

For: AR, CA, ID, KS, MO, MT, OH, OK, OR, PA, and WA State and County Offices

**Interim Conservation Plan Provisions for BCAP Project Areas 2 through 9 Sign-Up**

Approved by: Acting Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



**1 Overview**

**A Background**

Generally, an approved conservation plan must be completed and signed before BCAP-24 may be approved. However, in an effort to maximize BCAP Project Area sign-up, and because BCAP funding for FY 2011 expires on September 30, 2011, interim conservation plans are authorized.

**B Authority to Use Interim Conservation Plan**

The interim conservation plan is authorized only for Project Areas 2 through 9:

**C Interim Conservation Plan Policy**

The Interim Conservation Plan Addendum (Exhibit 1) and the Interim Conservation Plan (Exhibit 2) are to be used only for BCAP Project Areas 2 through 9.

The interim conservation plan must contain:

- NRCS job sheets
- NRCS-approved technical practice codes for the BCAP Project Area.

County Offices must ensure that all data entries on the interim conservation plan are completed based on information from TERRA and COLS. The Interim Conservation Plan **and** Interim Conservation Plan Addendum must be signed by BCAP-24 participant and CED no later than **COB September 16, 2011**.

**Notes:** The specifications for all applicable practices shall be included in the final conservation plan.

County Offices must reproduce the Interim Conservation Plan Addendum (Exhibit 1) and the Interim Conservation Plan (Exhibit 2) locally.

<b>Disposal Date</b>	<b>Distribution</b>
March 1, 2012	Above State Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices

## Notice BCAP-26

### 1 Overview (Continued)

#### D Final Conservation Plan Completed

A final conservation plan must be completed no later than COB April 2, 2012. The NRCS National Office has agreed with this deadline. For BCAP Project Areas 2 through 9, a final conservation plan is the approved conservation plan completed after an interim plan has been in effect for BCAP-24.

**Notes:** CED's shall **not** approve BCAP-24 until the signature is obtained on the Interim Conservation Plan Addendum and Interim Conservation Plan.

Participants must be notified that starting a practice before approval of BCAP-24 is at their own risk. C/S will only be paid, if applicable to the BCAP Project Area, for those eligible costs that are approved under the interim or final plan.

The specifications for all applicable practices shall be included in the final conservation plan, consistent with procedure in 1-BCAP State Supplements.

### 2 Action

#### A State Office Action

State Offices shall:

- inform CED's that they can approve BCAP-24's with an interim conservation plan
- instruct CED's to terminate BCAP-24 if the participant does not sign the final conservation plan
- ensure that County Offices follow the provisions of this notice.

#### B County Office Action

State Offices shall follow the provisions of this notice.

**Interim Conservation Plan Addendum**

BIOMASS CROP ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FY 2011 CONTRACTS  
INTERIM CONSERVATION PLAN ADDENDUM

_____	_____
NAME	FARM NUMBER
_____	_____
TRACT NUMBER	FIELD NUMBER(S)

The attached interim conservation plan is general in nature but is intended to allow your contract period to begin upon approval of the FSA-848A while a final plan is developed for your land for the Biomass Crop Assistance Program (BCAP) contract for that land. It may be that your interim plan requires nothing more than continuing certain practices, or your interim plan may require you to take certain additional conservation measures prior to any land preparation, planting or production in furtherance of your BCAP participation. You need to check the plan (attached) and call any questions to the attention of your local Natural Resources and Conservation Services (NRCS) or Technical Service Provider (TSP).

Personnel from the Department of Agriculture’s NRCS or TSP will conduct a field visit and develop site specific requirements unique to your BCAP offer no later than April 2, 2012. An on-site field visit and evaluation of the existing field conditions will determine the present condition. In addition, NRCS or TSP will identify any site specific planting requirements or treatments required to meet the selected BCAP practice and related technical specifications. Modification of the interim plan and BCAP contract will be made after the on-site evaluation.

The requirements, shown in the attached interim conservation plan, may be revised when the final plan is completed after the field visit; however, you will be required to comply with the interim plan as a condition for being considered eligible for payments for the BCAP in this interim period. Specifically, you will be eligible for payment no later than 30 days following the date of the County Committee approves your contract, including this interim plan, provided you comply with all the terms and conditions of the contract. The final plan will be consistent with the interim plan and with the terms of the BCAP contract to which you have agreed. Cost shares during this interim period will only be paid for those costs which are approved in connection with the interim plan. Cost shares under the final plan will only be paid for those activities which occur after the final plan has, in fact, been finalized and agreed to.

If you are not comfortable with the interim plan, contact your local NRCS office or TSP to ask that they work with you immediately on a detailed (final) plan. However, the timeline for final plan development is dependent on field office workload that may otherwise delay the beginning of your contract term. In these cases, it is unlikely a contract could be approved prior to the September 30, 2011 deadline.

Accordingly, by signing below, the participant acknowledges receipt of this interim conservation plan addendum including the attached NRCS Interim Conservation Plan and agrees to comply with the terms and conditions hereof as well as the terms and conditions of the BCAP contract and its appendix.

_____	_____
Producer Signature	Signature of CCC Representative
_____	_____
Date	Date

Attachment: Plan map with fields and acres identified.

**Interim Conservation Plan**

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE						
<b>INTERIM CONSERVATION PLAN</b>						
NAME	COUNTY	STATE	CONTRACT AGREEMENT NO.	TOTAL ACRES UNDER CONTRACT		
ATTACHED <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation Plan Addendum <span style="margin-left: 200px;"><input type="checkbox"/> TERRA Output</span>						
<b>FIELD</b>	<b>FSA CONSERVATION PRACTICE CODE</b>	<b>NRCS TECHNICAL PRACTICE CODE</b>	<b>ESTIMATED AMOUNT (ACRES)</b>	<b>COST BASIS \$ (COLS)</b>	<b>COST SHARE OR PAYMENT RATE % (if applicable)</b>	<b>COMPLETION SCHEDULE AND ESTIMATED COST-SHARE OR PAYMENT BY YEAR (Non-Cost Share Items Show Units) if applicable</b>
						2011
<b>OMB DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</b>						
According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0578-0013. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 0.69 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection information.						
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