

(10) NATURAL PROTECTION AREAS (5 Possible Points)

The purpose of this criterion is to protect the special natural protection areas. These points shall be calculated as follows:

- Parcel is included in "A" list of special natural (5 points) protection areas in the Rural Land Use Element of the most recently adopted Comprehensive Plan
- Parcel is included in "B" list special natural (2 points) protection areas in the Rural Land Use Element of the most recently adopted Comprehensive Plan.

Alternatively, applicants will be eligible to demonstrate the parcel contain special natural protection areas not identified in the Rural Land Use Element of the most recently adopted Comprehensive Plan. The landowner who indicates on the applicant's Application that the property includes rare or unusual flora or fauna, special indigenous plant sites, wildlife habitat or provides wildlife ecosystem linkages necessary to ensure biodiversity will need to provide background information relating to the existence of these resources on the property. The existence of these items should be independently verified by the Scott County Rural Land Management Board staff or an independent non-profit conservation organization such as The Nature Conservancy. If the landowner can document that the parcel includes special natural protection areas not identified in the Rural Land Management Plan, the Application would receive not to exceed five (5) points.

(11) LINKAGES (4 Possible Points)

The purpose of this criterion is to protect linkages within the rural areas. This criterion examines whether the parcel is located near or has the ability to be linked to parks, nature preserves, nature sanctuaries, historic sites or other lands that have been specifically designated for long term natural resource use, conservation or preservation purposes. Distance is measured from parcel boundaries. These points shall be calculated as follows:

- Contiguous or provide direct linkage (4 points)
- Within 1/2 mile or provide a buffer (2 points)
- Within 1 mile (1 point)

(12) HISTORIC/CULTURAL RESOURCES (11 Possible Points)

The purpose of this criterion is to protect the historic/cultural resources of the rural area. Points in subsections (c) through (e) are in addition to any