

<p>Cropland EQIP Fund Pool Fiscal Year 2017 Application Screening Worksheet <u>A Screening Worksheet must be completed for each eligible EQIP application.</u></p>		
<p>Applicant Name:</p>		
<p>Evaluator Name:</p>		
<p>Date:</p>	<p>Batching Number:</p>	<p>Application No:</p>
<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>		
<p>Directions: If the application does not meet any of the following scenarios determine application priority using screening criteria factors. Designate the application priority in ProTracts. Only rank High Priority applications. DO NOT assign a Tracking Code to ANY application.</p>		
<p>If Yes to any, Low Priority Status in ProTracts. If No to all, continue to priority based screening factors.</p>	<p>In the last two EQIP program fiscal years, the applicant:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Had a NRCS contract cancelled or terminated due to circumstances within the applicant’s control – and/or, b. Failed to implement contract items in an 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 or adverse weather conditions outside the participant’s control–and/or, c. 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 d. Installed conservation practices with financial assistance from NRCS that have not been maintained according to the practice operations and maintenance for the practice lifespan. 	

Priority Based on Screening Criteria Factors			
High Priority Status in ProTracts		40 or greater Screening Factor Points	
Medium Priority Status in ProTracts		20-39 Screening Factor Points Scored	
Low Priority Status in ProTracts		0-19 Screening Factor Points Scored	
EQIP application will assist in improving existing conservation practices or systems that are in place at the time the application is accepted or that complete a conservation system.			10 points
Conservation practices in the EQIP schedule of operations are scheduled to be implemented within three years of the obligation date.			10 points
Choose ONE of the following based on the CPA-52 developed for this application			
Scheduled practices in the EQIP schedule of operations address FOUR of the local resource priorities listed below			30 points
Scheduled practices in the EQIP schedule of operations address THREE of the local resource priorities listed below.			25 points
Scheduled practices in the EQIP schedule of operations address TWO of the local resource priorities listed below.			20 points
Scheduled practices in the EQIP application schedule of operations address ONE of the local resource priorities listed below.			10 points
Mark the box with an 'X' for the resource concern(s) addressed by conservation practices in the EQIP application schedule of operations.			
Soil Quality Degradation			
	Compaction		
	Organic Matter Depletion		
Soil Erosion			
	Classic Gully Erosion		
	Sheet and Rill Erosion		
Insufficient Water			
	Inefficient Use of Irrigation Water		
Water Quality Degradation			
	Excess Nutrients in Surface Water		
	Pesticides in Ground Water		
	Excess Sediment in Surface Water		
Inadequate Habitat for Fish and Wildlife			
	Inadequate Habitat Cover/Shelter		
Total Screening Points (if applicable):			
Application Screening Priority:			
Natural Resource Planner Approval Signature:		Date Approved:	