

**SCORING METHODOLOGY
OHIO PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION - DISTRICT 9
NATURAL RESOURCES ASSISTANCE COUNCIL**

(This form is for NRAC USE ONLY -- NOT to be completed by applicant)

1. OPWC DISTRICT 9 NRAC SCORING FORM

The date and time that the "APPLICATION FOR THE CLEAN OHIO CONSERVATION FUND" and all supporting information were received will be noted, and an NRAC project number will be assigned to each packet. One (1) copy of this information will be sent to each member of the District 9 NRAC. Each member will review the material and score the projects at the ensuing Review Meeting. Completed forms will be returned to the District 9 Liaison.

At the open Review Meeting of the NRAC, members present will review the applications in the order in which they were received and address any questions or comments from the members about the project to determine scores. **Although not required, applicants are strongly advised to send representation to the Review Meeting to ensure council's complete understanding of the project.** Members may ask the applicant to clarify items of concern and will then vote on the project. The District 9 NRAC will consider the next ranked project, etc., until all Clean Ohio Funds are allocated.

Supporting Information Required of District 9 NRAC Applicants

The scoring methodology used by District 9 NRAC will use some of the information provided in the "APPLICATION FOR CLEAN OHIO CONSERVATION FUND" and its supporting documentation. Applicants are directed to provide additional information in a separate attachment to the application entitled, "ATTACHMENT B." That information will be provided to the NRAC members as part of the application.

PROJECT NAME _____

PROJECT NUMBER _____

SCORE _____

**DISTRICT 9 (HURON, LORAIN & MEDINA COUNTIES)
MODEL SCORING METHODOLOGY
OHIO PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION
Natural Resources Assistance Council (NRAC)**

APPLICANT NAME: _____

APPLICANT CONTACT: _____

PART I: PRELIMINARY SCREENING (required)

Yes No

___ ___ Applicant is an eligible entity

___ ___ Complete application received by deadline (strictly enforced); if the answer is no, the project is ineligible.

(9 categories)

Project purpose must involve at least one of the following from A or B

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: applicant must have a contractual agreement with the property owner and

___ show evidence of being able to complete the project within one year

Permanent conservation easement

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. Improvements *Note: The primary objective of the District 9 NRAC is land acquisition. Funding for site improvements is limited to twenty percent (20%) of land acquisition costs.*

___ Constructs or enhances facilities necessary to make the acquired open space area accessible and usable by the general public in conjunction with acquisition of land

___ Development only on land previously acquired with District 9 NRAC funding (-10 points)

D. 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, or reclamation) under state or federal laws or ordinances?

___ ___ Fund facilities other than those required to provide public access to or use open space?

___ ___ Fund facilities for active recreation such as tennis courts, ball fields or centers?

If yes to any of the above in D, the project is ineligible (Section 164.22 ORC)

IF PROJECT MEETS PRELIMINARY SCORING REQUIREMENTS, MOVE ON TO PAGE 4

Part I SCORE: ___

PART II (required) - NRAC SCORING METHODOLOGY - 44 POINTS

NRAC 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/44 point maximum this page. Please refer to Glossary of Terms.

Protect habitat for rare, threatened, and endangered species

1. ___ Increases habitat protection for a variety of native species
2. ___ Reduces or eliminates nonnative invasive species of plants or animals
3. ___ Preserves high quality, viable habitat for plant or animal species
4. ___ Restores or preserves aquatic biological communities
5. ___ Preserves headwater streams
6. ___ Preserves or restores functioning flood plains
7. ___ Preserves or restores water quality
8. ___ Preserves or restores natural stream channels
9. ___ Preserves or restores stream side forests
10. ___ Preserves existing high-quality wetlands or restores wetlands
11. ___ Preserves or restores other natural features that contribute to quality of life and state's natural
12. ___ history
13. ___ Fee simple acquisition of lands to provide access to riparian corridors or wetlands
Acquisition of easements protecting and enhancing riparian corridors or wetlands
14. ___ Reforests land to improve water quality
15. ___ Plants vegetation for filtration to improve water quality
16. ___ Incorporates aesthetically pleasing and ecologically informed design including
17. ___ sensitivity to the terrain, natural resources, and heritage of the property
Enhances educational opportunities (1 point); provides physical links to schools and
18. ___ after-school centers (1 point)
Supports comprehensive open-space planning
19. ___ Provides multiple recreational, economic, and aesthetic preservation benefits
20. ___ Allows proper management of areas where safe fishing, boating, hunting, and trapping may
21. ___ take place in a manner that will preserve balanced natural ecosystems
Enhances economic development that relies on recreation and ecotourism in areas of relatively
22. ___ high unemployment

(44 point maximum) Part II SCORE: _____

Part III (30 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% (required, 0 points) 74 - 70% (3 points) 69 - 65% (4 points) 64 - 60% (5 points) less than 60% (6 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 under the Clean Ohio Fund in other Public Works Commission Districts (open space, riparian corridor, trails, farmland protection, or urban revitalization projects)
 Is a joint project that may also include holdings in another district in the same project (2 points)
 Carries out an adopted community, watershed, or other plan overlapping another district (1 pt.)

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 (0 to 3 points)

5. Extent and benefit of public access once project is completed based on:
1) access invitation only, 2) limited access, or 3) unlimited public access (within regular hours)
 (0 to 3 points)

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 or demonstrate management experience and capabilities
 (0 to 5 points)

(30 points maximum) Part III SCORE: _____

Part IV (12.5 points maximum)

Additional criteria that reflects local priorities that compliment and do not negate Parts I - III that carryout ORC Sec. 164.20-164.27

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 point)
- Project would be consistent with the plan (.5 point)

2. 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 district (1.5 points)
- Project benefits multiple local political subdivisions within one county (1 point)
- Project benefits single political subdivision within one county (.5 point)

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; must attach appropriate documentation (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 a total of 5-10% 2 points for a total of 11-20% 3 points for a total of more than 20%

5. Other project factors:

- Project addresses a situation where action must be taken now or opportunity will be lost; appropriate documentation must be attached (0-3 points)

(12.5 points maximum) Part IV SCORE: _____

Total Possible Points: 86.5 (Must score at least 51% or greater of total possible points before submitting to OPWC)

Part I Points	Part II Points	Part III Points	Part IV Points	TOTAL SCORE
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Ranking among all projects: _____