

Greenbrier Valley Conservation District 2003 EQIP Environmental Ranking Criteria

Points can only be earned when there is an environmental concern to be addressed. If the applicant is already doing the conservation practice that eliminates an environmental concern, then points will not be assigned. Points will be awarded as written on the worksheet and not arbitrarily reduced.

NAME			
ADDRESS			
FSN		TRACT	

1. _____ Develop sources of drinking water for livestock in order to reduce excessive erosion or animal waste related problems to improve surface water quality. **15 points**

2. _____ Improve water quality by establishing a buffer area between a water body / open sinkhole and cropland, pastureland, or feedlot. **20 points**

3. _____ Reduce compaction, improve regeneration, and develop proper stand population on the forest landscape by excluding livestock. **A percentage of 20 points that is equal to the percentage of the total grazed woodland on the tract that is excluded from livestock grazing with this proposal.**

4. _____ Improve water quality by excluding livestock from a water body / open sinkhole. **5 points**

5. _____ Convert grazing land that is too steep to be properly managed to woodland by excluding livestock. (Natural regeneration is preferred and creates early successional habitat) **10 points**

6. _____ Improve water quality and provide for better utilization of animal waste nutrients by relocating an established concentrated winter feeding area (Standard Code 757 Animal Use Protection Area.) Adequate filter area will be required as outlined by the standard. **5 points**

7. _____ Improve soil quality, reduce erosion, improve animal health by developing and implementing a prescribed grazing plan. If nutrients will be applied, a Nutrient Management Plan will be developed based on a current soil test. Farmer must be given management worksheet so they understand the requirements of this practice.

- 9+ days grazing cycle = **5 points**
- 5-8 days grazing cycle = **8 points**
- 1-4 days grazing cycle = **12 points**

8. _____ Utilize extended grazing to reduce feeding periods (after November 15), as part of a prescribed grazing plan. (Minimum height of grass to be maintained per 528A standard)

- 1 month extended grazing = **5 points**
- 2 month extended grazing = **8 points**
- 3 month extended grazing = **12 points**

_____ **SUBTOTAL**

9. _____ Increase forage quality and quantity with a pasture planting. Cost-share will be provided for seed, labor and equipment. (warm season grass plantings are encouraged) **5 points**

10. _____ Divert overland flow or over head flow of clean water from existing permanent livestock feeding areas, i.e. diversions or gutters. **2 points**

11. _____ Reduce ephemeral/ gully erosion. Use the predominate soil type for the area.

Reduce average erosion > 1000 cu/ft/yr. = **4 points**

Reduce average erosion 1000 – 500 cu/ft/yr. = **3 points**

Reduce average erosion 500 – 300 cu/ft/yr. = **2 points**

Reduce average erosion < 300 cu/ft/yr. = **1 points**

12. _____ Reduce surface and /or ground water quality problems by implementing an animal waste management system. Refer to definition of animal waste facility in Technical Guide, Section IV.

Distance + Slope + Direct Discharge = Points

Distance (ft) to stream, sinkhole or concentrated flow
1 – 50 = 15 points
51 – 100 = 12 points
101 – 200 = 8 points
200 + = 5 points

Slope
0 – 3 % = 1 point
4 – 8 % = 2 points
9 – 15 % = 3 points
16 - 25 % = 4 points
25% + = 5 points

Direct discharge to flowing stream or open sinkhole
5 points

_____ **SUBTOTAL POINTS OF PAGE 1**

_____ **SUBTOTAL POINTS OF PAGE 2**

_____ **TOTAL POINTS**