

Natural Resources Conservation Service

**Application Ranking Summary
Statewide Forestry and Wildlife**

Program:	Ranking Date:	Application Number:
Ranking Tool: Statewide Forestry and Wildlife		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.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
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)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. b. Implementing the practices in a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
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)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. d. Reducing the impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides in a “non-impaired water body”?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. e. Implementing practices that improve water quality through animal mortality and carcass management?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Water Conservation – Will the proposed project conserve water by: (select all that apply)	
3. a. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce aquifer overdraft.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. b. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce on-farm water use?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. c. Implementing practices in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
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?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
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?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. b. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm emissions of particulate matter (PM2.5, PM10)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. c. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm generated greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide (CO2), methane (CH4), and nitrous oxide (N2O)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. d. Implementing practices that increase on-farm carbon sequestration?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Soil Health:– Will the proposed project improve soil health by: (select all that apply)	
5. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil “T”)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. b. Increasing organic matter and carbon content, and improving soil tilth and structure?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
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.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. b. Implementing practices that retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Reserve Program (CRP) or other set-aside program?	
6. c. Implementing practices benefitting honey bee populations or other pollinators?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. d. Implementing land-based practices that improve habitat for aquatic wildlife?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
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?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. b. Implementing practice in an Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Energy Conservation– Will the proposed project reduce energy use by: (select all that apply)	
8. a. Reducing on-farm energy consumption?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. b. Implementing practice(s) identified in an approved AgEMP or energy audit, which meet ASABE S612 criteria?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
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?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

State Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
Location	
1. Will this application address water quality concerns due to forest management in the Lake Champlain Priority Watersheds?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Level of Improvement - ANSWER 'YES' TO QUESTION 2, 3, OR 4 BUT NOT MORE THAN ONE. IF THERE IS A LOW LEVEL OF IMPROVEMENT THEN ANSWER NO TO ALL.	
2. Significant Level of Improvement: Will the treatment(s) result in a significant improvement to the resource or is the resource concern a high priority in target areas?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. Moderate Level of Improvement: Will the treatment(s) result in a moderate improvement to the resource?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. Minimum Level of Improvement: Will the treatment result in only the minimum level of improvements?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Number of Priority Habitats Addressed on the Tract (2 or more)	
5. Will this application support multi-parcel management to address similar resource concerns?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Site Suitability	
6. Is the site well suited for the proposed practice(s)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Multi-Parcel Management	
7. Will the proposed land unit provide long term habitat benefits or forest management benefits or is it targeted in statewide forest plans?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Site Suitability	
8. Is there a pre-existing documentation from a forest management plan or other sources that will add to the quality and or efficiency of the proposed practices?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Habitat and Management Benefits	
9. Does the proposed project benefit rare species or significant natural communities?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Existing Plan	
10. Will the proposed project benefit prioritized habitats and forest lands in Vermont?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
Franklin/Grand Isle LWG	
1. Does this application prevent or control invasive species where other management such as thinning and areas of large forest blocks are addressed in the contract?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

2. Does this practice reduce or prevent sediment from entering into a waterway?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. Does this application promote forest health and productivity by managing for a diversity of tree species?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. Does this application help restore forest health by relocating improving forest road conditions?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. Does this application contain practices that benefit or enhance early successional habitats?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Bennington LWG	
6. Are practices included in this application that would improve tree species diversity and/or vertical stratification for improved forest health and wildlife habitat?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. Will this application include practices that will address invasive plants in situations where there is an initial infestation of the invasive plant into the area or where this invasive plant has also been treated or is planned to be treated on adjoining properties to enhance the probability of a successful treatment effort?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. Will this application address soil erosion through the installation of stream crossing, forest trails and landings and or grade stabilization structure?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
9. Will this application address habitat concerns for grassland birds? Or, will this application address habitat concerns for threatened and endangered species and/or uncommon or rare species (S1, S2, or S3 only); and/or, will it address habitat connectivity?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
10. Will this application provide for stream crossings for aquatic organism passage?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Ottauquechee LWG	
11. Will this application address a water quality or aquatic habitat resource concern in any surface water in the Connecticut River Watershed?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
12. Will the application include critical area planting, stream crossing, and/or forest trails and landings in order to address soil erosion concerns?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
13. Does this application address invasive species where other management activities from the forest management plan are planned to occur such as forest stand improvement or patch cut that would otherwise create greater potential for the proliferation and spread of invasive plants?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
14. Does this application include practices to improve songbird and other wildlife habitat in mature interior forests or does it include practices to improve grassland bird habitat?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
15. Does this application include practices for improved species diversity and improved vertical stratification within the forest and/or will it improve habitat connectivity for wildlife?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Poultney Mettowee LWG	
16. Are practices included in this application that would improve tree and shrub species diversity to more closely represent the natural, native community and/or will it include practices for improved vertical stratification to improve forest health and wildlife habitat?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
17. Will this application include practices which will address invasive plants in situations where there is an initial infestation of the invasive plant into the area or where this invasive plant has also been treated or is planned to be treated on adjoining properties to enhance the probability of a successful treatment effort?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
18. Will this application address soil erosion through the installation of stream crossing, forest trails and landings and or grade stabilization structure?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
19. Will this application address habitat concerns for grassland birds? Or, will this application address habitat concerns for threatened and endangered species and/or uncommon or rare species (S1, S2, or S3 only); and/or, will it address habitat connectivity?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
20. Will this application provide for stream crossings for aquatic organism passage?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Rutland LWG	
21. Are practices included in this application that would improve tree species diversity and/or vertical stratification for improved forest health and wildlife habitat?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
22. Will this application include practices which will address invasive plants in situations where there is an initial infestation of the invasive plant into the area or where this invasive plant has also been treated or is planned to be treated on adjoining properties to enhance the probability of a successful treatment effort?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
23. Will this application address soil erosion through the installation of stream crossing, forest trails and landings and or grade stabilization structure?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

24. Will this application address habitat concerns grassland birds? Or, will this application address habitat concerns for threatened and endangered species and/or uncommon or rare species (S1, S2, or S3 only); and/or, will it address habitat connectivity?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
25. Will this application provide for stream crossings that allow aquatic organism passage?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Windham LWG	
26. Will this application include practices such as buffers, stream crossings, and/or forest trails and landings that will help reduce sediment loading into surface waters that feed into the Connecticut River?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
27. Will this application include practices which will address invasive plants in situations where there is an initial infestation of the invasive plant into the area or where this invasive plant has also been treated or is planned to be treated on adjoining properties to enhance the probability of a successful treatment effort?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
28. Does this application address invasive species where other management activities from the forest management plan are planned to occur such as forest stand improvement or patch cut that would otherwise create greater potential for the proliferation and spread of invasive plants?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
29. Will this application address habitat concerns for grassland birds? Or will this application address habitat concerns for threatened and endangered species and/or uncommon or rare species (S1, S2, or S3 only)? Or, will this application address habitat connectivity or aquatic organism passage?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
30. Will forest stand improvement be implemented with this application to improve the diversity, structure, and health of forested lands?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Caledonia LWG	
31. Does this application include practices that enhance conditions for early/young forest?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
32. Does this application include practices that address impairment to waterways?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
33. Does this application address invasive species control in areas where other practices in this application may accelerate the spread of the invasive species (patch cuts, TSI) or the treated area is adjacent to a CISMA priority area?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
34. Using the ANR Bio-finder mapping tool, does this application include practices on land that is within or abuts a Tier 1, 2 or 3 contributions to biodiversity?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
35. Does this application address multiple resource concerns?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Essex LWG	
36. Does this application include practices that enhance conditions for early successional/young forest?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
37. Does this application include practices that address impairment to waterways?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
38. Does this application address invasive species control in areas where other practices in this application may accelerate the spread of the invasive species (patch cuts, TSI) or the treated area is adjacent to a CISMA priority area?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
39. Using the ANR Bio-finder mapping tool, does this application include practices on land that is within or abuts a Tier 1, 2 or 3 contributions to biodiversity?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
40. Does this application address multiple resource concerns?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Orleans LWG	
41. Does this application address multiple practices and resource concerns?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
42. Does this application protect streams from erosion and runoff from forestry equipment travel?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
43. Does this application include practices that enhance plant production, vigor?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
44. Does this application address invasive species control in areas where other practices in this application may accelerate the spread of the invasive species (patch cuts, TSI) or the treated area is adjacent to a CISMA priority area?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
45. Will this application include practices to improve and enhance food sources for wildlife?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
White River LWG	
46. Does this application address invasive species control in areas where other practices in this application may accelerate the spread of the invasive species (patch cuts, TSI) or the treated area is adjacent to a CISMA priority area?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
47. Does this application include multiple fields eligible for this pool or fields that are connected to other grassland areas or wildlife habitat?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

48. Does this application address soil erosion control practices on stream crossings or logging roads?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
49. Will this application include practices to improve and enhance food sources for wildlife?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
50. Will this application include practices that enhance plant production and vigor?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Winooski LWG	
51. Will this application lead to improved forest health and diversity?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
52. Does this project include the control or eradication of invasive species through herbaceous weed control or brush management?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
53. Will this application maintain or make improvements to forest riparian buffers or enhance grassland bird habitat?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
54. Will this application increase habitat continuity and/or is the project area within 1 mile of any core protected areas or conserved lands?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
55. Does the project involve upgrades to or maintenance of forest trails, landings, and/or access roads?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Otter Creek LWG	
56. Will this EQIP application address the enhancement of forest stand health and productivity or address the enhancement of early successional habitat for forest species?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
57. Will this EQIP application manage invasive species?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
58. Will this EQIP application improve water quality by addressing soil erosion from forest trails, access roads and landings?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
59. Will this application maintain or make improvements to forest riparian buffers or enhance grassland bird habitat?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
60. Will this EQIP application address, where needed, streambank erosion or aquatic organism passage at stream crossings?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Lamoille LWG	
61. Does this application reduce or prevent sediment into surface water?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
62. Does this application include practices that maintain or improve habitat connectivity?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
63. Does this application maintain roads and trails that follow Best Management Practices?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
64. Does this application include bird habitat that is shown on the Vermont Forest Birds Priority Map?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
65. Does this application prevent or control invasive species where other management such as thinning and areas of large forest blocks are addressed in the contract?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Land Use:

Resource Concerns	Practices
-------------------	-----------

Ranking Score

Efficiency:
Local Issues:
State Issues:
National Issues:
Final Ranking Score:

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: