

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Application Ranking Summary

Billings LWG-Grassland

Program:	Ranking Date:	Application Number:
Ranking Tool: Billings LWG-Grassland		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 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. Does the application provide financial assistance for a practice(s) that will adjust application amounts and/or timing of organic/inorganic fertilizers according to soil test?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. Does the application provide financial assistance for a practice(s) that will reduce animal wastes that impact water quality?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. Does the application provide financial assistance for a practice(s) for improved quality of livestock drinking water?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. Does the application provide financial assistance for practice(s) that will mitigate the potential environmental risk of pest management control measures?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. Will the application provide financial assistance for a practice(s) which will reduce erosion on cropland fields?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. Does the application provide financial assistance for a practice(s) that will address saline seeps, recharge areas, and/or saline/sodic soils?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. Does the application provide financial assistance for a practice(s) that will reduce the number of tillage operations?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
9. Does the application provide financial assistance for the implementation of the manure scenario of Nutrient Mgmt?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
10. Will the application provide financial assistance for a practice applied on range or pasture that improves the utilization of under-grazed areas?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
11. Does the application provide financial assistance for a practice that will convert cropland to perennial herbaceous vegetation?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
12. Does the application provide financial assistance to convert from conventional or reduced tillage to a no-till system?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
13. Does the application provide financial assistance for livestock grazing practice(s) on grazing systems with 4 or more pastures per herd?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
14. Does the application provide financial assistance for practice that minimizes the risk of accidental release of stored oil products used in agriculture operations?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
15. Does the application include practices to install or enhance woody vegetation for farmsteads, fields, or wildlife habitat?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
16. Does the application include a seasonal high tunnel which will assist the applicant in extending the growing season, improve plant productivity, health and vigor?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
Pick any of the following resource criteria that apply:	
1. Does the EQIP application include the renovation of windbreaks and/or the establishment of new windbreaks and address energy conservation?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. Does the EQIP application include a new livestock water development that would increase livestock water quantity and quality?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. Does the EQIP application offer to keep established perennial vegetation in grass and/or establish new perennial vegetation OR establish a riparian protection area?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. Does the EQIP application provide for the use of cover crops that will be used to improve rangeland health, vigor, and/or forage quality?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. Does the EQIP application provide assistance to implement a practice that will improve grazing distribution by increasing the number of pastures a particular herd grazes in?	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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