



CleanOhioFund

Model Scoring Methodology Ohio Natural Resources Assistance Councils

Applicant Name: _____

Applicant Contact: _____

Rating Team: _____

Part I: Preliminary Screening -- Required

Sample

Applicant is eligible entity

Yes

No

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 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 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 Part II

Sample

NRAC SCORING METHODOLOGY -- Part II --Required 50 points

NRACs 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? Two points for each, 50 point 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. ____ includes pedestrian/bicycle linkages to other openspace preserves and population centers
20. ____ supports comprehensive openspace planning
21. ____ provides multiple recreational, economic and aesthetic preservation benefits
22. ____ allows proper management of areas where safe fishing, hunting and trapping may take place in a manner that will preserve balanced natural ecosystems
23. ____ enhances economic development that relies on recreation and ecotourism in areas of relatively high unemployment
24. ____ one of the above checked items was previously adopted as a priority for NRAC district ____
25. ____ A second of the above checked items was previously adopted as a priority for NRAC District ____

Part II SCORE: _____

NRAC SCORING METHODOLOGY --Part III-- Required 40 points maximum

NRACs shall consider the following in approving or disapproving a grant:

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

____ 75% ____ 74-70% ____ 69-65% ____ 64-60% ____ <60%
(required) (3 points) (6 points) (9 points) (10 points)

2. Level of coordination: (1 point 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 (2 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 ____ social/recreational ____ environmental
(1 point) (1 point) (1 point)

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 project 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: (1 point 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:** _____

NRAC SCORING METHODOLOGY -- Part IV -- Other Factors 10 point maximum

The NRAC may adopt additional criteria which reflects local priorities as long as the criteria compliment and does not negate Parts I-III which carry out ORC Sec. 164.20-164.27. Examples:

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

- ____ project identified as important in the plan (1.5 points)
- ____ area identified as important in the plan (1 points)
- ____ 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 points)
- ____ 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?

- ___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 other sources, both funding and in kind:

Private\$ _____% _____ Federal\$ _____% _____
___ (1 point for attracting significant [more than 5% Private or Federal] non Clean Ohio Fund funding)

5. Readiness to proceed factors:

Contract with the owner and evidence from seller that closing will take place within
___6 months or less (.75) ___within 1 year (.25 points)

6. Openspace related facilities construction readiness:

___construction to begin in less than 6 months (.5 points)

7. Other Project Factors:

___ project addresses a situation where action must be taken now or opportunity will be lost forever (1 point)

TOTAL Part IV: _____ + Parts II and III _____ = TOTAL SCORE: _____

RANKING AMONG ALL PROJECTS _____