

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Application Ranking Summary

Forestland

Program:	Ranking Date:	Application Number:
Ranking Tool: Forestland	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. 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. 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"/>
2. BIOMAP2 - Is the project located in either of the following Biomap 2 areas: (Answer only ONE; the dominant factor in the project area)	
2. 2.a. Forest Core	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. 2.b. Supporting Landscape Blocks	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. SITE QUALITY- The dominant Prime Forest Land Soil in the project area, according to the GIS data layer is (Answer only ONE):	
3. 3.a. Prime 1	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. 3.b. Prime 2	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. 3.c. Prime 3/ Prime Wet	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. WATER QUALITY: Does the application address existing forest road/trail erosion, where the sediment is moving towards a resource area? If yes, answer only ONE:	
4. 4.a. Within 100 ft from a stream, pond or wetland.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. 4.b. Greater than 100 ft from a stream, pond or wetland.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. FOREST DIVERSITY- Does the application improve growing conditions and/or promote diverse age classes on the property via: (Select only ONE- the answer associated with the greatest economic portion of the application.)	
5. 5.a. Patch cut, sized 2 ac to 4.9 ac	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. 5.b. Crop tree release / thinning / group selection	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. 5.c. Pre-commercial thinning	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. 5.d. Creating old growth characteristics	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. FOREST REGENERATION - Does the application include practices that promote desirable, native regeneration?	
6. 6.a. Undesirable regeneration (native and/or exotic) is treated (314)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. 6.b. Tree/Shrub establishment (612)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. NON-COMMERCIAL CUTS - Does the project area target younger stands where non-commercial cutting is	

beneficial?	
7. 7.a. The mean stand diameter in the project area is less than or equal to 6 inches	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. BUSINESS LINES - (Select all that apply)	
8. 8.a. The applicant has implemented a silvicultural prescription involving cutting trees in the last 10 years?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. 8.b. The applicant has failed to implement prior year contracts: >= 1 CANCELLED or TERMINATED for non-compliance or cause in the last two years?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. 8.c. The applicant has not implemented past contracts in a timely manner: > 1 year behind schedule with an active CPA-153 Non-Compliance Agreement issued?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. 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 local priority category.	
1. 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 local 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"/>
2. ECOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE - The project is located in the following rating for forest Functions, Values and Benefits, according to Figure 5.5 of the "Assessment of Forest Resources in MA", per the GIS layer. (Answer only ONE; the dominant rating in the project area)	
2. 2.a. Very High or High; Moderate in the Westford, West Wareham and West Yarmouth Field Office areas	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. 2.b. Moderate in rest of state (other than those areas identified in 2a); or Low in the Westford, West Wareham and West Yarmouth Field Office areas	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. FOREST HEALTH - DAMAGED STAND: (Answer only if applicable)	
3. 3.a. Does the application rehabilitate a stand damaged by a major storm (i.e. ice, tornado, hurricane)? Must be documented in the forest management plan and concurred by DCR.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. INVASIVE SPECIES - INFESTATION: If the project includes treatment of invasive species, describe the severity of infestation: (Select ONE)	
4. 4.a. LOW - distribution low, early infestation, minimal adjacent seed sources	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. 4.b. MEDIUM - distribution is established in scattered areas across the site; several adjacent seed sources	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. 4.c. HIGH - widely distributed and well established across the site; several adjacent seed sources	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. INVASIVE SPECIES - TREATMENT:	
5. 5.a. The proposed project includes two or more years of invasive species control?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. 5.b. Non-treatment of existing invasive species in a cutting project area threatens to become a future resource concern?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. NEW PARTICIPANT:	
6. 6.a. The applicant has never received farm bill conservation program funding for forestry practices.	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:

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: