

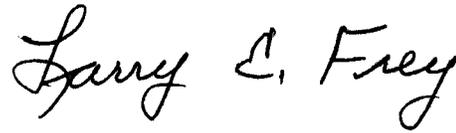
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Oregon State Farm Service Agency
7620 SW Mohawk Street
Tualatin, Oregon 97062-8121

OR Notice CRP-63

For: Oregon County Offices

Signup 26 Q&A's

Approved by: Larry Frey, State Executive Director



1 Overview

A Purpose

To provide COFs with recent Q&A's regarding Signup 26 compiled from a variety of sources, including other states and national office.

Disposal

Distribution

Oregon COFs

CRP General Signup 26 Questions and Answers

- Q1 Do you use the years 1997 to 2002 for cropland eligibility purposes?
- A No. Eligible cropland includes cropland that was planted or considered planted to an agricultural commodity during four of the six crop years 1996-2001. This is statutory for the life of the farm bill.
- Q2 I have an offer that the operator is the owner so I only listed the producer in the owner area of the AGSS software. When I try to print the CRP-2, it does not show the producer listed under name and address of producer.
- A Item 4B of the CRP-2 is being filled by the operator information. You will need to list the owner under operator in the AGSS to get the owner's name to print on the CRP-2.
- Q3 When entering the predominant soils in the AGSS, there were only two soils for the offered acres. The offered acres were 92 and the two soils total is 88.7. The system would not accept this.
- A The AGSS recognizes that if there are only two soils on the offered acreage, that the total of these soils must equal the total offered acres. If you entered three, then the system realizes that there may be more than three soils and will accept a lesser amount of acres for the predominant soils than the total offered acres.
- Q4 Training material states expiring CRP 9-30-03 is eligible without the EI of 8 requirement. What about the contracts expiring 9-30-04. Are they eligible without meeting the EI requirement?
- A Expiring contracts, 2003 or 2004, are eligible without meeting the EI requirement.
- Q5 CRP acres that expired in 1999 that now have trees growing on them are not eligible if it would be impossible to plow. If the trees were planted on the acres in past years, would these farms be eligible?
- A Expired 1999 CRP contract acreage that have trees, even if planted, would be ineligible for CRP if the land cannot be farmed in a normal manner with normal farming equipment.
- Q6 If a county is listed on the MLRA as 78C, can any producer in the county qualify for CP25? Looks to me like a producer could apply for either CP2 or CP25 with CP25 more enticing since it provides for more points?
- A Your assessment is correct. Just be aware of what native plantings are to be used in the CP25 from the 643 standard. If there were no plants of concern to be in the mix, then CP25 would be good.

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Q7 What is the difference between the 8-digit HUC codes and the 11 and 14 digit HUC codes? We have all three listed on the map downloaded from the Zone Mapping tool.

A HUCs are used mainly in the internal calculations for water and air quality factors that you do not see. It has to do with distance to populations. The 8 digit HUC is used for this purpose. An 8-digit HUC is more general and covers a larger area. The 11 or 14 digit HUCs are more specific and utilized in this signup to identify CPAs, wildlife, and water quality zones. Your dropdown screen on the AGSS will probably only have 8 digit HUCs except for those specific ones in counties with priority areas identified by a HUC.

Q8 Is there a requirement for entering the CPA number?

A There is no such thing as a CPA number. The AGSS system knows from its database by HUC or physical location that the land is in a CPA.

Q9 On the required management practices for mowing or burning, does every approved contract participant have to burn or mow in the years specified or is that only if they take the C/S component?

If a producer chooses to use the haying or grazing option and chooses to use the management practice of mowing, can they kill two birds with one stone?

A The fact that a producer does or does not receive cost share does not have an impact on the required management cost share. The required management receives cost share no matter what. The CPOs for the new contracts for Signup 26 and later will state the required management practices and the years to be done. This must be contracted to hold the producer to these required management practices. If a producer does hay or graze under managed or even emergency provisions, this activity may negate the need for one year of the required management activity if the intent of the required management activity is essentially accomplished. This will be determined possibly by FSA, the TSP or NRCS.

Q10 EI rounding – if the three predominant soils on a tract compute out to an EI of 7.85, do we round them up to 8 and the tract becomes eligible? Will AGSS take care of this?

A The AGSS is figuring the EI.

Q11 If a producer elects to use a TSP for his plan, do you know what costs are involved if any? Can the producer receive cost share if TSP is used?

A No information on this yet.

Q12 If there is not a 578 certification for one of the years 1996-2001, can a late certification be made with no charge?

A Yes, see par. 195 of 2-CRP (Rev. 4)

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- Q13 A producer has to sign a CCC-505 Base Reduction. Is this a permanent reduction or will they get base acres back after the ten years?
- A The base reduction can be considered permanent but we do not know what the next farm bill will do.
- Q14 Can a producer put a pond on the offered acres for wildlife at their own expense and get the 20 points for water development?
- A Yes, the pond would have to be built within the timeframe set to establish the permanent cover.
- Q15 According to the CRP training manual, a producer cannot enroll land under EQIP in CRP.
- A If the producer has established the cover under EQIP and received cost share, the land is not eligible. If the land is scheduled for a cover with EQIP cost share and not planted, the producer may amend the EQIP contract if allowed by NRCS and remove the land from EQIP and offer it for CRP. This can actually happen after he makes an offer. In other words, the land can be under an EQIP contract and not planted and offered and if accepted then the producer could get NRCS to remove it.
- Q16 Grass was planted on cropland in 1997 under the EQIP. Since this land meets the cropping history and EI of 8, can it be offered for CRP?
- A No. Land established to a permanent cover under EQIP and remains under a practice life span is ineligible to be offered (subparagraph 97 D).
- Q17 In the above situation, if the producer repays the EQIP cost share, would the land be eligible for CRP?
- A No. Refunding cost share shall not make the land eligible.
- Q18 How can an interested person become TSP certified? Is there training available or schools he could attend?
- A The interested person would need to visit the web site, <http://techreg.usda.gov/>, or contact the NRCS State Office.
- Q19 Is there a payment reduction for managed haying or grazing on CRP?
- A Yes – 25% of the annual rental payment for the acres hayed or grazed. (Subparagraph 293 A)
- Q20 May I sell the hay or lease the acreage for a price under managed haying and grazing provisions?
- A Yes, subparagraph 293 A.

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Q21 Do I enter ineligible offers in the AGSS?

A Yes, see notice CRP-434, subparagraph 9D.

Q22 Handbook 2-CRP (Rev. 4), paragraph 97 explains the cropping history requirements. Has credit for conserving use provisions changed since CRP training? We thought that any grass on cropland would be eligible for CRP.

A Yes. The definition of conserving use credit changed significantly in paragraph 97. In order for any alfalfa or other multi-year grasses or legumes to be considered planted for cropping history, they must have been "planted" during the period 1996 through 2001. Old grasses on cropland that we discussed during training, that were potentially eligible, are now not eligible with this definition. To simplify, any grass or legume planted before 1996 is not eligible for CRP cropping history.

Q23 What about CRP grass? It was planted in many cases before 1996. Does CRP grass receive cropping history credit?

A Cropland enrolled in CRP is considered planted during the term of the CRP-1. Acreage previously enrolled in CRP maintains the cropping history earned while under CRP-1. A CRP contract that expired or was terminated in 1998 and remaining in grass would not be eligible for CRP due to only having a three-year cropping history. If the CRP-1 expired or was terminated in 1999, there would be four years cropping, and the land would be eligible for CRP.

Q24 A producer voluntarily terminated his CRP contract in 1999 and the COC terminated a CRP contract in 2000 due to non-compliance. Are the terminated CRP acres eligible to be offered for CRP Signup 26?

A Yes. There is no provision that terminated acres are not eligible for offer and each have the four of six year crop history for 1996-2001.

Q25 What are some examples of the paragraph 97 cropping histories that are eligible and ineligible?

Scenario 1

Grass planted on cropland in 1986
1996-----grass
1997-----grass
1998----- grass
1999----- grass
2000----- grass
2001----- grass

Determination: ineligible – grass was not planted in 1996-2001

Scenario 2

New land broke out in 1996
and re-established to grass in 1997
1996----- grass
1997----- grass
1998----- grass
1999----- grass
2000----- grass
2001----- grass

Determination: The land does not meet the definition of cropland as outlined in 1-CM. Land is not eligible.

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Scenario 3

Cropland was put to grass in 1974 and is carried on COF records as cropland. The grass was tilled and replanted to grass in 1998.

1996----- grass
1997----- grass
1998----- replanted new grass
1999----- new grass
2000----- new grass
2001----- new grass

Determination: Eligible. Grass was planted on cropland in the period 1996-2001 and 4 of 6 year history met.

Scenario 5

CRP-1 land expired in 1998 and remains in grass today.

1996-----CRP
1997-----CRP
1998-----grass
1999-----grass
2000-----grass
2001-----grass

Determination: Ineligible only 3 years cropping. Land maintains cropping history for the period under CRP-1.

Scenario 7

CRP-1 land was voluntarily terminated from CRP in 1997. The producer prepared land for wheat and planted wheat in 2000 and 2001.

1996-----CRP
1997-----CRP
1998-----grass
1999-----grass
2000-----wheat
2001-----wheat

Determination: Eligible. The land has a 4 of 6 cropping history 1996-2001.

Scenario 4

CRP land expired in 1999 and remains in grass today.

1996-----CRP
1997-----CRP
1998-----CRP
1999-----CRP
2000-----grass
2001-----grass

Determination: Eligible. Land maintains cropping history for the period under CRP-1.

Scenario 6

The COC terminated land in CRP for non-compliance in 1999. Land remained in grass.

1996-----CRP
1997-----CRP
1998-----CRP
1999-----CRP
2000-----grass
2001-----grass

Determination: Eligible. The fact the land was terminated does not affect eligibility and maintains cropping history while under CRP-1.

Scenario 8

Land was in wheat then planted to grass in 1998.

1996-----wheat
1997-----wheat
1998-----grass planted
1999-----grass
2000-----grass
2001-----grass

Determination: Eligible. Meets the 4 of 6 cropping history 1996-2001.

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Scenario 9

Land was fallow.

1996-----fallow

1997-----fallow

1998-----fallow

1999-----fallow

2000-----fallow

2001-----fallow

Determination: Ineligible. The land has not been summer fallowed by year-to-year fallow then crop

Scenario 10

Producer summer fallowed the land.

1996-----wheat

1997-----summer fallow

1998-----wheat

1999-----wheat

2000-----summer fallow

2001-----wheat

Determination: Eligible. The land has a summer fallow rotation that counts as cropping history. The land has 6 years cropping history 1996-2001.

Scenario 11

New land was broke out in 1996 and planted to wheat since.

1996-----grass

1997-----wheat

1998-----wheat

1999-----wheat

2000-----wheat

2001-----wheat

Determination: Eligible. Land meets 4 of 6 cropping history 1996-2001.

Scenario 12

Land cropping history:

1996-----wheat

1997-----wheat

1998-----wheat

1999-----wheat

2000-----wheat

2001-----wheat

Determination: Eligible land meets 4 of 6 cropping history 1996-2001.

Q26 A producer has HEL and NHEL fields on a tract of land. Is only the HEL land eligible for CRP offer?

A No. HEL is not a consideration for land eligibility. According to subparagraph 97 B, land that meets cropping requirements, must meet one of the following land eligibility requirements to be eligible to be offered:

- weighted average EI of 8 for the 3 predominant soils on the land offered
- land is 2003 or 2004 expiring CRP
- land is located in a state CPA. Maps of the state CPA were provided at CRP training

Q27 The AGSS software shows a producer's land is eligible but it is NHEL land. How can this be? We are not in a priority area nor is the land expiring CRP.

A The land eligibility in this case is based on an EI of 8 in 3 predominant soils for the field offered. We do not need to worry about the field classification of NHEL or HEL to screen eligibility. All offered land shall be entered in the AGSS to see if the land calculates as eligible. NHEL fields were fields that did not have a predominance of highly erodible land units. Since we are using only 3 soils for CRP, this could allow NHEL fields to be eligible.

CRP General Signup 26 Questions and Answers

- Q28 I have reviewed my soil rental rate posting report. Previously, the lowest rental rate in my county was \$20; now it is \$15. How did this occur?
- A In developing the soils database for AGSS, all possible cropped soils had to be given a rental rate that previously were not on the posting report. Dune or frequently flooded soils were examples of low rental rate soils that were added. The State Committee determined the rental rate for these soils shall be 75% of the lowest rental rate in the county. Additionally, some frequently flooded soils had a rental rate but were adjusted to this category for consistency.
- Q29 Concerning conversion of a monoculture under N1b, is there a minimum acreage to convert?
- A No, the policy is that 51% of the monoculture offered must be converted. Therefore, if you have 90 acres of a native grass and 10 acres of a monoculture, you would need to convert 5.1 acres of the monoculture to a native grass species to get the 20 points in N1b.
- Q30 Does overseeding into a permanent grass cover qualify as being cropped (i.e. wheat into bermuda?)
- A Overseeding into a permanent grass cover that is on land identified as cropland and the over-seeded crop is taken to harvest, hayed, or grazed, would be eligible for cropping history.
- Q31 I have a producer that wants to offer land for CRP, but there are no crop reports on file in the county office. Can the producer late file?
- A Yes, see paragraph 195 A. The late report, if accepted, is for CRP purposes only, and no fee is required.
- Q32 The N1b subfactor allows wildlife water development. The STO has said only wildlife water guzzlers are allowed. Depending on the size of the acreage offered, would the producer have to install more than one guzzler?
- A No. It only takes the one guzzler to receive the N1b 20 points for wildlife water development. The producer may elect to place more than one guzzler on the CRP land, in accordance with the 648 practice standard, wildlife watering facility, and receive cost share for all guzzlers installed.
- Q33 What determines if I am eligible for electing wildlife water development under the N1b subfactor?
- A Wildlife water development N1b, may be requested on CRP offered acres where water may be a limiting factor. The travel distance for quail and songbirds, in the 648 standard, of .25 miles should be used for this determination. There could be water sources on one area of the CRP, but due to the travel distance, a wildlife water facility may need to be placed on the CRP acreage, and the offer awarded points in N1b.

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Q34 Does a producer, offering new land for CRP, have the option of having either a 2004 or 2005 effective CRP contract?

A Yes, subparagraph 97 A.

Q35 Am I required to use the checklists provided at training?

A The checklists were issued as a tool to assist you with the CRP signup and contracting. There are also checklists in the handbook at subparagraphs 152 B, 182 A, and 195 C.

Q36 The N1b subfactor allows that a producer can receive 20 points for converting at least 51% of a monoculture stand to a native cover beneficial to wildlife. Is there an acreage minimum to convert and how does this work?

A There is no acreage minimum to convert. The following example should assist with the N1b subfactor for conversion.

A producer has 100 acres of eligible land with a 30-point monoculture cover of Old World Bluestem (OWB). At this point, only 30 points would be given in the N1a category. Now, the producer elects to convert 51% of the monoculture cover OWB to a 50-point CP2 cover. The result would be:

$$\begin{array}{r} 51 \text{ acres (51\%)} \times 50 \text{ point CP2} = 2550 \text{ points} \\ 49 \text{ acres} \quad \times 30 \text{ point CP10} = \underline{1470 \text{ points}} \\ \hline 4020 \text{ or } 40 \text{ point N1a cover} \end{array}$$

The offer would now receive: N1a = 40 points N1b = 20 points

Q37 What are the advantages and disadvantages of practice CP25 being offered?

A The advantages of CP25 are:

- 50 points N1a cover score for acres in CP25
- 25 points N4, Enduring Benefits
- 5 points N5d, Carbon Sequestration
- up to a 15 year contract

The disadvantages may be that the required plant mix may have some species the producer does not desire. Mainly, the CP25 cover mix requires more grass species, forbs and legumes. The CP25 practice cannot be grazed or hayed under managed or emergency provisions.

Q38 My county is a 25% limitation county. Do I have to announce Signup26?

A Yes, subparagraph 69 C requires the signup to be announced and that only continuous offers for practices CP5A, 16A, 22, 29, and 30 may be offered in the county. Additionally, the county may administer land located in a county that is not at 25% who may elect to sign up.

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- Q39 Do I receive the N1c wildlife priority zone 30 points for just being located in the zone?
- A No, the offered acreage must be located in the zone, and one of the following practices must be on the offer: CP2, CP4B, CP4D, CP10, CP12, or CP25. Note that CP25 will not give wildlife zone points, and all offers with CP25 will have to be special processed after signup.
- Q40 A producer has an expiring CRP contract and wants to offer only a portion of the expiring acreage. Is this allowed?
- A Yes.
- Q41 A producer has five species of grass under CP10? Does it qualify for a 50-point cover?
- A No., a 50-point cover contains at least one forb, shrub, or legume. Without this, the cover would be 40 points.
- Q42 A producer has a CRP contract expiring September 30, 2003. Will his CRP acres automatically be approved for General Signup 26?
- A No. The offered expiring acres would still need to be processed in the AGSS system as a Type B to calculate the soil rental rate. It does not have to meet the EI of 8. It is automatically eligible as an offer. The offer would still compete with all others to be accepted in the program.
- Q43 When establishing the Administrative County in the AGSS software, the entry blocks on the screen are filled with data that is not applicable.
- A This is an indication of a problem setting up the CCE environment (CCE core load or AGSS installation). Call the Help Desk for assistance.
- Q44 When I enter an offer and click on the 'Done' button on the last screen I am returned to the 'Main Startup Screen'. If I select the option to print all offers, why does the record I just entered not appear on the listing and how can I get it to print on the listing?
- A The reason the offer is not present on the listing is because Access finalizes the updates to the database when the program closes. To include all offers on the listing, first close the AGSS application and then restart it. A listing printed after restarting the application will include all offers, including the last one entered.

CRP General Signup 26 Questions and Answers

Q45 I entered an offer and recorded it as 'Done' on the Last Screen. The producer then decided he wanted to change the offered acres. I followed the instructions to modify by first clicking the 'New/View' button to find and select the offer to be modified. The offer I wanted to modify was the first offer displayed when the 'New/View' screen appeared. Assuming the displayed record was 'selected', I clicked on the 'Main' button to return to the 'Startup' screen where I clicked the 'Modify' button. A different offer was displayed for modification than the one that I had selected. What did I do wrong?

A The first offer to be displayed when you select the New/View option will not always be selected unless you use the arrow key to move to another offer and then press the opposite arrow key to move back to the desired offer. Following this procedure, the correct offer will be selected and can be modified using the 'Modify' button on the 'Main Startup Screen'.

Note: The search option works well if you need to modify an offer entered earlier in the signup.

Q46 Many offers are made by the owner and not the operator. When I enter only the owner on the first screen and leave the operator area blank, nothing is printed in the producer name and address block on the CRP-2. Is this correct?

A The software was designed so that the name and address of the producer entered in the operator portion blocks of 'Screen 1' of the AGSS software will be the information listed in the producer name and address block of the CRP-2. The software is currently being looked at to change this so that in cases where there is no operator entered, the owner will be displayed on the CRP-2 as the producer. Until the software is corrected, if no operator data is entered, the County Office must enter the producer name and address information manually on the CRP-2 after printing.

Q47 The software will not let me enter an acreage of less than 1.0 acres on 'Screen 3' when I am entering practice information. How can I enter small acreages of less than 1.0 acres for a practice?

A To allow entry of acreages that are less than 1.0 acre, enter as 0.#. Example: enter .7 as 0.7.

Q48 Our entire county is in a Wildlife Conservation Priority Area. I entered an offer that was recorded as entirely devoted to CP4D. The software correctly awarded 30 points for N1c on the 'Last Screen' when I entered the offer amount. However, when the producer had me to change 2 acres of the CP4D to CP12 (which is also a wildlife practice in this county) the offer lost the 30 points for N1c. Why did this happen?

A There is a software error regarding offers with CP4D when used in conjunction with other practices. This software is being corrected and will be broadcast to all offices as soon as possible. Maintain a list of all offers that include CP4D practices so that they can be modified when the new software is available to correct EBI scores.

CRP General Signup 26 Questions and Answers

Q49 I was entering a type C offer that included .7 acres of new land. When I was entering the 'New Land' eligibility determination on the sub-screen of 'Screen 4' the software would not let me enter the .7 acres for new land in the acres column. A message displayed indicating I was trying to enter more acres than allowed. On the status bar, the software indicated 'New Land' at .6999999 acres. What is the problem?

A This is a software problem that is being corrected and will be broadcast as soon as possible. Offers that run into this situation will have to be reloaded when the software fix is received and installed. Maintain a list of any offers that are affected for later entry.

Q50 When entering producer information for an offer, if the owner is also the operator, in which section should I enter the information?

A If the producer making the offer is the owner/operator, enter the name and address data for the producer in the owner section. The CRP-2 will print without the producer name and address. This information will have to be added to the CRP-2 manually after printing.

Q51 I entered an offer that includes practices with different lifespans. When I print the CRP-1 and CRP-2 only the CRP-2 will print. Why doesn't the CRP-1 print?

A For offers that include practices with different lifespans, a separate contract must be created for the acres included for each different lifespan. Example: An offer that includes 2 practices with 10 year lifespans and 1 practice with a 15 year lifespan will require 2 contracts. The AGSS offer software will not do this, so you will have to create the contracts manually. Blank CRP-1's to print are available on the intranet at: <http://165.221.16.90/dam/ffasforms/currentforms.asp> (Enter CRP1 in the Form Number search criteria and click Submit).

Q52 Is the User Guide available for printing?

A The User Guide is available on-line while processing offers by pressing the (F1) key to get assistance for the present cursor location field or by clicking the 'Help' button for overall help for the screen you are working on.

Also, a printable (MS Word) version of the User Guide is available at the CEPD STO Information Center at: <http://dc.ffasintranet.usda.gov/dafp/cepdsto.htm> under Signup 26 Information.

A copy was mailed to each Oregon COF.

CRP General Signup 26 Questions and Answers

Q53 When we transmit the offer file, a report is generated (Report ID: EPCA63-R001) that list several Error Messages. What is the purpose of this report?

A This report is for informational purposes only and is designed to help determine discrepancies between information in the offers and farm and tract information in the S/36 Farm and Producer records. The report is being updated to eliminate error messages when the offer software does not include an operator name and address.

The following validations are reported:

1. Administrating State & County Code of Offer is not of the FSA State and County Codes being serviced by the Service Center.
2. Farm number in the Offer is not on Legacy Farm File in an active status.
3. Tract number in the Offer is not on Legacy Tract File in an active status.
4. Physical location of land in the Offer differs from the physical location on the Legacy Tract File.
5. Operator ID in the Offer is not on the Legacy Name & Address File in an active status.
6. Operator ID in the Offer is not associated to the Offer tract as an operator in the legacy system.
7. Owner ID in the Offer is not on the Legacy Name & Address File in an active status.
8. Owner ID in the Offer is not associated to the tract that the Offer is for as an owner.

Q54 When are County Offices supposed to transmit offers?

A The offers are to be transmitted weekly on Friday (AGSS transmission process must be completed before End of Day processing is started on the S36). To successfully transmit, all users must first close AGSS on their PC's. Then, one user shall start the AGSS software and click the 'Transmit Completed Records' button on the 'Main Startup Screen'. Before clicking the button, be sure you know the IP address of the AS400 and a valid username and password for the AS400. This information will be requested and must be entered correctly to complete the transmit process.

The offer file will be moved to the S36 where End of Day processing will automatically bundle the file with other transmission files and transmit the information to Kansas City.

Q55 I put in an offer and everything seemed to go well until I clicked 'Done' on the "Last Screen". I received a message AGS-26-- Syntax error followed by data that seems to be indicating a problem with the name and address. I used SCIMS to obtain the data. I cannot complete the offer, what causes this?

A This is a software problem. The software is not recognizing or allowing certain characters to be used in the Name and Address information on Screen 1. Until a software fix can be sent out, take any special characters (such as '#,&./,or -) out of the name and address fields and see if that allows the offer to be completed.

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Q56 I get the following screen when I use the CRP determination tool.



A This can have three possible explanations.

1 If it happens only occasionally, it's just that that particular soil type is missing from the Access soils database. The message is informational only.

2 If it happens all the time, the soils shape file may have the wrong name. The CRP Determination Tool looks for a soils file named soil_a_{SSAID}.shp (*.dbf, *.shx, etc), where SSAID is the Soil Survey Area ID. This is important because the SSAID code is one of the keys for matching to the MS Access Soils database to get rental rates and erodibility index (EI) factors for calculating CRP land eligibility. Some Service Centers have files with the State and County FIPS codes embedded in the file name instead of the SSAID code.

The solution is to change the soils file to the correct name. If this file is on the f:\geodata\soils directory on the server, the SC NRCS person or someone in the state office with the correct server directory group privileges needs to change the file name. If this isn't possible and the CRP Signup staff person needs the problem fixed immediately, the soil shape files (all files, i.e. *.shp, *.shx, *.dbf, etc) can be copied/renamed to the local CRP Signup staff persons' PCs using Explorer or the ArcView Manage Data Sources menu item on the File menu.

3 If it happens all the time, the soils shape file name is correct, and the County has a digitized Common Land Unit File (CLU), then the problem is probably that the CLU shape file has empty stateCd and countyCd fields. The CRP tool retrieves the state and county FIPS codes that it needs to match to the MS Access Soils Database from the CLU stateCd and countyCd fields. If they are blank, it is unable to match. The solution is to determine where the most recent CLU file is located and propagate these fields with the correct state and county FIPS codes using the CLU Maintenance Tool FSA button. Make sure the corrected CLU is on the server if the server CLU file is the one being used for CRP signup; otherwise make sure the CLU files on individual machines are replaced with the correct version.

CRP General Signup 26 Questions and Answers

Q57 Acreages for drawn or selected field offers are correct in the FSA CRP/GIS View and in the margin area of the layout/map but are incorrect in the map area of the layout.

A This is caused by an unexpected field called "Calcacres" in the soils shape file. Since the CRP GIS tool also uses fields called "Calcacres" the software is getting confused and choosing the wrong acreages when summing acreage by CRP offer polygon to display in the map area. The solution is to either delete or rename the "Calcacres" field in the soils shape file, i.e. soil_a_{SSAID}.shp (*.dbf, *.shp, *.shx, etc.) This needs to be done by either the state Geodata Manager or the NRCS Service Center staff person responsible for maintaining the soils layer on the SC server. If there is no one available to do this at the state or Service Center level and an immediate fix is necessary, the files can be copied from the server to individual PCs using Explorer or the ArcView Manage Data Sources menu item on the File menu. Then the copy of the soils shape file on the individual PC can be corrected by either deleting the field or renaming it.

Q58 I get the following error screen.



A The CRP Offer contains an area of land that does not have soils shape file coverage, e.g. it's out-of-county land or simply land not covered by the SSURGO file added to the View. The solution is to either farm this offer out to the neighboring county that does have SSURGO file coverage or obtain the SSURGO file in your county, add it to the project View. If user has a HUC file added to his project, and you CRP offer contains an area of land that does not have HUC shape file coverage, he will again get this error message

Q59 The user gets an error message "Error attempt to edit read-only virtual table (VTab).

A The likely cause is that the Server directory f:\geodata\project_data\fsa does not have Read/Write/Delete privileges. The CRP GIS Tool creates temporary files in subfolders of this folder that it needs to delete but is unable to. The solution is to contact the State Office IT person responsible for setting Service Center server group permissions and have the permissions changed in the correct group (FSA Staff Users?) so that the user has the correct permissions.

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Q60 The input themes do not align correctly when the themes are added to the FSA CRP/GIS View through the Add Themes dialog in the CRP GIS tool.

A The most likely cause of this is that one of the data files is not in the correct coordinate system, e.g. all themes are in UTM Zone 15, NAD83 except for the HUC file which is UTM Zone 14, NAD83. The solution is to contact the State Geodata Manager responsible for provisioning the Service Center and request another version of the file in the correct coordinate system.

Q61 I get the following message when adding the HUC theme.



A The HUC file does not contain a field labeled "HUC_8." This is the field that contains the 8-digit HUC Code. The tool will give this error message.

The solution is to either change the field name or contact the State Geodata Manager in charge of provisioning the SCs with the HUC file. The CRP GIS Tool will work without the HUC file, but without it users will have to resort to using HUC paper maps, or they can add the HUC that they have as an "Other Theme" through the CRP Tool or add it through the out-of-the-box ArcView Add Themes button, then click on the Identify button and click in the CRP offer in the View to determine the HUC Code, then annotate it in the printed layout, or add that text to the layout Map Title in ArcView.

Q62 The AGSS Offer Software HUC dropdown menu does not contain the HUC printed on the CRP Tool generated map.

A Check you HUC theme and make sure you have the correct HUC theme loaded. Oregon is divided into two UTM zones. The West side is UTM zone 10 and the East side is UTM zone 11.

Q63 I have problems with either or both the operator and landowner information being left blank when the CRP-1 or CRP-2 is printed.

A There is a glitch in the software and a correction will be issued in the near future.

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Q64 Should I be using the Climate or the Rainfall factor maps or accept the default C or R values? Where can I get the Climate and Rainfall factor maps?

A You should be using the Climate and Rainfall factor maps to determine if you should be overriding the default values. The climate and rainfall factor maps can be obtained from your local NRCS.

Note: Do not use the climate factor map provided at training because it is too general for use. Obtain a new climate factor map from your local NRCS.

Q65 Using the CRP tool, I have selected the field using the select field tool and get the message that I must select, split, or draw a field before determine field soils when I click on a determination button.

A When using the select field tool, you must hold down the ALT key while left clicking the mouse button while the mouse pointer/cursor is anywhere on the screen to let the software know that you are done making your selection.

You only need to do this when you are using the select field tool. When using the split field or draw polygon tool, you can skip the ALT