

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

Farm Service Agency  
Washington, DC 20250

**Notice CRP-792**

**For:** State and County Offices

**CRP Grasslands Procedure**

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



**1 Overview**

**A Background**

CRP grasslands is a voluntary program where participants limit future development and cropping uses of the land while retaining the right to use common grazing practices and operations related to the production of forage and seed, subject to certain restrictions during the primary nesting season for birds in the local area that are economically significant, in significant decline, or conserved according to Federal or State law in consultation with the State Technical Committee.

Under the CRP grasslands signup, grassland acres are authorized to be enrolled in CRP using a modified continuous signup process. The initial modified signup will begin September 1 and conclude November 20, 2015. Eligible offers will be evaluated in designated batching periods. All offers will be evaluated on the basis of:

- current and future use
- beginning, underserved, or veteran farmers and ranchers
- maximizing grassland preservation
- vegetative cover offered
- environmental factors
- pollinator factor.

**Note:** These evaluation factors can change between batching periods to better target the program, if determined appropriate.

Eligible offers will be ranked at the National Office using a national ranking process. Offers selected will be the offers that provide the greatest benefits as related to these 6 factors.

Disposal Date	Distribution
June 1, 2016 8-27-15	State Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices

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### 1 Overview (Continued)

#### A Background (Continued)

The National Office will provide State and County Offices with the following on <https://connections.usda.gov/communities/community/FSACEPD/CRPgrassland> as it becomes available:

- program information sheets for producers
- program provisions and procedures
- other information as determined necessary to implement the provisions of this notice.

#### B Purpose

This notice provides State and County Offices the policy and procedure for CRP grasslands to provide assistance to landowners and operators to promote conservation on enrolled private acres.

#### C Consistency With CRP Procedure

CRP grasslands emphasize support of grazing operations, maintaining and improving plant and animal biodiversity, and protecting grasslands and shrublands from the threat of conversion to uses other than grassland.

Unless otherwise noted, all other provisions of CRP apply to CRP grasslands.

### 2 Acreage Limitations and Practice Eligibility

#### A 25 Percent Cropland Limitation

Cropland enrolled in CRP grassland will count against the 25 percent cropland limitation.

#### B CRP Acreage Enrollment Limitation

Land enrolled in CRP grasslands counts against the statutory CRP acreage limitation with grasslands accounting for no more than 2 million acres of that acreage limit.

#### C Authorized Practices

Practices CP87, Permanent Introduced Grasses and Legumes; CP88, Permanent Native Grasses and Legumes; and CP42, Pollinator Habitat are authorized for continuous CRP grassland enrollment. Practices **must** be determined suitable for the site conditions by the technical agency to be authorized or enrolled.

**Note:** See Exhibit 1 for CP87 practice writeup, Exhibit 2 for CP88 practice writeup, and 2-CRP, Exhibit 11 for CP 42 practice writeup.

## 2 Acreage Limitations and Practice Eligibility (Continued)

### D Rental Rates

Grassland rental rates are based on **not** more than 75 percent of the estimated grazing value of the land. Rental rates will be provided at <https://connections.usda.gov/communities/community/FSACEPD/CRPgrassland>.

## 3 Land and Producer Eligibility

### A States and Counties Authorized for CRP Grasslands

CRP grasslands are eligible for enrollment in all States and territories.

### B Eligibility for Owners and Operators

Persons determined eligible for CRP according to 2-CRP, Part 6 may make an offer to enroll eligible land in CRP grasslands according to 2-CRP, Part 6.

### C Eligible Land

Eligible land means land on a tract or a portion of a tract that contains forbs or shrubland, including improved rangeland and pastureland for which grazing is the predominant use, **and**:

- is located in an area historically dominated by grasslands
- provides habitat for animal and plant populations of significant ecological value if the land is retained in its current use or restored to a natural condition
- is expiring CRP without tree practices; **or**
- is expiring GRP.

The following are **not** eligible to be enrolled in CRP grasslands:

- forestland
- woodland.

## 4 Contract Duration and Program Year

### A Contract Duration and Effective Date

The contract period for CRP grasslands **must** be 14 to 15 years in duration.

The effective date of CRP-1 will follow the same rules as other continuous CRP signups.

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### 4 Contract Duration and Program Year (Continued)

#### B Program Year

The program year is FY in which the first annual rental payment is earned.

#### C Continuous Signup Number

This first CRP grasslands signup uses signup number 200.

### 5 Processing Offers for CRP Grasslands

#### A County Office Responsibilities

The following table provides the steps a County Office may follow for CRP grasslands signup. County Offices may adjust the order of events in the following table to provide for a workable signup period.

Step	Action
1	Provide general information about program provisions, such as a fact sheet.
2	Explain program details, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• available practices and applicable C/S rates</li><li>• COC determinations</li><li>• land eligibility</li><li>• national ranking and selection process</li><li>• payment rate</li><li>• ranking process.</li></ul>
3	Verify producer eligibility for the offered acres according to 2-CRP, Part 6.  <b>Note:</b> Determine whether certain producer eligibility requirements are met <b>before</b> submitting data.
4	Delineate acres to be offered on a map and within the Tool for Environmental Resource Results Assessment (TERRA) when available.
5	Provide measurement services to determine acres to be offered. Paid-for measurement service shall be completed for acreage offered <b>before</b> CRP-1 is approved. See 2-CRP, paragraph 401.  <b>Note:</b> See 2-CP, paragraph 460 for additional guidance.
6	After completing a TERRA scenario, process offers through the Conservation On-Line System (COLS).

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### 5 Processing Offers for CRP Grasslands (Continued)

#### A County Office Responsibilities (Continued)

Step	Action
7	Advise producers of the limitation on withdrawing and modifying offers according to 2-CRP, paragraph 337.
8	Provide producers CRP-1 Appendix (2-CRP, Exhibit 29) before submitting offers.
9	Have the producer sign completed CRP-1 and CRP-2G.  <b>Note:</b> Only 1 signature is required to submit an eligible offer. All signatures are required before COC or CED approves CRP-1.
10	File all applicable documents, including CRP-2G, in the producer's folder.

#### B Materials for Producers

Provide copies of FSA informational material to each producer submitting an offer. Provide copies of procedures in this notice, including the formula process, to producers, if requested.

### 6 Completing CRP-2G

#### A Guidance for Completing CRP-2G's

CRP-2G **must** be completed for all acreage on which producers want to submit offers to:

- make eligibility determinations
- obtain ranking data and statistics on acreage offered for CRP grasslands according to paragraph 10.

CRP-2G, items 1 through 11 G **must** be completed **before** the producer's signature, title, and date in item 15A, 15B, and 15C.

All changes to data entered on CRP-2G after the producer signs CRP-2G **must** be initialed and dated by both the employee making the change and the producer.

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### 6 Completing CRP-2G (Continued)

#### B Example of CRP-2G

The following example of CRP-2G is provided for display purposes **only**. CRP-2G is available on the FFAS Employee Forms/Publications Online Website at <http://fsaintranet.sc.egov.usda.gov/dam/ffasforms/forms.html>.

This form is available electronically.		(See Page 2 for Privacy Act and Paperwork Reduction Act Statements.)		
<b>CRP-2G</b> (08-28-15)		<b>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE</b> Farm Service Agency		
<b>CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM WORKSHEET</b> <b>(For Continuous CRP Grassland Signup)</b>		1. Farm Number	2. Tract Number	3. Program Year
		4A. Sign Up Number		4B. Effective Date (MM-DD-YYYY)
		6A. State & County Code Admin. Location		6B. State & County Code Physical Location
		7. Contract Number		
5A. Name and Address of Producer (Zip Code):		8A. Acres for Enrollment		9. Rental Rate Per Acre Offered
		8B. Cropland Acres		\$
5B. Telephone Number (Include Area Code):				
10. Cover/Practices:				
A. Field Number	B. Practices	C. Acres	D. Estimated Total C/S	E. Length
11. Ranking Questions:				Points
A. What is the current cover of land being offered?				
B. Is all or part of the land offered currently under an expiring CRP or GRP contract? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO If "YES", please enter the earliest CRP or GRP expiration date: _____				
C. Is the land offered currently part of a livestock grazing operation? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO				
D. Producer Classification: <input type="checkbox"/> Beginning Farmer/Rancher <input type="checkbox"/> Veteran <input type="checkbox"/> Underserved <input type="checkbox"/> N/A				
E. Is the land offered under threat of conversion? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO				
F. Is the land offered in a State Wildlife zone? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO. Is the land offered in a state CRP grassland zone? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO Does the producer agree to implement a Wildlife focused conservation plan of operation? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO				
G. Does the producer agree to plant at least 10 percent of the acreage to Pollinator Habitat? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO				
12. TOTAL:				
13. Remarks				



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## 6 Completing CRP-2G (Continued)

## B Example of CRP-2G (Continued)

[illegible]



## 7 Processing Offers

### A Reviewing Offers

COC or CED **must** ensure that:

- producers have submitted offers for CRP-1 by tract and year
- CRP-2G and CRP-1 were signed by at least 1 eligible producer
- after the conclusion of the ranking period, offers that have been determined **not** acceptable will be kept for consideration under the next ranking period.

### B Provisional Offers

Provisional offers may be submitted on acreages where the current cover is currently **not** grass, **but** the producer agrees to establish an approved grass cover at their own expense.

Provisional offers **must**:

- **not** include any expiring CRP or GRP
- **not** include any C/S for grass cover establishment
- meet all other eligibility requirements at the time of the offer.

If a provisional offer meets all other CRP grassland eligibility requirements, it will be ranked using the intended eligible grass cover for ranking purposes. If the offer is selected for approval, the grass cover **must** be established within 1 year of offer approval, and **before** conservation plan development and CRP-1 approval.

### C Submitting Offers for National Office Ranking

County Offices **must** ensure that all offers are submitted no later than COB at the end of the announced ranking period.

## 8 Notifying Producers

### A Eligibility Review

COC or CED shall:

- review the list of acceptable offers to ensure that all eligibility criteria have been met for all offers listed as acceptable by the National or State Office
- **not** approve CRP-1 if the producer or offered acreage does **not** meet all eligibility criteria even though the offer is listed as acceptable by the National or State Office.

**Note:** Provide NRCS or technical service provider (TSP) a list of acceptable offers.

### B Offer Not Acceptable

If the offer is **not** acceptable, advise the producer that the offer was **not** acceptable, and the offer will be retained until the next ranking period, **unless** the producer withdraws the offer.

### C Procedure for Notifying Producers

COC or CED shall notify producers, using CRP-23, CRP-24, and CRP-27 (2-CRP, Exhibit 5) of the status of their offer as soon as the list of acceptable offers is received and an eligibility review is conducted.

### D Offer Acceptable and Clearly Eligible

If the offer is determined acceptable by national ranking, advise the producer:

- to notify the County Office if the producer wants the offer approved

**Note:** The producer's notification to the County Office is **not** required to be in writing. The County Office shall notate the producer's notification and include the notation in the producer's CRP folder.

- that if they have a provisional offer, they **must** notify the County Office when the grass cover is established so a conservation plan can be completed before CRP-1 approval
- that a conservation plan **must** be developed by NRCS or TSP and approved by the Conservation District **before** CRP-1 can be approved by COC

**Note:** County Offices **must** provide NRCS or TSP all documents necessary to complete the conservation plan, including but **not** limited to, CRP-1, CRP-2G, and maps.

- of provisions for starting practices. See Exhibits 1 and 2.

## 9 Payments, Payment Limitation, and Contract Activities

### A CRP Grassland Payments

CRP grassland practices are **not** eligible for SIP and PIP incentive payments. CRP grassland participants will receive annual rental payments as any other continuous signup CRP-1 consistent with 2-CRP, subparagraph 103 C.

### B C/S Payments

CCC will pay up to 50 percent of the eligible cost of establishing CRP grassland practices.

**Note:** C/S is ineligible for grass establishment on provisional offers.

### C CRP Grassland Permitted Activities

For CRP grasslands, the following activities are permitted if specified in the Conservation Plan of Operation:

- common grazing practices, including maintenance and necessary cultural practices on and in a manner that is consistent with maintaining the viability of grassland, forb, and shrub species appropriate to that locality
- haying, mowing, or harvesting for seed production, subject to appropriate restrictions during the nesting season for birds in the local area that are economically significant, in significant decline, or conserved according to Federal or State law, as determined by the Secretary in consultation with the State Technical Committee
- fire suppression, fire-related rehabilitation, and construction of fire breaks
- grazing-related activities, such as fencing and livestock watering facilities.

## 10 CRP Grassland Ranking Factors

### A Ranking Process and Factor Scoring

The National grassland ranking process and offer size will be used to rank and prioritize offers for enrollment into CRP grasslands based on available acres under statutory acreage cap.

Producers **must** be provided a fact sheet describing the CRP grassland ranking factors. FSA shall review the fact sheet with producers to ensure that producers are aware of the scoring process used for CRP grassland ranking. Producers shall sign CRP-2G to certify that they were informed of CRP grassland ranking factors and opportunities to enhance their score.

County Offices will review CRP grassland ranking factor scoring parameters with the producers and encourage the planting of new or maintaining of existing cover types and conservation measures, if appropriate, that will provide higher environmental benefits.

## 10 CRP Grassland Ranking Factors (Continued)

### B Overview of the CRP Grassland Ranking Factors

The national grassland ranking factors include the following:

- F1, Current and Future Use
- F2, Beginning, Underserved, or Veteran Farmers or Ranchers
- F3, Maximizing Grassland Preservation
- F4, Vegetation Cover
- F5, Environmental Factors
- F6, Pollinator Factor.

Grassland ranking factors provide a relative ranking of eligible land offered for CRP grasslands, as follows:

$$F1 + F2 + F3 + F4 + F5 + F6 = \text{National Grassland Ranking Factors Score.}$$

### C Overview of the CRP Grassland Ranking Factors

The following table illustrates the national grassland ranking factors.

Factor	Maximum Points	Equation/Scoring Parameters
F1	20	Current use: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• F1a over 50 percent of offer is expiring CRP or GRP (0 to 15 points)</li> <li>• F1b over 50 percent of offer is currently part of a livestock operation (0 or 5 points).</li> </ul>
F2	20	At least 50 percent of the producers on an offer are beginning, underserved, or veteran farmers or ranchers (0 or 20 points).
F3	20	Eligible land at the greatest risk from the threat of conversion to uses other than grassland (0, 10, or 20 points).

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## 10 CRP Grassland Ranking Factors (Continued)

### C Overview of the CRP Grassland Ranking Factors (Continued)

Factor	Maximum Points	Equation/Scoring Parameters																		
F4	20	<p>Vegetation cover (0 to 20 points). F4 based on a weighted average of the following criteria.</p> <table><tr><th>Practice</th><th>Assigned Point Score</th></tr><tr><td>CP87, Permanent Introduced Grasses and Legumes</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Monoculture stand.</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>Existing stand of 2 or more species or for provisional offers planting new stand of 2 to 3 species of an introduced grass species.</td><td>5</td></tr><tr><td>Existing stand or for provisional offers planting mixture (minimum of 4 species) of at least 3 introduced grasses and at least 1 forb or legume species best suited for wildlife in the area.</td><td>10</td></tr><tr><td>CP88, Permanent Native Grasses, Forbs, or Legumes</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Monoculture stand.</td><td>5</td></tr><tr><td>Existing stand (minimum of 2 species) or for provisional offers planting new mixed stand (minimum of 3 species) of at least 2 native grass species.</td><td>10</td></tr><tr><td>Existing stand or for provisional offers planting mixed stand (minimum of 5 species) of at least 3 native grasses.</td><td>20</td></tr></table>	Practice	Assigned Point Score	CP87, Permanent Introduced Grasses and Legumes		Monoculture stand.	0	Existing stand of 2 or more species or for provisional offers planting new stand of 2 to 3 species of an introduced grass species.	5	Existing stand or for provisional offers planting mixture (minimum of 4 species) of at least 3 introduced grasses and at least 1 forb or legume species best suited for wildlife in the area.	10	CP88, Permanent Native Grasses, Forbs, or Legumes		Monoculture stand.	5	Existing stand (minimum of 2 species) or for provisional offers planting new mixed stand (minimum of 3 species) of at least 2 native grass species.	10	Existing stand or for provisional offers planting mixed stand (minimum of 5 species) of at least 3 native grasses.	20
Practice	Assigned Point Score																			
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Existing stand or for provisional offers planting mixed stand (minimum of 5 species) of at least 3 native grasses.	20																			
F5	20	<p>Environmental factors (0 to 20 points):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>F5a over 50 percent of offer is in the current CRP general signup wildlife zone (0 or 5 points)</li><li>F5b over 50 percent of the offer is in the State CRP grassland zone (0 or 5 points)</li><li>F5c the producer has or agrees to implement an approved wildlife focused conservation plan or resource management plan instead of the standard conservation plan (0 or 10 points).</li></ul>																		
F6	20	<p>Pollinator habitat (0 to 20 points).</p> <p>Establishment of pollinator habitat CP42 on the acreage of CRP-1. The habitat size <b>must</b> meet the following requirements.</p> <table><tr><th>CRP Acres Offered</th><th>Habitat Size Requirement</th></tr><tr><td>Less than 10 acres.</td><td>At least 1 acre of pollinator habitat. Minimum habitat areas <b>must</b> be at least .5 acre.</td></tr><tr><td>10 acres or greater.</td><td>At least 10 percent of acreage offered in pollinator habitat. Minimum habitat areas <b>must</b> be at least .5 acre.</td></tr></table>	CRP Acres Offered	Habitat Size Requirement	Less than 10 acres.	At least 1 acre of pollinator habitat. Minimum habitat areas <b>must</b> be at least .5 acre.	10 acres or greater.	At least 10 percent of acreage offered in pollinator habitat. Minimum habitat areas <b>must</b> be at least .5 acre.												
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**11 National Ranking Factor F1 for Current Use**

**A Summary**

The following factor encourages continued usage of the land, and retains most of the environmental benefits of expiring CRP and GRP land:

0 to 20 points determined using subfactors in the formula:  $F1a + F1b = F1$

**B Subfactor F1a for Expiring CRP or GRP**

This factor rewards owners who continue to maintain and use land that is currently in GRP and/or CRP general signup in an environmentally sustainable way. Keeping these acreages in grass covers will help preserve a majority of the environmental benefits establish under GRP and/or general CRP.

Assign 15 points if over 50 percent of the offered acreage is currently expiring GRP and/or general CRP in the last year of CCC-920 or CRP-1. If the offer has less than 50 percent of the offer, prorate the 15 points based on the percentage of the offer that is expiring GRP or CRP.

**Example:** If 40 percent of the offer is expiring GRP and/or CRP in the last year of CCC-920 and/or CRP-1, then it would receive 12 points ( $15 \times .80$ ). The .80 was determined by dividing 40 by 50 = .80 Round to the nearest tenth.

**C Subfactor F1b for Grasslands Currently Part of a Livestock Operation**

This factor rewards owners who continue to maintain and use grasslands in an environmentally sustainable way. This factor encourages owners to keep their land in grass covers.

Assign 5 points if over 50 percent of the offered acreage is currently being used in a livestock operation. Otherwise, assign 0 points.

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### 12 National Ranking Factor F2 for Beginning, Veteran, and Underserved Farmers and Ranchers

#### A Overview

For this factor assign 20 points if at least 50 percent of the producers on the offer receiving a share meet 1 of the following definitions as determined by a CCC-860.

#### B Beginning Farmers and Ranchers

Beginning farmer or rancher means a person or legal entity (for legal entities to be considered a beginning farmer or rancher, all members **must** be related by blood or marriage and all members **must** be beginning farmers or ranchers) for which both of the following are true for the farmer or rancher:

- has **not** operated a farm or ranch for more than 10 years
- materially and substantially participates in the operation.

#### C Underserved Farmers and Ranchers

Underserved farmer or rancher means a farmer or rancher who is a member of an underserved group whose members have been subjected to racial, ethnic, or gender prejudice because of their identity as members of a group without regard to their individual qualities. Underserved groups include the following and **no** others **unless** approved, in writing, by the Deputy Administrator:

- American Indians or Alaskan Natives
- Asians or Asian Americans
- Blacks or African Americans
- Hispanics or Hispanic Americans
- Native Hawaiians or other Pacific Islanders
- women.

#### D Veteran Farmers and Ranchers

Veteran farmer or rancher means a farmer who has served in the Armed Forces (as defined in 38 U.S.C. 101(10)) and who is a beginning farmer or rancher.

Otherwise, assign 0 points.

### 13 National Ranking Factors F3 and F4

#### A National Ranking Factors F3 for Land Under Threat of Conversion

For this factor assign up to 20 points if over 50 percent of the offered acreage is in a county under threat of conversion as determined by DAFP.

### 13 National Ranking Factors F3 and F4 (Continued)

#### B National Ranking Factor F4 for Vegetative Cover

The F4 score is the sum of the weighted average scores using the following F4 table. To determine the F4 value, calculate the weighted average value for all practices using the F4 table. Round the result to the nearest whole number using the normal rules of rounding.

**Note:** For provisional offers, this value will be calculated based on what grass cover the producer plans to plant at their own expense.

Evaluate this factor based on the covers on the acres offered. FSA or TSP shall only allow covers that are suitable for the site designated for the offer.

Practice	Assigned Point Score
CP87, Permanent Introduced Grasses and Legumes	
Monoculture stand.	0
Existing stand of 2 or more species or for provisional offers planting new stand of 2 to 3 species of an introduced grass species.	5
Existing stand or for provisional offers planting mixture (minimum of 4 species) of at least 3 introduced grasses and at least 1 forb or legume species best suited for wildlife in the area.	10
CP88, Permanent Native Grasses, Forbs, or Legumes	
Monoculture stand.	5
Existing stand (minimum of 2 species) or for provisional offers planting new mixed stand (minimum of 3 species) of at least 2 native grass species.	10
Existing stand or for provisional offers planting mixed stand (minimum of 5 species) of at least 3 native grasses.	20

### 14 National Ranking Factor F5 for Environmental Factors

#### A Summary

This factor is designed to help producers address acreages that are known to be in areas of designated candidate, threatened, or endangered species or critical habit.

For this factor 0 to 20 points determined using subfactors in the formula:  $F5a + F5b + F5c = F5$ .

#### B Subfactor F5a for Wildlife Priority Zones

CRP grassland will use the existing State wildlife priority zones identified for CRP general signup. For this factor assign 5 points if over 50 percent of the offered acreage is within an approved State wildlife priority zone.



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### 14 National Ranking Factor F5 for Environmental Factors (Continued)

#### C Subfactor F5b for Offers That Meet the State Priority Enrollment Criteria

STC shall submit geographic areas (whole counties) to address the specific conservation practices and the species of concern or specific habitat restoration; such as tall grass prairie, that would be addressed by CRP grassland practice and/or components to CEPD for approval.

For this factor assign 5 points if over 50 percent of the offered acreage is in a State CRP grassland zone. Otherwise, assign 0 points.

#### D Subfactor F5c for Wildlife Focused Conservation Plan for Grassland

NRCS has developed criteria for a wildlife focused conservation plan exclusively for CRP grasslands. If the producer offers to implement this wildlife focused plan or resource management plan, with their CRP grassland CRP-1, assign 10 points.

### 15 National Ranking Factor F6 for Pollinator Habitat

#### A Summary

For this factor assign 0 to 20 points maximum.

#### B Requirements

Producers **must** be notified that, if accepted in CRP, pollinator habitat **must** be maintained for the term of CRP-1. Producers offering pollinator habitat **must** be notified of the planting and maintenance requirements **before** the offer is submitted.

Producers **must** be informed **before** signup that the acreage **must** be maintained for the life of CRP-1 according to practice standards.

Establishment of pollinator habitat CP42 that remains in the same location on CRP-1. The habitat size, shape, and composition **must** meet the following requirements.

**Points are based on the following table. Maximum point score is 20 points.**

CRP Acres Offered	Habitat Size Requirement
Less than 10 acres.	At least 1 acre of pollinator habitat. Habitat areas <b>must</b> be at least .5 acre.
10 acres or greater.	At least 10 percent of acreage offered in pollinator habitat. Habitat areas <b>must</b> be at least .5 acre.

**CP87, Permanent Introduced Grasses and Legumes****A Purpose**

The purpose of this practice is to maintain existing vegetative cover of introduced grasses and legumes on eligible land.

**B Program Policy**

Apply CP87 to maintain existing permanent introduced grasses and legumes on eligible CRP grassland. NRCS or TSP determines, based on a site visit that the grassland is suitable to be hayed or grazed according to the conservation plan of operations.

**C Eligibility**

To be eligible for C/S, this practice shall:

- promote common grazing related activities
- prevent degradation of environmental benefits from recurring
- be included and required in the approved conservation plan
- be maintained for the life of CRP-1
- prevent breaking of native sod.

**D C/S Policy**

The following shows C/S policies for this practice.

<b>IF the component is...</b>	<b>AND the justification is...</b>	<b>THEN C/S is...</b>
permanent fence (internal and boundary)	fencing needed to facilitate a livestock grazing system  Important: A single strand electric fence is not a permanent fence for CRP grassland.	authorized using technical practice codes 314, 315, 338, 378, 382, 472, 516, 561, 574, 575, 595, and 614.
access control	needed to control access to an area to maintain the quantity and quality of natural resources, or seasonal or permanent livestock exclusion.  <b>Example:</b> Gates between rotational grazing paddocks.	authorized.
ponds, wells, spring developments, pipelines, and water facilities	substantiated as needed by COC for the purpose of providing a water source for livestock  <b>Note:</b> COC shall only approve the minimum number of water sources needed.	

## CP87, Permanent Introduced Grasses and Legumes (Continued)

## D C/S Policy (Continued)

IF the component is...	AND the justification is...	THEN C/S is...
fuel break	to control and reduce the risk of the spread of fire by treating, removing, or modifying vegetation, debris, and detritus	authorized.
brush management	to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• create the desired quality or enhance stream flow</li> <li>• improve forage accessibility, quality, and quantity for livestock and wildlife</li> <li>• manage fuel loads to achieve desired conditions</li> </ul>	
trails and walkways	to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• provide or improve access to forage, water, working/handling facilities, and/or shelter</li> <li>• improve grazing efficiency and distribution</li> <li>• protect ecologically sensitive, erosive, and/or potentially erosive sites</li> </ul>	
prescribed burning	to improve plant production quantity and/or quality as mid-contract management by managing fuel loads to achieve desired conditions	
corrals, feedlots, ornamental fences, holding pens, and cattle guards		not authorized.

**Practice Requirements**

The following are requirements for this practice.

Limit C/S to the minimum level of treatment necessary to support common grazing practices.

Chemicals used in performing the practice **must** be:

- Federally, State, and locally registered
- applied according to authorized registered uses, directions on the label, and other Federal or State policies and requirements.

Noxious weeds and other undesirable plants, insects, and pests shall be controlled, including such maintenance as necessary to avoid an adverse impact on surrounding land.

**CP87, Permanent Introduced Grasses and Legumes (Continued)****D C/S Policy (Continued)**

Haying, mowing, or harvesting for seed production shall be subject to appropriate restrictions for species identified by STC focus areas.

**Practice Management**

If the producer destroys the practice during the life of CRP-1 or failure is caused by the producer, if COC terminates, the producer must refund all annual rental payments, C/S payments, interest, and liquidated damages according to 2-CRP, paragraph 574.

**Environmental Concerns**

Consider wildlife and other environmental concerns, especially Federally threatened or endangered species and critical habitat, when establishing protective measures.

**Practice Maintenance**

The practice shall be maintained without additional C/S for the life of CRP-1. C/S shall be refunded if either of the following applies:

- producer destroys the practice during the life of CRP-1
- failure is **not** caused by circumstances beyond the producer's control.

**Program Development**

Follow this subparagraph to develop the county program.

County programs shall provide the requirements that are conditions for C/S. STC may establish these requirements.

**Technical Responsibility**

Technical responsibility for this practice shall be assigned to NRCS or TSP.

**CP88, Permanent Native Grasses and Legumes****A Purpose**

The purpose of this practice is to maintain existing vegetative cover of native grasses and legumes on eligible grassland.

**B Program Policy**

Apply this practice to maintain existing permanent native grasses and legumes on eligible CRP grassland. NRCS or TSP determines, based on a site visit, that the grassland is suitable to be hayed or grazed according to the conservation plan of operations.

**C Eligibility**

To be eligible for C/S, this practice shall:

- promote common grazing related activities
- prevent degradation of environmental benefits from recurring
- be included and required in the approved conservation plan
- be maintained for the life of CRP-1
- prevent breaking of native sod.

**D C/S Policy**

The following shows C/S policies for this practice.

<b>IF the component is...</b>	<b>AND the justification is...</b>	<b>THEN C/S is...</b>
permanent fence (internal and boundary)	fencing needed to facilitate a livestock grazing system  Important: A single strand electric fence is not a permanent fence for CRP grassland.	authorized using technical practice codes 314, 315, 338, 378, 382, 472, 516, 561, 574, 575, 595, and 614.
access control	needed to control access to an area to maintain the quantity and quality of natural resources, or seasonal or permanent livestock exclusion.  <b>Example:</b> Gates between rotational grazing paddocks.	authorized.
ponds, wells, spring developments, pipelines, and water facilities	substantiated as needed by COC for the purpose of providing a water source for livestock  <b>Note:</b> COC shall only approve the minimum number of water sources needed.	

## CP88, Permanent Native Grasses and Legumes (Continued)

## D C/S Policy (Continued)

IF the component is...	AND the justification is...	THEN C/S is...
fuel break	to control and reduce the risk of the spread of fire by treating, removing, or modifying vegetation, debris, and detritus	authorized.
brush management	to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• create the desired quality or enhance stream flow</li> <li>• improve forage accessibility, quality, and quantity for livestock and wildlife</li> <li>• manage fuel loads to achieve desired conditions</li> </ul>	
trails and walkways	to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• provide or improve access to forage, water, working/handling facilities, and/or shelter</li> <li>• improve grazing efficiency and distribution</li> <li>• protect ecologically sensitive, erosive, and/or potentially erosive sites</li> </ul>	
prescribed burning	to improve plant production quantity and/or quality as mid-contract management by managing fuel loads to achieve desired conditions	
corrals, feedlots, ornamental fences, holding pens, and cattle guards		not authorized.

**Practice Requirements**

The following are requirements for this practice.

Limit C/S to the minimum level of treatment necessary to support common grazing practices.

Chemicals used in performing the practice **must** be:

- Federally, State, and locally registered
- applied according to authorized registered uses, directions on the label, and other Federal or State policies and requirements.

Noxious weeds and other undesirable plants, insects, and pests shall be controlled, including such maintenance as necessary to avoid an adverse impact on surrounding land.

**CP88, Permanent Native Grasses and Legumes (Continued)****D C/S Policy (Continued)**

Haying, mowing, or harvesting for seed production shall be subject to appropriate restrictions for species identified by STC focus areas.

**Practice Management**

If the producer destroys the practice during the life of CRP-1 or failure is caused by the producer, if COC terminates, the producer must refund all annual rental payments, C/S payments, interest, and liquidated damages according to 2-CRP, paragraph 574.

**Environmental Concerns**

Consider wildlife and other environmental concerns, especially federally threatened or endangered species and critical habitat, when establishing protective measures.

**Practice Maintenance**

The practice shall be maintained without additional C/S for the life of CRP-1. C/S shall be refunded according to 2-CRP, paragraph 571 if either of the following applies:

- producer destroys the practice during the life of CRP-1
- failure is **not** caused by circumstances beyond the producer's control.

**Program Development**

Follow this subparagraph to develop the county program.

County programs shall provide the requirements that are conditions for C/S. STC may establish these requirements.

**Technical Responsibility**

Technical responsibility for this practice shall be assigned to NRCS or TSP.