Current Issue Presentation - SCORE Sheet

The Current Issue Presentation score – 100 points – is 25% of the team's total Envirothon score. The points awarded by the scoring judges on the panel are averaged to determine the team's score.   Teams have seen this score sheet and know what judges will be looking for. Teams have the freedom to plan their own presentation as best fits what they want to say, and to choose whether, how, and in what order they will address these questions. Comments and suggestions for teams are welcome.

What is the most noteworthy change in species and ecological community relationships affecting your community? What – if anything – should be done?

Sections 1, 2, and 3 should be scored using the following ranges of point values as a guide:

*   0   = team no-show*
*   1- 4   = no formal presentation, team engages in some informed discussion of the topic with judges*
*   5 - 8   = presentation demonstrates very little investigation, many misconceptions and gaps in knowledge*
*   9 - 13   = presentation demonstrates some effort, some investigation, some misconceptions and gaps in knowledge*
* 14 - 17   = presentation demonstrates evidence of field observations and investigation using at least one local primary resource,*
*   solid understanding of concepts, adequate knowledge, solid proposal*
* 18 - 20   = presentation demonstrates insightful understanding of concepts, in-depth knowledge, uses a balance of research from field*
*   observations, interviews, and secondary sources, recommendations clearly presented and well-supported*

1. An overview of ecological changes in the team's community

- The team introduces their local landscape, particularly its ecological communities and the ecosystem services they provide, and how and why they have changed over the last century.
- The team notes changes that are problematic, and why, paying particular attention to the impact of human use of forest, wildlife, soil, and water resources over time.
- The team explains how human activities have contributed to the overall problem of species invasions in their community, including specific cases
- The team recounts how their community has worked to address the problem of species invasions. They introduce people and organizations that are concerned about these issues, their goals, and successes and lessons learned

SCORE (20 points possible): _____

Comments:

2. The team's judgment on the most notable change

- The team identifies the most notable change in species and ecological community relationships affecting or potentially affecting their community
- The team identifies the species and ecological communities that are most involved in this change
- The team explains why this change matters: its effect on ecosystem services, biodiversity, human health, the local economy
- The team describes the best outcome of management efforts that can reasonably be expected, and what is likely to happen if nothing is done

Comments: **SCORE** (20 points possible): _____

3. Recommendation: What – if anything – should be done?

- The team provides their recommendation, including management goals. They note proven management strategies and available expertise, people power, techniques, including which are likely to be most effective
- The team indicates whether any geographic locations should get more attention than others, and what will be the scale of the management impact – neighborhood, municipality, watershed, or beyond
- The team describes specific strategies they recommend, including how much effort should be brought to bear, and whether this will build on positive efforts already underway
- The team describes who should be involved, including whether youth can have a positive impact
- The team is knowledgeable and thoughtful about who might disagree with their recommendations, what they might they recommend instead, ways this alternative assessment is correct, and how they would respond

Comments: **SCORE** (20 points possible): _____

4. Quality of Presentation (20 points possible)

Section 4 should be scored using the following rubric as a guide

0	=	No Presentation
1-4	=	Very Ineffective
5-8	=	Poor
9-13	=	Somewhat Effective
14-17	=	Effective
18-20	=	Extremely Effective

Some marks of an effective Envirothon presentation include:

- Overall organization is thoughtful and clear
- The team uses maps and other visual aids and samples well
- Team members share responsibility for presentation
- The team uses time effectively (close to full 15 minutes allotted, but not over time; apportioned well)
- The team handles questions from the judges well

SCORE (20 points possible) _____

Comments:

5. Overall Quality (20 points possible)

These points are awarded based on the judge's overall appraisal of the team's work including

- Thoroughness in research
- Engaging stories of ecological adaptation and human attempts to manage invasive species and ecosystems
- Initiative, effort, and willingness to take risks
- Critical thinking and creativity
- Quality of reflection and judgment
- Honesty and integrity

SCORE (20 points possible) _____

Comments:

TOTAL SCORE
(sum of front and back of this sheet, 100 points possible)

Judge's initials _____