

For: State and County Offices

State Acres for Wildlife Enhancement (SAFE) Acres

Approved by: Acting Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



1 Overview

A Background

Signup is being conducted for a continuous CRP conservation practice titled SAFE. Acres on a farm enrolled in SAFE cannot be enrolled in DCP. Software is not available to include the SAFE acres with other CRP acreages.

B Purpose

This notice advises County Offices:

- that a report of SAFE acres will be posted to the FFAS Intranet and will be updated weekly
- of the proper entry of SAFE acres in farm records if the farm is to be enrolled in DCP
- a tracking system for the acres entered in farm records will be necessary.

2 Provisions

A Acreage Enrolled in SAFE

Acreage that is enrolled in the SAFE program must be entered in the "Other Conservation" field on the applicable tract if the farm is to be enrolled in DCP. This is necessary to ensure the DCP effective cropland is calculated correctly and payments are not issued on the same land for both programs. The acres will not reside in this field permanently.

Disposal Date	Distribution
July 1, 2009	State Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices

Notice CM-601

2 Provisions (Continued)

B Report Available

A report indicating SAFE acres will be updated weekly and will be available for County Office access. The report, titled "SAFE Acreage", will provide the State and county name, farm number, and SAFE acreage. The SAFE Acreage report can be accessed at <http://dc.ffasintranet.usda.gov/farmbill/ccc/default.htm>.

C Using the SAFE Acreage Report

The County Office must access the SAFE Acreage report before enrolling a farm in DCP. If a farm enrolling in DCP is listed on the SAFE Acreage report, the acreage applicable to that farm needs to be entered in the "Other Conservation" field in farm records for that farm.

D Tracking System

A tracking system must be established for all SAFE acres entered in that field. When CRP software has the capability to provide farm records with SAFE acres and the acres are included with other CRP acreage, the County Office **will have** to remove the SAFE acres from the "Other Conservation" field. Not removing the acres at that time will cause a doubling of acres which will result in an incorrect DCP effective cropland acreage.

3 Action

A State Office Action

State Offices shall ensure that County Offices:

- understand that the acreage enrolled in SAFE shall **not** be entered in farm records unless the farm is enrolling in DCP
- develop a tracking system for SAFE acreage entered in farm records.

B County Office Action

County Offices shall:

- ensure the SAFE Acreage Report is used to determine if SAFE acreage needs to be entered in "Other Conservation" field in farm records **before** DCP enrollment
- develop a tracking system of all acres entered in the "Other Conservation" field in farm records.

Note: This will be needed when CRP software incorporates SAFE acreage into CRP acreage for farm records and the acreages have to be removed.