

VIRGINIA 2012 FARM & RANCH LANDS PROTECTION PROGRAM (FRPP)

RANKING WORKSHEET

**Entity Information**

Entity \_\_\_\_\_

Entity DUNS \_\_\_\_\_

**Parcel Information**

Cong. Dist \_\_\_\_\_ FIPS Code \_\_\_\_\_

FSA Farm #(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Tract #(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Field #(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Size of Parcel Offered \_\_\_\_\_ acres

Parcel Longitude/Latitude \_\_\_\_\_ or

Parcel Address \_\_\_\_\_

Parcel is eligible<sup>1</sup>:  Yes  No If no, reason why ineligible: \_\_\_\_\_

**Landowner Information**

Landowner Name \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Tax ID # \_\_\_\_\_

Is the Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) of the Landowner  $\geq$  \$1 million?  Yes  No

If yes, is 66.66 percent or more of the Landowner's AGI average *adjusted gross farm income*?

Yes  No

Does the Landowner/Operator meet the Highly Erodible Land and Wetland Compliance

Requirements?  Yes  No

**National Criteria**

1) Percent of prime, unique, and important farmland in the parcel to be protected:

$\leq$ 25%	0 points
26-50%	10 points
51-75%	15 points
> 75%	25 points

Scored \_\_\_\_\_ points

2) Percent of cropland, pastureland, grassland, and rangeland in the parcel to be protected.

≤ 25%	0 points
26-50%	3 points
51-75%	6 points
> 75%	10 points

Scored \_\_\_\_\_ points

3) Ratio of the total acres of land in the parcel to be protected to the average farm size in the county according to the most recent USDA Census of Agriculture.

([www.agcensus.usda.gov](http://www.agcensus.usda.gov))

County \_\_\_\_\_ Average Farm Size \_\_\_\_\_

< 1:1	0 points
1.5:1	5 points
2:1	10 points

Scored \_\_\_\_\_ points

4) Decrease in the percentage of acreage of farm and ranch land in the county in which the parcel is located between the last two USDA Censuses of Agriculture.

([www.agcensus.usda.gov](http://www.agcensus.usda.gov))

County \_\_\_\_\_

0-5%	0 points
5-10%	3 points
10-15%	6 points
15-20%	10 points

Scored \_\_\_\_\_ points

5) Percent of population growth in the County as documented by the United States Census.

([www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov))

County: \_\_\_\_\_

0-5%	0 points
5-10%	3 points
10-15%	6 points
15-20%	10 points

Scored \_\_\_\_\_ points

6) Population density (population per square mile) as documented by the most recent United States Census. ([www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov))

County \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

< State 0 points

≥ State 5 points

Scored \_\_\_\_\_ points

7) Proximity of the parcel to other protected land, including military installations, land owned in fee title by the United States or a State or local government, or by an entity whose purpose is to protect agricultural use and related conservation values, or **land that is already subject to an easement or deed restriction that limits the conversion of the land to nonagricultural use.**

Adjacent (5 points)       Not Adjacent (0 points)

Scored \_\_\_\_\_ points

8) Proximity of the parcel to other agricultural operations and infrastructure?

Yes (5 points)       No (0 points)

Scored \_\_\_\_\_ points

**State Criteria**

**9)** Is the parcel in an area zoned for agricultural use?

Zoned agricultural use	15 points
Not zoned agricultural	0 points

**Scored \_\_\_\_\_ points**

**10)** Performance of the entity including but not limited to, managing and enforcing easements, closing efficiency and monitoring.

A) Past easements have closed within:

< 0-12 months	5 points
13-18 months	3 points
19+ months	0 points

B) Monitoring:

Once a year or more	10 points
Less than once a year	0 points

**A + B = Scored \_\_\_\_\_ points**

**11)** Do the multifunctional benefits of farm and ranch land protection include protecting wetlands or other sensitive habitat?

Yes (2 points)       No (0 points)

**Scored \_\_\_\_\_ points**

**12)** Do the multifunctional benefits of farm and ranch land protection include social, economic or cultural benefits?

Yes (2 points)       No (0 points)

If yes, applicant should provide a short (less than 250 words) explanation.

**Scored \_\_\_\_\_ points**

**13)**Geographic regions where the enrollment of particular lands may help achieve National, State, and regional conservation goals and objectives, or enhance existing government or private conservation projects

- A) Virginia FRPP Priority Area      15 points
- B) Chesapeake Bay                      5 points

**A + B =      Scored \_\_\_\_\_ points**

**14)**Is the site listed on the National Register of Historic Places, formally determined to be eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, or listed on the State or Tribal Register of Historic Places and will an easement protect this site from development?

- Yes (15 points)
- No (0 points)

**Scored \_\_\_\_\_ points**

**15)**Existence of a farm or ranch succession plan or similar plan established to encourage farm viability for future generations.

- Yes (10 points)
- No (0 points)

**Scored \_\_\_\_\_ points**

**TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE: 159**

**TOTAL POINTS SCORED \_\_\_\_\_**

As a representative of \_\_\_\_\_  
this information is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Entity Representative                      Date

I have verified the accuracy of this information to the best of my ability.

\_\_\_\_\_  
FRPP Program Manager                      Date

<sup>i</sup> 7 C.F.R. § 1491.4(f)

Eligible land:

- (1) Must be privately owned land on a farm or ranch and contain at least 50 percent prime, unique, Statewide, or locally important farmland, unless otherwise determined by the

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State Conservationist; contain historical or archaeological resources; or furthers a State or local policy consistent with the purposes of the program; and is subject to a pending offer by an eligible entity;

- (2) Must be cropland, rangeland, grassland, pasture land, or forest land that contributes to the economic viability of an agricultural operation or serves as a buffer to protect an agricultural operation from development;
- (3) May include land that is incidental to the cropland, rangeland, grassland, pasture land, or forest land if the incidental land is determined by the Secretary to be necessary for the efficient administration of a conservation easement;
- (4) May include parts of or entire farms or ranches;
- (5) Must not include forest land of greater than two-thirds of the easement area. Forest land that exceeds the greater of 10 acres or 10 percent of the easement area shall have a forest management plan before closing;
- (6) NRCS shall not enroll land in FRPP that is owned in fee title by an agency of the United States, a State or local government, or by an entity whose purpose is to protect agricultural use and related conservation values, including those listed in the statute under eligible land, or land that is already subject to an easement or deed restriction that limits the conversion of the land to nonagricultural use, unless otherwise determined by the Chief;
- (7) Must be owned by landowners who certify that they do not exceed the adjusted gross income limitation eligibility requirements set forth in part Code of Federal Regulations Title 7 Part 1400;
- (8) Must possess suitable on-site and off-site conditions which will allow the easement to be effective in achieving the purposes of the program. Suitability conditions may include, but are not limited to, hazardous substances on or in the vicinity of the parcel, land use surrounding the parcel that is not compatible with agriculture, and highway or utility corridors that are planned to pass through or immediately adjacent to the parcel; and
- (9) May be land on which gas, oil, earth, or other mineral rights exploration has been leased or is owned by someone other than the applicant may be offered for participation in the program. However, if an applicant submits an offer for an easement project, USDA will assess the potential impact that the third party rights may have upon achieving the program purposes. USDA reserves the right to deny funding for any application where there are exceptions to clear title on any property.