

# Environmental Ranking Criteria

Northern Panhandle 2005

Points can only be earned when there is an environmental concern to be addressed by the implementation of a Conservation Management System. If the applicant is already doing the conservation practice that eliminates an environmental concern, then points will not be assigned.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

FSN: \_\_\_\_\_ Tract: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Points: \_\_\_\_\_

For the practices below, the following terms will be defined as:

Managed Intensive Grazing System – Livestock are moved every 1-4- days during the grazing season. 11 or more paddocks are established in such a way as to lend themselves to rotating livestock frequently with relative ease. Paddocks may be established using polywire for final subdivision, though polywire is not cost-shared.

Rotational Grazing System – Livestock are moved every 5-8 days. 5-10 paddocks are established in order to rotate livestock with relative ease. Paddocks may be established using polywire for final subdivision, though polywire is not cost-shared.

Continuous Grazing System – All other systems.

## Best Management Practice Points

(Choose all that apply)

\_\_\_\_\_ Will better utilize pastureland by implementing prescribed grazing.  
Managed Intensive Grazing System = 25 points  
Rotational Grazing System = 15 points

\_\_\_\_\_ Will install water systems for livestock . (Use definitions above)  
Portable watering system for intensive rotational grazing =25 points  
Watering systems that serve rotational grazing systems =15 points  
Other watering systems = 5 points

\_\_\_\_\_ Will install pasture division fence in order to better utilize pastures.  
Intensive Grazing System is established = 20 points  
Rotational Grazing is established = 15 points  
Pasture division resulting in fewer than 5 paddocks = 5 points  
(see above definitions)

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- \_\_\_\_\_ Will manage soil nutrients as recommended by soil test. = 20 points  
(Modifications to soil test recommendations may be made by a Certified Nutrient Management Consultant.)
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ Will reduce contaminants and nutrients entering streams and water courses by the installation of:
  - Winter Feeding Pad = 30 points
  - Animal Waste Facility = 60 points
  - Waste Utilization according to Comprehensive Plan = 15 points
  - Livestock exclusion from streams (with buffer) = 15 points
  - Stream Crossing / Equipment Access = 20 points
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ Will improve plant condition by reseeding poor stands = 10 points
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ Will establish warm season grasses to benefit wildlife = 10 points
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ Will establish suitable vegetation on critically eroding areas. = 10 points
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ Will establish vegetation or protection on eroding stream banks. = 10 points
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ Will reduce sheet and rill erosion on cropland by installing one or more:
  - Cover Crop \_\_\_\_\_
  - Contour Farming \_\_\_\_\_
  - Filter Strips \_\_\_\_\_
  - Grassed Waterway \_\_\_\_\_
 5 points for each practice (maximum of 20 points)
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ Will exclude livestock from woodlands. = 15 points

**Priority Points** (Choose only one of the following items)

- \_\_\_\_\_ Pasture Utilization – If the practices planned will treat all resources or concern for the entire pasture system (RMS level). = 50 points
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ Pasture Improvement – If the practices planned will treat individual fields or all pastureland but will not address all resources of concern (below RMS level) = 20 points
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ Surface Water Quality – If the practices planned address reduction of surface water contamination via livestock. = 10 points
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ Plant Condition – If the practices planned address the health and vigor of forage plants on a livestock or equine enterprise. = 5 points

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\_\_\_\_\_ **Total For All Pages** (Maximum 355)