

Routt County PDR Application Score Sheet

Application Identification Number: _____

Funding Cycle (circle one): _____

Spring Fall

Year of Funding Cycle: _____

Scoring Date: _____

The score sheet is set up to allow a maximum possible score of 100 points.

There are four major categories - each major category will initially have a maximum of 100 possible points, and will then be weighted to count between 10% and 50% of the final total.

Within a major category, there are 4 to 6 subcategories. The 100 possible points are allocated among the subcategories as indicated on the score sheet.

The same score sheet MUST be used for ALL applications within a particular funding cycle.

~ STEP 1 ~

Description of Categories

CATEGORY 1: LEVERAGE

Leverage - In order to maximize the use of PDR funds, an application should be leveraged by a donation from the landowner(s), by contribution from project partners, and/or with the donation of other conservation easements.

Total Possible Points for Category: 100

Subcategory A - Landowner Donation

What percentage of the value of the conservation easement will the landowner(s) donate?

Total Points for Subcategory

- 0 - 25 ♦ Donates 50% or more (*only this descriptor may be awarded the maximum possible points*)
- 0 - 17 ♦ Donates from 25% to 49% of value
- 0 - 8 ♦ Donates from 10% to 24% of value
- 0 ♦ Donates less than 10% of value

Subcategory B - Contribution from Application Partners

What percentage of the value of the conservation easement will be covered from application partners (i.e. GOCO, Legacy, governmental agencies)?

Total Points for Subcategory

- 0 - 25 ♦ 75% or more (*only this descriptor may be awarded the maximum possible points*)
- 0 - 17 ♦ 50% to 74% of application cost covered by partners
- 0 - 8 ♦ 25% to 49% of application cost covered by partners
- 0 ♦ Less than 25% of application cost covered by partners

Subcategory C - Matching Conservation Easements

Has the landowner or another property owner concurrently donated one or more other conservation easements which enhances this application?

Total Points for Subcategory

- 0 - 25 ♦ 50% or more of the total cost of the application is matched with a donation of one or more conservation easements on adjoining or nearby lands *(only this descriptor may be awarded the maximum possible points)*
- 0 - 17 ♦ From 20% to 49% of the total cost is matched
- 0 - 8 ♦ From 10% to 19% of the total cost is matched
- 0 ♦ Less than 10% of the total cost is matched

Subcategory D - Previous Donation of Conservation Easement

Did the landowner previously donate, in whole or in part, a conservation easement which enhances the application?

Total Points for Subcategory

- 0 - 25 ♦ Previously donated conservation easement is contiguous to this application *(only this descriptor may be awarded the maximum possible points)*
- 0 - 17 ♦ Previously donated conservation easement is located inside Routt County
- 0 - 8 ♦ Previously donated conservation easement is located outside Routt County
- 0 ♦ Applicant has not previously donated a conservation easement

Total Points Awarded for Leverage

CATEGORY 2: QUALITY OF LAND RESOURCE AND ECONOMIC VIABILITY

Quality of Land Resource and Economic Viability - Various agricultural attributes of the application are reviewed to assess the quality of the land resource for agricultural production and its potential to remain in agriculture and operate as a viable economic unit.

Total Possible Points for Category: 100

Subcategory A - Size of Conservation Easement

What is the total amount of deeded land to be restricted by the conservation easement (acres of land and percentage)?

Total Points for Subcategory

- 0 - 20 ♦ 1,000 or more acres or over 90% *(only this descriptor may be awarded the maximum possible points)*
- 0 - 14 ♦ From 500 to 999 acres or 50% to 90%
- 0 - 6 ♦ From 100 to 499 acres or 10% to 49%
- 0 ♦ Less than 100 acres or less than 10%

Subcategory B - Soils of Statewide Importance

Within the ranch or natural area, what percentage of the land owned by the applicant is covered by soils of statewide importance (according to the District Conservationist and NRCS soil maps)?

Total Points for Subcategory

- 0 - 20 ♦ 30% or more of the soils are of statewide significance *(only this descriptor may be awarded the maximum possible points)*
- 0 - 14 ♦ From 20% to 29% of the soils are of statewide significance
- 0 - 9 ♦ From 10% to 19% of soils are of statewide significance
- 0 ♦ Less than 10% of soils are of statewide significance

Subcategory C - Amount of Irrigated Land

Within the ranch or natural area, what number of acres and percentages of the proposed conservation easement is irrigated (including sub-irrigated land) and what commitment has the applicant made regarding water rights?

Total Points for Subcategory

- 0 - 20** ♦ 200 or more acres or over 65% of the proposed conservation easement and applicant has committed appurtenant, adjudicated water rights for the conservation easement *(only this descriptor may be awarded the maximum possible points)*
- 0 - 14** ♦ From 100 to 199 acres or 20% to 64% of the proposed conservation easement and applicant has committed appurtenant, adjudicated water rights for the conservation easement
- 0 - 9** ♦ Less than 100 acres or less than 20% of the proposed conservation easement and applicant has committed appurtenant, adjudicated water rights for the conservation easement
- 0** ♦ None of the land is irrigated or the applicant has not committed appurtenant, adjudicated water rights for the conservation easement

Subcategory D - Average Annual Number of Animal Units Maintained on Ranch

What is the total annual number of animal units maintained on the proposed conservation easement during the grazing season over the past 5 years?

Total Points for Subcategory

- 0 - 20** ♦ 300 or more animal units per grazing season *(only this descriptor may be awarded the maximum possible points)*
- 0 - 14** ♦ From 200 to 299 animal units per grazing season
- 0 - 9** ♦ From 100 to 199 animal units per grazing season
- 0** ♦ Less than 100 animal units per grazing season

Subcategory E - Average Annual Amount of Crop or Hayland Production

What is the total annual crop (in acres) or hay (in tons) produced on the proposed conservation easement during the past 5 years?

Total Points for Subcategory

- 0 - 20** ♦ 3 or more tons/acre of hay and/or over 30 bushels/acre of wheat (grain) production *(only this descriptor may be awarded the maximum possible points)*
- 0 - 14** ♦ 2-3 tons/acre of hay and/or 20-30 bushels/acre of wheat (grain) production
- 0 - 9** ♦ 1-2 tons/acre of hay and/or 15-20 bushels/acre of wheat (grain) production
- 0** ♦ Less than 1 ton/acre of hay and/or less than 15 bushels/acre of wheat (grain) production

Total Points Awarded for Quality of Land Resource & Economic Viability

CATEGORY 3: MULTIPLE COMMUNITY VALUES

Multiple Community Values - The application is reviewed to determine whether the proposed conservation easement possesses multiple community values, other than agricultural values, which are considered important, such as presence of natural areas, wildlife habitat, visibility to the public, or historic values.

Total Possible Points for Category: 100

Subcategory A - **Significant Natural Area**

Are there plant communities, habitat types or plant species located on the property that are considered significant by the Colorado Natural Heritage Program, the Colorado Division of Wildlife, or the Colorado Natural Areas Program?

Total Points for Subcategory

- 0 - 25
◆
The proposed conservation easement contains communities, habitats or species that are recognized as Outstanding Significance on a national level (such as Federal listed threatened or endangered, highly viable or self-sustaining plant communities) *(only this descriptor may be awarded the maximum possible points)*
- 0 - 17
◆
The proposed conservation easement contains communities, habitats or species that are recognized as High Significance on a state or regional level (such as State rare or listed threatened or endangered, moderate diversity of habitats or moderately viable)
- 0 - 8
◆
The proposed conservation easement contains communities, habitats or species that are recognized as Significant on a local level (such as above average habitat diversity or habitat viability)
- 0
◆
The proposed conservation easement contains no communities, habitats or species that are recognized as Significant on a local level (such as above average habitat diversity or habitat viability)

Subcategory B - **Scenic Values**

Is the property visible to the public?

Total Points for Subcategory

- 0 - 25
◆
The property is visible from a federal or state highway corridor or lies within a scenic area as identified by the State of Colorado, Routt County, or a town or city *(only this descriptor may be awarded the maximum possible points)*
- 0 - 17
◆
The property is visible from a primary county road (as identified by Routt County Road and Bridge Dept.) or lies within an area of local scenic importance
- 0 - 8
◆
The property is visible from a rural county road (as identified by Routt County Road and Bridge Dept.) or lies within an area of local scenic importance
- 0
◆
The property is not visible from a rural county road (as identified by Routt County Road and Bridge Dept.) or does not lie within an area of local scenic importance

Subcategory C - **Historic Values**

Does the property possess any features which are considered as historically significant?

Total Points for Subcategory

- 0 - 25
◆
Possesses exceptional features (i.e. listed on the National Register of Historic Buildings) *(only this descriptor may be awarded the maximum possible points)*
- 0 - 17
◆
Possesses significant features (i.e. centennial ranch or locally-recognized historic buildings)
- 0 - 8
◆
Possesses favorable features (i.e. locally significant but not documented)
- 0
◆
Possesses no favorable features

Subcategory D - Public Policy

Is the location of the conservation easement compatible with stated objectives of adopted or proposed public plans?

Total Points for Subcategory

- 0 - 25 ♦ The property is located in an area specifically designated in adopted public plans for land protection, maintenance of agricultural operations or preservation of natural lands *(only this descriptor may be awarded the maximum possible points)*
- 0 - 17 ♦ The property is located in an area identified in public plans for maintenance of rural character
- 0 - 8 ♦ The property is located outside of designated urban growth area
- 0 ♦ The property is located inside a designated urban growth area

Total Points Awarded for Multiple Community Values

CATEGORY 4: CIRCUMSTANCES AFFECTING CONTINUED AGRICULTURAL AND/OR MAINTENANCE OF NATURAL VALUES AND FUNCTIONS

Circumstances Affecting Continued Agricultural Operation and/or Maintenance of Natural Values and Functions - the application is reviewed to determine whether it will further the goals of protecting and preserving agricultural operations and/or natural areas, with respect to its location and continuity of the ranching heritage.

Total Possible Points for Category: 100

Subcategory A - Size of Ranch

What is the total amount of land (including acres of deeded land, leased land, or permitted public land, or a combination) that is the subject of this application is managed by the applicant?

Total Points for Subcategory

- 0 - 20 ♦ 1,500 or more acres *(only this descriptor may be awarded the maximum possible points)*
- 0 - 14 ♦ From 1,000 to 1,499 acres
- 0 - 9 ♦ From 500 to 999 acres
- 0 ♦ Less than 500 acres

Subcategory B - Proximity to Other Operating Ranches or Significant Natural Areas

How close is the property located to other operating ranches or significant natural areas?

Total Points for Subcategory

- 0 - 20 ♦ The property is surrounded by operating ranches or significant natural areas *(only this descriptor may be awarded the maximum possible points)*
- 0 - 14 ♦ The property is contiguous to one or more operating ranches or significant natural area
- 0 - 9 ♦ The property is located within one-half mile of operating ranches or significant natural areas
- 0 ♦ The property is more than one-half mile from operating ranches or significant natural areas

Subcategory C - Proximity to Other Operating Ranches or Natural Areas Protected by Conservation Easements or to Public Lands

How close is the property located to other operating ranches or natural areas that are protected by conservation easements or to Public Lands?

Total Points for Subcategory

- 0 - 20 ♦ The property is contiguous to one or more protected operating ranches or significant natural areas or Public Lands *(only this descriptor may be awarded the maximum possible points)*
- 0 - 14 ♦ The property is located within one-half mile of protected operating ranches or significant natural areas or Public Lands
- 0 - 9 ♦ The property is located within one mile of protected operating ranches or significant natural areas or Public Lands
- 0 ♦ The property is more than one mile from protected operating ranches or significant natural areas or Public Lands

Subcategory D - Human Resources

How does the operation of the ranch complement human resources?

Total Points for Subcategory

- 0 - 20 ♦ Family members operate the ranch and have mechanism in place for next generation to own and operate ranch *(only this descriptor may be awarded the maximum possible points)*
- 0 - 14 ♦ Family members operate ranch
- 0 - 9 ♦ The property provides opportunities for a new rancher to create a viable operation or for the expansion of an existing ranch to make it more viable
- 0 ♦ Family members do not operate the ranch and no opportunities exist to create a new viable ranch or expand the existing ranch

Subcategory E - Continuation of Ranching Heritage

How long has the ranch property been operated by family members?

Total Points for Subcategory

- 0 - 20 ♦ 100 or more years *(only this descriptor may be awarded the maximum possible points)*
- 0 - 14 ♦ From 50 to 99 years
- 0 - 9 ♦ From 25 to 49 years
- 0 ♦ Less than 25 years

Total Points Awarded for Circumstances Affecting Continued Agricultural Operation and/or Maintenance of Natural Values & Functions

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Grand Total of Awarded Points

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~ STEP 2 ~

Weighted Categories

Total Category Score Multiplied by Weighting Percentage

Total of 100%

Totals from part 1

_____ %

Leverage - In order to maximize the use of PDR funds, an application should be leveraged by a donation from the landowner(s), by contribution from project partners, and/or with the donation of other conservation easements.

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_____ %

Quality of Land Resource & Economic Viability - Various agricultural attributes of the application are reviewed to assess the quality of the land resource for agricultural production and its potential to remain in agriculture and operate as a viable economic unit.

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_____ %

Multiple Community Values - The application is reviewed to determine whether the property possesses multiple community values, other than agricultural values, which are considered important, such as presence of natural areas, wildlife habitat, visibility to the public, or historic values.

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_____ %

Circumstances Affecting Continued Agricultural Operation and/or Maintenance of Natural Values & Functions - The application is reviewed to determine whether it will further the goals of protecting and preserving agricultural operations and/or natural areas, with respect to its location and continuity of the ranching heritage.

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Grand Total of Awarded Points

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100 total points possible