

### Grant-funded Plan Applicant Evaluation Rubric

Value	Metric	Organizational Goal	Importance
Ranch Manager	Presence of land-based and livestock-based agricultural system in operation	Grant funding is explicitly tied to ranching	1
Historically Underserved Rancher	Self-identification	Maximum HUR participation	2
Willingness to Work toward Better Soil Health (on the property, regardless of the starting point)	Self-identification	Every ranch we work with improves their soil health.	3
Community Involvement	Level of engagement with and connection to other producers and ag/natural resource organizations	Each ranch manager is engaged with their community in some capacity.	4
Livelihood	Ranch enterprises are applicant's primary source of income, or this is applicant's goal	Maximize ranching income and increase the number of people engaging in ag as their primary source of income.	5
Habitat Type	Major Land Resource Areas (MLRAs)	Maximize plans in areas of concern.	6
Location in New Mexico	County location	Maximize diversity of location; no more than 2 plans per county.	7
Water Accessibility	Dryland, irrigated, well, or combination	Maximize plans with minimal/unreliable water accessibility.	8
Level of Ranching Operation Establishment	Number of years in operation	Support a diverse range of operation ages.	9