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## Ranking Tool Summary for FY2016 - Oyster Reef Restoration Initiative (Draft)

### Description:

Welcome to the Rhode Island Oyster Reef Restoration Initiative (RIORRI) ranking tool.

### Land Uses:

Associated Agriculture Land, Water

### Efficiency Score:

Scoring Multiplier: 10.000

### Optional Notes:

### National Priorities:

Scoring Multiplier: 0.900

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,	10

	or species of concern.	
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:**

Scoring Multiplier: 0.900

Questions:

Sub-heading Number	Question Number	Question	Points
	1	Is the applicant establishing oyster reefs in the same biosecurity zone as where the oysters will be grown?	150
	2	Is this the applicants first EQIP contract to establish oyster reefs?	100
Maximum Points:			Total Points
			250

**Local Issues:**

Scoring Multiplier: 0.900

Questions:

Sub-heading Number	Question Number	Question	Points
	1	If approved for funding, will this be the applicants first EQIP contract for oyster restoration work?	25
	2	Is the applicant applying as historically underserved?	175
	3	Is the restoration site in the same waterbody or coastal pond as the aquaculture farm?	200
Maximum Points:			Total Points
			400

**Selected Resource Concerns and Practices:**

Fish and Wildlife - Inadequate Habitat: Inadequate Habitat - Cover/Shelter  
 Access Control (472)

Restoration and Management of Declining (643)

Fish and Wildlife - Inadequate Habitat: Inadequate Habitat - Food  
 Access Control (472)

Restoration and Management of Declining (643)

Fish and Wildlife - Inadequate Habitat: Inadequate Habitat - Habitat Continuity (Space)  
 Access Control (472)

Restoration and Management of Declining (643)

Water Quality Degradation: Excessive Sediment in Surface Water

Access Control (472)  
Restoration and Management of Declining (643)  
Water Quality Degradation: Nutrients in Surface water  
Access Control (472)  
Restoration and Management of Declining (643)

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