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Ranking Tool Summary for FY2016 - EQIP General Forest (Draft)

Description:

Welcome to the EQIP Forest Ranking Tool.

Land Uses:

Forest, Water

Efficiency Score:

Scoring Multiplier: 10.000

Optional Notes:

National Priorities:

Scoring Multiplier: 1.060

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: 0.650

Questions:

Sub-heading Number	Question Number	Question	Points
	1	Based upon RIGIS data, is the operation located in a watershed of drinking water supply reservoir including tributaries thereto, surface water quality or water conservation issues are being addressed with proposed practices? (the practice must be listed in the EQIP Handbook - Practices that have a positive effect on Surface Water Quality or Water Quantity")	32
	2	Based upon RIGIS data, is the operation located in a groundwater area mapped GAA or community wellhead and ground water quality or water conservation issues are being addressed with proposed practices? (the practice must be listed in the EQIP Handbook - Practices that have a positive effect on Surface Water Quality or Water Quantity)	20
	3	Based upon RIGIS data, is the operation located in a watershed of class SA waters impacted by agriculture and water quality issues are being addressed with proposed practices? (the practice must be listed in the EQIP Handbook - Practices that have a positive effect on Surface Water Quality or Water Quantity)	32
	4	Based upon the 2014 303d list is the operation located within 1000 feet of the impaired waterbody or having a direct hydrologic connection that is impaired by nutrients (dissolved oxygen or excessive algal growth), pesticides, turbidity or other agricultural pollutants such as bacteria/pathogens and the particular water quality issue(s)) is being addressed with proposed practices? (the practice must be listed in the EQIP Handbook - Practices that have a positive effect on Surface Water Quality or Water Quantity.)	32
	5	Is the site located within 1000 feet of a cold water fishery or Special Resource Protection Waters (SRPW) where conservation practices are being planned to improve and/or protect water quality, water quantity or other habitats related to SRPW designation? The practices must be listed in the EQIP Handbook - Practices that have a positive effect on Surface Water Quality or Water Quantity.)	32
	6	Will soil erosion or soil conservation practices have a positive effect on prime farmland soils or a soil of statewide importance as listed by Rhode Island NRCS? (the practice must be listed in the EQIP Handbook - Practices that have a positive effect on Soil Erosion or Soil Quality.)	32
	7	Are public areas (public roads, school, etc.) or non-farm residences	16

		contiguous to cropland where air quality practices will be implemented? The practices must be listed in the EQIP Handbook - Practices that have a positive effect on Air Quality.)	
	8	Will planned practices enhance protection and are within 1000 feet of T & E species or State listed species?	64
	9	Will planned practices address control of noxious and invasive species?	32
	10	Is the land permanently protected through a conservation easement, purchase of development rights or other mechanism?	16
	11	Has the applicant previously successfully addressed a resource concern?	16
	12	Will planned practices address water quality and/or water quantity resource concerns that are within 300 feet of a private well or other surface waters/wetlands/vernal pools? The planned practices must be listed in the EQIP Handbook - Practices that have a positive effect on Surface Water Quality or Water Quantity.	16
	13	Has the applicant previously developed a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP) and is going to implement it under this contract?	32
	14	Will the project enhance or contribute to habitat connectivity and reduce fragmentation through this EQIP Contract?	32
		Maximum Points: Total Points	404

Local Issues:

Scoring Multiplier: 1.060

Questions:

Sub-heading Number	Question Number	Question	Points
1		Forest	
	1	Is the practice going to improve water quality with regard to excessive sediment in surface water?	40
	2	Is the land unit in a RIGIS drinking water supply watershed or aquifer recharge area	40
	3	Does this application include Early Successional Habitat development?	50
	4	Is the applicant installing forestry wildlife structures such as bird boxes, bat baxes or will create or enhance pollinator habitat?	20
	5	If this application is approved for funding, will this be the applicants first EQIP contract?	75
	6	Is the participant treating invasive plants through the EQIP contract?	50
	7	Has the applicant participated in the Coverts or other landowner education program?	25
	8	Has the applicant minimized disturbance to wetland and stream buffers during past forest management activities.	50
	9	Will the participant install pollinator habitat through the EQIP contract?	50
		Maximum Points: Total Points	400

Selected Resource Concerns and Practices:

Degraded Plant Condition: Inadequate Structure and Composition

- Access Control (472)
- Access Road (560)
- Brush Management (314)
- Conservation Cover (327)
- Critical Area Planting (342)
- Early Successional Habitat Development/M (647)

Field Border (386)
 Filter Strip (393)
 Forest Stand Improvement (666)
 Grassed Waterway (412)
 Hedgerow Planting (422)
 Herbaceous Weed Control (315)
 Prescribed Burning (338)
 Restoration and Management of Declining (643)
 Riparian Forest Buffer (391)
 Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390)
 Road/Trail/Landing Closure and Treatment (654)
 Stream Habitat Improvement and Managemen (395)
 Streambank and Shoreline Protection (580)
 Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
 Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645)
 Wetland Creation (658)
 Wetland Enhancement (659)
 Wetland Restoration (657)
 Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management (644)
 Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment (380)
 Woody Residue Treatment (384)

Degraded Plant Condition: Undesirable Plant Productivity and Health

Access Control (472)
 Access Road (560)
 Brush Management (314)
 Conservation Cover (327)
 Critical Area Planting (342)
 Diversion (362)
 Early Successional Habitat Development/M (647)
 Fence (382)
 Field Border (386)
 Filter Strip (393)
 Forest Stand Improvement (666)
 Forest Trails and Landings (655)
 Grassed Waterway (412)
 Hedgerow Planting (422)
 Herbaceous Weed Control (315)
 Land Clearing (460)
 Mulching (484)
 Pond (378)
 Pond Sealing or Lining, Flexible Membran (521A)
 Prescribed Burning (338)
 Restoration and Management of Declining (643)
 Riparian Forest Buffer (391)
 Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390)
 Road/Trail/Landing Closure and Treatment (654)
 Silvopasture Establishment (381)
 Spring Development (574)
 Stream Habitat Improvement and Managemen (395)
 Streambank and Shoreline Protection (580)
 Subsurface Drain (606)
 Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
 Underground Outlet (620)
 Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645)
 Wetland Creation (658)
 Wetland Enhancement (659)
 Wetland Restoration (657)
 Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management (644)
 Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment (380)
 Woody Residue Treatment (384)

Degraded Plant Condition: Wildfire Hazard, Excessive Biomass Accumulation

- Access Control (472)
- Access Road (560)
- Brush Management (314)
- Dry Hydrant (432)
- Firebreak (394)
- Forest Stand Improvement (666)
- Forest Trails and Landings (655)
- Herbaceous Weed Control (315)
- Land Clearing (460)
- Pond (378)
- Prescribed Burning (338)
- Silvopasture Establishment (381)
- Woody Residue Treatment (384)

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

- Access Control (472)
- Brush Management (314)
- Conservation Cover (327)
- Critical Area Planting (342)
- Early Successional Habitat Development/M (647)
- Field Border (386)
- Filter Strip (393)
- Fish Passage (396)
- Forest Stand Improvement (666)
- Forest Trails and Landings (655)
- Grade Stabilization Structure (410)
- Grassed Waterway (412)
- Hedgerow Planting (422)
- Herbaceous Weed Control (315)
- Mulching (484)
- Pond (378)
- Prescribed Burning (338)
- Riparian Forest Buffer (391)
- Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390)
- Road/Trail/Landing Closure and Treatment (654)
- Silvopasture Establishment (381)
- Stream Habitat Improvement and Managemen (395)
- Streambank and Shoreline Protection (580)
- Structures for Wildlife (649)
- Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
- Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645)
- Wetland Creation (658)
- Wetland Enhancement (659)
- Wetland Restoration (657)
- Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management (644)
- Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment (380)
- Woody Residue Treatment (384)

Fish and Wildlife - Inadequate Habitat: Inadequate Habitat - Food

- Access Control (472)
- Brush Management (314)
- Conservation Cover (327)
- Critical Area Planting (342)
- Early Successional Habitat Development/M (647)
- Field Border (386)
- Filter Strip (393)
- Forest Stand Improvement (666)
- Forest Trails and Landings (655)
- Grade Stabilization Structure (410)
- Grassed Waterway (412)
- Hedgerow Planting (422)
- Herbaceous Weed Control (315)
- Mulching (484)

Obstruction Removal (500)
 Pest Management (595)
 Pond (378)
 Prescribed Burning (338)
 Riparian Forest Buffer (391)
 Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390)
 Road/Trail/Landing Closure and Treatment (654)
 Silvopasture Establishment (381)
 Stream Habitat Improvement and Management (395)
 Streambank and Shoreline Protection (580)
 Structures for Wildlife (649)
 Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
 Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645)
 Wetland Creation (658)
 Wetland Enhancement (659)
 Wetland Restoration (657)
 Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management (644)
 Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment (380)
 Woody Residue Treatment (384)

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

Access Control (472)
 Brush Management (314)
 Conservation Cover (327)
 Critical Area Planting (342)
 Dike (356)
 Early Successional Habitat Development/M (647)
 Field Border (386)
 Filter Strip (393)
 Forest Stand Improvement (666)
 Grassed Waterway (412)
 Hedgerow Planting (422)
 Herbaceous Weed Control (315)
 Obstruction Removal (500)
 Pond (378)
 Prescribed Burning (338)
 Riparian Forest Buffer (391)
 Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390)
 Road/Trail/Landing Closure and Treatment (654)
 Silvopasture Establishment (381)
 Spring Development (574)
 Stream Habitat Improvement and Management (395)
 Streambank and Shoreline Protection (580)
 Structures for Wildlife (649)
 Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
 Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645)
 Wetland Creation (658)
 Wetland Enhancement (659)
 Wetland Restoration (657)
 Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management (644)
 Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment (380)
 Woody Residue Treatment (384)

Fish and Wildlife - Inadequate Habitat: Inadequate Habitat - Water

Access Control (472)
 Dike (356)
 Fish Passage (396)
 Grade Stabilization Structure (410)
 Grassed Waterway (412)
 Obstruction Removal (500)
 Pond (378)
 Pond Sealing or Lining, Bentonite Sealant (521C)
 Pond Sealing or Lining, Flexible Membrane (521A)

- Riparian Forest Buffer (391)
- Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390)
- Road/Trail/Landing Closure and Treatment (654)
- Sediment Basin (350)
- Spring Development (574)
- Stream Habitat Improvement and Management (395)
- Structure for Water Control (587)
- Structures for Wildlife (649)
- Water and Sediment Control Basin (638)
- Wetland Creation (658)
- Wetland Enhancement (659)
- Wetland Restoration (657)
- Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management (644)
- Woody Residue Treatment (384)
- Soil Erosion: Classic Gully Erosion
 - Access Control (472)
 - Brush Management (314)
 - Conservation Cover (327)
 - Critical Area Planting (342)
 - Dike (356)
 - Diversion (362)
 - Forest Stand Improvement (666)
 - Grade Stabilization Structure (410)
 - Grassed Waterway (412)
 - Herbaceous Weed Control (315)
 - Lined Waterway or Outlet (468)
 - Mulching (484)
 - Prescribed Burning (338)
 - Riparian Forest Buffer (391)
 - Road/Trail/Landing Closure and Treatment (654)
 - Sediment Basin (350)
 - Silvopasture Establishment (381)
 - Spring Development (574)
 - Subsurface Drain (606)
 - Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
 - Underground Outlet (620)
 - Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645)
 - Water and Sediment Control Basin (638)
- Soil Erosion: Ephemeral Gully Erosion
 - Access Control (472)
 - Access Road (560)
 - Brush Management (314)
 - Conservation Cover (327)
 - Critical Area Planting (342)
 - Diversion (362)
 - Field Border (386)
 - Forest Stand Improvement (666)
 - Grassed Waterway (412)
 - Herbaceous Weed Control (315)
 - Lined Waterway or Outlet (468)
 - Mulching (484)
 - Prescribed Burning (338)
 - Riparian Forest Buffer (391)
 - Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390)
 - Road/Trail/Landing Closure and Treatment (654)
 - Runoff Management System (570)
 - Sediment Basin (350)
 - Silvopasture Establishment (381)
 - Subsurface Drain (606)
 - Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
 - Underground Outlet (620)

- Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645)
- Water and Sediment Control Basin (638)
- Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment (380)
- Soil Erosion: Sheet and Rill Erosion
 - Access Control (472)
 - Brush Management (314)
 - Conservation Cover (327)
 - Critical Area Planting (342)
 - Diversion (362)
 - Fence (382)
 - Field Border (386)
 - Forest Stand Improvement (666)
 - Herbaceous Weed Control (315)
 - Mulching (484)
 - Prescribed Burning (338)
 - Riparian Forest Buffer (391)
 - Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390)
 - Road/Trail/Landing Closure and Treatment (654)
 - Silvopasture Establishment (381)
 - Subsurface Drain (606)
 - Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
 - Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645)
 - Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment (380)
- Soil Erosion: Streambank, Shoreline, Water Conveyance Channels
 - Access Control (472)
 - Diversion (362)
 - Field Border (386)
 - Grade Stabilization Structure (410)
 - Grassed Waterway (412)
 - Riparian Forest Buffer (391)
 - Road/Trail/Landing Closure and Treatment (654)
 - Runoff Management System (570)
 - Stream Crossing (578)
 - Stream Habitat Improvement and Management (395)
 - Streambank and Shoreline Protection (580)
 - Subsurface Drain (606)
 - Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
 - Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645)
- Water Quality Degradation: Elevated Water Temperature
 - Access Control (472)
 - Fish Passage (396)
 - Hedgerow Planting (422)
 - Restoration and Management of Declining (643)
 - Riparian Forest Buffer (391)
 - Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390)
 - Road/Trail/Landing Closure and Treatment (654)
 - Silvopasture Establishment (381)
 - Stream Habitat Improvement and Management (395)
 - Streambank and Shoreline Protection (580)
 - Structure for Water Control (587)
 - Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
- Water Quality Degradation: Excessive Sediment in Surface Water
 - Access Control (472)
 - Access Road (560)
 - Brush Management (314)
 - Conservation Cover (327)
 - Critical Area Planting (342)
 - Diversion (362)
 - Field Border (386)
 - Filter Strip (393)
 - Grade Stabilization Structure (410)

Grassed Waterway (412)
Hedgerow Planting (422)
Lined Waterway or Outlet (468)
Mulching (484)
Pond (378)
Prescribed Burning (338)
Restoration and Management of Declining (643)
Riparian Forest Buffer (391)
Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390)
Road/Trail/Landing Closure and Treatment (654)
Runoff Management System (570)
Sediment Basin (350)
Silvopasture Establishment (381)
Spring Development (574)
Stream Crossing (578)
Stream Habitat Improvement and Managemen (395)
Streambank and Shoreline Protection (580)
Structure for Water Control (587)
Subsurface Drain (606)
Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645)
Water and Sediment Control Basin (638)
Wetland Creation (658)
Wetland Enhancement (659)
Wetland Restoration (657)
Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management (644)
Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment (380)
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