

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Application Ranking Summary

WY- Seasonal High Tunnel

Program:	Ranking Date:	Application Number:
Ranking Tool: WY- Seasonal High Tunnel		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
Water Quality: If the contracted practice(s) result in elimination or minimization of the potential for contaminants entering water bodies, SELECT ONE of the following based on proximity to the specific water bodies. Guidance: Refer to the DEQ Shape File located at f:\geodata\hydrography and the "Wyoming Water Quality Assessment and Impaired Waters List (2012 Integrated 305(d) and 303(d) Report) Table 9.4 for the list of pollutant causes and sources". Award points for one or more contracted practices that will eliminate or minimize the potential for the listed water quality impairments (E.coli, sediment, etc.) from entering water bodies. The contracted practices must address the resource concern; if additional practices are needed to address the resource concern, they must be contracted to award the points.	
1. a. Field(s) directly borders a surface water body listed on the 303(d) list as impaired or threatened for the pollutant cause "E-Coli" , "Fecal Coliform" , "Sediment" , "Phosphate" , or "Selenium" when the Source(s) is "Unknown" , "Irrigated Crop Production" or "Non-Point Source" .	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
1. b. Field(s) directly borders a ditch, canal or tributary that flows directly into a surface water body listed on the 303(d) list as impaired or threatened for the pollutant cause "E-Coli" , "Fecal Coliform" , "Sediment" , "Phosphate" , or "Selenium" when the Source(s) is "Unknown" , "Irrigated Crop Production" or "Non-Point Source" . Guidance: If the application directly borders the impaired stream, but the impaired section is below the property, award points for one or more contracted practices that address the water quality concern.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
1. c. Field(s) directly borders a solid blue line stream as marked on a USGS topographic 7.5-minute, 1:24,000-scale quadrangle series map.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
1. d. Field(s) directly borders a ditch, canal or tributary that flows into a solid blue line stream as marked on a USGS topographic 7.5-minute, 1:24,000-scale quadrangle series map.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Soil Health: Answer one of the following Soil Health Principals include: 1) Using plant diversity to increase diversity in the soil, 2) Managing soils more by disturbing them less, 3) Growing a living root throughout the year, 4) Keeping the soil covered as much as possible 5) Integrate livestock grazing of cover crops where possible. Guidance: For 3a, 3b, and 3c, award points for one or more of the following contracted practices: Conservation Cover (327), Conservation Crop Rotation (328), Cover Crop (340), Forage and Biomass planting (512), Nutrient Management (590), Integrated Pest Management (595), Prescribed Grazing (528), Residue Management – Reduced Till (345), and/or Residue and Tillage Management - No Till (329).	
2. a. Will the proposed project result in the implementation of three practices that address three or more of the soil health principals?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. b. Will the proposed project result in the implementation of two practices that address two of the soil health principals?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. c. Will the proposed project result in the implementation of one practice that addresses one of the soil health principals?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Soil Erosion:	

3. Will the proposed project result in the implementation of practices that will result in the long term reduction of soil erosion in stream corridors or riparian areas? Guidance: Award points for one or more of the following contracted practices: Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390), Riparian Forest Buffer (391), Filter Strip (393), Access Control (472), Livestock Shelter Structure (576), Channel Stabilization (584), and/or Streambank and Shoreline Protection (580).	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Healthy Plants and Wildlife: Will the proposed project address Plant Structure and Composition, Plant Pests and Animal Habitat Degradation? Answer all that apply for a maximum of 15 points	
4. a. Will the proposed project result in the implementation of practices for the management of noxious and invasive species ONLY on “non-cropland” acreage? (One of the following practices must be contracted to take points - 314 - Brush Management and/or 315 - Herbaceous Weed Control) Guidance: Required documentation that noxious or invasive species are present and will be eradicated or controlled by the practice.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. b. Land enrolled in this application establishes native grassland/sagebrush habitat and/or manages grassland/sagebrush habitat within Sage Grouse Core Area. Guidance: Use “sg_core_areas_v4.shp” located in f:\geodata\wildlife. Place GIS map documentation in casefile. Award points for one or more contracted practices that will improve sage-grouse habitat within the sage-grouse core area.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. c. Will the proposed project result in the implementation of practices that increase habitat and forage for pollinators and/or beneficial insects? Guidance: Award points for one or more of the following contracted practices with an approved pollinator seeding/planting plan: Conservation Cover (327), Field Border (386), Tree/Shrub Establishment (612), Cover Crop (340), Forage and Biomass Planting (512), Forage Harvest Management (511), Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment (380), and/or Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645).	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Insufficient water – inefficient use of irrigation water resource concern:	
5. Will the proposed project result in the implementation of practices that will improve the efficiency of an existing irrigation system and/or result in the implementation of practices that will improve irrigation water management? (Irrigation Water Management (449) must be contracted for points). Guidance: The contract must include Irrigation Water Management (449). Additional practices include one or more of the following conservation practices: Irrigation System - Microirrigation (441), Irrigation System – Surface and Subsurface (443), Sprinkler System (442), and/or Residue and Tillage Management – No Till (329).	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Livestock Resource Concerns:	
6. EQIP Schedule of Operations includes implementation of practices AND management that solve resource concerns on a livestock operation? Guidance: Award points for contracted practices AND contacted management that treat a livestock resource concern.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Soil Erosion-Crop Land Resource Concerns:	
7. Will the proposed project result in the implementation of practices that will limit sheet, rill and/or wind erosion losses to Tolerable levels if currently above T; or reduce erosion by 50% if already at T, as determined by RUSLE2, WEPS, or IET. Guidance: Award points for one or more of the following contracted practices that will reduce erosion to tolerable levels: Conservation Crop Rotation (328), Cover Crop (340), Forage and Biomass Planting (512), Integrated Pest Management (595), Nutrient Management (590), and/or Residue and Tillage Management – No Till (329).	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Forest Resource Concerns:	
8. Will the application implement practices that will solve resource concerns associated with forestry? Guidance: The application must include one or more of the following conservation practices: Forest Stand Improvement (666), Tree and Shrub Planting (612), and/or Woody Residue Treatment (384).	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
Local Work Group:	
1. Will the application implement any practice within a geographic area (ex. Watershed) specifically identified by the LWG? Documentation from the LWG meeting must be placed in the application folder to support the answer of "yes".	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
General Questions:	
2. The planned site is appropriate for successful installation and operation of the tunnel without additional manipulation or needed conservation practices to address resource concerns? Guidance:	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Shaping and grading of the site is not required for placement of the practice. Adding the High Tunnel to the site will not create additional resource concerns.	
3. The use of the tunnel will reduce energy use by marketing the products grown through local food systems (schools, restaurants, farmer's markets, road-side stands, Community Supported Agriculture markets, etc...)? Guidance: Place documentation in the casefile identifying the local food system.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. The application includes additional contracted practices to address soil erosion, water quality, or insufficient water resource concerns associated with the installation of the high tunnel system? Guidance: Award points for one or more of the following contracted practices, such as, but not limited to: Irrigation Water Management (449), Critical Area Planting (342), Nutrient Management (590), and/or Integrated Pest Management (595).	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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