

**Natural Resources Conservation  
Service**

**Application Ranking Summary  
Longleaf Pine**

<b>Program:</b> EQIP 2014	<b>Ranking Date:</b>	<b>Application Number:</b>
<b>Ranking Tool:</b> Longleaf Pine		<b>Applicant:</b>
<b>Final Ranking Score:</b>		<b>Address:</b>
<b>Planner:</b>		<b>Telephone:</b>
<b>Farm Location:</b>		

**National Priorities Addressed**

<b>Issue Questions</b>	<b>Responses</b>
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 (CO <sub>2</sub> ), methane (CH <sub>4</sub> ), and nitrous oxide (N <sub>2</sub> O)?	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**

<b>Issue Questions</b>	<b>Responses</b>
1. Is this application for site prep (very light, light, or medium) and longleaf tree planting? If the answer to this question is yes, the answer to question 2 is no. (75 pts)	75 Point(s)
2. Is this application for site prep (heavy) and longleaf tree planting? If the answer to this question is yes, the answer to question 1 is no. (50 pts)	50 Point(s)
3. Is this application for prescribed burning and associated firebreaks if needed on a longleaf stand (with 51% or more dominate crown class in longleaf) that is under 10 years old? If the answer to this question is yes, the answer to question 4 is no (150 pts)	150 Point(s)
4. Is this application for prescribed burning and firebreaks on a longleaf stand (with 51% or more dominate crown class in longleaf) that is over 10 years old? If the answer to this question is yes, the answer to question 3 is no. (125 pts)	125 Point(s)
4b. Is this application for forest stand improvement (666) on a mixed stand or natural stand of longleaf (with 51% or more dominate crown class in longleaf) that is over 10 years old? (100 pts)	100 Point(s)
6. Does this application pertain to land that is contiguous to a protected area such as a National Forest, Military Base, National Wildlife Refuge, State Forest, Heritage Reserve, or land protected by a perpetual conservation easement (WRP, FRPPP, GRP, etc.) (50 points)	50 Point(s)
7. Is the field (acreage to be planted) where the practice installation will take place, located within a state designated priority county - see map in EQIP 2017 Handbook. (100 points)	100 Point(s)
9. Are the offered acres adjacent to an existing longleaf pine ecosystem? (25 points)	25 Point(s)

**Local Issues Addressed**

<b>Issue Questions</b>	<b>Responses</b>
1. Application is for establishment of longleaf pine. (50 points)	50 Point (s)
Application is for prescribed burning an existing longleaf pine stand. (200) points)	200 Point (s)

**Land Use:**

**Crop;**

**Forest;**

**Pasture;**

<b>Resource Concerns</b>	<b>Practices</b>
Degraded Plant Condition: Wildfire Hazard, Excessive Biomass Accumulation	Brush Management
Degraded Plant Condition: Wildfire Hazard, Excessive Biomass Accumulation	Firebreak
Degraded Plant Condition: Wildfire Hazard, Excessive Biomass Accumulation	Forest Stand Improvement
Degraded Plant Condition: Wildfire Hazard, Excessive Biomass Accumulation	Forest Trails and Landings
Degraded Plant Condition: Wildfire Hazard, Excessive Biomass Accumulation	Fuel Break
Degraded Plant Condition: Wildfire Hazard, Excessive Biomass Accumulation	Herbaceous Weed Control
Degraded Plant Condition: Wildfire Hazard, Excessive Biomass Accumulation	Prescribed Burning
Degraded Plant Condition: Wildfire Hazard, Excessive Biomass Accumulation	Tree/Shrub Pruning
Degraded Plant Condition: Wildfire Hazard, Excessive Biomass Accumulation	Tree/Shrub Site Preparation
Fish and Wildlife - Inadequate Habitat: Inadequate Habitat - Cover/Shelter	Early Successional Habitat Development/M
Fish and Wildlife - Inadequate Habitat: Inadequate Habitat - Cover/Shelter	Forage and Biomass Planting
Fish and Wildlife - Inadequate Habitat: Inadequate Habitat - Cover/Shelter	Fuel Break
Fish and Wildlife - Inadequate Habitat: Inadequate Habitat - Cover/Shelter	Tree/Shrub Establishment

**Ranking Score**

Efficiency:
Local Issues:
State Issues:
National Issues:
<b>Final Ranking Score:</b>

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:

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

DRAFT