Section 1 – Project Emphasis

The District 3 NRAC has prioritized the project emphasis into three categories: Low, Medium and High. A project type that is of High interest will have a weight of 10; Medium interest a weight of 6; and Low interest a weight of 2. All answers can receive a raw score of between 0 and 5 points. Applicant must provide documentation from appropriate authority to receive full credit.

- X 2 (1) The support of comprehensive open space planning and incorporation of aesthetically pleasing and ecologically informed design (Low interest - weight = 2)

- X 2 (2) The enhancement of economic development that relies on recreation and eco-tourism in areas with relatively high unemployment and lower incomes (Low interest - weight = 2)

- X 10 (3) The protection or increase of protection for rare, threatened, and endangered species or the preservation of high-quality, viable habitat for plant and animal species (High interest - weight = 10)

- X 10 (4) The preservation of existing high-quality wetlands or other scarce natural resources within the geographical jurisdiction of the council (High interest – weight = 10)

- X 10 (5) The enhancement of educational opportunities and provision of physical links to schools and after-school centers (High interest – weight = 10)

- X 6 (6) The preservation or restoration of water quality, natural stream channels, functioning floodplains, wetlands, streamside forests, or other natural features that contribute to the quality of life in this state and to the state's natural heritage (Medium interest – weight = 6)

- X 2 (7) The reduction or elimination of non-native, invasive species of plants or animals (Low interest – weight = 2)

- X 2 (8) The proper management of areas where fishing may take place in a manner that will preserve a balanced natural ecosystem (Low interest – weight = 2)

- X 10 (9) Inclusion as part of a stream corridor-wide or watershed-wide plan (High interest – weight = 10)

- X 2 (10) The provision of multiple recreational, economic, and aesthetic preservation benefits (Low interest – weight = 2)

- X 6 (11) Protection and enhancement of riparian corridors or watersheds by fee simple acquisition of lands OR acquisition of conservation easements. (Medium interest – weight = 6)

- X 6 (12) The restoration or preservation of headwater streams (Medium interest – weight = 6)

- X 6 (13) The restoration and preservation of aquatic biological communities (Medium interest – weight = 6)

**Weighted Total**

(370 maximum points)

**Score – Section 1**

(74 max. pts)

(Weighted Total divided by 5)
SECTION 2 – LOCAL COORDINATION & SUPPORT

____ 14. **Matching Funds:** include in-kind donation of land, etc) $_______________ or ____%
(One point for each whole percent above 25% up to 30 points maximum)

____ 15. **Coordination:**
Document how project carries out goals of multiple agencies, organizations.
(1 point each – maximum points =6)
__ local political subdivisions __ state agencies __ federal agencies
__ community organizations __ conservation organizations __ other (___________)
(private, local business groups)

____ 16. Level of conservation coordination this project provides to another related project or how it ties areas together with other open space, riparian corridor, trails, farmland protection or urban revitalization projects. (maximum points = 3) √ all that apply
__ fits into another related project or links an area together (2 points)
__ carries out an adopted community, watershed or other plan overlapping another district (1 point)

____ 17. **Community benefits:** √ all that apply (maximum points = 9)
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) (up to 3 points) (up to 5 points)

____ 18. **Extent of public access once project is completed:** (maximum points =5) √ one
__ open week days and weekends (5 points)
__ open limited, but regular hours (3 points)
__ open by appointment or with written permission (1 point)

____ 19. How organization/agency will operate and maintain this project once it is completed.
(maximum points =5)
__ operation plan and/or maintenance plan (up to 5 points)
__ no operation plan and/or maintenance plan (0 points)

____ 20. **Unit cost of project. Cost per acre OR cost per linear foot of restoration of Clean Ohio Conservation Funds.** $_______________ (maximum points=6) √ one
(Cost per acre/cost per linear feet is defined as the total amount of COCF funding requested divided by the number of acres/linear feet restored. The NRAC will determine low, medium and high costs each round based on all projects submitted)
__ low cost per acre or linear feet of Clean Ohio Funds (6 points)
__ medium cost per acre or linear feet of Clean Ohio Funds (3 points)
__ high cost per acre or linear feet of Clean Ohio Funds (0 points)

### SCORE – Section 2 (64 max. pts)
SECTION 3 – ADDITIONAL CRITERIA

The NRAC may adopt additional criteria that reflect local priorities as long as the criteria complement and do not negate Parts I-II, which carry out ORC Sec. 164.20-164.27.

21. **Riparian Buffer**: Project provides an adequate width of riparian buffer. (maximum points =12)
- Over 300 feet from top of bank per side (up to 12 points)
- 150-300 feet from top of bank per side (up to 8 points)
- 50-149 feet from top of bank per side (up to 4 points)

Enhancement Project:
- Number of linear feet of stream or acres of habitat to be restored.

22. **Regional Significance**: What is the impact on the geographic area or watershed?
Is it regionally significant because of its impact on passive recreation or its impact on a natural area in terms of geography and watershed or both? Please explain. (maximum points =12)

Passive Recreation
- project will have a major impact on passive recreation (up to 4 points)
- project will have a medium impact on passive recreation (up to 2 points)
- project will have a low impact on the passive recreation (0 points)

Natural Area or Watershed
- project will have a major impact on the natural area or watershed (up to 8 points)
- project will have a medium impact on the natural area or watershed (up to 5 points)
- project will have a low impact on the natural area or watershed (up to 2 points)

23. **Natural Resource Viability**: How important is the project to the viability of the natural resources affected by the project? (maximum points = 15)
Supportive documentation must be provided by ODNR or other qualified entity

- protects a globally endangered species or biological community (0-3 points)
- protects 1 or more state Natural Heritage Inventory (NHI) endangered species (0-3 points)
- protects 1 or more state NHI ranked rare, threatened or otherwise listed species (0-3 points)
- protects a high-quality example of a regionally endangered biological community (0-3 points)
- protects a threatened biological community or important example of Ohio's natural heritage (0-3 points)

If Enhancement project:
Pre-Construction QHEI: _____________ ORAM: _____________
Post-Construction QHEI: _____________ ORAM: _____________

Name:_______________________________________________________________________
Title:________________________________________________________________________
Qualifications/Training or Certifications_____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
Supporting documents and concept plan included_____________________________________


24. **Urban Environment:** Is this project located within an urban area inside or contiguous to the 270 outer belt? (up to 5 points)

Describe the unique benefits as related to preserving natural resources in an urban environment.

25. **Other Relevant Factors:** (maximum points = 20) (Note reasoning)

26. **Economic condition of community where project is located:**

(Based on 2010 per capita income for political jurisdiction/community where project is located – see chart attached) (maximum points = 10)

**SCORE – Section 3 (74 max. pts)**

**SECTION 4 – COMMUNICATIONS WITH LAND OWNER**

27. **Applicant has:**

(Select one) (maximum points = 20)

__ had some communications by phone, person or email with land owner(s) (5 points)

__ a letter of intent to purchase from the land owner(s) (10 points)

__ a signed purchase agreement with the land owner(s) or ownership of the land (20 points)

**SCORE – Section 4 (20 max. pts)**

**TOTAL SCORE:**

(Maximum points = 232)

NRAC - Reviewed & Scored by: _____________________________

RANK: __________
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*Source: American Community Survey (US Census)*