

Agriculture Conservation Easement Program - Wetland Reserve Easements

Ranking Criteria

Vegetation Question		
	Answer Choices	Points
On what percent of the application acres will planned vegetative practices be applied?	90 -100	10
	80-89%	8
	70 -79	5
	60-69%	2
	Less than 60%	0

Hydrology Questions		
	Answer Choices	Points
What percent of the easement area will be restored with planned practices, where pre-agriculture hydrology was degraded or drained?	75 - 100	25
	74 - 50	18
	25 - 49	10
	5-24	5
	Less than 5	0
What percent of the acres to be restored hydrologically will be to historic conditions?	75 - 100	25
	74 - 50	18
	5 - 49	10
	Less than 5	0

Water Quality Questions		
	Answer Choices	Points
What percent of the application acres will improve water quality, where planned practices will be applied?	Greater than 75	25
	74 - 40	18
	39 - 5	10
	Less than 5	0
Does any part of the ACEP-WRE application area fall within the boundaries of an Illinois Source Water Protection Watershed?	Yes	20
	No	0

Operation and Maintenance Question		
	Answer Choices	Points
What is the expected frequency of maintenance and management, for the planned hydrological restoration practices in order to meet the objectives of the WRPO?	Minimal or no maintenance of the planned hydrological practices, for restoration, will be required to maintain the wetland conditions.	20
	Infrequent maintenance is required to maintain the wetland conditions.	10
	Long term, frequent maintenance to repair or replace hydrological practices and/or loss of vegetative practices.	0

Restoration Cost Question		
	Answer Choices	Points
What is the preliminary cost, per acre, to restore the easement?	100-400 dollars per acre	30
	401-800 dollars per acre	20
	801-1200 dollars per acre	10
	Cost is less than 100 or above 1200 dollars per acre	0

Habitat for wetland dependent migratory birds,Question		
	Answer Choices	Points
What percentage of the application area will provide habitat for wetland dependent migratory birds?	Greater than 75% of the application area will provide habitat for wetland dependant migratory birds.	10
	50-74% of the application area will provide habitat for wetland dependant migratory birds.	5
	25-49% of the application area will provide habitat for wetland dependant migratory birds.	2
	Less than 25% of the application area will provide habitat for wetland dependant migratory birds.	0

Permanently protected habitat Questions		
	Answer Choices	Points
Proximity of the application area to permanently protected area(s).	Adjoins	20
	2-10 miles of a protected area.	5
	Greater than 10 miles or less than two miles of a protected area.	0

Permanently protected habitat Questions (continued)

	Answer Choices	Points
Is any of the application area located within a priority area of the "Illinois Wildlife Action Plan Wetlands Campaign"?	Is any part of the application area within a Priority tier 2 and adjacent to a Priority tier 3?	20
	Is any part of the application within a Priority tier 2 only?	10
	None of the application area is located within any Priority tiers.	0

Threatened and Endangered Species Questions

	Answer Choices	Points
Will an identified Threatened and/or Endangered Species utilize the application area, based on the WRPO?	The identified species will utilize the application area within 5 years of completion of the WRPO.	20
	The identified species will utilize the application area after 5 years but within 10 year, of completion of the WRPO.	10
	The identified species will utilize the application area after 10 years of completion of the WRPO.	5
	Low likelihood of any Threatened or Endangered species using the fully restored easement.	0