

Iowa EQIP Prescreening Tool – 10/1/2017

Instructions:

This Prescreening Tool will be completed for each eligible producer applying for EQIP assistance under _____ fund code. The goal of this Prescreening Tool is to ensure that conservation technical assistance and EQIP program benefits are efficiently allocated to address priority conservation needs. Completion of this worksheet and documentation does not constitute agreement to provide EQIP program benefits or approval of an EQIP contract. The original Prescreening Tool worksheet must be filed with the applicant case file or EQIP program file and the screening priority (High, Medium, and/or Low) will be recorded in ProTracts. Upon request, a copy of any completed Prescreening Tool may be provided to the applicant. **All applications must be entered in ProTracts, including priority determination and estimate of EQIP cost. High priority applications will be ranked. Medium priority applications will not be ranked until all High priority applications have been funded. Low Priority applications will not be ranked.**

Applicant Name: _____ County: _____
 Application Number: _____ Field Office: _____
 Evaluator Name: _____ Date: _____

- A. The application includes planned practices that are 3 or better on the CPPE Matrix for Soil Erosion on Crop.**
 Yes (3 points) No (0 points)
- A-2. The application includes the use of summer construction on Crop for structural practices to spread out workload.**
 Yes (2 points) No (0 points) N/A (0 points)
- B. Do the planned practices in the application address the identified Ag related nonpoint source impairment(s) within one of the following approved water quality project areas: TMDL, Watershed Protection Fund (WSPF), Water Protection Fund (WPF), EPA 319 Project, Watershed Management Authority Watersheds, or Iowa Water Quality Initiative (WQI) Watersheds?**
 Yes (3 points) No (0 points) N/A (0 points)
- B-2. The planned practices directly benefit (adjacent to) the impaired stream or water body from question B above.**
 Yes (2 points) No (0 points) N/A (0 points)
- B-3. Planned practices are located in a locally identified priority watershed. (Not part of B or B-2)**
 Yes (2 points) No (0 points)
- C. The application includes management practices that will be installed on the same land for 3 consecutive years.**
 Yes (3 points) No (0 points) N/A (0 points)
- D. The application includes planned practices that are 3 or better on the CPPE Matrix for the identified Resource Concerns Degraded Plant Condition, Soil Quality Degradation, or Inadequate Habitat for Fish and Wildlife.**
 Yes (3 points) No (0 points)
- E. Applicant was notified of a contract violation for reasons within their control. NRCS took appropriate contract administration action to enforce the contract.**
 Yes (- 2 points) No (0 points) N/A (1 point)
- E-2. Applicant had a previous contract terminated within the past 3 years for reasons within their control.**
 Yes (- 6 points) No (0 points)
- F. Is this application for a Livestock Waste Facility that will treat all the existing livestock waste resource concerns for the entire facility with up to 25% expansion [Less than 1,000 Combined AU's facilities within 1,250 ft. are considered one facility? More than 1,000 combined AU's facilities within 2,500 ft. are considered one facility]. If the app. includes planned expansion greater than 25%, answer N/A.**
 Yes (3 points) No (0 points) N/A (0 points)
- G. Application is for a Livestock Waste Facility where manure is planned to be exported where there is no NRCS 590 Nutrient Management Plan, State Nutrient Management Plan or Manure Management Plan for the land application of the manure?**
 Yes (- 2 points) No (0 points) N/A (0 points)
- H. Is the application for a Livestock Waste Facility that existed 5 years previous to the beginning of the current Fiscal Year, and currently has an identified resource concern?**
 Yes (2 points) No (- 15 points) N/A (0 points)

Total Points: _____

Determination for ProTracts – Select One: High Priority Medium Priority Low Priority

D.C. Approval: _____

Date Approved: _____

Prescreening Tool Description:

At the end of the first round batching period an office will determine if the Prescreening Tool will be used for each Sub-account. If the Prescreening Tool is used on a subaccount it must be used on that subaccount for the rest of the FY.

Prescreening Tool Instructions:

Conservation Activity Plans (CAP) are automatically a High Priority. For all other applications follow instructions below:

- All applications will be entered into Protracts with an estimated (program) cost and priority (high, medium or low).
- If using the Prescreening Tool to determine priority, all applications in the subaccount must be screened.
- All High Priority applications will be ranked in Protracts.
- When all High Priority applications have been selected for funding Medium Priority applications will be ranked in Protracts, unless asked to rank Medium Priority applications due to lack of applications in the High Priority.
- Low Priority applications will not be ranked in Protracts.

If a subaccount has any application(s) that include CAFO practices all applications in that subaccount must use the State Prescreening Tool. All Historically Underserved (HU) subaccounts must also use the State Prescreening Tool.

Priorities are established at the following levels for the HU and CAFO Subaccounts:

High Priority = 9 or more points

Medium Priority = 4-8 points

Low Priority = 3 points or less

If using the Prescreening Tool to determine priority for local subaccounts choose one of the following methods to determine priority. Local sub accounts should not have a Pre-screened High Priority lower than 4 points. Any application with a "0" or below from the Prescreening Tool will be a Low Priority.

- 1) Sort applications by Prescreening Tool score. Multiply the fund code's allocation by 150%. High Priority applications are those whose cumulative estimated cost falls within 150% of the fund code's allocation. Medium Priority applications are those whose cumulative estimated cost falls between 150% and 300% of the fund code allocation. Example: Fund code allocation of \$100,000 X 150% = \$150,000. The cutoff point for High Priority is all sorted applications above the cumulative total of \$150,000.
- 2) Sort applications by Prescreening Tool score. Choose a percentage of the applications for each priority level. Set the break at a whole point cutoff. Example: Set the High Priority for the top third of the applications, Medium as middle third and Low as the bottom third. If the top 20% is at 6 points and when you reach down to 5 points it includes a total of 40% of the applications you could cut off the High Priority at 5 points. The breakdown you establish on the cut off for the points should be based on spreading out your workload. The splits you establish should help to spread applications throughout the High, Medium and Low Priorities.
- 3) If not using the Prescreening tool, all applications are ranked and the application priority is based on the following ranking criteria:
 - High – Equal to or greater than 40.01 points
 - Medium – 20.01 to 40.00 points
 - Low – Equal to or less than 20.00 points