

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Farm Service Agency
Washington, DC 20250

Agricultural Resource Conservation Program 2-CRP (Revision 5)	Amendment 5
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Approved by: Acting Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



Amendment Transmittal

A Reason for Amendment

Paragraph 691 has been amended to provide that STC's shall not approve counties for emergency haying or grazing during the primary nesting and brood rearing season. This authority requires National Office approval. STC authority to authorize emergency grazing because of flooding has been removed.

Page Control Chart		
TC	Text	Exhibit
	19-63, 19-64 19-67, 19-68	

691 County Eligibility (Continued)**C Applying for National Authorization (Continued)**

COC shall ensure that an eligible livestock producer, to whom the acreage is rented or leased, is located in an approved county or part of a county, as applicable.

All requests and CEPD determinations, and STC determinations, as applicable, shall be recorded in the COC minutes.

COC shall clearly document in the COC minutes the following:

- justification for the request to release CRP for emergency haying or grazing
- monthly review of conditions in the county and the basis used to determine whether continued haying or grazing is warranted.

STC, or designee, shall thoroughly review COC requests for completeness and make a recommendation before submitting requests to CEPD. Failure to submit complete requests with STC, or designee, recommendation will delay the CEPD response.

After CEPD approves COC's request, COC shall notify all participants in the county or part of the county, as applicable, of the authorization to hay or graze CRP acreage by the fastest means possible.

Note: Unless otherwise indicated, all emergency haying authorizations shall end August 31, and all emergency grazing authorizations shall end September 30.

691 County Eligibility (Continued)

D STC Determinations

COC’s may request emergency haying or grazing for all or part of a county to STC using the U.S. Drought Monitor.

STC shall:

- make determinations on a county-by-county basis
- report approvals to CEPD by COB each day.

Note: STC approval notification shall be in the following format.

County Name	Date Grazing Approved	Date Haying Approved

*--STC shall **not** approve counties for emergency haying or grazing based on the U.S. Drought Monitor during the primary nesting and brood rearing season.--*

STC approvals of emergency haying shall end no later than August 31, and approvals of emergency grazing shall end no later than September 30. * * *

E County Eligibility Criteria for STC Determination

For emergency grazing, county eligibility is based on COC submitting evidence that the county is designated as level “D2 Drought-Severe” according to the U.S. Drought Monitor.

For emergency haying, County eligibility is based on COC submitting evidence that the county is designated as level “D3 Drought-Extreme” according to the U.S. Drought Monitor.

The U.S. Drought Monitor is available on the internet at <http://www.drought.unl.edu/dm/monitor.html>.

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.

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*--**Note:** STC shall not approve counties for emergency haying or grazing during the primary nesting and brood rearing season. This authority requires National Office approval.--*

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.

B Ineligible Acreage

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

- useful life easements
- land within 120 feet of a 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