

Ranking Tool Summary

for FY2011 - Sustainable Forestry Resource Concern

(Released 12/15/2010)

Description:

Land Uses:

Forest, Grazed Forest, Wildlife

Efficiency Score:

Scoring Multiplier: 40.100

Optional Notes:

Do not start a practice until application is approved unless waiver is signed and approved. If a practice is not completed within the first 12 months of the contract, the contract will be subject to termination with recovery cost assessed.

National Priorities:

Scoring Multiplier: 1.000

Questions:

Number	Question	Points
1	a. Meet regulatory requirements relating to animal feeding operations, or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	15
1	b. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a designated impaired water body?	10
1	c. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a water body?	5
2	a. Increase groundwater recharge in identified groundwater depletion areas (http://water.usgs.gov/ogw/rasa/html/TOC.html)?	15
2	b. Conserve water from irrigation system improvements and result in estimated water savings of at least 5% and saved water will be available for other beneficial uses?	10
2	c. Conserve water in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	5
3	a. Meet regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	15
3	b. Reduce green house gases such as methane, nitrous oxide, and volatile organic compounds (VOC)?	15
3	c. Increase carbon sequestration?	5
4	a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil "T")?	15
5	a. Benefit threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern as identified in a State wildlife plan?	15
5	b. Retain wildlife and plant benefits on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)?	15
6	a. Eradicate or control noxious or invasive species?	10

6	b. Increase, improve or establish pollinator habitat?	10
6	c. Implement precision agricultural methods?	10
6	d. Properly dispose of animal carcasses?	5
6	e. Implement an Integrated Pest Management plan?	5
7	a. Reduce energy consumption on the agricultural operation?	15
7	b. Increase on-farm energy efficiency with more efficient equipment?	10
7	c. Assist in producing energy from renewable resources (solar, wind, biofuel, etc)?	10
8	a. Implementation of all planned conservation practices within three years of contract obligation?	10
8	b. Improvement of existing conservation practices or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is accepted, or will complete an existing conservation system?	10
9	a. If the applicant has an existing EQIP contract, has it been, and is it now, on schedule and in full compliance?	5
9	b. Did the applicant successfully complete any past contract(s) in full compliance?	5
9	c. Is this the applicant's first EQIP application?	5
Total Points		250

State Issues:

Scoring Multiplier: 1.600

Questions:

Sub-heading Number	Question Number	Question	Points
	1	Is this treatment pastureland/idle land conversion?	40
	2	Will native vegetation be left along stream corridors (SMZs) in accordance with the MS BMP Handbook for forestry guidelines?	60
	3	Will all offered land suited for longleaf pines or hardwoods be planted to these type trees?	60
	4	Will treatments address erosion on roads, skid trails, and landings?	50
	5	Will treatment result in control of mid-story hardwoods (QVM) in pine stands?	40
	6	Will invasive species be treated on offered acres?	40
	7	Has applicant self-certified as a limited resource farmer?	20
	8	Has applicant had a previous contract and failed to complete contract items on schedule?	-20
	9	Has applicant NEVER been required to pay recovery costs? If applicant has NEVER paid recovery costs, answer YES.	60
Maximum Points:			Total Points
			350

Local Issues:

Scoring Multiplier: 1.000

Questions:

Sub-heading Number	Question Number	Question	Points
	1	Is this the first time applicant has applied for EQIP assistance?	300
Maximum Points:			Total Points
			300

Selected Resource Concerns and Practices:

- Domestic Animals: Inadequate Quantities and Quality of Feed and Forage
 - Pest Management (595)
- Domestic Animals: Stress and Mortality
 - Pest Management (595)
- Fish and Wildlife: Habitat Fragmentation
 - Early Successional Habitat Development/M (647)
 - Riparian Forest Buffer (391)
 - Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645)
- Fish and Wildlife: Inadequate Cover/Shelter
 - Early Successional Habitat Development/M (647)
 - Forest Stand Improvement (666)
 - Forest Trails and Landings (655)
 - Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
 - Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645)
- Fish and Wildlife: Inadequate Food
 - Forest Stand Improvement (666)
 - Forest Trails and Landings (655)
- Fish and Wildlife: Inadequate Space
 - Early Successional Habitat Development/M (647)
 - Prescribed Burning (338)
- Fish and Wildlife: T&E Species: Declining Species, Species of Concern
 - Early Successional Habitat Development/M (647)
 - Prescribed Burning (338)
 - Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645)
- Fish and Wildlife: Threatened and Endangered Fish and Wildlife Species
 - Early Successional Habitat Development/M (647)
 - Prescribed Burning (338)
 - Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645)
- Plant Condition: Noxious and Invasive Plants
 - Forest Site Preparation (490)
 - Pest Management (595)
 - Prescribed Burning (338)
 - Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645)
- Plant Condition: Plants not adapted or suited
 - Pest Management (595)
- Plant Condition: Productivity, Health and Vigor
 - Forest Site Preparation (490)
 - Pest Management (595)
 - Prescribed Burning (338)
- Plant Condition: Wildfire Hazard
 - Firebreak (394)
 - Forest Site Preparation (490)
- Soil Erosion: Classic Gully
 - Forest Stand Improvement (666)
 - Forest Trails and Landings (655)
 - Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
- Soil Erosion: Ephemeral Gully
 - Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
- Water Quality: Excessive Suspended Sediment and Turbidity in Surface Water
 - Riparian Forest Buffer (391)
- Water Quality: Harmful Levels of Pesticides in Surface Water
 - Riparian Forest Buffer (391)