If answer is "No", proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Reduce Sediment	
2. Will this contract include practices that reduce sediment from active gullies? (Application must include Practice 410-Grade Stabilization Structure or Practice 350-Sediment Basin.)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
No Recovery Costs	
3. Has applicant NEVER been required to pay recovery costs? If applicant has NEVER paid recovery costs, answer YES.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Contract Management	
4. Has applicant had a previous contract in the past 3 years and failed to complete contract items on schedule?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Conservation Crop	
5. Are any of the following specialty crops being planned in the crop rotation: potatoes, greens, beans, or peas?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Practice 329 or 340	
6. Will Practice 329-Residue and Tillage Management or Practice 340-Cover Crop be implemented?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Positive Water Savings	
7. Will treatment include Practice 642-Water Well?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
SMZs	
8. Will native vegetation be left along stream corridors (SMZs) in accordance with the MS BMP Handbook for forestry guidelines?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Land Capability Class	
9. Is the predominant land capability class for EQIP acres 3 or higher?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
If the application is for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP), the agency will assign significant	

ranking priority and conservation benefit by answering "Yes" to the following question. Answering "Yes" to question 1 will result in the application being awarded the maximum amount of points that can be earned for the local priority category.	
1. Is the program application for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP) for a TSP (102, 104, 118, 130, 146, or 154)? If answer is "Yes", do not answer any other local level questions. If answer is "No", proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Sheet and Rill Erosion	
2. Will sheet and rill erosion above acceptable levels (T) be treated? (Application must include Practice 342-Critical Area Stabilization not associated with vegetation of a structural practice.)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Active Gullies	
3. Will all active gullies be treated? (Application must include Practice 350-Sediment Basin or Practice 410-Grade Stabilization Structure.)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Cropland Conversion	
4. Will cropland be converted to permanent cover?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Impaired Watershed	
5. Is applicant located in an impaired watershed? (Use state impaired watershed map on SharePoint site under Programs > EQIP> EQIP FY2016 > Ranking Information.)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Conversion to Native Grasses	
6. Will treatment result in conversion to native grasses?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Cover Crop	
7. Will applicant apply Practice 340-Cover Crop on at least 20% of offered EQIP cropland acres?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Cover Crop/Land Capability Class	
8. Will Practice 340-Cover Crop be planned on cropland with land capability class of 2 or higher?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Field Border, Filter Strip, or Hedgerow Planting	
9. Will Field Border-386, Filter Strip-393, or Vegetative Barrier-601 be planned?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Land Use:

Resource Concerns	Practices
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Ranking Score

<p>Efficiency:</p> <p>Local Issues:</p> <p>State Issues:</p> <p>National Issues:</p> <p>Final Ranking Score:</p>

This ranking report is for your information. It does not in any way guarantee funding. When funding becomes available, you will be notified if your application is selected for funding. Some changes to the application may be required before a final contract is awarded.

Notes:

<p>NRCS Representative:</p> <p>Signature Date:</p>	<p>Applicant Signature Not Required on this report for Contract Development unless required by State policy:</p> <p>Signature Date:</p>
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