

Scoring Methodology
Ohio Natural Resources Assistance Council
District 15

Applicant Name: _____
Applicant Contact _____
Rating Member: _____

Part I: Preliminary Screening -- Required

Yes No

- ___ ___ Applicant is eligible entity
___ ___ Complete application received by deadline

Project purpose must involve at least one of the following from A or B below;

A. Open Space (Sec. 164.22 A)

- ___ Acquires land for parks
___ Acquires land for public forests
___ Acquires land for wetland preservation or restoration
___ Acquires land for natural areas protecting endangered species
___ Acquires land for other natural areas
___ Acquires land for connecting corridors for natural areas
___ Open space acquisition
___ Permanent conservation easement
___ Constructs or enhances facilities necessary to make open space area accessible & useable by the general public

B. Riparian Corridors of Watersheds (164.22B)

- ___ Protects enhances, restores or establishes riparian corridors or watersheds including the protection and enhancement of streams, rivers and other waters of the state.

C. Would the project:

YES NO

- ___ ___ Initiate or perpetuate hydromodification projects such as dams, ditch development or channelization?
___ ___ Fund current legal obligations (such as fines, penalties, litigation expenses, mitigation or reclamation) under state or federal laws or local ordinances?
___ ___ Fund facilities other than those required to provide public access to or use of Open space?

_____ Fund facilities for active recreation, such as tennis courts, ball fields or recreation centers?
If yes to any of the above in C, the project is ineligible (Section 164.22, ORC).
If project meets the preliminary requirements move on to the next section.

Part II: Required

In order for the project to be considered sufficient documentation must be provided to permit scoring in the following categories.

Yes No

___ ___ Does the project incorporate aesthetically pleasing and ecologically informed design including sensitivity to the terrain, natural resources and heritage of the property?

___ ___ Does the project allow proper management of areas where safe fishing, hunting and trapping may take place in a manner that will preserve balanced natural ecosystems? The word "may" is intended to be permissive and not obligatory.

___ ___ Does the project have 25% matching funds secured?

___ ___ Is the project ready to proceed within 6 months or less?

**If all of the above are answered yes proceed to the next section. (Each question is worth 0-3 points)
Points given as follows: 0 does not meet criteria, 1 - partially meets criteria, 2 - fully meets criteria, 3 exceeds or is an outstanding example of meeting criteria.**

___ OHIO'S NATURAL HERITAGE: Preserves habitat that is a prime example of one of Ohio's native ecosystems in which the original bio-diversity and health of the natural community is intact or nearly so.

___ RARE SPECIES: Protects documented habitat for rare, threatened and endangered species.

___ AQUATIC: Restores and preserves riparian or other aquatic biological communities in the form of stream side forests or high quality wetlands.

___ WATER QUALITY: Protects water quality in a recognized significant watershed by protecting acreage of forested land in drainage systems that are determined to have highly erodible soils.

___ IMPERILED COMMUNITY: Protects habitat in a watershed or land region designated by the Division of Natural Areas and Preserves as a prioritized area worthy of preservation.

___ RIPARIAN: Protects water quality within a watershed that is rated by the EPA as maintaining an exceptional warm water habitat.

___ LINKS TO OTHER GREEN SPACES: Provides extra enhancement of green space in the region by providing links or corridors to previously existing protected areas.

___ SIGNIFICANT NATURAL FEATURE: Preserves or restores a natural feature that is significant aesthetically, geologically or scientifically.

___ SIZE IMPACT: Project is associated with a larger comprehensive land preservation plan for the region, or is contiguous to a pre-existing preserve, or is a large acquisition of land.

___ OPEN SPACE: Supports comprehensive open space planning

___ EDUCATION: Project associated with a separately funded plan for outdoor education for school children.

RECREATION: Provides minimum impact recreational and aesthetic benefits to the public at large.

URBAN OPEN SPACE: Acquires protects or enhances land in urban areas for open space.

REGIONAL IMPACT: What is the regional significance of the proposed project?

Project will benefit a multi county area (3 points)

Project will benefit primarily one county within the NRAC (2 points)

Project benefits multiple local political subdivisions within one county (1 points)

Project benefits single political subdivision within one county (0 points)

RECREATION /TRAILS: Project is associated with a separately funded plan for developing hiking trails, non-motorized biking trails or canoeing/kayaking.

URBAN AREA: Acquires land for urban park or parks.

Does the project permit public access either through an open basis or by a publicized permit system?

One of the above checked items was previously adopted as a priority for District 15 (10 points) **see attached District 15 NRAC priority list**

A second of the items checked was previously adopted as a priority of District 15 (10 points) **see attached District 15 NRAC priority list**

The following items shall also be considered by District 15 NRAC in making a final decision.

Level of coordination (1 point each) Coordination means the project carries out the goals of multiple agencies or organizations.

Local subdivisions

State agencies

Federal agencies

Community organizations

Conservation organizations

Level of conservation coordination with other Open space, Riparian Corridor, Trails, Farmland Protection or Urban Revitalization Projects under the Clean Ohio Fund in other Public Works Commission Districts.

Is a joint project (2 points)

Carries out an adopted community, watershed or other plan of overlapping district (1 Point)

Community Benefits: Relative economic, social/recreational and environmental benefits the proposed project will bring to the geographical area represented by the NRAC as compared to other projects.

Economic
1 point

Social/ Recreational
1 point

Environmental
1 point

Operation and Maintenance once project is completed

Operation plan and infrastructure, If appropriate, is in place (5 points)

Operation plan, no infrastructure (3 points)

Limited operation plan, volunteers available, no infrastructure (1 point)

Project management experience of similar or related projects

- ___ Successfully completed 3-5 similar projects in the last 10 years (5 points)
- ___ Successfully completed 1-2 similar projects in the last 5 years (3 points)
- ___ Has partnered on at least one similar project in the last 5 years (1 point)

District 15 NRAC Committee Priority List

1. Project protects, enhances or establishes riparian corridors or watersheds including the protection and enhancement of streams, rivers, and other waters of the state.
2. Project protects, enhances or acquires open space in urban, development and or growth area.

Total Score _____