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Ranking Tool Summary

for FY2016 - EQIP Conservation Activity Plans

(Released 12/15/2015)

Description:

Welcome to the Conservation Activity Plan Ranking Tool. All Conservation Activity Plans except for: Agricultural Energy Management, Conservation Plan Supporting Organic Transition, will be ranked in this Ranking Tool. Agricultural Energy Management, Conservation Plan Supporting Organic Transition will be ranked in NOFEI or NOI respectively. Please refer to the "Ranking Selection Summary" provide to select the appropriate resource concern for the selected Conservation Activity Plan.

Land Uses:

Associated Agriculture Land, Crop, Farmstead, Forest, Other, Pasture, Water

Efficiency Score:

Scoring Multiplier: 1.000

Optional Notes:

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
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	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.	250
Maximum Points: 250 Total Points			250

Local Issues:

Scoring Multiplier: 1.000

Questions:

Sub-heading Number	Question Number	Question	Points
	1	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.	250
Maximum Points: 250 Total Points			250

Selected Resource Concerns and Practices:

- Degraded Plant Condition: Excessive Plant Pest Pressure
 - Grazing Management Plan - Written (110)
 - Integrated Pest Management Plan - Writte (114)
- Degraded Plant Condition: Inadequate Structure and Composition
 - Forest Management Plan - Written (106)
 - Grazing Management Plan - Written (110)

Prescribed Burning Plan - Written (112)

Degraded Plant Condition: Undesirable Plant Productivity and Health

- Forest Management Plan - Written (106)
- Grazing Management Plan - Written (110)
- Nutrient Management Plan - Written (104)

Degraded Plant Condition: Wildfire Hazard, Excessive Biomass Accumulation

- Prescribed Burning Plan - Written (112)

Excess Water: Seasonal High Water Table

- Drainage Water Management Plan - Written (130)

Fish and Wildlife - Inadequate Habitat: Inadequate Habitat - Cover/Shelter

- Fish and Wildlife Habitat Plan - Written (142)
- Forest Management Plan - Written (106)
- Pollinator Habitat Plan - Written (146)
- Prescribed Burning Plan - Written (112)

Fish and Wildlife - Inadequate Habitat: Inadequate Habitat - Food

- Fish and Wildlife Habitat Plan - Written (142)
- Forest Management Plan - Written (106)
- Pollinator Habitat Plan - Written (146)
- Prescribed Burning Plan - Written (112)

Fish and Wildlife - Inadequate Habitat: Inadequate Habitat - Habitat Continuity (Space)

- Fish and Wildlife Habitat Plan - Written (142)
- Forest Management Plan - Written (106)
- Pollinator Habitat Plan - Written (146)
- Prescribed Burning Plan - Written (112)

Fish and Wildlife - Inadequate Habitat: Inadequate Habitat - Water

- Fish and Wildlife Habitat Plan - Written (142)
- Forest Management Plan - Written (106)

Insufficient Water: Inefficient Moisture Management

- Irrigation Water Management Plan - Writt (118)

Insufficient Water: Inefficient Use of Irrigation Water

- Irrigation Water Management Plan - Writt (118)

Livestock Production Limitation: Inadequate Feed and Forage

- Feed Management Plan - Written (108)
- Grazing Management Plan - Written (110)

Water Quality Degradation: Excess Pathogens and Chemicals from Manure, Bio-solids or Compost Applications in Groundwater

- Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan - (102)

Water Quality Degradation: Excess Pathogens and Chemicals from Manure, Bio-solids or Compost Applications in Surface Water

- Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan - (102)

Water Quality Degradation: Nutrients in Groundwater

- Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan - (102)
- Feed Management Plan - Written (108)
- Nutrient Management Plan - Written (104)

Water Quality Degradation: Nutrients in Surface water

- Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan - (102)
- Feed Management Plan - Written (108)
- Nutrient Management Plan - Written (104)

Water Quality Degradation: Pesticides in Groundwater

- Integrated Pest Management Plan - Writte (114)

Water Quality Degradation: Pesticides in Surface Water

- Integrated Pest Management Plan - Writte (114)