

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

Farm Service Agency  
Washington, DC 20250

**Notice CRP-763**

**For:** State and County Offices

**Restarting CRP Continuous Signup**

**Approved by:** Acting Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



**1 Overview**

**A Background**

Notice CRP-751:

- required County Offices to discontinue accepting new offers and approving new contracts for all signup types after September 30, 2013
- disallowed revisions, corrections, and modifications to existing CRP-1's, Conservation Plan of Operations (CPO's), and C/S agreements where approval would result in an additional obligation of funds.

The Agricultural Act of 2014 (2014 Farm Bill) reauthorizing CRP was signed into law on February 7, 2014.

**Note:** No general signup is scheduled for FY 2014.

**B Purpose**

This notice provides direction and authority for County Offices and COC's to begin accepting new offers and approving new contracts under CRP's continuous, CREP, Farmable Wetlands Program (FWP), SAFE, and all initiatives.

**C Accepting Continuous CRP Signup 46 Officers**

Beginning June 9, 2014, County Offices are authorized to begin accepting new offers, and COC's or CED's may approve new contracts under all CRP continuous, CREP, FWP, and SAFE signup types according to 2-CRP. The authority for accepting Signup 46 offers expires **September 30, 2014**.

Disposal Date	Distribution
October 1, 2014	State Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices, NRCS Offices, and State CREP Partnering Agencies

## Notice CRP-763

### 1 Overview (Continued)

#### C Accepting Continuous CRP Signup 46 Officers (Continued)

For CRP continuous signup, the authority to enroll includes offer acceptance and contract approval for **all** existing conservation initiatives offered under the continuous signup, including the following:

- Duck Nesting Habitat Initiative
- HEL Initiative (HELI)
- Longleaf Pine Initiative
- Pollinator Initiative
- Upland Bird Habitat Buffer Initiative
- Wetland Restoration Initiative.

### 2 Signup SRR's and Software

#### A SRR's

SRR's for nonirrigated cropland are available in the Soils Data Management System (SDMS).

Marginal pastureland rental rates and specialized CREP rental rates remain unchanged in SDMS and are also available for applicable new continuous, CREP, FWP, and SAFE offers and contracts.

Before accepting new offers under continuous Signup 46, County Offices shall, beginning June 9, 2014, print the Posting Reports for their county from SDMS and post for public display according to 2-CRP, subparagraph 104 A.

SDMS can be accessed through State and County Office CEPD Information Center web site at <http://fsaintranet.sc.egov.usda.gov/ffas/dafp/cepdsto.htm>, item 6, "**Soils Data Management System**".

The restarted continuous signup will continue to be administered through September 30, 2018, unless subsequently ended or suspended before then through the issuance of a later directive.

## 2 SRR's and Software (Continued)

### B Signup Support Software

County Offices shall use the following software for accepting all new continuous, CREP, FWP, and SAFE offers:

- Tool for Environmental Resource Results Assessment (TERRA)
- Conservation Online System (COLS)
- Web Cost-Share Software System.

**Note:** All CREP offers shall be entered into COLS using the “New Offer” option until TERRA is better integrated to handle unique CREP soil calculations and variable incentive rates. TERRA should still be used to delineate the offered acres and gather soils data. The user will then manually enter data from the printed TERRA scenarios report into COLS using the “New Offer” option. For all other continuous signup types (continuous, FWP, HELI, and SAFE), TERRA xml output files shall be uploaded into COLS through the “Upload GML Data” and “New GIS Offer” options.

Beginning with Signup 46, offer and contract acres will be recorded in hundredths. County Offices shall ensure that contract, tract, field, and subfield acres do **not** exceed applicable acres.

### C Cost Share System (CSS)

Process initial FSA-848's within CSS for all practices, C/S, non-C/S, and management activities, immediately after approving CRP-1, according to 2-CRP, subparagraph 499 B.

### D Software User Guides and Training

The CREP, FWP, HELI, SAFE, and TERRA User Guides are available at <https://fsa.sc.egov.usda.gov/states/cepd/userguides/default.aspx>.

The CSS User Guide is available at <https://fsa.sc.egov.usda.gov/ffas/dafp/cepdsto.htm>.

The CSS training slides are available at <https://fsa.sc.egov.usda.gov/states/cepd/userguides/default.aspx>. CLICK “Cost Share Program\_CRP\_April2013”.

## **Notice CRP-763**

### **3 Revisions, Corrections, and Modifications for Existing CRP-1's**

#### **A Policy Change Previously Required by Notice CRP-751**

Notice CRP-751 disallowed the following changes in cases where approval would result in an additional obligation of funds:

- revisions provided for in 2-CRP, paragraph 546
- corrections provided for in 2-CRP, paragraph 546
- modifications to CRP-1's approved by September 30, 2013, as provided for in 2-CRP, paragraph 429.

#### **B Authorization Provided by Notice CRP-757**

On April 4, 2013, Notice CRP-757 provided COC's and CED's the authority to make all routine revisions, corrections, and modifications to CRP-1's, CPO's, and C/S agreements as provided in 2-CRP, including cases that will result in an additional obligation of funds.

### **4 Action**

#### **A State Office Action**

State Offices shall:

- forward copies of this notice to:
  - all State CREP partners
  - the State NRCS office
  - State forestry office
- make preparation for CRP continuous signup a high priority when setting workload priorities and scheduling office activities
- follow the provisions of this notice
- ensure that County Offices follow the provisions of this notice.

#### **C County Office Action**

County Offices shall:

- make preparation for CRP continuous signup a high priority when setting workload priorities and scheduling office activities
- follow the provisions of this notice.