

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Application Ranking Summary

Accelerated Implementation of Agricultural and For

Program:	Ranking Date:	Application Number:
Ranking Tool: Accelerated Implementation of Agricultural and For	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 Reserve Program (CRP) or other set-aside program?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
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
FARMSTEAD AND AGRONOMIC PRACTICE APPLICATIONS ONLY - Location of Application	
1. Will this application address water quality concerns in a watershed designated as a priority for RCPP funding (Missisquoi Bay, St. Albans Bay or South Lake)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
FARMSTEAD AND AGRONOMIC PRACTICE APPLICATIONS ONLY - Percent of the fields enrolled in this application that are high or very high CSA or erosion risk potential.	
2. 1-25%	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. 26-50%	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. 51-100%	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
FARMSTEAD AND AGRONOMIC PRACTICE APPLICATIONS ONLY - Development of a CNMP	
5. Does this application include the development of a CNMP if a current one does not already exist?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
FARMSTEAD AND AGRONOMIC PRACTICE APPLICATIONS ONLY - CNMP Implementation- answer yes to 6, 7, or 8	
6. Is the CNMP complete?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. Is only the MWWHP and LTP complete?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. Is only the NMP and/or LTP complete?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
FARMSTEAD AND AGRONOMIC PRACTICE APPLICATIONS ONLY - Significant Contributor	
9. Will the implementation of any of the practices within the application allow the producer, regardless of the size of the operation, to address a significant contribution of pollutants to waters of the US?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
FARMSTEAD AND AGRONOMIC PRACTICE APPLICATIONS ONLY - Compliance with Water Quality Regulations	
10. Will the implementation of practices within this application result in the applicant achieving compliance with state and federal water quality regulations?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
FARMSTEAD AND AGRONOMIC PRACTICE APPLICATIONS ONLY - Provide points based on the number of the following practices included in this application (grassed waterways, feed management, conservation tillage, livestock exclusion, phosphorus removal system, or increased buffers). Application can include multiple practices to qualify for points.	
11. 1-2 practices	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
12. 3-5 practices	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
FARMSTEAD AND AGRONOMIC PRACTICE APPLICATIONS ONLY - Benefits Beyond Current Management	
13. Will the application provide for implementation of agronomic or other cropland management	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

practices that will provide increased soil erosion reduction or soil health benefit, beyond current management?	
FARMSTEAD AND AGRONOMIC PRACTICE APPLICATIONS ONLY - Historically Underserved	
14. Is this applicant historically underserved?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
FARMSTEAD AND AGRONOMIC PRACTICE APPLICATIONS ONLY - Frequently Flooded Land	
15. Does the application include a practice in a field categorized by the frequently flooded map?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
FARMSTEAD AND AGRONOMIC PRACTICE APPLICATIONS ONLY - Permanent Cover	
16. Does the application include forage and biomass practices (or any other practice that would result in the same benefit) to be installed resulting in transition from annual crop to permanent hay or pasture?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
FARMSTEAD AND AGRONOMIC PRACTICE APPLICATIONS ONLY - Proximity to Surface or Groundwater Protection Areas	
17. Based upon GIS data, are one or more land units in this EQIP application located in a surface water source protection area (SW SPA), or a groundwater source protection area (GW SPA), also referred to as a wellhead protection area, for a public drinking water supply?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
FARMSTEAD AND AGRONOMIC PRACTICE APPLICATIONS ONLY - Grazing Land	
18. Does existing grazing land exhibit overgrazing resulting in documented resource concerns for soil quality or erosion, water quality degradation, degraded plant condition, or livestock projection (inadequate feed or storage) and these resource concerns will be addressed through this application and by improved grazing management under a current approved grazing plan?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
FARMSTEAD AND AGRONOMIC PRACTICE APPLICATIONS ONLY - Livestock Exclusion	
19. Does this application include livestock exclusion practices where needed according to the RAPs?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
FORESTRY PRACTICE APPLICATIONS ONLY - Location of Application	
20. Will this application address water quality concerns due to forest management in a watershed designated as a priority for RCPP funding (Missisquoi Bay, St. Albans Bay or South Lake)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
21. Will this application address water quality concerns due to forest management outside of in the Lake Champlain Challenged Watersheds?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
FORESTRY PRACTICE APPLICATIONS ONLY - Significant Reduction of Resource Concern	
22. Does this application include at least one practice will significantly reduce soil erosion directly entering a water body or has the potential to impact water quality and will result in an improvement in water quality of streams, water bodies, or wetlands?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
FORESTRY PRACTICE APPLICATIONS ONLY - Moderate Reduction of Resource Concern	
23. Does this application include at least one practice will moderately reduce soil erosion directly entering a water body or has the potential to impact water quality and will result in an improvement in water quality of streams, water bodies, or wetlands?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
Farmstead and Agronomic Practice Applications Local Questions	
1. Does this application prevent or reduce direct discharge of nutrients to a waterway?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. Does this application include practices to control livestock access to surface water?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. Will this application address water quality concerns occurring within 100' of a blue line stream, and/or will it address water quality concerns impacting a critical resource area?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Forestry Practice Applications Local Questions	
4. Does this practice reduce or prevent sediment from entering into a waterway?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. Will this application address soil erosion through the installation of stream crossing, forest trails and landings and/or grade stabilization structures?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. Does this application protect streams from erosion and runoff from forestry equipment travel?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. Does the project involve upgrades to or maintenance of forest trails, landings and/or access roads and will these actions positively affect water quality?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. Will this practice improve riparian forest buffers and stream stabilization?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Land Use:

Resource Concerns	Practices
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Ranking Score

Efficiency: Local Issues: State Issues: National Issues: Final Ranking Score:
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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:

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