

Initiative Southwestern Willow Flycatcher Fiscal Year 2017 Application Screening Worksheet		
<b><u>A Screening Worksheet must be completed for each eligible EQIP application.</u></b>		
Applicant Name:		
Evaluator Name:		
Date:	Batching Number:	Application No:
<p>EQIP is a competitive financial assistance program and applications are screened and ranked based on the expected conservation benefits of planned practices in the EQIP schedule of operations. This screening worksheet must be completed for each eligible applicant applying for financial assistance. Applications are accepted on a continuous basis; however, application batching periods are established for purposes of ranking and funding decisions. A screening worksheet can be processed for each application batching period. The goal of this screening tool is to ensure that conservation technical assistance and EQIP program benefits are managed efficiently to address priority conservation needs. Completion of this worksheet and documentation does not constitute an agreement to provide EQIP program benefits nor approval of a program contract. The original screening worksheet should be filed with the applicant case file or EQIP program file and unless the application is determined to be ineligible, the screening priority (High, Medium, and Low) must be recorded in ProTracts. Upon request, a copy of any completed screening worksheet may be provided to the applicant.</p>		
<b>Directions:</b> Screening criteria will be answered sequentially beginning with the first question below.		
Screening Criteria Question		Action
The applicant has reviewed and approved the EQIP schedule of operations that will be uploaded to the NRCS business tool, ProTracts, before or by the ranking deadline.		If Yes, continue to the next question. If No, <b>Low Priority</b> Status in ProTracts.
In the last two EQIP program fiscal years, the applicant: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Had a NRCS contract terminated – and/or,</li> <li>Failed to implement contract items in as existing EQIP contract according to the schedule in Form, NRCS-CPA-1155, "Conservation Plan and Schedule of Operations," and the contract was modified to reschedule contract items - installation delays were not due to NRCS error or design delay – and/or,</li> <li>Failed to implement rescheduled contract items agreed to according to Form, NRCS-CPA-153, "Agreement Covering Non-Compliance with Provisions of Contract," and Form, NRCS-CPA-1156, "Revision of Plan/Schedule of Operations or Modification of a Contract," – and/or,</li> <li>Installed conservation practices with financial assistance from NRCS that have not been maintained according to the practice operations and maintenance for the practice lifespan.</li> </ol>		If Yes, <b>Low Priority</b> Status in ProTracts. If No, continue to the next question.
An EQIP schedule of operations where a core practice will not be applied.		If Yes, <b>Low Priority</b> Status in ProTracts. If No, continue to the next question.

Screening Criteria Question		Action
<p>The treatment area in the EQIP schedule of operations is outside the target species "Focal Area", where a core practice will be applied and, in accordance with the state determined criteria that identifies which applications are likely to rank highly and benefit the species. This category also includes those applications within the "Focal Area" where a core practice will not be installed on the entire contract acres.</p>		<p>If Yes, <b>Medium Priority</b> Status in ProTracts. If No, continue to the next question.</p>
<p>Both of the following are true:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conservation practices in the EQIP schedule of operations are supported by a NRCS approved Southwestern Willow Flycatcher Habitat Management Plan.</li> <li>• The treatment area in the EQIP schedule of operations is within the target species "Focal Area" where a core practice will be applied on all treated acres or, in instances where a supporting practice is necessary to implement the core practice, where a core or supporting practice will be applied on all treated acres.</li> </ul>		<p>If Yes, <b>High Priority</b> Status in ProTracts. If No, <b>Low Priority</b> Status in ProTracts.</p>
<p><b>Application Screening Priority:</b></p>		
<p>Designated Conservationist Approval Signature:</p>		<p>Date Approved:</p>