

2003 Wildlife Incentives Program – New Hampshire Ranking Criteria – Field Sheets

Project ID Number:

Project Name:

Ranking Criteria	Point Assignments			Points
	High	Medium	Low	
Habitat Improvement (ecosystem restoration) to be achieved	10 Restoration of a targeted habitat (ecosystem) from a degraded condition to a fully functioning condition (e.g. cropland to riparian forest, disturbed area to pine barrens, etc.)	5 Partial restoration of targeted habitats (ecosystems) or restoration of non-targeted habitats (e.g. fragment mesic forests)	1 All other habitat improvements (e.g. put and take recreation such as shooting field for released game birds).	
Likelihood of successful restoration.	10 Technically feasible and socially acceptable alternatives.	5 Technical or social factors somewhat reduce chances for success.	1 Severe technical or social limitations greatly reduce chances for successful restoration or project is not restoration of targeted ecosystems.	
Location in relation to wildlife habitat priority areas (priority areas are targeted ecosystems with proper site and landscape characteristics).	10 Site and landscape suitable for restoration (e.g. pine barrens restoration in the Ossipee plains, or 10-acre warm season grassland surrounded by 50 acre of grasslands).	5 Moderate site and or landscape limitations (e.g. pine barrens restoration on an isolated patch of excessively drained soils, on a 3-acre grassland surrounded by forest).	1 Severe site and/or site limitations (e.g. wrong soils for proposed restoration).	
Restoration of Native Habitats	10 All native habitats in New Hampshire. (Consider all targeted ecosystems to be native in New Hampshire)	5 Non-native habitats created or managed for the purpose of restoring native habitats (e.g. sediment detention basins and filter strips used to protect aquatic habitats)	1 Other non-native habitats.	
Consistency with state WHIP wildlife habitat priorities (namely the restoration of targeted ecosystems).	10 Habitats (ecosystems) targeted in the current state WHIP Plan Salt marshes, riverine uplands and wetlands, wetland and upland grasslands and shrublands, pine barrens, bogs and vernal pools	5 Important habitats not targeted in current state WHIP Plan; tern nesting sites, dam removal and fish ladder sites, waterbodies and watercourses, other wetlands.	1 Other habitats of lesser importance (e.g. backyard wildlife habitat improvement, shooting preserves, ponds except where they are used in the restoration of targeted habitats)	
Federal and State listed rare, sensitive, threatened and endangered, and candidate species.	10 Directly benefited by the proposed restoration (e.g. winter roosting habitat improvement for Bald Eagles along the lower Merrimack River).	5 Indirectly benefited by proposed restoration.	1 No known benefit to such species.	
Estimated USDA cost per acre (over life of project).	10 <\$1,500	5 \$1,500 < \$2,500	1 >\$2500	
Operation and maintenance costs per acre (over life of project).	10 <\$250	5 \$250 < \$500	1 >\$500	
Societal benefits.	10 Ecosystem restoration.	5 Educational, flood control, aesthetics.	1 All other societal benefits.	
Other ecological benefits.	10 Other known ecological benefits (e.g. water quality improvement).	5 Possible or incidental ecological benefits.	1 No additional ecological benefits.	
Partnership contributions that reduce USDA costs or increase project benefits.	10 Significant partnership input in planning or financing.	5 Moderate partnership input in planning or financing.	1 No significant partnership input.	
Total Points (110 points possible)				