

EQIP FY-2006 Grazing Land Application Ranking Criteria Evaluation
 Potomac Valley Conservation District

Landowner _____ Farm # _____ Tract # _____

Date: _____

Points

	<p>1. Reduce erosion, reduce soil compaction, improve regeneration, and develop proper stand population on the forest landscape by excluding livestock. Environmental Points = 20</p>	
	<p>2. Improve water quality and improve utilization of animal waste nutrients by relocating an established concentrated winter feeding area away from all streams. (Standard Code 561, Heavy Use Area Protection; Nutrient Management Plan required). Environmental Points = 25</p>	
<p>3. Improve soil quality, reduce erosion, and improve animal health by developing and implementing a prescribed grazing plan. Landowner must be given a management worksheet so they understand the requirements of this practice. A prescribed grazing plan will be written that describes stocking rate, pasture size and grazing duration in each field. The Prescribed Grazing incentive payments will be based on the level of management (length of grazing cycle) required by the grazing system to be used:</p>		
	<p>Pasture division fencing = 20 points, plus 10 pts. per additional field, up to maximum of 50 points</p>	
	<p>Water facility = 30 points, plus 10 pts. per additional watering facility, up to maximum of 50 points</p>	
	<p>Continuous grazing (9+ days grazing cycle) Environmental Points = 25</p>	
	<p>Rotational Grazing (5 - 8 days grazing cycle) Environmental Points = 50</p>	
	<p>Management Intensive Grazing (MIG) (1 - 4 days grazing cycle) Environmental</p>	
	<p>Converting land which is being grazed, but which is too steep to properly manage, to woodland. Environmental Points = 15</p>	
	<p>Establishment of Warm Season Grasses. Environmental Points = 5</p>	
	<p>Extended grazing to keep livestock in pasture longer and reduce need for waste storage. Environmental Points = 35</p>	
	<p>Pasture planting to establish a higher quality forage, other than fescue, to improve both forage quality and wildlife habitat. Environmental Points = 30</p>	
	<p>Brush Management. Environmental Points = 10</p>	

4. Reduce sheet and rill erosion on agricultural land. Use the predominate soil type for the field/farm.

Reduce average erosion > 5 tons/ac/yr Environmental Points = 15	
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Reduce average erosion 3 - 5 tons/ac/yr Environmental Points = 10	
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Reduce average erosion < 3 tons/ac/yr Environmental Points = 5	
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Reduce Ephemeral/gully erosion. Use the predominate soil type for the field/farm.

Reduce average erosion > 1,000 cu.ft/yr Environmental Points = 20	
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Reduce average erosion 500 - 1,000 cu.ft/yr Environmental Points = 15	
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Reduce average erosion 300 - 500 cu.ft/yr Environmental Points = 10	
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Reduce average erosion < 300 cu.ft/yr Environmental Points = 5	
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5. Livestock exclusion for streambank protection
 Establish permanent fencing and/or create vegetated buffers (grass and/or trees) to protect streambanks from livestock. Includes fencing, stream crossings, and water facilities. May be combined with vegetative filter strip, riparian forest buffer, and/or stabilization of critically eroding streambanks.

Establishment of streambank fencing = 60 points	
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Stream crossing installation = 20 points	
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Field border establishment = 10 points	
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Tree and shrub planting = 10 points	
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Field border width from stream (top of bank/20 feet minimum)	
> 100 feet = 50 points	
> 50 feet = 40 points	
> 40 feet = 30 points	
> 30 feet = 20 points	
> 20 feet = 10 points	

Total Points

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