

Ranking Pools	Applicability	Explanation	Points
Ag Land-General-NM Agland- Renewal- NM	Is most of the land in the operation located in New Mexico?	The contract will be administered by NM if the majority of the land is located in the state. If some of the land in the operation is located in an adjoining state it must be included in the contract with NM.	0
Agland-General- BFR Agland-Renewal -BFR	Did the applicant self-certify as a beginning farmer or rancher on the NRCS-CPA-1200, "Conservation Program Application?" (Yes = applicable; No = not applicable)	Self-certification at the time of application is sufficient to rank in the BFR funding pool. NM may require documentation to support the BFR self-certification prior to obligation.	0
Agland-General -SD Agland- Renewal-SD	Did the applicant self-certify as a socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher on the NRCS-CPA-1200, "Conservation Program Application?" (Yes = applicable; No = not applicable)	Self-certification at the time of application is sufficient to rank in the SD funding pool. Additional documentation is not required.	0
Agland-General- Organic Agland-Renewal-Organic	For the organic ranking pools, is 75% or more of the land in the operation certified or transitioning? (Yes = applicable; No = not applicable)	At a minimum, 75% of the land in the operation has to be organic to be included in the fund account. All of the eligible land in the operation must be included in the contract.	0

Ranking Pools	Category	Explanation	Points
Agland-General Agland-General- BFR Agland-General- SD Agland-General-Organic	Is the application eligible for general signup, i.e. the participant had a 2015-1 expired, 2015-renewal or is a new participant?	If the application is a renewal it must be ranked in the renewal funding pool.	0
Agland-Renewal Agland-Renewal- BFR Agland-Renewal- SD Agland-Renewal- Organic	Is the application eligible for renewal, i.e. the participant had a 2014-1 or 2015-1 that has not expired?	If the application is a not renewal it must be ranked in a general funding pool.	0

Ranking Pools	Program Questions	Explanation	Total 200 points
All	What percent of the operation will have an activity scheduled with this application? a. 75% or more b. 50- 74% c. 25- 49% d. 10- 24%	Due to not creating a category of 0-10% the option D must be selected when less than 25% of the operation will have an activity scheduled. Only acre based activities are considered. It can be any combination of activities, the total amount of acres of the operation with an activity scheduled during the contract term is determined (does not have to be scheduled in the same year).	a. 100 b. 75 c. 50 d. 25
All	Will an activity be contracted in a source water priority area?	An agency goal is to provide at least 10% of financial assistance to activities that protect drinking water sources. NRCS determined source water protection areas are used.	If yes, 80 points
Agland- General- BFR Agland- General- SD Agland-Renewal- BFR Agland- Renewal- SD	Does the applicant meet the NRCS definition of a veteran farmer or rancher (VFR)?	Priority is given to applicants who meet the definition of VFR only in the fund accounts for BFR and SD.	If yes, 20 points

Ranking Pools	Resource Questions	Explanation	Points allocated. Total 200 points
All	<p>At the time of application, how many State priority resource concerns categories are met on the land use with the least amount of resource concerns met?</p> <p>a. At least 4 State priority resource concerns are met on the least performing land use (exclude Farmstead and Associated Ag Land)</p> <p>b. 2-3 State priority resource concerns are met on the least performing land use (exclude Farmstead and Associated Ag Land)</p> <p>c. One(1) State priority resource concerns are met on the least performing land use (exclude Farmstead and Associated Ag Land)</p>	<p>Due to not creating a category of 0, the option c. must be selected when a priority resource concern is not being met. Multiple land uses can be included in one contract. Ranking points are awarded based on the least performing land uses of cropland, range and pasture only. For example, cropland might be meeting 3 resource concerns and range meets 7. The cropland (3 resource concerns) would be used to answer this ranking question.</p>	<p>a. 25 b. 20 c. 15</p>
All	<p>By the end of the contract, how many State priority resource concerns will be met on the least performing land use (excluding Farmstead and Associated Ag Land)?</p> <p>A. At least 4 State priority resource concerns will be met with conservation activities on the least performing land use (exclude Farmstead and Associated Ag Land)</p> <p>b. 2-3 State priority resource concerns will be met with conservation activities on the least performing land use (exclude Farmstead and Associated Ag Land)</p> <p>c. One (1) State priority resource concerns will be met with conservation activities on the least performing land use (exclude Farmstead and Associated Ag Land)</p>	<p>Due to not creating a category of 0, the option c. must be selected when a priority resource concern is not being met. Answer based on the RC met or exceeded. This could be the same answer as at the time of application. More conservation benefits are expected with more resource concerns that will be met at the end of the contract. Multiple land uses can be included in one contract. Ranking points are awarded based on the least performing land uses of cropland, range and pasture only. For example, cropland might meet 3 resource concerns and range will meet 2 with contracted activities. The cropland (3 resource concerns) would be used to answer this ranking question.</p>	<p>a. 25 b. 20 c. 15</p>
All	<p>What is the number of years a priority activity listed below is scheduled? The answer is based on the land use with the most years scheduled. The priority activity for rangeland is Prescribed Grazing (528), cropland is Cover Crop (340), No-till (329), Reduced tillage (345); and pasture is Prescribed Grazing (528) if grazed and Forage Harvest Management (511) if not grazed.</p> <p>a. For 3 or more years</p> <p>b. For 2 years</p> <p>c. One year.</p>	<p>Due to not creating a category of 0, the option c. must be selected when a priority activity is not being contracted. Management practices usually take a few years of implementation to achieve results and to fine-tune the necessary management skills. More ranking points are awarded the more years a priority activity is contracted, but it does not have to be contracted on the same footprint each year. The activity can be a practice or enhancement and can be different enhancements of the same base practice.</p>	<p>a. 75 b. 50 c. 25</p>
All	<p>Will habitat for wildlife, not for beneficial insects/pollinators, be improved with an activity that specifically addresses wildlife habitat (such as prescribed grazing for wildlife refuge area)?</p>	<p>At least one scheduled activity must specifically state that it is designed to improve habitat for a desired wildlife species.</p>	<p>If yes, 50 points</p>
All	<p>Will pollinator habitat be improved with an activity that establishes pollinator plants or that specifically addresses pollinator habitat (such as prescribed grazing for monarch butterflies)?</p>	<p>Pollinator habitat can be improved on any land use. The activity must directly address pollinator habitat.</p>	<p>If yes, 25 points</p>