**2017 Arizona Conservation Partnership**

**Ranking Questions for Proposals**

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| **Project Goals and Partnership**  | Points Avail | Score |
| Does the proposed project address one or more conservation priorities of the Arizona Rangeland Conservation Partnership? | 4 |  |
| Is the proposed project part of a collaborative effort by multiple adjacent operations? | 4 |  |

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| **Project Readiness** | Points Avail | Score |
| Has the applicant contacted the appropriate state and/or federal agencies who need to be involved in the proposed project? | 3 |  |
| Does the application include letters of support from the appropriate agencies, or a signed conservation plan or coordinated resource management plan that includes the conservation practices in the project proposal? | 3 |  |
| Has the conservation plan or coordinated resource management plan been reviewed and signed by the local Conservation District? | 3 |  |
| Has all or some of the NEPA work been completed for the project? | 3 |  |
| **Public Benefits** | Points Avail | Score |
| Does the project contribute to healthy watersheds that help provide reliable water supplies? | 4 |  |
| Does the project contribute to the conservation of open space and working landscapes? | 4 |  |
| Does the project include work done specifically to benefit wildlife?  | 3 |  |
| Will the project benefit candidate, threatened, or endangered species? | 4 |  |

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| **Cost Effectiveness** | Points Avail | Score |
| Is there a good budget for the project that includes quotes? | 3 |  |
| Are the proposed costs reasonable for the kind of project and location? | 4 |  |
| Will the project be completed within a reasonable timeframe? | 4 |  |
| Is the project important to maintaining an economically viable agricultural operation? | 4 |  |
| Is the applicant contributing to the project costs? | 3 |  |
| Does the applicant have matching funds from sources other than the funds requested from the Arizona Rangeland Conservation Partnership? | 3 |  |
| Is the proposed project being done to maintain healthy rangelands and prevent problems? | 4 |  |
| Is the proposed project addressing a resource problem early, in order to minimize costs (early brush invasion, early control of noxious weeds, early control of gullies or road erosion etc.)? | 3 |  |

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| **Applicant Need and Commitment** | Points Avail | Score |
| Is the applicant a new agricultural producer? | 2 |  |
| Is this the first funding request to the Arizona Rangeland Conservation Partnership? | 2 |  |
| Is the applicant a Cooperator with the local Conservation District? | 3 |  |
| Does the applicant have a long history of applying conservation practices on the land they manage? | 3 |  |
| Does the applicant have an on-going monitoring program on the land they manage? | 3 |  |
| Will the existing monitoring or the monitoring proposed in the project proposal help determine if the project achieves the desired outcomes? | 3 |  |
| Has the applicant ever been in default on their grazing fees or permit, or on previous grants or government conservation program contracts or agreements? | 3 |  |