Habitat Friendly Solar Site Assessment
Form for Project Planning
For solar companies and local governments to meet Habitat Friendly standards
5-26-2020

1) PLANNED % OF SITE DOMINATED BY NATIVE SPECIES
COVER (wildflowers, grasses, sedges, shrubs, trees)
☐ 26-50% +5 points
☐ 51-75% +10 points
☐ 76% and above +15 points
Total points [15]

2) PERCENT OF PROPOSED SITE VEGETATION COVER TO BE
DOMINATED BY WILDFLOWERS (not grasses and sedges)
☐ 10-20 % +5 points
☐ 21-30 % +10 points
☐ 31% and above +15 points
Total points [15]

Note: Projects may have “array” mixes and diverse border mixes; forb dominance should be averaged across the entire site. The dominance should be calculated from total numbers of forb seeds vs. grass seeds based on seeds per square foot (from all seed mixes to be planted).

3) PLANNED COVER DIVERSITY (# of species in seed mixes; numbers from upland and wetland mixes can be combined)
☐ 10-19 species +5 points
☐ 20-25 species +10 points
☐ 26 or more species +15 points
Total points [10]

4) PLANNED SEASONS WITH AT LEAST 3 BLOOMING
SPECIES PRESENT (check/add all that apply)
☐ Spring (April - May) +10 points
☐ Summer (June - August) +5 points
☐ Fall (September - October) +5 points
Total points [20]

See BWSR Pollinator Toolbox about bloom season.

5) AVAILABLE HABITAT COMPONENTS WITHIN SITE OR
WITHIN .25 MILES (check/add all that apply)
☐ Native bunch grasses for nesting +3 points
☐ Native flowering shrubs +4 points
☐ Clean, perennial water sources +3 points
☐ Created nesting feature/s (bee blocks, etc.) +4 points
Total points [5]

6) SITE PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT
☐ Detailed establishment and management plan (see notes) developed with funding/contract to implement. +15 points
☐ Signage legible at forty or more feet stating pollinator friendly solar habitat (see notes for number of signs). +5 points
Total points [15]

7) SEED MIXES
☐ Mixes are composed of at least 40 seeds per square foot. +5 points
☐ All seed genetic origin within 175 of site (see notes). +8 points
☐ At least 1% milkweed cover to be established from seed/plants. +10 points
Total points [15]

8) INSECTICIDE RISK
☐ Planned on-site insecticide use or pre-planting seed/plant treatment (excluding buildings/electrical boxes, etc.). -40 points
☐ Communication with local chemical applicators/neighbors about need to prevent drift from adjacent areas (see notes). +10 points
Total points [10]

Grand Total [103]

Gold Standard - Provides Exceptional Habitat 85+
Meets Pollinator Standards 70

Project Name: Anoka Solar
Vegetation Consultant: Prairie Restoration Inc.
Project County: Anoka County
Project Size: 17.5 Acres
Projected Seeding Date: 10-18-2019

See notes related to the question on the back side of this form.