## Scoring Rubric

### Inspiration (33%)

**CRITERIA DEFINITION:**
To score INSPIRATION, the entry must draw from experiences (personal or in the community) or resources. Determine that the entry conveys sincerity and interest in the topic, drawing on personal experiences.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXCELLENT</th>
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<td><strong>Maximum of 15 points</strong></td>
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| Submission clearly communicates a proposed solution to *preserve, protect, or repair* biodiversity - AND meets all of the following criteria:  
- Connects with a local issue in the students’ community  
- Provides rationale for threat/issue selection grounded in personal experience or relationship to stakeholders  
- Proposes a unique and/or creative solution | Submission clearly communicates a proposed solution to *preserve, protect, or repair* biodiversity - AND meets 2 of the following criteria:  
- Connects with a local issue in the students’ community  
- Provides rationale for threat/issue selection grounded in personal experience or relationship to stakeholders  
- Proposes a unique and/or creative solution | Submission is somewhat clear and addresses biodiversity AND meets at least 1 of the following criteria:  
- Connects with a local issue in the students’ community  
- Provides rationale for threat/issue selection grounded in personal experience or relationship to stakeholders  
- Proposes a unique and/or creative solution | Does not meet the minimum criteria to qualify as “emerging.” |

### Scientific Rigor (33%)

**CRITERIA DEFINITION:**
To score SCIENTIFIC RIGOR, evaluate the use of evidence and/or scientific research to select the target issue and review to ensure the action plan adheres to the scientific method and incorporates the engineering design process.

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| Meets all of the following criteria:  
- The problem identified is supported by research (either gathered by the team, from a mentor, or publicly available but clearly referenced)  
- Student(s) communicate step-by-step how they used one of the following processes to develop their proposed solution - a) The Scientific Method or b) The Engineering Design process  
- Entry clearly demonstrates how student(s) will measure success through data collection | Meets 2 of the following criteria:  
- The problem identified is supported by research statistics (either gathered by the team, from a mentor, or publicly available but clearly referenced)  
- Student(s) communicated step-by-step how they used one of the following processes to develop their proposed solution - a) The Scientific Method or b) The Engineering Design process  
- Entry clearly demonstrates how student(s) will measure success through data collection | Meets 1 of the following criteria:  
- The problem identified is supported by research statistics (either gathered by the team, from a mentor, or publicly available but clearly referenced)  
- Student(s) clearly communicated how they used one of the following processes to develop their proposed solution - a) The Scientific Method or b) The Engineering Design process  
- Entry clearly demonstrates how student(s) will measure success through data collection | Does not meet the minimum criteria to qualify as “emerging.” |

### Feasibility (34%)

**CRITERIA DEFINITION:**
To score FEASIBILITY, evaluate the students’ understanding of how realistic or “doable” their solution is. Entries should address the resources required and the complexity of their solution giving consideration to timeline, costs, cultural, and social responses, and scalability.

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| Entry has demonstrated clear communication and consideration of 3 or more of the following:  
- Time required to develop a “proof of concept” or full implementation  
- Materials needed to develop a “proof of concept” or full implementation  
- Costs associated with developing a “proof of concept” or full implementation  
- Plan for implementing their solution in the community  
- Long-term scalability of their proposed solution | Entry has demonstrated clear communication and consideration of 2 of the following:  
- Time required to develop a “proof of concept” or full implementation  
- Materials needed to develop a “proof of concept” or full implementation  
- Costs associated with developing a “proof of concept” or full implementation  
- Plan for implementing their solution in the community  
- Long-term scalability of their proposed solution | Entry has demonstrated clear communication and consideration of 1 or 2 of the following:  
- Time required to develop a “proof of concept” or full implementation  
- Materials needed to develop a “proof of concept” or full implementation  
- Costs associated with developing a “proof of concept” or full implementation  
- Plan for implementing their solution in the community  
- Long-term scalability of their proposed solution | Does not meet the minimum criteria to qualify as “emerging.” |

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**Scoring Rubric Table Summary:**

- **EXCELLENT:** Meets all the criteria, demonstrating a high level of thoughtfulness and creativity.
- **ON-POINT:** Meets most of the criteria, showing a solid understanding of the concepts.
- **EMERGING:** Meets some of the criteria, showing potential for improvement.
- **NEEDS DEVELOPMENT:** Does not meet the minimum criteria to qualify as “emerging.”