

**Natural Resources Conservation Service
Application Ranking
Summary County Irr WM**

Program: EQIP 2014	Ranking Date:	Application Number:
Ranking Tool: County Irr WM		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 1 will result in the application being awarded the maximum amount of points that can be earned for the national priority category.</p>	
<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 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>2a. Implementing the practices in a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP)?</p>	15 Point(s)
<p>2b. Implementing the practices in a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP)?</p>	10 Point(s)
<p>2c. 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>2d. Reducing the impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides in a “non-impaired water body”?</p>	10 Point(s)
<p>2e. 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)	
3a. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce aquifer overdraft.	15 Point(s)
3b. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce on-farm water use?	10 Point(s)
3c. Implementing practices in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	10 Point(s)
3d. 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)	
4a. Meeting on-farm regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	10 Point(s)
4b. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm emissions of particulate matter (PM2.5, PM10)?	10 Point(s)
4c. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm generated greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide (CO ₂), methane (CH ₄), and nitrous oxide (N ₂ O)?	10 Point(s)
4d. 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)	
5a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil “T”)?	10 Point(s)
5b. 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)	
6a. Implementing practices benefitting threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern.	10 Point(s)
6b. Implementing practices that retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) or other set-aside program?	10 Point(s)

6c. Implementing practices benefitting honey bee populations or other pollinators?	10 Point(s)
6d. 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)	
7a. Implementing practices that result in the management control of noxious or invasive plant species on non-cropland?	10 Point(s)
7b. 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)	
8a. Reducing on-farm energy consumption?	10 Point(s)
8b. 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. 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 a center pivot irrigation system to be re-nozzled?	16 Point(s)
2. Are the center pivot irrigation sprinklers to be replaced?	23 Point(s)
3. Are center pivot sprinklers to be converted to drop nozzles?	31 Point(s)
4. Is a traveling system to be converted to a center pivot?	27 Point(s)
5. Is a traveling gun system to be converted to a solid-set sprinkler system?	24 Point(s)
6. Is a traveling gun system to be converted to a drip irrigation system?	34 Point(s)
7. Is a solid set irrigation system to be converted to a drip irrigation system?	16 Point(s)
8. Are solid set sprinklers to be re-nozzled only?	7 Point(s)
9. Is a solid set sprinkler system to be replaced?	12 Point(s)
11. Will applicant be applying residue management (no-till, strip-till, or ridge-till) on irrigated acres?	7 Point(s)
12. Will applicant be applying a conservation crop rotation to irrigated acres?	2 Point(s)
14. Will applicant be contour farming on irrigated acres?	2 Point(s)
15. Will applicant be planting cover and green manure crop on irrigated acres?	2 Point(s)
16. Will applicant be applying chiseling and/or subsoiling on irrigated acres?	2 Point(s)
17. Does Existing Center Pivot being converted from high pressure to low pressure drop nozzles need an end gun booster pump? Answer yes only if equipment is needed and answer to 3 is yes?	8 Point(s)
18. Will applicant apply residue management (no-till--75 %+) on cropland to reduce the amount of irrigation water needed through better infiltration and less run-off?	8 Point(s)
19. Will applicant apply residue management (no-till--75%) on cropland to increase the amount of infiltration from rainfall and reduce the need for irrigation?	4 Point(s)

20- Answer Yes if the applicant has NEVER had an EQIP contract.	5 Point(s)
21. Will the offered acres address water quality impairments? Must be in a 12 digit watershed with a stream segment on the ADEM 303d list due to pollution from agricultural source (GIS layer "AL2016 303d_line") or a TMDL stream with an agricultural related pollutant (GIS layer "2016_AL_approved_TMDLs_lines").	10 Point(s)
22. Will the offered acres benefit T&E aquatic species within a Strategic Habitat Unit (GIS polygon layer "SHUs" or within 1 mile upstream of Critical Habitat (GIS layer "crithab_line"))?	8 Point(s)

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. Participant agrees to follow a basic Irrigation Water Management Plan?	250 Point(s)

Land Use:

Crop; Pasture;

Resource Concerns	Practices
Insufficient Water: Inefficient Use of Irrigation Water	Irrigation Pipeline
Insufficient Water: Inefficient Use of Irrigation Water	Irrigation System, Micro irrigation
Insufficient Water: Inefficient Use of Irrigation Water	Irrigation Water Management
Insufficient Water: Inefficient Use of Irrigation Water	Livestock Pipeline
Insufficient Water: Inefficient Use of Irrigation Water	Pumping Plant
Insufficient Water: Inefficient Use of Irrigation Water	Sprinkler System
Insufficient Water: Inefficient Use of Irrigation Water	Water Well

Ranking Score

Efficiency: Local Issues: State Issues: National Issues: Final Ranking Score:
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This ranking report is for your information. It does not in any way guarantee funding. When funding becomes available, you will be notified if your application is selected for funding. Some changes to the application may be required before a final contract is awarded.

Notes:

NRCS Representative:	Applicant Signature Not Required on this report for Contract Development unless required by State policy:
Signature Date:	Signature Date: