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## Ranking Tool Summary

### for FY2016 - Aquaculture

(Released 01/06/2016 )

#### Description:

#### Land Uses:

Crop, Farmstead

#### Efficiency Score:

Scoring Multiplier: 100.000

Scoring Ranges and Results Text:

High: 100 - 75	Medium: 74 - 50	Low: 49 - 0
The practices in the application are in the high score range	The practices in the application are in the medium score range	The practices in the application are in the low score range

#### Optional Notes:

#### National Priorities:

Scoring Multiplier: 1.000

Scoring Ranges and Results Text:

High: 250 - 125	Medium: 124 - 75	Low: 74 - 0
The application is in the high score range for addressing national priority issues	The application is in the medium score range for addressing national priority issues	The application is in the low score range for addressing national priority issues

#### Questions:

Number	Question	Points
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.	250
2	a. Implementing the practices in a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP)?	15
2	b. Implementing the practices in a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP)?	10
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)?	10
2	d. Reducing the impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides in a "non-impaired water body"?	10
2	e. Implementing practices that improve water quality through animal mortality and carcass management?	10
3	a. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce aquifer overdraft.	15
3	b. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce on-farm water use?	10
3	c. Implementing practices in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	10
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?	10
4	a. Meeting on-farm regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid	10

	the need for regulatory measures?	
4	b. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm emissions of particulate matter (PM2.5, PM10)?	10
4	c. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm generated greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide (CO2), methane (CH4), and nitrous oxide (N2O)?	10
4	d. Implementing practices that increase on-farm carbon sequestration?	10
5	a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil "T")?	10
5	b. Increasing organic matter and carbon content, and improving soil tilth and structure?	10
6	a. Implementing practices benefitting threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern.	10
6	b. Implementing practices that retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) or other set-aside program?	10
6	c. Implementing practices benefitting honey bee populations or other pollinators?	10
6	d. Implementing land-based practices that improve habitat for aquatic wildlife?	10
7	a. Implementing practices that result in the management control of noxious or invasive plant species on non-cropland?	10
7	b. Implementing practice in an Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM)?	10
8	a. Reducing on-farm energy consumption?	10
8	b. Implementing practice(s) identified in an approved AgEMP or energy audit, which meet ASABE S612 criteria?	10
9	a. Enhancement of existing conservation practice(s) or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is received?	10
	<b>Total Points</b>	<b>500</b>

**State Issues:**

Scoring Multiplier: 1.000

Scoring Ranges and Results Text:

High: 400 - 300	Medium: 299 - 200	Low: 199 - 0
The application is in the high score range for addressing state resource issues	The application is in the medium score range for addressing state resource issues	The application is in the low score range for addressing state resource issues

**Questions:**

Sub-heading Number	Question Number	Question	Points
1		Bottom Depth (answer yes to only one option)	
	1	The bottom depth of the acreage to be restored is greater than 12 feet.	50
	2	The bottom depth of the acreage to be restored is less than 12 feet.	100
2		Type of shell to be used for bottom base. (answer yes to only one option)	
	1	Clam shells will be used for the bed restoration.	50
	2	Oyster shells will be used for the bed restoration.	100
3		Bottom type. (answer yes to only one option; current field observation is preferred data)	
	1	Current information indicates that the bottom is soft. (<10% cultch by volume) or the acreage to be restored is classified as "mud" or "sand".	25
	2	Current information indicates that the bottom is hard. (>10% cultch by volume)	75
	3	Current information indicates that the bottom is hard. (>20% cultch by volume) or the acreage to be restored is classified as "cultch", "sand with cultch", or "mud with cultch".	100
4		Virginia Division of Shellfish Sanitation (DSS) Classification. (Restricted	

		waters are excluded from the EQIP Oyster Pilot no harvesting allowed; answer yes to only one of the options)	
	1	The lease is located in waters classified by DSS as "Conditionally Approved".	50
	2	The lease is located in waters classified by DSS as "Approved".	100
		Maximum Points:	Total Points
			650

**Local Issues:**

Scoring Multiplier: 1.000

Scoring Ranges and Results Text:

High: 250 - 200	Medium: 199 - 100	Low: 99 - 0
The application is in the high score range for addressing local resource issues	The application is in the medium score range for addressing local resource issues	The application is in the low score range for addressing local resource issues

**Questions:**

Sub-heading Number	Question Number	Question	Points
1		(answer yes to only one option)	
	1	The applicant has held an Oyster Aquaculture Product Owner Permit for less than one year.	25
	2	The applicant has held an Oyster Aquaculture Product Owner Permit for between one and three years.	75
	3	The applicant has held an Oyster Aquaculture Product Owner Permit for more than three years.	100
2		Answer any that apply	
	1	The applicant holds a Commercial Oyster Harvester License?	25
	2	The applicant reports their oyster harvest in the MRC Mandatory Reporting System?	100
	3	The applicant has completed all previous Farm Bill contracts without any terminations or cancellations, or not had any contracts at all?	100
	4	The applicant had a previous Farm Bill contract terminated within the last three years?	-100
		Maximum Points:	Total Points
			325

**Selected Resource Concerns and Practices:**

- Water Quality Degradation: Nutrients in Surface water
- Bivalve Aquaculture Gear and Biofouling (400)
- Restoration and Management of Rare and D (643)

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