

**Natural Resources Conservation Service
Application Ranking Summary
FY17 Air Quality National**

Program: EQIP 2014	Ranking Date:
Ranking Tool: FY17 Air Quality National	
Final Ranking Score:	
Planner:	
Farm Location:	

National Priorities Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
If the application is for 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 1a will result in the application being awarded the maximum amount of points that can be earned for the national priority category.	
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 Point(s)
Water Quality Degradation – Will the proposed project improve water quality by: (select all that apply)	
2. a. Implementing the practices in a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP)?	15 Point(s)
2. b. Implementing the practices in a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP)?	10 Point(s)
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 Point(s)
2. d. Reducing the impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides in a “non-impaired water body”?	10 Point(s)
2. e. Implementing practices that improve water quality through animal mortality and carcass management?	10 Point(s)
Water Conservation – Will the proposed project conserve water by: (select all that apply)	

3. a. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce aquifer overdraft.	15 Point(s)
3. b. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce on-farm water use?	10 Point(s)
3. c. Implementing practices in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	10 Point(s)
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 Point(s)
Air Quality - Will the proposed project improve air quality by: (select all that apply)	
4. a. Meeting on-farm regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	10 Point(s)
4. b. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm emissions of particulate matter (PM2.5, PM10)?	10 Point(s)
4. c. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm generated greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide (CO ₂), methane (CH ₄), and nitrous oxide (N ₂ O)?	10 Point(s)
4. d. Implementing practices that increase on-farm carbon sequestration?	10 Point(s)
Soil Health:- Will the proposed project improve soil health by: (select all that apply)	
5. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil "T")?	10 Point(s)
5. b. Increasing organic matter and carbon content, and improving soil tilth and structure?	10 Point(s)
Wildlife Habitat – Will the proposed project improve wildlife habitat by: (select all that apply)	
6. a. Implementing practices benefitting threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern.	10 Point(s)
6. b. Implementing practices that retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) or other set-aside program?	10 Point(s)
6. c. Implementing practices benefitting honey bee populations or other pollinators?	10 Point(s)
6. d. Implementing land-based practices that improve habitat for aquatic wildlife?	10 Point(s)

Plant and Animal Communities: Will the proposed project improve plant and animal communities by: (select all that apply)	
7. a. Implementing practices that result in the management control of noxious or invasive plant species on non-cropland?	10 Point(s)
7. b. Implementing practice in an Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM)?	10 Point(s)
Energy Conservation– Will the proposed project reduce energy use by: (select all that apply)	
8. a. Reducing on-farm energy consumption?	10 Point(s)
8. b. Implementing practice(s) identified in an approved AgEMP or energy audit, which meet ASABE S612 criteria?	10 Point(s)
Business Lines – Will the practices to be scheduled in the “EQIP Plan of Operations” result in:	
9. a. Enhancement of existing conservation practice(s) or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is received?	10 Point(s)

State Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
Geographical. Answer only ONE of the following questions (1-3), if applicable.	
1. Is project located in Boulder, Larimer, or Weld county?	150 Point(s)
2. Is project located in Adams, Arapahoe, or Morgan county?	100 Point(s)
3. Is project located in other counties eligible for this program?	75 Point(s)
Livestock Sources. Answer any or all of the following questions (4-14), if applicable.	
4. Do project activities positively impact effectiveness results in critical areas (ammonia) cited in NAQSAT - Through feed management?	40 Point(s)
5. Do project activities positively impact effectiveness results in critical areas (ammonia) cited in NAQSAT - Through manure management?	30 Point(s)
6. Do project activities positively impact effectiveness results in critical areas (ammonia) cited in NAQSAT - Through wastewater management?	20 Point(s)
7. Do project activities positively impact effectiveness results in critical areas (ammonia) cited in NAQSAT - Through composting?	10 Point(s)

8. Will planned practices reduce particulate matter (PM 2.5 and 10) emissions?	25 Point(s)
9. Will practices reduce GHG (Methane, CO2, N2O, others) emissions - Through feed management?	20 Point(s)
10. Will practices reduce GHG (Methane, CO2, N2O, others) emissions - Through waste management?	20 Point(s)
11. Will practices reduce GHG (Methane, CO2, N2O, others) emissions - Through ventilation systems?	20 Point(s)
12. Will control of emissions from buildings reduce odors and PM?	25 Point(s)
13. Has the producer or will the producer participate in Early Warning System for ag producers?	25 Point(s)
14. Will livestock pens be graded to manage drainage from facility?	15 Point(s)

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. Will a nutrient management plan developed by NRCS, TSP, or Crop Consultant be implemented - Using split nitrogen applications?	15 Point(s)
2. Will a nutrient management plan developed by NRCS, TSP, or Crop Consultant be implemented - Using fertigation for irrigated crop applications?	15 Point(s)
3. Will a nutrient management plan developed by NRCS, TSP, or Crop Consultant be implemented - Using variable rate application?	20 Point(s)
4. Will a nutrient management plan developed by NRCS, TSP, or Crop Consultant be implemented - Using below-ground or subsurface injection or <u>kniving</u> methods?	20 Point(s)
5. Will a nutrient management plan developed by NRCS, TSP, or Crop Consultant be implemented - Using a stabilizing or volatilization-reducing additive?	20 Point(s)
6. Will a nutrient management plan developed by NRCS, TSP, or Crop Consultant be implemented - Using slow-release fertilizer formulations?	20 Point(s)
7. Will organic nutrients be applied to the land - From producer's own operation?	25 Point(s)
8. Will organic nutrients be applied to the land - Through subsurface injection?	25 Point(s)
9. Will organic nutrients be applied to the land - Through a sprinkler application system based on crop needs?	25 Point(s)

10. Will organic nutrients be applied to the land - Through application of composted agricultural waste?	25 Point(s)
11. Are cover crops going to be used to reduce nutrient loss?	25 Point(s)
12. Will planned improvements reduce NOx emissions?	15 Point(s)

This ranking report is for your information. It does not in any way guarantee funding. When funding becomes available, you will be notified if your application is selected for funding. Some changes to the application may be required before a final contract