

# Local Work Group development of local EQIP.

District FY08 EQIP

1. List the local resource concerns that EQIP can address:

Soil erosion

Water quality

Pasture conditions & grazing concerns

Irrigation efficiencies

Wildlife habitat, especially for grouse

Invasive species problems

***[This is a master or brainstorm list of all resource concerns in the county]***

2. If applicable, list any geographic regions (i.e. watersheds, townships, etc.) and their respective resource concerns within the District to receive priority:

Stinking water creek watershed – soil erosion and water quality issues

Big Hill Township – limited participation, soil erosion, wildlife habitat

***[A master list of all geographic areas that you may want to target funds to]***

3. From items 1 & 2 above prioritize the local resource concerns to be addressed with EQIP funding for the district. Describe a minimum of 3 categories of the highest priority applications which you would want to receive funding.

Soil erosion & water quality concerns in Stinking Water Creek watershed

Applications addressing water quality

All applications in Big Hill Township

Applications with prescribed grazing practices

***[Working from the master list in 1 & 2, prioritize and list in order the type of applications you would want to fund first. Local priorities should build on the national and state priorities of soil erosion, non-point source pollution, air quality, water conservation, and wildlife habitat. A list of 3 or more local priority concerns should be developed.]***

4. Develop a minimum of 3 and maximum of 12 yes/no questions to determine if an application is addressing the high priority concerns described in item 3.

SOIL EROSION - the application will install practices that reduce soil erosion by 5 or more tons/acre/year within the Stinking Water Creek watershed. 14 points.

SOIL EROSION – the application will install practices to reduce soil erosion to T or less within the Stinking Water Creek watershed. 10 points

WATER QUALITY – the application will install practices to address water quality concerns within the Stinking Water Creek watershed. 14 points

WATER QUALITY - – the application will install practices to address water quality concerns outside the Stinking Water Creek watershed. 7 points

ALL CONCERNS – the application will install practices to address a national priority concern within the Big Hill township. 1 point

SOIL EROSION and WATER QUALITY – the application will install practices that result in the implementation of a prescribed grazing system. 2 points

***[Local questions should be prefaced with the national priority they address. For ease of use, group questions by the national priority they address. Questions must be answered by either yes or no, variables are not allowed. Local questions should supplement and tie back to state questions which in turn supplement and tie back to national priorities. Questions should reward applications with higher environmental benefits, that treat multiple resource concerns, that cooperate or leverage with other environmental projects, and provide long-term environmental benefits. Questions may reward applications achieving a higher level of treatment, applicants with a history of proper maintenance of practices, or applicants with a history of completing previous contracts. Questions must be size and class neutral and avoid bias for or against any group or size of operation.]***

5. Assign points to the questions in Item #4 as desired to reflect local priorities. The total points assigned to the questions should be between 35 to 60 points.

***[At 40 points, the local issue questions will comprise approximately 35% of the final score. At 60 points, the local issue questions will comprise approximately 48% of the final score. Because applications only compete within your county, the exact percent is not critical, but the local issues should not exceed 50%. If more than 60 points are needed to adequately address the local issues, contact your Area Office.]***

6. List any recommended practices to be deleted from the state Conservation Practice Payment Document

7. Submit this worksheet to your respective ASTC(FO). After approval from the state office, the questions will be entered into the Local Issues section of the ranking tool.

The local EQIP program description, cost-share docket changes, and ranking worksheet must be reviewed and approved by the State Conservationist before any EQIP contract is approved and signed.

This document serves as the Local Work Group recommendation for FY 08 EQIP. Attached is a roster of participation in the Local Work Group.

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Chair, Local Work Group

Date

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