

**Natural Resources Conservation Service
Application Ranking Summary
Forestry**

Program:	Ranking Date:	Application Number:
Ranking Tool: Forestry	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
Choose no more than one of the following three questions:	
1. Is the property located in a "High" Priority Landscape as dictated by the USFS State Resource Assessment and Strategy?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. Is the property located in a "Medium" Priority Landscape as dictated by the USFS State Resource Assessment and Strategy?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. Is the property located in a "Low" Priority Landscape as dictated by the USFS State Resource Assessment and Strategy?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
State Questions Continued:	
4. If deer are adversely threatening forest sustainability on the property (through verification from DCNR Service Forester or PGC PLAP biologist), is the landowner enrolled in the Deer Management Assistance Program (DMAP)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. Has the landowner been active in implementing an active recognized forest management plan (Forest Management Plan (106), TNC Working Woodlands, Forest Stewardship, Tree Farm) per advice from the DCNR Service Forester or Private Plan writer in the past 10 years?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. Does the site have habitat or potential habitat for at-risk, threatened, or endangered species as evidenced by known occurrences or suggested by PNDI search and practices will be implemented to improve habitat for these species?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. Will a wildlife habitat management practice (395, 644, 645, 647, or 666 using a scenario that benefits wildlife habitat) be implemented?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. Will livestock be excluded from all woodland and from all streams, ponds, and wetlands on or adjacent to the offered contract acres?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
9. Will the applicant establish a new Riparian Forest Buffer within the EQIP contract?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
10. Does the applicant have the property protected by a current working forest conservation easement?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
11. Is the applicant further implementing a multiple step plan, following up on previous work done on (prior contract acres) that yield desirable habitat or other results, but takes multiple years to complete?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
12. Is the majority of the offered acreage located in the 12-Digit HUC that Pennsylvania NRCS has identified as a FY 2016 Targeted Priority Watershed? [Use GIS layer (High/Medium Priority watershed) located in F:\geodata\project_data\nrcs\Priority_Resource_Concerns_FY2016.gdb]?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
13. Is the majority of the offered acreage located in the 12-Digit HUC that Pennsylvania NRCS has identified as a FY 2016 "Brook Trout - Greatly Reduced" Targeted Priority Watershed? [Use GIS layer (Brook Trout_Reduced_Watersheds) located in F:\geodata\project_data\nrcs\Priority_Resource_Concerns_FY2016.gdb]?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
14. Is the applicant a limited resource farmer?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
Choose no more than one of the following three questions:	
1. Is a resource concern affecting water quality within 100 feet of a stream, well, wetland or other water body and the applicant will address the concern?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. Is a resource concern affecting water quality within 300 feet of a stream, well, wetland or other water body and the applicant will address the concern?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. Is a resource concern affecting water quality more than 300 feet of a stream, well, wetland or other water body and the applicant will address the concern?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
General Questions (Continued):	
4. Will the proposed treatment result in the removal or control of invasive species?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. If an oil, gas or other mineral extraction lease exists on the property, can contracted practices be implemented and maintained without damage or encroachment by development and extraction activities?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. Does producer have a current Forest Stewardship Plan or other acceptable forest management plan no more than ten years old?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. Will the proposed project reduce erosion from access roads, log landings, or logging trails?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. Have any forest management practices identified in the plan been implemented within the past 10 years?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
9. Will practices such as fencing, thinning, or tree planting be implemented to advance regeneration of desirable species?	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: Signature Date:	Applicant Signature Not Required on this report for Contract Development unless required by State policy: Signature Date:
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