

Ranking Tool Summary

for FY2016 - FY16 On-Farm Energy CAPS

(Draft)

Description:

FY15 On-Farm Energy CAPS

Land Uses:

Crop, Farmstead, Pasture

National Priorities:

Scoring Multiplier: 1.000

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 |

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| 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:

Scoring Multiplier: 1.000

Questions:

| Sub-heading Number | Question Number | Question | Points |
|--------------------|-----------------|---|--------|
| 1 | | Conservation Activity Plan (CAP) - | |
| | 1 | Is the application for the development of CAP 128 Agricultural Energy Management Plan (AgEMP)? If “Yes”, do not answer any of the following questions below. | 400 |
| 2 | | AgEMP or Energy Audit - Answer one of the following questions regarding the practices recommended in the applicant’s Agricultural Energy Management Plan (AgEMP) or On-Farm Energy Audit that meets the ASABE S612 Performing On-Farm Energy Audits Comprehensive Type 2 standards, which has been completed or updated in the last four years. | |
| | 2 | a Does the EQIP Plan/Schedule of Operations include all eligible practices recommended in an AgEMP or On-Farm Energy Audit? | 100 |
| | 2 | b If the EQIP Plan/Schedule of Operations does not include all eligible practices recommended in an AgEMP or On-Farm Energy Audit, does it include two or more eligible practices recommended? | 50 |
| 3 | | Water Conservation – Will the proposed project conserve water by: (select all that apply) | |
| | 3 | a Implementing irrigation practices that reduce energy use and reduce aquifer overdraft? | 50 |
| | 3 | b Implementing practices that recycle or re-use water? | 50 |
| 4 | | Air Quality - Will the proposed project improve air quality by: (answer one of the following) | |
| | 4 | a Implementing energy practices that have been evaluated to reduce on-farm generated carbon dioxide (CO2) by 50,000 pounds or greater? | 100 |
| | 4 | b Implementing energy practices that have been evaluated to reduce on-farm generated carbon dioxide (CO2) by at least 10,000 pounds, but less than 50,000 pounds? | 50 |

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| | 4 | c Implementing energy practices that have been evaluated to reduce on-farm generated carbon dioxide (CO2) by less than 10,000 pounds? | 25 |
| 5 | | Energy Cost Efficiency - Use the Energy Cost Efficiency Worksheet to calculate the Estimated Energy Cost Efficiency for the practices in the EQIP Plan/Schedule of Operations. Use the resulting value to answer one of the following: | |
| | 5 | a Is the Estimated Energy Cost Efficiency more than 50%? | 100 |
| | 5 | b Is the Estimated Energy Cost Efficiency between 30% and 50%? | 50 |
| | 5 | c Is the Estimated Energy Cost Efficiency less than 30%? | 25 |
| | | Maximum Points: 400 Total Points | 1000 |

Local Issues:

Scoring Multiplier: 1.000

Questions:

| Sub-heading Number | Question Number | Question | Points |
|--------------------|-----------------|---|--------|
| 1 | | Local Work Group: Answer ONE of the following: (Maximum of 20 points). | |
| | 1 | a. Will the application implement any practice with a lifespan GREATER THAN 15 years in a geographic area specifically identified by the LWG? Documentation from the LWG meeting must be placed in the application folder to support the answer of "yes". | 20 |
| | 1 | b. Will the application implement any practice with a life span of 10 to 15 years in a geographic area specifically identified by the LWG? Documentation from the LWG meeting must be placed in the application folder to support the answer of "yes". | 10 |
| 2 | | General Questions: | |
| | 2 | a. The applicant has NOT had an AWEP, EQIP or WHIP contract TERMINATED due to non-compliance within the last 5 years. | 10 |
| | 2 | b. The applicant has NOT voluntarily CANCELLED an AWEP, EQIP or WHIP contract within the last 5 years. | 10 |

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| | 2 | c. The applicant does NOT have an "active" existing AWEPP, EQIP or WHIP contract with a practice 2 or more years behind schedule? | 20 |
| | 2 | d. The applicant does NOT have an "active" existing AWEPP, EQIP or WHIP contract that has been modified 3 or more times to reschedule practices and/or to extend the contract length due to reasons other than environmental causes? | 15 |
| | 2 | e. The applicant does NOT have any existing "active", "completed", "cancelled" or "terminated" EQIP On-Farm Energy (implementation) contracts? To get the points, if approved for funding, this would be their FIRST EQIP On-Farm Energy (implementation) contract. | 50 |
| | 2 | f. Applicant had an FY2015 EQIP On-Farm Energy (implementation) application on the same land, which was "eligible and ranked" but not selected for funding. (To get the points, a copy of the application deferral letter from 2015 has been placed in the applicant's EQIP application folder.) | 100 |
| 3 | | Answer ONE of the following: (Maximum of 25 points). | |
| | 3 | a. If this is a livestock operation, are you currently implementing an EXISTING CNMP? | 25 |
| | 3 | b. If this is a crop operation, are you currently implementing an EXISTING Nutrient Management Plan? | 25 |
| | | Maximum Points: 250 Total Points | 285 |