

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Application Ranking Summary

The Young Forest Initiative for At-Risk Species

Program:	Ranking Date:	Application Number:
Ranking Tool: The Young Forest Initiative for At-Risk Species	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. Is the patch being created adjacent to other habitat or dispersal corridors such as power lines, shrub wetlands?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. Is the project on or contiguous to Conserved Land?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Project is located within an established focus area for a featured species: (Choose up to 1) *Note, for GWWA, “in a focus area” means within 10 miles of the established boundary.	
3. a) Project is located in focus area of all three: GWWA, NEC & AMWO?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. b) Project is located in a focus area for any two of GWWA, NEC or AMWO?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. c) Project is located in a focus area for any one of GWWA, NEC or AMWO?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. d) Project is not located in a focus area of either species but benefits other species of concern?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Project Focus (Choose 1): CAP costs should be removed before making this calculation.	
4. a) Is 81-100% of the project Financial assistance for core practices?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. b) Is 61-80% of the project Financial assistance for core practices?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. c) Is 41-60% of the project Financial assistance for core practices?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. d) Is < 40% of the project Financial Assistance for core practices?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Cumulative total size of the patch being created: (Choose 1)	
5. a) Patch being created >12 contiguous acres?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. b) Patch being created > 5 contiguous acres?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. c) Patch being created is < 5 acres?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Expected lifespan of habitat improvement: (Choose 1)	
6. a) Up to 20 years?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. b) Up to 10 years?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. c) Less than 5 years?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. Is there a current, comprehensive Forest or Wildlife Habitat Management Plan for the property prepared by a certified professional. [This could include a stewardship plan or other plan meeting NRCS Conservation Activity Plan 106 criteria. The plan must be < 10 years old]	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
The project area include soils that are either Prime Farmland Soils or Soils of Statewide Importance and/or poorly drained or very poorly drained mineral soils: (Choose 1)	
2. a) Area of Prime, Statewide or poorly/very poorly drained mineral soils make up < 25% of the project area.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

2. b) Area of Prime, Statewide or poorly/very poorly drained mineral soils make up 26 - 50% of the project area.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. c) Area of Prime, Statewide or poorly/very poorly drained mineral soils make up >50% of the project area.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Existing structural shrub cover on parcel (owned/controlled by applicant), contiguous to the project site. Multi flora rose, autumn olive, bush honeysuckle or other thicket forming non-native plants may be included in the shrub complex: (Choose 1)	
3. a) Existing cover of parcel is < 10 % shrub.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. b) Existing cover of parcel is 10 - 50% shrub.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. c) Existing cover of parcel is > 50 % shrub.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Percentage of the land use within a 3 km radius of the project that is young forest or early successional habitat such as old field, power line corridor, pasture, forest cuts < 15 years old: (Choose 1)	
4. a) Percentage of surrounding landscape in target habitat is < 5 %.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. b) Percentage of surrounding landscape in target habitat is 6 - 20 %.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. c) Percentage of surrounding landscape in target habitat is >20%.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
The Magnitude of treatment for wildlife: (Choose 1)	
5. a) Is the habitat to be created (treatment area) < 6 acres in size?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. b) Is the habitat to be created (treatment area) 6 - 10 acres in size?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. c) Is the habitat to be created (treatment area) 11 - 25 acres in size?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. d) Is the habitat to be created (treatment area) 26 - 50 acres in size?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. e) Is the habitat to be created (treatment area) > 50 acres in size?	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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