



2012 Grazing or Haying of CRP Acres Information (Managed & Emergency)

Wisconsin Farm Service Agency

Policy	Emergency	Managed
3 Year Rule	No (but 3 year rule starts over)	Yes
Payment Reduction	10%	25%
Acres Allowed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 75% of land or 75% stocking rate for grazing 50% hay for haying (outside of nesting season only) 	No limit for haying or grazing
Lease or Sale	Lease rights to hay or graze to eligible livestock owners. Can hay and sell. No subleasing	No restrictions
End Date	When conditions improve; or August 31 st for haying (including removal of bales) and September 30 th for grazing	September 30 th for grazing; or September 15 th for haying with hay bales removed by September 30 th
Spot Check Requirements	10% by September 10 th or October 10 th	10% by September 25 th or October 10 th
Eligible Practices	CP1; CP2; CP4B; CP4D; CP8A, CP10; CP23; CP23A; Non SAFE CP25 (Includes all CREP acres of the above practices, SAFE practices are not eligible)	CP1; CP2; CP10; CP4B; CP4D; NO CREP; CP25; or SAFE

USDA Farm Service Agency's (FSA) Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) is a voluntary program available to agricultural producers to help them safeguard environmentally sensitive land. Producers enrolled in CRP establish long-term, resource-conserving covers to improve the quality of water, control soil erosion, and enhance wildlife habitat. In return, FSA provides participants with rental payments and cost-share assistance. Contract duration is between 10 and 15 years.

Haying and Grazing

Haying and grazing of CRP acreage is authorized under certain conditions to improve the quality and performance of the CRP cover or to provide emergen-

cy relief to livestock producers due to certain natural disasters. There are two types of haying and grazing authorization: managed and emergency.

Primary Nesting Season

Generally, CRP acreage may not be hayed or grazed during the Primary Nesting Season for certain wildlife established by state FSA committees in consultation with USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) State Technical Committee.

Managed Haying and Grazing

Managed haying and grazing is authorized no more frequently than one out of every three years after the CRP cover is fully established.

CRP participants requesting managed haying and grazing must file a request with their local FSA office indicating the acreage to be hayed or grazed before the activity begins.

CRP participants requesting managed haying and grazing are assessed a 25 percent payment reduction.

Emergency Haying and Grazing

Emergency haying and grazing of CRP acreage may be authorized to provide relief to livestock producers in areas affected by a severe drought or similar natural disaster.

Emergency authorization is provided by either a national FSA office authorization or by a state FSA committee determination after the nesting season utilizing the U.S. Drought Monitor.

CRP participants requesting emergency haying and grazing are assessed a 10 percent payment reduction.

National FSA Authorization

County eligibility is based on a county FSA committee request documenting a 40 percent or greater loss in normal hay and pasture production and either:

- for drought conditions, precipitation levels at an average of 40 percent or greater loss of normal precipitation for the 4 most recent months plus the days in the current month before the date of request; or
- for excessive moisture conditions, precipitation levels at an average of 140 percent or greater increase in normal precipitation during the 4 most recent consecutive months plus the days in the current month before the date of request.

Emergency haying or grazing is limited to the acreage physically located within the boundary of the eligible county or portion of a county. Under this authority, acreage will only be authorized for a specified time and may end earlier than announced if conditions improve.

State FSA Committee Determination

For 2012, a county is authorized for emergency haying and grazing outside the Primary Nesting Season if the county is designated as level "D0-Abnormally Dry", as of July 19, 2012 or later, according to the U.S. Drought Monitor. The U.S. Drought Monitor is available online at: <http://www.drought.unl.edu/dm/monitor.html>

Under this special determination, emergency haying is authorized to August 31, 2012. Emergency grazing is authorized until September 30, 2012.

Ineligible Acreage

Normally, acreage ineligible for managed or emergency haying and grazing includes acreage devoted to:

- Useful life easements;
- Land within 120 feet of a stream or other permanent water body;
- The following practices: CP3, CP3A, CP4, CP4A, CP5, CP5A, CP6, CP7, CP8, CP8A, CP9, CP11, CP12, CP13A, CP13B, CP13C, CP13D, CP14, CP15, CP15A, CP16, CP16A, CP17, CP17A, CP18, CP18A, CP19, CP20, CP21, CP22, CP23, CP23A, CP24, CP25, CP26, CP27, CP28, CP29, and CP30

For 2012 only, CP8A, CP23, CP23A and Non-SAFE CP25 have been released for emergency haying and grazing only.

Modified Conservation Plan

Before CRP acreage is declared eligible for haying or grazing, a modified conservation plan developed by NRCS or a technical service provider must be obtained. The modified conservation plan must be site specific, include the authorized duration, and reflect local wildlife needs and concerns. The primary purpose must be to maintain vegetative cover, minimize soil erosion, and protect water quality and wildlife habitat quality or to provide livestock producers with forage in emergency situations.

File Request Before Starting

CRP participants requesting emergency or managed haying and grazing must file a request with their county FSA office indicating the acreage to be hayed or grazed before the activity begins.

For more information, visit www.fsa.usda.gov or contact your local USDA Service Center.

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