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## Ranking Tool Summary for FY2016 - New England Cottontail (Draft)

### Description:

Welcome to the EQIP New England Cottontail Ranking Tool

### Land Uses:

Forest

### Efficiency Score:

Scoring Multiplier: 99.000

### Optional Notes:

### National Priorities:

Scoring Multiplier: 1.000

Questions:

Number	Question	Points
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
2	a. Implementing the practices in a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP)?	15
2	b. Implementing the practices in a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP)?	10
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
2	d. Reducing the impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides in a "non-impaired water body"?	10
2	e. Implementing practices that improve water quality through animal mortality and carcass management?	10
3	a. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce aquifer overdraft.	15
3	b. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce on-farm water use?	10
3	c. Implementing practices in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	10
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
4	a. Meeting on-farm regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	10
4	b. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm emissions of particulate matter (PM2.5, PM10)?	10
4	c. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm generated greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide (CO2), methane (CH4), and nitrous oxide (N2O)?	10
4	d. Implementing practices that increase on-farm carbon sequestration?	10
5	a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil "T")?	10
5	b. Increasing organic matter and carbon content, and improving soil tilth and structure?	10
6	a. Implementing practices benefitting threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate,	10

	or species of concern.	
6	b. Implementing practices that retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) or other set-aside program?	10
6	c. Implementing practices benefitting honey bee populations or other pollinators?	10
6	d. Implementing land-based practices that improve habitat for aquatic wildlife?	10
7	a. Implementing practices that result in the management control of noxious or invasive plant species on non-cropland?	10
7	b. Implementing practice in an Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM)?	10
8	a. Reducing on-farm energy consumption?	10
8	b. Implementing practice(s) identified in an approved AgEMP or energy audit, which meet ASABE S612 criteria?	10
9	a. Enhancement of existing conservation practice(s) or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is received?	10
Total Points		500

**State Issues:**

Scoring Multiplier: 1.000

Questions:

Sub-heading Number	Question Number	Question	Points
1		Conservation Activity Plan (CAP) Only	
	1	Is the program application for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP) for a TSP prepared Conservation Plan? If answer is ?Yes?, do not answer any other state level questions. If answer is No?	400
2		Non-Conservation Activity Plan	
	2	Is there credible verification of species occurrence (for example, photos, Heritage Database, USFWS, NRCS or State fish and wildlife agency documentation)? This should not be taken to imply that a site visit is required?	200
	3	The offered area shares a common border with an area with known populations of the target species.	150
	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	50
Maximum Points:			Total Points
			800

**Local Issues:**

Scoring Multiplier: 1.000

Questions:

Sub-heading Number	Question Number	Question	Points
	1	Is the applicant applying for a Conservation Activity Plan that will implement New England Cottontail Habitat in the District?	250
	2	Is the property permanently protected through a conservation easement such as PDR or fee simple purchase?	125
	3	Will Early Successional Habitat >=10 ac. be created through the implementation of this application?	125
Maximum Points:			Total Points
			500

**Selected Resource Concerns and Practices:**

## Degraded Plant Condition: Excessive Plant Pest Pressure

- Access Control (472)
- Brush Management (314)
- Conservation Cover (327)
- Cover Crop (340)
- Critical Area Planting (342)
- Early Successional Habitat Development/M (647)
- Field Border (386)
- Forest Stand Improvement (666)
- Forest Trails and Landings (655)
- Hedgerow Planting (422)
- Herbaceous Weed Control (315)
- Mulching (484)
- Prescribed Burning (338)
- Restoration and Management of Declining (643)
- Riparian Forest Buffer (391)
- Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
- Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645)
- Wetland Restoration (657)
- Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management (644)
- Woody Residue Treatment (384)

## Degraded Plant Condition: Inadequate Structure and Composition

- Access Control (472)
- Brush Management (314)
- Conservation Cover (327)
- Cover Crop (340)
- Critical Area Planting (342)
- Early Successional Habitat Development/M (647)
- Field Border (386)
- Forest Stand Improvement (666)
- Hedgerow Planting (422)
- Herbaceous Weed Control (315)
- Prescribed Burning (338)
- Restoration and Management of Declining (643)
- Riparian Forest Buffer (391)
- Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
- Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645)
- Wetland Restoration (657)
- Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management (644)
- Woody Residue Treatment (384)

## Degraded Plant Condition: Undesirable Plant Productivity and Health

- Access Control (472)
- Access Road (560)
- Brush Management (314)
- Conservation Cover (327)
- Cover Crop (340)
- Critical Area Planting (342)
- Early Successional Habitat Development/M (647)
- Field Border (386)
- Firebreak (394)
- Fish and Wildlife Habitat Plan - Written (142)
- Forest Management Plan - Written (106)
- Forest Stand Improvement (666)
- Forest Trails and Landings (655)
- Hedgerow Planting (422)
- Herbaceous Weed Control (315)
- Mulching (484)
- Prescribed Burning (338)
- Restoration and Management of Declining (643)
- Riparian Forest Buffer (391)

- Runoff Management System (570)
- Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
- Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645)
- Wetland Restoration (657)
- Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management (644)
- Woody Residue Treatment (384)
- Degraded Plant Condition: Wildfire Hazard, Excessive Biomass Accumulation
  - Access Control (472)
  - Access Road (560)
  - Brush Management (314)
  - Firebreak (394)
  - Fish and Wildlife Habitat Plan - Written (142)
  - Forest Management Plan - Written (106)
  - Forest Stand Improvement (666)
  - Forest Trails and Landings (655)
  - Herbaceous Weed Control (315)
  - Prescribed Burning (338)
  - Woody Residue Treatment (384)
- Fish and Wildlife - Inadequate Habitat: Inadequate Habitat - Cover/Shelter
  - Access Control (472)
  - Brush Management (314)
  - Conservation Cover (327)
  - Cover Crop (340)
  - Critical Area Planting (342)
  - Early Successional Habitat Development/M (647)
  - Field Border (386)
  - Fish and Wildlife Habitat Plan - Written (142)
  - Fish Passage (396)
  - Forest Management Plan - Written (106)
  - Forest Stand Improvement (666)
  - Forest Trails and Landings (655)
  - Hedgerow Planting (422)
  - Herbaceous Weed Control (315)
  - Mulching (484)
  - Prescribed Burning (338)
  - Restoration and Management of Declining (643)
  - Riparian Forest Buffer (391)
  - Runoff Management System (570)
  - Structure for Water Control (587)
  - Structures for Wildlife (649)
  - Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
  - Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645)
  - Wetland Restoration (657)
  - Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management (644)
- Fish and Wildlife - Inadequate Habitat: Inadequate Habitat - Food
  - Access Control (472)
  - Brush Management (314)
  - Conservation Cover (327)
  - Cover Crop (340)
  - Critical Area Planting (342)
  - Early Successional Habitat Development/M (647)
  - Field Border (386)
  - Fish and Wildlife Habitat Plan - Written (142)
  - Forest Management Plan - Written (106)
  - Forest Stand Improvement (666)
  - Forest Trails and Landings (655)
  - Hedgerow Planting (422)
  - Herbaceous Weed Control (315)
  - Mulching (484)
  - Prescribed Burning (338)
  - Restoration and Management of Declining (643)

- Riparian Forest Buffer (391)
- Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
- Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645)
- Wetland Restoration (657)
- Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management (644)
- Fish and Wildlife - Inadequate Habitat: Inadequate Habitat - Habitat Continuity (Space)
  - Access Control (472)
  - Brush Management (314)
  - Conservation Cover (327)
  - Cover Crop (340)
  - Critical Area Planting (342)
  - Early Successional Habitat Development/M (647)
  - Field Border (386)
  - Fish and Wildlife Habitat Plan - Written (142)
  - Forest Management Plan - Written (106)
  - Forest Stand Improvement (666)
  - Hedgerow Planting (422)
  - Herbaceous Weed Control (315)
  - Prescribed Burning (338)
  - Restoration and Management of Declining (643)
  - Riparian Forest Buffer (391)
  - Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
  - Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645)
  - Wetland Restoration (657)
  - Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management (644)
- Fish and Wildlife - Inadequate Habitat: Inadequate Habitat - Water
  - Access Control (472)
  - Fish Passage (396)
  - Riparian Forest Buffer (391)
  - Structure for Water Control (587)
  - Wetland Restoration (657)
- Livestock Production Limitation: Inadequate Feed and Forage
  - Access Control (472)
  - Forest Stand Improvement (666)
  - Forest Trails and Landings (655)
  - Stream Crossing (578)
  - Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645)
  - Wetland Restoration (657)
- Livestock Production Limitation: Inadequate Shelter
  - Access Control (472)
  - Hedgerow Planting (422)
- Livestock Production Limitation: Inadequate Water
  - Stream Crossing (578)
- Soil Erosion: Sheet and Rill Erosion
  - Access Control (472)
  - Access Road (560)
  - Brush Management (314)
  - Conservation Cover (327)
  - Cover Crop (340)
  - Critical Area Planting (342)
  - Field Border (386)
  - Forest Stand Improvement (666)
  - Herbaceous Weed Control (315)
  - Mulching (484)
  - Prescribed Burning (338)
  - Riparian Forest Buffer (391)
  - Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
  - Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645)
- Soil Erosion: Streambank, Shoreline, Water Conveyance Channels
  - Access Control (472)
  - Conservation Cover (327)

- Critical Area Planting (342)
- Field Border (386)
- Herbaceous Weed Control (315)
- Mulching (484)
- Prescribed Burning (338)
- Riparian Forest Buffer (391)
- Stream Crossing (578)
- Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
- Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645)

Soil Erosion: Wind Erosion

- Access Control (472)
- Brush Management (314)
- Conservation Cover (327)
- Cover Crop (340)
- Critical Area Planting (342)
- Field Border (386)
- Hedgerow Planting (422)
- Herbaceous Weed Control (315)
- Mulching (484)
- Prescribed Burning (338)
- Riparian Forest Buffer (391)
- Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
- Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645)

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