

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Farm Service Agency
Washington, DC 20250

Agricultural Resource
Conservation Program
2-CRP (Revision 5)

Amendment 32

Approved by: Acting Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



Amendment Transmittal

A Reasons for Amendment

Subparagraph 31 A has been amended to remove CP30 as a practice that is eligible to use tree shelters, netting, plastic tubes, or other animal damage control devices.

Subparagraph 103 B has been amended to clarify that the rates being referenced are “rental rates” and clarify references to grazing land.

Subparagraphs 171 A and 171 C have been amended to:

- correct the terminology from “standard signup” to “general signup”
- update the language for the continuous signup offer process
- provide a detailed process flow for continuous signup activity that County Offices are **required** to follow.

Subparagraph 181 A has been amended to:

- clarify **cropland** eligibility requirements for enrollment under continuous signup
- separate and clarify the determinations that must be made by FSA and NRCS or TSP under continuous signup
- incorporate the use of a Documentation of Suitability and Feasibility Worksheet by NRCS for all continuous signup practices.

Subparagraph 181 B has been amended to:

- clarify **cropland** eligibility requirements for enrollment under continuous signup **within Wellhead Protection Areas**
- separate and clarify the determinations that must be made by FSA and NRCS or TSP under continuous signup

Amendment Transmittal (Continued)

A Reason for Amendment (Continued)

- incorporate the use of a Documentation of Suitability and Feasibility Worksheet by NRCS for all continuous signup practices
- update the contact information for submitting wellhead protection areas shapefiles.

Subparagraph 181 C has been amended to:

- clarify **marginal pastureland** eligibility requirements for enrollment under continuous signup
- separate and clarify the determinations that must be made by FSA and NRCS or TSP under continuous signup
- incorporate the use of a Documentation of Suitability and Feasibility Worksheet by NRCS for all continuous signup practices.

Subparagraph 181 D has been amended to clarify that marginal pastureland that is suitable and capable growing trees, may be enrolled as practice CP22, CP22B or CP22S only. Practice CP29 and CP30 may only be used when the marginal pastureland is **not** suitable and capable of growing trees.

Subparagraph 181 E has been amended to:

- remove the definitions of perennial and seasonal stream
- provide that NRCS or TSP will identify and document for FSA the eligibility of the water body, if any, related to the offered acreage using a standardized Documentation of Suitability and Feasibility Worksheet
- clarify that COC or CED must determine if the cropland or marginal pastureland offered is immediately parallel and adjacent to the water body identified and documented by NRCS or TSP on the Documentation of Suitability and Feasibility Worksheet
- correct that practice CP30 is an eligible practice only on marginal pastureland immediately adjacent and parallel to certain wetlands only.

Subparagraph 196 A has been amended to remove the reference to Exhibit 2.

Paragraph 211 has been amended to:

- provide a reference to CRP-2G, where applicable

Amendment Transmittal (Continued)

A Reason for Amendment (Continued)

- provide that a new signup number shall be used for each FY, except for CRP grasslands
- clarify that the CRP-2C must **not** be signed by the producer before it is provided to NRCS or TSP
- clarify the actions FSA must take depending on whether the producer submitting the offer meets certain eligibility requirements.

Paragraph 212 has been amended to provide that **manual CRP-2C's are not authorized.**

Paragraph 214 has been amended to:

- update the table to include more details of the actions taken during the offer process
- clarify that the CRP-2C must **not** be signed by the producer before it is provided to NRCS or TSP
- incorporate the use of the Documentation of Suitability and Feasibility Worksheet.

Paragraph 215 has been amended to:

- incorporate the use of the Documentation of Suitability and Feasibility Worksheet
- provide that County Office must notify the producer that the offer is not acceptable, using the CRP-26, when NRCS or TSP requires changes to the practice or acreage offered to meet the suitability, or needs and feasibility of the practice and the producer does not agree to make the changes
- require County Offices to provide NRCS or TSP copies of CRP-23, unsigned CRP-1, and CRP-2C.

Paragraph 366 has been amended to clarify that NRCS or TSP incorporates all requirements for Federal, State, or local permits or other permissions necessary to perform and maintain practices, as provided on the NRCS-CPA-52, Section G, in conservation plan.

Paragraph 367 has been amended to clarify:

- the FSA and NRCS roles in completing the NRCS-CPA-52
- that FSA receives from NRCS or the producer the permits, or other permissions necessary to perform and maintain practices as provided by NRCS on the NRCS-CPA-52, Section G.

Paragraph 369 has been amended to remove references to manually filed forms and update the references to include the CRP-2C and CRP-2G.

Amendment Transmittal (Continued)

A Reason for Amendment (Continued)

Paragraph 401 has been amended:

- in subparagraph A to update the requirements before CRP-1 approval to include a review of the NRCS-CPS-52 Section G to determine if the producer is required to obtain any permits or other permissions necessary to perform and maintain practices, or if FSA needs to complete consultations
- in subparagraph B to update the requirements for CRP-1 approval to require, any permit or other permissions necessary to perform and maintain practices as provided on NRCS-CPA-52, Section G, to be obtained from the producer and a copy provided to the County Office.

Subparagraph 491 D has been amended to remove CP30 as a practice that is eligible to use tree shelters, netting, plastic tubes, or other animal damage control devices

Subparagraph 546 G has been amended to:

- update the language to include CCMS functions
- remove the reference for signing and dating the CRP-1, Appendix.

Paragraphs 637, 663, 679, 692, 715 and 716 have been amended to:

- provide references to perennial or seasonal streams, where appropriate
- remove aerial photocopy references and update to digital imagery, where appropriate.

Exhibit 2 has been amended to remove the definitions of seasonal stream and perennial stream because NRCS will be responsible for identifying and documenting the waterbody designation for purposes of eligibility for CRP.

Exhibit 5 has been amended to correct the terminology from “standard signup” to “general signup”.

Exhibit 11 for practice CP21, CP21B, CP21S, CP22, CP22B, CP22S, CP29 and CP30 has been amended to:

- provide consistency in terminology
- remove all references to types of waterbodies
- reference the applicable subparagraph of paragraph 181 to determine eligible water bodies and other eligibility criteria for the practice
- clarify what other practices cannot be used in conjunction with the practice
- remove duplicative terminology and procedure
- clarify that management activities must be performed during the life of the CRP-1
- remove certain components as eligible for cost share under practice CP30

Amendment Transmittal (Continued)

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Section 2 FSA Administrative Responsibilities

31 STC Administrative Responsibilities

A STC Responsibility

Within the authorities and limitations in this handbook, STC shall:

- direct the administration of CRP
- document actions taken in minutes or other written records
- approve State research projects
- determine whether meritorious relief is applicable on a case-by-case basis

Note: All cases submitted to DAFP for relief shall contain the following:

- copy of participant's written request for relief
- copy of COC and STC minutes thoroughly documenting request and justification
- copy of all applicable forms and documents in the case file, including but not limited to CRP-1's, CRP-2's, copy of digital imagery, conservation plans, FSA-848's, cost share receipts, land deeds, etc.
- all documentation used by COC and STC during review
- narrative of the case in chronological order.
- upon recommendation from the County Office, designate areas of the State where the use of tree shelters, netting, plastic tubes, or other animal damage control devices are warranted and cost-effective on CP3A, CP5A, CP16A, CP22, CP22B, CP22S, CP23, CP25, CP27, CP28, * * * CP39, CP40, or CP41

Notes: Incomplete case files may delay response.

See paragraph 491 and Exhibit 11.

- establish 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. See subparagraph 664 A.

Note: Establishment of 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 shall not be delegated to COC's or County Offices.

31 STC Administrative Responsibilities (Continued)

A STC Responsibility (Continued)

If STC does not establish dates as recommended by the State Technical Committee, STC **must:**

- submit dates to CEPD for approval
- include justification to support the dates not recommended by the State Technical Committee.

B STC Delegating Responsibility

STC may delegate an official representative to sign documents.

C Retaining Easement Forms

Although useful life easements are not required after the tenth CRP signup, State Offices shall retain all versions of easement forms on file.

103 Establishing SRR's

A Rental Rate Establishment for Cropland

Maximum payment rates for cropland offered for CRP are calculated using SRR's. SRR's shall be set at levels that reflect the average cash rental rates per acre for **nonirrigated** cropland for the production of the predominant annually tilled crops for each soil map unit *--area within a soil survey area within a county during the past year adjusted for inflation.--*

These SRR's shall be set:

- for soil types where share rents are most common which is the cash equivalent of share rents
- for soil types with a predominance of summer fallow or double/triple cropping, reflecting the market rental values of these cropping patterns
- using 1 SRR per soil map unit only

* * *

- at levels reflecting rate consistency within soil surveys and across all county and State lines and soil survey boundaries.

The National Office:

- is responsible for establishing SRR's
- will use the most current NASS survey, NRCS productivity indexes, and other information as necessary.

103 Establishing SRR's (Continued)

B Rental Rate Establishment for Pastureland (Riparian Buffers)

Maximum payment rates for marginal pastureland offers are calculated using marginal
 *--pastureland rental rates. These rental rates shall be set for CP22, CP22B, CP22S, CP29, and CP30 at levels that reflect the average cash rental values of **nonirrigated** riparian area grazing land during the past year adjusted for inflation.

The grazing productivity of riparian area grazing land in arid regions is typically higher and more variable than that of adjacent whole field grazing land. For this reason, Western U.S. counties' marginal pastureland rental rates are usually higher than average grazing rental rates, and separate rental rates based on permanent/seasonal riparian areas have been established.

The basis for these rental rates shall be set using the following.--*

County Location	Rate Basis	Soil Map Unit Symbol
Eastern and Alaska, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico Counties	1 rate per county	MPLALL
Western Counties	1 rate per county for land adjacent to seasonal water bodies	MPLSEA
	1 rate per county for land adjacent to perennial water bodies	MPLPER

* * *

C Rental Rate Establishment for CRP Grasslands

A CRP grasslands rental rate has been established for each county to reflect the market rental value for land suitable for CRP grasslands.

Grassland rental rates are based on not more than 75 percent of the estimated grazing value of the land. Rental rates are provided at

<https://connections.usda.gov/communities/community/FSACEPD/CRPgrassland>.

CRP grasslands rental rates will be set using the Soil Map unit symbol CRPGRR.

Part 7 Continuous CRP Signup**171 Overview****A General Information**

*--Producers determined eligible for CRP according to Part 6 may request to enroll certain acreage in the program at any time within the total county cropland limit requirements according to Part 4. These provisions provide producers with management flexibility when planning conservation enhancements to their farming operations.

Unlike a general CRP signup, the continuous signup process does not have a competitive evaluation process.

The National Office shall provide State and County Offices:

- program information sheets for producers
- program provisions and procedures
- other information as requested.

The purpose of continuous signup is to enroll small targeted environmentally sensitive acreage.--*

B Signup Numbers and Program Year

Signup numbers change at the beginning of each FY under the continuous signup provisions. See Exhibit 20.

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

Example: Producer submits an offer for CP21 on July 1, 2014. COC or CED approves CRP-1 on September 22, 2014. CRP-1 is effective October 1, 2014. The program year on CRP-1 is 2015.

171 Overview (Continued)

***--C CRP Continuous Signup Process Flow**

The following table provides Continuous Signup Activities that must be completed for continuous signup offers.

Step	Continuous Signup Activity	Reference
1	Producer: - expresses an interest in enrolling in CRP - indicates the acreage they want to enroll on a digital imagery and identifies the practice they want to enroll.	Paragraph 211.
2	County office determines if all the following are met: - producer eligibility requirements - land eligibility requirements - CRP county cropland limit has been exceeded - CRP practice/initiative allocation has not been exceeded.	Paragraphs 81, 126, 130, 131, 151, and 181.
3A	If all requirements in step 2 are: - met, create a TERRA Scenario, upload it into COLS and print CRP-2C - not met; Stop and do not proceed.	TERRA and COLS User Guide.
3B		Paragraph 215 and 1-APP.
4	COC or CED provides the following to NRCS or TSP: - unsigned CRP-2C - digital imagery identifying acreage offered	Paragraph 211
5	Based on a site visit, NRCS/TSP determines, using the Documentation of Suitability and Feasibility Worksheet, if the: - existing cover is functioning as the practice offered - practice offered meets the purpose of the practice according to Exhibit 11 - acreage offered is suitable for the practice offered practice offered is needed and feasible to solve the resource concern.	Paragraphs 181 and 211, Exhibit 11, and NRCS's Documentation of Suitability and Feasibility Worksheet.
6	NRCS or TSP: - returns unsigned CRP-2C and digital imagery to County Office - provides the County Office a signed and dated Documentation of Suitability and Feasibility Worksheet.	Paragraph 211 and NRCS's Documentation of Suitability and Feasibility Worksheet.

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171 Overview (Continued)

*--C CRP Continuous Signup Process Flow (Continued)

Step	Continuous Signup Activity	Reference
7	COC or CED reviews NRCS or TSP documents and findings. County Office files copy of signed and dated Documentation of Suitability and Feasibility Worksheet in the CRP folder. If NRCS or TSP determined the practice and acreage offered is: - not suitable, needed and feasible; Stop and notify the producer the practice is not acceptable - suitable, needed and feasible without any changes; go to step 9 - suitable, needed and feasible, but only if required changes are made; go to step 8. When producer modifies the practice or acreage offered after NRCS or TSP has made the determinations in this step, Stop and go back to step 3.	Paragraphs 211 and 215.
8	COC or CED notifies producer of required changes needed to make the practice acceptable. If producer: - agrees to make all required changes, update TERRA Scenario and COLS, then proceed to step 9 - does not agree to make all required changes, stop and notify producer offer is not acceptable using CRP-26.	Paragraph 215.
9	County Offices shall ensure that the base limitation is not exceeded.	Paragraph 212.
10	County Office completes and prints CRP-2C and CRP-1.	Paragraph 214 and 215.
11	County Office completes paid-for measurement service, if requested.	Paragraph 215.
12	Producer signs and dates completed CRP-2C and CRP-1, and provides the signed documents to county office.	Paragraph 215.

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171 Overview (Continued)

*--C CRP Continuous Signup Process Flow (Continued)

Step	Continuous Signup Activity	Reference
13	County Office: - notifies producer of acceptability of offer using CRP-23 - provides producer a copy of signed CRP-1 and CRP-2C - provides producer a copy of CRP-1 Appendix - provides NRCS a copy of the letter of acceptability sent to producer - provides NRCS a copy of signed CRP-1 and CRP-2C - updates offer status in COLS to “submit to plan”.	Paragraph 214, 215, and 334.
14	NRCS provides County Office with: - NRCS signed conservation plan and all supporting documentation - NRCS-CPA-52 with the NRCS portion completed. * * *	Paragraph 366 and 367.
15	County Office: - completes FSA’s portion of NRCS-CPA-52 - completes and all necessary consultations - obtains copy of all permits or other permissions necessary to perform and maintain practices as provided by NRCS on NRCS-CPA-52 section G. County Office updates offer status in COLS to “submit to COC”.	Paragraph 366 and 367. COLS User Guide.
16	If determined complete and acceptable, COC or CED signs conservation plan.	Paragraph 366.
17	County Office ensures that AGI determination is made for the FY of the COC/CED approval date.	Paragraph 131.
18	COC or CED approves CRP-1. County Office notifies producer that CRP-1 is approved using CRP-24, and provides producer a copy of approved CRP-1.	Paragraph 401.
19	County Office enters COC approval date and effective start date from CRP-1 into COLS.	Paragraph 213 and COLS User Guide.

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172-180 (Reserved)

Section 1 Continuous Signup Basic Eligibility Criteria

181 Eligibility Requirements

A Eligibility Requirements for Cropland

All of the following **must** be met before **cropland** acreage may be determined acceptable for enrollment under continuous signup. For cropland within an approved wellhead protection area, see subparagraph B.

- COC or CED determines that the:
 - cropland offered is immediately adjacent and parallel to the water body identified and documented by NRCS or TSP according to subparagraph 181 E--*
 - producer eligibility requirements in Part 6, Section 1, are met
 - acreage offered is cropland

Important: See 3-CM for the definition of cropland.

- acreage offered meets eligibility criteria in subparagraph 151 A
- practice offered is an eligible practice for continuous signup

Note: See subparagraph 66 C for a list of eligible practices.

- practice and acreage offered meet the program policy and size requirements for the practice provided in Exhibit 11
- *--county cropland limit eligibility criteria in Part 4 is met.--*

181 Eligibility Requirements (Continued)

A Eligibility Requirements for Cropland (Continued)

- NRCS or TSP determines, based on a site visit, and using the Documentation of Suitability and Feasibility worksheet, all of the following:

- existing cover is not functioning as the practice offered
- acreage offered is suitable for the practice offered
- practice offered is needed and feasible to solve the resource concern

Note: Expiring CRP acreage automatically meets the needed and feasible eligibility requirement.

- practice offered meets the purpose of the practice according to Exhibit 11.--*
- Producer offers a per acre rental rate that is less than or equal to the calculated maximum payment rate. Offers in excess of the maximum payment rate shall be rejected.

Note: To calculate the per acre maximum payment rate, the County Office shall identify the 3 predominant soil types using TERRA for the eligible acreage offered on CRP-2C, including land that is offered under infeasible to farm criteria. See paragraphs 196, 212, and the TERRA User Guide.

The TERRA tool:

- provides official CRP data and calculations
- shall be used for all CRP administration purposes.

* * *

Land that meets the definition of cropland shall not be enrolled in CRP as marginal pastureland. See subparagraph C for eligibility requirements for marginal pastureland.

B Eligibility Requirements for Cropland Within Wellhead Protection Areas

An approved public wellhead protection area is the area designated by the appropriate State agency with an EPA-approved Wellhead Protection Program for water being drawn for public use, as defined for public use by the Safe Drinking Water Act, as amended.

Areas, such as aquifer protection areas, surrounding shallow aquifer areas, and water source protection districts are **not** public wellhead protection areas. Acreage within these areas is **not** eligible to be enrolled under the wellhead protection area provisions.

181 Eligibility Requirements (Continued)

B Eligibility Requirements for Cropland Within Wellhead Protection Areas (Continued)

States that do not have an EPA-approved Wellhead Protection Program shall **not** enroll acreage in CRP under the wellhead protection area provisions. Contact the State water quality agency:

- to determine if there is an EPA-approved Wellhead Protection Program
- for approved public wellhead protection areas.

Before **cropland** acreage within an approved public wellhead protection area may be determined acceptable for enrollment under continuous signup, **all** of the following **must** be met:

•*-- COC or CED determines that the:

- cropland offered is immediately adjacent and parallel to the water body identified and documented by NRCS or TSP according to subparagraph 181 E
- producer eligibility requirements in Part 6, Section 1, are met
- acreage offered is cropland

Important: See 3-CM for the definition of cropland.

- acreage offered meets eligibility criteria in subparagraph 151 A
- practice offered is an eligible practice for continuous signup

Note: See subparagraph 66 C for a list of eligible practices.

- practice and acreage offered meet the program policy and size requirements for the practice provided in Exhibit 11
- county cropland limit eligibility criteria in Part 4 is met.
- all of the acreage **must** be located within or immediately adjacent to the approved public wellhead protection area
- the acreage shall not exceed a radius of 2,000 feet from the approved public wellhead.

Exception: Enrollment may be allowed beyond a radius of 2,000 feet from the approved public wellhead, provided the State has established hydrologically delineated public wellhead protection areas using a 5-year or 10-year time-of-flow criteria and the State water quality agency has approved the hydrologically delineated public wellhead protection area.

At least 51 percent of the acreage offered must be located within an approved public wellhead protection area. The remaining 49 percent must be contiguous to the approved public wellhead protection area. The remaining acreage must be contiguous to the offered acreage.--*

181 Eligibility Requirements (Continued)

B Eligibility Requirements for Cropland Within Wellhead Protection Areas (Continued)

- *--NRCS or TSP determines, based on a site visit and using the Documentation of Suitability and Feasibility worksheet, all of the following:

- existing cover is not functioning as the practice offered
- acreage offered is suitable for the practice offered
- practice offered is needed and feasible to solve the resource concern

Note: Expiring CRP acreage automatically meets the needed and feasible eligibility requirement.

- practice offered meets the purpose of the practice according to Exhibit 11.
- Producer offers a per acre rental rate that is less than or equal to the calculated maximum payment rate. Offers in excess of the maximum payment rate shall be rejected.

Note: To calculate the per acre maximum payment rate, the County Office shall identify the 3 predominant soil types using TERRA for the eligible acreage offered on CRP-2C, including land that is offered under infeasible to farm criteria. See paragraphs 196, 212, and the TERRA User Guide.

The TERRA tool:

- provides official CRP data and calculations
- shall be used for all CRP administration purposes.

Land that meets the definition of cropland shall not be enrolled in CRP as marginal pastureland. See subparagraph C for eligibility requirements for marginal pastureland.--*

181 Eligibility Requirements (Continued)

B Eligibility Requirements for Cropland Within Wellhead Protection Areas (Continued)

If using a shapefile in TERRA to determine the percentage of acreage within the approved public wellhead protection area, the shapefile must contain the following attributes:

- FID
- shape
- type
- name
- code.

--Important:** Submit the complete shapefile to PAB Branch Chief by e-mail at **Shanita.Landon@wdc.usda.gov.--

Example: The following is an example of the attributes.

Name	Type	Length	Data Example
FID	Object ID	Default	
Shape	Polygon	Default	
Type	Text	25	CREP
Name	Text	255	Ohio River Basin
Code	Text	10	orb

Examples: The approved public wellhead protection area designated by the appropriate State agency is a 1,000 foot radius surrounding the approved public wellhead. Therefore, the acreage enrolled in CRP shall not exceed the acreage within the 1,000 foot approved area.

The approved public wellhead protection area designated by the appropriate State agency is a 3,000 foot radius surrounding the approved public wellhead. Therefore, the acreage enrolled in CRP shall not exceed the acreage within a 2,000 radius from the approved public wellhead.

See subparagraph 66 C for a list of eligible practices for cropland within approved public wellhead protection areas.

181 Eligibility Requirements (Continued)**C Eligibility Requirements for Marginal Pastureland**

The following is **not** eligible to be enrolled in CRP as marginal pastureland:

- cropland
- forestland
- woodland.

Under no circumstances can land be considered both cropland and marginal pastureland. See 3-CM * * *, for provisions for removing land from cropland status to be enrolled in CRP under marginal pastureland criteria to be devoted to CP22, CP22B, CP22S, CP29, and CP30.

--Marginal pastureland can only be enrolled as CP22, CP22B, CP22S, CP29, and CP30.--

* * *

181 Eligibility Requirements (Continued)

C Eligibility Requirements for Marginal Pastureland (Continued)

*--All of the following **must** be met before **marginal pastureland**, including grazing land that may not have been previously seeded, may be determined acceptable for enrollment under continuous signup:

- devoted to a CP22 riparian buffer (planted or natural regeneration), CP29 wildlife habitat buffer, or CP30 wetland buffer.
- COC or CED determines all of the following:
 - marginal pastureland offered is immediately adjacent and parallel to the water body identified and documented by NRCS or TSP according to 181 E
 - producer eligibility requirements in Part 6, Section 1, are met
 - land offered is marginal pastureland

Important: Land that meets the definition of cropland shall not be enrolled in CRP as marginal pastureland. See 3-CM for the definition of cropland.

- practice offered is an eligible practice for continuous signup
- Note:** See subparagraph 66 C for a list of eligible practices.
- practice and acreage offered meets program policy and size requirements for the practice provided in Exhibit 11 are met
 - NRCS or TSP determines, based on a site visit, and using Documentation of Suitability and Feasibility worksheet, all of the following:
 - existing cover is not functioning as the practice offered
 - acreage is suitable for the offered practice
 - practice is needed and feasible to solve the resource concern
 - practice offered meets the purpose of the practice according to Exhibit 11
 - Producer offers a per acre rental rate that is less than or equal to the calculated maximum payment rate using the applicable marginal pastureland rental rate for the county. Offers in excess of the maximum payment rate shall be rejected.

Note: See paragraph 196 for calculating maximum payment rate for marginal pastureland.--*

181 Eligibility Requirements (Continued)

D Marginal Pastureland and Trees

*--When NRCS or TSP determines, based on a site visit, the marginal pastureland offered is:

- capable of and suitable for tree plantings, or natural regeneration to trees, then the only eligible practice is CP22, CP22B, or CP22S
- **not** capable of and suitable for tree plantings, then the only eligible practice is CP29, or CP30.

If trees are already established and functioning as a riparian buffer, as determined by NRCS or TSP, the land is **not** eligible to be enrolled in CRP.--*

If the existing trees are not functioning as a riparian buffer because of the presence of livestock, the land is **not** eligible to be enrolled in CRP. Other programs, such as EQIP or WHIP, may be used to exclude the livestock and restore the functions of the riparian buffer.

Example 1: Mary Smith offers to enroll marginal pastureland to be devoted to CP22. Based on a site visit, NRCS or TSP determines that the existing trees and vegetative cover would function as a riparian buffer if the livestock would be excluded from the site. No further action would be required for the existing cover to function as a riparian buffer. Therefore, the land is **not** eligible to be enrolled in CRP.

Example 2: Bob Brown offers to enroll marginal pastureland to be devoted to CP22. Based on a site visit, NRCS or TSP determines that the existing trees are not functioning as a riparian buffer because of the presence of livestock and the lack of a sufficient understory. The existing trees will not function as a riparian buffer by excluding the livestock. Additional vegetation **must** be planted to establish a functioning riparian buffer. Therefore, provided all other eligibility requirements are met, the land may be enrolled in CRP to be devoted to CP22.

If NRCS or TSP determines that existing trees are not functioning as a riparian buffer, the conservation plan **must** require some action by the producer, such as tree planting; otherwise, the land is not eligible to be enrolled in CRP.

181 Eligibility Requirements (Continued)

***--E Determinations, Identification, and Documentation**

For **cropland** to be eligible to be enrolled as practice CP21, CP21B, CP21S, CP22, CP22B, CP22S, the COC or CED must determine if the cropland is immediately adjacent and parallel to one of the following, as identified and documented by NRCS or TSP on the Documentation of Suitability and Feasibility Worksheet:

- stream having perennial flow
- stream having seasonal/intermittent flow (contains water for only part of the year but more than just during and/or after a rainfall or snowmelt).
- sinkhole/karst area
- wetlands with water areas capable of reducing damages by sedimentation and associated pollutants that meet one of the following:
 - permanently flooded
 - intermittently exposed
 - semipermanently flooded
 - seasonally flooded
- **permanent** water bodies, such as lakes and ponds, that are at least 5 acres in size if **both** of the following are met:
 - provides water cover **throughout the year in all years**
 - flows from the water body off the farm.

For **marginal pastureland** to be eligible to be enrolled as practice:

- CP22, CP22B, CP22S or CP29, the COC or CED must determine if the marginal pastureland is immediately adjacent and parallel to one of the following, as identified and documented by NRCS or TSP on the Documentation of Suitability and Feasibility Worksheet:
 - stream having perennial flow
 - stream having seasonal/intermittent flow (contains water for only part of the year but more than just during and/or after a rainfall or snowmelt)
 - sinkhole/karst areas
 - **permanent** water bodies, such as lakes and ponds, that are at least 5 acres in size if **both** of the following are met:
 - provides water cover **throughout the year in all years**
 - flows from the water body off the farm.--*

181 Eligibility Requirements (Continued)

***--E Determinations, Identification, and Documentation**

- CP30, the COC or CED must determine if the **marginal pastureland** is immediately adjacent and parallel to wetlands with water areas capable of reducing damages by sedimentation and associated pollutants that meet one of the following, as identified and documented by NRCS or TSP on the Documentation of Suitability and Feasibility Worksheet:
 - permanently flooded
 - intermittently exposed
 - semipermanently flooded
 - seasonally flooded.--*

F Expiring Continuous Signup Land Eligibility

Cropland and marginal pastureland that is currently under CRP contract may be re-offered for CRP no earlier than 6 months before CRP-1 is scheduled to expire. In addition to meeting the eligibility requirements of paragraph 151 and subparagraph 181 A, cropland must meet the current practice standards for the practice according to Exhibit 11.

Cropland that was previously enrolled in CRP but has expired or was terminated is eligible to be enrolled under continuous signup contracts if it meets all other eligibility requirements, including needed and feasible criteria.

Note: Land that is currently under contract or has expired and the cover has been maintained is **not** eligible for SIP.

The following are eligible land examples for expiring CRP when the offer is submitted before expiration.

Example 1: CP21 is expiring and is re-offered. The average width of the practice is 80 feet. The technical agency or TSP recommends the practice should be an average width of 100 feet to meet current practice standards. The participant may re-enroll the practice provided the average width enrolled is 100 feet according to an approved conservation plan. C/S and PIP may be authorized for the additional average width required to meet the current practice standard.

Note: If the technical recommendation was for a width less than enrolled, **only** the lesser width would be eligible.

Example 2: Expiring general signup CRP-1 includes a tree practice such as CP3, CP3A, or CP11. The participant re-offers part or all of the applicable acreage as a continuous signup practice such as CP22 or CP31. CRP-1 is in compliance and NRCS or TSP determines the practice meets the current standards for the practice. COC or CED may approve CRP-1. SIP and PIP are **not** authorized.

181 Eligibility Requirements (Continued)

F Expiring Continuous Signup Land Eligibility (Continued)

Example 3: Expiring general signup CRP-1 with 1 or more practices such as CP1, CP2, CP4D, CP10, or CP11 that includes wetland restoration as part of CRP-1. The participant re-offers the restored wetland as an applicable continuous practice such as CP23, CP23A, CP27, CP28, CP31, or CP37 according to procedure. CRP-1 is determined in compliance and NRCS or TSP determines the practice meets practice standards. COC or CED may approve CRP-1 and conservation plan. SIP and PIP are **not** authorized.

Example 4: Producer offers an expiring CP21 as practice CP21 that is an average of 80 feet in width. The producer also requests to enroll land adding an average width of 40 feet to reach the maximum average width allowed according to current FOTG standards (up to an average width of 120 feet). NRCS or TSP recommends that the practice meets the practice standards at the 80-foot average width. COC or CED may accept an offer and approve CRP-1 and practice at the 80 foot average width. An offer of additional land to an existing buffer practice is **not** authorized because the current width is addressing the conservation issue. SIP and PIP are **not** authorized.

*--Land under an expiring CRP-1 is considered basically eligible to be reoffered for enrollment into CREP. The CREP agreement provisions apply to any new or expiring land offered into CREP.

Notes: Enrollment in CREP may require participant action to meet CREP agreement requirements.

Otherwise eligible land **not** currently enrolled may be added to adjacent CRP-1 acreage to meet current practice standards under the CREP project's practices, according to the CREP agreement and FSA's 2-CRP State supplement, as determined by NRCS or TSP.--*

Section 2 Continuous Signup Non-C/S Payments**196 Annual Payments****A Per Acre Maximum Payment Rate**

Before CRP-1 is completed, the County Office shall calculate and inform the producer of the per acre maximum payment rate for the eligible acreage being offered on CRP-2C. Producers may offer a per acre rental rate less than the calculated per acre maximum payment rate.

The per acre maximum payment rate shall be determined for:

- cropland, using all of the following:
 - the most current SRR's for the 3 predominant soils on the eligible acreage offered

Note: For infeasible-to-farm acreage, the most current SRR for the 3 predominant soils on the infeasible-to-farm acreage.

- an incentive (10 percent or 20 percent depending on the practice) of the per acre weighted average SRR, if applicable, established according to subparagraph B

Exception: Continuous signup incentives do not apply to land enrolled using infeasible-to-farm criteria.

- a maintenance incentive rate established according to subparagraph C

196 Annual Payments (Continued)

A Per Acre Maximum Payment Rate (Continued)

- marginal pastureland, using all of the following:
 - the applicable marginal pastureland rental rate for the county regardless of soil type

Important: For counties that have 2 marginal pastureland rental rates established, the marginal pastureland rate will be determined based on the type of *--perennial or seasonal water body adjacent to the land offered. See subparagraph 181 E.--*
 - an incentive of 20 percent of the applicable marginal pastureland rental rate

Exception: Land previously enrolled in CRP under WBP eligibility criteria is **not** eligible for a 20 percent incentive.
 - a maintenance incentive rate established according to subparagraph C
- CRP grasslands, using the applicable CRP grassland rental rate for the county regardless of soil type.

See subparagraph D for calculating the per acre maximum payment rate.

Section 3 Processing Continuous Signup Offers

211 Continuous Signup Process Information

A Receiving Continuous Signup Offers

Producers may submit offers of acreage for CRP at any time by submitting an offer on *--CRP-1 and CRP-2C, or CRP-2G, as applicable. There is no deadline to submit an offer under continuous signup.

Note: A new signup number shall be used for each FY, except for CRP grasslands. See paragraphs 171 and 264.--*.

Offers **must** be submitted by tract. See 3-CM for a definition of a tract.

Producers shall:

- indicate the acreage and practice to be enroll in CRP
- *--identify the acreage offered on digital imagery
- indicate the per acre rental rate offered
- submit offers for CRP grasslands using CRP-2G according to Part 9.

B Separate Offers

Separate CRP-1's **must** be completed for:

- each CRP-2C completed
- practices with different lifespans.

Example: Producer offers 5 acres to be devoted to a filter strip with a 10-year lifespan and 3 acres to be devoted to a riparian buffer with a 13-year lifespan on the same tract. Only one CRP-2C is completed for the offer. However, separate CRP-1's **must** be completed for each practice.

211 Continuous Signup Process Information (Continued)

C Informing Producers

County Offices shall inform producers:

- CRP-1 (Exhibit 21) is a binding contract
- changes are not allowed on the preprinted portion of CRP-1, CRP-1 Appendix, CRP-2C, *--or CRP-2G
- any changes to the data entered on CRP-1, CRP-1 Continuation, CRP-2C, CRP-2G, or--* other CRP form **must** be initialed and dated by both the employee making the change and the producer
- CRP-1 **must** be signed and dated by all required signatories before COC or CED may approve CRP-1

Note: See paragraph 335 for signature requirements.

- *--the total of the following **must not** exceed the DCP cropland acreage on a farm, **except** to the extent there is an established double-cropping history on the farm as follows:
 - all base acres on the farm, including generic base acres
 - any cropland acreage enrolled in:
 - CRP
 - EWP
 - WBP
 - WRP
 - any cropland acreage on the farm enrolled in any **Federal** conservation program for which payments are made in exchange for **not** producing an agricultural commodity

Notes: Enrollment in State conservation programs has no impact on ARC, PLC, or CTAP payments.

Base acres can only be reduced on CCC-505. If the farm is **not** over based, but the tract is out of balance, CCC-517 may be used to redistribute the base.--*

See subparagraph 401 B.

- of provisions regarding CRP-1 effective date.

Note: See paragraph 213 for applicable CRP-1 effective dates for continuous signup.

211 Continuous Signup Process Information (Continued)

D COC or CED Responsibilities

*--Before submitting unsigned CRP-2C to NRCS or TSP, COC or CED shall determine whether all eligibility requirements in paragraph 181 are met.

Exceptions: COC or CED shall not make a determination about:

- suitability of the acreage for the practice offered
- need and feasibility of the practice offered to solve the resource concern
- the eligibility of the per acre rental rate offered amount until maximum payment rate amount is calculated

If all applicable eligibility requirements that COC or CED are responsible for in paragraph 181 are:

- **not** met, COC or CED must:
 - not submit unsigned CRP-2C to NRCS or TSP
 - use CRP-26 to inform producer the offer was not acceptable.
- met, COC or CED must submit unsigned CRP-2C and digital imagery to NRCS or TSP.--*

E Withdrawing Offers and Acreage Modifications

For continuous signups, before CRP-1 is approved by COC or CED, producers may modify the offer in any way except changes to the following:

- practice offered to another practice that is not eligible for continuous signup
- rental rate per acre offered to exceed the calculated maximum payment rate.

*--**Note:** See paragraphs 101, 171, and 181.--*

211 Continuous Signup Process Information (Continued)

E Withdrawing Offers and Acreage Modifications (Continued)

Producers who withdraw or modify acreage offered under continuous signup **before** CRP-1 is approved shall not be assessed liquidated damages.

Important: Liquidated damages are applicable after CRP-1 is approved.

When the producer modifies the acreage or practice offered after NRCS or TSP has returned *--unsigned CRP-2C, and Documentation of Suitability and Feasibility Worksheet, County--* Offices must:

- update the TERRA Scenario, COLS and digital imagery to reflect modifications
- print updated CRP-2C
- provided updated unsigned CRP-2C and digital imagery to NRCS or TSP for suitability, needs and feasibility based on the producers modifications.--*

A measurement service, if applicable, shall be completed for all acreage determined acceptable **before** CRP-1 is approved. See paragraph 401.

Exception: Any acreage currently enrolled that is being reoffered if the acreage was previously measured and official fields.

F TSP Responsibilities

*--NRCS or TSP shall, for every continuous signup unsigned CRP-2C received:

- complete a site visit to determine whether the:
 - practice offered meets the purpose of the practice according to Exhibit 11
 - land offered is suitable for the practice offered
 - practice offered is needed and feasible to solve the resource concern
 - existing cover is functioning as the practice offered (paragraph 181)
- return unsigned CRP-2C, digital imagery, Documentation of Suitability and Feasibility Worksheet, and other supporting documentation to the County Office.--*

212 Completing CRP-2C for Continuous Signup

A About CRP-2C

CRP-2C shall be completed for all acreage on which producers want to submit a request for enrollment. The document is used by FSA and NRCS or TSP to:

- make eligibility determinations
- calculate maximum payment rates
- obtain data and statistics on acreage offered for the program.

Notes: See paragraph 333 for completing CRP-2 for general CRP signups.

Offers containing both MPL and cropland with the same practice lifespans will be completed using one CRP-2C and CRP-1.

Before completing CRP-2C, the County Office shall ensure that the base limitation is not exceeded. See subparagraph 401 B and 1-ARCPLC, paragraph 21.

To be eligible to be enrolled in CRP, MPL **must** be devoted to a riparian buffer devoted (planted or natural regeneration) to trees, wildlife habitat buffer, or wetland buffer. See paragraph 181.

Important: Land that meets the definition of cropland shall **not** be enrolled in CRP as MPL. See 3-CM for the definition of cropland.

All changes to data entered on CRP-2C, including completion of item numbers 2 and 3B after producer signs CRP-2C, must be initialed and dated by both the employee making the change and the producer.

CRP-2C is:

- a COLS computer-generated form used for continuous signup offers
- provided for display purposes only.

--Manual CRP-2C's are not authorized.--

212 Completing CRP-2C for Continuous Signup (Continued)

B Example of CRP-2C

The following is an example of CRP-2C.

*

This form is available electronically.
Page 1 of 5
(See Page 2 for Privacy Act and Paperwork Reduction Act Statements.)

CRP-2C (10-22-15)		1. Tract Number 106	
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE Farm Service Agency		2. Program Year 2016	
CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM WORKSHEET (For Continuous Signup)		3A. Sign Up Number 46	
3B. Effective Date (MM-DD-YYYY) 10/01/2015			

4A. Farm Number 55	4B. Name and Address of Producer (Zip Code) Earl and Evelyn Laudenschlager 26 S. 6th Street Quakertown, PA 18951	4D. County FSA Office Address (Zip Code) Lebanon County FSA office 1600 Cumberland St. Lebanon, PA 17042
	4C. Telephone Number (Include Area Code) (717) 234-1772	4E. County FSA Office Phone No. (Include Area Code) (717) 234-1842
5A. State & County Code Admin. Location 42-075	5B. State & County Code Physical Location 42-075	6. Contract Number
8. Is Cost-Share Requested? YES ☒ NO ☐	9. Rental Rate Per Acre Offered \$	7. Acres for Enrollment 100.2
10. Signup Type (Check one): Continuous ☒ CREP ☐ FWP ☐		
11. Practices (See Page 3 for additional space)		12. HUC Number:

A. Field No.	B. Practices	C. Acres	D. Estimated Total C/S	E. Length	13. Land Eligibility Category by Acres: (Enter the amount eligible for each criteria.)
1A	CP2	50.2	\$1,100	10	Marginal Pastureland
1B	CP1	50.0	\$1,000	10	CREP Acres
					Wellhead Protection Acres
					Expiring CRP
					Infeasible to Farm
					Other Cropland
					HEL EI ≥ 20

14. Soil Map Data and Maximum Payment Rate Calculations:						
	A. Physical Location	B. Soil Survey ID No.	C. Map Unit Symbol	D. Acres	E. Soil Rental Rate	F. Total Rent
(1) Primary	17157	1L157	122B	100.2	x \$ 42.00	= \$ 4,208
(2) Secondary					x \$	= \$
(3) Tertiary					x \$	= \$
TOTALS				100.2		\$ 4,208

15. Weighted Average Soil Rental Rate (Col. 14F total divided by Col. 14D total) \$ 42.00	16. Total Incentive (if applicable) (Item 15 times 14D times applicable incentive percentage) \$
---	--

17. Soil Map Data and Maximum Payment Rate Calculations. For Infeasible to farm Acreage:						
	A. Physical Location	B. Soil Survey ID No.	C. Map Unit Symbol	D. Acres	E. Soil Rental Rate	F. Total Rent
(1) Primary				x	\$	= \$
(2) Secondary				x	\$	= \$
(3) Tertiary				x	\$	= \$
TOTALS						\$

18. Weighted Average Soil Rental Rate Plus Total Incentive (14F + 16 + 17F) divided by (14D + 17D) \$ 42.00	CONTRACT TOTALS 19. Weighted Average Maintenance Rate for Contract \$ 2.00
	20. Maximum Payment Rate (Item 18 + Item 19) \$ 44.00

*

214 Completing CRP-1 for Continuous Signup (Continued)

A Completing CRP-1 (Continued)

The following provides an example of land offered for enrollment under continuous signup with the producer not signing CRP-1 until all documents and information required are obtained. **The following is an example for demonstration purposes only.**

Note: For CRP-1 for CRP grasslands, see Part 9.

*--

Date	Action
February 23, 2015	Producer initiates CRP-2C to enroll land in CRP under continuous signup on February 23, 2015. The land is not currently enrolled in CRP and the producer wants CRP-1 to be effective as soon as possible.
March 2, 2015	COC or CED determines all applicable eligibility requirements that COC or CED is responsible for according to paragraph 181 have been met and submits unsigned CRP-2C to NRCS or TSP with copy of digital imagery.
March 13, 2015	NRCS or TSP completes a site visit and using the Documentation of Suitability and Feasibility Worksheet, determines the land is suitable for the practice offered, and the practice is needed and feasible to solve the resource concern.
March 16, 2015	NRCS or TSP: • returns unsigned CRP-2C and digital imagery to the County Office • provides the County Office a signed and dated Documentation of Suitability and Feasibility Worksheet.
March 17, 2015	County Office calculates maximum payment rate and notifies producer that CRP-1 and CRP-2C is completed and ready for producer signature.
March 20, 2015	Producer provides the County Office a signed and dated CRP-1 and CRP-2C.

--*

214 Completing CRP-1 for Continuous Signup (Continued)**A Completing CRP-1 (Continued)**

Date	Action
April 3, 2015	*--County Office: • notifies producer of acceptability of offer using CRP-23 • provides producer copy of signed CRP-1 and CRP-2C • provide producer copy of CRP-1 Appendix • provides NRCS copy of letter of acceptability sent to producer • provides NRCS copy of signed CRP-1 and CRP-2C • updates offer status in COLS to “submit to plan”.--*
May 18, 2015	County Office: • receives all required information and forms to approve CRP-1 • completes second party review of all eligibility requirements and maximum payment rate calculations.
May 26, 2015	COC or CED approves CRP-1 with an effective date of June 1, 2015.
May 27, 2015	County Office notifies producer using CRP-24 of contract approval and effective date.

215 Notifying Producers With Continuous Signup Offers

A Unacceptable Offers

*--Before submitting unsigned CRP-2C to NRCS or TSP, COC or CED shall determine whether all eligibility requirements that COC or CED are responsible for in paragraph 181 are met.

If all applicable eligibility requirements are **not** met, COC or CED shall:

- **not** submit CRP-2C to NRCS TSP
- use CRP-26 to inform producer the offer was not acceptable.

If NRCS or TSP requires changes to the practice or acreage offered on the unsigned CRP-2C in order for the practice to meet the suitability of needs and feasibility, and the producer does not agree to make all required changes, the County Office must notify the producer that the offer is not acceptable using CRP-26.

Note: For CRP grasslands, see Part 9.

B Acceptable Offers

If CRP-2C is returned from NRCS or TSP and all eligibility requirements are met, COC or CED shall notify producer that CRP-1 and CRP-2C **must** be completed and signed.

Important: CRP-1 and CRP-2C not signed within 30 calendar days of the date the producer is notified CRP-2C is ready for signature shall be rejected.

If producer completes CRP-2C with an acceptable per acre rental rate offered amount and signs CRP-1 and CRP-2C, County Office shall provide producer CRP-1 Appendix and inform producer:

- the offer is acceptable using CRP-23
- starting the practice before CRP-1 approval is at the producers own risk
- of all the requirements needed for CRP-1 approval, such as:
 - working with NRCS or TSP to obtain a conservation plan
 - completing a paid for measurement service, if requested
 - signed landlord/tenant certification statement.

Note: See subparagraph 555 E for applicable CRP-1 Appendix.

County Office must provide NRCS or TSP all of the following:

- a copy of CRP-23, Notice Regarding Acceptable CRP offers
- a copy of a signed CRP-1 and CRP-2C.

For CRP grasslands, see Part 9.--*

215 Notifying Producers With Continuous Signup Offers (Continued)

B Acceptable Offers (Continued)

All changes to data entered on CRP-1 and CRP-2C after producer signs CRP-1 and CRP-2C must be initialed and dated by both the employee making the change and the producer.

CRP-1's not approved within 6 months of the date the producer signs CRP-2C shall be rejected.

Note: See paragraph 213.

When CRP-1 is approved, COC shall use CRP-24 to notify producer of approval and CRP-1 effective date. See Exhibit 5.

Note: See paragraph 401 for CRP-1 approval requirements.

216-236 (Reserved)

Part 11 Conservation Plans and Contract Support Documents**366 Developing Approved Conservation Plan****A Conservation Plan**

A conservation plan is a record of the producer's decisions and supporting information for the treatment of a unit of land or water as a result of the planning process that meets NRCS FOTG quality criteria for each natural resource and addresses economic and social considerations. The plan describes the schedule of operations and activities required to solve identified natural resource concerns.

A conservation plan may contain only information related specifically to CRP, or it may be a part of an overall total resource management system in which numerous conservation programs may be used to meet the natural resource needs.

B Original Plan Development

An approved conservation plan is required before CRP-1 can be approved. NRCS or TSP **must** complete a field visit, if necessary, before approving a conservation plan.

County Offices must provide to NRCS or TSP all documents necessary to complete the conservation plan, including, but not limited to the following:

- CRP-1
- CRP-2
- maps.

The approved conservation plan shall be developed by:

- the participant
- NRCS or TSP.

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

- environmental evaluation during the conservation planning process
- technical leadership for planning and implementation
- technical concurrence on the conservation plans and revisions
- adherence to subparagraph 367 F about compliance with NEPA, NHPA, ESA, and related laws, regulations, and executive orders.

366 Developing Approved Conservation Plan (Continued)

B Original Plan Development (Continued)

NRCS or TSP shall ensure that the approved conservation plan:

- contains all the practices necessary for the successful establishment and maintenance of the vegetative cover on all of the acres offered for CRP
- is technically adequate for achieving CRP objectives
- *--incorporates all requirements for Federal, State, or local permits or other permissions necessary to perform and maintain practices as provided by NRCS on the NRCS-CPA-52, section G.--*
- is reviewed and approved by the Conservation District

Exception: CED may approve the plan without the Conservation District signature only if the Conservation District refuses to review the plan. In those rare instances, CED shall document in the COC minutes Conservation District refusal to review the plan, including reasons why the Conservation District refused to review the plan.

Note: The Conservation District may assist the producer in planning and implementing conservation management practices and management systems.

- ensures that the CRP cover will not be disturbed 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, as determined by STC in consultation with the State Technical Committee

Note: See paragraph 427.

- for CP22 when the producer elects natural regeneration, provides **all** of the following:
 - **no** C/S shall be paid for the practice

Exceptions: See Exhibit 11.

366 Developing Approved Conservation Plan (Continued)**C Application of Practices**

The approved conservation plan shall include measures necessary for the successful establishment and maintenance of the approved practices and required management activities. This applies regardless of eligibility for C/S funds.

National practice CP12 may be included in the approved conservation plan only to enhance certain other practices included in the approved conservation plan if the:

- producer wants to establish a wildlife habitat
- area is suited for the successful establishment of the practice.

Note: See Exhibit 11 for practices eligible to be used in conjunction with CP12.

D Practice Performance Requiring Permits

Persons who want to perform practices on land they do not own or to install practices that *--require State or Federal permits are responsible for obtaining permits or other permissions necessary to perform and maintain practices, as provided by NRCS on NRCS-CPA-52, Section G.--*

* * *

The person receiving C/S assistance is responsible to CCC for any losses sustained by the Federal Government if the person:

- infringes on the rights of others
- does not comply with applicable laws and regulations.

367 Conservation Planning

A Conservation Plan Development

Upon notification that the offer is acceptable, the designated NRCS conservationist will work with the producer to develop a conservation plan or incorporate CRP needs and practices into an existing conservation plan. The designated conservationist will also coordinate with the appropriate agencies relating to the planning and installation of wildlife habitat and forestry practices.

B Plan Requirements

An approved conservation plan:

- includes all of the eligible acres offered for CRP
- prohibits harvesting or grazing of CRP acreage for the life of CRP-1
- Exception:** Managed or emergency haying or grazing.
- has suitable planned cover for the soil types enrolled
- includes practices required for the establishment of permanent cover
- contains the practices necessary for the successful establishment and maintenance of the approved cover on all acres enrolled
- contains practices necessary to control weeds, insects, and pests
- encourages the best method for maintenance of the approved cover, such as prescribed burning or other options
- contains required management activities
- is technically adequate for achieving CRP objectives
- meets the specific environmental objectives of CPA if applicable
- *--ensures that the CRP cover will not be disturbed 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, as determined by FSA STC in--* consultation with the State Technical Committee

Note: See paragraph 427.

- *--ensures NEPA and other requirements have been met, see subparagraph 367 F.--*
- includes engineering plans.

367 Conservation Planning (Continued)**C Conservation Plan Map**

The conservation plan map shall show the number, field boundaries, easements, and acres, as identified by FSA. The land use shall be identified as “Cropland-CRP-Cover type.”

D Additional Material to Include in the Conservation Plan

In addition to the material outlined in the National Planning Procedures Handbook, the conservation plan shall include information or job sheets on the following:

- vegetative or cover establishment
- herbicides, insecticide, or mechanical weed control.

E Planning Policy

Technical references and conservation planning policy include:

- National Planning Procedures Handbook
- FOTG, Sections III and V
- GM 180 Part 409.

367 Conservation Planning (Continued)

F National Environmental Policy Act and Other Requirements

NEPA, NHPA, ESA, and other related laws, regulations, and executive orders require Federal agencies to consider the potential impacts of their proposed actions upon the human environment. Therefore, **before** approving CRP-1's, land applications of animal waste, or construction of wind-powered generation devices, FSA **must** ensure that **all** potential impacts to the human environment have been considered according to 1-EQ, 7 CFR Part 799, and GM 190 Part 410, and adhere to the following.

Item for Approval	Criteria
CRP-1	FSA: •*--shall complete NRCS-CPA-52, as prepared by NRCS or TSP during the conservation planning process, to determine potential impacts of the proposed CRP-1 and associated CP's on the human environment • approval official will ensure that all appropriate environmental requirements have been met, which should include the following: • after the field visit portion, if necessary, NRCS completes, Sections A-O of the NRCS-CPA-52 • FSA receives from NRCS and/or producer, any related documentation, including permits, or other permissions necessary to perform and maintain practices, as provided by NRCS on NRCS-CPA-52, Section G to support conclusions made about potential impacts on environmental resources and special issues identified in the completed NRCS-CPA-52 • FSA completes NRCS-CPA-52, Sections P, Q, and R only after--* completing all necessary consultations with SHPO, THPO, American Indian Tribes, other consulting parties concerned with cultural resources, FWS, and NOAA Fisheries. Note: For proposed actions that occur within wetlands or floodplains, see 1-EQ for guidance.
Land Application of Animal Waste, Sludge, or Agricultural By-Product	Before COC or CED approves the application of animal waste, sludge, or agricultural by-product, FSA shall: • request NRCS update CPO and NRCS-CPA-052. FSA then completes the NRCS-CP-052 process and proceeds with processing producer's request. • include with appropriate supporting documentation and consultation records as part of the producer's CRP file.
Construction of Wind Turbines	Request NRCS update CPO and NRCS-CPA-052. FSA then completes the NRCS-CPA-052 process and proceeds with processing producer's request. FSA shall ensure that turbines are sited using USFWS land-based wind energy guidelines. See paragraph 639.

368 NRCS Conservation C/S Agreement (Continued)**D Required Signatures for Conservation Plan**

For CRP, NRCS-approved electronic forms **must** be signed by all of the following:

- CRP producers listed on CRP-1
- designated conservationist
- conservation district representative.

***--Note:** See paragraph 366 for requirements before COC or CED approves the conservation plan.

FSA COC or CED shall have concurrence with the Contract Support Document for CRP--* acreage. If CRP acreage is not in a conservation district or the conservation district refuses to sign the conservation plan, the State Conservationist shall delegate authority to approve the conservation plan.

E Conservation Plan/Contract Support Document Requirements

An approved conservation plan includes:

- all of the eligible acres offered for CRP
- required maintenance for weeds, insects, pests, or other undesirable species for the life of CRP-1
- only those practices requested in CRP-1
- application rates that are consistent with practice specifications.

Note: Any other changes in regard to the above items may void CRP-1.

369 Assembling and Filing CRP Documents

A Overview

*--CRP documents shall be filed according to State policy.

Note: County FSA Offices shall:

- maintain the original CRP-1, CRP-1 Appendix, and CRP-2, CRP-2C, and CRP-2G--*
- provide NRCS with a copy of any documents needed for NRCS CRP case files.

Historically, CRP documents have been contained in a 6-part folder. The following subparagraphs provide suggestions for assembling and filing CRP documents.

B Standard File Folder

If a standard file folder is used, the arrangement of the contents of the first cover should be:

- conservation plan map and legend
- tree planting plan provided by the State Forestry Agency
- job sheets referenced from the conservation plan
- soil map
- interpretative information containing HEL designations
- CRP-2
- erosion and predominant soil worksheets.

The contents of the second cover should be:

- NRCS-approved forms
- CRP-1
- FSA-848A/B
- other support data.

Note: Each document should be filed with the latest version in front.

Part 12 Approving CRP-1's

401 Approving and Numbering CRP-1's

A Requirements Before Approval

Before approving CRP-1's, County Offices shall:

- ensure that a separate CRP-1 is completed for:
 - each CRP-2 or CRP-2C
 - practices with different lifespans

Note: See paragraphs 211 and 332.

- determine acres to be enrolled by completing a paid-for measurement service

Exceptions: Measurement service is not required for:

- official fields
- any acreage currently enrolled that has been reoffered and accepted, if the specific area accepted was measured before enrollment.

Notes: In early signup periods, offers were accepted by farm. Offers are now required to be by tract. If acreage currently enrolled were required to be reoffered separately because the acreage is located on more than 1 tract, the acreage is required to be measured.

The use of TERRA is considered a measurement service. No measurement service fee is charged for the use of TERRA. If staking and referencing or in office measurement, other than TERRA, is performed, see 2-CP, paragraph 460 for fees.

- adjust the acreage on CRP-1 as appropriate according to the completed measurement service
- *--ensure that base acres and CRP acres do not exceed effective DCP cropland on the--* farm, according to subparagraph B
- complete approved farm reconstitutions

401 Approving and Numbering CRP-1's (Continued)

A Requirements Before Approval (Continued)

- *--review NRCS-CPA-52, Section G, to determine if the producer is required to obtain any permits or other permissions necessary to perform and maintain practices, or if FSA needs to complete consultations--*
- complete a second party review of all eligibility requirements and maximum payment rate calculations
- ensure that CCC-931, CCC-933, or CCC-941 as applicable, has been filed for all producers with a share greater than zero, including members of entities and joint operations, and updated in the web-based Subsidiary Eligibility System before CRP-1 approval

Notes: CCC-931 **must** be filed to ensure that CRP participants are aware of payment eligibility for new CRP contracts or revised CRP contracts where there is a succession. This does **not** require that a prospective CRP participant be eligible for payments, **only** that CCC-931 be filed.

If a zero share producer revises their share, the appropriate AGI form is required. See paragraph 131.

- review the multiple county producer list with other County Offices
- ensure county cropland limit eligibility according to Part 4

Note: The first five CREP offers per county **must** be reviewed by STC before COC or CED approval.

- determine the total annual rental rate for the acreage being offered and all previously approved CRP-1's
- ensure that NRCS has terminated all applicable WBP agreements.

Note: File a copy of the terminated WBP agreement in the producer's CRP folder.

401 Approving and Numbering CRP-1's (Continued)

B Approving Contracts

Approve CRP-1's if:

- offer is included on the list of acceptable offers

Note: This is not applicable to continuous signup contracts.

- for continuous signup CRP-1's, all applicable requirements according to paragraph 181 have been met
- all required signatures have been obtained on all related CRP forms and plans
- a conservation plan is approved for the acreage
- *--required permits or other permissions necessary to perform and maintain practices provided by NRCS on the NRCS-CPA-52, Section G have been obtained by the producer and a copy provided to the County Office--*
- the current CCC-931, CCC-933, or CCC-941 as applicable, has been filed for all producers with a share greater than zero and updated in the web-based Subsidiary Eligibility System
- the conservation plan is consistent with policies in paragraph 366
- base acres and CRP acres do not exceed the effective DCP cropland on the farm.

If the total acres, excluding any marginal pastureland, such as CRP grasslands noncropland acres based on the effective date of CRP-1's, exceeds DCP cropland for the farm, the producer shall designate which of the following to reduce:

- CRP acres being offered
- ARC/PLC acreage.

Important: Land transitioned under TIP CRP-1R is not subject to DCP base reduction.

Notes: Reduction of CRP acres offered shall be completed before the end of the applicable signup period.

The reduction of applicable acres shall be to the extent the total CRP and DCP cropland acreage does not exceed the cropland for the farm.

Acreage enrolled in an approved CRP-1 cannot be reduced.

County Offices shall calculate the number of acres on a farm that may be enrolled in CRP without requiring a reduction to DCP base acres at the time the producer submits CRP-2, CRP-2C, or CCC-920.

401 Approving and Numbering CRP-1's (Continued)

B Approving Contracts (Continued)

When the producer determines to reduce * * * base acres on a farm because of enrollment *--into CRP, the producer **must** complete CCC-505 according to 1-ARCPLC at the time the--* acres are being offered for CRP * * *.

Note: Some producers may elect to modify the number of acres to be offered for CRP * * * instead of reducing * * * base acres on the farm.

--Reduce base acres and complete CCC-505 according to 1-ARCPLC.--

- acreage determinations have been made and verified by a measurement service

Exceptions: Measurement service is not required for:

- official fields
- any acreage currently enrolled that has been reoffered and accepted, if the area accepted was measured before enrollment.

Notes: In early signup periods, offers were accepted by farm. Offers are now required to be by tract. If acreage currently enrolled were required to be reoffered separately because the acreage is located on more than 1 tract, the acreage is required to be measured.

The use of TERRA is considered a measurement service. No measurement service fee is charged for the use of TERRA. If staking and referencing or in office measurement, other than TERRA, is performed, see 2-CP, paragraph 460 for fees.

- all acreage eligibility determinations have been made.

491 General C/S Policy (Continued)

D C/S Not Authorized (Continued)

- streambank stabilization
- CP12
- *--CP11, except for tree thinning within open areas for contracts approved before March 14, 2011--*

Note: See Exhibit 11.

- splitting practices on the same land for C/S purposes between different Federal programs
- establishing required practice on CRP if any other Federal C/S has been, or is being, made to establish that practice
- drilling wells

Exception: C/S may be authorized for establishing drilled wells on filterstrips and riparian buffers, if needed.

- developing water facilities

Exceptions: C/S may be authorized for establishing:

- livestock water facilities outside filterstrips and riparian buffers, if needed

Note: See paragraph 511.

- a permanent water source for wildlife, when developed on certain acreage enrolled in CRP and according to a conservation plan. See Exhibit 11.

- installing irrigation systems
- improving or reorganizing existing irrigation systems
- purchasing and planting vegetative cover for certain practices exceeding 50 percent of the agricultural market value of the land

Note: See subparagraph B.

491 General C/S Policy (Continued)

D C/S Not Authorized (Continued)

- fencing CRP land

Exception: C/S may be authorized for fencing around filterstrips and riparian buffers.

- re-establishing practice because of damage from emergency haying or grazing
- establishing practices for unacceptable offers
- practice not meeting specifications
- practices not included in the approved conservation plan
- plastic mulch or supplemental irrigation water, except where CP5, CP5A, CP16, CP16A, CP17, CP17A, CP22, CP22B, CP22S, and CP25 (only if devoted to trees) will be established in areas where the average annual precipitation is 25 inches or less
- tree shelters, netting, plastic tubes, or other animal damage control devices, except in areas designated by STC for use only on CP3A, CP5A, CP16A, CP22, CP22B, CP22S, CP23, CP25, CP27, CP28, * * * CP39, CP40, or CP41

Notes: C/S is not approved for such devices for other practices.

See paragraph 31 and Exhibit 11.

- re-enrolled practices.

Exception: C/S is authorized **only** if additional work/activity is required for the practice to meet current practice standards according to paragraph 366 and Exhibit 11. C/S is **not** otherwise authorized for re-enrollments.

546 Revisions to CRP-1's (Continued)

D Required Forms and Signatures

The following provides required forms and signatures.

Form	Signature Required
• CRP-1 (Exhibit 21) • CRP-1 Appendix (Exhibit 29), if applicable • NRCS-CPA-1155 • Certification Statement (subparagraph 130 E) • Conservation Plan and Contract Support Documents	• Operator. • Operator's spouse, if spouse is another producer. • Each owner whose name is on the deed. Note: CRP-1 signatures are required 60 calendar days after COC notification.

Note: An operator is not required to sign a revised CRP-1 if the operator provides a written statement voluntarily relinquishing rights to CRP.

E Requirement Exceptions

The requirements for signatures apply unless:

- a trustee of BIA representing native Americans owning the land signs on their behalf

Note: All CRP-1's signed by BIA representative on behalf of native Americans owning
--the land shall be reviewed by RA. COC or CED shall not approve CRP-1 until--
RA determines that the required signatures have been obtained.

- a native American has a restrictive 5-year BIA farm lease that has been extended according to BIA provisions.

F Other Signatures

COC or CED shall:

- ensure that operators and tenants receive fair and equitable treatment
- verify that this provision is being followed before making C/S or annual rental payments.

546 Revisions to CRP-1's (Continued)

G Revising CRP-1's

Revise CRP-1 **only** according to the following.

*--

Step	Action
1	Initiate the contract revision or division in CCMS, according to the CCMS user guide, Sections 7 and 8.
2	Make necessary adjustments in CCMS to update CRP-1 according to the CCMS user guide, Sections 7 and 8.
3	Print revised CRP-1 from CCMS, according to the CCMS user guide, Section 5.
4	Write "VOID" on original CRP-1.
5	Provide copy of revised CRP-1 to all participants for signature, and CRP-1 Appendix, if applicable. Note: Do not provide a different CRP-1 Appendix if the participant on the revised CRP-1 is the same participant signing the original CRP-1. See subparagraph 546 H.

--*

637 Destroying CRP Cover Before CRP-1 Expiration (Continued)**B Acreage Ineligible for Early Land Preparation**

All CRP cover may be destroyed in the final year of CRP-1 for early land preparation, according to subparagraph A, B, or C, as applicable, except for acreage that is:

- devoted to the following practices:
 - CP5, CP5A, CP8, CP8A, CP9, CP13, CP13A, CP13B, CP13C, CP13D, CP14, CP16, CP21, CP21B, CP21S, CP22, CP22B, CP22S, CP23, CP27, CP28, CP29, and CP30
 - practices on which a useful life easement is filed
- *--located within an average width 120 feet of a perennial or seasonal/intermittent stream or other permanent water body--*
- considered a wetland by NRCS
- required to serve as a wetland buffer according to the practice standard in FOTG to protect the functions and values of a wetland
- located within an EPA-designated wellhead protection area
- subject to frequent flooding, as determined by NRCS or TSP.

637 Destroying CRP Cover Before CRP-1 Expiration (Continued)

C Participants' Responsibilities

Determine participants' responsibilities according to the following.

Note: Measurement service is available at the participant's expense for requests to prepare only a portion of the acres under contract.

*--

WHEN participants, in the final year of CRP-1, intend to destroy CRP cover to...	THEN participants...
prepare for spring- or fall-seeded crops from July 1 through September 30	• shall submit requests on CRP-1G Addendum at any time during the final year of CRP-1 • are required to meet with NRCS or TSP to obtain an approved conservation plan for: • the destruction of the CRP cover when the method of destruction could cause adverse environmental effects, as determined by TSP • conservation compliance, if applicable • may not hay, graze, or otherwise make commercial use of the CRP acreage during the primary nesting season • may not destroy cover during the primary nesting season--* • may plant fall-seeded agricultural commodities in areas where planting these crops normally occurs before October 1, as determined by STC • may mechanically remove cover and make commercial use of CRP acreage during the CRP-1 period with a 25 percent reduction of the annual rental payment Note: Participants may mechanically remove cover from CRP acreage without a reduction of the annual rental payment if no commercial use is made of the forage. The participant must pay for a field visit by COC or CED to verify destruction of the cover.

637 Destroying CRP Cover Before CRP-1 Expiration (Continued)

D Processing Participants' Requests (Continued)

Step	Action
5	*--Attach a copy of digital imagery to CRP-1G Addendum. Highlight the--*
6	Provide each participant and NRCS or TSP with a: • copy of approved CRP-1G Addendum • a photocopy highlighting the acreage on which the cover will be destroyed.
7	*--File CRP-1G Addendum and attached digital imagery in the CRP-1 folder.--*
8	Immediately approve requests received on eligible acreage.
9	During the normal payment cycle, after October 1, prorate the final payment to exclude payment for the nonpayment period identified on CRP-1G Addendum, item 3.

637 Destroying CRP Cover Before CRP-1 Expiration (Continued)

E Example of CRP-1G Addendum

The following is an example of CRP-1G Addendum.

*__

This form is available electronically. CRP-1G Addendum (08-06-14)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE Commodity Credit Corporation		1. ST. & CO. Code	2. Contract No.
CRP-1 MODIFICATION TO ALLOW EARLY LAND PREPARATION		Sept. 30, 20 ____		3. Period of Nonpayment	
				4. Acres	
				5. Farm No.	
6. TERMS TO ALLOW EARLY LAND PREPARATION This contract modification is entered into by the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) and the undersigned participant(s) on the Conservation Reserve Program contract number in Item 2, above. By signing this contract modification, the CCC agrees to allow the participant(s) identified below to, in the final year of the contract, prepare for planting the specified CRP acreage in Item 4, above. By signing this contract modification, the participant(s) agrees: • To meet with the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) or assigned Technical Service Provider to develop a conservation plan for land preparation. • To not destroy the cover established pursuant to the CRP practices provisions of the contract, during the primary nesting season. • To accept a 25-percent reduction in the annual rental rate if the specified CRP acreage is grazed, or hay is mechanically removed, for commercial use during the CRP-1 period. • To accept a reduced annual rental payment in the final year of the contract from the date of destruction of cover established pursuant to the CRP practices provisions of the contract through September 30th, as specified in Item 3, above.					
7A. Participant's Signature (BY)		7B. Title/Relationship (Individual Signing in a representative capacity)		7C. Date (MM-DD-YYYY)	
7A. Participant's Signature (BY)		7B. Title/Relationship (Individual Signing in a representative capacity)		7C. Date (MM-DD-YYYY)	
7A. Participant's Signature (BY)		7B. Title/Relationship (Individual Signing in a representative capacity)		7C. Date (MM-DD-YYYY)	
8A. Signature of CCC Representative		8B. Date (MM-DD-YYYY)		9. County FSA Office Name and Address (Including Zip Code)	
10. Telephone Number (Including Area Code):			11. Fax Number (Including Area Code):		
NOTE: The following statement is made in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 USC 552a – as amended). The authority for requesting the information identified on this form is 7 CFR Part 1410, the Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act (15 U.S.C. 714 et seq.), and the Agricultural Act of 2014 (Pub. L. 113-79). The information will be used to enable the producer to request modification of an existing CRP contract to allow for the early preparation of CRP acreage for the planting of seeded crops. The information collected on this form may be disclosed to other Federal, State, Local government agencies, Tribal agencies, and nongovernmental entities that have been authorized access to the information by statute or regulation and/or as described in applicable Routine Uses identified in the System of Records Notice for USDA/FSA-2, Farm Records File (Automated). Providing the requested information is voluntary. However, failure to furnish the requested information will result in a determination of ineligibility for the producer to request modification of an existing CRP contract to allow for the early preparation of CRP acreage for the planting of seeded crops. This information collection is exempted from the Paperwork Reduction Act as specified in the Agricultural Act of 2014 (Pub. L. 113-79, Title II, Subtitle G, Funding and Administration). RETURN THIS COMPLETED FORM TO YOUR COUNTY FSA OFFICE.					
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Part 19 Haying and Grazing of CRP Acres

Section 1 Managed Harvesting and Managed Harvesting of Biomass

663 Acreage Eligibility

A Eligible Acreage

Acreage eligible for managed harvesting includes acreage devoted to practices CP1, CP2, CP4B, CP4D, CP10, CP18B, CP18C, and CP38 if included in the approved SAFE proposal. Acreage shall become eligible 12 months after the cover is fully established.

B Ineligible Acreage

Acreage ineligible for managed harvesting includes acreage devoted to:

- useful life easements
- *--land within 120 feet of a perennial or seasonal/intermittent stream or other permanent waterbody--*
- any practices not listed in subparagraph A.

664 Managed Harvesting Provisions

A General Provisions

Managed harvesting, including harvest for biomass, is authorized no more frequently than 1 out of every 3 years, and no less frequently than 1 out of every 5 years, after the cover is fully established.

STC **must** consult with the State Technical Committee:

- to determine birds that are economically significant, in significant decline, or conserved according to Federal or State law
- to determine appropriate beginning and ending dates for the primary nesting season
- for establishing the frequency of managed harvesting period.

Note: In certain circumstances, States may restrict the amount of acreage that may be harvested as recommended by the State Technical Committee. For example, after consulting with the State Technical Committee, a State establishes that 50 percent of the acreage must be left unharvested for wildlife. States shall report any additional restrictions to CED.

664 Managed Harvesting Provisions (Continued)

A General Provisions (Continued)

--If STC's do not establish primary nesting season and harvesting dates and frequency as-- recommended by the State Technical Committee, STC **must**:

- submit the dates to CEPD for approval
- include justification to support the dates not recommended by the State Technical Committee
- notify Director, CEPD, each time the primary nesting or brood rearing season or frequency is changed in consultation with the State Technical Committee.

If any State Office wishes to change the primary nesting season beginning or ending date for managed harvesting or frequency, an EA must be completed at their own cost. After completion of EA and issuance of a "Finding of No Significant Impact", the request may be forwarded to CEPD for approval.

* * *

Managed harvesting is authorized for a single period up to 120 calendar days after the end of the primary nesting season. The length of time established shall be included in the locally approved harvesting plan, which is a part of the conservation plan. The primary purpose of this plan **must** be to maintain vegetative cover, minimize soil erosion, protect water quality, and protect wildlife habitat quality.

COC's shall not authorize participants to select their own managed harvesting periods or establish harvesting "windows" greater than the number of calendar days authorized.

Managed harvesting is not authorized during the primary nesting * * * season. Requests for waiver will **not** be granted.

*--**Note:** See Exhibit 51.5 for historical and current PNS dates and frequencies.--*

Section 2 Managed Grazing for CRP Contracts Approved Before July 28, 2010**679 Acreage Eligibility****A Eligible Acreage**

Acreage eligible for managed grazing includes acreage devoted to practices CP1, CP2, CP4B, CP4D, CP10, CP18B, and CP18C. Acreage shall become eligible 12 months after the cover is fully established.

B Ineligible Acreage

Acreage ineligible for managed grazing includes acreage devoted to:

- useful life easements
- *--land within 120 feet of a perennial or seasonal/intermittent stream or other permanent waterbody--*
- any practices not listed in subparagraph A.

680 Managed Grazing Provisions**A General Provisions**

STC **must** consult with the State Technical Committee:

- to determine birds that are economically significant, in significant decline, or conserved according to Federal or State law
- to determine appropriate beginning and ending dates for the primary nesting season
- for establishing the duration and frequency of managed grazing periods.

680 Managed Grazing Provisions (Continued)

A General Provisions (Continued)

If STC's do not establish nesting and brood rearing season and grazing dates and frequency as recommended by the State Technical Committee, STC **must**:

- submit the dates to CEPD for approval
- include justification to support the dates not recommended by the State Technical Committee
- notify Director, CEPD, each time the primary nesting or brood rearing season is changed in consultation with the State Technical Committee.

If any State Office wishes to change the primary nesting season beginning or ending date for managed grazing, an EA must be completed at their own cost. After completion of the EA and issuance of a "Finding of No Significant Impact", the request may be forwarded to CEPD for approval.

Managed grazing is authorized for a single period up to 120 calendar days not to exceed September 30; or for two 60-calendar-day periods not to exceed September 30. The length of time established shall be included in the locally approved Prescribed Grazing Plan, which is a part of the conservation plan. The primary purpose of this plan **must** be to maintain vegetative cover, minimize soil erosion, protect water quality, and protect wildlife habitat quality.

COC's shall not authorize participants to select their own managed grazing periods or establish "windows" greater than the number of calendar days authorized.

Example: COC shall not establish a managed grazing window that allows participant A to conduct managed grazing July 1 through August 31 and allow participant B to conduct managed grazing July 15 through September 13. In this example, the July 1 grazing start date selected by participant A and the September 13 ending date selected by participant B exceeds the 60-calendar-day grazing period.

Managed grazing is not authorized during the primary nesting and brood rearing season. Requests for waiver will **not** be granted.

691 County Eligibility (Continued)

H Haying and Grazing Timeframes

The following are haying and grazing timeframes:

- STC designation for emergency grazing may be for up to 90 calendar days, not to exceed September 30
- STC may authorize one 30-calendar-day extension, not to exceed September 30
- STC designation for emergency haying may be for up to 60 calendar days, not to exceed August 31
- STC may **not** authorize emergency haying extensions.

* * *

692 Acreage Eligibility

A Eligible Acreage

Acreage eligible for emergency haying or grazing includes acreage devoted to practices CP1, CP2, CP4B, CP4D, CP10, CP18B, CP18C, and CP38 if included in the approved SAFE proposal.

Note: DAFP may authorized certain additional practices if emergency conditions are determined to warrant such release.

B Ineligible Acreage

Acreage ineligible for emergency haying or grazing includes acreage devoted to:

- useful life easements
- *--land within 120 feet of a perennial or seasonal/intermittent stream or other permanent waterbody--*
- any practice **not** listed in subparagraph A.

693 Emergency Haying and Grazing Provisions

A General Provisions

Emergency haying or grazing shall be confined to the acreage physically located within the boundary of the eligible county, regardless of where the headquarters for the farm is located.

Note: An entire CRP field, which is partially located in an ineligible county, may be hayed or grazed as part of an eligible county.

Before haying or grazing, CRP participants:

- shall request approval to hay or graze eligible acreage
- obtain a modified conservation plan to include haying or grazing requirements, as determined by NRCS or TSP

Note: The haying or grazing plan **must** be site specific and reflect the local wildlife needs and concerns.

- shall leave at least 25 percent of each field or contiguous CRP fields ungrazed for wildlife, or graze not more than 75 percent of the stocking rate determined by NRCS or TSP
- shall leave at least 50 percent of each field or contiguous CRP fields unhayed for wildlife

Section 4 Routine Grazing Provisions

714 Authority

A Authority for Routine Grazing

The Food Security Act of 1985, as amended, provides authority for routine grazing.--*

715 Acreage Eligibility

A Eligible Acreage

Acreage eligible for routine grazing includes acreage devoted to practices CP1, CP2, CP4B, CP4D, CP10, CP18B, CP18C, and CP38 if included in the approved SAFE proposal. Acreage shall become eligible 12 months after the cover is fully established.

B Ineligible Acreage

Acreage ineligible for routine grazing includes acreage devoted to:

- useful life easements
- *--land within 120 feet of a perennial or seasonal/intermittent stream or other permanent waterbody--*
- any practices not listed in subparagraph A.

716 Routine Grazing Provisions

A General Provisions

* * *

STC shall consult with the State Technical Committee to determine routine grazing frequency and duration. States must set frequency and duration for routine grazing for new contracts. * * *

Routine grazing, as authorized, consists of the following 3 activities:

- routine grazing
- routine - permissive grazing
- routine - incidental grazing.

*--Routine grazing is authorized no more frequently than 1 out of every 2 years (every other year).

STC **must** consult with the State Technical Committee to:

- determine birds that are economically significant, in significant decline, or conserved according to Federal or State law
- determine appropriate beginning and ending dates for the primary nesting season
- establish the duration and frequency of routine grazing periods.

Notes: STC shall establish only 1 primary nesting season for managed harvesting, emergency haying and grazing, and routine grazing.

STC shall establish only 1 haying and grazing duration for managed harvesting, emergency haying and grazing, and routine grazing.

No changes are authorized to routine permissive grazing or routine incidental grazing.--*

716 Routine Grazing Provisions (Continued)

A General Provisions (Continued)

NRCS or TSP shall use NRCS technical practice standard No. 528, Prescribed Grazing, in developing the Routine Grazing Plan. The length of time and frequency established shall be included in the locally approved Prescribed Grazing Plan, which is a part of the conservation plan. The primary purpose of this plan **must** be to maintain vegetative cover, minimize soil erosion, protect water quality, and protect wildlife habitat quality.

Routine grazing is not authorized during the primary nesting * * * season. Requests for waiver will **not** be granted.

Before grazing, CRP participants:

- shall request approval to graze eligible acreage
- obtain a modified conservation plan to include routine grazing requirements, as determined by NRCS or TSP

Notes: The routine grazing plan **must** be site specific and reflect the local wildlife needs and concerns.

Routine grazing may be incorporated into the conservation plan for new contracts.

- shall not hay or graze the same acreage
- shall not graze any acreage hayed or grazed under managed or emergency provisions during the period established by STC in consultation with the State Technical Committee

Exception: For emergency haying and grazing, see paragraph 693.

- shall not graze during the primary nesting * * * season
- *--shall remove all livestock from all fields within 1 day of the end of the routine grazing period--*

716 Routine Grazing Provisions (Continued)**A General Provisions (Continued)**

- shall be assessed a payment reduction based on the number of acres actually grazed times the CRP annual rental payment times 25 percent, as applicable
- who do not own or lease livestock, may rent or lease the grazing privilege to an eligible livestock producer.

Note: CRP participants who rent or lease the grazing privilege to an eligible livestock producer shall:

- inform the County Office of the producer's name
- *--identify the acreage to be grazed on digital imagery.--*

Eligible livestock producers who are renting or leasing eligible acreage from a CRP participant, before grazing occurs, shall:

- sign a statement that he or she will not sublease CRP acreage
- receive notification of approval, in writing, from COC or CED.

Note: A copy of the notification shall be given to the CRP participant.

Participants who graze CRP acreage without approval or fail to follow these provisions will be subject to the noncompliance provisions in paragraph 667.

Definitions of Terms Used in This Handbook (Continued)**Infeasible to Farm**

Infeasible to farm means an area that is too small or isolated to be economically farmed.

Land Permanently Inundated With Water

Land permanently inundated with water is land that is reasonably expected to be under water through the CRP-1 period.

Loss of Merchantable Timber (for EFCRP purposes)

Loss of merchantable timber is defined as the difference between the pre-hurricane economic value of eligible land on the acreage offered for enrollment in EFCRP and the post-hurricane economic value of the entire acreage offered using the spring 2006 Timber Mart-South prices.

Merchantable Timber

Merchantable timber is timber on private nonindustrial forest land on which the average tree has a trunk diameter of at least 6 inches measured at least 4 ½ feet above the ground.

Non-C/S Payment

A non-C/S payment is any CRP payment that is not a C/S payment.

Participant

A participant is an owner or operator who has entered into CRP-1.

* * *

Definitions of Terms Used in This Handbook (Continued)

* * *

Recharge Area

A recharge area is the area that contributes ground water and salts to the high water table in the discharge area or saline seep. The saline seep cannot be controlled without lowering the ground water in the recharge area. Recharge areas for seeps less than 5 acres shall not exceed a ratio of 10 acres of recharge area per 1 acre of saline seep.

Retention

Retention is the likelihood that the practice established will persist and be maintained beyond the lifespan of CRP-1 and will provide benefits beyond the contract period.

Retired or Retiring Owner or Operator

A retired or retiring owner or operator is an owner or operator of land enrolled in a CRP contract who has ended active labor in farming operations as a producer of agricultural crops or expects to do so within 5 years of the CRP contract modification.

Riparian Buffer

Riparian buffer is a strip of vegetation the purpose of which is to remove nutrients, sediment, organic matter, pesticides, and other pollutants from surface runoff and subsurface flow by deposition, absorption, plant uptake, and other processes, thereby reducing pollution and protecting surface water and subsurface water quality, which are also intended to provide shade to reduce water temperature for improved habitat for aquatic organisms and supply large woody debris for aquatic organisms and habitat for wildlife.

Definitions of Terms Used in This Handbook (Continued)**Saline Seep**

A saline seep is an induced temporal (discharge) site with hydro-geologically connected recharge areas that contribute to high concentrations of soluble salts on or near the soil surface, impairing productivity. Discharge areas **must** have a soil electrical conductivity greater than 4 mmhos/cm at 25 degrees Celsius. Other characteristics include:

- ground water usually 4,000 micromhos or greater
- sodium absorption ratio ranges from 0 to 12
- soil pH less than 9
- high water table with electrical conductivity greater than mmhos/cm within 8 feet of the surface some or all of the time (often within 3 feet of the surface).

* * *

SDA Farmer or Rancher

A SDA farmer or rancher means a farmer or rancher who is a member of a SDA group whose members have been subjected to racial or ethnic prejudice because of their identity as members or a group without regard to their individual qualities. **Gender is not included as a covered group.** SDA 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
- Native Hawaiians or other Pacific Islanders.

Definitions of Terms Used in This Handbook (Continued)

Standard Practice

A standard practice is a practice that did not require that an easement be filed when the CRP offer was originally submitted.

State School Trust Land

State school trust land is land that is owned by a State with the explicit purpose of supporting public schools.

Sustainable Farming

Sustainable farming is a farming system using sustainable grazing and crop production methods.

Sustainable Grazing and Crop Production Methods

Sustainable grazing and crop production methods are an integrated system of plant and animal production practices that have a site specific application that would:

- meet man's food and fiber
- enhance the environment and the natural resource base
- use nonrenewable resources efficiently
- sustain the economic viability of the operation.

Technical Assistance

Technical assistance is assistance in regard to determining the eligibility of land and practices, implementing and certifying practices, ensuring contract performance, and providing annual rental rate surveys. The technical assistance provided in connection with CRP to owners or operators, as approved by CCC, includes technical expertise, information, and tools necessary for the conservation of natural resources on land; technical services provided directly to farmers, ranchers, and other eligible entities, such as conservation planning, technical consultation, and assistance with design and implementation of conservation practices; and technical infrastructure, including activities, processes, tools, and agency functions needed to support delivery of technical services, such as technical standards, resource inventories, training, data, technology, monitoring, and effects analyses.

Letters Notifying Producers of Offer and Eligibility Status

A Example of CRP-23

The following is an example of CRP-23.

Note: The producer is not required to notify the County Office in writing; however, the County Office shall notate the producer's response in the CRP folder. See paragraph 341.

*--

	United States Department of Agriculture	Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services	Farm Service Agency	State/county name or organizational unit Mail stop code and/or room number P.O. Box or Street Address City, State, ZIP Code
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NOTICE REGARDING ACCEPTABLE CRP OFFERS

Date: (MM-DD-YYYY) xxxxxxxxxx

Dear: _____

This notice is to inform you that your offer on tract _____ under the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) has been determined acceptable by FSA.

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) or Technical Service Provider (TSP) must develop a conservation plan, approved by the Conservation District, and signed by all signatories on the CRP contract offer to participate in the CRP. So that we may continue to process your offer, you should continue to work with NRCS or TSP to obtain the required plan on the acreage which is subject to the offer. Your offer cannot be approved by the County Committee without an approved conservation plan.

Practices to be carried out under CRP may be started with the understanding that cost-share payments will not be made if the practice is not included in the approved conservation plan.

You have 30 days from the date of this letter to notify this office of whether you want your offer approved to participate in the CRP so that NRCS or TSP may begin plan development. If I do not hear from you within the 30-day period, we will reject your offer and assess liquidated damages. Liquidated damages will also be assessed if you decide not to participate. Damages will equal 25 percent of your offer rate times the number of acres offered for CRP.

The same acreage cannot be enrolled under CRP and Agriculture Risk Coverage and Price Loss Coverage (ARC/PLC). The total of the CRP and ARC/PLC acres on a farm cannot exceed the total eligible land for the program on the farm. The owner of the land offered for CRP may be required to reduce all or a portion of ARC/PLC acreage before CRP-1 will be approved. Please contact the _____ County FSA Office for more information.

Sincerely,

County Executive Director

CRP-23 (10-22-15)

USDA is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer

--*

Letters Notifying Producers of Offer and Eligibility Status (Continued)**B Using CRP-23**

--Because continuous signup offers and general signup offers are not processed in the same-- manner and certain provisions do not apply to both offer types, County Offices **must** ensure that the correct information is provided in CRP-23.

CRP-23 **must** be:

- reproduced locally, including form number and date
- prepared in duplicate
- mailed to producers **before** CRP-1 is approved.

County Offices shall:

•*--for general signup offers:--*

- use CRP-23 to notify producers that:
 - their CRP offer has been determined acceptable by the National Office
 - they have 30 days from the date of the letter to notify the County Office whether they want the offer approved provided all eligibility requirements are met
 - liquidated damages will be assessed if they decide not to participate
 - they **must** work with the technical agency to develop a conservation plan
- *--the same acreage cannot be enrolled under ARC/PLC and CRP--*

Note: See subparagraph 401 B.

- mail original CRP-23 to producer and file copy with the offer
- adapt CRP-23 to fit the situation

**(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)
National CRP Practices (Continued)**

CP18C Establishment of Permanent Salt Tolerant Vegetative Cover, Noneasement (Continued)

F Environmental Concerns

Consider wildlife and other environmental concerns when establishing the protective measure.

G Practice Maintenance

The practice shall be maintained without additional C/S for the useful life of the practice.

C/S shall be refunded if either of the following applies:

- the producer destroys the practice during the CRP-1 period
- the cover fails to improve the environmental benefits during the practice lifespan, unless the failure is caused by circumstances beyond the producer's control.

H Management Activity

This practice shall have periodic management activities performed, according to the conservation plan, during the life of CRP-1, as determined by COC. See paragraph 428.

C/S is authorized for management activities.

I 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.

J Technical Responsibility

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

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)
National CRP Practices (Continued)

CP21 Filter Strips

A Purpose

--The purpose of this practice is to: --

- remove nutrients, sediment, organic matter, pesticides, and other pollutants from surface runoff and subsurface flow by deposition, absorption, plant uptake, denitrification, and other processes, and thereby reduce pollution and protect surface water and subsurface water quality while enhancing the ecosystem of the water body
- increase conservation benefits associated with organic farming operations.

B Program Policy

--For cropland to be eligible to be enrolled in CRP to be devoted to CP21 all of the requirements of subparagraph 181 A must be met.--

* * *

CP21's * * * are not eligible to be used in conjunction with the following practices:

- CP22, CP22B, and CP22S, because, if needed, a grass buffer is included in CP22, CP22B, or CP22S
- CP23, because acreage devoted to CP23 may include up to a 3 to 1 ratio of uplands to ensure the functions and values of the cropped wetland are restored
- CP23A, because acreage devoted to CP23A may include up to a 4 to 1 ratio of uplands to ensure the functions and values of the cropped wetland are restored
- CP9, because acreage devoted to CP9 **must** include an adequate buffer to protect the shallow water area
- *--CP29 and CP30, because the practice must solve the resource concern without any additional practices.--*

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)
National CRP Practices (Continued)

CP21 Filter Strips (Continued)

C Size Requirements

The minimum acceptable width of a filter strip is 20 feet. A filter strip may be applied up to a maximum average width of 120 feet, if needed to accomplish the purpose of the practice.

Notes: The maximum average width of filter strips established for any purpose other than protection and enhancement of water quality, shall not exceed 120 feet.

Infeasible-to-farm provisions may apply to CP21 * * *.

When the minimum design specification for water quality exceeds 120 feet, the minimum design specification is the maximum average width that may be enrolled. NRCS **must** document the need for a minimum design specification in excess of 120 feet in writing.

***--Note:** NRCS will use the Documentation of Suitability and Feasibility Worksheet to document the need for an additional average width for water quality purposes consistent with FOTG standards. The documentation **must** be maintained in the CRP folder.--*

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)
National CRP Practices (Continued)

CP21 Filter Strips (Continued)

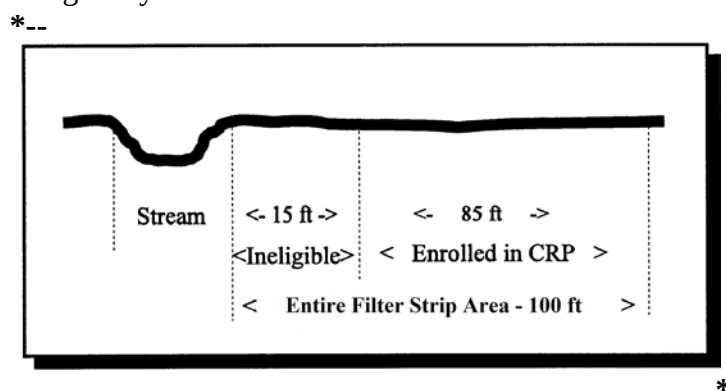
C Size Requirements (Continued)

Example: Producer offers to enroll land to be devoted to a 120 foot wide filter strip to protect the adjacent eligible stream. Based on the soils, slope, and other site conditions, NRCS documents that to address the water quality resource problem and to function properly, the filter strip **must** be a minimum of 145 feet in width. Because the purpose of the filter strip is the protection and enhancement of water quality, the minimum of width 145 feet may be enrolled. The 145 foot minimum width is the maximum acreage that may be enrolled.

The filter strip shall begin at the top of the stream bank. In some cases there may be land that is adjacent to the stream that does **not** meet the eligibility criteria to be enrolled in CRP. **This land shall not be enrolled in CRP.** However, if the eligible land is enrolled in CRP as a filter strip, the ineligible land **shall be** included:

- in the area used as a filter strip
- in the conservation plan
- when determining the width of the filter strip.

This diagram provides an example of a filter strip adjacent to a stream that includes land **not** enrolled in CRP. The first 15 feet adjacent to the stream (starting at the top of the stream bank) does **not** meet the eligibility criteria to be enrolled in CRP.



The filter strip is 100 feet wide. Only the eligible land (85 feet width) is enrolled in CRP. The conservation plan is for the entire filter strip (100 feet). The producer is responsible for maintaining the entire practice (100 feet) according to the plan. Failure to maintain the entire 100 feet may result in CRP payment reductions or termination.

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)
National CRP Practices (Continued)

CP21 Filter Strips (Continued)

D C/S Eligibility

*--To be eligible for C/S, this practice must:

- be required by the approved conservation plan
- meet the cropland eligibility requirements in subparagraph 181 A
- improve environmental benefits to an acceptable level
- meet the purpose of the practice
- be maintained for the CRP-1 period--*
- prevent degradation of environmental benefits from recurring.

E C/S Policy

The following contains C/S policies for this practice.

IF the component is...	AND the justification is...	THEN C/S is...
mineral or nutrient	substantiated as needed by COC	authorized using technical practice codes 314, 315, 327, 342, 378, 382, 386, 390, 393, 410, 516, 533, 574, 604, 605, 614, 642, and 645.
site preparation		
eligible seed and seeding		
	Note: The requirements for this practice, including eligible seed mixtures, nutrients, and minerals must be specified in the practice specification as designated by the designated technician.	
herbicide	specified as necessary in the approved conservation plan	
insecticide		

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)

National CRP Practices (Continued)

CP21 Filter Strips (Continued)

E C/S Policy (Continued)

IF the component is...	AND the justification is...	THEN C/S is...
temporary cover	- required in the practice specification - needed until required seed or plant stock is available - needed because normal planting period for the species has passed - that a soil condition, such as chemical residue, will not allow establishment of the cover immediately	authorized.
pipelines and watering *--facilities or developments--* constructed outside of the filter strip	providing a water source for livestock away from the filter strip and the adjacent stream or water body Note: See paragraph 511.	
fencing	permanent fencing needed to exclude livestock from the filter strip Note: See paragraph 511. Important: A single strand electric fence shall not be considered a permanent fence for CRP.	
construction of structures where concentrated flow continues to degrade water quality	to meet the requirements of the conservation plan	
grading, leveling, and filling	to control concentrated flow and site preparation. Important: Grading, leveling, and filling does not include shaping or manipulation of the stream bank.	

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)
National CRP Practices (Continued)

CP21 Filter Strips (Continued)

E C/S Policy (Continued)

IF the component is...	AND the justification is...	THEN C/S is...
herbicide	to maintain vegetative cover	not authorized.
insecticide		
clearing rocks or other obstructions from the area to be seeded		
stream bank stabilization		
mineral or nutrient	to enhance production	

F Practice Requirements

In addition to the practice standards in NRCS FOTG, the following requirements apply.

- The seeded acreage shall not be harvested or grazed by domestic livestock for the life of CRP-1 unless grazing is incidental to the normal gleaning of the crop residue in the field according to subparagraph 720 A.
- Limit C/S to the minimum minerals and seed necessary to establish an adequate cover to improve environmental benefits.
- *--Meet the purpose of the practice.--*
- Chemicals used in performing the practice **must** be:
 - Federally, State, and locally registered
 - applied strictly according to authorized registered uses, directions on the label, and other Federal or State policies and requirements.

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)
National CRP Practices (Continued)

CP21 Filter Strips (Continued)

F Practice Requirements (Continued)

- 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.

* * *

- The practice shall have periodic management activities performed, according to the *--conservation plan, during the life of CRP-1. See paragraph 428.--*

G Planting Timespan

Planting or sowing of the approved cover shall be completed within 12 months of the effective date of CRP-1. See paragraph 426 for exceptions.

H Environmental Concerns

Consideration of wildlife habitat, water quality * * *, and other environmental concerns, including impacts to organic farming operations are to be evaluated in the planning and establishment of the protective measure.

I Practice Maintenance

This practice shall be maintained without additional C/S for the life of CRP-1 according to the practice standards in FOTG.

C/S shall be refunded if either of the following applies:

- the producer destroys the practice during the contract period
- the cover fails to provide adequate protection of water quality during the practice lifespan, unless the failure is caused by circumstances beyond the producer's control.

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)
National CRP Practices (Continued)

CP21 Filter Strips (Continued)

J Management Activity

This practice shall have periodic management activities performed, according to the conservation plan, during the life of CRP-1 * * *. See paragraph 428.

C/S is authorized for management activities.

K Technical Responsibility

NRCS shall have technical responsibility for this practice.

CP21B Denitrifying Bioreactor on Filter Strips

A Purpose

--The purpose of this practice is to:--

- * * * improve water quality by reducing the nitrate-nitrogen content of subsurface agricultural drainage flow
- remove nutrients, sediment, organic matter, pesticides, and other pollutants from surface runoff and subsurface flow by deposition, absorption, plant uptake, denitrification, and other processes, and thereby reduce pollution and protect surface water and subsurface water quality while enhancing the ecosystem of the water body
- increase conservation benefits associated with organic farming operations.

B Program Policy

*--Apply this practice only to:

- eligible cropland where denitrifying bioreactor filter strip can be established and--* maintained, as determined by NRCS technical specifications, in a cost-effective manner through enrollment in CRP
- sites where there is a need to reduce nitrate-nitrogen concentration in subsurface drainage flow.

Note: This practice does not apply to underground outlets from practices such as terraces, where the drainage source is primarily from surface inlets.

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)
National CRP Practices (Continued)

CP21B Denitrifying Bioreactor on Filter Strips (Continued)

B Program Policy (Continued)

*--For cropland to be eligible to be enrolled in CRP to be devoted to CP21B all of the requirements of subparagraph 181 A **must** be met.--*

* * *

CP21B's are not eligible to be used in conjunction with the following practices:

- CP22, CP22B, and CP22S, because, if needed, a grass buffer is included in CP22, CP22B, and CP22S
- CP23, because acreage devoted to CP23 may include up to a 3 to 1 ratio of uplands to ensure the functions and values of the cropped wetland are restored
- CP23A, because acreage devoted to CP23A may include up to a 4 to 1 ratio of uplands to ensure the functions and values of the cropped wetland are restored
- CP9, because acreage devoted to CP9 **must** include an adequate buffer to protect the shallow water area
- *--CP29 and CP30, because the practice must solve the resource concern without any additional practice.--*

National CRP Practices (Continued)

CP21B Denitrifying Bioreactor on Filter Strips (Continued)

C Size Requirements

The minimum acceptable width of a filter strip is 20 feet. A filter strip may be applied up to a maximum average width of 120 feet, if needed to accomplish the purpose of the practice.

Notes: The maximum average width of filter strips established for any purpose other than protection and enhancement of water quality shall not exceed 120 feet.

Infeasible-to-farm provisions may * * * apply to CP21B.

When the minimum design specification for water quality exceeds 120 feet, the minimum design specification is the maximum average width that may be enrolled. NRCS **must** document in writing the need for a minimum design specification in excess of 120 feet.

***--Note:** NRCS will use the Documentation of Suitability and Feasibility Worksheet to document the need for additional average width for water quality purposes consistent with FOTG standards. The documentation **must** be maintained in the CRP folder.--*

Example: Producer offers to enroll land to be devoted to a 120 foot wide filter strip to protect the adjacent eligible stream. Based on the soils, slope, and other site conditions, NRCS documents that to address the water quality resource problem and to function properly, the filter strip **must** be a minimum of 145 feet in width. Because the purpose of the filter strip is the protection and enhancement of water quality, the minimum width of 145 feet may be enrolled. The 145 foot minimum width is the maximum acreage that may be enrolled.

National CRP Practices (Continued)

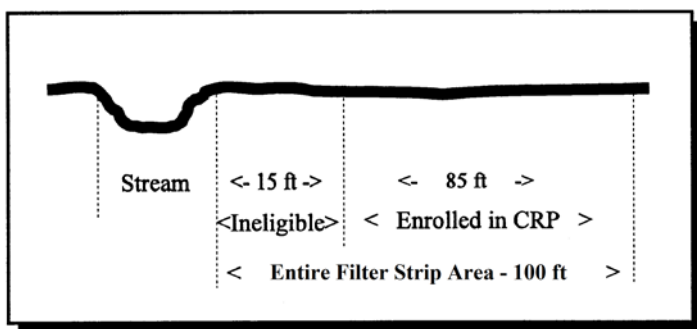
CP21B Denitrifying Bioreactor on Filter Strips (Continued)

C Size Requirements (Continued)

The filter strip shall begin at the top of the stream bank. In some cases there may be land that is adjacent to the stream that does **not** meet the eligibility criteria to be enrolled in CRP. **This land shall not be enrolled in CRP.** However, if the eligible land is enrolled in CRP as a filter strip, the ineligible land **shall be** included:

- in the area used as a filter strip
- in the conservation plan
- when determining the width of the filter strip.

This diagram provides an example of a filter strip adjacent to a stream that includes land **not** enrolled in CRP. The first 15 feet adjacent to the stream (starting at the top of the stream bank) does **not** meet the eligibility criteria to be enrolled in CRP.



The filter strip is 100 feet wide. Only the eligible land (85 feet width) is enrolled in CRP. The conservation plan is for the entire filter strip (100 feet). The producer is responsible for maintaining the entire practice (100 feet) according to the plan. Failure to maintain the entire 100 feet may result in CRP payment reductions or termination.

*--D C/S Eligibility

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

- be required by the approved conservation plan
- meet the cropland eligibility requirements in subparagraph 181 A--*
- improve environmental benefits to an acceptable level
- be maintained for the CRP-1 period
- *--meet the purpose of the practice--*
- prevent degradation of environmental benefits from recurring.

National CRP Practices (Continued)

*--CP21B Denitrifying Bioreactor on Filter Strips (Continued)

E C/S Policy

The following contains C/S policies for this practice.

IF the component is...	AND the justification is...	THEN C/S is...
seedbed preparation	substantiated as needed by COC	authorized using technical practice codes 327, 338, 340, 342, 386, 390, 394, 550, 595, 605, 643, 645, and 647.
minerals or nutrient		
eligible seed and seeding	substantiated as needed by COC	
	Note: The requirements for this practice, including eligible seed mixtures, nutrients, and minerals must be specified in the practice specification as designated by the designated technician.	
geotextile or plastic lining for the bottom, sides and top, media (wood chips or other approved material), chamber markers, and installation	to reduce nitrate nitrogen concentration in subsurface drainage flow	
water level control structure (diverter box) and installation	to regulate the flow into and out of the chamber	
perforated tile and installation	- to be used inside the media chamber to spread out the water and to collect it at the lower end - to re-route existing tile into the water level control structure	
locating tile lines	to locate a tile to tie into the water level control structure	
non-perforated tile and installation	to be used on both sides of the water level control structures	
outlet	if an outlet is needed in place of the tile to outlet into the creek	
herbicides	specified as necessary in the approved conservation plan	
insecticides		
pipeline and watering facilities constructed outside of the filter strip	providing a water source for livestock away from the filter strip and the adjacent stream or water body	
	Note: See paragraph 511.	

--*

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)

National CRP Practices (Continued)

*--CP21B Denitrifying Bioreactor on Filter Strips (Continued)

E C/S Policy (Continued)

IF the component is...	AND the justification is...	THEN C/S is...
fencing	permanent fencing needed to exclude livestock from the filter strip Note: See paragraph 511. Important: A single strand electric fence shall not be considered a permanent fence for CRP.	authorized.
grading, leveling, and filling	to control concentrated flow and site preparation Important: Grading, leveling, and filling does not include shaping or manipulation of the stream bank.	
construction of structures where concentrated flow continues to degrade water quality	to meet the requirements of the conservation plan	
temporary cover	• required in the practice specifications needed until required seeds or plant stock is available • needed because normal planting period for the species has passed • that a soil condition, such as chemical residue, will not allow establishment of cover immediately	
herbicides	to maintain vegetative cover	not authorized.
insecticides		
clearing rocks or other obstructions from the area to be seeded		
stream bank stabilization		
minerals or nutrient	to enhance production	

--*

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)

National CRP Practices (Continued)**CP21B Denitrifying Bioreactor on Filter Strips (Continued)****F Practice Requirements**

In addition to the practice standards in NRCS FOTG, the following requirements apply.

- The seeded acreage shall not be harvested or grazed by domestic livestock for the life of CRP-1 unless grazing is incidental to the normal gleaning of the crop residue in the field according to subparagraph 720 A.
- Limit C/S to the minimum minerals and seed necessary to establish an adequate cover to improve environmental benefits.
- *--Meet the purpose of the practice.--*
- Chemicals used in performing the practice **must** be:
 - Federally, State, and locally registered
 - applied strictly 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 maintenance as necessary to avoid an adverse impact on surrounding land.

* * *

- The practice shall have periodic management activities performed, according to the *--conservation plan, during the life of CRP-1. See paragraph 428.--*
- When appropriate, a pollinator type mix should be used to establish the cover on top of the chamber.

National CRP Practices (Continued)**CP21B Denitrifying Bioreactor on Filter Strips (Continued)****G Planting Timespan**

Planting or sowing of the approved cover shall be completed within 12 months of the effective date of CRP-1. See paragraph 426 for exceptions.

H Environmental Concerns

Consideration of wildlife habitat, water quality * * * and other environmental concerns, including impacts to organic farming operations are to be evaluated in the planning and establishment of the protective measure.

I Practice Maintenance

This practice shall be maintained without additional C/S for the life of CRP-1 according to the practice standards in FOTG.

C/S shall be refunded if either of the following applies:

- the producer destroys the practice during the contract period
- the cover fails to provide adequate protection of water quality during the practice lifespan, unless the failure is caused by circumstances beyond the producer's control.

J Management Activity

This practice shall have periodic management activities performed, according to the conservation plan, during the life of CRP-1 * * *. See paragraph 428.

C/S is authorized for management activities.

L Technical Responsibility

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

National CRP Practices (Continued)**CP21S Saturated Filter Strips****A Purpose**

--The purpose of this practice is to:--

- improve water quality by reducing the nitrate loading to surface water from subsurface drain outlets
- artificially raise the water table by diverting much of the water from a subsurface drainage system along the saturated filter strip to reduce nitrate loading to subsurface water through enhanced denitrification
- remove nutrients, sediment, organic matter, pesticides, and other pollutants from surface runoff and subsurface flow by deposition, absorption, plant uptake, denitrification, and other processes, and thereby reduce pollution and protect surface water and subsurface water quality while enhancing the ecosystem of the water body
- increase conservation benefits associated with organic farming operations.

B Program Policy

--Apply this practice only to:--

- eligible cropland where a saturated filter strip can be established and maintained, as determined by NRCS technical specifications, in a cost-effective manner through enrollment in CRP

Note: This practice is applicable to crop land with a subsurface drainage system that can be adapted to discharge to vegetated area.

- *--soils and topography that are capable of maintaining a raised water table without adverse effects to stream banks, shorelines, and adjacent land.--*

Note: This practice does not apply to drainage systems or underground outlet systems that have surface inlets which allow entry of soil and debris capable of plugging the distribution pipe(s).

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)

National CRP Practices (Continued)**CP21S Saturated Filter Strips (Continued)****B Program Policy (Continued)**

*--For cropland to be eligible to be enrolled in CRP to be devoted to CP21S all of the requirements of the subparagraph 181 A **must** be met.--*

* * *

CP21S's are not eligible to be used in conjunction with the following practices:

- CP22, CP22B, and CP22S, because, if needed, a grass buffer is included in CP22, CP22B, and CP22S
- CP23, because acreage devoted to CP23 may include up to a 3 to 1 ratio of uplands to ensure the functions and values of the cropped wetland are restored
- CP23A, because acreage devoted to CP23A may include up to a 4 to 1 ratio of uplands to ensure the functions and values of the cropped wetland are restored
- CP9, because acreage devoted to CP9 **must** include an adequate buffer to protect the shallow water area
- *--CP29 and CP30, because the practice must solve the resource concern without additional practices.--*

* * *

C Size Requirements

--The minimum acceptable width of a filter strip is 20 feet. A filter strip may be applied up to a-- maximum average width of 120 feet, if needed to accomplish the purpose of the practice.

Notes: The maximum average width of filter strips established for any purpose other than protection and enhancement of water quality shall not exceed 120 feet.

Infeasible-to-farm provisions may * * * apply to CP21S.

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)
National CRP Practices (Continued)

CP21S Saturated Filter Strips (Continued)

C Size Requirements (Continued)

When the minimum design specification for water quality exceeds 120 feet, the minimum design specification is the maximum average width that may be enrolled. NRCS **must** document in writing the need for a minimum design specification in excess of 120 feet.

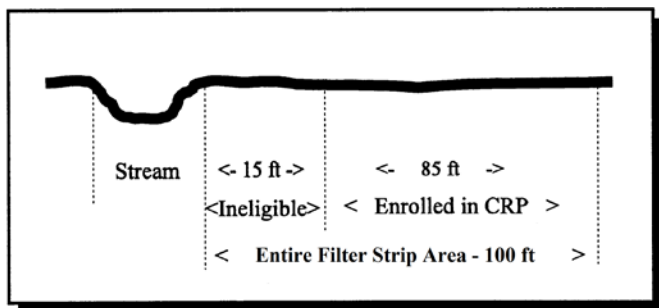
***--Note:** NRCS will use the Documentation of Suitability and Feasibility Worksheet to document the need for an additional average width for water quality purposes consistent with FOTG standards. The documentation **must** maintained in the CRP folder.--*

Example: Producer offers to enroll land to be devoted to a 120 foot wide filter strip to protect the adjacent eligible stream. Based on the soils, slope, and other site conditions, NRCS documents that to address the water quality resource problem and to function properly, the filter strip **must** be a minimum of 145 feet in width. Because the purpose of the filter strip is the protection and enhancement of water quality, the minimum width of 145 feet may be enrolled. The 145 foot minimum width is the maximum acreage that may be enrolled.

The filter strip shall begin at the top of the stream bank. In some cases there may be land that is adjacent to the stream that does **not** meet the eligibility criteria to be enrolled in CRP. **This land shall not be enrolled in CRP.** However, if the eligible land is enrolled in CRP as a filter strip, the ineligible land **shall be** included:

- in the area used as a filter strip
- in the conservation plan
- when determining the width of the filter strip.

This diagram provides an example of a filter strip adjacent to a stream that includes land **not** enrolled in CRP. The first 15 feet adjacent to the stream (starting at the top of the stream bank) does **not** meet the eligibility criteria to be enrolled in CRP.



The filter strip is 100 feet wide. Only the eligible land (85 feet width) is enrolled in CRP. The conservation plan is for the entire filter strip (100 feet). The producer is responsible for maintaining the entire practice (100 feet) according to the plan. Failure to maintain the entire 100 feet may result in CRP payment reductions or termination.--*

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)
National CRP Practices (Continued)

CP21S Saturated Filter Strips (Continued)

***--D C/S Eligibility**

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

- be required by the approved conservation plan
- meet the cropland eligibility requirements in subparagraph 181 A--*
- improve environmental benefits to an acceptable level
- be maintained for the CRP-1 period
- *--meet the purpose of the practice--*
- prevent degradation of environmental benefits from recurring.

E C/S Policy

The following contains C/S policies for this practice.

IF the component is...	AND the justification is...	THEN C/S is...
seedbed preparation	substantiated as needed by COC	authorized using technical practice codes 327, 338, 340, 342, 386, 390, 394, 550, 595, 604, 643, 645, and 647.
minerals or nutrient		
eligible seed and seeding	Note: The requirements for this practice, including eligible seed mixtures, nutrients, and minerals must be specified in the practice specification as designated by the designated technician.	
water level control structure (diverter box) and installation	to regulate the flow of water out into the drain field	
perforated tile and installation	distribute the water to the drain field	
locating tile lines	to locate a tile to tie into the water level control structure	
non-perforated tile and installation	distribute the water to the drain field	
outlet	if an outlet is needed in place of the tile to outlet into creek	
herbicides	specified as necessary in the approved conservation plan	
insecticides		

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)
National CRP Practices (Continued)

***--CP21S Saturated Filter Strips (Continued)**

E C/S Policy (Continued)

IF the component is...	AND the justification is...	THEN C/S is...
pipeline and watering facilities constructed outside of the filter strip	providing a water source for livestock away from the filter strip and the adjacent stream or water body Note: See paragraph 511.	authorized.
fencing	permanent fencing needed to exclude livestock from the filter strip Note: See paragraph 511. Important: A single strand electric fence shall not be considered a permanent fence for CRP.	
grading, leveling, and filling	to control concentrated flow and site preparation. Important: Grading, leveling, and filling does not include shaping or manipulation of the stream bank.	
construction of structures where concentrated flow continues to degrade water quality	to meet the requirements of the conservation plan	
temporary cover	• required in the practice specifications needed until required seeds or plant stock is available • needed because the normal planting period for the species has passed • that a soil condition, such as chemical residue, will not allow establishment of cover immediately	
herbicides	to maintain vegetative cover	not authorized.
insecticides		
clearing rocks or other obstructions from the area to be seeded		
stream bank stabilization		
minerals or nutrient	to enhance production	

--*

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)
National CRP Practices (Continued)

CP21S Saturated Filter Strips (Continued)

F Practice Requirements

In addition to the practice standards in NRCS FOTG, the following requirements apply.

- The seeded acreage shall not be harvested or grazed by domestic livestock for the life of CRP-1 unless grazing is incidental to the normal gleaning of the crop residue in the field according to subparagraph 720 A.
- Limit C/S to the minimum minerals and seed necessary to establish an adequate cover to improve environmental benefits.
- *--Meet the purpose of the practice.--*
- Chemicals used in performing the practice **must** be:
 - Federally, State, and locally registered
 - applied strictly 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 maintenance as necessary to avoid an adverse impact on surrounding land.

* * *

- The practice shall have periodic management activities performed, according to the *--conservation plan, during the life of CRP-1. See paragraph 428.--*

G Planting Timespan

Planting or sowing of the approved cover shall be completed within 12 months of the effective date of CRP-1. See paragraph 426 for exceptions.

H Environmental Concerns

Consideration of wildlife habitat, water quality * * *, and other environmental concerns, including impacts to organic farming operations are to be evaluated in the planning and establishment of the protective measure.

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)
National CRP Practices (Continued)

CP21S Saturated Filter Strips (Continued)

I Practice Maintenance

This practice shall be maintained without additional C/S for the life of CRP-1 according to the practice standards in FOTG.

C/S shall be refunded if either of the following applies:

- the producer destroys the practice during the contract period
- the cover fails to provide adequate protection of water quality during the practice lifespan, unless the failure is caused by circumstances beyond the producer's control.

J Management Activity

This practice shall have periodic management activities performed, according to the conservation plan, during the life of CRP-1 * * *. See paragraph 428.

C/S is authorized for management activities.

L Technical Responsibility

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

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)
National CRP Practices (Continued)

CP22 Riparian Buffer

A Purposes

--The purpose of this practice is to:--

- remove nutrients, sediment, organic matter, pesticides, and other pollutants from surface runoff and subsurface flow by deposition, absorption, plant uptake, denitrification, and other processes, and thereby reduce pollution and protect surface water and subsurface water quality while enhancing the ecosystem of the water body
- create shade to lower water temperature to improve habitat for aquatic organisms
- provide a source of detritus and large woody debris for aquatic organisms and habitat for wildlife.

B Program Policy

For **cropland** to be eligible to be enrolled in CRP to be devoted to CP22, **all** of the following **must** be met:

* * *

- all cropland eligibility requirements in subparagraph 181 A are met
- *--NRCS or TSP determines, based on a site visit and using the Documentation of Suitability and Feasibility Worksheet, the cropland is suitable to be devoted to a riparian buffer devoted (planted or natural regeneration) to trees--*

* * *

- the cropland will be devoted (planted or natural regeneration) to trees.

Note: Land that is not suitable for tree plantings, as determined by NRCS or TSP, is not
 --eligible to be enrolled in CRP as a CP22, Riparian Buffer.--

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)
National CRP Practices (Continued)

CP22 Riparian Buffer (Continued)

B Program Policy (Continued)

*--For **marginal pastureland** to be eligible to be enrolled in CRP to be devoted to CP22, **all** of the following **must** be met:

- all marginal pastureland eligibility requirements in subparagraphs 181 C and D are met
- NRCS or TSP determines, based on a site visit and using the Documentation of Suitability and Feasibility Worksheet, the marginal pastureland is suitable to be devoted to a riparian buffer devoted (planted or natural regeneration) to trees.

Note: Marginal pastureland to be devoted to wildlife habitat buffers must be enrolled as--* CP29.

- the marginal pastureland will be devoted (planted or natural regeneration) to trees.

Note: Land that is not suitable for tree plantings, as determined by NRCS or TSP, is not eligible to be enrolled in CRP as a CP22, Riparian Buffer.

For both cropland and marginal pastureland, CP22's are not eligible to be used in conjunction--* with the following practices:

- CP21, CP21B, and CP21S because, if needed, a grass buffer is included in CP22, CP22B, or CP22S
- CP23, because acreage devoted to CP23 may include up to a 3 to 1 ratio of uplands to ensure that the functions and values of the cropped wetland are restored
- CP23A, because acreage devoted to CP23A may include up to a 4 to 1 ratio of uplands to ensure the functions and values of the cropped wetland are restored
- CP9, because acreage devoted to CP9 **must** include an adequate buffer to protect the shallow water area
- CP29 and CP30, because the practice must solve the resource concern with additional practices.--*

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)
National CRP Practices (Continued)

CP22 Riparian Buffer (Continued)

C Size Requirements

A riparian buffer shall not be less than 35 feet in width. The maximum width of a riparian buffer is the lesser of 100 feet or 30 percent of the geomorphic floodplain. An area of native grasses and forbs may be added, if otherwise eligible, only for concentrated flow conditions dependent on the site.

Excessive sheet-rill and concentrated flow will be controlled in areas immediately adjacent and *--up-gradient of the buffer. This area must be the minimum necessary to control excessive--* sheet-rill erosion and/or concentrated flow.

A riparian buffer may be applied up to a maximum average width of 180 feet, if needed to accomplish the purpose of the practice.

Notes: The maximum average width of riparian buffers established for any purpose other than protection and enhancement of water quality shall not exceed 180 feet.

--Infeasible-to-farm provisions may apply to CP22 on cropland only.--

When the minimum design specification for water quality exceeds 180 feet, the minimum design specification is the maximum average width that may be enrolled. NRCS or TSP **must** document the need for a minimum design specification in excess of 180 feet in writing.

*--**Note:** NRCS will use the Documentation of Suitability and Feasibility Worksheet to document the need for an additional average width for water quality purposes consistent with FOTG standards. The documentation **must** be maintained in the CRP folder.--*

Example: Producer offers to enroll cropland to be devoted to a 180 foot wide riparian buffer to protect the adjacent eligible stream. Based on the soils, slope, and other site conditions, NRCS documents that to address the water quality resource problem and to function properly, the riparian buffer needs to be a minimum of 200 feet in width. Because the purpose of the riparian buffer is the protection and enhancement of water quality, the minimum width of 200 feet may be enrolled. The 200 foot minimum width is the maximum acreage that may be enrolled.

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)
National CRP Practices (Continued)

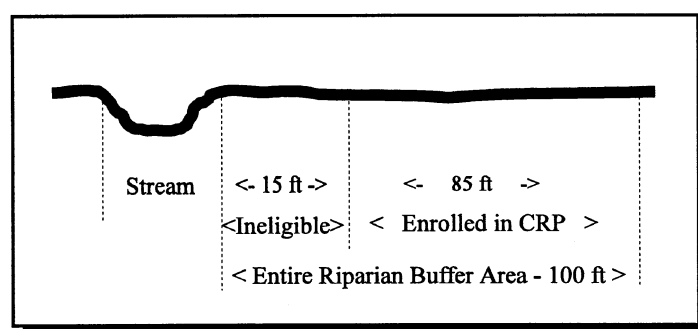
CP22 Riparian Buffer (Continued)

C Size Requirements (Continued)

The riparian buffer shall begin at the top of the stream bank. In some cases there may be land that is adjacent to the stream that does **not** meet the eligibility criteria to be enrolled in CRP. **This land shall not be enrolled in CRP.** However, if the eligible land is enrolled in CRP as a riparian buffer, the ineligible land **shall be** included:

- in the area used as a riparian buffer
- in the conservation plan
- when determining the width of the riparian buffer.

This diagram provides an example of a riparian buffer adjacent to a stream that includes land not enrolled in CRP. The first 15 feet adjacent to the stream (starting at the top of the stream bank) does **not** meet the eligibility criteria to be enrolled in CRP.



The riparian buffer is 100 feet wide. Only the eligible land (85 feet width) is enrolled in CRP. The conservation plan is for the entire riparian buffer (100 feet). The producer is responsible for maintaining the entire practice (100 feet) according to the plan. Failure to maintain the entire 100 feet may result in CRP payment reductions or termination.

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)
National CRP Practices (Continued)

CP22 Riparian Buffer (Continued)

D C/S Eligibility

*--To be eligible for C/S, this practice must:

- be required by the approved conservation plan
- be implemented on land that meets the cropland or marginal pastureland eligibility requirements in subparagraph 181 A or 181 C, as applicable
- improve environmental benefits to less than the soil loss tolerance
- meet the purpose of the practice
- be maintained for the CRP-1 period--*
- prevent degradation of environmental benefits from recurring.

Note: Use tree species that are native and noninvasive. Substitution with improved and locally accepted cultivars is permitted. Use high quality and adapted plant material.

* * *

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)

National CRP Practices (Continued)

CP22 Riparian Buffer (Continued)

E C/S Policy (Continued)

IF the component is...	AND the justification is...	THEN C/S is...
tree shelters, netting, plastic tubes, or other animal damage control devices, except when natural regeneration is selected by the producer	approved by STC for the area and substantiated as needed by designated technician and COC to prevent damage from wildlife browsing Note: STC must designate areas where using such measures is warranted and cost-effective to protect seedlings. See paragraphs 31 and 491.	authorized not to exceed an average cost, as determined by STC.
--tree thinning (pre-commercial)	to improve resource condition	authorized using technical practice code 666.--
streambank stabilization		not authorized.
minerals, nutrients, herbicides, and insecticides	to maintain vegetative cover or enhance production	
seed, tree and shrub seedlings, seedbed preparation and seeding	for use with natural regeneration	
minerals and nutrients		
temporary supplemental irrigation systems or plastic mulch		
clearing rocks or other obstructions from the area to be seeded		

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)
National CRP Practices (Continued)

CP22 Riparian Buffer (Continued)

F Practice Requirements

In addition to the practice standards in NRCS FOTG, the following requirements apply.

- The buffer shall not be harvested or grazed by domestic livestock for the life of CRP-1.
- Limit C/S to the minimum materials necessary to establish an adequate cover to improve environmental benefits.
- *--Meet the purpose of the practice--*
- Chemicals used in performing the practice **must** be:
 - Federally, State, and locally registered
 - applied strictly 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 maintenance as necessary to avoid an adverse impact on surrounding land--*
- The practice shall have periodic management activities performed, according to the *--conservation plan, during the life of CRP-1. See paragraph 428.--*

G Planting Timespan

Planting or sowing of the approved cover shall be completed within 12 months of the effective date of CRP-1.

Exceptions: See paragraph 426 for exceptions to 12-month planting requirement.

See subparagraph H for natural regeneration.

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)
National CRP Practices (Continued)

CP22 Riparian Buffer (Continued)

H Natural Regeneration

Producers may elect to allow natural regeneration of the riparian buffer if **all** of the following are met:

- NRCS or TSP determines both of the following:
 - *--an adequate seed source of approved tree, shrub, and grass species suited to the soil and hydrology of the site is present to meet the purpose of the practice--*

Note: Grass is an acceptable cover in the riparian buffer only if determined needed to control concentrated flow and an excessive sheet flow.

- under normal conditions, the **appropriate cover** will be established within 2 years of CRP-1 effective date
- erosion and runoff will be controlled during the establishment period
- weeds, including noxious weeds, and other nonapproved plant species will be controlled during the establishment period
- the conservation plan signed by the producer requires **all** of the following:
 - **no** C/S shall be paid for the practice

Exceptions: See subparagraph E.

- the producer will plant the approved cover at no cost to FSA or CCC according to a revised conservation plan if the riparian buffer is not established through natural regeneration within 2 years of CRP-1 effective date
- conservation practice code 647, Early Successional Habitat Development/Management, is used to identify natural regeneration

NRCS or TSP shall spot check the site at the end of the second year to determine whether the riparian buffer is established and meets the standards **and** specifications for NRCS conservation practice code 391A, Riparian Forest Buffer.

Note: FSA **must** immediately notify * * * the participant:

- of the result of the spot check
- that the participant **must** plant the approved cover with no C/S according to a revised conservation plan, if applicable.

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)
National CRP Practices (Continued)

CP22 Riparian Buffer (Continued)

H Natural Regeneration (Continued)

COC or CED shall **not** approve CRP-1 until **all** of the preceding requirements are met. COC shall ensure the producer is fully informed that:

- no C/S will be paid for natural regeneration

Exceptions: See subparagraph E.

- the producer will be required to plant the approved cover with no C/S if the approved cover is not established within 2-years of CRP-1 effective date.

I Environmental Concerns

Consideration of wildlife habitat, water quality * * *, and other environmental concerns are to be evaluated in the planning and establishment of the protective measure.

J Practice Maintenance

--This practice shall be maintained without additional C/S for the life of CRP-1 according to the-- practice standards in FOTG.

C/S shall be refunded if either of the following applies:

- the producer destroys the practice during the contract period
- the cover fails to provide adequate protection of water quality during the practice lifespan, unless the failure is caused by circumstances beyond the producer's control.

K Management Activity

This practice shall have periodic management activities performed, according to the conservation plan, during the life of CRP-1 * * *. See paragraph 428.

C/S is authorized for management activities.

L Technical Responsibility

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

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)
National CRP Practices (Continued)

CP22BDenitrifying Bioreactor on Riparian Buffer

A Purpose

*--The purpose of this practice is to:

- improve water quality by reducing the nitrate nitrogen content of subsurface agricultural--* drainage flow
- remove nutrients, sediment, organic matter, pesticides, and other pollutants from surface runoff and subsurface flow by deposition, absorption, plant uptake, denitrification, and other processes, and thereby reduce pollution and protect surface water and subsurface water quality while enhancing the ecosystem of the water body
- create shade to lower water temperature to improve habitat for aquatic organisms
- provide a source of detritus and large woody debris for aquatic organisms and habitat for wildlife.

B Program Policy

--Apply this practice only to:--

- eligible cropland where denitrifying bioreactor riparian buffer can be established and maintained, as determined by NRCS technical specifications, in a cost-effective manner through enrollment in CRP
- sites where there is a need to reduce nitrate nitrogen concentration in subsurface drainage flow.

Note: This practice does not apply to underground outlets from practices such as terraces, where the drainage source is primarily from surface inlets.--*

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)
National CRP Practices (Continued)

CP22B Denitrifying Bioreactor on Riparian Buffer (Continued)

B Program Policy (Continued)

*--For cropland to be eligible to be enrolled in CRP to be devoted to CP22B, all of the following **must** be met:

- all cropland eligibility requirements in subparagraph 181 A are met
- NRCS or TSP determines, based on a site visit and using Documentation of Suitability and Feasibility Worksheet, the cropland is suitable to be devoted to a riparian buffer devoted (planted or natural regeneration) to trees
- the cropland will be devoted (planted or natural regeneration) to trees.

Note: Land that is not suitable for tree plantings as determined by NRCS or TSP, is not eligible to be enrolled in CRP as a CP22B, Denitrifying Bioreactor on Riparian Buffer.

For **marginal pastureland** to be eligible to be enrolled in CRP to be devoted to CP22B, **all** of the following **must** be met:

- all marginal pastureland eligibility requirements in subparagraphs 181 C and D are met
- NRCS or TSP determines, based on a site visit and using the Documentation of Suitability and Feasibility Worksheet, the marginal pastureland is suitable to be devoted to a riparian buffer devoted (planted or natural regeneration) to trees

Note: Marginal pastureland to be devoted to wildlife habitat buffers must be enrolled as CP29.

- the marginal pastureland will be devoted (planted or natural regeneration) to trees.

Note: Land that is not suitable for tree plantings, as determined by NRCS or TSP, is not eligible to be enrolled in CRP as a CP22B, Denitrifying Bioreactor on Riparian Buffer.--*

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)
National CRP Practices (Continued)

CP22B Denitrifying Bioreactor on Riparian Buffer (Continued)

B Program Policy (Continued)

--For both cropland and marginal pastureland CP22B's are not eligible to be used in conjunction with the following practices:--

- CP21, CP21B, or CP21S, because, if needed, a grass buffer is included in CP21, CP21B, and CP21S
- CP23, because acreage devoted to CP23 may include up to a 3 to 1 ratio of uplands to ensure the functions and values of the cropped wetland are restored
- CP23A, because acreage devoted to CP23A may include up to a 4 to 1 ratio of uplands to ensure the functions and values of the cropped wetland are restored
- CP9, because acreage devoted to CP9 **must** include an adequate buffer to protect the shallow water area
- *--CP29 and CP30, because the practice must solve the resource concern without additional practices.--*

* * *

C Size Requirements

A riparian buffer shall not be less than 35 feet in width. The maximum width of a riparian buffer is the lessor of 100 feet or 30 percent of the geomorphic floodplain. An area of native grasses and forbs may be added, if otherwise eligible, only for concentrate flow conditions dependent on the site.

Excessive sheet-rill and concentrated flow will be controlled in areas immediately adjacent and *--up-gradient of the buffer. This area must be the minimum necessary to control excessive--* sheet-rill erosion and/or concentrated flow.

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)
National CRP Practices (Continued)

CP22B Denitrifying Bioreactor on Riparian Buffer (Continued)

C Size Requirements (Continued)

A riparian buffer may be applied up to a maximum average width of 180 feet, if needed to accomplish the purpose of the practice.

Notes: The maximum average width of riparian buffers established for any purpose other than protection and enhancement of water quality shall not exceed 180 feet.

--Infeasible-to-farm provisions may apply to CP22B on cropland only.--

When the minimum design specification for water quality exceeds 180 feet, the minimum design specification is the maximum average width that may be enrolled. NRCS or TSP **must** document in writing the need for a minimum design specification in excess of 180 feet.

***--Note:** NRCS will use the Documentation of Suitability and Feasibility Worksheet to document the need for an additional average width for water quality purposes consistent with FOTG standards. The documentation **must** be in maintained in the CRP folder.--*

Example: Producer offers to enroll cropland to be devoted to a 180 foot wide riparian buffer to protect the adjacent eligible stream. Based on the soils, slope, and other site conditions, NRCS documents that to address the water quality resource problem and to function properly, the riparian buffer needs to be a minimum of 200 feet in width. Because the purpose of the riparian buffer is the protection and enhancement of water quality, the minimum width of 200 feet may be enrolled. The 200 foot minimum width is the maximum acreage that may be enrolled.

The riparian buffer shall begin at the top of the stream bank. In some cases there may be land that is adjacent to the stream that does **not** meet the eligibility criteria to be enrolled in CRP. **This land shall not be enrolled in CRP.** However, if the eligible land is enrolled in CRP as a riparian buffer, the ineligible land **shall be** included:

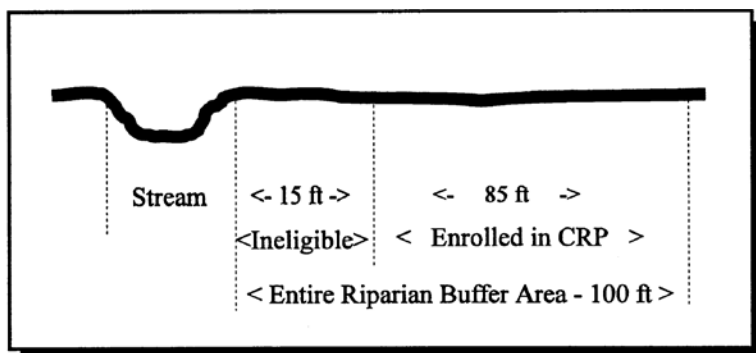
- in the area used as a riparian buffer
- in the conservation plan
- when determining the width of the riparian buffer.

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)
National CRP Practices (Continued)

***--CP22B Denitrifying Bioreactor on Riparian Buffer (Continued)**

C Size Requirements (Continued)

This diagram provides an example of a riparian buffer adjacent to a stream that includes land **not** enrolled in CRP. The first 15 feet adjacent to the stream (starting at the top of the stream bank) does **not** meet the eligibility criteria to be enrolled in CRP.



The riparian buffer is 100 feet wide. Only the eligible land (85 feet width) is enrolled in CRP. The conservation plan is for the entire riparian buffer (100 feet). The producer is responsible for maintaining the entire practice (100 feet) according to the plan. Failure to maintain the entire 100 feet may result in CRP payment reductions or termination.

* * *

***--D C/S Eligibility**

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

- be required by the approved conservation plan
- be implemented on land that meets the cropland or marginal pastureland eligibility requirements in subparagraph 181 A or 181 C, as applicable
- improve environmental benefits to less than the soil loss tolerance--*

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)

National CRP Practices (Continued)**CP22B Denitrifying Bioreactor on Riparian Buffer (Continued)*****--D C/S Eligibility (Continued)**

- meet the purpose of the practice
- be maintained for the CRP-1 period--*
- prevent degradation of environmental benefits from recurring.

Note: Use tree species that are native and noninvasive. Substitution with improved and locally accepted cultivars is permitted. Use high quality and adapted plant material.

* * *

E C/S Policy

The following contains C/S policies for this practice.

IF the component is...	AND the justification is...	THEN C/S is...
minerals, nutrients, seed, tree and shrub seedlings, seedbed preparation, and seeding, except when natural regeneration is selected by the producer	substantiated as needed by COC Note: The requirements for this practice, including eligible seed mixtures, nutrients, and minerals must be specified in the practice specification, as designated by the designated technician.	authorized using technical practice codes 314, 315, 327, 378, 382, 390, 391, 410, 441, 516, 548, 550, 574, 578, 605, 612, 614, 642, 645, and 647.
herbicides and pesticides	specified as necessary to establish the vegetation and included in the conservation plan Note: This does not include herbicides or pesticides used as part of the maintenance of the practice.	
geotextile or plastic lining for the bottom, sides and top, media (wood chips or other approved materials), chamber markers, and installation	to reduce nitrate nitrogen concentration in subsurface drainage flow	
water level control structure (diverter box) and installation	to regulate the flow into and out of the chamber	
perforated tile and installation	• to be used inside the media chamber to spread out the water and collect it at the lower end • to re-route existing tile into the water level control structure	
outlet	if needed in place of the tile to outlet into the creek	

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)

National CRP Practices (Continued)

*--CP22B Denitrifying Bioreactor on Riparian Buffer (Continued)

E C/S Policy (Continued)

IF the component is...	AND the justification is...	THEN C/S is...
locating tile lines	to locate a tile to tie into the water level control structure	authorized.
non-perforated tile and installation	to be used on both sides of the water level controls structures	
temporary supplemental irrigation systems or plastic mulch, except when natural regeneration is selected by the producer	in arid areas where the average annual precipitation is 25 inches or less and determined needed by both COC and designated technician	
rock-filled infiltration trenches to induce subsurface flow	specified as necessary to establish the vegetation and included in the conservation plan Note: The potential for groundwater contamination must be considered during planting and design.	
grading, leveling, and filling	to control concentrated flow and site preparation	
permanent fencing	fencing needed to exclude livestock from the riparian buffer Important: A single strand electric fence shall not be considered a permanent fence for CRP.	
water gaps, bridges, or other livestock crossing facilities on small streams	specified as necessary to prevent sedimentation and pollution in the stream and included in the conservation plan Note: See subparagraph 511 I.	
pipelines and water facilities constructed outside of the riparian buffer strip	substantiated as needed by COC for the purpose of providing a water source for livestock Note: COC shall only approve the minimum number of water sources needed. See paragraph 511.	
plugging, removing, or replacing with perforated pipe	to filter pollutants from underground drains through the riparian forest areas	authorized not to exceed an average cost, as determined by STC.
a regulating valve or structure may be installed to control drainage outflow	to reduce nitrogen or other pollutant loading	
tree shelters, netting, plastic tubes, or other animal damage control devices, except when natural regeneration is selected by the producer	approved by STC for the area and substantiated as needed by designated technician and COC to prevent damage from wildlife browsing Note: STC must designate areas where using such measures is warranted and cost effective to protect seedlings. See paragraphs 31 and 491.	

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(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)
National CRP Practices (Continued)

CP22B Denitrifying Bioreactor on Riparian Buffer (Continued)

E C/S Policy (Continued)

IF the component is...	AND the justification is...	THEN C/S is...
tree thinning (pre-commercial)	to improve resource condition	authorized using technical practice code 666.
streambank stabilization		not authorized.
minerals, nutrients, herbicides, and insecticides	to maintain vegetative cover or enhance production	
seed, tree and shrub seedlings, seedbed preparation and seeding	for use with natural regeneration	
minerals and nutrients		
temporary supplemental irrigation systems or plastic mulch		
clearing rocks or other obstructions from the area to be seeded		

F Practice Requirements

In addition to the practice standards in NRCS FOTG, the following requirements apply.

- The buffer shall not be harvested or grazed by domestic livestock for the life of CRP-1.
- Limit C/S to the minimum materials necessary to establish an adequate cover to improve environmental benefits.
- *--Meet the purpose of the practice--*
- Chemicals used in performing the practice **must** be:
 - Federally, State, and locally registered
 - applied strictly 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 maintenance as necessary to avoid an adverse impact on surrounding land.--*
- The riparian buffer **must** be established and maintained according to the practice standards in FOTG.
- The practice shall have periodic management activities performed, according to the *--conservation plan, during the life of CRP-1. See paragraph 428.--*
- When appropriate, a pollinator type mix should be used to establish the cover on top of the chamber.

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)
National CRP Practices (Continued)

CP22B Denitrifying Bioreactor on Riparian Buffer (Continued)

G Planting Timespan

Planting or sowing of the approved cover shall be completed within 12 months of the effective date of CRP-1.

Exceptions: See paragraph 426 for exceptions to the 12-month planting requirement.

See subparagraph H for natural regeneration.

H Natural Regeneration

Producers may elect to allow natural regeneration of the riparian buffer if **all** of the following are met:

- NRCS or TSP determines both of the following:
 - *--an adequate seed source of approved tree, shrub, and grass species suited to the soil and hydrology of the site is present to meet the purpose of the practice--*
- **Note:** Grass is an acceptable cover in the riparian buffer only if determined needed to control concentrated flow and an excessive sheet flow.
- under normal conditions, the **appropriate cover** will be established within 2 years of the CRP-1 effective date
- erosion and runoff will be controlled during the establishment period
- weeds, including noxious weeds, and other non-approved plant species will be controlled during the establishment period
- the conservation plan signed by the producer requires **all** of the following:
 - **no** C/S shall be paid for the practice

Exceptions: See subparagraph E.

- the producer will plant the approved cover at no cost to FSA or CCC according to a revised conservation plan if the riparian buffer is not established through natural regeneration within 2 years of the CRP-1 effective date
- conservation practice code 647, Early Successional Habitat Development/Management, is used to identify natural regeneration.

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)
National CRP Practices (Continued)

CP22B Denitrifying Bioreactor on Riparian Buffer (Continued)

H Natural Regeneration (Continued)

NRCS or TSP shall spot check the site at the end of the second year to determine whether the riparian buffer is established and meets the standards **and** specifications for NRCS conservation practice code 391A, Riparian Forest Buffer.

Note: FSA **must** immediately notify * * * the participant:

- of the result of the spot check
- that the participant **must** plant the approved cover with no C/S according to a revised conservation plan, if applicable.

COC shall **not** approve CRP-1 until **all** of the preceding requirements are met. COC shall ensure the producer is fully informed that:

- no C/S will be paid for natural regeneration

Exceptions: See subparagraph E.

- the producer will be required to plant the approved cover with no C/S if the approved cover is not established within 2-years of the CRP-1 effective date.

I Environmental Concerns

Consideration of wildlife habitat, water quality * * * and other environmental concerns are to be evaluated in the planning and establishment of the protective measure.

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)
National CRP Practices (Continued)

CP22B Denitrifying Bioreactor on Riparian Buffer (Continued)

J Practice Maintenance

--This practice shall be maintained without additional C/S for the life of the CRP-1 according to--
the practice standards in FOTG. C/S shall be refunded if either of the following applies:

- the producer destroys the practice during the contract period
- the cover fails to provide adequate protection of water quality during the practice lifespan, unless the failure is caused by circumstances beyond the producer's control.

K Management Activity

This practice shall have periodic management activities performed, according to the conservation plan, during the life of CRP-1 * * *. See paragraph 428.

C/S is authorized for management activities.

L Technical Responsibility

Technical responsibility for this practice shall be assigned to FS and NRCS, or TSP.--*

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)
National CRP Practices (Continued)

CP22S Saturated Riparian Buffer

A Purpose

*--The purpose of this practice is to:

- improve water quality by reducing the nitrate loading to surface water from subsurface--* drain outlets
- artificially raise the water table by diverting much of the water from a subsurface drainage system along the buffer to reduce nitrate loading to subsurface water through enhanced denitrification
- remove nutrients, sediment, organic matter, pesticides, and other pollutants from surface runoff and subsurface flow by deposition, absorption, plant uptake, denitrification, and other processes, and thereby reduce pollution and protect surface water and subsurface water quality while enhancing the ecosystem of the water body
- create shade to lower water temperature to improve habitat for aquatic organisms
- provide a source of detritus and large woody debris for aquatic organisms and habitat for wildlife.

B Program Policy

--Apply this practice only to:--

- eligible cropland where saturated buffer can be established and maintained, as determined by NRCS technical specifications, in a cost effective manner through enrollment in CRP
- soils and topography that are capable of maintaining a raised water table without adverse *--effects to stream banks, shorelines, and adjacent land.--*

*--**Note:** This practice does not apply to drainage systems or underground outlet systems that--* have surface inlets which allow entry of soil and debris capable of plugging the distribution pipe(s).

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)
National CRP Practices (Continued)

CP22S Saturated Riparian Buffer (Continued)

B Program Policy (Continued)

*--For cropland to be eligible to be enrolled in CRP to be devoted to CP22S, all of the following **must** be met:

- all cropland eligibility requirements in subparagraph 181 A are met
- NRCS or TSP determines, based on a site visit and using the Documentation of Suitability and Feasibility Worksheet, the cropland is suitable to be devoted to a riparian buffer devoted (planted or natural regeneration) to trees.
- the cropland will be devoted (planted or natural regeneration) to trees.

Note: Land that is not suitable for tree plantings as determined by NRCS or TSP, is not eligible to be enrolled in CRP as a CP22S, Saturated Riparian Buffer.--*

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)
National CRP Practices (Continued)

CP22S Saturated Riparian Buffer (Continued)

B Program Policy (Continued)

*--For **marginal pastureland** to be eligible to be enrolled in CRP to be devoted to CP22S, **all** of the following **must** be met:

- all marginal pastureland eligibility requirements in subparagraphs 181 C and D are met
- NRCS or TSP determines, based on a site visit using the Documentation of Suitability and Feasibility Worksheet, the marginal pastureland is suitable to be devoted to a riparian buffer devoted (planted or natural regeneration) to trees

Note: Marginal pastureland to be devoted to wildlife habitat buffers must be enrolled as CP29.

- the marginal pastureland will be devoted (planted or natural regeneration) to trees.

Note: Land that is not suitable for tree plantings, as determined by NRCS or TSP, is not eligible to be enrolled in CRP as a CP22S, Saturated Riparian Buffer.--*

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)
National CRP Practices (Continued)

CP22S Saturated Riparian Buffer (Continued)

B Program Policy (Continued)

--For both cropland and marginal pastureland CP22S's are not eligible to be used in conjunction with the following practices:--

- CP21, CP21B, or CP22S, because, if needed, a grass buffer is included in CP21, CP21B, and CP21S
- CP23, because acreage devoted to CP23 may include up to a 3 to 1 ratio of uplands to ensure the functions and values of the cropped wetland are restored
- CP23A, because acreage devoted to CP23A may include up to a 4 to 1 ratio of uplands to ensure the functions and values of the cropped wetland are restored
- CP9, because acreage devoted to CP9 **must** include an adequate buffer to protect the shallow water area
- *--CP29 and CP30, because the practice must solve the resource concern without additional practices.--*

* * *

C Size Requirements

A riparian buffer shall not be less than 35 feet in width. The maximum width of a riparian buffer is the lessor of 100 feet or 30 percent of the geomorphic floodplain. An area of native grasses and forbs may be added, if otherwise eligible, only for concentrate flow conditions dependent on the site.

Excessive sheet-rill and concentrated flow will be controlled in areas immediately adjacent and *--up-gradient of the buffer. This area must be the minimum necessary to control excessive--* sheet-rill erosion and/or concentrated flow.--*

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)
National CRP Practices (Continued)

CP22S Saturated Riparian Buffer (Continued)

C Size Requirements (Continued)

A riparian buffer may be applied up to a maximum average width of 180 feet, if needed to accomplish the purpose of the practice.

Notes: The maximum average width of riparian buffers established for any purpose other than protection and enhancement of water quality shall not exceed 180 feet.

--Infeasible-to-farm provisions may apply to CP22S on cropland only.--

When the minimum design specification for water quality exceeds 180 feet, the minimum design specification is the maximum average width that may be enrolled. NRCS or TSP **must** document in writing the need for a minimum design specification in excess of 180 feet.

*--**Note:** NRCS use the Documentation of Suitability and Feasibility Worksheet to document the need for an additional average width for water quality purposes consistent with FOTG standards. The documentation **must** be maintained in the CRP folder.--*

Example: Producer offers to enroll cropland to be devoted to a 180 foot wide riparian buffer to protect the adjacent eligible stream. Based on the soils, slope, and other site conditions, NRCS documents that to address the water quality resource problem and to function properly, the riparian buffer needs to be a minimum of 200 feet in width. Because the purpose of the riparian buffer is the protection and enhancement of water quality, the minimum width of 200 feet may be enrolled. The 200 foot minimum width is the maximum acreage that may be enrolled.

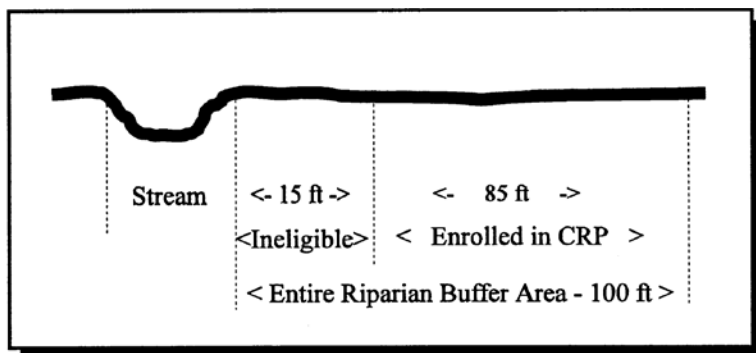
The riparian buffer shall begin at the top of the stream bank. In some cases there may be land that is adjacent to the stream that does **not** meet the eligibility criteria to be enrolled in CRP. **This land shall not be enrolled in CRP.** However, if the eligible land is enrolled in CRP as a riparian buffer, the ineligible land **shall be** included:

- in the area used as a riparian buffer
- in the conservation plan
- when determining the width of the riparian buffer.

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)

National CRP Practices (Continued)**CP22S Saturated Riparian Buffer (Continued)****C Size Requirements (Continued)**

This diagram provides an example of a riparian buffer adjacent to a stream that includes land **not** enrolled in CRP. The first 15 feet adjacent to the stream (starting at the top of the stream bank) does **not** meet the eligibility criteria to be enrolled in CRP.



The riparian buffer is 100 feet wide. Only the eligible land (85 feet width) is enrolled in CRP. The conservation plan is for the entire riparian buffer (100 feet). The producer is responsible for maintaining the entire practice (100 feet) according to the plan. Failure to maintain the entire 100 feet may result in CRP payment reductions or termination.

* * *

***--D C/S Eligibility**

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

- be required by the approved conservation plan
- be implemented on land that meets the cropland or marginal pastureland eligibility requirements in subparagraph 181 A or 181 C, as applicable
- improve environmental benefits to less than the soil loss tolerance

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)

National CRP Practices (Continued)**CP22S Saturated Riparian Buffer (Continued)*****--D C/S Eligibility (Continued)**

- meet the purpose of the practice
- be maintained for the CRP-1 period--*
- prevent degradation of environmental benefits from recurring.

Note: Use tree species that are native and noninvasive. Substitution with improved and locally accepted cultivars is permitted. Use high quality and adapted plant material.

* * *

E C/S Policy

The following contains C/S policies for this practice.

IF the component is...	AND the justification is...	THEN C/S is...
minerals, nutrients, seed, tree and shrub seedlings, seedbed preparation, and seeding, except when natural regeneration is selected by the producer	substantiated as needed by COC Note: The requirements for this practice, including eligible seed mixtures, nutrients, and minerals must be specified in the practice specification, as designated by the designated technician.	authorized using technical practice codes 314, 315, 327, 378, 382, 390, 391, 410, 441, 516, 548, 550, 574, 578, 605, 612, 614, 642, 645, and 647.
herbicides and pesticides	specified as necessary to establish the vegetation and included in the conservation plan Note: This does not include herbicides or pesticides used as part of the maintenance of the practice.	
media chamber, geotextile or plastic lining for the bottom, sides and top and media (wood chips or other approved materials), and installation	to reduce nitrate nitrogen concentration in subsurface drainage flow	
water level control structure (diverter box) and installation	to regulate the flow into and out of the chamber	
perforated tile and installation	• to be used inside the media chamber to spread out the water and collect it at the lower end • to re-route existing tile into the water level control structure	
outlet	if needed in place of the tile to outlet into the creek	

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)

National CRP Practices (Continued)

*--CP22S Saturated Riparian Buffer (Continued)

E C/S Policy (Continued)

IF the component is...	AND the justification is...	THEN C/S is...
locating tile lines	to locate a tile to tie into the water level control structure	authorized.
non-perforated tile and installation	to be used on both sides of the water level controls structures	
temporary supplemental irrigation systems or plastic mulch, except when natural regeneration is selected by the producer	in arid areas where the average annual precipitation is 25 inches or less and determined needed by both COC and designated technician	
rock-filled infiltration trenches to induce subsurface flow	specified as necessary to establish the vegetation and included in the conservation plan Note: The potential for groundwater contamination must be considered during planting and design.	
grading, leveling, and filling	to control concentrated flow and site preparation	
permanent fencing	fencing needed to exclude livestock from the riparian buffer Important: A single strand electric fence shall not be considered a permanent fence for CRP.	
water gaps, bridges, or other livestock crossing facilities on small streams	specified as necessary to prevent sedimentation and pollution in the stream and included in the conservation plan Note: See subparagraph 511 I.	
pipelines and water facilities constructed outside of the riparian buffer strip	substantiated as needed by COC for the purpose of providing a water source for livestock Note: COC shall only approve the minimum number of water sources needed. See paragraph 511.	
plugging, removing, or replacing with perforated pipe	to filter pollutants from underground drains through the riparian forest areas	authorized not to exceed an average cost, as determined by STC.
a regulating valve or structure may be installed to control drainage outflow	to reduce nitrogen or other pollutant loading	
tree shelters, netting, plastic tubes, or other animal damage control devices, except when natural regeneration is selected by the producer	approved by STC for the area and substantiated as needed by designated technician and COC to prevent damage from wildlife browsing Note: STC must designate areas where using such measures is warranted and cost effective to protect seedlings. See paragraphs 31 and 491.	

--*

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)
National CRP Practices (Continued)

CP22S Saturated Riparian Buffer (Continued)

E C/S Policy (Continued)

IF the component is...	AND the justification is...	THEN C/S is...
tree thinning (pre-commercial)	to improve resource condition	authorized using technical practice code 666.
streambank stabilization		not authorized.
minerals, nutrients, herbicides, and insecticides	to maintain vegetative cover or enhance production	
seed, tree and shrub seedlings, seedbed preparation and seeding	for use with natural regeneration	
minerals and nutrients		
temporary supplemental irrigation systems or plastic mulch		
clearing rocks or other obstructions from the area to be seeded		

F Practice Requirements

In addition to the practice standards in NRCS FOTG, the following requirements apply.

- The buffer shall not be harvested or grazed by domestic livestock for the life of CRP-1.
- Limit C/S to the minimum materials necessary to establish an adequate cover to improve environmental benefits.
- *--Meet the purpose of the practice.--*
- Chemicals used in performing the practice **must** be:
 - Federally, State, and locally registered
 - applied strictly 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 maintenance as necessary to avoid adverse impact on surrounding land.--*
- The riparian buffer **must** be established and maintained according to the practice standards in FOTG.
- The practice shall have periodic management activities performed, according to the *--conservation plan, during the life of CRP-1. See paragraph 428--*

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)
National CRP Practices (Continued)

CP22S Saturated Riparian Buffer (Continued)

G Planting Timespan

Planting or sowing of the approved cover shall be completed within 12 months of the effective date of CRP-1.

Exceptions: See paragraph 426 for exceptions to the 12-month planting requirement.

See subparagraph H for natural regeneration.

H Natural Regeneration

Producers may elect to allow natural regeneration of the riparian buffer if **all** of the following are met:

- NRCS or TSP determines both of the following:
 - *--an adequate seed source of approved tree, shrub, and grass species suited to the soil and hydrology of the site is present to meet the purpose of the practice--*
- **Note:** Grass is an acceptable cover in the riparian buffer only if determined needed to control concentrated flow and an excessive sheet flow.
- under normal conditions, the **appropriate cover** will be established within 2 years of the CRP-1 effective date
- erosion and runoff will be controlled during the establishment period
- weeds, including noxious weeds, and other non-approved plant species will be controlled during the establishment period
- the conservation plan signed by the producer requires **all** of the following:
 - **no** C/S shall be paid for the practice

Exceptions: See subparagraph E.

- the producer will plant the approved cover at no cost to FSA or CCC according to a revised conservation plan if the riparian buffer is not established through natural regeneration within 2 years of the CRP-1 effective date

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)
National CRP Practices (Continued)

CP22S Saturated Riparian Buffer (Continued)

H Natural Regeneration (Continued)

- conservation practice code 647, Early Successional Habitat Development/Management, is used to identify natural regeneration.

NRCS or TSP shall spot check the site at the end of the second year to determine whether the riparian buffer is established and meets the standards **and** specifications for NRCS conservation practice code 391A, Riparian Forest Buffer.

Note: FSA **must** immediately notify * * * the participant:

- of the result of the spot check
- that the participant **must** plant the approved cover with no C/S according to a revised conservation plan, if applicable.

COC shall **not** approve CRP-1 until **all** of the preceding requirements are met. COC shall ensure the producer is fully informed that:

- no C/S will be paid for natural regeneration

Exceptions: See subparagraph E.

- the producer will be required to plant the approved cover with no C/S if the approved cover is not established within 2-years of the CRP-1 effective date.

I Environmental Concerns

Consideration of wildlife habitat, water quality * * *, and other environmental concerns are to be evaluated in the planning and establishment of the protective measure.

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)
National CRP Practices (Continued)

CP22S Saturated Riparian Buffer (Continued)

J Practice Maintenance

--This practice shall be maintained without additional C/S for the life of the CRP-1 according to--
the practice standards in FOTG. C/S shall be refunded if either of the following applies:

- the producer destroys the practice during the contract period
- the cover fails to provide adequate protection of water quality during the practice lifespan, unless the failure is caused by circumstances beyond the producer's control.

K Management Activity

This practice shall have periodic management activities performed, according to the conservation plan, during the life of CRP-1, * * *. See paragraph 428.

C/S is authorized for management activities.

L Technical Responsibility

Technical responsibility for this practice shall be assigned to FS and NRCS, or TSP.--*

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)
National CRP Practices (Continued)

CP28 Farmable Wetlands Pilot Buffer (Continued)

I Practice Maintenance

The practice shall be maintained without additional C/S for the life of CRP-1 according to the practice standards in FOTG.

C/S shall be refunded if any of the following apply:

- producer destroys the practice during the life of CRP-1
- producer fails to maintain the cover during the life of CRP-1
- the cover fails to provide adequate protection of water quality during the life of CRP-1, unless the failure is caused by circumstances beyond the producer's control.

J Associated Practice

This practice is only authorized with the associated practice CP27, * * * FWP Constructed Wetland, and CP41, FWP Flooded Prairie Wetland, to ensure that the functions and values of the wetland are maintained for the length of the contract.

K Technical Responsibility

NRCS or TSP shall have the technical responsibility for this practice.

L Management Activity

This practice shall have periodic management activities performed, according to the conservation plan, during the life of CRP-1, as determined by COC. See paragraph 428.

C/S is authorized for management activities.

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)
National CRP Practices (Continued)

CP29 Marginal Pastureland Wildlife Habitat Buffer

A Purpose

The purpose of this practice is to remove nutrients, sediment, organic matter, pesticides, and other pollutants from surface runoff and subsurface flow by deposition, absorption, plant uptake, denitrification, and other processes, and thereby reduce pollution and protect surface water and subsurface water quality while enhancing the ecosystem of the water body. By restoring native grass communities, characteristics for the site will assist in stabilizing stream banks, reducing flood damage impacts, and restoring and enhancing wildlife habitat.

B Program Policy

For marginal pastureland to be eligible to be enrolled in CRP to be devoted to CP29, all of the following **must** be met:

- all marginal pastureland eligibility requirements in subparagraph 181 C are met
- the vegetation for the site is a mix of grasses, shrubs, and forbs

Note: The practice must enhance the grass, shrub, and forb community and provide water quality improvement and wildlife habitat benefits.

- NRCS or TSP determines, based on a site visit, the marginal pastureland offered is not suitable for and capable of growing trees

Note: Marginal pastureland to be devoted to trees may only be enrolled as CP22, CP22B or CP22S.

Exhibit 11

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)
National CRP Practices (Continued)

CP29 Marginal Pastureland Wildlife Habitat Buffer (Continued)

* * *

CP29's are not eligible to be used in conjunction with the following practices:

- CP22, CP22B, or CP22S, because, if needed, CP22, CP22B, or CP22S include a grass buffer
- CP23, because acreage devoted to CP23 may include up to a 3 to 1 ratio of uplands to ensure that the functions and values of the cropped wetland are restored
- CP23A, because acreage devoted to CP23A may include up to a 4 to 1 ratio of uplands to ensure that the functions and values of the cropped wetland are restored
- *--CP21, CP21B, CP21S, or CP30, because the practice must solve the resource concern without additional practices--*
- CP9, because acreage devoted to CP9 **must** include an adequate buffer to protect the shallow water area.

C Size Requirements

The minimum acceptable width of a wildlife habitat buffer is 20 feet. A wetland habitat buffer may be applied up to a maximum average width of 120 feet, if needed to accomplish the purpose of the practice.

Note: The maximum average width of wildlife habitat buffers established for any purpose other than protection and enhancement of water quality, shall not exceed 120 feet.

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)
National CRP Practices (Continued)

CP29 Marginal Pastureland Wildlife Habitat Buffer (Continued)

C Size Requirements (Continued)

When the minimum design specification for water quality exceeds 120 feet, the minimum design specification is the maximum average width that may be enrolled. NRCS or TSP **must** document the need for a minimum design specification in excess of 120 feet in writing.

***--Note:** NRCS or TSP will use the Documentation of Suitability and Feasibility Worksheet to document the need for an additional average width for water quality purposes consistent with FOTG standards. The documentation **must** be maintained in the CRP folder.--*

Example: Producer offers to enroll land to be devoted to a 120 foot wide wildlife habitat buffer to protect the adjacent eligible stream. Based on the soils, slope, and other site conditions, NRCS or TSP documents that to address the water quality resource problem and to function properly, the wildlife habitat buffer **must** be a minimum of 145 feet in width. Because the purpose of the wildlife habitat buffer is the protection and enhancement of water quality, the minimum of width 145 feet may be enrolled. The 145 foot minimum width is the maximum acreage that may be enrolled.

The wildlife habitat buffer shall begin at the top of the stream bank. In some cases there may be land that is adjacent to the stream that does **not** meet the eligibility criteria to be enrolled in CRP. **This land shall not be enrolled in CRP.** However, if the eligible land is enrolled in CRP as a wildlife habitat buffer, the ineligible land **shall be** included:

- in the area used as a wildlife habitat buffer
- in the conservation plan
- when determining the width of the wildlife habitat buffer.

A wildlife habitat buffer adjacent to a stream that includes land **not** enrolled in CRP. The first 15 feet adjacent to the stream (starting at the top of the stream bank) does **not** meet the eligibility criteria to be enrolled in CRP.

The wildlife habitat buffer is 100 feet wide. Only the eligible land (85 feet width) is enrolled in CRP. The conservation plan is for the entire wildlife habitat buffer (100 feet). The producer is responsible for maintaining the entire practice (100 feet) according to the plan. Failure to maintain the entire 100 feet may result in CRP payment reductions or termination.

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)
National CRP Practices (Continued)

CP29 Marginal Pastureland Wildlife Habitat Buffer (Continued)

D C/S Eligibility

*--To be eligible for C/S, this practice must:

- be required by the approved conservation plan
- be implemented on marginal pastureland that meets the eligibility requirements in subparagraph 181 C
- improve environmental benefits to an acceptable level
- meet the purpose of the practice
- be maintained for the CRP-1 period--*
- prevent degradation of environmental benefits from recurring.

E C/S Policy

The following contains C/S policies for this practice.

IF the component is...	AND the justification is...	THEN C/S is...
mineral or nutrient	substantiated as needed by COC Note: The requirements for this practice, including eligible seed mixtures, nutrients, and minerals must be specified in the practice specification as designated by the designated technician.	authorized using technical practices 314, 315, 338, 342, 378, 382, 386, 390, *--394,512, 516,--* 533, 550, 574,578, 612, 614, 642, and 645.
site preparation		
eligible seed and seeding		
herbicide	specified as necessary in the approved conservation plan	
insecticide		

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)

National CRP Practices (Continued)

CP29 Marginal Pastureland Wildlife Habitat Buffer (Continued)

E C/S Policy (Continued)

IF the component is...	AND the justification is...	THEN C/S is...
temporary cover	required in the practice specification needed until required seed or plant stock is available needed because normal planting period for the species has passed that a soil condition, like chemical residue, will not allow establishment of the cover immediately	authorized.
pipelines and watering *--facilities or developments--* constructed outside of the wildlife habitat buffer	providing a water source for livestock away from the wildlife habitat buffer and the adjacent stream or water body Note: See paragraph 511.	authorized.
fencing	permanent fencing needed to exclude livestock from the buffer strip Note: See paragraph 511. Important: A single strand electric fence shall not be considered a permanent fence for CRP.	
water gaps, bridges, or other livestock crossing facilities on small streams	specified as necessary to prevent sedimentation and pollution in the stream and included in the conservation plan. Note: See paragraph 511 I.	authorized using technical practice code 578 for livestock crossing only.
construction of structures where concentrated flow continues to degrade water quality	to meet the requirements of the conservation plan	authorized.

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)

National CRP Practices (Continued)**CP29 Marginal Pastureland Wildlife Habitat Buffer (Continued)****E C/S Policy (Continued)**

IF the component is...	AND the justification is...	THEN C/S is...
herbicide	to maintain vegetative cover	not authorized.
insecticide		
clearing rocks or other obstructions from the area to be seeded		
stream bank stabilization		
mineral or nutrient	to enhance production	

F Practice Requirements

In addition to the practice standards in NRCS FOTG, the following requirements apply.

- *--The buffer shall not be harvested or grazed by domestic livestock for the life of the CRP-1.--*
- Limit C/S to the minimum minerals and seed necessary to establish an adequate cover to improve environmental benefits.
- *--Meet the purpose of this practice.--*
- Chemicals used in performing the practice **must** be:
 - Federally, State, and locally registered
 - applied strictly according to authorized registered uses, directions on the label, and other Federal or State policies and requirements.

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)
National CRP Practices (Continued)

CP29 Marginal Pastureland Wildlife Habitat Buffer (Continued)

F Practice Requirements (Continued)

- 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.

* * *

- The practice shall have periodic management activities performed, according to the *--conservation plan, during the life of CRP-1. See paragraph 428.--*

G Planting Timespan

Planting or sowing of the approved cover shall be completed within 12 months of the effective date of CRP-1. See paragraph 426 for exceptions.

H Environmental Concerns

Consideration of wildlife habitat, water quality and quantity, and other environmental concerns are to be evaluated in the planning and establishment of the protective measure.

I Practice Maintenance

This practice shall be maintained without additional C/S for the life of CRP-1 according to the practice standards in FOTG.

C/S shall be refunded if either of the following applies:

- the producer destroys the practice during the contract period
- the cover fails to provide adequate protection of water quality during the practice lifespan, unless the failure is caused by circumstances beyond the producer's control.

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)

National CRP Practices (Continued)

CP29 Marginal Pastureland Wildlife Habitat Buffer (Continued)

J Management Activity

This practice shall have periodic management activities performed, according to the conservation plan, during the life of CRP-1, * * *. See paragraph 428.

C/S is authorized for management activities.

K Technical Responsibility

NRCS or TSP shall have technical responsibility for this practice.

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)
National CRP Practices (Continued)

CP30 Marginal Pastureland Wetland Buffer

A Purpose

The purpose of this practice is to remove nutrients, sediment, organic matter, pesticides, and other pollutants from surface runoff and subsurface flow by deposition, absorption, plant uptake, denitrification, and other processes, and thereby reduce pollution and protect surface water and *--subsurface water quality while enhancing the ecosystem of the wetland. The practice will--* enhance and/or restore hydrology and plant communities associated with existing or degraded wetland complexes. The goal is to enhance water quality, reduce nutrient and pollutant levels, and improve wildlife habitat.

B Program Policy

*--For marginal pastureland to be eligible to be enrolled in CRP to be devoted to CP30, all of the following **must** be met:--*

* * *

- all marginal pastureland eligibility requirements in subparagraph 181 C are met
- *--NRCS or TSP determines, based on a site visit, the marginal pastureland offered is not suitable for and capable of growing tress.

Note: Marginal pastureland to be devoted to tress may only be enrolled as CP22, CP22B, or CP22S.--*

* * *

CP30's are not eligible to be used in conjunction with the following practices:

- CP22, CP22B, or CP22S, because, if needed, CP22, CP22B, and CP22S include a grass buffer
- CP23, because acreage devoted to CP23 may include up to a 3 to 1 ratio of uplands to ensure the functions and values of the cropped wetland are restored
- CP23A, because acreage devoted to CRP23A may include up to a 4 to 1 ration of uplands to ensure the functions and values of the cropped wetland are restored
- CP9, because acreage devoted to CP9 **must** include an adequate buffer to protect the shallow water area
- *--CP21, CP21B, CP21S or CP29, because the practice must solve the resource concern without additional practices.--*

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)
National CRP Practices (Continued)

CP30 Marginal Pastureland Wetland Buffer (Continued)

C Size Requirements

The minimum acceptable width of a wetland buffer is 20 feet. A wetland buffer may be applied up to a maximum average width of 120 feet, if needed to accomplish the purpose of the practice.

* * *

When the minimum design specification for water quality exceeds 120 feet, the minimum design specification is the maximum average width that may be enrolled. NRCS or TSP **must** document the need for a minimum design specification in excess of 120 feet in writing.

***--Note:** NRCS or TSP will use the Documentation Suitability and Feasibility Worksheet to document the need for an additional average width for water quality purposes consistent with FOTG standards. The documentation **must** be maintained in the CRP folder.

Example: Producer offers to enroll land to be devoted to a 120 foot wide wetland buffer to protect the adjacent wetland. Based on the soils, slope, and other site conditions,--* NRCS or TSP documents that to address the water quality resource problem and to function properly, the wetland buffer **must** be a minimum of 145 feet in width. Because the purpose of the wetland buffer is the protection and enhancement of water quality, the minimum of width 145 feet may be enrolled. The 145 foot minimum width is the maximum acreage that may be enrolled.

* * *

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)
National CRP Practices (Continued)

CP30 Marginal Pastureland Wetland Buffer (Continued)

D C/S Eligibility

--To be eligible for C/S, this practice must:--

- be required by the approved conservation plan
- *--be implemented on marginal pastureland that meets the eligibility requirements in subparagraph 181 C
- improve environmental benefits to an acceptable level
- meets the purpose of the practice
- be maintained for the CRP-1 period--*
- prevent degradation of environmental benefits from recurring.

E C/S Policy

The following contains C/S policies for this practice.

IF the component is...	AND the justification is...	THEN C/S is...
mineral or nutrient	substantiated as needed by COC Note: The requirements for this practice, including eligible seed mixtures, nutrients, and minerals must be specified in the practice specification as designated by the designated technician.	authorized using technical practice codes 314, 315, 338, 342, 378, 382, *--386, 390, 394,--* 512, 516, 533, 550, 574,578, 612, 614, 642, 644, 645, 647, 657, and 658.
site preparation		
eligible seed and seeding		
herbicide	specified as necessary in the approved conservation plan	
insecticide		
earthmoving	to restore the hydrology of the site	

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)
National CRP Practices (Continued)

CP30 Marginal Pastureland Wetland Buffer (Continued)

E C/S Policy (Continued)

IF the component is...	AND the justification is...	THEN C/S is...
temporary cover	• required in the practice specification • needed until required seed or plant stock is available • needed because normal planting period for the species has passed • that a soil condition, like chemical residue, will not allow establishment of the cover immediately	authorized.
pipelines and watering facilities or developments constructed outside of the wetland buffer	providing a water source for livestock away from the wetland buffer and the adjacent stream or *--wetland--* Note: See paragraph 511.	
fencing	permanent fencing needed to exclude livestock from the buffer strip Note: See paragraph 511. Important: A single strand electric fence shall not be considered a permanent fence for CRP.	
***	***	
construction of structures where concentrated flow continues to degrade water quality	to meet the requirements of the conservation plan	
***	***	***

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)
National CRP Practices (Continued)

CP30 Marginal Pastureland Wetland Buffer (Continued)

E C/S Policy (Continued)

IF the component is...	AND the justification is...	THEN C/S is...
herbicide	to maintain vegetative cover	not authorized.
insecticide		
clearing rocks or other obstructions from the area to be seeded		
stream bank stabilization		
mineral or nutrient	to enhance production	

F Practice Requirements

In addition to the practice standards in NRCS FOTG, the following requirements apply.

- *--The buffer shall not be harvested or grazed by domestic livestock for the life the CRP-1--*
 - Limit C/S to the minimum minerals and seed necessary to establish an adequate cover to improve environmental benefits.
 - *--Meet the purpose of the practice.--*
 - Chemicals used in performing the practice **must** be:
 - Federally, State, and locally registered
 - applied strictly 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.
- * * *
- The practice shall have periodic management activities performed, according to the *--conservation plan, during the life of CRP-1. See paragraph 428.--*

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)
National CRP Practices (Continued)

CP30 Marginal Pastureland Wetland Buffer (Continued)

G Planting Timespan

Planting or sowing of the approved cover shall be completed within 12 months of the effective date of CRP-1. See paragraph 426 for exceptions.

H Environmental Concerns

Consideration of wildlife habitat, water quality and quantity, and other environmental concerns are to be evaluated in the planning and establishment of the protective measure.

I Practice Maintenance

This practice shall be maintained without additional C/S for the life of CRP-1 according to the practice standards in FOTG.

C/S shall be refunded if either of the following applies:

- the producer destroys the practice during the contract period
- the cover fails to provide adequate protection of water quality during the practice lifespan, unless the failure is caused by circumstances beyond the producer's control.

J Management Activity

This practice shall have periodic management activities performed, according to the conservation plan, during the life of CRP-1 * * *. See paragraph 428.

C/S is authorized for management activities.

K Technical Responsibility

NRCS shall have technical responsibility for this practice.

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)
National CRP Practices (Continued)

CP31 Bottomland Timber Establishment on Wetlands

A Purpose

The purpose of this practice is to establish and provide for the long-term viability of a bottomland hardwood stand of trees that will:

- control sheet, rill, scour, and other erosion
- reduce water, air, or land pollution
- restore and enhance the natural and beneficial functions of wetlands
- promote carbon sequestration
- restore and connect wildlife habitat.

B Program Policy

--Apply this practice to eligible cropland suitable for growing bottomland hardwood trees or-- adapted shrubs that will provide multipurpose forest and wildlife benefits.

Note: Cottonwoods may be planted to enhance the viability of other hardwood trees (oaks, etc.)

Selection of cottonwood as a component **must** be silviculturally and ecologically appropriate for the long-term health and production of the stand. Hydrologic and soil characteristics **must** be appropriate for the planting of cottonwood species.

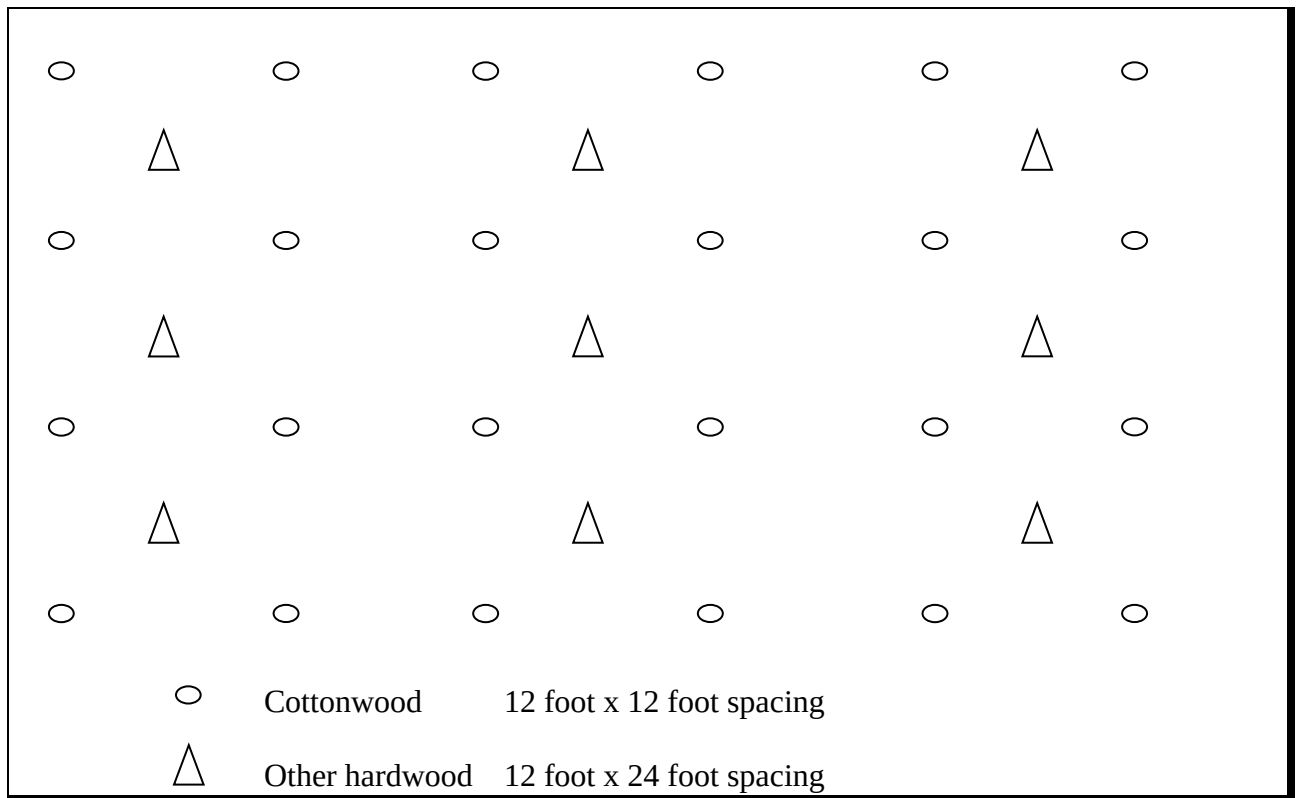
Example: Participant A enrolls 100 acres as CP31 who, working with a State Forester, selects cottonwood and 3 other silviculturally appropriate hardwood species. The cottonwoods are planted on 12' x 12' spacing and the other hardwoods are planted on 12' x 24' spacing. The plan calls for weed and insect control during year 1 and cottonwood thinning during year 15. The cottonwood serves as a nurse crop for the other hardwood species in the neighboring rows. In year 2, Participant A may be eligible to enter into an agreement with a carbon company where Participant A sells greenhouse gas credits provided the terms and conditions of the CRP contract are not impacted. This agreement is solely between Participant A and the carbon company.

(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)
National CRP Practices (Continued)

CP31 Bottomland Timber Establishment on Wetlands (Continued)

B Program Policy (Continued)

The following diagram illustrates a typical cottonwood/other hardwood planting.



(Par. 31, 34, 66, 171, 181, 237, 262, 366, 426, 428, 429, 462, 491, 511, 512, 774, 832, Ex. 26)
National CRP Practices (Continued)

CP31 Bottomland Timber Establishment on Wetlands (Continued)

C Eligibility

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

- do either of the following:
 - reduce excessive erosion to an acceptable level and increase sediment trapping efficiencies
 - improve surface or ground water quality
- reduce scour, gully, stream bank, sheet, or rill erosion
- prevent excessive erosion from occurring
- enhance food and cover for wildlife
- be maintained for the life of CRP-1
- be included in the approved conservation plan
- *--be within the recognized 100-year flood plain of a stream with perennial flow.--*

Note: A wetland designation, if needed, **must** be made by NRCS.

National CRP Practices (Continued)

CP31 Bottomland Timber Establishment on Wetlands (Continued)

D C/S Policy

The following table provides C/S policies for this practice.

IF the component is...	AND the justification is...	THEN C/S is...
to establish a minimum of 3 different varieties of mast producing hardwood tree and shrub species Notes: The hardwood species may include cottonwoods planted between the rows of hardwood. The cotton woods serve as a nurse crop for the other hardwoods and may be thinned after year 9 of the CRP contract.	- to reduce erosion from wind or water - provide food and cover for waterfowl and other wildlife - improve surface or ground water quality	authorized using technical practice codes *-314, 315, 338, 340, 391, 394, 550, 587, 612, 643,--* 644, 657, 658, and 659.
to establish no more than 25 percent of the silviculturally appropriate softwood species, as determined by STC and determined appropriate by State Forester	to enhance 1 of the following: - wetland development - wildlife habitat - hardwood stand health and vigor	
temporary cover	- required in the practice specification - needed until required planting stock is available - needed because normal planting period for the species has passed - to establish a cover where a solid condition, such as chemical residue, will not immediately allow establishment of permanent cover	