

Environmental Ranking Criteria

Northern Panhandle 2006

Note: 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: _____ County: _____

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. Temporary fencing as part of a prescribed grazing plan is cost-sharable.

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. Temporary fencing as part of a prescribed grazing plan is cost-sharable.

Continuous Grazing System – All other systems.

Best Management Practice Points (Choose all that apply)

_____ Will better utilize pastureland by implementing prescribed grazing plan.
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

_____ Will install pasture division fence in order to better utilize pastures.
Intensive Grazing System is established = 20 points
Rotational Grazing is established = 15 points

_____ **Subtotal Page 1**

_____ Will manage soil nutrients according to current soil test and nutrient management plan. Records will be kept for the life of the plan. = 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:
Heavy Use Area Protection/Winter Feeding Pad = 30 points
Animal Waste Facility = 60 points
Development and Implementation of Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (required for animal waste storage) = 15 points
Livestock exclusion from streams w/filter strip or riparian buffer = 15 points
Stream Crossing / Equipment Access = 20 points
Roof Runoff Management =30 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 _____
Residue Management _____

5 points for each practice (maximum of 15 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 from 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

_____ **SubTotal Page 2**

_____ **Total For All Pages**