

Ranking Pools	Applicability	Explanation	Points
NIPF-General NIPF- Renewal	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
NIPF-General-BFR NIPF-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
NIPF-General-SD NIPF-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

Ranking Pools	Category	Explanation	Points
NIPF-General NIPF-General-BFR NIPF-General-SD	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
NIPF-Renewal NIPF-Renewal-BFR NIPF-Renewal-SD	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
NIPF-General-BFR NIPF- General-SD NIPF-Renewal-BFR NIPF- 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	Total 200 points
All	<p>At the time of application, how many State priority resource concerns categories are met on forest land?</p> <p>a. At least 4 State priority resource concerns are met on forest land.</p> <p>b. 2-3 State priority resource concerns are met on forest land.</p> <p>c. One(1) State priority resource concerns is met on forest 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</p> <p>b. 20</p> <p>c. 15</p>
All	<p>By the end of the contract, how many State priority resource concerns will be met on forest land?</p> <p>A. At least 4 State priority resource concerns will be met with 1 or more conservation activities on forest land.</p> <p>b. 2-3 State priority resource concerns will be met with 1 or more conservation activities on forest land.</p> <p>c. One (1) State priority resource concerns will be met with 1 or more conservation activities on forest land.</p>	<p>Due to not creating a category of 0, the option c. must be selected when a priority resource concern is not met. 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 forest only. For example, cropland might be 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. It is not necessary to have more than one activity contracted.</p>	<p>a. 25</p> <p>b. 20</p> <p>c. 15</p>
All	<p>Will a contracted activity improve habitat for wildlife or reduce the risk of pest damage to trees?</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 activities reduce erosion from concentrated runoff, such as diversions on dirt roads or grade stabilization structures?</p>	<p>Concentrated runoff from roads and in waterways increases erosion and degrades water quality.</p>	<p>If yes, 50 points</p>
All	<p>Will the threat of wildfire be reduced with a contracted activity (Fuel break, fire break, forest stand improvement, woody residue treatment, etc.)?</p>	<p>No minimum is needed. There must be a reduction of woody material with the contracted activity.</p>	<p>If yes, 50 points</p>