

Local Work Group development of local EQIP.

Itasca

District FY03 EQIP

1. List the local resource concerns that EQIP can address

Itasca County has a variety of land uses including agriculture, forestry, recreation, mining and wildlife. The water quality of most lakes, rivers and streams is very good. To maintain and improve the water quality of the county is a high priority for local government units, the Itasca SWCD and timber and mining companies. The weighted factors recommended by the local work group reinforce this local priority. EQIP applications that address water quality and forestry resources concerns will receive the highest weight modifiers and subsequently rank high. EQIP can provide technical and cost share assistance to agricultural producers as defined by the USDA Farm Service Agency.

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

- a. **Jessie Lake watershed: Clean Water Partnership phase 1 diagnostic study completed 2002. A1, A2, B1, and H factors and associated practices.**

- b. **Two lined chestnut borer infestation areas. 490, 612 and 666 practices.**

- c. **DNR designated management areas, Sharptail grouse habitat management, practices 645, 647 and 338. Specific location maps are available in the Itasca SWCD office.**

3. Prioritize and weight each local resource concern for the district. Weight must be between 1 and 10:

Factor	Resource Priority	Weight	
		Original	Final
A1. Erosion Control	Medium	5	7
A2 Gully Control	Medium	4	4
B1 Water Resource	High	8	10
B2 Wastewater/CNMP	Medium	4	4
C Habitat Improvement	Medium	3	4
D Air Quality	Low	1	1
E Impaired Water	Low	1	1
F Distance	Medium	4	4
G Grazing System	Medium	5	4
H Forest Mgt.	High	6	10
Additional Local*	High	4	7

- If the additional local concern is scored, describe the concern here and how points will be scored. Include any geographic priorities. **Points will be scored for local concerns if specified practices are planned for implementation. (Item #2)**

4. Attach the scoring worksheet as recommended for the district. **Scoring worksheet as issued by NRCS state office with priority factors added.**

5. List any recommended practices to be deleted from the state Conservation Practice Payment Document: **NONE**

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 03 EQIP. Attached is a roster of participation in the Local Work Group.

Chair, Local Work Group

Date

Mike Oja, District Conservationist, modified the original LWG weight factors in order to provide significant scoring difference between the concern factors.