



USDA-NRCS—Salt Lake City, Utah

2008 FIRE PRE-SUPPRESSION INITIATIVE

Screening Criteria, Ranking Tool Questions and Instructions

Note to all users: The official Ranking Tools are located in Protracts.



Screening Criteria

Participant Name: _____ Protracts ID # _____

NRCS Employee Screening Application: _____ Date: _____

References:

- [Http://www.ut.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/](http://www.ut.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/)
- EFOTG
- CPM440-Part 512 CPC
- CPM 440-Part 515 EQIP
- TMDL or Listed Watersheds:
- National Planning Procedures Handbook (NPPH)
- UT Bulletins
- Area Rangeland Mgt. Specialist

Technical questions on this ranking tool should be directed to area Technical and Program Specialists.

HAS THE PRODUCER MET ALL FARM BILL PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS INCLUDING: LAND, OPERATING UNIT, AND PRODUCER ELIGIBILITY?

- THE APPLICANT MUST MEET THESE REQUIREMENTS TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR RANKING

NATIONAL PRIORITY ISSUES

Question 1: Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in considerable reductions of non-point source pollution, such as nutrients, sediment, pesticides, excess salinity in impaired watersheds consistent with TMDL's where available as well as the reduction of groundwater contamination or point source such as contamination from confined animal feeding operations?

- To claim these points, the proposed project must be expected to meet quality criteria for all applicable NRCS Water Quality criteria

Question 2: Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in the conservation of a considerable amount of ground or surface water resources?

- To claim these points, the proposed project must be expected to meet quality criteria for all applicable NRCS Water Quantity criteria.

Applicant Signature: _____

QR Date: _____ Initials: _____

- Access Road (560)
- Irrigation System, Surface and Subsurface (443)
- Alley Cropping (311)
- Irrigation Water Management (449)
- Amendments for the Treatment of Agricultural Waste (591)
- Mulching (484)
- Anaerobic Digester, Controlled Temperature (366)
- Nutrient Management (590)
- Animal Mortality Facility (316)
- Pasture and Hay Planting (512)
- Anionic Polyacrylamide (PAM) Erosion Control (450)
- Pest Management (595)
- Atmospheric Resource Quality Management (370)
- Prescribed Burning (338)
- Closure of Waste Impoundment (360)
- Prescribed Grazing (528)
- Composting Facility (317)
- Pumping Plant (533)
- Conservation Cover (327)
- Range Planting (550)
- Conservation Crop Rotation (328)
- Recreation Area Improvement (562)
- Constructed Wetland (656)
- Recreation Land Grading and Shaping (566)
- Contour Buffer Strips (332)
- Recreation Trail and Walkway (568)
- Contour Farming (330)
- Residue Management, Seasonal (344)
- Contour Orchard and Other Fruit Area (331)
- Restoration and Management of Declining Habitats (643)
- Cover Crop (340)
- Riparian Forest Buffer (391)
- Critical Area Planting (342)
- Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390)
- Cross Wind Ridges (589A)
- Rock Barrier (555)
- Cross Wind Trap Strips (589C)
- Practices continued on Pg.4

NATIONAL Priority Issues

Question 3: Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in a considerable reduction of emissions, such as particulate matter, nitrogen oxides (NOx), volatile organic compounds, and ozone precursors and depleters that contribute to air quality impairment violations of National Ambient Air Quality Standards?

- **To claim these points, the proposed project must include one or more of the conservation practices on pages 3 and 4.**

Question 4: Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in a considerable reduction in soil erosion and sedimentation from unacceptable levels on agricultural land?

- **To claim these points, soil erosion must go from above T, to T or below T as a result of the proposed project OR Quality criteria for Soil Condition; Rangeland Site Stability must be met as a result of implementing the proposed project.**

Question 5: Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in a considerable increase in the promotion of at-risk species habitat conservation?

- **To claim these points, the project must be expected to meet quality criteria for one or more of the four national at-risk species resource concerns, which are:**
- **Plant Condition; Threatened and Endangered Plant Species**
- **Plant Condition; T&E Plant Species: Declining Species, Species of Concern**
- **Fish and Wildlife; Threatened and Endangered Fish and Wildlife Species**
- **Fish and Wildlife; T&E Species: Declining Species, Species of Concern**

At-risk **plant** species are in Appendix C. - Rare Plant Species by Habitat Type

At-risk **animal** species are in Appendix A. - Utah CWCS Tier I, II, and III Species List.

See Utah-NRCS Website— Programs-EQIP tab.

STATE Priority Issues

Question 1. Does the cooperator have a current RMS level plan or Forest steward ship plan?

- **Answer Yes or No. To claim these points, the applicant must have an RMS plan which addresses all resource concerns on the Conservation Treatment Unit (CTU) being offered for EQIP funding. (NPPH Amendment 3, 600.6-4)**

Question 2: Will the applicant implement a prescribed grazing plan?

The prescribed grazing plan to be implemented by the applicant must provide and, document additional level of protection from wildfires.

- **Answer Yes or No**

STATE Priority Issues, continued

Stream Habitat Improvement and Management (395)
 Deep Tillage (324)
 Stream bank and Shoreline Protection (580)
 Drainage Water Management (554)
 Strip-cropping (585)
 Feed Management (592)
 Surface Roughening (609)
 Field Border (386)
 Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
 Filter Strip (393)
 Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645)
 Firebreak (394)
 Use Exclusion (472)
 Forest Site Preparation (490)
 Vegetative Barrier (601)
 Forest Stand Improvement (666)
 Waste Facility Cover (367)
 Fuel Break (383)
 Waste Storage Facility (313)
 Grassed Waterway (412)
 Waste Treatment Lagoon (359)
 Grazing Land Mechanical Treatment (548)
 Waste Utilization (633)
 Heavy Use Area Protection (561)
 Wastewater Treatment Strip (635)
 Hedgerow Planting (422)
 Wetland Creation (658)
 Herbaceous Wind Barriers (603)
 Wetland Enhancement (659)
 Irrigation Canal or Lateral (320)
 Wetland Restoration (657)
 Irrigation Field Ditch (388)
 Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management (644)
 Irrigation System, Micro irrigation (441)
 Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment (380)
 Irrigation System, Sprinkler (442)
 Windbreak/Shelterbelt Renovation (650)

Question 3: Is the project located within 2 miles or less of a Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) community?

Distance is measured from boundary of incorporated area to edge of the treatment area.

- **Answer Yes or No.**

Questions 4–6 Answer only one. (See table 1 for listing and hazard rating of community being protected)

Question 4: Does the WUI Community have a hazard rating of 10 or greater?

- **Answer Yes or No**

Question 5: Does the WUI community have a hazard rating of 7-9?

- **Answer Yes or No.**

Question 6: Does the WUI community have a hazard rating of less or equal to 6?

- **Answer Yes or No**

Questions 7: Would this project reduce the prevalence of an invasive annual species?

- **To claim these points, the project must reduce ecological site description indicator #16 from before condition of extreme, moderate to extreme, to at least moderate departure.**
- **Answer Yes or No**

Question 8: Will this project reduce fuel loading on woodland or forested sites?

- **Answer Yes or No To claim these points practice codes 384 or 666 must be scheduled in the EQIP contract.**

Question 9: Will the implementation of the proposed project limit the extent, duration or severity of fire/smoke/dust, to a public transportation system from future fires?

- **Answer Yes or No, The public transportation system being protected shall encompass a State or Federally designated highway, commercial or industrial railroad or passenger rail service. Public transportation system may also be improved roads that service small outlying communities with only one route in or out of the community.**

NOTES:

2008 FIRE PRE-SUPPRESSION INITIATIVE

**LIST OF PRACTICES THAT ARE APPROVED FOR
THE FIRE PRE-SUPPRESSION FUND POOL:**

- **383 - FUEL BREAKS**
- **394- FIRE BREAKS**
- **528 - PRESCRIBED GRAZING**
- **550 - RANGE PLANTING**
- **595 - PEST MANAGEMENT**
- **314 - BRUSH MANAGEMENT**
- **384 - FOREST SLASH TREATMENT**
- **666 - FOREST STAND IMPROVEMENT**
- **655 - FOREST TRAILS AND LANDINGS**