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Ranking Tool Summary

for FY2016 - NWQI - Smith Creek - War Branch

(Released 01/18/2016)

Description:

Land Uses:

Crop, Farmstead, Forest, Pasture

Efficiency Score:

Scoring Multiplier: 100.000

Scoring Ranges and Results Text:

High: 100 - 75	Medium: 74 - 50	Low: 49 - 0
The conservation practices that will be established in the proposed contract are in the high point score range	The conservation practices that will be established in the proposed contract are in the medium point score range	The conservation practices that will be established in the proposed contract are in the low point score range

Optional Notes:

National Priorities:

Scoring Multiplier: 1.000

Scoring Ranges and Results Text:

High: 250 - 175	Medium: 174 - 90	Low: 89 - 0
The application is in the high point score range for addressing national priorities	The application is in the medium point score range for addressing national priorities	The application is in the low point score range for addressing national priorities

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 the need for regulatory measures?	10
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
Total Points		500

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 point score range for addressing state resource concerns	The application is in the medium point score range for addressing state resource concerns	The application is in the low point score range for addressing state resource concerns

Questions:

Sub-heading Number	Question Number	Question	Points
1		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 State priority category.	
	1	1a. Is the program application for development of a TSP-prepared 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.	400
2		Water Quality – EPA Watersheds:	
	1	Does the application include core conservation practices that will be implemented within ¼ mile of a stream or water body that is threatened (i.e., receives significant runoff of excess nitrogen and/or phosphorous), on the EPA 303(d) list, or is impaired with a TMDL in place and therefore not on the 303(d) list (or other critical stream or water body authorized by the Regional Conservationist)?	100

3		Geographic Impacts:	
	1	Are core conservation practices planned on the offered acres? Greater than 75 percent of the offered acres are within the focused watershed AND greater than 75 percent of the offered acres have a core conservation practice planned for application	125
4		Collaborative Efforts:	
	1	Are core conservation practices planned within an existing State agency or other non-USDA water quality project area addressing the same or similar pollutants?	75
5		Effort to address watershed impairments:	
	1	Does this program application include the implementation of a system of conservation practices which address the NWQI primary resource concerns?	50
6		High Risk Soils:	
	1	Are core conservation practices to be implemented on offered acres with a majority of soil types that are classified hydrologic group D (high runoff) or group A (high infiltration)?	50
Maximum Points:			Total Points
			800

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 point score range for addressing local resource concerns	The application is in the medium point score range for addressing local resource concerns	The application is in the low point score range for addressing local resource concerns

Questions:

Sub-heading Number	Question Number	Question	Points
1		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 local priority category.	
	1	Is the program application for development of a TSP prepared Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is "Yes", do not answer any other local level questions. If answer is "No", proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	250
2		Select all that apply to the application	
	1	Will livestock be excluded from all streams on the offered acres?	45
	2	The application includes 393 Filter Strip, or 390 Riparian Herbaceous Cover, or 391 Riparian Forest Buffer.	40
3		Geographic and Resource Priorities	
	1	The area being considered for an EQIP contract is within an impaired watershed shown on the "Impaired Waters of Virginia" Toolkit GIS layer, AND, the application includes practices that address the impairment.	75
	2	The area being considered is within the Chesapeake Bay watershed.	40
	3	Will the project occur within 2 miles of, AND provide a direct benefit to a species that is in the Toolkit layer T&E species (either DGIF or Natural Heritage). The direct benefit shall be confirmed by a biologist and documentation exists to substantiate points awarded.	50
Maximum Points:			Total Points
			500

Selected Resource Concerns and Practices:

Fish and Wildlife - Inadequate Habitat: Inadequate Habitat - Water

Access Control (472)
 Dike (356)
 Drainage Water Management (554)
 Grade Stabilization Structure (410)
 Grassed Waterway (412)
 Irrigation System, Microirrigation (441)
 Pond (378)
 Restoration and Management of Rare and D (643)
 Riparian Forest Buffer (391)
 Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390)
 Sediment Basin (350)
 Spring Development (574)
 Stream Habitat Improvement and Managemen (395)
 Structure for Water Control (587)
 Trails and Walkways (575)
 Water Well (642)
 Watering Facility (614)
 Wetland Creation (658)
 Wetland Enhancement (659)
 Wetland Restoration (657)
 Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management (644)

Water Quality Degradation: Elevated Water Temperature

Access Control (472)
 Early Successional Habitat Development/M (647)
 Forest Stand Improvement (666)
 Hedgerow Planting (422)
 Prescribed Grazing (528)
 Restoration and Management of Rare and D (643)
 Riparian Forest Buffer (391)
 Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390)
 Silvopasture Establishment (381)
 Stream Habitat Improvement and Managemen (395)
 Streambank and Shoreline Protection (580)
 Structure for Water Control (587)
 Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
 Watering Facility (614)

Water Quality Degradation: Excess Pathogens and Chemicals from Manure, Bio-solids or Compost Applications in Groundwater

Access Control (472)
 Amendments for Treatment of Ag Waste (591)
 Animal Mortality Facility (316)
 Composting Facility (317)
 Conservation Cover (327)
 Contour Buffer Strips (332)
 Cover Crop (340)
 Drainage Water Management (554)
 Filter Strip (393)
 Forest Stand Improvement (666)
 Irrigation Pipeline (430)
 Irrigation System, Microirrigation (441)
 Irrigation Water Management (449)
 Karst Sinkhole Treatment (527)
 Livestock Pipeline (516)
 Nutrient Management (590)
 Prescribed Grazing (528)
 Pumping Plant (533)
 Riparian Forest Buffer (391)
 Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390)

- Roofs and Covers (367)
- Sediment Basin (350)
- Silvopasture Establishment (381)
- Subsurface Drain (606)
- Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
- Waste Facility Closure (360)
- Waste Separation Facility (632)
- Waste Storage Facility (313)
- Waste Transfer (634)
- Waste Treatment (629)
- Waste Treatment Lagoon (359)
- Watering Facility (614)
- Well Decommissioning (351)

Water Quality Degradation: Excess Pathogens and Chemicals from Manure, Bio-solids or Compost
Applications in Surface Water

- Access Control (472)
- Amendments for Treatment of Ag Waste (591)
- Anaerobic Digester (366)
- Animal Mortality Facility (316)
- Composting Facility (317)
- Conservation Cover (327)
- Conservation Crop Rotation (328)
- Contour Buffer Strips (332)
- Contour Farming (330)
- Cover Crop (340)
- Diversion (362)
- Drainage Water Management (554)
- Fence (382)
- Field Border (386)
- Filter Strip (393)
- Forage and Biomass Planting (512)
- Forest Stand Improvement (666)
- Grassed Waterway (412)
- Heavy Use Area Protection (561)
- Irrigation Pipeline (430)
- Irrigation System, Microirrigation (441)
- Irrigation Water Management (449)
- Karst Sinkhole Treatment (527)
- Livestock Pipeline (516)
- Nutrient Management (590)
- Pond (378)
- Prescribed Grazing (528)
- Pumping Plant (533)
- Residue and Tillage Management, No-Till (329)
- Residue and Tillage Management, Reduced (345)
- Riparian Forest Buffer (391)
- Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390)
- Roof Runoff Structure (558)
- Sediment Basin (350)
- Silvopasture Establishment (381)
- Spring Development (574)
- Stream Crossing (578)
- Streambank and Shoreline Protection (580)
- Stripcropping (585)
- Trails and Walkways (575)
- Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
- Underground Outlet (620)
- Waste Separation Facility (632)
- Waste Storage Facility (313)
- Waste Transfer (634)
- Waste Treatment (629)

Waste Treatment Lagoon (359)
Water Well (642)
Watering Facility (614)
Wetland Creation (658)
Wetland Enhancement (659)
Wetland Restoration (657)
Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management (644)
Water Quality Degradation: Excessive Sediment in Surface Water
Access Control (472)
Access Road (560)
Brush Management (314)
Conservation Cover (327)
Conservation Crop Rotation (328)
Contour Buffer Strips (332)
Contour Farming (330)
Cover Crop (340)
Critical Area Planting (342)
Diversion (362)
Field Border (386)
Filter Strip (393)
Firebreak (394)
Forage and Biomass Planting (512)
Grade Stabilization Structure (410)
Grassed Waterway (412)
Heavy Use Area Protection (561)
Irrigation Pipeline (430)
Irrigation System, Microirrigation (441)
Irrigation Water Management (449)
Karst Sinkhole Treatment (527)
Lined Waterway or Outlet (468)
Livestock Pipeline (516)
Mulching (484)
Pond (378)
Prescribed Burning (338)
Prescribed Grazing (528)
Pumping Plant (533)
Residue and Tillage Management, No-Till (329)
Residue and Tillage Management, Reduced (345)
Restoration and Management of Rare and D (643)
Riparian Forest Buffer (391)
Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390)
Roof Runoff Structure (558)
Sediment Basin (350)
Silvopasture Establishment (381)
Spring Development (574)
Stream Crossing (578)
Stream Habitat Improvement and Management (395)
Streambank and Shoreline Protection (580)
Stripcropping (585)
Structure for Water Control (587)
Subsurface Drain (606)
Trails and Walkways (575)
Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
Tree/Shrub Site Preparation (490)
Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645)
Watering Facility (614)
Wetland Creation (658)
Wetland Enhancement (659)
Wetland Restoration (657)
Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management (644)
Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment (380)

Water Quality Degradation: Nutrients in Groundwater

- Access Control (472)
- Amendments for Treatment of Ag Waste (591)
- Animal Mortality Facility (316)
- Composting Facility (317)
- Conservation Cover (327)
- Conservation Crop Rotation (328)
- Contour Buffer Strips (332)
- Contour Farming (330)
- Cover Crop (340)
- Critical Area Planting (342)
- Diversion (362)
- Drainage Water Management (554)
- Field Border (386)
- Filter Strip (393)
- Forest Stand Improvement (666)
- Irrigation System, Microirrigation (441)
- Irrigation Water Management (449)
- Karst Sinkhole Treatment (527)
- Lined Waterway or Outlet (468)
- Livestock Pipeline (516)
- Mulching (484)
- Nutrient Management (590)
- Pond (378)
- Prescribed Burning (338)
- Prescribed Grazing (528)
- Pumping Plant (533)
- Residue and Tillage Management, No-Till (329)
- Riparian Forest Buffer (391)
- Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390)
- Roof Runoff Structure (558)
- Sediment Basin (350)
- Silvopasture Establishment (381)
- Subsurface Drain (606)
- Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
- Waste Facility Closure (360)
- Waste Separation Facility (632)
- Waste Storage Facility (313)
- Waste Transfer (634)
- Waste Treatment (629)
- Waste Treatment Lagoon (359)
- Well Decommissioning (351)
- Wetland Creation (658)
- Wetland Enhancement (659)
- Wetland Restoration (657)
- Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment (380)

Water Quality Degradation: Nutrients in Surface water

- Access Control (472)
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Water Quality Degradation: Pesticides in Groundwater
Conservation Cover (327)
Conservation Crop Rotation (328)
Contour Farming (330)
Cover Crop (340)
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Diversion (362)
Drainage Water Management (554)
Field Border (386)
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- Wetland Creation (658)
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