

**DISTRICT 19 SCORING METHODOLOGY**  
**Natural Resources Assistance Council**

Applicant Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant Contact: \_\_\_\_\_  
Rating Team: \_\_\_\_\_

**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 wetlands 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  
\_\_\_\_\_ openspace acquisition  
\_\_\_\_\_ permanent conservation easement  
\_\_\_\_\_ constructs or enhances facilities necessary to make open space area accessible & useable by the general public

**B. Riparian Corridors or Watersheds (Sec. 164.22 B)**

\_\_\_\_\_ Protects or enhances 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 openspace?  
\_\_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_\_ 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 projects meets Preliminary Scoring Requirements move on to Page 2**

**District 19 NRAC shall consider all the following in approving or disapproving a grant: Does the project emphasize (document in application) the following pursuant to Section 164.22, ORC? One point for each, 24 points maximum. Please refer to Glossary of Terms.**

1. \_\_\_\_ protects habitat for rare, threatened and endangered species
2. \_\_\_\_ increases habitat protection for a variety of native species
3. \_\_\_\_ reduces or eliminates nonnative, invasive species of plants or animals
4. \_\_\_\_ preserves high quality, viable habitat for plant or animal species
5. \_\_\_\_ restores and preserves aquatic biological communities
6. \_\_\_\_ preserves headwater streams
7. \_\_\_\_ preserves or restores functioning floodplains
8. \_\_\_\_ preserves or restores water quality
9. \_\_\_\_ preserves or restores natural stream channels
10. \_\_\_\_ preserves or restores streamside forests
11. \_\_\_\_ preserves existing high quality wetlands or restores wetlands
12. \_\_\_\_ preserves or restores other natural features that contribute to quality of life and state's natural heritage
13. \_\_\_\_ fee simple acquisition of lands to provide access to riparian corridors
14. \_\_\_\_ acquisition of easements protecting and enhancing riparian corridors or watersheds
15. \_\_\_\_ reforests land to improve water quality
16. \_\_\_\_ plants vegetation for filtration to improve water quality
17. \_\_\_\_ incorporates aesthetically pleasing and ecologically informed design including sensitivity to the terrain, natural resources and heritage of the property
18. \_\_\_\_ enhances educational opportunities and provides physical links to schools and after school centers
19. \_\_\_\_ supports comprehensive openspace planning
20. \_\_\_\_ provides multiple recreational, economic and aesthetic preservation benefits
21. \_\_\_\_ allows proper management of areas where safe fishing, hunting and trapping may take place in a manner that will preserve balanced natural ecosystems
22. \_\_\_\_ enhances economic development that relies on recreation and ecotourism in areas of relatively high unemployment
23. \_\_\_\_ one of the above checked items was previously adopted as a priority for NRAC District 19
24. \_\_\_\_ A second of the above checked items was previously adopted as a priority for NRAC District 19

**Part II SCORE: \_\_\_\_\_**

**District 19 NRAC shall consider the following in approving or disapproving a grant:**

1. Percentage of Clean Ohio matching funds necessary to complete project: (no rounding)

\_\_\_\_\_ 75% (required)      \_\_\_\_\_ 74-68% (3 points)      \_\_\_\_\_ 67-57% (5 points)      \_\_\_\_\_ 56-51% (7 points)      \_\_\_\_\_ less than 50% (10 points)

2. **Level of coordination:** (.5 points each) Coordination means project carries out goals of multiple agencies, organizations.

\_\_\_\_\_ local political subdivisions      \_\_\_\_\_ state agencies      \_\_\_\_\_ federal agencies  
\_\_\_\_\_ community organizations      \_\_\_\_\_ conservation organizations

3. **Level of conservation coordination** with other Openspace, Riparian Corridor, Trails, Farmland Protection or Urban Revitalization Projects under the Clean Ohio Fund in other Public Works Commission districts

\_\_\_\_\_ is a joint project (1.5 points)  
\_\_\_\_\_ carries out an adopted community, watershed or other plan overlapping another district (1 point)

4. **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 (.5 points)      \_\_\_\_\_ social/recreational (.5 points)      \_\_\_\_\_ environmental (.5 points)

5. **Extent of public access** once project is completed:

\_\_\_\_\_ open days and weekends (5 points)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Open limited, but regular hours (3 points)  
\_\_\_\_\_ open by appointment or with written permission (1 point)

6. **Operation and Maintenance** once project is completed

\_\_\_\_\_ operation plan and infrastructure, if appropriate, in place (5 points)  
\_\_\_\_\_ operation plan, no infrastructure (3 points)  
\_\_\_\_\_ limited operation plan, volunteers available, no infrastructure (1 point)

7. **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)

8. **Clean Ohio funding** necessary to complete the project: (.5 points each)

\_\_\_\_\_ cost effective for a project of its acreage or its length in stream miles  
\_\_\_\_\_ cost effective for a project of its rarity  
\_\_\_\_\_ cost effectively links permanently preserved areas  
\_\_\_\_\_ cost effectively preserves large blocks of high quality natural areas  
\_\_\_\_\_ cost effectively protects or enhances riparian corridor

**Part III SCORE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **+ Part II SCORE** \_\_\_\_\_ **= Parts II & III SCORE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**The District 19 NRAC has adopted additional criteria which reflect local priorities that compliment and do not negate Parts I-III which carry out ORC Sec. 164.20-164.27.**

- 1. **Community Planning:** Project is in concert with publicly adopted regional, community plan or watershed plan
  - \_\_\_\_\_project identified as important in the plan (7.5 points)
  - \_\_\_\_\_area identified as important in the plan (5 points)
  - \_\_\_\_\_project would be consistent with plan (2.5 points)
  
- 2. **Regional Significance:** What is the regional significance of the proposed project?
  - \_\_\_\_\_project will benefit a multi county area (4 points)
  - \_\_\_\_\_project benefits multiple local political subdivisions within one county (2 points)
  - \_\_\_\_\_project benefits single political subdivision within one county (1 point)
  
- 3. **Natural Resource Viability:** How important is the project to the viability of the natural resources affected by the project?
  - \_\_\_\_\_protects a globally endangered species or biological community (2.5 points)
  - \_\_\_\_\_protects more than 5 state Natural Heritage Inventory (NHI) endangered species (2 points)
  - \_\_\_\_\_protects 1-5 state NHI ranked rare species (1.5 points)
  - \_\_\_\_\_protects a high quality example of a regionally endangered biological community (1 point)
  - \_\_\_\_\_protects a threatened biological community or important example of Ohio's natural heritage (.5 points)
  
- 4. **Readiness to proceed factors:**
  - \_\_\_\_\_purchase all property within 6 months (12 points)
  - \_\_\_\_\_purchase first property within 6 months and all property within 1 year (9 points)
  - \_\_\_\_\_construction plans complete (7.5 points)
  - \_\_\_\_\_purchase all property within 1 year (6 points)
  - \_\_\_\_\_purchase all property within 2 years (3 points)
  
- 5. **Other Project Factors:**
  - \_\_\_\_\_ project addresses a situation where action must be taken now or opportunity will be lost forever (10 points)
  - \_\_\_\_\_ other factors important to the project (5 points)

**TOTAL Part IV: \_\_\_\_\_ + Parts II and III \_\_\_\_\_ = TOTAL SCORE: \_\_\_\_\_**

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**Ranking among all projects \_\_\_\_\_**