National Water Quality Initiative Screening Criteria Worksheet
NRCS Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

Fiscal Year 2012

A Screening Worksheet must be completed for each eligible EQIP application.

Instructions:

This screening worksheet must be completed for each eligible producer applying for EQIP National Water Quality Initiative assistance. Applications will be accepted on a continuous basis; however, application periods are established for purposes of evaluation, ranking, and funding decisions. The goal of this screening tool is to ensure that conservation technical assistance and EQIP program benefits are managed efficiently to address priority conservation needs related to this national initiative.

Completion of this worksheet and documentation does not constitute agreement to provide EQIP program benefits nor approval of a program contract. The original screening worksheet should be filed with the applicant case file or EQIP program file and unless the application is determined to be ineligible, the screening priority (high, medium, and low) must be recorded in ProTracts. Upon request, a copy of any completed screening worksheet may be provided to the applicant.

Detailed Screening Criteria Worksheet – Complete for each eligible EQIP Applicant

Applicant Name:		County:	
Application No:		Field Office:	
Evaluator Name:		Date:	

Priority Determination for ProTracts – Select One:

Ineligible Category: **The EQIP application is associated with land that is not located within the boundaries of the approved watershed for the Water Quality Initiative (Enter application in ProTracts, but do not rank. Offer alternative program assistance).**	**Application Status is "Ineligible"**
High Priority Category: **All of the conservation practices requested in the application will be implemented on land physically located inside the NWQI watershed, *AND*** **The application includes "core" conservation practices (as identified for the pollutants of the eligible water quality initiative 12-digit watershed) on more than 25 percent of the offered acres – *OR* –** **The application is for a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP).**	**High Priority** Status in ProTracts
Medium Priority Category 1: **All of the conservation practices requested in the application will be applied on land physically located inside the NWQI watershed, *AND*** **The application contains "core" conservation practices (as identified for the pollutants of the eligible water quality initiative 12-digit watershed)**	**Medium Priority** Status in ProTracts
Medium Priority Category 2: **One or more of the conservation practices requested in the application will be applied on land physically located outside the NWQI watershed, *AND*** **The application contains "core" conservation practices (as identified for the pollutants of the eligible water quality initiative 12-digit watershed)**	**Medium Priority** Status in ProTracts
Low Priority Category: **All other applications – Low Priority Applications will not be ranked for FY 2012 NWQI.**	**Low Priority** Status in ProTracts

The priority determination of high, medium or low must be recorded in ProTracts for this applicant.

D.C. Approval:		Date Approved:	