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## Ranking Tool Summary

### for FY2018 - EQIP 2018 Soil Health Pasture FA (Draft)

#### Description:

EQIP 2018. This ranking tool is to be used when ranking EQIP 2018 Soil Health Pastureland applications.

#### Land Uses:

Pasture

#### Efficiency Score:

Scoring Multiplier: 419.000

Scoring Ranges and Results Text:

|                |                 |             |
|----------------|-----------------|-------------|
| High: 100 - 70 | Medium: 69 - 30 | Low: 29 - 0 |
| 100-70         | 69-30           | 29-0        |

#### Optional Notes:

#### National Priorities:

Scoring Multiplier: 1.000

Scoring Ranges and Results Text:

|                 |                   |             |
|-----------------|-------------------|-------------|
| High: 250 - 175 | Medium: 174 - 100 | Low: 99 - 0 |
| 250-175         | 174-100           | 99-0        |

#### Questions:

| Number | Question   | Points |
|--------|--|--------|
| 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    |
| 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     |
| 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     |
| 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  |
| 5            | a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil "T")?   | 10  |
| 5            | b. Increasing organic matter and carbon content, and improving soil tilth and structure?  | 10  |
| 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  |
| 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  |
| 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  |
| 9            | a. Enhancement of existing conservation practice(s) or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is received?               | 10  |
| Total Points |   | 500 |

**State Issues:**

Scoring Multiplier: 1.000

Scoring Ranges and Results Text:

|                 |                   |             |
|-----------------|-------------------|-------------|
| High: 400 - 200 | Medium: 199 - 100 | Low: 99 - 0 |
| 400-200         | 199-100           | 99-0        |

**Questions:**

| Sub-heading Number  | Question Number | Question   | Points            |
|---------------------|-----------------|--|-------------------|
|                     | 1               | Soil Quality: Does the application include Forage and Biomass Planting (512) to convert at least 25 acres of annual cropland planning land unit acreage (or all offered planning land units if less than 25 acres) to native (CSG and/or WSG) permanent perennial vegetation?    | 150               |
|                     | 2               | Soil Quality: Does the application include Forage and Biomass Planting (512) to convert at least 25 acres of introduced forages planning land unit acreage (or all offered planning land units if less than 25 acres) to native (CSG and/or WSG) permanent perennial vegetation? | 150               |
| 1                   |                 | Answer Only 1 (3 or 4)   |                   |
|                     | 3               | Soil Quality: Does 75% of the offered planning land units meet the high (<=2 day) rotation frequency grazing system?   | 100               |
|                     | 4               | Soil Quality: Does 75% of the offered planning land units meet the medium (7-3 day) rotation frequency grazing system?   | 50                |
| Maximum Points: 400 |                 |  | Total Points: 450 |

**Local Issues:**

Scoring Multiplier: 1.000

Scoring Ranges and Results Text:

|                 |                   |             |
|-----------------|-------------------|-------------|
| High: 250 - 175 | Medium: 174 - 100 | Low: 99 - 0 |
| 250-175         | 174-100           | 99-0        |

Questions:

| Sub-heading Number                  | Question Number | Question  | Points |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|---|--------|
|                                     | 1               | Soil Erosion: Are 75% or more of the offered planning land units Highly Erodible Land (HEL)?        | 130    |
|                                     | 2               | Water Quality: Does the application include planning land units directly adjacent to surface water. | 90     |
|                                     | 3               | Soil Erosion: Are the offered planning land units within the watershed of a PL566 Dam?              | 30     |
| Maximum Points: 250    Total Points |                 |   | 250    |

**Selected Resource Concerns and Practices:**

- Degraded Plant Condition: Inadequate Structure and Composition
  - Forage & Biomass Planting (512)
- Degraded Plant Condition: Undesirable Plant Productivity and Health
  - Fence (382)
  - Prescribed Grazing (528)
- Fish and Wildlife - Inadequate Habitat: Inadequate Habitat - Cover/Shelter
  - Forage & Biomass Planting (512)
  - Prescribed Grazing (528)
- Livestock Production Limitation: Inadequate Feed and Forage
  - Fence (382)
  - Forage & Biomass Planting (512)
  - Prescribed Grazing (528)
- Livestock Production Limitation: Inadequate Water
  - Livestock Pipeline (516)
  - Watering Facility (614)
- Soil Erosion: Sheet and Rill Erosion
  - Forage & Biomass Planting (512)
- Water Quality Degradation: Excessive Sediment in Surface Water
  - Fence (382)

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