



Pennsylvania NRCS Wetland Reserve Easement Program (ACEP-WRE) Ranking Scoring Worksheet

March 16, 2020

Landowner Name: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_ Application Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Fiscal Year: \_\_\_\_\_
Interdisciplinary Team Approval Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Tract: \_\_\_\_\_ FINAL RANKING SCORE: \_\_\_\_\_

State Biologist Review/Concurrence: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

PART I - Environmental Benefit Considerations
LOCATION 70 Max. Points
1. Proximity to designated local, state, or federal wildlife habitat/conservation, or forest area of significance
a. Project is directly adjacent to a designated local, state, or federal wildlife habitat/conservation, or forest area of significance 10
b. Project is within 5 miles of a designated local, state, or federal wildlife habitat/conservation, or forest area of significance 5
c. Project is > 5 miles from a designated local, state, or federal wildlife habitat/conservation, or forest area of significance 0
List area of significance here: \_\_\_\_\_ subtotal
2. Proximity and connectivity to permanently protected areas (State or Federal forests/parks/easements, gamelands, other conservation easements)
a. Project is directly adjacent to an existing permanently protected area 25
b. Project is within 5 miles of an existing permanently protected area 5
c. Project greater than 5 miles away from an existing permanently protected area 0
List permanently protected area here: \_\_\_\_\_ subtotal
3. Proximity to existing wetlands, streams, or surface waters
a. Offered acres connect existing wetlands, streams, or surface waters 10
b. Offered acres are adjacent to existing wetlands, streams, or surface waters 5
c. Offered acres are within one mile of existing wetlands, streams, or surface waters 2
(zero points for projects > one mile from existing wetlands, streams, or surface waters) subtotal
4. Offered acres are located within a Pennsylvania WRE Priority Area (select one)
20503050202 Lehman Run-Muddy Run 020401041004 Cherry Creek 25
020503050307 Doubling Gap Creek 020401050601 Allegheny Creek-Delaware River 0
020503050303 Laughlin Run-Paxton Run 050301020304 Booth Run-Pymatuning Creek
020503050203 Trout Run-Conodoguinet Creek 020401050603 Buckhorn Creek-Delaware River
020401040805 Lower McMichael Creek 041201010602 East Branch of West Branch Conneaut Creek
041201010601 Headwaters Conneaut Creek 020503050306 Three Sq. Hollow Run-Conodoguinet Creek
020401050602 Martins Creek-Delaware River 050301020401 Sugar Run-Shenango River
050301020402 Big Run 020503050606 Lower Swatara Creek
020503050901 Reeds Run-Swatara Creek 020503050901 Lower Little Swatara Creek
020503050902 Bow Creek-Swatara Creek
(zero points for projects not located within a WRE priority area) subtotal
HABITAT 30 Max. Pts.
5. Threatened, Endangered, and Special Concern Species (maintain rare native species) (Attach PNDI print to ranking form)
a. PNDI shows Threatened, Endangered, or Special Concern Species 15
b. PNDI shows no Threatened, Endangered, or Special Concern Species 0
subtotal
6. Aquatic Life Use (select one - list water body or water body designation on the line below)
a. Offered acres contain a Wild and Scenic River or Exceptional Value Stream 15
b. Offered acres contain a stream that outlets directly into a Wild and Scenic River or Exceptional Value Stream 7
c. Offered acres contain a High Quality Stream (HQ-CWFD, TSF, or WWF) 15
d. Offered acres contain a stream that outlets directly into a High Quality Stream (HQ-CWF, TSF, or WWF) 7
(zero points if none apply) subtotal
RESTORATION OF HYDROLOGY 100 Max. Points
7. Hydric Soils (select one - use percentage of "restorable hydric soils" of restoration area from Interdisciplinary Team Report)
a. Restoration methods restore hydric soils on greater than 70% of the restoration area 50
b. Restoration methods restore hydric soils on 60-69% of the restoration area 25
c. Restoration methods restore hydric soils on 50-59% of the restoration area 10
d. Restoration methods restore hydric soils on less than 50% of the restoration area 0
subtotal
8. Dominant Land Use of the Offered Acreage within the Restoration Area (select one)
a. Row crops produced within the last 3 years 50
b. Hay produced within the last 3 years 25
c. Acres used as pasture within the last 3 years 10
d. No row crop, hay or pasture within the last 3 years 0
e. Forest 0
subtotal
PART I - Total Points



<b>PART II - Economic Considerations</b>		<b>80 Max. Points</b>
<b>9. Total Easement Restoration Cost</b>		
a. Total restoration cost is < 50% of the total easement value	10	<input type="text"/>
b. Total restoration cost is between 50 - 80% of the total easement value	5	<input type="text"/>
c. Total restoration cost is ≥ 80% of the total easement value	0	<input type="text"/>
subtotal		<input type="text"/>
<b>10. Noxious or Invasive Species</b>		
a. <20% of the vegetation in the total easement area is noxious and/or invasive	10	<input type="text"/>
b. 21-50% of the vegetation in the total easement area is noxious and/or invasive	5	<input type="text"/>
c. >50% of the vegetation in the total easement area is noxious and/or invasive	0	<input type="text"/>
subtotal		<input type="text"/>
<b>11. Operation and Maintenance costs (select one)</b>		
a. Offered acreage/Planned restoration requires no embankments or mechanical structures (piping, water control boxes, etc.)	10	<input type="text"/>
b. Offered acreage/planned restoration requires an embankment	5	<input type="text"/>
c. Offered acreage/Planned restoration requires mechanical structures (piping, water control boxes, etc.)	0	<input type="text"/>
subtotal		<input type="text"/>
<b>12. Permitting</b>		
a. The planned restoration does not require a permit	20	<input type="text"/>
<i>(zero points if a permit will be required)</i>		
subtotal		<input type="text"/>
<b>13. Type of Proposed Easement</b>		
a. Permanent Easement	20	<input type="text"/>
<i>(zero points for 30-year easement)</i>		
subtotal		<input type="text"/>
<b>14. Total easement enrollment size</b>		
a. Proposed enrollment is 50 acres or larger	10	<input type="text"/>
b. Proposed enrollment is 20-49 acres	5	<input type="text"/>
c. Proposed enrollment is 10-24 acres	2	<input type="text"/>
<i>(zero points if less than 10 acres)</i>		
subtotal		<input type="text"/>
<b>PART II - Total Points</b>		<input type="text"/>

<b>PART III - Easement Offer Configuration</b>		<b>45 Max. Points</b>
<b>15. Purpose of Enrollment Offer Adjacent Acreage (select all that apply)</b>		
a. Adjacent acres directly benefit the hydrology of the restoration area	10	<input type="text"/>
b. Adjacent acres directly benefit T&E species within the restoration area	7	<input type="text"/>
c. Adjacent acres connect offer of enrollment to a permanently protected area (such as those listed in question #2)	4	<input type="text"/>
d. Adjacent acres create a simpler, more manageable easement boundary	4	<input type="text"/>
<i>(zero points if none apply)</i>		
subtotal		<input type="text"/>
<b>16. Easement Offer Boundary (select one option that best fits the easement offer)</b>		
a. Easement offer boundary is simple with few corners, angles and turns, creating an easily managed polygon	10	<input type="text"/>
b. Easement offer boundary is moderately simple with minimal corners, angles and turns, creating a moderate to manage polygon	5	<input type="text"/>
c. Easement offer boundary is complicated with multiple corners, angles and turns creating a difficult to manage polygon	0	<input type="text"/>
subtotal		<input type="text"/>
<b>17. Easement Offer Parcel (select one option that best fits the easement offer)</b>		
a. Easement offer parcel is one contiguous block of land with <u>no</u> right-of-ways	10	<input type="text"/>
b. Easement offer parcel is one contiguous block of land with right-of-ways	5	<input type="text"/>
c. Easement offer parcel is divided by non-eligible acreage, right-of-ways, non-eligible CRP, or other area not controlled by landowner	2	<input type="text"/>
d. Easement offer parcel is manipulated by landowner, is cut-up, divided among eligible acreage, or separated by cut-outs or in-holdings	0	<input type="text"/>
subtotal		<input type="text"/>
<b>PART III - Total Points</b>		<input type="text"/>

<b>PART IV - ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA SCORE</b>		<b>75 Max. Points</b>
<b>18. Eligible Acres Contain: (select all that apply)</b>		
a. Prior Converted (PC) hydric soil acres	___ 30	<input type="text"/>
b. Farmed Wetland (FW) hydric soil acres	___ 15	<input type="text"/>
c. Farmed Wetland Pasture (FWP) hydric soil ac.	___ 10	<input type="text"/>
d. Eligible CRP/CREP	___ 5	<input type="text"/>
e. Wetland (W) farmed under natural conditions hydric soil ac.	___ 5	<input type="text"/>
f. Degraded wetlands (which will be restored)	___ 5	<input type="text"/>
g. Riparian Links (<300' with photo documentation)	___ 5	<input type="text"/>
<b>PART IV - Total Points</b>		<input type="text"/>

<input type="text"/>	<b>Total Ranking Score:</b>	<input type="text"/>
<b>Employee Signature</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>(Maximum Points = 400)</b>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	
<b>Date</b>		