

Santa Fe Conservation Trust Conservation Easement Project Selection Criteria

Name: _____

Location: _____

Acreage: _____

SFCT Focal Area: _____

Conservation Values to be protected: _____

Proposed Reserved Rights: _____

SFCT Mission/Feasibility Issues and Criteria:

YES NO

- ☒ ☐ Is the proposed conservation easement consistent with the goals expressed in our Mission Statement?
- ☒ ☐ Will the donor execute an engagement letter and agree to cover SFCT's transactional costs as outlined in the letter?
- ☒ ☐ Can the easement effectively be monitored and stewarded by SFCT?
- ☒ ☐ Is the easement in one of SFCT focal areas or counties in which we work?
- ☒ ☐ Is the land of sufficient size to warrant our efforts?
- ☒ ☐ Will this easement encourage other land to be preserved in the same area?
- ☐ ☒ Are there uncertainties about the future land use of adjacent parcels that could make the land less desirable or stewardship more difficult, such as, for example, the possibility of substantial or intensive commercial or residential development?
- ☐ ☒ Will acquisition of the easement create an unusual or special liability exposure for SFCT that would warrant enhanced insurance coverage?
- ☒ ☐ Will public access and activities be allowed on the property?
- ☐ ☒ Is the land already effectively protected in some fashion, by deed restrictions, covenants, or other means, and if so, is such protection assured for the future?
- ☒ ☐ Is adequate and permanent access to the property for easement enforcement purposes available to SFCT, or can access rights be included in the easement?
- ☒ ☐ Can all of the conservation intentions and purposes of the donor be met by our standard conservation easement agreements or are extraordinary requests being made of the trust?

Legal Issues and Criteria:

YES NO

- ☒ ☐ Does the donor have clear legal title?
- ☒ ☐ Does the donor own the subsurface rights?
- ☐ ☒ Are there any encumbrances on the property?
- ☒ ☐ Are all taxes paid?
- ☒ ☐ Are property lines clearly defined?
- ☒ ☐ Are surrounding areas and their uses and zoning classifications such as to make easement enforcement practicable?

Natural Resource Issues and Criteria:

YES NO

- ☒ ☐ Is the land currently in a relatively natural state?
- ☒ ☐ If restoration is needed will the donor pay for this effort?

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Is the property subject to pollution or adverse influences from surrounding resources? |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Will the easement serve to protect a relatively natural habitat for fish, wildlife or plants? |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Will the easement serve to protect open space for the scenic enjoyment of the general public, or pursuant to a clearly delineated federal, state or local governmental conservation policy, that will therefore yield a significant public benefit? |

Public Benefit Issues and Criteria:

YES NO

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Will protection of this property promote outdoor recreation by or the education of the general public? |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Does the easement help to create or maintain public access to public lands? |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Does the easement complement land conservation programs promoted by public agencies in the area of the easement? |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Would the easement help to protect a historically important land area or a certified historic structure? |

Date Reviewed by Land Review Committee: _____