

**Natural Resources Conservation Service
Application Ranking Summary
CO - Forest Health - East Slope**

Program: EQIP 2017	Ranking Date:
Ranking Tool: CO - Forest Health - East Slope	
Final Ranking Score:	
Planner:	
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.	250 Point(s)
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)?	15 Point(s)
2. b. Implementing the practices in a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP)?	10 Point(s)
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 Point(s)
2. d. Reducing the impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides in a “non-impaired water body”?	10 Point(s)
2. e. Implementing practices that improve water quality through animal mortality and carcass management?	10 Point(s)
Water Conservation – Will the proposed project conserve water by: (select all that apply)	

3. a. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce aquifer overdraft.	15 Point(s)
3. b. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce on-farm water use?	10 Point(s)
3. c. Implementing practices in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	10 Point(s)
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 Point(s)
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?	10 Point(s)
4. b. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm emissions of particulate matter (PM2.5, PM10)?	10 Point(s)
4. c. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm generated greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide (CO ₂), methane (CH ₄), and nitrous oxide (N ₂ O)?	10 Point(s)
4. d. Implementing practices that increase on-farm carbon sequestration?	10 Point(s)
Soil Health:- Will the proposed project improve soil health by: (select all that apply)	
5. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil "T")?	10 Point(s)
5. b. Increasing organic matter and carbon content, and improving soil tilth and structure?	10 Point(s)
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.	10 Point(s)
6. b. Implementing practices that retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) or other set-aside program?	10 Point(s)
6. c. Implementing practices benefitting honey bee populations or other pollinators?	10 Point(s)
6. d. Implementing land-based practices that improve habitat for aquatic wildlife?	10 Point(s)

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 Point(s)
7. b. Implementing practice in an Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM)?	10 Point(s)
Energy Conservation– Will the proposed project reduce energy use by: (select all that apply)	
8. a. Reducing on-farm energy consumption?	10 Point(s)
8. b. Implementing practice(s) identified in an approved AgEMP or energy audit, which meet ASABE S612 criteria?	10 Point(s)
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 Point(s)

State Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
Accessibility of land for treatment.	
1. Are < 50% of the contracted acres inoperable or inaccessible (e.g. inadequate road access or slopes consistently greater than 40%)?	80 Point(s)
Adjacent land treatment.	
2. Will the project and practice(s) be part of an adjoining multi-landowner (private or public) project?	80 Point(s)
Forest Value - Colorado State Forest Service (CSFS) Statewide Forest Resource Assessment. Answer only ONE of the following questions (3-5), if applicable.	
3. Is the project in a Very High Value 12-digit HUC (6th watershed level) per the CSFS Statewide Forest Resource Assessment Final Theme Analysis?	80 Point(s)
4. Is the project in a High Value 12-digit HUC (6th watershed level) per the CSFS Statewide Forest Resource Assessment Final Theme Analysis?	50 Point(s)
5. Is the project in a Moderate to Low Value 12-digit HUC (6th watershed level) per the CSFS Statewide Forest Resource Assessment Final Theme Analysis?	20 Point(s)

Fire Regime Class according to State Landfire fire regime data. Answer only ONE of the following questions (6-8), if applicable.	
6. Is the project in a predominantly High Departure Fire Regime Condition Class area per the Landfire Ecological Departure Data?	80 Point(s)
7. Is the project in a predominantly Moderate Departure Fire Regime Condition Class area per the Landfire Ecological Departure Data?	50 Point(s)
8. Is the project in a predominantly Low Departure Fire Regime Condition Class area per the Landfire Ecological Departure Data?	20 Point(s)
Species of concern.	
9. Will the planned practice(s) improve habitat for State or Federal T&E species, Federal Candidate or Proposed species, or State Species of Concern?	80 Point(s)

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
Forest type and project objectives. Answer only ONE of the following questions (1-5), if applicable.	
1. Is the primary objective of this project to improve age/size/species diversity of mixed conifer, ponderosa pine or Douglas-fir forest stands?	150 Point(s)
2. Is the primary objective of this project to stimulate regeneration of declining aspen stands?	150 Point(s)
3. Is the primary objective of this project to remove live lodgepole pine trees with clear cut or patch cut methods to facilitate forest regeneration?	100 Point(s)
4. Is the primary objective of this project to remove juniper trees invading range sites, or to improve age/size/species diversity of juniper stands on woodland sites?	75 Point(s)
5. Is the primary objective of this project to conduct salvage and sanitation harvesting to remove dead, dying or insect-infested trees?	50 Point(s)
Soil erosion associated with forest treatments	
6. Will the proposed project include practices that address erosion and water quality concerns associated with forest harvest such as re-seeding, slash treatment, water bars, buffers, etc.?	100 Point(s)

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.