

North Carolina Solar Site Pollinator Habitat Planning and Assessment Form

1. Planned Native Flowering Plant Diversity in Buffer Areas (species with more than 1% cover)

- 5-10 flowering species +5 pts
- 10-15 flowering species +8 pts
- 16-20 flowering species +10 pts
- >20 flowering species +15 pts

2. Planned Native Grass Diversity in Buffer Areas

- 2 species +2 pts
- 3 or more species +5 pts

3. Planned Native (or Naturalized) Plant Diversity in Rows and Under Solar Array*

- 1-3 species +5 pts
- 4-6 species +8 pts
- More than 7 species +10 pts

4. Planned Percent of Site Dominated by Native Plant Species**

- 0-10% 0 pts
- 11- 40 % +5 pts
- 41-70 % +10 pt
- More than 70% +15 pts

5. Seasons with at Least Three Blooming Species Present (check all that apply)

- Spring (March-May) +5 pts
- Summer (June-August) +5 pts
- Fall (September-November) +5 pts

6. Site Preparation Prior to Implementation

- Measures taken to control weeds prior to seeding +5 pts
- None -10 pts

7. Observed Habitat Components Within 0.25 Miles (check all that apply)

- Native bunch grass for bee nesting +1 pt
- Native trees/shrubs for bee nesting +1 pt
- Clean, perennial water sources +1 pt
- Created nesting habitat features +2 pts

(please see NC Technical Guidance for Native Plantings on Solar Sites)

8. Site Planning and Management (check all that apply)

- Detailed establishment and management plan +10 pts
- Mowing occurs only after August 15, and before spring each year +5 pts
- Signage legible at forty or more feet stating pollinator-friendly solar habitat +3 pts

9. Insecticide Risk

- Planned on-site use of insecticide or pre-planting seed/plant treatment (excluding buildings/electrical boxes, etc) -40 pts
- Communication/registration with local chemical applicators or on www.fieldwatch.com to prevent drift +5 pts

10. Planned Native Hedgerow/Screening Area (check all that apply)

- At least 50% of hedgerow/screen will be planted with flowering plant species +5 pts
- At least 50% of hedgerow/screen will be planted with native plant species +5 pts
- Hedgerow/screen will be a minimum of 30 feet wide +10 pts

11. EXTRA CREDIT (check all that apply)

- Forested stream and wetland buffers of 100 and 50 feet, respectively, are observed +10 pts
- Install permeable fencing that allows wildlife passage +10 pts
- Install bird boxes (one box/half acre) +5 pts
(please see NC Technical Guidance for Native Plantings on Solar Sites)

TOTAL POINTS: _____

Provides Exceptional Habitat Meets Pollinator Standards

**85 and higher
70 – 84**

- NEW
- RETROFIT

Owner: _____

Vegetation Consultant: _____

Project Location: _____

Seed Supplier: _____

Project Size (acres): _____

Target Seeding Date: _____

** For the array seeding, these can be a short-stature wildflower mix or clovers and other non-native, naturalized species beneficial to pollinators. If clovers are used, these should be seeded in locations separate from the native wildflowers in the perimeter/buffer locations.*

***Measurements of percent cover should be based on the percent of the ground surface covered by foliage as viewed from above. To measure cover diversity, it is recommended to use plots, and/or transects for accurate measurements.*