

Grassland Reserve Program (GRP) Ranking Factors

(Current Conditions)

Rental Agreement 10 yrs 15 yrs 20 yrs
 Permanent Easement ___ Restoration Needed

Landowner Name: _____ Farm# _____ Tract# _____

Total parcel Acres: _____ Total Acres of Grassland: _____

Total Acres of Cropland: _____ County: _____ Date: _____

1. Biodiversity of Plants and Animals.	Total Pts. Allowed	Total Pts.
a. The offer acres are in a WV-DNR bird habitat priority area. Section II, Appendix II of NRCS eFOTG; Bobwhite Quail Range, Ring-Necked Pheasant Range, Chesapeake Bay National Priority Area	30	
b. The offer area is dominated by one of the following vegetative species		
Warm Season Perennials	20	
Clover, Orchardgrass, Bluegrass and Broomgrass	15	
Redtop, Bluegrass and Clover	10	
c. The offer area contains small shrub and/or wetland areas. (< 10% of total offered area, non-invasive species)	10	
d. There is threatened or endangered plant species habitat included in the offer area. (Use State List)	30	
e. The landowner/operator agrees to manage the offer area to address resources concerns for water quality.	30	
2. Risk of conversion.	Total Pts. Allowed	Total Pts.
a. The offer area includes prime, statewide or locally important soils in the following range. (Use Field Office Tech. Guide)		
>50 percent	100	
25 to 50 percent	50	
< 25 percent	5	
b. The offer area is adjacent to other protected acres. (GRP,WRP,CRP, CREP, FRPP, etc and public lands, State and Federal Areas)	100	
c. Is this a CRP/CREP site within one year of the contract expiring?		
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, must be signed up for 20 year Rental or Easement	100	
<input type="checkbox"/> No	0	

d. Length of rental/easement commitment.		
10 years	10	
15 years	25	
20 years	50	
Permanent	100	
e. Percent population growth in the county as documented by the United States Census (www.census.gov)		
growth rate 2.34 to 3 times state growth rate	30	
growth rate 1.67 to 2.33 times state growth rate	20	
growth rate 1 to 1.66 times state growth rate	10	
f. Is the offer land adjacent to an urbanized area? (Urbanized example: subdivisions and or commercial developments, developed within the last 5 years).		
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	10	
<input type="checkbox"/> No	50	
g. Decrease in the percentage of acreage of farm and ranch land in the county in which the parcel is located between the last two USDA Censuses of Agriculture (www.agcensus.usda.gov)		
Decrease in excess of 5 percent	15	
Decrease 2.6 to 5 percent	10	
Decrease of 0 percent to 2.5 percent	5	
h. Is any of the offered land in a cropping rotation with the plan to convert to permanent grass?		
> 50%	50	
25% - 50%	25	
< 25%	10	
3. Support of Grazing Agriculture Operations.	Total Pts. Allowed	Total Pts.
a. The offer area is currently a viable livestock operation. (Viable: forage is being used for the maintenance or production of livestock)	100	
b. Ratio of the total acres of offered land in the parcel to be protected to average farm size in the county according to the most recent USDA Census of Agriculture (www.agcensus.usda.gov)		
> 2.0	100	
1.0 – 2.0	50	
< 1.0	0	
c. What percent of the offer area is grassland?		
>90%	50	
50-90%	25	
< 50%	10	

<p>d. What percent of the offer is in Pasture?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Permanent Pasture > 50% Hay Aftermath Grazed > 50%</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">50 100</p>	
<p>4. Cost Effectiveness.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Total Pts. Allowed</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Total Pts.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">(Cost of Easement) (GRP-GARC Value) <u>Use with easement applications only</u></p> <p style="text-align: right;">> \$3000/acre 1500-3000 < \$1500</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">50 100 25</p>	
<p>5. Management</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Total Pts. Allowed</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Total Pts.</p>
<p>a. Is restoration of the offered area required: (Meets 528 and 511 Standards for Grazing Land/Hayland)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">10 25</p>	
<p>b. Offer area is located within 1 air mile of other operating farms.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">100 25</p>	
<p>5. Total Ranking Points</p>	Total Points	
<p>Signature of Ranker _____ Print Name _____ (District Conservationist)</p> <p>Signature of Ranker _____ Print Name _____ (Ranking Team Member)</p> <p>Signature of Ranker _____ Print Name _____ (Ranking Team Member)</p> <p>Signature of Ranker _____ Print Name _____ (Ranking Team Member)</p> <p>Rental Cost: _____ rate/acre x _____ acres x _____ Year = _____</p> <p>Restoration: Acres: _____ Total Cost: _____ Length of Contract: _____</p> <p>Estimated easement cost: _____ cost/acre x _____ acres = _____</p>		