

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Application Ranking Summary
Area 1, 2 & 3 - Ag Land - General

Program: CSP 2014	Ranking Date:
Ranking Tool: Area 1 - Ag Land - General	
Final Ranking Score:	
Planner:	
Farm Location:	

National Priorities Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. Programmatically, there are ten resource concerns that can be addressed through the implementation of conservation activities. The resource concerns are soil erosion, soil quality degradation, excess water, insufficient water, water quality degradation, air quality impacts, degraded plant condition, inadequate habitat for fish and wildlife, livestock production limitation, and inefficient energy use. Use this information to answer question 1. Using the CAET Summary Report completed for this application, identify the one land use (Crop, Pasture, Range, or Forest) with the smallest number of resource concerns planned to be met or exceeded by the implementation of a new conservation activity. Choose the response that is the best match. Note: Associated Ag Land and Farmstead land uses are excluded from consideration.	
1. a. All applicable resource concerns have a new conservation activity planned.	100 Point(s)
2. b. Seven to nine resource concerns have a new conservation activity planned. If range is the land use with the smallest number of resource concerns planned, seven resource concerns have a new conservation activity planned.	80 Point(s)
3. c. Four to six resource concerns have a new conservation activity planned.	60 Point(s)
4. d. One to three resource concerns have a new conservation activity planned.	40 Point(s)
2. Does the application have CRP lands transitioning to CSP? Choose the response that is the best match.	
1. a. All transitioning CRP acres will maintain a permanent cover for the term of the CSP contract.	20 Point(s)
2. b. 50-99% of the transitioning CRP acres will maintain a permanent cover for the term of the CSP contract.	10 Point(s)
3. c. 25-49% of the transitioning acres will maintain a permanent cover for the term of the contract.	5 Point(s)
3. Using the CAET Summary Report completed for this application, identify the one land use (Crop, Pasture, Range, or Forest) with the smallest number of resource concerns met at the time of application. Choose the response that is the best match. Note: Associated Ag Land and Farmstead land uses are excluded from consideration.	
1. a. All applicable resource concerns are met at time of application.	100 Point(s)
2. b. More than 50% of the resource concerns are met at the time of application.	80 Point(s)
3. c. More than two resource concerns are met at the time of application.	60 Point(s)
4. When are conservation activities planned in the contract offer on all land uses? Choose the response that is the best match.	
1. a. All planned conservation activities will be adopted within the first 12 months.	100 Point(s)
2. b. All planned conservation activities will be adopted within the first 24 months.	50 Point(s)
5. c. All planned conservation activities will be adopted within the first 36 months.	25 Point(s)
5. Using the CAET Summary Report, identify the one land use (Crop, Pasture, Range, or Forest) with the fewest number of conservation activities planned. Choose the response that is the best match. Note: Associated Ag Land and Farmstead land uses are excluded from consideration.	
1. a. Planned conservation activities cover 75% or greater of the land use acres.	100 Point(s)
2. b. Planned conservation activities cover 50-74% of the land use acres.	50 Point(s)
3. c. Planned conservation activities cover 25-49% of the land use acres.	25 Point(s)
6. Does the application include enhancement bundles? Choose the response that is the best match. Note: Associated Ag Land and Farmstead land uses are excluded from consideration.	
1. a. Considering every land use in the application, at least one bundle is planned on each land use.	40 Point(s)
2. b. Considering applications with more than one land use, at least one bundle is planned on one or more of the land uses, but not all.	20 Point(s)
7. Will the producer improve wildlife habitat for T&E species or species of concern by adopting one of the following conservation activity options?	
1. a. Producer will adopt at least one wildlife bundle.	20 Point(s)

2. b. Producer will adopt at least two individual wildlife conservation activities.	13 Point(s)
3. c. Producer will adopt one wildlife conservation activity.	6 Point(s)
8. Will the producer improve the resource concern Soil Quality Degradation to address soil health by adopting one of the following conservation activity options?	
1. a. Producer will adopt at least one soil health bundle.	20 Point(s)
2. b. Producer will adopt at least two individual soil quality degradation conservation activities.	13 Point(s)
3. c. Producer will adopt one soil quality degradation conservation activity.	6 Point(s)

State Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. Using the CAET Summary Report completed for this application, identify the one land use (Crop, Pasture, Range, or Forest) with the smallest number of targeted resource concerns met at the time of application. Choose the response that is the best match. Note: Associated Ag Land and Farmstead land uses are excluded from consideration.	
1. a. All five targeted resource concerns are met.	30 Point(s)
2. b. Four targeted resource concerns are met.	24 Point(s)
3. c. Three targeted resource concerns are met.	18 Point(s)
4. d. Two targeted resource concerns are met.	12 Point(s)
5. e. One targeted resource concerns are met.	6 Point(s)
6. f. No targeted resource concern is met.	0 Point(s)
2. Using the CAET Summary Report completed for this application, identify the one land use (Crop, Pasture, Range, or Forest) with the smallest number of targeted resource concerns met by the end of the contract period. Choose the response that is the best match. Note: Associated Ag Land and Farmstead land uses are excluded from consideration.	
1. a. All five targeted resource concerns will be met.	100 Point(s)
2. b. Four targeted resource concerns will be met.	80 Point(s)
3. c. Three targeted resource concerns will be met.	60 Point(s)
4. d. Two targeted resource concerns will be met.	40 Point(s)
5. e. One targeted resource concerns will be met.	20 Point(s)
6. f. No targeted resource concerns will be met.	0 Point(s)
3. Using the CAET Summary Report, identify the one land use (Crop, Pasture, Range, or Forest) with the smallest number of non-targeted resource concerns met by the end of the contract period. Choose the response that is the best match.	
1. a. All five non-targeted resource concerns will be met.	80 Point(s)
2. b. Four non-targeted resource concerns will be met.	64 Point(s)
3. c. Three non-targeted resource concerns will be met.	48 Point(s)
4. d. Two non-targeted resource concerns will be met.	32 Point(s)
5. e. One non-targeted resource concerns will be met.	16 Point(s)
6. f. No non-targeted resource concerns will be met.	0 Point(s)
4. If the majority of the land (51% or greater) in the contract offer is within a State designated priority sub-geographic area of the designated fund pool (see delineated areas supplied by the State), answer question 4. Otherwise skip to the next question. Using the CAET Summary Report, how many out of all ten resource concerns will be met by the end of the contract in the priority area (add up the total number of unique resource concerns met across all land uses in the application; only count a resource concern one time even if the same resource concern is met across multiple land uses in the application)?	
1. a. 10 resource concerns are met. If applicant's only land use is range, 8 resource concerns are met.	30 Point(s)
2. b. 8-9 resource concerns will be met. If applicant's only land use is range, do not select this response.	24 Point(s)
3. c. 6-7 resource concerns will be met.	18 Point(s)
4. d. 4-5 resource concerns will be met.	12 Point(s)
5. e. 2-3 resource concerns will be met.	6 Point(s)
6. f. 0-1 resource concerns will be met.	0 Point(s)
7. g. The majority of the land is NOT in a state designated priority sub-geographic area.	0 Point(s)

5. If the majority of the land (51% or greater) in the contract offer is within an airshed targeted for air quality improvement efforts (see delineated areas supplied by the State), answer question 5. Otherwise skip to the next question. Using the CAET Summary Report, how many of the 9 remaining resource concerns will be met by the end of the contract in addition to air quality (add up the total number of unique resource concerns met across all land uses in the application; only count a resource concern one time even if the same resource concern is met across multiple land uses in the application)?	
1. a. 9 resource concerns are met. If applicant's only land use is range, 7 resource concerns are met.	30 Point(s)
2. b. 7-8 resource concerns are met. If applicant's only land use is range, do not select this response.	24 Point(s)
3. c. 5-6 resource concerns are met.	18 Point(s)
4. d. 3-4 resource concerns are met.	12 Point(s)
5. e. 1-2 resource concerns are met.	6 Point(s)
6. f. The majority of the land is NOT in a state designated priority airshed for air quality improvement.	0 Point(s)
6. If the majority of the land (51% or greater) in the contract offer is within a watershed targeted for water quality improvement efforts (see delineated areas supplied by the State), answer question 6. Otherwise skip. Using the CAET Summary Report, how many of the 9 remaining resource concerns will be met by the end of the contract in addition to water quality (add up the total number of unique resource concerns met across all land uses in the application; only count a resource concern one time even if the same resource concern is met across multiple land uses in the application)?	
1. a. 9 resource concerns are met. If applicant's only land use is range, 7 resource concerns are met.	30 Point(s)
2. b. 7-8 resource concerns are met. If applicant's only land use is range, do not select this response.	24 Point(s)
3. c. 5-6 resource concerns are met.	18 Point(s)
4. d. 3-4 resource concerns are met.	12 Point(s)
5. e. 1-2 resource concerns are met.	6 Point(s)
6. f. The majority of the land is NOT in a state designated priority watershed for water quality improvement.	0 Point(s)

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
Wildlife Habitat Conservation: Will the activities be maintained or implemented to: <i>(Select all that apply.)</i>	
1. Improve pollinator species habitat continuity/ cover/ water/ food, including, but not limited to, monarch butterflies?	10 Point(s)
2. Improve upland wildlife habitat for NRCS priority species?	10 Point(s)
3. Improve wetlands, playas, riparian areas, streams, temporary shallow water habitat or other mesic habitats? This does not include ponds.	10 Point(s)
Water Quality: Will the producer be addressing water quality degradation within this contract?	
4. Will activities be maintained or implemented to improve water quality?	8 Point(s)
5. If producer is applying nutrients on cropland, are they following a nutrient management plan according to eligible Land Grant University guidelines (including enhanced efficiency fertilizers or split applications or urease/ nitrification inhibitors)? AND on range, pasture and associated ag land, does the producer maintain an adequate, healthy, diverse stand of native or naturalized plants to stabilize soils, reduce erosion and provide for stable stream and ditch banks?	7 Point(s)
6. If applying pesticides/ herbicides (315 or 595), is the producer implementing all conservation practice standards of prevention, avoidance, monitoring and suppression (PAMS) strategies? Chemicals must have been evaluated in WIN-PST.	7 Point(s)
7. Are practices being maintained or planned to reduce transportation of sediment leading to water quality degradation?	8 Point(s)
Soil Health: Will the activities be maintained or implemented to: <i>(Select all that apply.)</i>	
8. Provide soil coverage during all non-crop production periods in an annual crop rotations AND maintain a diverse stand of healthy plants on rangeland, associated ag land, and pastures?	10 Point(s)
9. Provide diverse crop rotations, diverse cover crop mixes or native plant communities (rangeland and associated agricultural land) on the majority of all land uses?	10 Point(s)
10. Improve soil quality?	10 Point(s)
Plant Productivity: Through a noxious weed management program, are plant pest pressures reduced to improve degraded plant conditions?	

11. Are state listed noxious weeds treated, or planned to be treated, on all land uses following 595 and/or 315 Standards?	15 Point(s)
12. Will activities be implemented, or maintained, to reduce potential invasion by noxious species by maintaining desirable plant health and diverse species composition?	15 Point(s)
Efficient Energy Use & Air Quality: Will the activities be maintained or implemented to: Select all that apply.	
13. Continue to maintain and/or adopt concerns listed in a current energy audit?	15 Point(s)
14. Continue to maintain and/or adopt activities to address emissions of particulate matter (PM2.5 or PM10), ozone precursors, greenhouse gases (GHG) and objectionable odors on a majority of land uses?	15 Point(s)
Final Ranking Score:	

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