

**LONG ISLAND SOUND WATERSHED REGIONAL CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM –
REGIONAL FOREST CONSERVATION FUND HEALTHY FOREST RESERVE PROGRAM (HFRP)
EASEMENTS FY2020 Ranking Worksheet**

Applicant Information		
Landowner Name(s):		
Landowner Address:	Parcel Address:	
	Parcel Acres:	
Parcel Name:		
Parcel County:		
LISW – RCPP – HFRP Eligibility Criteria		
<i>If the answer to any of the following criteria is "no", the application is ineligible for program enrollment (Only one rare and endangered species type (6. A-E) is required for eligibility)</i>		
Applicant qualifies as an eligible entity:	Yes	No
Local matching funds are available at application:	Yes	No
The parcel is privately owned:	Yes	No
The parcel has a clear title:	Yes	No
The parcel is within the Long Island Sound Watershed:	Yes	No
The parcel contains habitat capable of supporting, at least, one of the following:		
A) federal listed endangered or threatened species	Yes	No
B) state listed endangered or threatened species	Yes	No
C) candidate endangered or threatened species	Yes	No
D) species of special concern as identified by NRCS Chief	Yes	No
E) state species of greatest conservation need	Yes	No
Comments:		

LISW – RCPP – HFRP Ranking Criteria

	Criteria	Max. Points	Points Assigned
Sustainability	<p>The application package contains a long-term (10+ years) forest management plan completed by a licensed professional forester and a landowner statement of intent signifying their willingness to have land managed as habitat in perpetuity.</p> <p>SCALE: Active Long-term forest management plan attached = 100 points, landowner statement of intent attached = 30 points, both = 130 points.</p>	130	0
Natural Resource Features	<p>The number of acres of land in the LI Sound Watershed</p> <p>SCALE: 1 point per acre for parcels given a range of 0 to 100 by acre from 1 to 100. Any parcel over 100 acres is given the maximum points.</p>	100	0
	<p>The number of acres of forestland.</p> <p>SCALE: 1 point for each acre to be treated with an HFRP easement and 1 point for each forested acre. A 100% forested parcel of 50 acres or more is given the maximum points (50).</p>	50	0
	<p>The land is capable of supporting a known federally-listed species.</p> <p>SCALE: 1 point for each acre of land that contains habitat capable of supporting a known and documented federally-listed species. A parcel of 100 acres or more containing habitat supportive of a documented federally-listed species is given the maximum points (100).</p>	100	0
	<p>The number of acres in surface drinking water supply source water protection areas.</p> <p>SCALE: 1 point for each acre of land within a surface drinking water supply source water protection area. Any parcel over 50 acres is given the maximum points.</p>	50	0
	<p>The number of acres in an area defined as within 100 feet of the bank of a stream, river, or other waterbody the protection of which would contribute to overall water quality of the surface and groundwater.</p> <p>SCALE: 5 points for each acre of land within a 100-foot buffer as measured from the bank or high water mark associated with the surface water. Any parcel with over 10 acres in the buffer area is given the maximum points (50).</p>	50	0
	<p>The number of acres in an area defined as having above average resiliency to climate change.</p> <p>SCALE: 1 point for each acre of land within a ¼ mile of an area of land with above average resiliency to climate change. Any parcel over 50 acres is given the maximum points (50)</p>	50	0
	<p>The number of acres in an area defined as being within or abutting areas containing habitat or core forests prioritized by state agencies (State Wildlife and Forest Action Plans); included in the CT River Watershed Landscape Conservation Design (connecttheconnecticut.org) Tier 1 Cores, Tier 2 Cores, or Connectors, or Nature's Network Cores or Connectors; by Regional Conservation Partnerships or other large landscape conservation or stewardship initiatives.</p> <p>SCALE: 0.33 point for each acre of land within each of these three categories of priority habitat or forest cores or connectors. Any parcel having 100 or more acres of land in a priority habitat or forest cores or connectors in all of these three categories is given the maximum points (100).</p>	100	0
	Maximum Points for Resource and Sustainability Factors	630	0

Criteria		Max. Points	Points Assigned
Development Pressure Factors	Population Change, 2014 (U.S. Census v4 estimate) - 2010 (U.S. Census) SCALE: Population change is county based. 0 points for a 0% growth rate, 10 points for a growth rate 0.1-0.9 times the state rate, 20 points for a growth rate of 1-2 times the state rate, 0 points for a growth rate >2 times the state rate.	20	0
	Population Density (Persons per Square Mile, 2010 (U.S. Census)) SCALE: Population Density is county based. 0 points for a density < 0.5 the state population density, 10 points for a density 0.5-0.9 times the state, 20 points for a density of 1-3 times the state, 0 points for a density >3 times the state	20	0
	Annual Conversion of Forestland to Development in 2014 (New England Landscape Futures Project; USGS NLCD; Jeon et al. 2014; US FIA 2014) SCALE: Conversion of Forestland to development is county based. 0 points for a decrease of 0% or less, 10 points for a decrease of 0.01 - 0.02 percent, 15 points for a decrease of 0.03 -0.06 percent, 20 points for a decrease of 0.07 – 0.13 percent, 30 points for a decrease of 0.14 – 0.26 percent, 0 points for a decrease of > 0.26 percent.	30	0
	Maximum for Development Pressure Factors	70	0

Criteria		Max. Points	Points Assigned
Infrastructure Factors	The proximity of the parcel to other protected lands. Distance measured in a straight line from the closest point of the parcel and the closest point on the nearest protected lands parcel. SCALE: 0 points for less than 100 acres of protected forest land w/in 1 mile of parcel, 10 points for 101 - 500 acres w/in 1 mile, 20 points for 101 - 500 acres w/in ½ mile of parcel, and 30 points for >500 acres or more of protected land w/in ¼ mile of the parcel.	100	0
	The proximity of the parcel to other managed habitats including properties managed by a professional licensed forester. Distance measured as driving distance along roadways from the location of the agricultural operation to the parcel. SCALE: 0 points for less than 100 acres of managed forest w/in 1 mile of parcel, 20 points for 100-200 acres w/in 1 mile, and 30 points for 200 acres or more of managed forest w/in 1 mile of parcel.	100	0
	Parcel ability to maximize the protection of contiguous acres devoted to forest habitat. Distance measured as driving distance along roadways from the location of the already protected forestland to the parcel. SCALE: 40 points if abutting other forestland containing priority natural resources, and 100 points if parcel links two noncontiguous protected forestland parcels that support one or more priority natural resources.	100	0
	Maximum Points for Infrastructure Factors	300	0
Total Ranking Score		1000	0