

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Application Ranking Summary

2017 Maine EQIP Working Lands for Wildlife-New England Cottontail

<b>Program:</b>	<b>Ranking Date:</b>	<b>Application Number:</b>
<b>Ranking Tool:</b> 2017 Maine EQIP WLFW-NEC	<b>Applicant:</b>	
<b>Final Ranking Score:</b>	<b>Address:</b>	
<b>Planner:</b>	<b>Telephone:</b>	
<b>Farm Location:</b>		

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"/>
<b>Water Quality Degradation – Will the proposed project improve water quality by: (select all that apply)</b>	
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"/>
<b>Water Conservation – Will the proposed project conserve water by: (select all that apply)</b>	
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"/>
<b>Air Quality - Will the proposed project improve air quality by: (select all that apply)</b>	
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"/>
<b>Soil Health:– Will the proposed project improve soil health by: (select all that apply)</b>	
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"/>
<b>Wildlife Habitat – Will the proposed project improve wildlife habitat by: (select all that apply)</b>	
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
Conservation Activity Plan application?	
1. Is the program application to support the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is "Yes", award 400 points and do not answer any other state level questions. If the answer is "No", proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Answer as applicable for this application:	
2. Is there credible verification of species occurrence (for example, photos, Heritage Database, USFWS, NRCS, or State fish and wildlife agency documentation)? (NOTE: This should NOT be taken to imply that a site visit is required) 200 points	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. The offered area shares a common border with an area with known populations of the target species? 150 points	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. The offered area is proximal to an area with a known population of the target species? "Proximal" means within the accepted normal species dispersal ability (NOTE: NRCS will respect privacy of adjacent landowners) 50 points	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

### Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
Conservation Activity Plan application?	
1. Is the program application to support the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is "Yes", award 250 points and do not answer any other local level questions. If the answer is "No", proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
IF APPLICABLE: Answer only ONE of 2a, 2b, 2c, 2d, or 2e: Are the offered acres at least partially within:	
2. a. One of the following focus areas: Berwick/Eliot/York, Coastal Kittery, Wells East, Cape Elizabeth/Scarborough? (50 pts)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. b. The North/South Habitat Connector focus area? (30 pts)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. c. The Greater Maine focus area? (10 pts)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. d. a 3km buffer outside the focus areas? (5 pts)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. e. Offered acres are not in the NEC focus areas or the 3km buffer? (1 pts)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
IF APPLICABLE: Answer only ONE of 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e or 3f: Will the project result in the development of:	
3. a. Greater than or equal to 25 acres of new young forest/shrub land habitat? (100 pts)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. b. 20.0 to 24.9 acres of new young forest/shrub land habitat? (80 pts)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. c. 15.0 to 19.9 acres of new young forest/shrub land habitat? (60 pts)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. d. 10.0 to 14.9 acres of new young forest/shrub land habitat? (35 pts)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

3. e. 5.0 to 9.9 acres of new young forest/shrub land habitat? (10 pts)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. f. Less than 5.0 acres of new young forest/shrub land habitat? (1 pts)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
<b>IF APPLICABLE: Pick the ONE most applicable answer. Answer only ONE of 4a, 4b, 4c, or 4d:</b>	
4. a. Is the project area conserved land under permanent easement or fee ownership by a national, state, or local NGO and will be managed to benefit NEC long term?(20 pts)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. b. Is the project area conserved land under a term easement (e.g. 30 year easement) and will be managed to benefit NEC long term? 15 points	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. c. Is the project area enrolled as Tree Growth or Open Space Land? (10 pts)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. d. None of the above apply, but the applicant has indicated a long-term commitment to developing and maintaining NEC habitat (as documented in the cons6 notes)? (5 points)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
<b>Answer as applicable for this application:</b>	
5. Is any of the planned habitat development/management within 500 ft of a shrub land corridor (e.g. shrubby transmission line corridor)? (50 pts)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. Is any of the planned habitat development/management within 500 ft of a long-lasting shrub land community that is greater than 10 acres (e.g. pitch pine-scrub oak barrens, scrub-shrub wetlands, old abandoned field, actively maintained young forest)? (30 pts)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

**Land Use:**

Resource Concerns	Practices
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**Ranking Score**

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

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