



New Hampshire Fish and Game Department

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2007 Landowner Incentive Program Ranking Criteria

TIER 1 CRITERIA Ecological Significance (100 points maximum)

1. Proximity of project to program focus area (choose no more than 1) (Max 10 points)
 - a. Project area is located within a Conservation Focus Area on the NH Wildlife Action Plan Conservation Focus Areas Map; - 10
 - b. Project area is identified as the Highest Ranked Habitat by Ecological Condition in NH or in the Biological Region on the NH Wildlife Action Plan maps. - 6
2. Property has documented sightings of one or more wildlife species at risk or species of concern, as identified in the Wildlife Action Plan (exclude big game species)(Max 15pts)
 - a. Documented in NHB Rare Species Occurrence Database or submitted on NHB Rare Species Occurrence Record Form and found eligible for the database – 10
 - b. Other valid documentation submitted - 5
 - c. Add point for each additional documented species (5 added pts max)
3. Property has documented location of one or more plant species of concern, as identified on the Natural Heritage Bureau "endangered plant species" and/or "threatened plant species" lists (See Question 2 for documentation information)(Max 15 pts)
 - a. Documented on NHB database; – 10
 - b. Other valid documentation submitted - 5
 - c. Add 1 point for each additional documented species (5 added pts max)
4. Property has documented location of exemplary natural communities or systems (as defined and documented by NH NHB) (Max 10 pts).
 - a. Documented - 5
 - b. Add 1 point for each additional documented (5 added pts max)
5. Conservation status of documented animal and plant species (Max 10 points)
 - a. One or more Federal T&E species – 10
 - b. If no Federal, but one or more State T&E species - 5
6. Ecological integrity of property (Max 10 points)
 - a. Property has no currently used wood roads, structures, borrow pits, cultivated or cut areas, or other evidence of human impacts - 10
 - b. Property has roads for forestry or farming; has undergone recent management operations, but does not have significantly degraded natural habitats - 6
 - c. Ecological restoration is needed and appropriate restoration plan has been developed and submitted with application - 3

7. Landscape integrity of property (Max 10 points)

Block Size	Located in Rockingham, Cheshire, Merrimack, Strafford, Belknap Hillsborough Counties	Located in Sullivan, Grafton, Carroll or Coos Counties
Within an unfragmented block > 10,000 acres		10
Within an unfragmented block > 5,000 acres	10	5
Within an unfragmented block > 1,000 acres	5	3
Within an unfragmented block >500 acres	3	0

8. Proximity of property to conservation land (Max 10 points)

- a. Abuts protected land; creates or adds to conserved block >1000 ac. - 10
- b. Abuts protected land; creates or adds to conserved block >500 ac. - 6
- c. Within one-half mile of protected land - 3

9. Size of property to be protected (Max 10 points)

- a. 500 acres or more - 10
- b. 200 to 500 acres - 6
- c. 100 to 200 acres - 3

TIER 2 CRITERIA Organizational Criteria (Maximum 16 points)

10. Project readiness (Max 6 points)

- a. Purchase and Sales agreement signed - 1
- b. Appraisal contracted or completed - 1
- c. Easement language drafted - 1
- d. Drafted easement language addresses WAP/LIP requirement or includes conservation of rare species - 3

11. Availability of match (Max 4 points)

- a. 100% of required match committed - 4
- b. 50% or more of required match committed - 2
- c. Less than 50% but more than 10% of required match committed - 1

12. Organizational Capacity (Max 3 points)

- a. Organization has demonstrated record of successful land protection projects - 3

13. Easement monitoring capabilities (Max 3 points)

- a. Organization has professional monitoring staff - 3