

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Application Ranking Summary

CO Sage-Grouse Initiative

Program:	Ranking Date:	Application Number:
Ranking Tool: CO Sage-Grouse Initiative		Applicant:
Final Ranking Score:		Address:
Planner:	Telephone:	
Farm Location:		

National Priorities Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
Clean and Abundant Water: Water Quality - Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
1. a. Meet regulatory requirements relating to animal feeding operations, or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
1. b. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a designated impaired water body?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
1. c. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a water body?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Clean and Abundant Water: Water Conservation - Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
2. a. Increase groundwater recharge in identified groundwater depletion areas (http://water.usgs.gov/ogw/rasa/html/TOC.html)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. b. Conserve water from irrigation system improvements and result in estimated water savings of at least 5% and saved water will be available for other beneficial uses?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. c. Conserve water in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Clean Air: Treatment of Air Quality from Agricultural Sources - Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
3. a. Meet regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. b. Reduce green house gases such as methane, nitrous oxide, and volatile organic compounds (VOC)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. c. Increase carbon sequestration?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
High Quality, Productive Soils Erosion Reduction - Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
4. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil "T")?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Healthy Plant and Animal Communities Wildlife Habitat Conservation - Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
5. a. Benefit threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern as identified in a State wildlife plan?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. b. Retain wildlife and plant benefits on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
High Quality, Productive Soils, Healthy Plant and Animal Communities: Special Environmental Efforts/Initiatives - Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
6. a. Eradicate or control noxious or invasive species?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. b. Increase, improve or establish pollinator habitat?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. c. Implement precision agricultural methods?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. d. Properly dispose of animal carcasses?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. e. Implement an Integrated Pest Management plan?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Energy Conservation – Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
7. a. Reduce energy consumption on the agricultural operation?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. b. Increase on-farm energy efficiency with more efficient equipment?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

7. c. Assist in implementing energy conservation measures that reduce emissions from GHGs and air pollutants?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Business Lines - Conservation Implementation Additional Ranking Considerations - Will the proposed project result in:	
8. a. Implementation of all planned conservation practices within three years of contract obligation?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. b. Improvement of existing conservation practices or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is accepted, or will complete an existing conservation system?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Does the applicant meet the following conditions:	
9. a. If the applicant has an existing EQIP contract, has it been, and is it now, on schedule and in full compliance?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
9. b. Did the applicant successfully complete any past contract(s) in full compliance?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
9. c. Is this the applicant's first EQIP application?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

State Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
Will the project improve existing or potential habitat for;	
1. a. Gunnison sage-grouse in the Gunnison Basin, or, for the Greater sage-grouse within identified core population area boundaries?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
1. b. Gunnison sage-grouse in the Poncha Pass, Cerro Summit/Cimarron/Sims Mesa, Crawford, Dove Creek, Pinyon Mesa, or San Miguel basin population areas?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
1. c. Greater sage-grouse habitat outside of identified core population area boundaries, but within the overall sage-grouse range?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Amount of sage-grouse habitat under control of the applicant that will be treated by proposed project;	
2. a. Does the project treat 100% of the existing or potential sage-grouse habitat under control of the applicant?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. b. Does the project treat 50-99% of the existing or potential sage-grouse habitat under control of the applicant?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. c. Does the project treat less than 50% of the existing or potential sage-grouse habitat under control of the applicant?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Percent of identified threats treated by the proposed project;	
3. a. Does the project address 100% of the threats identified for sage-grouse in the project location? (Refer to Colorado Threats Checklist that is applicable to the priority area the project is in).	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. b. Does the project address 75-99% of the threats identified for sage-grouse in the project location? (Refer to Colorado Threats Checklist that is applicable to the priority area the project is in).	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. c. Does the project address 50-74% of the threats identified for sage-grouse in the project location? (Refer to Colorado Threats Checklist that is applicable to the priority area the project is in).	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. d. Does the project address less than 50% of the threats identified for sage-grouse in the project location? (Refer to Colorado Threats Checklist that is applicable to the priority area the project is in).	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. a. Will implementation of the planned project increase the overall Habitat Suitability Index (HSI) by .7 -1.0 habitat factor value points?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
1. b. Will implementation of the planned project increase the overall Habitat Suitability Index (HSI) by .6 habitat factor value points?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
1. c. Will implementation of the planned project increase the overall Habitat Suitability Index (HSI) by .5 habitat factor value points?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
1. d. Will implementation of the planned project increase the overall Habitat Suitability Index (HSI) by .4 habitat factor value points?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
1. e. Will implementation of the planned project increase the overall Habitat Suitability Index (HSI) by .3 habitat factor value points?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

1. f. Will implementation of the planned project increase the overall Habitat Suitability Index (HSI) by .2 habitat factor value points?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
1. g. Will implementation of the planned project increase the overall Habitat Suitability Index (HSI) by .1 habitat factor value points?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. Will the planned project remove invading pinyon/juniper trees that are having negative impacts on sage grouse in the project area?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. Will the planned project alleviate any documented collision or predator problems caused by fences?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. Will the proposed project restore previously converted (pasture, hay, cropland etc.) sagebrush habitat back to sagebrush habitat.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. Has the project been reviewed and ranked with this ranking tool by an NRCS or NRCS/Partner biologist that is familiar with sage-grouse habitat in the area, and, does the biologist agree that the planned project will benefit sage grouse?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. Are there partners involved (other than the participant and NRCS) that will contribute money (not in-kind) to the project?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. Has a comprehensive conservation plan been completed on all lands in the tract with the same land use the proposed practice(s) will be applied to?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. Is the majority (> 50%) of the land that will be treated, privately owned land?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
9. Will the project provide markings and predator deterrents on all existing or new fences within 1/4 mile of existing or historic leks?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
10. Will the project provide effective escape ramps in all existing and new watering facilities within all of the area planned for sage grouse habitat management (std. code 645 or 644)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Land Use:

Resource Concerns	Practices
-------------------	-----------

Ranking Score

<p>Efficiency:</p> <p>Local Issues:</p> <p>State Issues:</p> <p>National Issues:</p> <p>Final Ranking Score:</p>

This ranking report is for your information. It does not in any way guarantee funding. When funding becomes available, you will be notified if your application is selected for funding. Some changes to the application may be required before a final contract is awarded.

Notes:

<p>NRCS Representative:</p> <p>Signature Date:</p>	<p>Applicant Signature Not Required on this report for Contract Development unless required by State policy:</p> <p>Signature Date:</p>
---	--