

River Refugium Project (RRP)

CERNUNNOS FOUNDATION BRIGHT MEADOW GROUP

Systems Analysis and Solutions Consulting

Document Title:

Appendix A: Site Selection Matrix

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| **RIVER REFUGIUM PROJECT** Cernunnos Foundation Bright Meadow Group |
Appendix A – Site Selection Matrix Document No: RRP0002-AppA | Version:
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1.0 (2025) *Contact: robert@brightmeadowgroup.com |
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Abstract The RRP Site Selection Matrix is a standardized scoring tool used to evaluate potential locations for pilots, 100-acre nodes, regional clusters, and long-term watershed deployments. Each prospective site is evaluated across 10 weighted criteria, each scored 0–5, producing a composite score out of 150. The scoring system is objective, finance-aware, engineering-realistic, and free from charitable distortion. Minimum recommended threshold for first-wave nodes: 110/150.

Scoring Criteria **&**** Weights**

The ten criteria, weights, and scoring descriptions are defined below. A worked example using the Helena-West Helena / Lula, Arkansas-Mississippi corridor site (top-ranked in Appendix C) is included as a demonstration.

Criterion	Description	Weight	Helena Score
1. Nutrient Load ****&****	Water Quality	Basin nutrient density, turbidity, organics	$4 \times 5/5 = 20$
2. Land Cost ****&****	Availability	Acreage cost, zoning, floodplain constraints	$3 \times 5/5 = 15$
3. Climate Compatibility		Growing season length, freeze risk	$3 \times 5/5 = 15$
4. Hydrological Stability		Flow reliability, drought/surge risk	$3 \times 5/5 = 15$
5. Labor Availability		Skilled & semi-skilled workforce access	$2 \times 4/5 = 8$
6. Regulatory Environment		Permitting difficulty, compliance friction	$2 \times 4/5 = 8$
7. Logistics ****&****	Access	Roads, utilities, proximity to buyers	$2 \times 4/5 = 8$
8. Local Investment Alignment		County/state/tribal willingness to invest	$2 \times 5/5 = 10$
9. Community Compatibility		Supportiveness, risk of pushback	$1 \times 4/5 = 4$
10. Strategic Expansion Value		Influence on regional scaling	$3 \times 5/5 = 15$

Helena-West Helena / Lula composite score: 118 / 150. Recommended minimum threshold for first-wave nodes: 110. This site exceeds threshold and is ranked as the Flagship first deployment site in Appendix C.

Notes

Citations follow Chicago Notes-Bibliography style. Internal Bright Meadow Group / Cernunnos Foundation documents are cited by document title and year. Figures marked ■ are provisional academic proxies pending replacement by RRP pilot data per RRP8.

- **1. **Bright Meadow Group, "RRP Site Selection Methodology."** CF/BMG Internal, 2025.*

- **2. **Bright Meadow Group, "RRPc – Initial Five Recommended Sites,"** Version 2.0. CF/BMG, 01 April 2026.*