USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



## 2023 **LOCAL WORKING GROUP ANNUAL SUMMARY**



## **Resource Concern Summary**

Resource Concern Summary													
Resource Concern	Horet	Nest Nest	Palouse	snak	e River North	Central BigB	end south	Central North	Puge	50und	Intest Tribal	TOTO	Landuse
Degredated Plant Condition	5			4	4	3	1		3	2	4	27	All
Wind and Water Erosion		5	5			2	5				5	22	C, AA, R, P, Fa
Fire Management	4	4	2	5	5			1				21	ALL
Field Sediment, Nutrient and Pathogen Loss				2	2	4	3	5		5		19	C, P, Fa, AA
Source Water Depletion		1		3	3	5	4				2	17	All
Terrestrial Habitat			4		-				4	1	3	15	All
Soil Quality Limitations	1	2	1		1				5			10	All
Livestock Production Limitation	3	3	3	1								10	R, P, AA, Fo, Fa
Aquatic Habitat						1		2		2		5	All
Weather Resilience					-			3	2			5	C, P
Storage and Handling of Pollutants								4	1			5	C, Fa
Field Pesticide Loss					-					4		4	C, P, AA, Fo, Fa
Air Quality Emmissions							2				1	3	C, AA, Fa, P, R
Pest Pressure	2											2	C, R, P, Fo, AA



Landuse Legend: AA = Associated Ag Land. C = Crop. Fa = Farmstead. Fo = Forest. P = Pasture. R = Range.



## **Proposed Conservation Practices**

### **Southwest Local Working Group**

**Conservation Practice Description:** Covers for Livestock Heavy Use areas

**Description:** Roof Covers over livestock heavy use areas to reduce runoff and subsequest pathogen, nutrient and sedimant loads reaching surface water.

**Conservation Practice Description:** Micro irrigation system as a supporting practice to pollinator planting.

- 2 **Description:** High mortality of native species used in pollinator wildlifen plantings and hedgerows could be minimized if temporary (3-5 year) irrigation could be planned and cost shared along with the planting.
  - **Conservation Practice Description:** Use of established practices not currnetly promoted in Washington.

**Description:** Silvopasture (381); Forest Farming (379); Alley cropping (311); Use of these practices could increase forest resilience to climate change.

### **Palouse Local Working Group**

**Conservation Practice Description:** Grazing Cropland.

**Description:** Grazing of cover crops, use of livestock grazing to improve soil health, to include watering systems and perimeter fencing.

**Conservation Practice Description:** Biological nutrient/micronutrient.

**2 Description:** Foliar applications of biological and foliar micronutirents. Reducing synthetic nitrogen applications.

**Conservation Practice Description:** Prescribed Burning

**Description:** A tool to aid in vegetation management on CRP, Range/Pasture, and woodland if well planned.

### **Tribal Local Working Group**

**Conservation Practice Description:** Research and monitoring of practices installed with funding associated.

**Description:** Xeri scaping for urban environments; Hydroponics; Vertical growing; Beaver deceiver or pond leveling without creating a fish bearier; Lampery wall payment scenario needs to be built.



## **State Initatives**

### **North Central Team**

#### Initiative Priority 1: Wildfire Recovery

**Objectives:** The North Central team has experienced multiple large - scale devastating fires in the past ten years. It is important to our customer base to have a waiting pot of money in order to aide in disaster recovery; for both recovery of the land as well as resiliency of the ranch.

Estimated Priority Treatment Acres						
No. Operations [# Oper.]	Typical Size [Ac/Oper.]	Treatment Acres [Acres]	Requested Funds [\$]			
5	5,000	25,000	\$500,000			

	Conservation Practices						
Code	Name	Code	Name				
550	Range Planting	612	Tree/Shrub Establishment				
528	Prescribed Grazing	384	Slash Treatment				
382	Fence	484	Mulching				
327	Conservation Cover	490	Site Prep				
645	Upland Wildlife Habitat Management	342	Critical Area Planting				
420	Wildlife Planting	472	Access Control				

#### Initiative Priority 3: Sage Grouse Initative

**Objectives:** To continue to improve and maintain wildlife habitat and working farms and ranches.

Estimated Priority Treatment Acres						
No. Operations	Typical Size	Treatment Acres	Requested Funds			
[# Oper.]	[Ac/Oper.]	[Acres]	[\$]			
8	300	2,400	\$1,500,000			

Conservation Practices						
Code	Name	Code	Name			
645	Upland Wildlife Habitat Management	614	Watering Facility			
528	Prescribed Grazing	574	Spring Development			
382	Fence	642	Water Well			
516	Livestock Pipeline	327	Conservation Cover			
533	Pumping Plant	550	Range Planting			
643	Restoration of Rare or Declining Natural Con	nmunities				

#### Initiative Priority 2: Urban Agriculture

**Objectives:** This initiative is in need of a better definition that is more encompassing to our "urban" producers. There is a great need for assistance to these producers so they can realize their full potential. **Note: All Conservation Practices included.** 

	Estimated Pri	ority Treatment Acre	es
No. Operations	Typical Size	Treatment Acres	Requested Funds
[# Oper.]	[Ac/Oper.]	[Acres]	[\$]
10	2	20	\$200,000

### **Big Bend Team**

#### Initiative Priority 1: Statewide Range and Pasture Pool

**Objectives:** Would like state to fund Statewide Range and Pasture resource concerns again. Funding at LWG level, without conservation practice hold downs, generally not adequate to fund additional landuse RC's. Need additional pool/money or ranking question in SGI pool to fund range RCs outside of SGI priority areas.

[	Estimated Priority Treatment Acres						
	No. Operations [# Oper.]	Typical Size [Ac/Oper.]	Treatment Acres [Acres]	Requested Funds			
	5	200	10,000	\$500,000			

	Conservation Practices						
Code	Name	Code	Name				
314	Brush Management	574	Spring Development				
315	Herbaceous Weed Control	575	Animal Trails & Walkways				
382	Fence	587	Structure for Water Control				
472	Access Control	612	Tree/Shrub Establishment				
490	Tree/Shrub Site Preparation	614	Watering Facility				
500	Obstruction Removal	642	Water Well				
512	Forage and Biomass Planting	643	Restoration and Management of Rare or Declining Habitats				
516	Livestock Pipeline	645	Upland Wildlife Habitat Management				
528	Prescribed Grazing	649	Structures for Wildlife				
533	Pumping Plant	327	Archived - Conservation Cover				
550	Range Planting	386	Field Border				
561	Heavy Use Area Protection						

## **Local Initiatives**

## **Big Bend Team**

#### *Emphasis Area 1: Watershed Scale Restoration*

#### Acres: 80,000

Description: The Yakima Basin Integrated Plan (YBIP) is a collaboration of state, federal, tribal, business, and community organizations committed to addressing water, fishery, habitat and climate variability challenges to ensure a robust Yakima River Basin within its built and natural systems. In Kittitas County, this includes large scale infrastructure projects to improve fish passage and increase storage, medium scale projects within irrigation entities to improve water use efficiency and management as well as fish passage/screening, and smale scale projects with individual producers to address water use efficiency, fish passage/screening, and habitat. Dozens of fish passage barriers and unscreened diversions have been inventoried and thousands of acres are in rill or flood irrigation ready for upgrades to more efficient systems.

#### Emphasis Area 2: Farmland Preservation Acres: 3,000

**Description:** Conservation easement projects (ACEP-ALE, WWRP-Farmland Preservation, etc) have been completed in Kittitas County in recent years generating significant interest from producers. To date producers associated with approximately 3,000 acres have expressed interest in conservation easements or other preservation tools to ensure their property is not developed in the future. A group of partners in Kittitas County, including Kittitas County Conservation District, Kittitas Conservation Trust, Kittitas County Flood Control Zone District, Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife, Forterra, Trout Unlimited, and Mid Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group have been meeting regularly to strategize opportunities to assist these producers.

## Emphasis Area 3: Forest Health/Wildfire Fuels Reduction

#### Acres: 10,000

**Description:** "Kittitas County has more than 75,000 acres of private forestland in parcels of 5 acres or greater. These lands are adjacent to or surrounded by public ownership (USFS, WADNR, etc) and/or ever increasing housing developments and communities. Two thirds of these lands are in the Swauk, Teanaway, Cle Elum. Taneum and Manastash watersheds which are high risk for wildfire damage due to high fuel loads and burn probability. The Kitittas Fire Adapted Communities Coalition (KFACC) is continually working to develop collaborative landscape and community resilience projects. These projects are focused on cross boundary efforts that reduce fuel loads in the highest risk areas and restore

forest health. In addition to on-the-ground work, KFACC is searching for funding for continued facilition as well as outreach."

### Emphasis Area 4: Shrub Steppe Rangelands Acres: 50,000

**Description:** Technical and financial assistance to large livestock grazing operation in shrub-steppe rangeland adjecent to a military installation (Yakima Training Center). The operation incorporates a large component of the private lands within the Sage Grouse Priority Areas of Conservation (PAC) southeast of Ellensburg. In Grant County Shrubbe step is seen as a critical habitat by USFW as well as WDFW, in addition to the conservation of Sage Grouse Habitat in the northern end of the county, Shrub steppe remains a high priority for conservation throughout the rest of the county as threat of conversion and urban sprawl continue to threaten habitat continutity for migration, shelter and food for many species.

#### *Emphasis Area 5: Watershed Scale Restoration*

#### Acres: 65,000

**Description:** Lower Crab creek is prioirty habitat for Chinook Salmon and is a piroirty of GCCD as well as DFW and the Priest Rapids Habitat program (Grant Co. PUD).



## Local Initiatives (cont.)

### **Big Bend Team** (cont.)

There are barriers to fish passage and the creek is on the 303(d) list for pH, sediment, DO and temperature. Currently there is very little government funding activity on private lands in the watershed. Although the five lower watersheds encompass a small area of the Crab Creek Watershed, it is GCCD's intent to work with NRCS over the next several years to incorporate all remaining upper watershed areas into the NWQI program. The Lower Crab Creek NWQI study area includes diverse land uses including recreational, irrigated agriculture. rangeland, and urban and light industrial uses. GCCD will focus on addressing water quality concerns by reducing chemical and nutrient contaminants. The reduction will revolve around improving agrichemical handling facilities, riparian buffers, exclusionary fencing and sediment management.

### Emphasis Area 6: Watershed Scale Restoration Acres: 271,305

**Description:** Protecting and improving Moses Lake's water quality and reducing occurrences of harmful algal blooms in Moses Lake is a top priority for our community and legislators in Grant County. Moses Lake has been on the 303(d) impaired water quality list for over 50 years and has been a concern for multiple entities. There has been a volume of community planning efforts, media coverage, and scientific data that have been produced over the last 60 years due to the importance and concern of this natural resource. Since 2018, the Moses Lake Watershed Council and its diverse membership of local, state, and federal participants have been working to identify and facilitate community-led projects to improve, protect, and preserve water quality in Moses Lake and the greater watershed for present and future generations.

### Emphasis Area 7: Odessa Groundwater Replacement Program

#### Acres: 250,000

**Description:** Groundwater has been declining in the Odessa Subarea for many years, putting the region at risk of losing this vitally important supply. Farmers who rely on water for their livelihoods and communities who depend on the aquifer for drinking water are at risk of losing this critical resource. This impacts the domestic, commercial, municipal, and industrial water supply for over 180,000 people and more than a dozen communities. The Odessa Groundwater Replacement Program (OGWRP) is a regional effort to implement the Odessa Subarea Special Study FEIS (2012), which is building the necessary infrastructure for farmers to exchange valid state-issued Odessa groundwater rights for Columbia Basin Project water, including nearly 90,000 irrigated acres coming off of the aquifer. In early 2022, the OGWRP was approved and funded for watershed planning through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) and the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act (PL-566). The allocation of \$775,000 in federal funding is coming through NRCS to be used to develop a watershed plan to assist in obtaining future funding for the design and construction of the OGWRP's remaining

large infrastructure projects.

#### *Emphasis Area 8: Urban Agriculture*

#### Description: Urban

conservation is more important in Grant County than ever particularly surrounding Moses Lake and neighboring waterbodies. Phosporus loading is a huge issue resulting in toxic alagal blooms. Urban conservation efforts such as planting high functioning native transitional habitat filter strips along the lake edge will help to intercept private land contributions to the phosphorus loading as well as provide much needed habitat for native polinators. Habitat structures will help address pest insect issues as well by supporting structures for wildlife.



# Big Bend Team. EQIP Fund Pools

### **Irrigation & Energy Fund Pool**

Landuses	Resource Concerns	Questions	Points
• Crop	<ul> <li>Surface water depletion</li> <li>Inefficient irrigation water use</li> </ul>	What is the efficiency gain from going to current irrigation system to planned system (reference the adjacent chart only to make determination)? +25% = 100pts; +15-25% = 50pts; +less than 15% = 25pts	100
<ul><li>Pasture</li><li>Farmstead</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Plant productivity and health</li> <li>Plant structure and composition</li> </ul>	Does the plan include (449) Irrigation Water Management (required for 2 growing seasons, with moisture sensors and/or data logger)?	20
<ul> <li>Associated Agriculture Lands</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Energy efficiency of farming/ranching practices and field operations</li> <li>Energy efficiency of equipment and facilities</li> </ul>	Does the producer have an approved conservation activity plan (CAP) or approved VSP plan? (CAP= agEMP or Audit completed that meets NRCS standards) and does the proposed project implement at least one practice within the applicable plan?	50
• Any		Does the producer have an approved Energy Audit completed that meets NRCS standards and does the proposed project implement at least one practice within the plan?	30



# North Central Team. EQIP Fund Pools

## **Irrigation Fund Pool**

Landuses	Resource Concerns	Questions	Points
	<ul> <li>Inefficient irrigation water use</li> </ul>	Does the project improve water use efficiency on cropland?	85
Crop	<ul> <li>Plant productivity and health</li> <li>Aquatic habitat for fish and other organisms</li> </ul>	Does the project improve water use efficiency on pastureland?	75
<ul> <li>Pasture</li> <li>Farmstead</li> </ul>		Is the project area adjacent to a riparian area or wetland?	20
- Tannisteau		Does the project improve water use efficiency elsewhere on the farm (i.e. farmstead)?	20

### **Not-Forested Wildfire Fund Pool**

Landuses	Resource Concerns	Questions	Points
Crop     Range	Wildfire hazard from biomass	Does the project consist of re-vegetating an area burned in the last 5 years?	90
<ul><li>Farmstead</li><li>Pasture</li><li>Associated</li></ul>	accumulation <ul> <li>Plant pest pressure</li> <li>Terrestrial habitat for wildlife and invertebrates</li> </ul>	Does the project include a practice that will reduce weed pressure on the site?	20
Agriculture Lands • Other		Does the project include a practice that will reduce wildfire hazard on the site (i.e. fuel break, brush management)?	90



# Northeast Team. EQIP Fund Pools

### **Range and Pasture Fund Pool**

Landuses	Resource Concerns	Questions	Points
• Range	<ul> <li>Plant productivity and health</li> <li>Inadequate livestock water quantity, quality and distribution</li> <li>Terrestrial habitat for wildlife and invertebrates</li> </ul>	Will an off-site (non-riparian) water development be implemented as part of this project to change from current in-stream watering of livestock?	100
• Pasture		Will a Prescribed Grazing Plan be implemented as part of this project?	100

## Irrigation Fund Pool

Landuses	Resource Concerns	Questions	Points
- Cron	<ul> <li>Inefficient irrigation water use</li> <li>Plant productivity and health</li> </ul>	Will an Intermediate or Advanced Irrigation Water Management (IWM) practice be implemented as part of this irrigation project?	100
• Crop	<ul> <li>Energy efficiency of equipment and facilities</li> </ul>	Will energy savings be achieved with installation of a Variable Frequency Drive (VFD) as part of the pumping plant design for this irrigation project per recommendations from an energy audit?	100



# Northwest Team. EQIP Fund Pools

## **Plant/Pollutants/Terrestrial Habitat Fund Pool**

Landuses	Resource Concerns	Questions	Points
	<ul> <li>Plant productivity and health</li> <li>Plant structure and composition</li> <li>Nutrients transported to surface water</li> </ul>	The Project Proposal includes a practice or practices that are ranked 3 or higher on CPPE for one of the following RC: Plant productivity and health, plant structure and composition, Nutrients transported to surface water, Petroleum, heavy metals and other pollutants transported to surface water, Terrestrial habitat for wildlife and invertebrates: <b>1 practice = 50 points, 2 + practices = 100 points</b>	100
• Any	<ul> <li>Petroleum, heavy metals and other pollutants transported to surface water</li> </ul>	Will the project occur within 2 miles of a known local DNR Natural Heritage site?	
	<ul> <li>Terrestrial habitat for wildlife and invertebrates</li> </ul>		100

### **Water Fund Pool**

Landuses	Resource Concerns	Questions	Points
	<ul><li>Groundwater depletion</li><li>Surface water depletion</li></ul>	The Project Proposal includes a practice or practices that are ranked 3 or higher on CPPE for one of the following RC: Groundwater depletion, Surface water depletion, sediment transported to surface water, nutrients transported to surface water, ponding and flooding, or naturally available moisture use: <b>1 practice = 50 points, 2+ practices = 100 points.</b>	100
• Any	<ul> <li>Sediment transported to surface water</li> <li>Pathogens and chemicals from manure, biosolids or compost applications transported to surface water</li> </ul>	The proposed project controls/manages runoff that currently enters or is a watershed of a 303d listed waterbody.	50
	<ul> <li>Ponding and flooding</li> <li>Naturally available moisture use</li> </ul>	Is the project within 1 mile of an existing county-identified urban growth area (UGA)?	50



# Palouse Team. EQIP Fund Pools

## **Crop 2024 Fund Pool**

Landuses	Resource Concerns	Questions	Points
	<ul> <li>Sediment transported to surface water</li> <li>Aggregate instability</li> <li>Soil organism habitat loss or degradation</li> <li>Ponding and flooding</li> </ul>	Will practices be applied to reduce sediment transport to surface water by 50%?	75
		Will practices be applied on cropland that improve by 25% or more from the Aggregate Instability conditions present before treatment?	50
• Crop		Will practices be applied on cropland that improve by 25% or more from the Soil Organism Habitat conditions present before treatment?	25
		Will practices be installed to reduce the incidence and or duration of ponding and flooding without adverse site or offsite impacts?	50

### Range 2024 Fund Pool

Landuses	Resource Concerns	Questions	Points
	<ul> <li>Inadequate livestock water quantity, quality and distribution</li> <li>Feed and forage balance</li> <li>Plant productivity and health</li> <li>Plant structure and composition</li> <li>Plant pest pressure</li> </ul>	Will component practices be installed for a watering system that supports livestock productivity and health with application of a planned grazing system?	75
• Range		Will practices be applied in a planned manner to bring feed and forage into balance with livestock production needs?	25
Pasture		Will Practices be applied to improve plant productivity and health toward site potential?	75
		Will Practices be applied to change plant structure and composition toward the site potential?	20
		Will an Integrated Pest Management system reduce plant pest infestations to allowable threshhold?	5



## Puget Sound Team. EQIP Fund Pools

### **Water Quality & Soil Fund Pool**

Landuses	Resource Concerns	Questions	Points
	Nutrients transported to groundwater	Is the current waste storage system considered to be medium to high risk, or high risk? Answer no if there is no livestock on the land unit?	50
• 4 101	<ul> <li>Sediment transported to surface water</li> <li>Nutrients transported to groundwater</li> <li>Nutrients transported to surface water</li> <li>Compaction</li> <li>Aggregate instability</li> </ul>	Will the proposed project alleviate sediment from being transported to waterways bearing at-risk species?	50
• Any		Is the nitrate leaching potential high in the soil on the farm?	50
		Will the proposed practice include cover crops, crop rotation, prescribed grazing, and/or residue and tillage management to address soil health?	50

### **Habitat and Degraded Plant Fund Pool**

Landuses	Resource Concerns	Questions	Points
	<ul> <li>Aquatic habitat for fish and other organisms</li> <li>Elevated water temperature</li> <li>Terrestrial habitat for wildlife and invertebrates</li> <li>Plant productivity and health</li> <li>Plant structure and composition</li> </ul>	Will the proposed practices directly benefit federal or state threatened or endangered species?	40
		Will the proposed practices directly benefit a species from WDFW's Species of Greatest Conservation Need list?	40
• Any		Will the proposed practice improve food, cover, or shelter for pollinators?	40
		Will the proposed practices assist with the implementation of an existing FMP?	40
		Will the proposed practices improve plant productivity resulting in a higher or better quality yield realized within the next 3 years?	40



# South Central Team. EQIP Fund Pools

### **Irrigation Fund Pool**

Landuses	Resource Concerns	Questions	Points
	<ul> <li>Inefficient irrigation water use</li> <li>Surface water depletion</li> <li>Groundwater depletion</li> </ul>	Is the existing irrigation flood or rill irrigated AND will the planned system be >= 85% efficient as per the WA irrigation guide table 6-2 average efficiency? (Only answer question 1 or 2 based on the designed system efficiency, not both. If the designed system is less than 75%, do not answer either.)	75
• Crop		Is the existing irrigation flood or rill irrigated AND will the planned system be above 75% efficient as per the WA irrigation guide table 6-2 average efficiency? (Only answer question 1 or 2 based on the designed system efficiency, not both. If the designed system is less than 75%, do not answer either.)	50
<ul> <li>Pasture</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Nutrients transported to surface water</li> <li>Nutrients transported to groundwater</li> </ul>	Are there nutrients, either organic or inorganic, being applied not following Land Grant University guidance?	
	<ul> <li>Pesticides transported to groundwater</li> </ul>	Is the water source pulled directly out of a stream, not an established irrigation district delivery?	20
	<ul> <li>Pesticides transported to surface water</li> </ul>	Does WQ TN-3 shows >= Moderate to High risk and the planned practices will mitigate the resource concern identified?	15
	·	Are the planned practices to reduce nutrients or pesticides to surface water located adjacent to water body/stream with anadromous fish?	10

### **Range & Pasture Health Fund Pool**

Landuses	Resource Concerns	Questions	Points
	<ul> <li>Plant productivity and health</li> <li>Plant structure and composition</li> <li>Inadequate livestock water quantity, quality and distribution</li> <li>Feed and forage balance</li> <li>Bank erosion from streams, shorelines or water conveyance channels</li> </ul>	Is prescribed grazing (528) included in the planned practices?	75
		Is the RHA biotic integrity attribute a moderate departure or less? – OR – Is the RHA functional/structural indicator a moderate departure or less? – OR – Is the PCS plant vigor element <4?	25
		Is the RHA annual production indicator a moderate departure or less? - OR - Is the PCS grazing utilization and severity element >4?	25
• Range • Pasture		Do the applicant's livestock have to travel >0.5 miles to a developed water source within the PLU? – OR – Are existing water development locations within PLU not compatible with a planned prescribed grazing system?	25
		Are existing water developments producing less than livestock water requirements based on Engineering Tech Note #19 Water Requirements for Beef Cattle (<20 gal/day/head beef) or on table 11-1 on the Livestock Pipeline Watering Facility Design spreadsheet gal/day/head within the PLU during the season of use?	25
		Is the average SVAP2 bank condition score <5 for water courses within the PLU? - OR - Is the average PCS streambank and shoreline element <4 for watercourses within the PLU? - OR- Answer NO if there are no watercourses within the PLU?	25



## Snake River Team. EQIP Fund Pools

## **Grazing Fund Pool**

Landuses	Resource Concerns	Questions	Points
<ul><li>Range</li><li>Pasture</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Plant productivity and health</li> <li>Plant structure and composition</li> <li>Feed and forage balance</li> </ul>	With or without NRCS funding, does the participant operate under a prescribed grazing plan (CPS528) that meets NRCS specifications OR will the participant be implementing a prescribed grazing plan (CPS528) for the project application that will meet NRCS specifications?	80
<ul><li>Crop</li><li>Forest</li><li>Farmstead</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Inadequate livestock water quantity, quality and distribution</li> <li>Inadequate livestock shelter</li> </ul>	Will the project be implemented to remove livestock access to fish bearing waters?	80
<ul> <li>Associated Agriculture Lands</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Nutrients transported to surface water</li> <li>Pathogens and chemicals from manure, biosolids or compost applications transported to surface water</li> </ul>	Will the project be implemented to remove livestock access to surface waters?	40



## Southwest Team. EQIP Fund Pools

### **Cropland Fund Pool**

Landuses	Resource Concerns	Questions	Points
	<ul> <li>Pesticides transported to surface water</li> <li>Pesticides transported to groundwater</li> <li>Organic matter depletion</li> <li>Soil organism habitat loss or degradation</li> <li>Bank erosion from streams, shorelines or water conveyance channels</li> </ul>	Do planned practices reduce pesticide delivery into surface or ground waters within 200 feet of the land unit?	20
		Do planned practices reduce pesticide delivery toward an adjacent 303d listed waterbody within 200 feet of the land unit?	50
• Crop		Do the planned practices increase the Soil Condition Index to a positive trend and is the Soil Tillage Intensity Rating less than 20?	50
		Do planned practices address soils in the planning unit with less than 5% Organic matter as indicated from recent soil test(s) and/or boost habitat for soil organisms?	50
		Do planned practices address bank erosion?	30

### **Water Quality and Upland Habitat Fund Pool**

Landuses	Resource Concerns	Questions	Points
• Crop		Do planned practices manage/control sediment and/or nutrient delivery to surface water, wetlands or near shore habitat within a half mile meeting the qualifications outlined in WA NRCS Forest Road planning guide or from pastures, cropland or associated ag land?	20
• Forest	<ul> <li>Sediment transported to surface water</li> <li>Nutrients transported to surface water</li> <li>Terrestrial habitat for wildlife and invertebrates</li> <li>Plant pest pressure</li> </ul>	Do planned practices control/manage sediment and/or nutrient delivery toward an adjacent 303d listed waterbody within a quarter mile?	70
<ul> <li>Pasture</li> <li>Associated Agriculture Lands</li> </ul>		Do planned practices result in habitat enhancement addressing declining pollinator habitat as outlined in the Pollinator Habitat Assessment Tool?	40
		Do the planned practices improve habitat for terrestrial species?	40
		Do the planned practices reduce plant pest pressure?	30



# West Palouse Team. EQIP Fund Pools

### **Soil Organic Matter Depletion 2023 Fund Pool**

Landuses	Resource Concerns	Questions	Points
	<ul> <li>Wind erosion</li> <li>Sheet and rill erosion</li> <li>Feed and forage balance</li> <li>Inadequate livestock water quantity, quality and distribution</li> </ul>	Will the participant be a first time adopter of residue mgmt practices?	30
• Crop		Does the participant include 2 or more practices?	40
<ul><li>Pasture</li><li>Range</li></ul>		Did the participant have an application in 2023 that was eligible and not funded?	40
		Will the practices benefit livestock or wildlife? Practice must benefit animal resource concern?	45
		Does the participant plan to implement a livestock grazing system?	45



## Tribal. EQIP Fund Pools

## **Tribal Identified Animal/Aquatic Species of Importance Fund Pool**

Landuses	Resource Concerns	Questions	Points
• Any	• Aquatic habitat for fish and other	Is the project led by a Tribal Program?	100
	organisms • Elevated water temperature	Does this project include at least 3 Tribally Identified Animal/Aquatic Species of Importance? Contact State Tribal Liaison to determine if species is contained within Tribal list. <b>Three species: 50 points; Two species: 25 points; One species: 15 points.</b>	50
	<ul> <li>Terrestrial habitat for wildlife and invertebrates</li> </ul>	Is this project species identified within a Tribally provided list? Contact State Tribal Liaison to determine if species is contained within Tribal list.	24
	<ul> <li>Bank erosion from streams, shorelines or water conveyance channels</li> </ul>	Does this project include pollinators and/or pollinator habitat?	25
		Is the project identified with FSA as Tribal Owned/ Leased, Trust, Alloted lands?	1

### **Tribal Identified Plant Species of Importance Fund Pool**

Landuses	Resource Concerns	Questions	Points
• Any	<ul> <li>Plant productivity and health</li> <li>Plant structure and composition</li> <li>Ponding and flooding</li> <li>Seasonal high water table</li> <li>Wildfire hazard from biomass accumulation</li> </ul>	Is the project led by a Tribal Program?	100
		Does this project include subsistance food sources? Contact State Tribal Liaison to determine if species is contained within Tribal list.	30
		Does this project include medicinal plant sources? No Federally controlled substances. Contact State Tribal Liaison to determine if species is contained within Tribal list.	30
		Is this project species identified within a Tribally provided list? Contact State Tribal Liaison to determine if species is contained within Tribal list.	24
		Does this project treat noxious weeds listed on County weed list? https://www.nwcb.wa.gov/contact-your-county-weed-boards (Class A -15 points, Class B- 10 points, Class C- 5 points)	15
		Is the project identified with FSA as Tribal Owned/ Leased, Trust, Alloted lands?	1

