Ranking Tool Summary

for FY2019 - A4 AFO

(Draft)

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:

Questions:

Sub-heading Number	Question Number	Question	Points
1		The application is for the 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 1.1 will result in the application being awarded the maximum amount of points that can be earned for the State priority category.	
	1	The program application to support the development of a 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.	300
2		SOIL EROSION	
	1	Application of contracted practices for the area of consideration will address at least one of the SOIL EROSION resource concerns to the planning criteria. (Can only answer yes to one of 2-1 – 2-3)	35
	2	Application of contracted practices for the area of consideration will improve at least one of the SOIL EROSION resource concerns, but not reach planning criteria. (Can only answer yes to one of 2-1 – 2-3)	20
	3	Application of contracted practices for the area of consideration will improve at least one of the SOIL EROSION resource concerns, where planning criteria is already met. (Can only answer yes to one of 2-1 – 2-3)	5
	4	SHEET, RILL, AND WIND EROSION - The application of contracted practices will have a positive effect according to the CPPE Matrix.	15
	5	CONCENTRATED FLOW EROSION - The application of contracted practices will have a positive effect according to the CPPE Matrix.	10
	6	EXCESSIVE BANK EROSION FROM STREAMS, SHORELINES OR WATER CONVEYANCE CHANNELS - The application of contracted practices will have a positive effect according to the CPPE Matrix.	5
3		SOIL QUALITY DEGRADATION	
	1	Application of contracted practices for the area of consideration will address at least one of the SOIL QUALITY DEGRADATION resource concerns to the planning criteria. (Can only answer yes to one of 3-1 – 3-3)	25
	2	Application of contracted practices for the area of consideration will improve at least one of the SOIL QUALITY DEGRADATION resource concerns, but not reach planning criteria. (Can only answer yes to one of 3-1 – 3-3)	12
	3	Application of contracted practices for the area of consideration will improve at least one of the SOIL QUALITY DEGRADATION resource concerns, where planning criteria is already met. (Can only answer yes to one of 3-1 – 3-3)	5
	4	ORGANIC MATTER DEPLETION - The application of contracted practices will have a positive effect according to the CPPE Matrix.	15
	5	COMPACTION - The application of contracted practices will have a positive effect according to the CPPE Matrix.	10
4		WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION	
	1	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?	10

	2	Application of contracted practices for the area of consideration will address at least one of the WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION resource concerns to the planning criteria. (Can only answer yes to one of 4-2 – 4-4)	35
	3	Application of contracted practices for the area of consideration will improve at least one of the WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION resource concerns, but not reach planning criteria. (Can only answer yes to one of 4-2 - 4-4)	20
	4	Application of contracted practices for the area of consideration will improve at least one of the WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION resource concerns, where planning criteria is already met. (Can only answer yes to one of 4-2 - 4-4)	5
	5	EXCESS NUTRIENTS in SURFACE and GROUND WATERS - The application of contracted practices will have a positive effect according to the CPPE Matrix.	15
	6	EXCESS SEDIMENT in SURFACE WATER - The application of contracted practices will have a positive effect according to the CPPE Matrix.	15
	7	PESTICIDES TRANSPORTED to SURFACE and GROUND WATERS - The application of contracted practices will have a positive effect according to the CPPE Matrix.	5
	8	EXCESS PATHOGENS and CHEMICALS from MANURE, BIO-SOLIDS, or COMPOST APPLICATIONS - The application of contracted practices will have a positive effect according to the CPPE Matrix.	5
5		DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION LIMITATIONS	
	1	Application of contracted practices for the area of consideration will address at least one of the DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION or LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION LIMITATIONS resource concerns to the planning criteria. (Can only answer yes to one of 5-1 – 5-3)	35
	2	Application of contracted practices for the area of consideration will improve at least one of the DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION or LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION LIMITATIONS resource concerns, but not reach planning criteria. (Can only answer yes to one of 5-1 – 5-3)	20
	3	Application of contracted practices for the area of consideration will improve at least one of the DEGRADED PLANT CONDITION or LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION LIMITATIONS resource concerns, where planning criteria is already met. (Can only answer yes to one of 5-1 – 5-3)	5
	4	UNDESIRABLE PLANT PRODUCTIVITY AND HEALTH - The application of contracted practices will have a positive effect according to the CPPE Matrix.	10
	5	INADEQUATE FEED AND FORAGE - The application of contracted practices will have a positive effect according to the CPPE Matrix.	7
	6	INADEQUATE LIVESTOCK WATER - The application of contracted practices will have a positive effect according to the CPPE Matrix.	7
	7	EXCESSIVE PLANT PEST PRESSURE - The application of contracted practices will have a positive effect according to the CPPE Matrix.	6
6		INADEQUATE HABITAT FOR FISH & WILDLIFE	
	1	Application of contracted practices for the area of consideration will address at least one of the INADEQUATE HABITAT for FISH and WILDLIFE resource concerns to the planning criteria. (Can only answer yes to one of 6-1 – 6-3)	35
	2	Application of contracted practices for the area of consideration will improve at least one of the INADEQUATE HABITAT for FISH and WILDLIFE resource concerns, but not reach planning criteria. (Can only answer yes to one of 6-1 – 6-3)	20
	3	Application of contracted practices for the area of consideration will improve at least one of the INADEQUATE HABITAT for FISH and WILDLIFE resource concerns, where planning criteria is already met. (Can only answer yes to one of 6-1 – 6-3)	5
		Maximum Points: 300 Total Points	717

Local Issues:

Questions:

Sub-heading Number	Question Number	Question	Points
	1	Is the program application for the development of a 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.	350
	2	Application addresses Degraded Plant Condition or Fish and Wildlife Resource concern(s).	28
	3	Application addresses Water Quality Degradation resource concern(s)	53
	4	Application addresses Soil Erosion Resource Concern(s)	78
	5	Application addresses Soil Quality Degradation Resource Concern(s)	138
	6	Application area is predominantly located in a locally identified priority watershed and application treat the specific resource concerns of that priority area. Watersheds are listed on the county website information page.	53
		Maximum Points: 350 Total Points	700