

Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Application Ranking Summary  
FY16 Bay-Delta Initiative - Kings River CD

STRIKETHROUGH TEXT FOR NATIONAL CRITERIA ARE NOT APPLICABLE TO THE FUND POOL. DO NOT ANSWER YES TO THESE CRITERIA.

**National Priorities Addressed**

Issue Questions	Point(s)
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.	250
<b>Water Quality Degradation – Will the proposed project improve water quality by: (select all that apply)</b>	
2. a. Implementing the practices in a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP)?	15
2. b. Implementing the practices in a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP)?	10
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)?	10
2. d. Reducing the impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides in a "non-impaired water body"?	10
2. e. Implementing practices that improve water quality through animal mortality and carcass management?	10
<b>Water Conservation – Will the proposed project conserve water by: (select all that apply)</b>	
3. a. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce aquifer overdraft.	15
3. b. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce on-farm water use?	10
3. c. Implementing practices in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	10
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?	10
<b>Air Quality – Will the proposed project improve air quality by: (select all that apply)</b>	
4. a. Meeting on farm regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	10
4. b. Implementing practices that reduce on farm emissions of particulate matter (PM2.5, PM10)?	10
4. c. Implementing practices that reduce on farm generated greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide (CO2), methane (CH4), and nitrous oxide (N2O)?	10
4. d. Implementing practices that increase on farm carbon sequestration?	10
<b>Soil Health: – Will the proposed project improve soil health by: (select all that apply)</b>	
5. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil "T")?	10
5. b. Increasing organic matter and carbon content, and improving soil tillth and structure?	10
<b>Wildlife Habitat – Will the proposed project improve wildlife habitat by: (select all that apply)</b>	
6. a. Implementing practices benefitting threatened and endangered, at risk, candidate, or species of concern.	10
6. b. Implementing practices that retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) or other set aside program?	10
6. c. Implementing practices benefitting honey bee populations or other pollinators?	10
6. d. Implementing land based practices that improve habitat for aquatic wildlife?	10

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?	10
7. b. Implementing practice in an Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM)?	10
Energy Conservation – Will the proposed project reduce energy use by: (select all that apply)	
8. a. Reducing on farm energy consumption?	10
8. b. Implementing practice(s) identified in an approved AgEMP or energy audit, which meet ASABE S612 criteria?	10
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?	10
<b>State Issues Addressed</b>	
<b>Issue Questions</b>	<b>Point(s)</b>
State Category One – Conservation Activity Plan 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 state 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 state level questions. If answer is "No", proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	250
State Category Two – INSUFFICIENT WATER: Inefficient Use of Irrigation Water [California Irrigation Water Savings Tool found in the California eFOTG Section 1, Resource Assessment Tools.] Conservation treatment includes implementation of IWM and/or an irrigation system that results in an increase of: ( Select "Yes" to One Answer Only, if applicable)	
2. a. More than 30 percent annual water savings.	120
2. b. 15 to 30 percent annual water savings.	110
2. c. 10 to 14 percent annual water savings.	100
State Category Three – WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Excess Nutrients in Surface Water The Clean Water Act Section 303(d) List is found at the State Water Resources Control Board website: <a href="http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/tmdl/integrated2010.shtml">http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/tmdl/integrated2010.shtml</a> Conservation treatment will minimize the transport of nutrients to a surface waterbody on the 303(d) list for the pollutant category, "Nutrients," where an existing pathway to the surface water exists; and, conservation treatment includes: (Select "Yes" to All Applicable Answers)	
3. a. Management practices.	30
3. b. Vegetative practices.	30
3. c. Structural practices.	30
State Category Four – WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Excess Nutrients in Groundwater The California State Water Resources Control Board map, "Hydrogeologically Vulnerable Areas and High Use Groundwater Basins," map is available at: <a href="http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/gama/docs/hydro_areas.pdf">http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/gama/docs/hydro_areas.pdf</a> Conservation treatment includes management practice(s) and the treatment area is located within: (Select "Yes" to One Answer Only, if applicable)	
4. a. A Hydrogeologically Vulnerable Area.	40
4. b. A High Use Ground Water Basin Area, but not a Hydrogeologically Vulnerable Area.	30

Local Issues Addressed	
Issue Questions	Point(s)
<p>Local Category One – Conservation Activity Plan</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Answering "Yes" to question 1a will result in the application being awarded the maximum amount of points that can be earned for the local priority category.</p>	
<p>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 local level questions. If answer is "No", proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.</p>	400
<p>Local Category Two – INSUFFICIENT WATER: Inefficient Use of Irrigation Water</p> <p>[California Irrigation Water Savings Tool found in the California eFOTG Section 1, Resource Assessment Tools.]</p> <p>Conservation treatment includes implementation of IWM and/or an irrigation system that results in a water savings of: (Select "Yes" to One Answer Only, if applicable)</p>	
<p>2. a. Greater than 35 ac in per acre.</p>	100
<p>2. b. Greater than 30 ac in per acre, but less than 34.99</p>	90
<p>2. c. Greater than 25 ac in per acre, but less than 29.99</p>	80
<p>2. d. Greater than 20 ac in per acre, but less than 24.99</p>	70
<p>2. e. Greater than 10 ac in per acre, but less than 19.99</p>	60
<p>Local Category Three – INSUFFICIENT WATER: Inefficient Use of Irrigation Water</p> <p>The EQIP schedule of operations includes the following combination of irrigation practices: (Select "Yes" for One Answer Only, if applicable)</p>	
<p>3. a. Conservation treatment results in conversion from a flood, furrow and/or sprinkler irrigation system to microirrigation system.</p>	120
<p>3. b. Conservation treatment results in a retrofit of an existing irrigation system to improve irrigation system efficiency.</p>	30
<p>3. c. Conservation treatment results in implementation of a tailwater recovery system to manage irrigation water runoff during irrigation events.</p>	100
<p>3. d. Conservation treatment results in improved irrigation water storage capacity to manage availability of water supply.</p>	50
<p>Local Category Four – INSUFFICIENT WATER: Inefficient Use of Irrigation Water</p> <p>Conservation treatment results in decreased withdrawals from: (Select "Yes," if applicable)</p>	
<p>4. a. A groundwater basin that has been identified by a local, state or federal authority as declining or in overdraft status.</p>	50
<p>Local Category Five – WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Excess Nutrients in Surface Water</p> <p>Conservation treatment includes practices that minimize the amount of nutrients material leaving the treated area to a surface water body where an existing pathway to the waterbody exists.</p> <p>The hydrologic soil group for the treatment unit is predominately: (Select "Yes" to One Answer Only, if applicable)</p>	
<p>5. a. C, soils with slow infiltration rates, and/or D, soils with very slow infiltration rates.</p>	60
<p>5. b. B, soils with moderate infiltration rates.</p>	50
<p>5. c. A, soils with high infiltration rates.</p>	40

<p>Local Category Six – WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Pesticides Transported to Surface Water</p> <p>NRCS Agronomy Technical Note 5 (February 2011) is found at:  <a href="http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/stelprdb1043138.pdf">www.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/stelprdb1043138.pdf</a></p> <p>The Windows Pesticide Screening Tool (Win-PST) hazard rating is greater than 'Low' for the treatment unit and mitigation is needed.</p> <p>Conservation treatment includes any combination of NRCS conservation practices or IPM techniques from NRCS Agronomy Technical Note 5, Tables 1 and 2 (February 2011) that results in a reduction of the Win-PST pesticide hazard rating for surface water to 'Low' or 'Very Low' for at least one pesticide.</p> <p>(Select "Yes" to All Applicable Answers)</p>	
<p>6. a. Conservation treatment includes mitigation measure(s) outlined in NRCS Agronomy Technical Note No. 5 to be implemented according to NRCS conservation practice standard, 595 - Integrated Pest Management. Mitigation measures may include techniques such as changing the timing of application, product substitution, or using precision application equipment.</p>	40
<p>6. b. Adoption of a Year-Round University of California Integrated Pest Management (UC IPM) Program, when available for the crop, or other comparable protocol.</p>	30