

REVISED NOTICE

A revision of AR Notice CRP-21 is attached.

Please replace the original notice with this revised notice.

Note: The revision is on Exhibit 1 of the notice. Blanks were added for County, CRP Contract # and Producer Name.

For: County Offices

Conservation Plan – Checklist Items for Approval of CRP-1

Approved by: State Executive Director



1 Overview

A Background

A conservation plan is a record of the producer's decisions and supporting information for the treatment of a unit of land developed as a result of the planning process that meets NRCS Field Office Technical Guide, FOTG, quality criteria for natural resource cover to be applied to land subject to a CRP contract. The plan describes the schedule of operations, acceptable plant species and components for establishment, the agreed upon conservation practice(s) and other activities required to solve identified natural resource concerns.

B Purpose

The purpose of this notice is to:

- remind COF's of items that must be included in the conservation plan prior to approval of a CRP-1 contract document
- provide a checklist of items that must be completed before a conservation plan is considered completed and ready to be incorporated as part of the CRP binding contract
- refer COF's to 2-CRP (Rev. 4), paragraphs 236 and 242 for further details on developing an approved conservation plan.

Disposal	Distribution
May 1, 2005	All County Offices

2 Roles and Responsibilities for Plan Development

A NRCS or TSP

NRCS or TSP is responsible for the following conservation planning, practice implementation and certification activities:

- developing the plan along with the CRP participant. A field visit by NRCS or TSP is required before they can sign the completed plan.
- technical leadership for planning and implementation
- technical concurrence on the conservation plans and revisions
- conducting an environmental evaluation during the conservation planning process and providing a copy of Form NRCS-CPA-52 and related documents for environmental review to FSA
- compliance with NEPA, NHPA, ESA, and related laws, regulations and executive orders.

B FSA County Committee (COC)

Before approving CRP-1's, FSA COC or designee shall review and approve the plan to ensure that it has been signed and agreed to by:

- all signatories to CRP-1
- NRCS or TSP
- Conservation District
- COC or designee.

C County Offices

COF's must complete the checklist in Exhibit 1 for General and Continuous CRP requests prior to approving a CRP-1. The checklist must be maintained in the producer's file.

CPO Checklist

County _____ CRP Contract # _____ Producer Name _____

An approved conservation plan/support document is required before CRP-1 is approved. Before approving CRP-1's, COC or designee, shall review the plan to ensure the following requirements are met. See 2-CRP (Rev. 4), paragraphs 236 and 242.

	Yes	No
Has the plan been signed as agreed to by all signatories to the CRP-1, NRCS, Conservation District, and COC or designee?		
Does the plan include tree thinning and wildlife openings, if applicable?		
Does the plan include all the eligible acreage?		
Does the plan prohibit harvesting and grazing of CRP acreage, except as indicated as a selected option for the producer's mid-contract management activity?		
Does the plan include a mid-contract management activity appropriate to the practice according to 2-CRP (Rev. 4), paragraph 239? See 2-CRP (Rev. 4) AR Exhibit 6 for a listing by practice. At least 1 option per practice cover must be included in the plan.		
Are the practices necessary for the successful establishment and maintenance of the approved cover listed for all acres enrolled?		
Does the plan include required maintenance for weed, insect, and pest control for the life of the CRP-1?		
Are the practices requested on the CRP-1 the same as the practices included in the plan?		
Are current cost-share rates included for those practices requiring cost-shared items or components?		
If non-cost shared practices are included in the offer, are those same non-cost shared practices in the plan? Example: CP22 Natural Regeneration		
Does the plan contain planting dates; tree and shrub spacing; seed, lime and fertilizer rates, as well as species to be planted?		
Are application rates for seeding, fertilizer or other components consistent with practice specifications as far as dates and spacings?		
Does the plan state that the CRP cover will not be disturbed during the primary nesting/brood rearing season which is April 1 through July 15?		
Does the plan include the FSA field number, timeframe and deadline to implement the approved practice(s), and a map of the acres enrolled?		
Has a measurement service been performed on the acreage offered for CRP if applicable according to 2-CRP (Rev. 4), paragraph 253?		
Has NRCS or TSP provided FSA with a Form NRCS-CPA-52 and related documentation for environmental review?		

COC or designee shall reject the Conservation Plan if these requirements have not been satisfied.

Accepted

Rejected

COC or Designee
10-29-04

Date