



Ranking Pool Report

Ranking Pool: New and Beginning (IRA) - AL - FY2024

Program: EQIP

Pool Status: Active

States: AL (Admin)

Template: EQIP General National Ranking Template - Amended October 2023

Template Status: Active

Last Modified By: Joe Cochran

Last Modified: 01/11/2024
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Land Uses and Modifiers

Land Use	Grazed	Wildlife	Irrigated	Hayed	Drained	Organic	Water Feature	Protected	Urban	Aquaculture
Associated Ag Land	--	--	--	--	N/A	--	--	--	--	--
Crop	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Farmstead	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	--	--	--	--	--
Forest	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	--	--	--	--	--
Pasture	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Resource Concern Categories

Categories			
Category	Min %	Default %	Max %
Concentrated erosion	0	8	100
Soil quality limitations	0	8	100
Wind and water erosion	0	8	100
Field sediment, nutrient and pathogen loss	0	5	100
Source water depletion	0	5	100
Storage and handling of pollutants	0	2	100
Air quality emissions	0	2	100
Degraded plant condition	0	10	100
Fire management	0	5	100
Pest pressure	0	5	100
Aquatic habitat	0	5	100
Livestock production limitation	0	30	100
Terrestrial habitat	0	2	100
Inefficient energy use	0	5	100

Concentrated erosion

Resource Concern	Min %	Default %	Max %
Bank erosion from streams, shorelines or water conveyance channels	0	30	100
Classic gully erosion	0	35	100
Ephemeral gully erosion	0	35	100

Soil quality limitations

Resource Concern	Min %	Default %	Max %
Aggregate instability	0	20	100
Compaction	0	30	100
Organic matter depletion	0	30	100
Soil organism habitat loss or degradation	0	20	100

Wind and water erosion

Resource Concern	Min %	Default %	Max %
Sheet and rill erosion	0	100	100

Field sediment, nutrient and pathogen loss

Resource Concern	Min %	Default %	Max %
Nutrients transported to groundwater	0	20	100
Nutrients transported to surface water	0	20	100
Pathogens and chemicals from manure, biosolids or compost applications transported to groundwater	0	20	100
Pathogens and chemicals from manure, biosolids or compost applications transported to surface water	0	20	100
Sediment transported to surface water	0	20	100

Source water depletion

Resource Concern	Min %	Default %	Max %
Groundwater depletion	0	35	90
Inefficient irrigation water use	0	35	90
Surface water depletion	0	30	90

Storage and handling of pollutants

Resource Concern	Min %	Default %	Max %
Nutrients transported to groundwater	0	25	100
Nutrients transported to surface water	0	25	100
Petroleum, heavy metals and other pollutants transported to groundwater	0	25	100
Petroleum, heavy metals and other pollutants transported to surface water	0	25	100

Air quality emissions

Resource Concern	Min %	Default %	Max %
Emissions of airborne reactive nitrogen	0	20	100
Emissions of greenhouse gases - GHGs	0	20	100
Emissions of ozone precursors	0	20	100
Emissions of particulate matter (PM) and PM precursors	0	20	100
Objectionable odor	0	20	100

Degraded plant condition

Resource Concern	Min %	Default %	Max %
Plant productivity and health	0	50	100
Plant structure and composition	0	50	100

Fire management

Resource Concern	Min %	Default %	Max %
Wildfire hazard from biomass accumulation	0	100	100

Pest pressure

Resource Concern	Min %	Default %	Max %
Plant pest pressure	0	100	100

Aquatic habitat

Resource Concern	Min %	Default %	Max %
Aquatic habitat for fish and other organisms	0	50	100
Elevated water temperature	0	50	100

Livestock production limitation

Resource Concern	Min %	Default %	Max %
Feed and forage balance	0	35	100
Inadequate livestock shelter	0	30	100
Inadequate livestock water quantity, quality and distribution	0	35	100

Terrestrial habitat

Resource Concern	Min %	Default %	Max %
Terrestrial habitat for wildlife and invertebrates	0	100	100

Inefficient energy use

Resource Concern	Min %	Default %	Max %
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Inefficient energy use

Resource Concern	Min %	Default %	Max %
Energy efficiency of equipment and facilities	0	50	100
Energy efficiency of farming/ranching practices and field operations	0	50	100

Practices

Practice Name	Practice Code	Practice Type
Brush Management	314	Conservation Practices
Herbaceous Weed Treatment	315	Conservation Practices
Composting Facility	317	Conservation Practices
Conservation Cover	327	Conservation Practices
Conservation Crop Rotation	328	Conservation Practices
Residue and Tillage Management, No Till	329	Conservation Practices
Prescribed Burning	338	Conservation Practices
Cover Crop	340	Conservation Practices
Critical Area Planting	342	Conservation Practices
Residue and Tillage Management, Reduced Till	345	Conservation Practices
Combustion System Improvement	372	Conservation Practices
Energy Efficient Agricultural Operation	374	Conservation Practices
Silvopasture	381	Conservation Practices
Fuel Break	383	Conservation Practices
Field Border	386	Conservation Practices
Riparian Forest Buffer	391	Conservation Practices
Filter Strip	393	Conservation Practices
Grassed Waterway	412	Conservation Practices
Wildlife Habitat Planting	420	Conservation Practices
Hedgerow Planting	422	Conservation Practices
Irrigation Pipeline	430	Conservation Practices
Irrigation System, Microirrigation	441	Conservation Practices

Practice Name	Practice Code	Practice Type
Sprinkler System	442	Conservation Practices
Mulching	484	Conservation Practices
Pasture and Hay Planting	512	Conservation Practices
Prescribed Grazing	528	Conservation Practices
Pumping Plant	533	Conservation Practices
Nutrient Management	590	Conservation Practices
Tree/Shrub Establishment	612	Conservation Practices
Waste Separation Facility	632	Conservation Practices
Forest Stand Improvement	666	Conservation Practices
Energy Efficient Lighting System	670	Conservation Practices
Energy Efficient Building Envelope	672	Conservation Practices

Ranking Weights

Factors	Algorithm	Allowable Min	Default	Allowable Max
Vulnerabilities	Default	10	25	40
Planned Practice Effects	Adjustment (D)	15	15	15
Resource Priorities	Default	20	35	60
Program Priorities	Default	5	15	15
Efficiencies	Default	10	10	10

Display Group: New and Beginning - AL - FY2024 - IRA (Active)

 An asterisk will be displayed to show that it is a conditional section or conditional question.

Survey: Applicability Questions

Section: Applicability		
Question	Answer Choices	Points
Did the applicant self-certify as a beginning farmer or rancher on the NRCS-CPA-1200?	YES	--
	NO	--

Survey: Category Questions

Section: Category		
Question	Answer Choices	Points
What NRCS Team is the application in?	East	--
	North	--
	West	--
	Otherwise	--

Survey: Program Questions

Section: Program		
Question	Answer Choices	Points
Does the applicant meet the NRCS definition of a veteran farmer or rancher (VFR)?	YES	70
	NO	0
Improving impaired water body? (303d or TMDL)	Impaired presence	50
	Otherwise	0
Benefit T and E Species	within a strategic habitat unit.	5
	Otherwise	0
Are offered acres adjacent to a riparian buffer that qualifies for The Riparian Forest Expanded Buffer Initiative (buffer extended from 35 to a minimum of 75 feet)?	YES	25
	NO	0
Are Invasive Species being mitigated with financial assistance?	YES	30
	NO	0
What Resource Group will the applicant primarily be addressing?	Soil Health and Erosion	--
	Grazingland	--
	Forestry and Wildlife	--
	AFO/Farmstead -- Water Quality	--
	Energy/Irrigation Efficiency	--

Survey: Resource Questions

Section: Resource		
Question	Answer Choices	Points

Section: Resource

Question	Answer Choices	Points
Forestry and Wildlife (Select One)*	Forestry and Wildlife Questions Not Applicable	0
	Timber Stand Improvement practices are planned on half of the offered woodland acres that need treatment? The following practices are required to receive points for this question: Hardwood crop tree release, Understory release in mid-rotation forest stands (pine or hardwood), and Precommercial thinning in dense, stagnant young pine stands.	175
	Longleaf pine, shortleaf or hardwood seedling planting or silvopasture establishment is planned?	170
	Early successional habitat management or riparian forest buffer (of any size) is planned.	150
	Tree planting is planned where the applicant has lost their newly planted trees during recent exceptional droughts and/or other natural disasters?	100
	Loblolly pine seedling planting is planned.	75
	Prescribed fire planned on property on a 2 or 3 year rotation on stand that was thinned within the last 3 years?	75
	Prescribed fire and associated firebreaks are planned on property on a 2 or 3 year rotation.	50
	Pollinator/beneficial insect habitat Planting is planned.	50
	Two or more of the above.	200
	None of the above.	0

Section: Resource

Question	Answer Choices	Points
Soil Health and Erosion (Select one)*	Soil Health and Erosion questions not applicable.	0
	The applicant will establish perennial grasses in rotation on the land that is offered in this application?	175
	The applicant will adopt reduced Tillage - 329 (which requires a cover crop) from a conventional system that they are currently performing.	125
	The applicant will adopt reduced Tillage - 345 (which requires a cover crop) from a conventional system that they are currently performing.	115
	The applicant will plant a multi specie cover crop on more than half of all the offered acres?	100
	The applicant will plant a single specie cover crop on more than half of all the offered acres?	75
	Ephemeral or classic gully erosion or critically eroding areas will be treated?	150
	The applicant will adopt precision agriculture technology for nutrients.	175
	Two or more of the options above.	200
	None of the above.	0

Section: Resource

Question	Answer Choices	Points
Grazingland (Select one)*	Grazingland Questions are not applicable	0
	The applicant will install cross fence to establish or enhance a prescribed grazing system where pastures are allowed to rest at least 80% of the grazing cycle on more than half of all the grazing lands offered acres. (minimum of 5 paddocks)	150
	The applicant will install cross fence to establish or enhance a prescribed grazing system where pastures are allowed to rest at least 66% of the grazing cycle on more than half of all the grazing lands offered acres. (minimum of 3 paddocks)	130
	The applicant will establish and maintain at least twenty percent (maximum of 20 acres to be established or whichever is less) of grazeable acres of native warm season grasses as part of a prescribed grazing system. Grasses include one or more of the following: switchgrass, eastern Gama grass, big bluestem, little bluestem, or Indian grass.	190
	On eligible sites, the applicant will establish perennial legumes to improve forage quality and quantity. If legumes exist, to qualify, the stand of perennial legumes must not exceed 25% uniform coverage	120
	The applicant will treat all critically eroding areas in the offered fields in pasture, hayland, silvopasture.	175
	The applicant will install a water source for livestock water to facilitate prescribed grazing?	110
	The applicant will establish heavy use area protection (HUA) for areas that have been damaged by livestock. Examples: existing watering facilities or ponds without HUA, or static feeding areas. Livestock will be fenced from pond(s) except at site of HUA livestock entrance. This should not be used for MAINTENANCE of existing HUAs. (Do not select if implementing new watering facility)	90
	Applicant will include an adjacent wooded site for grazing and is classified as "outstanding" using the Woodland Grazing site evaluation sheet.	70
	Applicant will include an adjacent wooded site for grazing and is classified as "very good, or good" using the Woodland Grazing site evaluation sheet.	50
	Three or more of the above.	200
	Two or more of the above.	180
None of the above	0	
AFO/Farmstead - Water Quality (select one)*	AFO/Farmstead - Water Quality questions not applicable for IRA	--

Section: Resource

Question	Answer Choices	Points
Energy/Irrigation Efficiency (Select One)*	Energy/Irrigation Efficiency Questions not applicable	0
	The estimated energy cost efficiency is 50 percent or more.	100
	Implementing energy practices that have been evaluated to reduce on-farm generated carbon dioxide (CO2) by 50,000 pounds or more.	100
	The proposed project reduces energy use related to irrigation.	80
	More than one above.	180
	None of the above.	0