



NEBRASKA NRCS State Initiatives EQIP Rankings FY 17

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Natural Resources Conservation Service
Application Ranking Summary
Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan

Program: EQIP 2014	Ranking Date:	Application Number:
Ranking Tool: Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan		Applicant:
Final Ranking Score:		Address :
Planner:		Telephone:
Farm Location:		

National Priorities Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
<p>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.</p>	
<p>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.</p>	<p>250 Point(s)</p>
<p>Water Quality Degradation – Will the proposed project improve water quality by: (select all that apply)</p>	
<p>2. a. Implementing the practices in a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP)?</p>	<p>15 Point(s)</p>
<p>2. b. Implementing the practices in a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP)?</p>	<p>10 Point(s)</p>
<p>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)?</p>	<p>10 Point(s)</p>
<p>2. d. Reducing the impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides in a “non-impaired water body”?</p>	<p>10 Point(s)</p>
<p>2. e. Implementing practices that improve water quality through animal mortality and carcass management?</p>	<p>10 Point(s)</p>

Water Conservation – Will the proposed project conserve water by: (select all that apply)	
3. a. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce aquifer overdraft.	15 Point(s)
3. b. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce on-farm water use?	10 Point(s)
3. c. Implementing practices in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	10 Point(s)
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 Point(s)
Air Quality - Will the proposed project improve air quality by: (select all that apply)	
4. a. Meeting on-farm regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	10 Point(s)
4. b. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm emissions of particulate matter (PM2.5, PM10)?	10 Point(s)
4. c. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm generated greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide (CO2), methane (CH4), and nitrous oxide (N2O)?	10 Point(s)
4. d. Implementing practices that increase on-farm carbon sequestration?	10 Point(s)
Soil Health:– Will the proposed project improve soil health by: (select all that apply)	
5. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil “T”)?	10 Point(s)
5. b. Increasing organic matter and carbon content, and improving soil tilth and structure?	10 Point(s)
Wildlife Habitat – Will the proposed project improve wildlife habitat by: (select all that apply)	
6. a. Implementing practices benefitting threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern.	10 Point(s)
6. b. Implementing practices that retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) or other set-aside program?	10 Point(s)

6. c. Implementing practices benefitting honey bee populations or other pollinators?	10 Point(s)	
6. d. Implementing land-based practices that improve habitat for aquatic wildlife?	10 Point(s)	
Plant and Animal Communities: Will the proposed project improve plant and animal communities by: (select all that apply)		
7. a. Implementing practices that result in the management control of noxious or invasive plant species on non-cropland?	10 Point(s)	
7. b. Implementing practice in an Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM)?	10 Point(s)	
Energy Conservation– Will the proposed project reduce energy use by: (select all that apply)		
8. a. Reducing on-farm energy consumption?	10 Point(s)	
8. b. Implementing practice(s) identified in an approved AgEMP or energy audit, which meet ASABE S612 criteria?	10 Point(s)	
Business Lines – Will the practices to be scheduled in the “EQIP Plan of Operations” result in:		
9. a. Enhancement of existing conservation practice(s) or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is received?	10 Point(s)	

State Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. Is the program application to support the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)?	5 Point(s)
2. Is this the first CAP 102 application for this site and owner?	325 Point(s)
3. If answered "no" to 2 and have a previous CAP, does a resource concern or situation as described in questions 4 through 11 currently exist for this application?	50 Point(s)
4. If answered "no" to 2, has the AFO received notification from Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (NDEQ) or Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) that the current manure storage system and/or nutrient management systems does not meet state and/or NPDES requirements?	15 Point(s)
5. If answered "no" to 2, has the AFO expanded or modified the capacity (increased), the type of livestock, and/or manure storage structures where a NRCS CNMP was not developed or modified?	15 Point(s)
6. If answered "no" to 2, has the AFO purchased and/or leased additional ground for the application of the manure and/or wastewater? (The applicant must have direct control over the leased ground.)	15 Point(s)
7. If answered "no" to 2, has the AFO modified the nutrient management from manure nitrogen-based to phosphorus-based rates?	15 Point(s)
8. If answered "no" to 2, is the AFO planning to apply for an animal mortality facility?	15 Point(s)
9. If answered "no" to 2, has the AFO changed tillage management systems?	15 Point(s)
10. If answered "no" to 2, has the AFO changed the method of manure application (i.e. from injection / incorporation to broadcast with no incorporation; application via gravity to sprinkler)?	15 Point(s)
11. If answered "no" to 2, has the AFO changed ownership?	15 Point(s)
12. If answered "no" to 2 and have a previous CAP, are there no newly identified resource concerns existing for this current application?	-100 Point(s)

**Natural Resources Conservation Service
Application Ranking Summary
FY16 High Tunnel System BFR**

Program: EQIP 2014	Ranking Date:	Application Number:
Ranking Tool: FY16 High Tunnel System BFR		Applicant:
Final Ranking Score:		Address :
Planner:		Telephone:
Farm Location:		

National Priorities Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
<p>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.</p>	
<p>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.</p>	<p>250 Point(s)</p>
<p>Water Quality Degradation – Will the proposed project improve water quality by: (select all that apply)</p>	
<p>2. a. Implementing the practices in a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP)?</p>	<p>15 Point(s)</p>
<p>2. b. Implementing the practices in a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP)?</p>	<p>10 Point(s)</p>
<p>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)?</p>	<p>10 Point(s)</p>
<p>2. d. Reducing the impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides in a “non-impaired water body”?</p>	<p>10 Point(s)</p>
<p>2. e. Implementing practices that improve water quality through animal mortality and carcass management?</p>	<p>10 Point(s)</p>

Water Conservation – Will the proposed project conserve water by: (select all that apply)	
3. a. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce aquifer overdraft.	15 Point(s)
3. b. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce on-farm water use?	10 Point(s)
3. c. Implementing practices in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	10 Point(s)
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 Point(s)
Air Quality - Will the proposed project improve air quality by: (select all that apply)	
4. a. Meeting on-farm regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	10 Point(s)
4. b. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm emissions of particulate matter (PM2.5, PM10)?	10 Point(s)
4. c. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm generated greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide (CO2), methane (CH4), and nitrous oxide (N2O)?	10 Point(s)
4. d. Implementing practices that increase on-farm carbon sequestration?	10 Point(s)
Soil Health:– Will the proposed project improve soil health by: (select all that apply)	
5. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil “T”)?	10 Point(s)
5. b. Increasing organic matter and carbon content, and improving soil tilth and structure?	10 Point(s)
Wildlife Habitat – Will the proposed project improve wildlife habitat by: (select all that apply)	
6. a. Implementing practices benefitting threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern.	10 Point(s)
6. b. Implementing practices that retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) or other set-aside program?	10 Point(s)

6. c. Implementing practices benefitting honey bee populations or other pollinators?	10 Point(s)	
6. d. Implementing land-based practices that improve habitat for aquatic wildlife?	10 Point(s)	
Plant and Animal Communities: Will the proposed project improve plant and animal communities by: (select all that apply)		
7. a. Implementing practices that result in the management control of noxious or invasive plant species on non-cropland?	10 Point(s)	
7. b. Implementing practice in an Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM)?	10 Point(s)	
Energy Conservation– Will the proposed project reduce energy use by: (select all that apply)		
8. a. Reducing on-farm energy consumption?	10 Point(s)	
8. b. Implementing practice(s) identified in an approved AgEMP or energy audit, which meet ASABE S612 criteria?	10 Point(s)	
Business Lines – Will the practices to be scheduled in the “EQIP Plan of Operations” result in:		
9. a. Enhancement of existing conservation practice(s) or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is received?	10 Point(s)	

State Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
<p>Answer ALL of the following criteria that apply regarding the project's impact on addressing resource concerns. Maximum points 250.</p>	
<p>1. a The Schedule of Operations includes a seasonal high tunnel which will assist the producer to improve plant productivity, health and vigor.</p>	<p>65 Point(s)</p>
<p>1. b The Schedule of Operations includes a seasonal high tunnel which will assist the producer to grow plants in areas where they are not typically suited or adapted to grow.</p>	<p>65 Point(s)</p>
<p>1. c The Schedule of Operations includes practices or supports the use of existing practices (such as; cover crops, residue management, and residue and tillage management) which will result in a positive Soil Condition Index (SCI) score as determined by RUSLE II.</p>	<p>45 Point(s)</p>
<p>1. d The Schedule of Operations includes supporting practices necessary to support a new or existing seasonal high tunnel in order to address soil erosion.</p>	<p>45 Point(s)</p>
<p>Answer ONE of the following criteria that apply regarding the projects ability to address excess nutrients and organics in surface water.</p>	
<p>2. a The Schedule of Operations includes a seasonal high tunnel which will assist the producer to reduce excess nutrients and organics in surface water from a field that adjoins a designated impaired water body? (TMDL, 303d, etc.).</p>	<p>65 Point(s)</p>
<p>2. b The Schedule of Operations includes a seasonal high tunnel which will assist the producer to reduce excess nutrients and organics in surface water from a field that adjoins a non-impaired water body?.</p>	<p>25 Point(s)</p>
<p>Answer ONE of the following criteria that apply regarding the projects ability to address harmful levels of pesticides in surface water.</p>	

<p>3. a The Schedule of Operations includes a seasonal high tunnel which will assist the producer to reduce harmful levels of pesticides in surface water from a field that adjoins a designated impaired water body? (TMDL, 303d, etc.).</p>	<p>65 Point(s)</p>
<p>3. b The Schedule of Operations includes a seasonal high tunnel which will assist the producer to reduce harmful levels of pesticides in surface water from a field that adjoins a non-impaired water body?.</p>	<p>25 Point(s)</p>

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Application Ranking Summary

FY16 High Tunnel System

Program: EQIP 2014	Ranking Date:	Application Number:
Ranking Tool: FY16 High Tunnel System		Applicant:
Final Ranking Score:		Address:
Planner:		Telephone:
Farm Location:		

National Priorities Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
<p>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.</p>	
<p>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.</p>	250 Point(s)
<p>Water Quality Degradation – Will the proposed project improve water quality by: (select all that apply)</p>	
<p>2. a. Implementing the practices in a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP)?</p>	15 Point(s)
<p>2. b. Implementing the practices in a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP)?</p>	10 Point(s)
<p>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)?</p>	10 Point(s)
<p>2. d. Reducing the impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides in a “non-impaired water body”?</p>	10 Point(s)
<p>2. e. Implementing practices that improve water quality through animal mortality and carcass management?</p>	10 Point(s)

Water Conservation – Will the proposed project conserve water by: (select all that apply)	
3. a. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce aquifer overdraft.	15 Point(s)
3. b. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce on-farm water use?	10 Point(s)
3. c. Implementing practices in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	10 Point(s)
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 Point(s)
Air Quality - Will the proposed project improve air quality by: (select all that apply)	
4. a. Meeting on-farm regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	10 Point(s)
4. b. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm emissions of particulate matter (PM2.5, PM10)?	10 Point(s)
4. c. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm generated greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide (CO2), methane (CH4), and nitrous oxide (N2O)?	10 Point(s)
4. d. Implementing practices that increase on-farm carbon sequestration?	10 Point(s)
Soil Health:– Will the proposed project improve soil health by: (select all that apply)	
5. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil “T”)?	10 Point(s)
5. b. Increasing organic matter and carbon content, and improving soil tilth and structure?	10 Point(s)
Wildlife Habitat – Will the proposed project improve wildlife habitat by: (select all that apply)	
6. a. Implementing practices benefitting threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern.	10 Point(s)
6. b. Implementing practices that retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) or other set-aside program?	10 Point(s)

6. c. Implementing practices benefitting honey bee populations or other pollinators?	10 Point(s)
6. d. Implementing land-based practices that improve habitat for aquatic wildlife?	10 Point(s)
Plant and Animal Communities: Will the proposed project improve plant and animal communities by: (select all that apply)	
7. a. Implementing practices that result in the management control of noxious or invasive plant species on non-cropland?	10 Point(s)
7. b. Implementing practice in an Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM)?	10 Point(s)
Energy Conservation– Will the proposed project reduce energy use by: (select all that apply)	
8. a. Reducing on-farm energy consumption?	10 Point(s)
8. b. Implementing practice(s) identified in an approved AgEMP or energy audit, which meet ASABE S612 criteria?	10 Point(s)
Business Lines – Will the practices to be scheduled in the “EQIP Plan of Operations” result in:	
9. a. Enhancement of existing conservation practice(s) or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is received?	10 Point(s)

State Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
Answer ALL of the following criteria that apply regarding the project's impact on addressing resource concerns. Maximum points 250.	
1. a The Schedule of Operations includes a seasonal high tunnel which will assist the producer to improve plant productivity, health and vigor.	65 Point(s)
1. b The Schedule of Operations includes a seasonal high tunnel which will assist the producer to grow plants in areas where they are not typically suited or adapted to grow.	65 Point(s)
1. c The Schedule of Operations includes practices or supports the use of existing practices (such as; cover crops, residue management, and residue and tillage management) which will result in a positive Soil Condition Index (SCI) score as determined by RUSLE II.	45 Point(s)
1. d The Schedule of Operations includes supporting practices necessary to support a new or existing seasonal high tunnel in order to address soil erosion.	45 Point(s)
Answer ONE of the following criteria that apply regarding the projects ability to address excess nutrients and organics in surface water.	
2. a The Schedule of Operations includes a seasonal high tunnel which will assist the producer to reduce excess nutrients and organics in surface water from a field that adjoins a designated impaired water body? (TMDL, 303d, etc.).	65 Point(s)
2. b The Schedule of Operations includes a seasonal high tunnel which will assist the producer to reduce excess nutrients and organics in surface water from a field that adjoins a non-impaired water body?.	25 Point(s)
Answer ONE of the following criteria that apply regarding the projects ability to address harmful levels of pesticides in surface water.	

<p>3. a The Schedule of Operations includes a seasonal high tunnel which will assist the producer to reduce harmful levels of pesticides in surface water from a field that adjoins a designated impaired water body? (TMDL, 303d, etc.).</p>	<p>65 Point(s)</p>
<p>3. b The Schedule of Operations includes a seasonal high tunnel which will assist the producer to reduce harmful levels of pesticides in surface water from a field that adjoins a non-impaired water body?.</p>	<p>25 Point(s)</p>

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Application Ranking Summary

FY16 On-Farm Energy

Program: EQIP 2014	Ranking Date:	Application Number:
Ranking Tool: FY16 On-Farm Energy		Applicant:
Final Ranking Score:		Address:
Planner:		Telephone:
Farm Location:		

National Priorities Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
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.	
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 Point(s)
Water Quality Degradation – Will the proposed project improve water quality by: (select all that apply)	
2. a. Implementing the practices in a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP)?	15 Point(s)
2. b. Implementing the practices in a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP)?	10 Point(s)
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 Point(s)
2. d. Reducing the impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides in a “non-impaired water body”?	10 Point(s)
2. e. Implementing practices that improve water quality through animal mortality and carcass management?	10 Point(s)

Water Conservation – Will the proposed project conserve water by: (select all that apply)	
3. a. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce aquifer overdraft.	15 Point(s)
3. b. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce on-farm water use?	10 Point(s)
3. c. Implementing practices in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	10 Point(s)
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 Point(s)
Air Quality - Will the proposed project improve air quality by: (select all that apply)	
4. a. Meeting on-farm regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	10 Point(s)
4. b. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm emissions of particulate matter (PM2.5, PM10)?	10 Point(s)
4. c. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm generated greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide (CO2), methane (CH4), and nitrous oxide (N2O)?	10 Point(s)
4. d. Implementing practices that increase on-farm carbon sequestration?	10 Point(s)
Soil Health:– Will the proposed project improve soil health by: (select all that apply)	
5. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil “T”)?	10 Point(s)
5. b. Increasing organic matter and carbon content, and improving soil tilth and structure?	10 Point(s)
Wildlife Habitat – Will the proposed project improve wildlife habitat by: (select all that apply)	
6. a. Implementing practices benefitting threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern.	10 Point(s)
6. b. Implementing practices that retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) or other set-aside program?	10 Point(s)

6. c. Implementing practices benefitting honey bee populations or other pollinators?	10 Point(s)
6. d. Implementing land-based practices that improve habitat for aquatic wildlife?	10 Point(s)
Plant and Animal Communities: Will the proposed project improve plant and animal communities by: (select all that apply)	
7. a. Implementing practices that result in the management control of noxious or invasive plant species on non-cropland?	10 Point(s)
7. b. Implementing practice in an Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM)?	10 Point(s)
Energy Conservation– Will the proposed project reduce energy use by: (select all that apply)	
8. a. Reducing on-farm energy consumption?	10 Point(s)
8. b. Implementing practice(s) identified in an approved AgEMP or energy audit, which meet ASABE S612 criteria?	10 Point(s)
Business Lines – Will the practices to be scheduled in the “EQIP Plan of Operations” result in:	
9. a. Enhancement of existing conservation practice(s) or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is received?	10 Point(s)

State Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
<p>If the application is for the 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 State-level questions.</p>	
<p>1. a Is the program application for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP) for a TSP prepared Agricultural Energy Management Plan (128)? If answer is “Yes,” do not answer any other State-level questions. If answer is “No,” proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.</p>	400 Point(s)
<p>With regard to applications containing energy efficiency practices (answer one of the following):</p>	
<p>2. a The application contains two or more core practices.</p>	100 Point(s)
<p>2. b The application contains at least one core practice and additional supporting practices.</p>	50 Point(s)
<p>2. c The application contains only supporting practices.</p>	0 Point(s)
<p>Water Conservation – Will the proposed project conserve water by (select all that apply):</p>	
<p>3. a Implementing irrigation practices that reduce energy and reduce aquifer overdraft?</p>	50 Point(s)
<p>3. b Implementing practices that recycle or reuse water?</p>	50 Point(s)
<p>Air Quality - Does the application contain projects that improve air quality by (answer one of the following):</p>	
<p>4. a Implementing energy practices that have been evaluated to reduce on-farm generated carbon dioxide (CO2) by 100,000 pounds or more?</p>	100 Point(s)

4. b Implementing energy practices that have been evaluated to reduce on-farm generated carbon dioxide (CO2) by at least 75,000 pounds but less than 100,000 pounds?	75 Point(s)
4. c Implementing energy practices that have been evaluated to reduce on-farm generated carbon dioxide (CO2) by at least 50,000 pounds but less than 75,000 pounds?	50 Point(s)
4. d Implementing energy practices that have been evaluated to reduce on-farm generated carbon dioxide (CO2) by at least 25,000 pounds but less than 50,000 pounds?	20 Point(s)
4. e Implementing energy practices that have been evaluated to reduce on-farm generated carbon dioxide (CO2) by at least 10,000 pounds but less than 25,000 pounds?	10 Point(s)
4. f Implementing energy practices that have been evaluated to reduce on-farm generated carbon dioxide (CO2) by less than 10,000 pounds?	0 Point(s)
Use the "Energy Cost Efficiency Worksheet" to calculate the estimated energy cost efficiency value for the conservation practices in the EQIP Plan/Schedule of Operations. Answer one of the following questions:	
5. a Is the estimated energy cost efficiency 50 percent or more?	100 Point(s)
5. b Is the estimated energy cost efficiency between 30 and 50 percent?	50 Point(s)
5. c Is the estimated energy cost efficiency less than 30 percent?	25 Point(s)

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Application Ranking Summary

FY16 Organic Certified

Program: EQIP 2014	Ranking Date:	Application Number:
Ranking Tool: FY16 Organic Certified		Applicant:
Final Ranking Score:		Address:
Planner:		Telephone:
Farm Location:		

National Priorities Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
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.	
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 Point(s)
Water Quality Degradation – Will the proposed project improve water quality by: (select all that apply)	
2. a. Implementing the practices in a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP)?	15 Point(s)
2. b. Implementing the practices in a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP)?	10 Point(s)
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 Point(s)
2. d. Reducing the impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides in a “non-impaired water body”?	10 Point(s)
2. e. Implementing practices that improve water quality through animal mortality and carcass management?	10 Point(s)

Water Conservation – Will the proposed project conserve water by: (select all that apply)	
3. a. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce aquifer overdraft.	15 Point(s)
3. b. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce on-farm water use?	10 Point(s)
3. c. Implementing practices in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	10 Point(s)
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 Point(s)
Air Quality - Will the proposed project improve air quality by: (select all that apply)	
4. a. Meeting on-farm regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	10 Point(s)
4. b. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm emissions of particulate matter (PM2.5, PM10)?	10 Point(s)
4. c. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm generated greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide (CO2), methane (CH4), and nitrous oxide (N2O)?	10 Point(s)
4. d. Implementing practices that increase on-farm carbon sequestration?	10 Point(s)
Soil Health:– Will the proposed project improve soil health by: (select all that apply)	
5. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil “T”)?	10 Point(s)
5. b. Increasing organic matter and carbon content, and improving soil tilth and structure?	10 Point(s)
Wildlife Habitat – Will the proposed project improve wildlife habitat by: (select all that apply)	
6. a. Implementing practices benefitting threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern.	10 Point(s)
6. b. Implementing practices that retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) or other set-aside program?	10 Point(s)

6. c. Implementing practices benefitting honey bee populations or other pollinators?	10 Point(s)
6. d. Implementing land-based practices that improve habitat for aquatic wildlife?	10 Point(s)
Plant and Animal Communities: Will the proposed project improve plant and animal communities by: (select all that apply)	
7. a. Implementing practices that result in the management control of noxious or invasive plant species on non-cropland?	10 Point(s)
7. b. Implementing practice in an Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM)?	10 Point(s)
Energy Conservation– Will the proposed project reduce energy use by: (select all that apply)	
8. a. Reducing on-farm energy consumption?	10 Point(s)
8. b. Implementing practice(s) identified in an approved AgEMP or energy audit, which meet ASABE S612 criteria?	10 Point(s)
Business Lines – Will the practices to be scheduled in the “EQIP Plan of Operations” result in:	
9. a. Enhancement of existing conservation practice(s) or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is received?	10 Point(s)

State Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
<p>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 state priority category.</p>	
<p>1. a Is the program application for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP) for a TSP prepared Transition to Organic Plan (138)? If answer is “Yes”, do not answer any other state level questions. If answer is “No”, proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.</p>	400 Point(s)
<p>Soil Quality Degradation: Maximum 60 points.</p>	
<p>2. Does the EQIP Schedule of Operations includes implementation of one or more soil quality or enhancing practice(s) that addresses soil tilth, crusting, water infiltration, organic matter, compaction, etc.?</p>	60 Point(s)
<p>Soil Erosion: Maximum of 60 points</p>	
<p>3. Does the EQIP Schedule of Operations include practices that will result in reduction of erosion?</p>	60 Point(s)
<p>Water Quality Degradation: Maximum of 70 points.</p>	
<p>4. a Does the EQIP Schedule of operations include implementation of practices for the management of noxious and invasive species ONLY on “non-cropland” acreage?</p>	35 Point(s)
<p>4. b Does the EQIP Schedule of Operations include implementation of Nutrient management for management of soil fertility, plant nutrients, and soil amendments?</p>	35 Point(s)
<p>Degraded Habitat : Maximum of 90 points</p>	

5. a Does the EQIP Schedule of Operations include practices that will result in creation of buffer zones that will mitigate offsite contaminates from entering the farm?	20 Point(s)
5. b Does the EQIP Schedule of Operations include practices with the intent of increasing habitat for pollinators and/or beneficial insects?	50 Point(s)
5. c Does the EQIP Schedule of Operations include practices that will improve wildlife habitat?	20 Point(s)
Insufficient Water: Maximum of 50 points.	
6. Does the EQIP Schedule of Operations include practices that will improve the efficiency of an existing irrigation system and/or conserve soil moisture?	50 Point(s)
Livestock Production Limitation: Maximum of 70 points	
7. a Does the EQIP Schedule of Operations include implementation of practices to improve the management of plant species, livestock, residues, feed, and other identified resource needs?	40 Point(s)
7. b Does the EQIP Schedule of Operations include implementation of practices that limit and manage domestic livestock access to streams, creeks, and other natural water bodies?	20 Point(s)
7. c Does the EQIP Schedule of Operations include implementation of practices to assure adequate domestic livestock drinking water sources (not including streams) are available in the treatment unit?	10 Point(s)

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Application Ranking Summary

FY16 Organic Transition

Program: EQIP 2014	Ranking Date:	Application Number:
Ranking Tool: FY16 Organic Transition		Applicant:
Final Ranking Score:		Address:
Planner:		Telephone:
Farm Location:		

National Priorities Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
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.	
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 Point(s)
Water Quality Degradation – Will the proposed project improve water quality by: (select all that apply)	
2. a. Implementing the practices in a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP)?	15 Point(s)
2. b. Implementing the practices in a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP)?	10 Point(s)
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 Point(s)
2. d. Reducing the impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides in a “non-impaired water body”?	10 Point(s)
2. e. Implementing practices that improve water quality through animal mortality and carcass management?	10 Point(s)

Water Conservation – Will the proposed project conserve water by: (select all that apply)	
3. a. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce aquifer overdraft.	15 Point(s)
3. b. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce on-farm water use?	10 Point(s)
3. c. Implementing practices in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	10 Point(s)
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 Point(s)
Air Quality - Will the proposed project improve air quality by: (select all that apply)	
4. a. Meeting on-farm regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	10 Point(s)
4. b. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm emissions of particulate matter (PM2.5, PM10)?	10 Point(s)
4. c. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm generated greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide (CO2), methane (CH4), and nitrous oxide (N2O)?	10 Point(s)
4. d. Implementing practices that increase on-farm carbon sequestration?	10 Point(s)
Soil Health:– Will the proposed project improve soil health by: (select all that apply)	
5. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil “T”)?	10 Point(s)
5. b. Increasing organic matter and carbon content, and improving soil tilth and structure?	10 Point(s)
Wildlife Habitat – Will the proposed project improve wildlife habitat by: (select all that apply)	
6. a. Implementing practices benefitting threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern.	10 Point(s)
6. b. Implementing practices that retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) or other set-aside program?	10 Point(s)

6. c. Implementing practices benefitting honey bee populations or other pollinators?	10 Point(s)
6. d. Implementing land-based practices that improve habitat for aquatic wildlife?	10 Point(s)
Plant and Animal Communities: Will the proposed project improve plant and animal communities by: (select all that apply)	
7. a. Implementing practices that result in the management control of noxious or invasive plant species on non-cropland?	10 Point(s)
7. b. Implementing practice in an Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM)?	10 Point(s)
Energy Conservation– Will the proposed project reduce energy use by: (select all that apply)	
8. a. Reducing on-farm energy consumption?	10 Point(s)
8. b. Implementing practice(s) identified in an approved AgEMP or energy audit, which meet ASABE S612 criteria?	10 Point(s)
Business Lines – Will the practices to be scheduled in the “EQIP Plan of Operations” result in:	
9. a. Enhancement of existing conservation practice(s) or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is received?	10 Point(s)

State Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
<p>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 state priority category.</p>	
<p>1. a Is the program application for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP) for a TSP prepared Transition to Organic Plan (138)? If answer is “Yes”, do not answer any other state level questions. If answer is “No”, proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.</p>	400 Point(s)
<p>Soil Quality Degradation: Maximum 60 points.</p>	
<p>2. Does the EQIP Schedule of Operations includes implementation of one or more soil quality or enhancing practice(s) that addresses soil tilth, crusting, water infiltration, organic matter, compaction, etc.?</p>	60 Point(s)
<p>Soil Erosion: Maximum of 60 points</p>	
<p>3. Does the EQIP Schedule of Operations include practices that will result in reduction of erosion?</p>	60 Point(s)
<p>Water Quality Degradation: Maximum of 70 points.</p>	
<p>4. a Does the EQIP Schedule of operations include implementation of practices for the management of noxious and invasive species ONLY on “non-cropland” acreage?</p>	35 Point(s)
<p>4. b Does the EQIP Schedule of Operations include implementation of Nutrient management for management of soil fertility, plant nutrients, and soil amendments?</p>	35 Point(s)
<p>Degraded Habitat : Maximum of 90 points</p>	

5. a Does the EQIP Schedule of Operations include practices that will result in creation of buffer zones that will mitigate offsite contaminants from entering the farm?	20 Point(s)
5. b Does the EQIP Schedule of Operations include practices with the intent of increasing habitat for pollinators and/or beneficial insects?	50 Point(s)
5. c Does the EQIP Schedule of Operations include practices that will improve wildlife habitat?	20 Point(s)
Insufficient Water: Maximum of 50 points.	
6. Does the EQIP Schedule of Operations include practices that will improve the efficiency of an existing irrigation system and/or conserve soil moisture?	50 Point(s)
Livestock Production Limitation: Maximum of 70 points	
7. a Does the EQIP Schedule of Operations include implementation of practices to improve the management of plant species, livestock, residues, feed, and other identified resource needs?	40 Point(s)
7. b Does the EQIP Schedule of Operations include implementation of practices that limit and manage domestic livestock access to streams, creeks, and other natural water bodies?	20 Point(s)
7. c Does the EQIP Schedule of Operations include implementation of practices to assure adequate domestic livestock drinking water sources (not including streams) are available in the treatment unit?	10 Point(s)

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Application Ranking Summary

NE Forestry Initiative - BFR

Program: EQIP 2014	Ranking Date:	Application Number:
Ranking Tool: NE Forestry Initiative - BFR		Applicant:
Final Ranking Score:		Address:
Planner:		Telephone:
Farm Location:		

National Priorities Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
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.	
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 Point(s)
Water Quality Degradation – Will the proposed project improve water quality by: (select all that apply)	
2. a. Implementing the practices in a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP)?	15 Point(s)
2. b. Implementing the practices in a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP)?	10 Point(s)
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 Point(s)
2. d. Reducing the impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides in a “non-impaired water body”?	10 Point(s)
2. e. Implementing practices that improve water quality through animal mortality and carcass management?	10 Point(s)

Water Conservation – Will the proposed project conserve water by: (select all that apply)	
3. a. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce aquifer overdraft.	15 Point(s)
3. b. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce on-farm water use?	10 Point(s)
3. c. Implementing practices in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	10 Point(s)
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 Point(s)
Air Quality - Will the proposed project improve air quality by: (select all that apply)	
4. a. Meeting on-farm regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	10 Point(s)
4. b. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm emissions of particulate matter (PM2.5, PM10)?	10 Point(s)
4. c. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm generated greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide (CO2), methane (CH4), and nitrous oxide (N2O)?	10 Point(s)
4. d. Implementing practices that increase on-farm carbon sequestration?	10 Point(s)
Soil Health:– Will the proposed project improve soil health by: (select all that apply)	
5. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil “T”)?	10 Point(s)
5. b. Increasing organic matter and carbon content, and improving soil tilth and structure?	10 Point(s)
Wildlife Habitat – Will the proposed project improve wildlife habitat by: (select all that apply)	
6. a. Implementing practices benefitting threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern.	10 Point(s)
6. b. Implementing practices that retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) or other set-aside program?	10 Point(s)

6. c. Implementing practices benefitting honey bee populations or other pollinators?	10 Point(s)
6. d. Implementing land-based practices that improve habitat for aquatic wildlife?	10 Point(s)
Plant and Animal Communities: Will the proposed project improve plant and animal communities by: (select all that apply)	
7. a. Implementing practices that result in the management control of noxious or invasive plant species on non-cropland?	10 Point(s)
7. b. Implementing practice in an Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM)?	10 Point(s)
Energy Conservation– Will the proposed project reduce energy use by: (select all that apply)	
8. a. Reducing on-farm energy consumption?	10 Point(s)
8. b. Implementing practice(s) identified in an approved AgEMP or energy audit, which meet ASABE S612 criteria?	10 Point(s)
Business Lines – Will the practices to be scheduled in the “EQIP Plan of Operations” result in:	
9. a. Enhancement of existing conservation practice(s) or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is received?	10 Point(s)

State Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. Is the program application to support the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is “Yes”, do not answer any other state level questions. If answer is “No”, proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	400 Point(s)
2. Will the treatment(s) you intend to implement using EQIP result in the ecological improvement of existing forestland for soil conservation? (666, 643, 472, 612, 338)	39 Point(s)
3. Will the treatment(s) you intend to implement using EQIP result in the ecological improvement of existing forestland for water quality? (666,643, 472)	28 Point(s)
4. Will the treatment(s) you intend to implement using EQIP result in the ecological improvement of existing forestland for wildlife habitat? (666, 643, 472, 338)	28 Point(s)
5. Will the treatment(s) you intend to implement using EQIP result in the improvement or restoration of a declining forest community? (666, 643, 472, 338)	36 Point(s)
6. Will the treatment(s) you intend to implement using EQIP result in the improved health and vigor of existing windbreaks/shelterbelts? (650, 472)	43 Point(s)
7. Will the conservation tree/shrub planting(s) you intend to implement using EQIP result in improved air quality? (380,612, 472)	19 Point(s)
8. Will the forestry treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in improved energy conservation? (380,472)	27 Point(s)
9. Will the treatment(s) you intend to implement using EQIP result in the protection, restoration, development, or enhancement of habitat for “at risk” or “threatened or endangered” aquatic or wildlife species? (643)	23 Point(s)

<p>10. Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in the ecological improvement to native woodlands that will include at least two of the following management techniques: 1) prescribed burning; 2) selective thinning for forest stand improvement; 3) inter-planting of desired native species to improve diversity; 4) development of micro-habitat components such as snags, brush piles, and forest openings?</p>	<p>48 Point(s)</p>
<p>11. Will the conservation tree/shrub planting(s) you intend to implement using EQIP result in improved protection of soil from erosion? (380, 612, 472)</p>	<p>27 Point(s)</p>
<p>12. Will the conservation tree/shrub planting(s) you intend to implement using EQIP result in improved livestock protection? (380, 472)</p>	<p>31 Point(s)</p>
<p>13. Will the treatment(s) you intend to implement using EQIP be included in a Forest Stewardship Plan approved by the Nebraska Forest Service?</p>	<p>51 Point(s)</p>

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Application Ranking Summary

NE Forestry Initiative

Program: EQIP 2014	Ranking Date:	Application Number:
Ranking Tool: NE Forestry Initiative		Applicant:
Final Ranking Score:		Address:
Planner:		Telephone:
Farm Location:		

National Priorities Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
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.	
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 Point(s)
Water Quality Degradation – Will the proposed project improve water quality by: (select all that apply)	
2. a. Implementing the practices in a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP)?	15 Point(s)
2. b. Implementing the practices in a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP)?	10 Point(s)
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 Point(s)
2. d. Reducing the impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides in a “non-impaired water body”?	10 Point(s)
2. e. Implementing practices that improve water quality through animal mortality and carcass management?	10 Point(s)

Water Conservation – Will the proposed project conserve water by: (select all that apply)	
3. a. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce aquifer overdraft.	15 Point(s)
3. b. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce on-farm water use?	10 Point(s)
3. c. Implementing practices in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	10 Point(s)
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 Point(s)
Air Quality - Will the proposed project improve air quality by: (select all that apply)	
4. a. Meeting on-farm regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	10 Point(s)
4. b. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm emissions of particulate matter (PM2.5, PM10)?	10 Point(s)
4. c. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm generated greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide (CO2), methane (CH4), and nitrous oxide (N2O)?	10 Point(s)
4. d. Implementing practices that increase on-farm carbon sequestration?	10 Point(s)
Soil Health:– Will the proposed project improve soil health by: (select all that apply)	
5. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil “T”)?	10 Point(s)
5. b. Increasing organic matter and carbon content, and improving soil tilth and structure?	10 Point(s)
Wildlife Habitat – Will the proposed project improve wildlife habitat by: (select all that apply)	
6. a. Implementing practices benefitting threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern.	10 Point(s)
6. b. Implementing practices that retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) or other set-aside program?	10 Point(s)

6. c. Implementing practices benefitting honey bee populations or other pollinators?	10 Point(s)
6. d. Implementing land-based practices that improve habitat for aquatic wildlife?	10 Point(s)
Plant and Animal Communities: Will the proposed project improve plant and animal communities by: (select all that apply)	
7. a. Implementing practices that result in the management control of noxious or invasive plant species on non-cropland?	10 Point(s)
7. b. Implementing practice in an Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM)?	10 Point(s)
Energy Conservation– Will the proposed project reduce energy use by: (select all that apply)	
8. a. Reducing on-farm energy consumption?	10 Point(s)
8. b. Implementing practice(s) identified in an approved AgEMP or energy audit, which meet ASABE S612 criteria?	10 Point(s)
Business Lines – Will the practices to be scheduled in the “EQIP Plan of Operations” result in:	
9. a. Enhancement of existing conservation practice(s) or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is received?	10 Point(s)

State Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. Is the program application to support the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is “Yes”, do not answer any other state level questions. If answer is “No”, proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	400 Point(s)
2. Will the treatment(s) you intend to implement using EQIP result in the ecological improvement of existing forestland for soil conservation? (666, 643, 472, 612, 338)	39 Point(s)
3. Will the treatment(s) you intend to implement using EQIP result in the ecological improvement of existing forestland for water quality? (666,643, 472)	28 Point(s)
4. Will the treatment(s) you intend to implement using EQIP result in the ecological improvement of existing forestland for wildlife habitat? (666, 643, 472, 338)	28 Point(s)
5. Will the treatment(s) you intend to implement using EQIP result in the improvement or restoration of a declining forest community? (666, 643, 472, 338)	36 Point(s)
6. Will the treatment(s) you intend to implement using EQIP result in the improved health and vigor of existing windbreaks/shelterbelts? (650, 472)	43 Point(s)
7. Will the conservation tree/shrub planting(s) you intend to implement using EQIP result in improved air quality? (380,612, 472)	19 Point(s)
8. Will the forestry treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in improved energy conservation? (380,472)	27 Point(s)
9. Will the treatment(s) you intend to implement using EQIP result in the protection, restoration, development, or enhancement of habitat for “at risk” or “threatened or endangered” aquatic or wildlife species? (643)	23 Point(s)

<p>10. Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in the ecological improvement to native woodlands that will include at least two of the following management techniques: 1) prescribed burning; 2) selective thinning for forest stand improvement; 3) inter-planting of desired native species to improve diversity; 4) development of micro-habitat components such as snags, brush piles, and forest openings?</p>	<p>48 Point(s)</p>
<p>11. Will the conservation tree/shrub planting(s) you intend to implement using EQIP result in improved protection of soil from erosion? (380, 612, 472)</p>	<p>27 Point(s)</p>
<p>12. Will the conservation tree/shrub planting(s) you intend to implement using EQIP result in improved livestock protection? (380, 472)</p>	<p>31 Point(s)</p>
<p>13. Will the treatment(s) you intend to implement using EQIP be included in a Forest Stewardship Plan approved by the Nebraska Forest Service?</p>	<p>51 Point(s)</p>

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Application Ranking Summary

Prescribed Burn Plan

Program: EQIP 2014	Ranking Date:	Application Number:
Ranking Tool: Prescribed Burn Plan		Applicant:
Final Ranking Score:		Address:
Planner:		Telephone:
Farm Location:		

National Priorities Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
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.	
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 Point(s)
Water Quality Degradation – Will the proposed project improve water quality by: (select all that apply)	
2. a. Implementing the practices in a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP)?	15 Point(s)
2. b. Implementing the practices in a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP)?	10 Point(s)
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 Point(s)
2. d. Reducing the impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides in a “non-impaired water body”?	10 Point(s)
2. e. Implementing practices that improve water quality through animal mortality and carcass management?	10 Point(s)

Water Conservation – Will the proposed project conserve water by: (select all that apply)	
3. a. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce aquifer overdraft.	15 Point(s)
3. b. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce on-farm water use?	10 Point(s)
3. c. Implementing practices in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	10 Point(s)
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 Point(s)
Air Quality - Will the proposed project improve air quality by: (select all that apply)	
4. a. Meeting on-farm regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	10 Point(s)
4. b. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm emissions of particulate matter (PM2.5, PM10)?	10 Point(s)
4. c. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm generated greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide (CO2), methane (CH4), and nitrous oxide (N2O)?	10 Point(s)
4. d. Implementing practices that increase on-farm carbon sequestration?	10 Point(s)
Soil Health:– Will the proposed project improve soil health by: (select all that apply)	
5. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil “T”)?	10 Point(s)
5. b. Increasing organic matter and carbon content, and improving soil tilth and structure?	10 Point(s)
Wildlife Habitat – Will the proposed project improve wildlife habitat by: (select all that apply)	
6. a. Implementing practices benefitting threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern.	10 Point(s)
6. b. Implementing practices that retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) or other set-aside program?	10 Point(s)

6. c. Implementing practices benefitting honey bee populations or other pollinators?	10 Point(s)
6. d. Implementing land-based practices that improve habitat for aquatic wildlife?	10 Point(s)
Plant and Animal Communities: Will the proposed project improve plant and animal communities by: (select all that apply)	
7. a. Implementing practices that result in the management control of noxious or invasive plant species on non-cropland?	10 Point(s)
7. b. Implementing practice in an Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM)?	10 Point(s)
Energy Conservation– Will the proposed project reduce energy use by: (select all that apply)	
8. a. Reducing on-farm energy consumption?	10 Point(s)
8. b. Implementing practice(s) identified in an approved AgEMP or energy audit, which meet ASABE S612 criteria?	10 Point(s)
Business Lines – Will the practices to be scheduled in the “EQIP Plan of Operations” result in:	
9. a. Enhancement of existing conservation practice(s) or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is received?	10 Point(s)

State Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. Is the program application to support the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is "Yes", do not answer any other state level questions. If answer is "No", proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	250 Point(s)
2. Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in the protection and improvement to the resource base on all grazing lands in the contract?	81 Point(s)
3. Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in improved water quality?	31 Point(s)
4. Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP directly benefit a Federal or State listed, threatened, endangered or candidate species as identified in the State wildlife plan (Nebraska Natural Legacy Project)?	26 Point(s)
5. Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in a considerable reduction in an invasive plant species which has been identified as a statewide concern?	31 Point(s)
6. Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP be applied on recently expired CRP, maintaining the CRP cover for the purpose of wildlife habitat, grazing or haying?	81 Point(s)
7. If the applicant who is applying for EQIP is also a previous/present contract holder or has been associated with a contract, has the applicant ever had a contract out of compliance or modified to reschedule a practice without a meritorious reason? Meritorious reason examples include personal hardship, adverse weather conditions, etc.	-25 Point(s)
8. Is the treatment you intend to implement identified in an current farm plan?	25 Point(s)

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Application Ranking Summary

Tribal Initiative

Program: EQIP 2014	Ranking Date:	Application Number:
Ranking Tool: Tribal Initiative		Applicant:
Final Ranking Score:		Address:
Planner:		Telephone:
Farm Location:		

National Priorities Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
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.	
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 Point(s)
Water Quality Degradation – Will the proposed project improve water quality by: (select all that apply)	
2. a. Implementing the practices in a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP)?	15 Point(s)
2. b. Implementing the practices in a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP)?	10 Point(s)
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 Point(s)
2. d. Reducing the impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides in a “non-impaired water body”?	10 Point(s)
2. e. Implementing practices that improve water quality through animal mortality and carcass management?	10 Point(s)

Water Conservation – Will the proposed project conserve water by: (select all that apply)	
3. a. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce aquifer overdraft.	15 Point(s)
3. b. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce on-farm water use?	10 Point(s)
3. c. Implementing practices in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	10 Point(s)
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 Point(s)
Air Quality - Will the proposed project improve air quality by: (select all that apply)	
4. a. Meeting on-farm regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	10 Point(s)
4. b. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm emissions of particulate matter (PM2.5, PM10)?	10 Point(s)
4. c. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm generated greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide (CO2), methane (CH4), and nitrous oxide (N2O)?	10 Point(s)
4. d. Implementing practices that increase on-farm carbon sequestration?	10 Point(s)
Soil Health:– Will the proposed project improve soil health by: (select all that apply)	
5. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil “T”)?	10 Point(s)
5. b. Increasing organic matter and carbon content, and improving soil tilth and structure?	10 Point(s)
Wildlife Habitat – Will the proposed project improve wildlife habitat by: (select all that apply)	
6. a. Implementing practices benefitting threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern.	10 Point(s)
6. b. Implementing practices that retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) or other set-aside program?	10 Point(s)

6. c. Implementing practices benefitting honey bee populations or other pollinators?	10 Point(s)
6. d. Implementing land-based practices that improve habitat for aquatic wildlife?	10 Point(s)
Plant and Animal Communities: Will the proposed project improve plant and animal communities by: (select all that apply)	
7. a. Implementing practices that result in the management control of noxious or invasive plant species on non-cropland?	10 Point(s)
7. b. Implementing practice in an Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM)?	10 Point(s)
Energy Conservation– Will the proposed project reduce energy use by: (select all that apply)	
8. a. Reducing on-farm energy consumption?	10 Point(s)
8. b. Implementing practice(s) identified in an approved AgEMP or energy audit, which meet ASABE S612 criteria?	10 Point(s)
Business Lines – Will the practices to be scheduled in the “EQIP Plan of Operations” result in:	
9. a. Enhancement of existing conservation practice(s) or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is received?	10 Point(s)

State Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. Is the program application to support the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is “Yes”, do not answer any other state level questions. If answer is “No”, proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	400 Point(s)
2. Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in the protection and improvement to the resource base on all grazing lands in the contract?	35 Point(s)
3. Is the treatment you intend to implement identified in an current farm plan?	15 Point(s)
4. Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in improved soil quality with the use of either no-till or a resource conserving crop rotation on at least 50% of the land in the contract? See CSP enhancement CCR99 for conserving crop rotation definition.	16 Point(s)
5. Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in improved water quality?	14 Point(s)
6. Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in the use of variable rate technologies for nutrient application using computer controlled equipment that adjusts fertilizer application based on management zones or grids?	9 Point(s)
7. Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP directly benefit a Federal or State listed, threatened, endangered or candidate species as identified in the State wildlife plan (Nebraska Natural Legacy Project)?	25 Point(s)
8. Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in a considerable reduction in an invasive plant species which has been identified as a statewide concern?	31 Point(s)
9. Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in the collection and use of livestock manure or city sludge from a CNMP for beneficial uses?	10 Point(s)
10. Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in wetlands being created, restored or enhanced?	15 Point(s)

11. Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in conversion from cropland to permanent perennial vegetation (wildlifeland, rangeland, pastureland) on all contract acres that were previously utilized as cropland?	47 Point(s)
12. Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in pollinator habitat being created or improved? Practice applied result in plantings which include milkweed species among a diverse mix of flowering plants. (Practice 327 Conservation Cover, Pollinator criteria as noted in 645 Upland Wildlife Habitat Management)	14 Point(s)
13. If the applicant who is applying for EQIP is also a previous/present contract holder or has been associated with a contract, has the applicant ever had a contract out of compliance or modified to reschedule a practice without a meritorious reason? Meritorious reason examples include personal hardship, adverse weather conditions, etc.	-25 Point(s)
14. Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in improved soil quality with the use of no-till on 100% of the land in the contract?	13 Point(s)
15. Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in a tree and/or shrub planting for conservation purposes?	16 Point(s)
16. Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP be applied on recently expired CRP, maintaining the CRP cover for the purpose of wildlife habitat, grazing or haying?	51 Point(s)
17. Will the irrigation system improvement you intend to implement using EQIP result in estimated water savings of at least 40% if located within an over appropriated river basin?	18 Point(s)
18. Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in wind and water erosion control to "T" on all cropland in the contract?	36 Point(s)

<p>19. Will the treatment you intend to implement support the National Soil Health Initiative by including all five of the soil health practices: 1) cover crops (340); 2) no-till (329); 3) conservation crop rotation (328); 4) nutrient management (590); and integrated pest management (595)? If yes do not answer questions 20 and 21.</p>	<p>25 Point(s)</p>
<p>20. Will the treatment you intend to implement support the National Soil Health Initiative by including three of the five soil health practices: 1) cover crops (340); 2) no-till (329); 3) conservation crop rotation (328); 4) nutrient management (590); and integrated pest management (595)? If yes do not answer questions 19 and 21.</p>	<p>20 Point(s)</p>
<p>21. Will the treatment you intend to implement support the National Soil Health Initiative by including at at least one of the five soil health practices: 1) cover crops (340); 2) no-till (329); 3) conservation crop rotation (328); 4) nutrient management (590); and integrated pest management (595)? If yes do not answer questions 19 and 20.</p>	<p>15 Point(s)</p>

Natural Resources Conservation Service

**Application Ranking Summary
Wildlife Initiative Nebraska - WIN - BFR**

Program: EQIP 2014	Ranking Date:	Application Number:
Ranking Tool: Wildlife Initiative Nebraska - WIN - BFR		Applicant:
Final Ranking Score:		Address:
Planner:		Telephone:
Farm Location:		

National Priorities Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
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.	
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 Point(s)
Water Quality Degradation – Will the proposed project improve water quality by: (select all that apply)	
2. a. Implementing the practices in a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP)?	15 Point(s)
2. b. Implementing the practices in a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP)?	10 Point(s)
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 Point(s)
2. d. Reducing the impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides in a “non-impaired water body”?	10 Point(s)
2. e. Implementing practices that improve water quality through animal mortality and carcass management?	10 Point(s)

Water Conservation – Will the proposed project conserve water by: (select all that apply)	
3. a. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce aquifer overdraft.	15 Point(s)
3. b. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce on-farm water use?	10 Point(s)
3. c. Implementing practices in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	10 Point(s)
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 Point(s)
Air Quality - Will the proposed project improve air quality by: (select all that apply)	
4. a. Meeting on-farm regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	10 Point(s)
4. b. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm emissions of particulate matter (PM2.5, PM10)?	10 Point(s)
4. c. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm generated greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide (CO2), methane (CH4), and nitrous oxide (N2O)?	10 Point(s)
4. d. Implementing practices that increase on-farm carbon sequestration?	10 Point(s)
Soil Health:– Will the proposed project improve soil health by: (select all that apply)	
5. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil “T”)?	10 Point(s)
5. b. Increasing organic matter and carbon content, and improving soil tilth and structure?	10 Point(s)
Wildlife Habitat – Will the proposed project improve wildlife habitat by: (select all that apply)	
6. a. Implementing practices benefitting threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern.	10 Point(s)
6. b. Implementing practices that retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) or other set-aside program?	10 Point(s)

6. c. Implementing practices benefitting honey bee populations or other pollinators?	10 Point(s)
6. d. Implementing land-based practices that improve habitat for aquatic wildlife?	10 Point(s)
Plant and Animal Communities: Will the proposed project improve plant and animal communities by: (select all that apply)	
7. a. Implementing practices that result in the management control of noxious or invasive plant species on non-cropland?	10 Point(s)
7. b. Implementing practice in an Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM)?	10 Point(s)
Energy Conservation– Will the proposed project reduce energy use by: (select all that apply)	
8. a. Reducing on-farm energy consumption?	10 Point(s)
8. b. Implementing practice(s) identified in an approved AgEMP or energy audit, which meet ASABE S612 criteria?	10 Point(s)
Business Lines – Will the practices to be scheduled in the “EQIP Plan of Operations” result in:	
9. a. Enhancement of existing conservation practice(s) or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is received?	10 Point(s)

State Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
<p>1. Is the program application to support the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is “Yes”, do not answer any other state level questions. If answer is “No”, proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.</p>	<p>400 Point(s)</p>
<p>2. Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in the ecological improvement to routinely grazed grasslands that will include all three of the following management techniques: 1) prescribed burning; 2) prescribed grazing that does not exceed 50% utilization; and 3) annual rest from grazing on a portion (minimum of 20%) of the enrolled acres for a 12 month period or light grazing (less than 40% use documented by an acceptable monitoring method) or if not routinely grazed, will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in the ecological improvement to grasslands that will include both of the following management techniques: 1) prescribed burning; and 2) only one "disturbance grazing" (high intensity with >2X stocking rate - short duration of <30 days) event during the contract period with rest from grazing during the remainder of the contract period or light grazing (less than 40% use documented by an acceptable monitoring method)?</p>	<p>44 Point(s)</p>
<p>3. Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in the ecological improvement to grasslands that will include only two but not all three, of the following management techniques: 1) prescribed burning; 2) prescribed grazing that does not exceed 50% utilization ; and 3) annual rest from grazing on a portion (minimum of 20%) of the enrolled acres for a 12 month period or light grazing (less than 40% use documented by an acceptable monitoring method)?</p>	<p>19 Point(s)</p>

<p>4. Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in the ecological habitat improvement to grasslands that will include either of the following developments: 1) conversion of non-native grassland (i.e. smooth brome) to native grassland habitat (minimum of 10 acres); or 2) conversion of cropland to native grassland habitat (minimum of 10 acres)?</p>	<p>22 Point(s)</p>
<p>5. Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in the ecological improvement to riparian areas adjacent to streams that will include all three of the following enhancement methods: 1) structural practices to reconstitute natural stream course including reconnecting oxbows and backwaters and removal/modification of barriers such as culverts and diversions; 2) vegetative development in buffer zone including planting of herbaceous and woody species or removal of non-native species such as Russian olive, saltcedar, phragmites, etc.; and 3) vegetative management in buffer zone including prescribed burning or grazing management using fencing and off-site water development?</p>	<p>41 Point(s)</p>
<p>6. Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in the ecological improvement to riparian areas adjacent to streams that will include only two, but not all three, of the following enhancement methods: 1) structural practices to reconstitute natural stream course including reconnecting oxbows and backwaters and removal/modification of barriers such as culverts and diversions; 2) vegetative development in buffer zone including planting of herbaceous and woody species or removal of non-native species such as Russian olive, saltcedar, phragmites, etc.; and 3) vegetative management in buffer zone including prescribed burning or grazing management using fencing and off-site water development?</p>	<p>26 Point(s)</p>
<p>7. Does the riparian area being improved support an at-risk aquatic species or is it classified as a cold-water stream?</p>	<p>12 Point(s)</p>

<p>8. Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in the ecological improvement to wetlands that will include a minor hydrology enhancement (ditch plug, dike, sediment removal, etc.) plus at least two of the following management techniques: 1) prescribed burning; 2) prescribed grazing; 3) tillage; 4) site-specific herbicide application; or 5) water level management?</p>	<p>42 Point(s)</p>
<p>9. Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in the ecological improvement to wetlands that will include any two of the following development / management techniques: 1) minor hydrology enhancements (ditch plug, dike, sediment removal, etc.); 2) prescribed grazing; and 3) tillage; 4) site-specific herbicide application; 5) water level management; or 6) prescribed burning?</p>	<p>19 Point(s)</p>
<p>10. Is the wetland being improved one of the following types of wetlands: (Rainwater Basin playa, Central Platte floodplain or riverine, Eastern Saline wetland, Missouri River floodplain or riverine, Todd Valley playa, or fen)?</p>	<p>12 Point(s)</p>
<p>11. Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in the ecological improvement to native woodlands that will include at least three of the following management techniques: 1) prescribed burning; 2) prescribed grazing that does not exceed 50% utilization and with a minimum of 20% of the enrolled area receiving rest for a 12 month period; 3) selective thinning for forest stand improvement; 4) inter-planting of desired native species to improve diversity; 5) development of micro-habitat components such as snags, brush piles, and forest openings?</p>	<p>44 Point(s)</p>

<p>12. Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in the ecological improvement to native woodlands that will include only two, but not three or more, of the following management techniques: 1) prescribed burning; 2) prescribed grazing that does not exceed 50% utilization and with a minimum of 20% of the enrolled area receiving annual rest for a 12 month period; 3) selective thinning for forest stand improvement; 4) inter-planting of desired native species to improve diversity; 5) development of micro-habitat components such as snags, brush piles, and forest openings?</p>	<p>17 Point(s)</p>
<p>13. Is the woodland being improved a native stand located within one of the four Focus Areas for the Nebraska Forest Legacy Program?</p>	<p>9 Point(s)</p>
<p>14. Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in either the conversion of cropland to wildlife habitat or the significant enhancement of existing wildlife habitat AND is located in a cropland dominated landscape (>75% cropland within a 1 mile radius)?</p>	<p>44 Point(s)</p>
<p>15. Will the wildlife habitat area outlined in Question 14 above provide an area of permanent habitat in one contiguous block that is larger than 5 acres and has an average width of 100 feet or greater?</p>	<p>13 Point(s)</p>
<p>16. Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in the protection, restoration, development or enhancement of an at risk plant species?</p>	<p>25 Point(s)</p>
<p>17. Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in the ecological habitat improvement to grasslands that will involve the removal of invading woody species currently at low density and considered an “operation and maintenance” level of infestation? (Target species include Eastern red cedar, Siberian elm, Russian olive, etc.)</p>	<p>11 Point(s)</p>

Natural Resources Conservation Service

**Application Ranking Summary
Wildlife Initiative Nebraska - WIN**

Program: EQIP 2014	Ranking Date:	Application Number:
Ranking Tool: Wildlife Initiative Nebraska - WIN		Applicant:
Final Ranking Score:		Address:
Planner:		Telephone:
Farm Location:		

National Priorities Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
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.	
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 Point(s)
Water Quality Degradation – Will the proposed project improve water quality by: (select all that apply)	
2. a. Implementing the practices in a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP)?	15 Point(s)
2. b. Implementing the practices in a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP)?	10 Point(s)
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 Point(s)
2. d. Reducing the impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides in a “non-impaired water body”?	10 Point(s)
2. e. Implementing practices that improve water quality through animal mortality and carcass management?	10 Point(s)

Water Conservation – Will the proposed project conserve water by: (select all that apply)	
3. a. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce aquifer overdraft.	15 Point(s)
3. b. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce on-farm water use?	10 Point(s)
3. c. Implementing practices in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	10 Point(s)
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 Point(s)
Air Quality - Will the proposed project improve air quality by: (select all that apply)	
4. a. Meeting on-farm regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	10 Point(s)
4. b. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm emissions of particulate matter (PM2.5, PM10)?	10 Point(s)
4. c. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm generated greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide (CO2), methane (CH4), and nitrous oxide (N2O)?	10 Point(s)
4. d. Implementing practices that increase on-farm carbon sequestration?	10 Point(s)
Soil Health:– Will the proposed project improve soil health by: (select all that apply)	
5. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil “T”)?	10 Point(s)
5. b. Increasing organic matter and carbon content, and improving soil tilth and structure?	10 Point(s)
Wildlife Habitat – Will the proposed project improve wildlife habitat by: (select all that apply)	
6. a. Implementing practices benefitting threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern.	10 Point(s)
6. b. Implementing practices that retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) or other set-aside program?	10 Point(s)

6. c. Implementing practices benefitting honey bee populations or other pollinators?	10 Point(s)
6. d. Implementing land-based practices that improve habitat for aquatic wildlife?	10 Point(s)
Plant and Animal Communities: Will the proposed project improve plant and animal communities by: (select all that apply)	
7. a. Implementing practices that result in the management control of noxious or invasive plant species on non-cropland?	10 Point(s)
7. b. Implementing practice in an Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM)?	10 Point(s)
Energy Conservation– Will the proposed project reduce energy use by: (select all that apply)	
8. a. Reducing on-farm energy consumption?	10 Point(s)
8. b. Implementing practice(s) identified in an approved AgEMP or energy audit, which meet ASABE S612 criteria?	10 Point(s)
Business Lines – Will the practices to be scheduled in the “EQIP Plan of Operations” result in:	
9. a. Enhancement of existing conservation practice(s) or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is received?	10 Point(s)

State Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
<p>1. Is the program application to support the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is "Yes", do not answer any other state level questions. If answer is "No", proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.</p>	<p>400 Point(s)</p>
<p>2. Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in the ecological improvement to routinely grazed grasslands that will include all three of the following management techniques: 1) prescribed burning; 2) prescribed grazing that does not exceed 50% utilization; and 3) annual rest from grazing on a portion (minimum of 20%) of the enrolled acres for a 12 month period or light grazing (less than 40% use documented by an acceptable monitoring method) or if not routinely grazed, will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in the ecological improvement to grasslands that will include both of the following management techniques: 1) prescribed burning; and 2) only one "disturbance grazing" (high intensity with >2X stocking rate - short duration of <30 days) event during the contract period with rest from grazing during the remainder of the contract period or light grazing (less than 40% use documented by an acceptable monitoring method)?</p>	<p>44 Point(s)</p>
<p>3. Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in the ecological improvement to grasslands that will include only two but not all three, of the following management techniques: 1) prescribed burning; 2) prescribed grazing that does not exceed 50% utilization ; and 3) annual rest from grazing on a portion (minimum of 20%) of the enrolled acres for a 12 month period or light grazing (less than 40% use documented by an acceptable monitoring method)?</p>	<p>19 Point(s)</p>

<p>4. Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in the ecological habitat improvement to grasslands that will include either of the following developments: 1) conversion of non-native grassland (i.e. smooth brome) to native grassland habitat (minimum of 10 acres); or 2) conversion of cropland to native grassland habitat (minimum of 10 acres)?</p>	<p>22 Point(s)</p>
<p>5. Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in the ecological improvement to riparian areas adjacent to streams that will include all three of the following enhancement methods: 1) structural practices to reconstitute natural stream course including reconnecting oxbows and backwaters and removal/modification of barriers such as culverts and diversions; 2) vegetative development in buffer zone including planting of herbaceous and woody species or removal of non-native species such as Russian olive, saltcedar, phragmites, etc.; and 3) vegetative management in buffer zone including prescribed burning or grazing management using fencing and off-site water development?</p>	<p>41 Point(s)</p>
<p>6. Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in the ecological improvement to riparian areas adjacent to streams that will include only two, but not all three, of the following enhancement methods: 1) structural practices to reconstitute natural stream course including reconnecting oxbows and backwaters and removal/modification of barriers such as culverts and diversions; 2) vegetative development in buffer zone including planting of herbaceous and woody species or removal of non-native species such as Russian olive, saltcedar, phragmites, etc.; and 3) vegetative management in buffer zone including prescribed burning or grazing management using fencing and off-site water development?</p>	<p>26 Point(s)</p>
<p>7. Does the riparian area being improved support an at-risk aquatic species or is it classified as a cold-water stream?</p>	<p>12 Point(s)</p>

<p>8. Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in the ecological improvement to wetlands that will include a minor hydrology enhancement (ditch plug, dike, sediment removal, etc.) plus at least two of the following management techniques: 1) prescribed burning; 2) prescribed grazing; 3) tillage; 4) site-specific herbicide application; or 5) water level management?</p>	<p>42 Point(s)</p>
<p>9. Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in the ecological improvement to wetlands that will include any two of the following development / management techniques: 1) minor hydrology enhancements (ditch plug, dike, sediment removal, etc.); 2) prescribed grazing; and 3) tillage; 4) site-specific herbicide application; 5) water level management; or 6) prescribed burning?</p>	<p>19 Point(s)</p>
<p>10. Is the wetland being improved one of the following types of wetlands: (Rainwater Basin playa, Central Platte floodplain or riverine, Eastern Saline wetland, Missouri River floodplain or riverine, Todd Valley playa, or fen)?</p>	<p>12 Point(s)</p>
<p>11. Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in the ecological improvement to native woodlands that will include at least three of the following management techniques: 1) prescribed burning; 2) prescribed grazing that does not exceed 50% utilization and with a minimum of 20% of the enrolled area receiving rest for a 12 month period; 3) selective thinning for forest stand improvement; 4) inter-planting of desired native species to improve diversity; 5) development of micro-habitat components such as snags, brush piles, and forest openings?</p>	<p>44 Point(s)</p>

<p>12. Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in the ecological improvement to native woodlands that will include only two, but not three or more, of the following management techniques: 1) prescribed burning; 2) prescribed grazing that does not exceed 50% utilization and with a minimum of 20% of the enrolled area receiving annual rest for a 12 month period; 3) selective thinning for forest stand improvement; 4) inter-planting of desired native species to improve diversity; 5) development of micro-habitat components such as snags, brush piles, and forest openings?</p>	<p>17 Point(s)</p>
<p>13. Is the woodland being improved a native stand located within one of the four Focus Areas for the Nebraska Forest Legacy Program?</p>	<p>9 Point(s)</p>
<p>14. Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in either the conversion of cropland to wildlife habitat or the significant enhancement of existing wildlife habitat AND is located in a cropland dominated landscape (>75% cropland within a 1 mile radius)?</p>	<p>44 Point(s)</p>
<p>15. Will the wildlife habitat area outlined in Question 14 above provide an area of permanent habitat in one contiguous block that is larger than 5 acres and has an average width of 100 feet or greater?</p>	<p>13 Point(s)</p>
<p>16. Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in the protection, restoration, development or enhancement of an at risk plant species?</p>	<p>25 Point(s)</p>
<p>17. Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in the ecological habitat improvement to grasslands that will involve the removal of invading woody species currently at low density and considered an “operation and maintenance” level of infestation? (Target species include Eastern red cedar, Siberian elm, Russian olive, etc.)</p>	<p>11 Point(s)</p>

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Application Ranking Summary

WQ Degradation Excess Path/Manure AFO

Program: EQIP 2014	Ranking Date:	Application Number:
Ranking Tool: WQ Degradation Excess Path/Manure AFO		Applicant:
Final Ranking Score:		Address:
Planner:		Telephone:
Farm Location:		

National Priorities Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
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.	
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 Point(s)
Water Quality Degradation – Will the proposed project improve water quality by: (select all that apply)	
2. a. Implementing the practices in a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP)?	15 Point(s)
2. b. Implementing the practices in a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP)?	10 Point(s)
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 Point(s)
2. d. Reducing the impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides in a “non-impaired water body”?	10 Point(s)
2. e. Implementing practices that improve water quality through animal mortality and carcass management?	10 Point(s)

Water Conservation – Will the proposed project conserve water by: (select all that apply)	
3. a. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce aquifer overdraft.	15 Point(s)
3. b. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce on-farm water use?	10 Point(s)
3. c. Implementing practices in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	10 Point(s)
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 Point(s)
Air Quality - Will the proposed project improve air quality by: (select all that apply)	
4. a. Meeting on-farm regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	10 Point(s)
4. b. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm emissions of particulate matter (PM2.5, PM10)?	10 Point(s)
4. c. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm generated greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide (CO2), methane (CH4), and nitrous oxide (N2O)?	10 Point(s)
4. d. Implementing practices that increase on-farm carbon sequestration?	10 Point(s)
Soil Health:– Will the proposed project improve soil health by: (select all that apply)	
5. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil “T”)?	10 Point(s)
5. b. Increasing organic matter and carbon content, and improving soil tilth and structure?	10 Point(s)
Wildlife Habitat – Will the proposed project improve wildlife habitat by: (select all that apply)	
6. a. Implementing practices benefitting threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern.	10 Point(s)
6. b. Implementing practices that retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) or other set-aside program?	10 Point(s)

6. c. Implementing practices benefitting honey bee populations or other pollinators?	10 Point(s)
6. d. Implementing land-based practices that improve habitat for aquatic wildlife?	10 Point(s)
Plant and Animal Communities: Will the proposed project improve plant and animal communities by: (select all that apply)	
7. a. Implementing practices that result in the management control of noxious or invasive plant species on non-cropland?	10 Point(s)
7. b. Implementing practice in an Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM)?	10 Point(s)
Energy Conservation– Will the proposed project reduce energy use by: (select all that apply)	
8. a. Reducing on-farm energy consumption?	10 Point(s)
8. b. Implementing practice(s) identified in an approved AgEMP or energy audit, which meet ASABE S612 criteria?	10 Point(s)
Business Lines – Will the practices to be scheduled in the “EQIP Plan of Operations” result in:	
9. a. Enhancement of existing conservation practice(s) or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is received?	10 Point(s)

State Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
<p>1. Is the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP being applied to an existing livestock operation located within 0.5 miles of surface water, including any streams, lakes, ponds, impounding reservoirs, marches, wetlands, water courses, waterways, springs or canal systems, natural or artificial? (An existing AFO to be properly abandoned and relocated could also score these points.)</p>	<p>60 Point(s)</p>
<p>2. Is the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP being applied to an existing livestock operation located: 0.6 to 1.0 miles of surface water, including any streams, lakes, ponds, impounding reservoirs, marches, wetlands, water courses, waterways, springs or canal systems, natural or artificial? If taken do not answer 1& 3. (An existing AFO to be properly abandoned and relocated could also score these points.)</p>	<p>25 Point(s)</p>
<p>3. Is the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP being applied to an existing livestock operation located: Greater than 1.0 miles of surface water, including any streams, lakes, ponds, impounding reservoirs, marches, wetlands, water courses, waterways, springs or canal systems, natural or artificial? (An existing AFO to be properly abandoned and relocated could also score these points.)</p>	<p>25 Point(s)</p>
<p>4. Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP on the existing livestock operation result in an increased ground water protection? Example: upgrading to flexible member liner for proposed earthen storage facility; removing the potential for runoff by moving all livestock into confinement, bedded pack or slatted flow facilities; or closure of existing waste control structure.</p>	<p>40 Point(s)</p>
<p>5. Is the existing livestock operation considered a small or medium AFO?</p>	<p>38 Point(s)</p>
<p>6. Is the existing livestock operation or manure storage structure(s) in an NRD determined Ground Water Management Phase II or III areas?</p>	<p>27 Point(s)</p>

7. For the AFO portion of the operation, is the entire existing livestock operation (maximum operating capacity) in total confinement 100% throughout the 12 month period?	15 Point(s)
8. Will the producer be utilizing a Vegetative Treatment Area (VTA) ?	21 Point(s)
9. Is the replacement of existing livestock operation, building, or storage structures for the construction of new building or structures due to a resource concern.	33 Point(s)
10. Is there a planned animal compost facility for mortality in this EQIP project?	13 Point(s)
11. Is there a animal compost facility for mortality (that meets compost standards for 316) already being utilized at the existing livestock operation?	5 Point(s)
12. Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP for the existing livestock operation result in site-specific nutrient management for better nitrogen utilization (i.e. application timing and placement closer to crop uptake, grid sampling, variable rate applicators, GPS based) for all the cropland under ownership and/or operational controlled (leased/easement) ground as outlined in the CNMP following 590 standard?	25 Point(s)
13. Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP for the existing livestock operation result in site-specific nutrient management for phosphorus (i.e. P-based application rates of manure, field rotation of manure application, manure transfers/exports) far all the cropland under ownership and/or operational control (lease/rented) as outlined in the CNMP following 590 standards?	64 Point(s)
14. Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP on the existing livestock operation result in the installation of additional and/or new land treatment practices)i.e. 328, 329, 345, 330, 332, 362, 386, 390, 391, 393, 412, 447, 600, or 638) being applied to 24-50% of the owned (controlled) land applicatiion sites?	16 Point(s)

<p>15. Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP on the existing livestock operation result in the installation of additional and/or new land treatment practices (i.e. 328, 329, 345, 330, 332, 362, 386, 390, 391, 393, 412, 447, 600, or 638) being applied to 51-100% of the owned (controlled) land application sites?</p>	<p>25 Point(s)</p>
<p>16. Will the applied effluent, wastewater, washwater and/or runoff water from the manure storage structures via irrigation equipment be applied on land application sites that are or will be IWM compliant?</p>	<p>13 Point(s)</p>
<p>17. Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP on the existing livestock operation minimize air quality issues (dust from the operation/buildings or gases from the waste storage facility) using the appropriate practice(s)? (i.e. waste facility cover, methane recovery, bio-filters, shelterbelt)</p>	<p>10 Point(s)</p>
<p>18. Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP on the existing livestock operation result in complete abandonment or relocation of the operation due to a resource concern? If yes do not answer the next question.</p>	<p>10 Point(s)</p>
<p>19. Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP on the existing livestock operation result in a partial abandonment or relocation of the operation due to a resource concern?</p>	<p>5 Point(s)</p>
<p>21. Does the operation own or operate adequate cropland for the manure nutrients excreted and stored on site?</p>	<p>10 Point(s)</p>
<p>22. Does the operation own or operate adequate cropland, pasture or hay ground for the manure nutrients excreted and stored onsite? If hay or pasture ground is needed to apply the manure and makes up 1-33% of the total acres, subtract points.</p>	<p>-19 Point(s)</p>
<p>23. Does the operation own or operate adequate cropland, pasture or hay ground for the manure nutrients excreted and stored onsite? If hay or pasture ground is needed to apply the manure and makes up 34-66% of the total acres, subtract points.</p>	<p>-30 Point(s)</p>

24. Does the operation own or operate adequate cropland, pasture or hay ground for the manure nutrients excreted and stored onsite? If hay or pasture ground is needed to apply the manure and makes up 67-100% of the total acres, subtract points.	-45 Point(s)
25. If the applicant has a CNMP with pastureland for manure application, is the pastureland accessible for land application equipment?	14 Point(s)