

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Application Ranking Summary

FY17 Cropland Northern Tier

Program:	Ranking Date:	Application Number:
Ranking Tool: FY17 Cropland Northern Tier		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
1. Does the site where the practice is to be applied have a high or moderately high runoff potential as identified in the Maryland Soil Runoff Risk Assessment GIS layer? If Yes, will the planned practice reduce the risk of nutrient or chemical loss due to runoff?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. Does the predominant soil where the practice is to be applied have a high leaching potential as identified in the Maryland Soil Leaching Risk Assessment GIS layer? If Yes, will the planned practice reduce the risk of nutrient or chemical loss due to leaching?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. Does the predominant soil where the practice is to be applied have a Moderately High leaching potential as identified in the Maryland Soil Leaching Risk Assessment GIS layer? If Yes, will the planned practice reduce the risk of nutrient or chemical loss due to leaching?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. Is the resource concern to be addressed less than 100 feet from surface water? If Yes, will the planned practice reduce the risk of nutrient or sediment transport to surface water?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. Is the resource concern to be addressed between 101-300 feet from surface water? If Yes, will the planned practice reduce the risk of nutrient or sediment transport to surface water?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. Is the resource concern to be addressed between 301 – 500 feet from surface water? If Yes, will the planned practice reduce the risk of nutrient or sediment transport to surface water?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. Is the predominant acreage of the tract with in an impaired area that is in the 75th percentile or greater for BOTH Nitrogen and Phosphorous yields delivered to water bodies?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. Is the predominant acreage of the tract with in an impaired area that is in the 75th percentile or greater for Nitrogen or Phosphorous yields delivered to water bodies?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
9. Is the predominant acreage of the tract within an impaired area that is between the 50-75th percentile or greater for BOTH Nitrogen and Phosphorous yields delivered to water bodies? If one Nutrient is greater than the 75 percentile and the other is in the 50-75 percentile range, Answer this question Yes.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
10. Is the predominant acreage of the tract with in an impaired area that is between the 50-75th percentile for Nitrogen or Phosphorous yields delivered to water bodies?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
11. Does the application include one or more of these practices identified as an AVOIDING measure? (Avoid Practices: 313, 316, 317, 327, 328, 340, 360, 395, 422, 528, 561, 580, 590, 612, 634, [382 Stream Fence Only])	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
12. Does the application include one or more of these practices identified as a CONTROLLING measure? (Control Practices: 329, 342, 345, 366, 362, 380, 386, 410, 412, 468, 575, 629, 632)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
13. Does the application include one or more of these practices identified as a TRAPPING measure? (Trap Practices: 332, 378, 390, 391, 393, 638, 657, 658)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. Has the applicant properly operated and maintained practices installed with program assistance within their	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

control, that prevent the re-emergence of the resource concern originally addressed?	
2. Are all active contracts that are within the applicants control on schedule (no practices scheduled in 2016 or prior)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. Is the applicant applying for one or more of the following listed practices related to Soil Health (Conservation Crop Rotation, Residue Management No-till/Mulch Till, Cover Crop, Nutrient Management, and Pest Management)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. In the last 3 years, has the applicant completed all previous Farm Bill contracts without any terminations, cancellations, or requests to cancel that were within the participant's control?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. Does the applicant have a current Nutrient Management plan on the land that is being enrolled?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. Does the contract address a resource concern on land that is Highly Erodible?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. Does this application include the implementation of a multi-species cover crop (minimum 2 functional groups: grass, legume, and/or brassica) to address quality criteria for soil erosion or soil quality?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Does any practices in this application improve indicators on the Maryland Soil Health Card? (Answer YES to only one of the following questions)	
8. a. One indicator is improved on the Maryland Soil Health Card	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. b. Two or more indicators are improved on the Maryland Soil Health Card	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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