

**LOCAL RANKING CRITERIA FOR 2003 EQIP
ELKHART COUNTY**

Name _____ Farm # _____ Tract _____

Landowner's initials _____ TA Provider _____ Date _____

WATER QUALITY:

3 hits = high priority 2 hits = medium priority 1 hit = low priority

- Does the area contain high leachability soils? Use map 3w
_____ % of offered acreage
- Are livestock in a water body or is feedlot contamination or field applied manure reaching a water body or surface inlet? See definition of "water body"
Use aerial photos, soils and topography maps
- Does the area contain Highly Erodible mapping units? Based on soils, topography maps and FOTG
HEL map unit list _____ % of offered acreage
- Is the area located in a 303D area used for state ranking (map 2w) or in the St. Joseph River watershed, including the Elkhart River watershed?
- Will vegetation be established in environmentally sensitive areas?
Example: around wellheads or tile inlets, along waterbodies Practice to be installed _____
- Is the area adjacent to or drain directly into a water body or surface inlet? See definition of "adjacent to", "drain directly into", and "water body"

Livestock Management

3 hits = high priority 2 hits = medium priority 1 hit = low priority

- Is this an existing operation that is being expanded or upgraded?
- Are livestock in a water body, or is feedlot or applied manure reaching a water body or surface inlet?
Drainage pattern based on aerial photos, soils and topography maps
See definition of "water body"
- Will the area be converted from cropland to pasture/hayland? Or will existing pasture/hayland be enhanced? Practice to be installed _____
- Is this an existing operation currently not in compliance with IDEM regulations?
- Will livestock exclusion or intensive grazing be used?

Soil Erosion

1 hits = high priority 0 hits = low priority

Participant must be willing to consider adoption of reduced tillage methods or establishment of permanent vegetation to achieve “less than or equal to T” soil loss according to a conservation plan.

- Does the area contain Highly Erodible mapping units?
_____ % of offered acreage
- Does the area have wind erosion soils with an “T” value of 134 or greater?
_____ % of offered acreage See FOTG for listing of wind erosion soils
- Is there ephemeral, gully, or streambank erosion present? Practice to be installed _____
- Is the area adjacent to or drain directly into a water body or surface inlet? See definition of “ adjacent to”, “water body”, and “drain directly into”

FORESTRY:

2 hits = high priority 1 hit = medium priority 0 hits = low priority

- Is the area to be planted adjacent to an existing forest? See definition of “adjacent to”
- Trees will be planted on the offered tract.
- Is the area adjacent to or drain directly into a water body or surface inlet? See definitions for “adjacent to”, “drain directly into”, and “water body”
- Does the area contain slopes greater than or equal to 6%?
- Timber stand improvement will be implemented on the offered tract.
- Does the landowner have a forest management plan? (Copy of the plan must be provided)

FOR PURPOSES OF THIS WORKSHEET:

“Water Body” is defined as a ditch, creek, stream, river, pond, lake or wetland.

“Adjacent to” is defined as adjoining, next to, or touching.

“Drain directly into” is defined as the water transport of any substance (i.e runoff, sediment, contaminants, nutrients) into a downstream water source, either by mechanical means (i.e. tile or surface inlet) or topographically.