

## CSP Ranking Questions

### National Issue Questions:

1. Programmatically, there are ten resource concerns that can be addressed through the implementation of conservation activities. The resource concerns are soil erosion, soil quality degradation, excess water, insufficient water, water quality degradation, air quality impacts, degraded plant condition, inadequate habitat for fish and wildlife, livestock production limitation, and inefficient energy use. Use this information to answer question 1. Using the CAET Summary Report completed for this application, identify the one land use (Crop, Pasture, Range, or Forest) with the smallest number of resource concerns planned to be met or exceeded by the implementation of a new conservation activity. Choose the response that is the best match. Note: Associated Ag Land and Farmstead land uses are excluded from consideration.

1. a. All applicable resource concerns have a new conservation activity planned.

2. b. Seven to nine resource concerns have a new conservation activity planned. If range is the land use with the smallest number of resource concerns planned, seven resource concerns have a new conservation activity planned.

3. c. Four to six resource concerns have a new conservation activity planned.

4. d. One to three resource concerns have a new conservation activity planned.

2. Does the application have CRP lands transitioning to CSP? Choose the response that is the best match.

1. a. All transitioning CRP acres will maintain a permanent cover for the term of the CSP contract.

2. b. 50-99% of the transitioning CRP acres will maintain a permanent cover for the term of the CSP contract.

3. c. 25-49% of the transitioning acres will maintain a permanent cover for the term of the contract.

3. Using the CAET Summary Report completed for this application, identify the one land use (Crop, Pasture, Range, or Forest) with the smallest number of resource concerns met at the time of application. Choose the response that is the best match. Note: Associated Ag Land and Farmstead land uses are excluded from consideration.

1. a. All applicable resource concerns are met at time of application.

2. b. More than 50% of the resource concerns are met at the time of application.

3. c. More than two resource concerns are met at the time of application.

4. When are conservation activities planned in the contract offer on all land uses? Choose the response that is the best match.

1. a. All planned conservation activities will be adopted within the first 12 months.

2. b. All planned conservation activities will be adopted within the first 24 months.

5. c. All planned conservation activities will be adopted within the first 36 months.

5. Using the CAET Summary Report, identify the one land use (Crop, Pasture, Range, or Forest) with the fewest number of conservation activities planned. Choose the response that is the best match. Note: Associated Ag Land and Farmstead land uses are excluded from consideration.

1. a. Planned conservation activities cover 75% or greater of the land use acres.

2. b. Planned conservation activities cover 50-74% of the land use acres.

3. c. Planned conservation activities cover 25-49% of the land use acres.

6. Does the application include enhancement bundles? Choose the response that is the best match. Note: Associated Ag Land and Farmstead land uses are excluded from consideration.

1. a. Considering every land use in the application, at least one bundle is planned on each land use.

2. b. Considering applications with more than one land use, at least one bundle is planned on one or more of the land uses, but not all.

7. Will the producer improve wildlife habitat for T&E species or species of concern by adopting one of the following conservation activity options?

1. a. Producer will adopt at least one wildlife bundle.

2. b. Producer will adopt at least two individual wildlife conservation activities.

3. c. Producer will adopt one wildlife conservation activity.

8. Will the producer improve the resource concern Soil Quality Degradation to address soil health by adopting one of the following conservation activity options?

1. a. Producer will adopt at least one soil health bundle.

2. b. Producer will adopt at least two individual soil quality degradation conservation activities.

3. c. Producer will adopt one soil quality degradation conservation activity.

<b>State Issue Questions</b>
1. Using the CAET Summary Report completed for this application, identify the one land use (Crop, Pasture, Range, or Forest) with the smallest number of targeted resource concerns met at the time of application. Choose the response that is the best match. Note: Associated Ag Land and Farmstead land uses are excluded from consideration.
1. a. All five targeted resource concerns are met.
2. b. Four targeted resource concerns are met.
3. c. Three targeted resource concerns are met.
4. d. Two targeted resource concerns are met.
5. e. One targeted resource concerns are met.
6. f. No targeted resource concern is met.
2. Using the CAET Summary Report completed for this application, identify the one land use (Crop, Pasture, Range, or Forest) with the smallest number of targeted resource concerns met by the end of the contract period. Choose the response that is the best match. Note: Associated Ag Land and Farmstead land uses are excluded from consideration.
1. a. All five targeted resource concerns will be met.
2. b. Four targeted resource concerns will be met.
3. c. Three targeted resource concerns will be met.
4. d. Two targeted resource concerns will be met.
5. e. One targeted resource concerns will be met.
6. f. No targeted resource concerns will be met.
3. Using the CAET Summary Report, identify the one land use (Crop, Pasture, Range, or Forest) with the smallest number of non-targeted resource concerns met by the end of the contract period. Choose the response that is the best match.
1. a. All five non-targeted resource concerns will be met.
2. b. Four non-targeted resource concerns will be met.
3. c. Three non-targeted resource concerns will be met.
4. d. Two non-targeted resource concerns will be met.
5. e. One non-targeted resource concerns will be met.
6. f. No non-targeted resource concerns will be met.
4. If the majority of the land (51% or greater) in the contract offer is within a State designated priority sub-geographic area of the designated fund pool (see delineated areas supplied by the State), answer question 4. Otherwise skip to the next question. Using the CAET Summary Report, how many out of all ten resource concerns will be met by the end of the contract in the priority area (add up the total number of unique resource concerns met across all land uses in the application; only count a resource concern one time even if the same resource concern is met across multiple land uses in the application)?
1. a. 10 resource concerns are met. If applicant's only land use is range, 8 resource concerns are met.
2. b. 8-9 resource concerns will be met. If applicant's only land use is range, do not select this response.
3. c. 6-7 resource concerns will be met.
4. d. 4-5 resource concerns will be met.
5. e. 2-3 resource concerns will be met.
6. f. 0-1 resource concerns will be met.
7. g. The majority of the land is NOT in a state designated priority sub-geographic area.
5. If the majority of the land (51% or greater) in the contract offer is within an airshed targeted for air quality improvement efforts (see delineated areas supplied by the State), answer question 5. Otherwise skip to the next question. Using the CAET Summary Report, how many of the 9 remaining resource concerns will be met by the end of the contract in addition to air quality (add up the total number of unique resource concerns met across all land uses in the application; only count a resource concern one time even if the same resource concern is met across multiple land uses in the application)?
1. a. 9 resource concerns are met. If applicant's only land use is range, 7 resource concerns are met.
2. b. 7-8 resource concerns are met. If applicant's only land use is range, do not select this response.
3. c. 5-6 resource concerns are met.
4. d. 3-4 resource concerns are met.
5. e. 1-2 resource concerns are met.
6. f. The majority of the land is NOT in a state designated priority airshed for air quality improvement.

6. If the majority of the land (51% or greater) in the contract offer is within a watershed targeted for water quality improvement efforts (see delineated areas supplied by the State), answer question 6. Otherwise skip. Using the CAET Summary Report, how many of the 9 remaining resource concerns will be met by the end of the contract in addition to water quality (add up the total number of unique resource concerns met across all land uses in the application; only count a resource concern one time even if the same resource concern is met across multiple land uses in the application)?

1. a. 9 resource concerns are met. If applicant's only land use is range, 7 resource concerns are met.

2. b. 7-8 resource concerns are met. If applicant's only land use is range, do not select this response.

3. c. 5-6 resource concerns are met.

4. d. 3-4 resource concerns are met.

5. e. 1-2 resource concerns are met.

6. f. The majority of the land is NOT in a state designated priority watershed for water quality improvement.

### Local Issue Questions

Answer "Yes" or "No" to the following questions:

1. Will the resource concern "Water Quality – Excessive Nutrients in Surface Water" or "Water Quality – Excessive Nutrients in Ground Water" be treated through the use of conservation activities included in this application?

2. Will the planned conservation activity improve, restore, develop, or protect habitat for a state or federally listed threatened or endangered species?

3. Is at least 50% of the operation located in a priority watershed, as identified by the local working group, and will include at least one enhancement to address a water quality resource concern?

4. Will the conservation activities planned on enrolled land improve plant structure and composition currently threatened by invasive species?

5. Does the application include two or more enhancements in one land use type (Cropland, Pasture, Forest, Farmstead, Associated Ag)?

6. Was the planner able to use "Planning Criteria" for at least 50% of the CAET questions?

A soil quality conservation activity will be performed on: (choose one of the following)

7. a. 75-100% of the enrolled acres

7. b. 50-74% of the enrolled acres

7. c. 25-49% of the enrolled acres