

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Application Ranking Summary

Salton Sea Agricultural Wetlands Habitat Program

Program:	Ranking Date:	Application Number:
Ranking Tool: Salton Sea Agricultural Wetlands Habitat Program	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
State Category One - Conservation Activity Plan 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 state 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 state 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"/>
State Category Two - Priorities of the Salton Sea RCPP-EQIP (Select "Yes" to All Applicable Answers)	
2. a. Conservation treatments in the EQIP schedule of operations will assist applicants that have incorporated fallow periods into their planned crop rotation sequence and are transitioning from conventional to organic production.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. b. Conservation treatments in the EQIP schedule of operations will assist applicants with farmland draining into the Alamo River, New River or along the Salton Sea margins reduce emissions of on-farm particulate matter PM10 and PM2.5.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. c. Conservation treatments in the EQIP schedule of operations will assist applicants with farmland draining into the Alamo River, New River or along the Salton Sea margins improve drainage water quality management and on-farm soil health.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. d. Conservation treatments in the EQIP schedule of operations will assist applicants with farmland draining into the Alamo River, New River or along the Salton Sea margins improve wetland wildlife habitat.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
Local Category One - Conservation Activity Plan 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” will result in the application being awarded the maximum amount of points that can be earned for the local 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 state 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"/>
Local Category Two - SOIL EROSION: Wind Conservation treatment in the EQIP schedule of operations will reduce wind erosion as estimated by WEPS by – (Select "Yes" to One Answer Only, if applicable)	
2. a. Greater than 50 percent; and, total annual soil loss is estimated to not exceed T after treatment.?)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. b. 20 to 49 percent; and, total annual soil loss is estimated to not exceed T after treatment.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

2. c. Less than 20 percent; and, total annual soil loss is estimated to not exceed T after treatment.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Local Category Three - SOIL QUALITY DEGRADATION: Organic Matter Depletion (Select "Yes" to All Applicable Answers)	
3. a. Conservation treatment in the EQIP schedule of operations results in a STIR value reduced from a conventional tillage value to 20 or less.(If 'Yes' to 3.a. then 3.b. must be 'No').	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. b. Conservation treatment in the EQIP schedule of operations results in a STIR value is reduced from a conventional tillage value to 80 or less.(If 'Yes' to 3.b. then 3.c. must be 'No').	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. c. Conservation treatment in the EQIP schedule of operations results in SCI increased from a negative value to a positive value.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. d. Conservation treatment in the EQIP schedule of operations includes cover crops during times in the crop rotation that are seasonally fallowed, or when a cash crop is normally planted.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Local Category Four - WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Excess Nutrients in Surface Water The Clean Water Act Section 303(d) List is found at the State Water Resources Control Board website: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/tmdl/integrated2010.shtml (Select "Yes", if applicable)	
4. a. Conservation treatment in the EQIP schedule of operations will minimize the transport of nutrients to a surface waterbody on the 303(d) list for the pollutant category, "Nutrients," where an existing pathway to the surface water exists.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Local Category Five - WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Pesticides Transported to Surface Water NRCS Agronomy Technical Note 5 (February 2011) is found at: www.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/stelprdb1043138.pdf (Select "Yes" to One Answer Only, if applicable)	
5. a. Conservation treatment in the EQIP schedule of operations includes any combination of NRCS conservation practices or IPM techniques from NRCS Agronomy Technical Note 5, Tables 1 and 2 (February 2011) that results in a reduction of the WIN-PST surface water hazard rating for at least one pesticide to 'Low' or 'Very Low' and adoption of a Year-Round University of California Integrated Pest Management (UC IPM), when available for the crop or other comparable protocol.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. b. Conservation treatment in the EQIP schedule of operations includes any combination of NRCS conservation practices or IPM techniques from NRCS Agronomy Technical Note 5, Tables 1 and 2 (February 2011) that results in a reduction of the WIN-PST surface water hazard rating to 'Low' or 'Very Low' for at least one pesticide.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Local Category Six - WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Excessive Salts in Surface Water The Clean Water Act Section 303(d) List is found at the State Water Resources Control Board website: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/tmdl/integrated2010.shtml (Select "Yes", if applicable)	
6. a. Conservation treatment in the EQIP schedule of operations will minimize the transport of salts to a surface waterbody on the 303(d) list for the pollutant category, "Salinity," where an existing pathway to the surface water exists.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Local Category Seven - WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION: Excessive Sediment in Surface Water The Clean Water Act Section 303(d) List is found at the State Water Resources Control Board website: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/tmdl/integrated2010.shtml (Select "Yes", if applicable)	
7. a. Conservation treatment in the EQIP schedule of operations will minimize the transport of sediment to a surface waterbody on the 303(d) list for the pollutant category, "Sediment," where an existing pathway to the surface water exists.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Local Category Eight - AIR QUALITY IMPACTS: Emissions of Particulate Matter (PM) and PM Precursors (Select "Yes" to All Applicable Answers)	
8. a. Conservation treatment in the EQIP schedule of operations results in a STIR value reduced from a conventional tillage value to 80 or less.(If 'Yes' to 9.a. then 9.b. must be 'No').	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. b. Conservation treatment in the EQIP schedule of operations results in SCI increased from a negative value to a positive value. (If 'Yes' to 9.b. then 9.a. must be 'No').	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. c. Conservation treatment in the EQIP schedule of operations addresses fugitive dust emissions from unpaved roads	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. d. Conservation treatment in the EQIP schedule of operations includes cover crops during times in the crop rotation that are seasonally fallowed, or when a cash crop is normally planted.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Local Category Nine - INADEQUATE HABITAT FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE: Habitat Degradation Food, Water, Cover/Shelter, Habitat Continuity/Space Evaluated using either the Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Guide	

(WHEG) or Pollinator Habitat Assessment (PHA). (Select "Yes" to All Applicable Answers)	
9. a. Riparian Zone: The conservation treatment in the EQIP schedule of operations will improve the riparian zone that directly benefits fish or wildlife, where the riparian WHEG 'planned' worksheet is greater or equal to 0.5 (≥ 0.5). (If 'Yes' to 10.b. then 10.a. must be 'No').	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
9. b. Multiple Habitat Types: The conservation treatment in the EQIP schedule of operations will improve multiple habitat types that directly benefits fish or wildlife, improving habitat elements for both upland/riparian, based on the appropriate WHEG that benefit both terrestrial and aquatic habitats and species. The score on the WHEG worksheet for the Land Use/Cover Type is greater than or equal to 0.5 (≥ 0.5). (If 'Yes' to 10.b. then 10.a. must be 'No').	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
9. c. Pollinator Habitat: Conservation treatment using Hedgerow Planting, Cover Crop or Conservation Cover, in the EQIP schedule of operations will restore or enhance habitat for pollinators using the PHA with a minimum 'planned' score of 110 points or greater.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
9. d. Threatened and Endangered (T&E) Species: Conservation treatment will restore or enhance habitat by improving food, shelter and/or cover for T&E species where the WHEG is greater or equal to 0.5.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
9. e. Invasive Species: Conservation treatment in the EQIP schedule of operations will reduce invasive species identified by the local work group, Cal-IPC, or Weed Management Area where the planned score in the respective plant community WHEG is $\leq 15\%$ estimated percent cover, but appear controlled (exceptions are Arundo, Tamarisk or Eucalyptus, where percent cover needs to be $< 5\%$).	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Land Use:

Resource Concerns	Practices
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Ranking Score

<p>Efficiency:</p> <p>Local Issues:</p> <p>State Issues:</p> <p>National Issues:</p> <p>Final Ranking Score:</p>

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:

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