

Local Work Group Development of Local EQIP.

_____ North St. Louis Soil and Water _____ District FY08 EQIP

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

Water Quality

- Run-off from pasture and feedlots, wells too close to feedlots.
- High nutrients into water bodies from clear cutting and decomposition of leaf material.
- Siltation of cold water trout streams from logging runoff.

Forestry

- Need for reforestation, with native species.
- Landing erosion control.
- Suppression of fuels.

Grazing Systems

- Productivity and health.
- Watering sources.

Wildlife Habitat – Openland species, ie Sharp-tailed Grouse

- Brush control.
- Successional habitat species
 - Aspen regeneration.

Energy Conservation

- Household and farmstead energy demand.

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

- Sharp-tail management areas, using the openland and lek shape files from the DNR.
- Barber and Dempsey Creek Watersheds.
- Management areas of targeted wildlife species

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.

- Grazing Systems

- Forestry
- Water Quality
- Wildlife Habitat

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.

- Water Quality - Will this practice improve or protect ground or surface water quality? *10 points*
- Water Quality/ Habitat Conservation - Does this practice lie within the watershed of and protect a designated trout stream? *2 points*
- Grazing Systems - Will prescribed grazing be implemented?
10 points
- Habitat Conservation/Forestry - Will this practice increase diversity of native plants? *10 points*
- Forestry - Does reforestation consist of native site specific plants?
8 points
- Forestry – Do planned practices reduce fuel loads for potential wildfires? *8 points*
- Energy Conservation - Will this practice lessen energy dependency?
4 points
- Habitat Conservation – Do the planned practices lie within a DNR targeted species management area and will the practice benefit the species of concern, i.e., open land habitat, moose habitat? *8 points*

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.

See above.

6. 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.

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

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.

Marjorie A Sella Oct. 10, 2007
Chair, Local Work Group Date

Those in attendance for the FY2008 North St. Louis Local Workgroup meeting were Marjorie A Sella, Chair, Erin Degerstedt, SCT NRCS, Wade Klingsporn, NSL SWCD Resource Conservationist, Kendall Dykhuis, St. Louis County Extension, Jeff Hines, MN DNR Wildlife, Jerry Flaschberger, NSL SWCD Supervisor, Peggy Pearson, NSL SWCD Supervisor, Jodie Provost, MN DNR Wildlife, Roger Nelson, MN DNR Forestry, Thor Pakosz, MN DNR Forestry, Linda Alger, FSA Program Assistant, Mike Walczynski, NRCS Area Resource Soil Scientist and Kristy Baross, NRCS GIS Specialist.