

## SCORING METHODOLOGY

### Ohio Natural Resources Assistance Councils

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) – Photo documentation & site map required**

\_\_\_\_\_ acquires land for parks

\_\_\_\_\_ acquires land for public forests

\_\_\_\_\_ acquires land for wetland preservation, restoration, or enhancement

\_\_\_\_\_ 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 or Watersheds (Sec. 164.22 B) – Photo documentation & site map required**

\_\_\_\_\_ 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 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 projects meets Preliminary Scoring Requirements move on to Page 2**





**NRAC SCORING METHODOLOGY -- Part II --Required - 46 points maximum** Page 4

15. The project includes pedestrian/bicycle linkages to other open space preserves and population centers (2 points)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
16. The project supports comprehensive open space planning (2 points)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
17. The project allows proper management of areas where safe fishing or hunting or trapping may take place in a manner that will preserve balanced natural ecosystems (2 points)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
18. The project enhances economic development that relies on recreation and ecotourism in areas of relatively high unemployment (2 points)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
19. The project encourages public use of existing facilities (2 points)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
20. The project encourages public appreciation and/or education of natural areas and/or water quality, plants, or animals (2 points)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
21. The project creates open space in an area with a demonstrated need (2 points)

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

**NRAC SCORING METHODOLOGY --Part III-- Required 35 points maximum** Page 5

Provide a brief explanation highlighting how your project accomplishes each item.

**1. Percentage of Clean Ohio matching funds** necessary to complete project:

\_\_\_\_\_ 75%-required \_\_\_\_\_ 74-70% \_\_\_\_\_ 69-65% \_\_\_\_\_ 64-60% \_\_\_\_\_ <60%  
(0 points) (2 points) (4 points) (6 points) (8 points)

**2. Level of coordination:** (1 point each) Coordination means project carries out goals of multiple agencies, organizations. Provide a letter from each community, agency or organization and describe the level of coordination: Coordination means active involvement through in-kind services or funding.

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

**3. 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 a 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. Refer to the District Four Supplement to the Glossary of Terms

\_\_\_\_\_ economic \_\_\_\_\_ social/recreational \_\_\_\_\_ environmental  
(2 points) (2 points) (2 points)

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

\_\_\_\_\_ Open days and weekends (3 points)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Open limited, but regular hours (2 points)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Open by appointment or with written permission (1 point)

Provide a brief explanation highlighting how your project accomplishes each item.

**6. Operation and Maintenance** once project is completed Add a brief description of the applicant's organizational plan.

- \_\_\_\_\_ Operation plan and organizational infrastructure\*, if appropriate, in place (5 points)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Operation plan, no organizational infrastructure\* (3 points)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Limited operation plan, volunteers available, no organizational infrastructure\* (1 point)

\* Refer to District Supplement to the Glossary.

**7. Clean Ohio Fund requested funding**

- \_\_\_\_\_ \$0 - \$100,000 (5 points)
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$100,001 - \$200,000 (4 points)
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$200,001 - \$300,000 (3 points)
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$300,001 - \$400,000 (2 points)
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$400,001 - \$500,000 (1 point)
- \_\_\_\_\_ above \$500,000 (0 points)

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

**Parts II & III SCORE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**NRAC SCORING METHODOLOGY - Part IV - Other Factors 23 points maximum** Page 7

Provide a brief explanation highlighting how your project accomplishes each item

**1. Community Planning:** Project is in concert with regional, community plan or watershed plan

- \_\_\_\_\_ Project identified as important in the plan (2 points)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Area identified as important in the plan (1 point)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Project would be consistent with plan (.5 point)

**2. Regional Significance:** What is the regional significance of the proposed project?

- \_\_\_\_\_ Project will benefit a multi county area (2 points)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Project will benefit primarily one county within the NRAC (1.5 points)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Project benefits multiple local political subdivisions within one county (1 point)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Project benefits single political subdivision within one county (.5 points)

**3. Natural Resource Viability:** How important is the project to the viability of the natural resources affected by the project? Must include **specific** documentation to be considered for scoring.

- \_\_\_\_\_ Protects a globally endangered species or biological community (3 points)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Protects more than 5 state Natural Heritage Inventory (NHI) endangered species (2.5 points)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Protects 1-5 state NHI ranked rare species (2 points)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Protects a high quality example of a regionally endangered biological community (1.5 points)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Protects a threatened biological community or important example of Ohio's natural heritage (1 point)

**4. Level (list: % and in \$) of funding provided** by sources other than applicant and Clean Ohio Fund, both funding and in kind:

Describe \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_ % \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ (1 point for attracting significant [more than 5%] non-Clean Ohio Fund & non-applicant funding)

**NRAC SCORING METHODOLOGY - Part IV - Other Factors 23 points maximum** Page 8

Provide a brief explanation highlighting how your project accomplishes each item

**5. Readiness to proceed factors:** Supporting documentation required

Contract with the owner and evidence from seller that closing will take place within:

\_\_\_\_\_ 6 months or less (includes escrow within 6 months with closing within one year) (2 points)

\_\_\_\_\_ within 1 year (1 point)

**6. Open space related facilities construction readiness:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Completion in less than 6 months (2 points)

\_\_\_\_\_ Completion in less than 1 year (1 point)

**7. Other project factors:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Project addresses a situation where action must be taken now or opportunity will be lost forever (2 points)

**8. Size of project:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Acreage of project \_\_\_\_\_ (<1acre 0 points)

(1-5 acres 1 point)

(> 5 acres 2 points)

\_\_\_\_\_ Connection to other open space areas (yes/no) \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, total acreage of open space \_\_\_\_\_ (Yes 2 points)

\_\_\_\_\_ Length in stream miles \_\_\_\_\_ (>0.25 1 point) (streamside acquisitions only)

\_\_\_\_\_ Connection to other streams along open space (yes/no) \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, total stream miles of open space \_\_\_\_\_ (Yes 2 points)

**9. Wellfield Protection:**

\_\_\_\_\_ The project will support wellfield protection in an Environmental Protection Agency designated wellfield area. (2 points)

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

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