

Farm & Ranch Land Protection Program (FRPP)
Ranking Factors

Participant Name:	Entity:
Date:	County:

National Factors

Ranking Factor and Scaling	Maximum	Points
Percent of prime, unique, and important farmland in the parcel to be protected (0 points for 50 percent or less, 6 points for every percent above 50 percent) 0 points for 50% or less - Eligibility Criteria)	300	
Percent of cropland, pastureland, grassland in the parcel to be protected (0 points for 33 percent or less, 2.25 points for every percent above 33 percent) 0 points for 33% or less - Eligibility Criteria)	150	
Ratio of the total acres of 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) (0 points for a ratio of 1 or less, actual ratio minus 1.0 times 100 = points) 0 points for ratio of 1 or less)	150	
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) (0 points for decrease of 0 percent or less, 5 points for every percent of decrease up to 15 percent. 0 points for decrease of more than 15 percent) 0 points for 0% or less)	75	
Percent population growth in the county as documented by the United States Census (www.census.gov) (0 points for growth rate less than state growth rate, 25 points for growth rate 1 to 1.66 times state growth rate, 50 points for growth rate 1.67 to 2.33 times state growth rate, 75 points for growth rate 2.34 to 3 times state growth rate, 0 points for growth rate more than 3 times state growth rate) 0 points for growth rate less than state growth rate)	75	
Population density (population per square mile) as documented by the most recent United States Census (www.census.gov) (0 points for population density less than state population density, 50 points for population density of 1 to 2 times state population density, 75 points for population density of 2 to 3 times state population density, 25 points for population density of more than 3 times state population density) 0 points for population density less than state population density)	75	
Sub-total Points for National Ranking Factors	825	
Other National Criteria with no Mandate		
Proximity of the parcel to other protected land, including military installations (0 points for no protected land within one mile of the boundaries of the parcel, 25 points for each protected parcel within one mile of the boundaries of the parcel)	75	
Proximity of the parcel to other agricultural operations and infrastructure (0 points for less than 500 acres of protected land within one mile of the boundaries of the parcel, 50 points for 250-500 acres of protected land within one mile of the boundaries of the parcel, 100 points for 500 acres or more of protected land within one mile of the boundaries of the parcel)	0	
Sub-total Points for all National Ranking Factors	900	

State Ranking Factors		
Performance of Entity, e.g., County Farmland Protection Board		
1. Close ALL easements within eighteen (18) months. (0 points if easements take longer than 18 months to close, 25 points if they are closed within 18 months, 50 points if closed within 15 months, and 75 points if closed within 12 months.)	75	
2. Submit ALL closing data/documents within ninety (90) days. (0 points if document submission is longer than 90 days, 25 points if submitted between 60 and 89 days, 50 points if submitted in 59 days or less)	50	
3. Submit monitoring reports.	25	
Multifunctional Benefits		
1. Archaeological	50	
2. Historic	50	
Environmental Diversity		
1. Endangered and/or threatened species	40	
2. Major Streams and/or Natural Springs	35	
3. Caves	25	
Sub-Total Points for State Ranking Factors	350	
Total Points for National and State Ranking Factors	1250	

NRCS Office Use Only	
NRCS Employee Name: _____	Date: _____
NRCS Employee Name: _____	Date: _____
NRCS Employee Name: _____	Date: _____

Ranking Factor based on national criteria and recommendations made by County Farmland Protection Boards and the State Authority at a meeting on March 25, 2009 at the NRCS Office in Moorefield, WV. Major streams are blue lines streams on the topographic maps. Natural Springs and Caves as defined in the county program documents.