

## FRPP RANKING FOR FY 2007

<b>ENTITY INFORMATION</b>		<b>FARMLAND INFORMATION</b>	
Cooperating Entity:		Landowner(s) Name:	
Entity Address:		Landowner Address:	
Entity Contact Person:		Total Offered Acres:	
Entity Phone Number:		Cropland Acres:	**Forested Acres:
This form completed by:		HEL Acres:	Pasture Acres:
Date completed:		**CRP Acres:	
State Office Reviewer Initials:		Estimated Cost of Easement:	
<b>County:</b>			

### RANKING CRITERIA

<i>Circle all that apply, total in column to the right. Refer to back for further definitions and instructions. Be sure to include all supporting documentation with ranking sheet.</i>	<b>POINTS</b>
<b>Percent of farm with prime or state wide importance soils: <i>Attach soils map</i></b> 50-60%            50 points 61-74%           75 points > 75%            100 points	
<b>National Register Eligible:</b> Easement area being offered contain any area listed or formally determined eligible for listing in the National Register? <i>Refer to back of ranking sheet. If applies, award 20 points</i>	
<b>Potential Threat from Non Agricultural Development:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are there zoning restrictions in place that affect the offered parcel?</li> <li>• What is the parcel zoned as: _____ (For informational purposes only)</li> <li>• How far away is the closest incorporated municipality?               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Within a 1-mile radius, award 0 points</li> <li>Within a 2 to 5-mile radius, award 10 points</li> <li>Within a 6 to 10-mile radius, award 5 points</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<b>Proximity to Other Permanently Protected Agricultural Land:</b> Is the offered acreage adjacent to, or within 1 mile from, other agricultural lands protected from development by easements or other deed restrictions? If Yes, <b>award 50 points.</b> <i>Document the source of the protection in the space to the right. Example: site is next to a Wetland Reserve Program easement.</i>	
<b>Contribution to Agricultural Community (within a 5-mile radius of offered parcel):</b> Majority of the land use in surrounding community is agricultural    15 points Majority of the land use in surrounding community is urban/developing   0 points	
<b>Amount of forestland and/or any trees present in the easement:</b>  0 – 10 % = 15    11 – 25% = 7    26 – 49% = 0	
<b>Easement Length --</b> If easement is permanent, add 15 points.	
<b>Extra Land Donation: What portion of the land is being donated by the landowner?</b>  11 – 20 % = 5        21 – 49% = 10        Over 50 % = 15	
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	

**\*\*NOTE – Parcel cannot have more than 49% acres in trees (forest land). CRP trees are not considered cropland for FRPP. If CRP trees are present, they count towards forest land.**

This ranking criteria will enable the State Conservationist to prioritize proposals and easement offers and parcels that merit FRPP enrollment. However, such ranking does not vest any right or entitlement to funding an applicant. All ranking worksheets will be field verified by State Office staff and points may be adjusted accordingly. The more documentation provided the faster the processing of applications. **For Tie Breaker information, review page 3 of the Ranking Guidelines.**

## FRPP Ranking Guidelines

**Complete Entity and Landowner Information** – Any Highly Erodible Land (HEL) acres MUST have a conservation plan on them at the time of application. Include a copy of the HEL plan. Farms being offered with more than 49% forested acres will not be eligible for funding.

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**Percent of Farm with Prime and Statewide Important Soils** – Determine the acres of prime and statewide important soils contained on the offered parcel and convert those acres to a percentage of the total parcel being offered for enrollment. **Award points as indicated up to a maximum of 100 points.** Consult with the local NRCS office for a listing of prime and statewide important soils. *(Note - If using soils as the eligibility factor, then percentage of prime and important soils MUST equal at least 50% of the total parcel being offered.)*

**National Register Eligibility** – In order to receive points under this category, the offered acres **MUST** contain sites (and have appropriate documentation at the time of application) listed in the National Register of Historic Places; or formally determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places by the State Historic Preservation Officer or Tribal Historic Preservation Officer; or formally designated by the State or Tribal Historic Preservation Officer. **If YES, award 20 points.**

**THE DEED MUST CONTAIN LANGUAGE TO PROTECT AND MAINTAIN THE HISTORY AREA FOREVER.**

### Determining National Register Eligible Points

The NRHP is a list of properties significant in our nation's past, which is maintained in Washington, D.C., by the National Park Service. In order for a property to be awarded the 75 points for being "National Register Eligible", the property must already be listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) or be currently considered Eligible for the NRHP. The applicant is responsible for supplying documentation stating their property has been determined eligible for the NRHP or that the property is listed on the NRHP. Such documentation can be in the form of a letter or document from the SHPO or the properties presence on the NRHP list.

Determining if a property is "Eligible to the NRHP" is a first step in the nomination process of becoming actually listed on the NRHP. This first step involves a preliminary review conducted by your State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). The following document outlines this process:

The Preliminary Information Form (PIF) – To evaluate NRHP eligibility:  
<http://www.state.sc.us/scdah/PIFform.pdf>

How to nominate a property to the NRHP: <http://www.state.sc.us/scdah/htln01.pdf>

A property is considered eligible for the National Register when it meets the National Register criteria for evaluation established by the National Park Service:  
<http://www.state.sc.us/scdah/NReligibility.htm#National%20Register%20Criteria%20for%20Evaluation>

The South Carolina State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) uses the National Register criteria to evaluate a property when an individual or organization is interested in nominating it to the National Register. The SHPO asks the interested party to complete a Preliminary Information Form (PIF) for the property. When completed, this form allows the SHPO staff to make a recommendation on whether or not the property appears to be eligible for the Register and if it is advisable to undertake the time and expense involved in preparing an actual nomination form.

If you have questions or need additional information, contact your state Cultural Resources Specialist, Jim Errante, (803) 253-3937, or your State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). The SC SHPO is located at:

<http://www.state.sc.us/scdah/homepage.htm> or can also be reached through the eFOTG, section II, under Cultural Resources.

**Potential Threat to Non-Ag Development** – Non agricultural development is a cluster of commercial or residential buildings comprising a community. For example, low-density residential housing along the highway with substantial agricultural land around may not be considered non-agricultural development and development on scattered lots will not be considered. However, mobile home parks, subdivisions, high-density residential areas, industrial areas, etc., would be considered non-ag development (for this ranking we are defining this as any form of residential housing 5 or more units on adjacent lots.) Any questions on this give the State Office a call. All easements considered for funding will be field checked by the State Office prior to final funding approval.

**Proximity to Other Permanently Protected Land** – If any of the offered acres are adjacent to, or within 1 mile of, any other agricultural land that is protected, either permanently or for at least 30 years, from development through an easement or other deed restriction, then answer YES and award the 50 points, otherwise answer NO and award 0 points. Document the source of the protection from development...for example there is a 30-year WRP easement directly adjacent to the subject farm.

**Contribution as Part of Agricultural Community** – This element addresses whether there is enough farming still occurring in the vicinity to support an agricultural economy and services (fertilizer and chemical dealers, equipment dealers, markets, etc.).

**Appraiser Requirements** – The land must be appraised by a *State Certified General Real Property Appraiser* or obtain a temporary practice permit in the state(s) where the subject property is located and be in good standing with the licensing authority where the credential was issued. Appraiser must have demonstrated competency in compliance with USPAP in conducting appraisals of agricultural properties with and without conservation easements of the requested type. Documentation of appraisal education courses attended, such as eminent domain or conservation easements, and Yellow Book course shall be provided. For additional information, please visit the following website: [www.usdoj.gov/enrd/land-ack/yb2001.pdf](http://www.usdoj.gov/enrd/land-ack/yb2001.pdf).

Appraisals do not have to be performed at time of application; only when selected for funding.

**Extra Land Donation** – The landowner can donate as much of the offered acreage he chooses. However, this does not include the 25% cost the landowner donates. This is additional land that is not being appraised or paid for, only to help improve his ranking score.

**Tie Breaker ---** If landowner is offering or donating all eligible acres in area and or tract/parcel, that application will take priority for funding. **Example:** An Application that is not withholding any land for development will be selected for funding and considered as tie breaker to an application that is holding land for development, such as road frontage.