

For: State and County Offices

Conservation Compliance and Farm Records Questions and Answers

Approved by: Acting Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



1 Overview

A Background

Training was provided to State Office Conservation Compliance, Farm Records, and GIS Specialists on October 17, 2017, reviewing the policy for requesting HEL and Wetland Determinations from NRCS and recording the determinations in GIS and Farm Records. Additional training was provided to the state GIS Specialists on December 13, 2017, to review the instructions for comparing the wetland and HEL determinations recorded in the wetland point layer, CLU attributes, and Farm Records tract level data. The training presentation and the Wetland and Farm Records comparison instructions can be found on the Farm Records intranet page at <https://inside.fsa.usda.gov/program-areas/dafp/common-processes/farm-records/index>.

In 2008, States were required to review the wetland point layer with NRCS determinations to ensure all determinations had been identified accurately within FSA records. A review of both the Wetland and the HEL determinations is again needed. The recent training sessions provided guidance on reviewing the existing FSA records to identify missing or incorrectly entered data.

Offices are required to review HEL and Wetland data to determine any potential issues and create a state plan to remediate the identified issues.

B Purpose

This notice provides:

- reissued and updated questions and answers addressed in Notice CP-626 that was obsoleted on January 1, 2009
- answers to questions submitted during the HEL and Wetland training sessions provided on October 17 and December 13, 2017
- a chart of the wetland types, associated symbology displayed within any FSA map or applications, and the associated tract level HEL Determination to be loaded in Farm Records.

Disposal Date	Distribution
July 1, 2018 2-20-18	State Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices

Notice CM-795

1 Overview

C Contacts

For questions about:

- HEL or Wetland Determination policy, contact Joseph Fuchtman by e-mail at **joseph.fuchtman@wdc.usda.gov**
- Farm Records policy, contact Melonie Sullivan by e-mail at **melonie.sullivan@wdc.usda.gov**
- using the queries and instructions for identifying missing or incorrect HEL and wetland determinations in the GIS or Farm Records applications, contact Billie Jo Smith by e-mail at **billiejo.smith@ne.usda.gov**.

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2 Additional Information

A Updated Questions and Answers from Notice CP-626

- Q1.** What determinations belong in the FSA wetland points GIS layer?
- A1.** All determinations that are supported by NRCS-CPA-026 or NRCS-CPA-026E sent to a producer belong in the FSA wetland points GIS layer, regardless of the certification status of the determination. Any determinations not supported by NRCS-CPA-026 or NRCS-CPA-026E must **not** be in the layer.
- Note:** In some cases FSA may not be able to locate NRCS-CPA-026 to justify a previously listed determination (lost, misplaced, archived etc.). In such cases the County Office may be able to obtain a copy of NRCS-CPA-026 from NRCS.
- Q2.** Does NRCS still have any intention of creating a wetland determination layer? If so, will this work on the wetland points layer become a wasted effort?
- A2.** At this time, NRCS has no plans at the National level to create a wetland determination layer which will capture all previously completed determinations. Therefore, there is no duplication of effort and the work is not wasted.
- Q3.** Do **all** determinations on NRCS-CPA-026 or NRCS-CPA-026E need to be included? Are certain determinations optional?
- A3.** Yes, all determinations must be recorded in the wetland point layer. This includes all certified NW (non-wetland) (however non-certified NW's are optional).
- Q4.** Should non-inventoried (NI) determination be entered in the wetland point layer?
- A4.** NI determinations are optional.
- Q5.** If the County Office elects to put (NI) determinations in the wetland points layer, what should the determination status be?
- A5.** NI is past communication that the acreage is “not-inventoried” for wetlands, therefore, is neither certified or inventoried, but is indicated with inventoried.
- Q6.** Do prior converted (PC) wetland determinations need to be included on the wetland layer?
- A6.** PC is a valid wetland determination and should be included on the wetland points layer.

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2 Additional Information (Continued)

A Updated Questions and Answers from Notice CP-626 (Continued)

- Q7.** If NRCS has issued a determination on NRCS-CPA-026 or labeled a map with a wetland determination and that area is noncropland, are those determinations to be included on the wetland points layer?
- A7.** Yes. Include anything that is on NRCS-CPA-026, regardless of the land classification where it is located.
- Q8.** What is the difference between certified and inventoried wetland determinations?
- A8.** Previous guidance was that most wetland determinations completed after July 3, 1996, were considered certified and determinations completed prior to this date were inventoried. However, on January 19, 2017, NRCS issued clarifications to the existing policy on the certification of wetland determinations in an update to Part 514 of the National Food Security Act Manual (NFSAM), Subpart A. With this clarification, certified wetland determinations are determinations that are of sufficient quality to make a determination of ineligibility for USDA benefits under the Food Security Act of 1985, as amended. Inventoried determinations are not of sufficient quality to make a determination of ineligibility for USDA benefits under the Food Security Act of 1985, as amended. Most wetland determinations made and documented on the June 1991 CPA-026 form, or any subsequent 026 or 026e, are now considered legally certified. NRCS can make a determination of legal certification upon request. As a result determinations currently identified as inventoried may now be considered certified with this clarification from NRCS. FSA will not update the status of the existing wetland points identified as inventoried unless notified by NRCS that the determinations is now considered certified. Additionally, FSA will not update the tract level Wetland Determination to “Tract does not contain a wetland” in cases where currently there are only inventoried NW determinations on file unless notified by NRCS that the determinations are now certified.
- Q9.** During the inventoried wetland process, NRCS determined thousands of fields as PC and NW. When a producer today sees PC or NW on the maps, is it safe to assume they can manipulate the field, tile, create drainage systems, etc. without contacting NRCS first?
- A9.** NRCS will stand behind all determinations that are provided to the producer on NRCS-CPA-026 until such time that a producer contacts FSA or NRCS and requests a change on AD-1026 or NRCS-CPA-038. If the producer has any questions or is unsure if their actions will impact a previous HEL/WC determination, they need to complete an AD-1026 and get a certified determination.

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2 Additional Information (Continued)

A Updated Questions and Answers from Notice CP-626 (Continued)

Q10. What is the certification date?

A10. The certification date is the date listed in NRCS-CPA-026E, “certification date” column, or on earlier versions of the form it is the date that a CPA-026 was signed by a USDA official.

Q11. Do I need to include determination dates for noncertified determinations in the layer?

A11. Determination dates for noncertified determinations should remain blank.

Q12. If there is no specific certification date indicated on NRCS-CPA-026E, do I leave the date blank in the GIS layer or use the NRCS-CPA-026E date?

A12. If it is a certified determination, use the NRCS-CPA-026E date. If it is a noncertified determination, leave the date blank.

Q13. Do I need to include acreages for noncertified determinations?

A13. Acreages for noncertified determinations are optional.

Q14. Do I need to include the wetland determination type on inventoried wetland determinations?

A14. Yes. The determination type must be indicated on all determinations. If the determination type is not included, the point will not appear on the map, as the software determines which symbol is assigned to the determination based on the determination type.

Q15. I have Alaska exempt wetland (AEW) determinations in my State/county. This choice is not available in the Maintenance Tool. What do I do?

A15. AEW determinations will be treated as NW determinations.

Q16. I have exempt converted wetland (ECW) determinations in my State/county. This choice is not available in the Maintenance Tool. What do I do?

A16. ECW exemptions are shown on line 15 of NRCS-CPA-026 (dated July 11, 1986). The exemption type is listed and must be placed on the wetland points layer. If the ECW label is associated with a later version of NRCS-CPA-026 (dated July 11, 1986), the ECW determinations must be entered as converted wetland technical error (CWTE) determinations.

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2 Additional Information (Continued)

A Updated Questions and Answers from Notice CP-626 (Continued)

Q17. I have potential wetland (PW) determinations in my State/county. This choice is not available in the Maintenance Tool. What do I do?

A17. PW determinations will be treated as NI determinations.

Note: NI determinations are optional on the layer.

Q18. If discrepancies are noticed between NRCS-CPA-026's and the wetland determination data in the Farm Records System (FRS), should FRS be updated to reflect the forms?

A18. Yes, farm records must also reflect what is on NRCS-CPA-026's (and therefore what is in the GIS wetland layer). If discrepancies are noticed between the farm record and NRCS-CPA-026's or the farm record and wetland layer, they must be fixed. Both databases must match what is indicated on NRCS-CPA-026 that was sent to the producer. As such, any determination in farm records/GIS must be removed if not backed by NRCS-CPA-026.

Note: Contact the National Office if the NRCS-CPA-026's cannot be found but the County Office has additional information concerning the determinations.

Q19. Is there a way to create a report on certified wetland entries from FRS?

A19. Yes, there is a way to create a report of the tract level determinations from farm records through the Enterprise Data Warehouse (EDW). EDW contains the tract level wetland certification and determinations on the Tract Detail report. This data can be compared to the wetland point layer using GIS Field Guide 4.3.1.

Q20. I have a NRCS-CPA-026 that says all fields are PC, but there is no map attached. What do I do?

A20. If NRCS-CPA-026 indicates that all fields are PC, then it is correct to label all cropland fields (including fields that met the definition of cropland at the time of the determination but are not cropland now) as PC. PC does not apply to the noncropland fields (pastureland, rangeland, forest, etc.) within the tract, if applicable.

Q21. I have a NRCS-CPA-026 with a statement that says "Hydric soils present", but there is no map attached. How should a County Office interpret this? The NRCS State Office states that if NRCS-CPA-026 was sent to a producer, it had a map attached to it.

A21. If NRCS-CPA-026 says hydric soils present, there are no wetlands designated on the NRCS-CPA-026, but there is no map, do not consider this a determination. If NRCS-CPA-026 shows the presence of wetlands, there should be a map. Without one, in this case, do not consider this a determination.

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2 Additional Information (Continued)

A Updated Questions and Answers from Notice CP-626 (Continued)

- Q22.** I have an NRCS-CPA-026 that states that certain fields have wetlands, but there is no map. Should these be included in the wetland points layer?
- A22.** If NRCS-CPA-026 indicates the presence of various wetland types in various fields but does not have a map, the FSA State or County Office will work with the NRCS State Office to resolve these individual situations.
- Q23.** I have an NRCS-CPA-026 and the attached map, but the space on NRCS-CPA-026 that contains the date the form was sent to the producer is blank. Is this a valid determination and should it be included in the wetland points layer?
- A23.** Yes, the determination is valid. If FSA has a copy of NRCS-CPA-026 and the attached map, it must be a valid determination that was provided to the producer and as such must be included in the wetland points layer.
- Q24.** The NRCS State Office in my Service Center has hundreds of NRCS-CPA-026's and maps on file, but they were not sent to the producer because the regulation changed that stopped the inventory process. Should these be included on the wetland points layer?
- A24.** No, these determinations must not be included in the wetland points layer since they were not provided to the producers.
- Q25.** If there are PC/NW's included on the map attached to NRCS-CPA-026, but not on NRCS-CPA-026 form itself, should these be included in the layer?
- A25.** If this map is attached to NRCS-CPA-026, include the points for PC/NW.
- Q26.** I have an NRCS-CPA-026 that indicates a PC/NW determination at the tract level.
- Example:** tract 1 = PC/NW.
- Should I place PC/NW determinations on all fields within the tract?
- A26.** Yes, place PC/NW determinations within all cropland fields on the tract (including fields that were cropland at the time of the determination but may not be cropland now). The determination does not apply to fields of non-cropland (pastureland, rangeland, forestland, etc.) within the tract.
- Q27.** NRCS has provided some County Offices with a digital wetland inventory layer. This layer contains only inventoried wetlands. There are no NRCS-CPA-026's to back up the points on the wetland inventory layer. Does this digital wetland layer satisfy FSA's need for documentation?
- A27.** No. The digital wetland layer does not satisfy FSA's requirements. FSA's wetland points layer must reflect what is on NRCS-CPA-026's that were provided to producers.

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2 Additional Information (Continued)

A Updated Questions and Answers from Notice CP-626 (Continued)

- Q28.** Some FSA County Offices have an NRCS-CPA-026 for every determination while other FSA County Offices do not. Some FSA County Offices have NRCS-CPA-026 accompanied with an annotated map while others have only NRCS-CPA-026 itself. Does FSA need a copy of NRCS-CPA-026 and its map in our file or can FSA rely on NRCS files?
- A28.** FSA must have a copy of NRCS-CPA-026 and map in their files. The FSA County Office may need to work together with the NRCS County Office to obtain the necessary documents.
- Q29.** If NRCS hasn't provided us with copies of NRCS-CPA-026's for our files, how much research is FSA expected to do?
- A29.** NRCS was required to provide FSA with copies of all NRCS-CPA-026's and maps. If FSA does not currently have copies, they need to work with the NRCS State Office to obtain the necessary documents.
- Q30.** Does FSA need NRCS-CPA-026 on file for each tract of land? If we don't have one, do we assume there are no HEL/wetlands located on the tract or that no determination has been made?
- A30.** NRCS-CPA-026 is not necessarily required for every tract of land. However, FSA needs to have a copy of NRCS-CPA-026 and map on file for each inventoried and/or certified wetland determination made by NRCS and sent to the producer. No, you cannot assume that just because there are no wetlands on the tract that no wetland determinations have been made. FSA State and County Offices may need to work with NRCS State Offices to verify whether or not determinations have been made.
- Q31.** Is there proper protocol for FSA to request NRCS-CPA-026 and annotated map from NRCS?
- A31.** Assuming NRCS-CPA-026 has been completed by NRCS, there is no protocol other than using appropriate communication practices between offices. See Q40 and Q41 for policy references about when NRCS-CPA-026 is required.
- Q32.** On NRCS-CPA-026 and original maps there is an Artificial Wetland (AW) determination where an irrigation pit originally was. Since then, a pivot has been placed in the field and the pit was filled in. NRCS has never taken AW off NRCS-CPA-026. Do I identify these on the wetland layer or ignore them and document in the tract file that AW is no longer there because of the change in farming practice?
- A32.** These determinations must be present in the wetland points layer as they are shown on the last NRCS-CPA-026.

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2 Additional Information (Continued)

A Updated Questions and Answers from Notice-CP-626 (Continued)

- Q33.** I have NRCS-CPA-026's which state "Wetland Determination Not Made for the Area Indicated" or something similar. However, there may be indications on the map that wetlands possibly exist. What do I do?
- A33.** This statement indicates that NRCS has not made a determination in the "Area Indicated". Use either an NI determination or do not place a point in the layer in these areas.
- Q34.** I have 1 wetland that is located in multiple fields. How do we represent this in the wetland points layer?
- A34.** If there is 1 wetland located in multiple fields, there will be a wetland point in each field in which the wetland lies.
- Example:** If there is a W determination that falls within fields 1 and 2, there will be 1 point each in fields 1 and 2. Even though there is only 1 actual wetland, there will be 2 points as determinations are made on a field by field basis.
- Q35.** I have a field with a wetland determination. I split that field and the wetland now lies within 2 fields. How do I represent this in the wetland points layer?
- A35.** There would now be 2 wetland points in the wetland points layer, 1 on each field.
- Example:** If there is a W determination that falls within fields 1 and 2, there will be 1 point each in fields 1 and 2. Even though there is only 1 actual wetland, there will be 2 points as determinations are made on a field by field basis.
- Q36.** I have 1 wetland that is located in multiple fields. I combined those fields. How do I represent this in the wetland points layer?
- A36.** After the field combination, there will be 1 point in the wetland points layer for this determination.
- Example:** If there is a W determination that lies within fields 1 and 2, there would initially be 1 point each in fields 1 and 2. If fields 1 and 2 were combined and the wetland now lies completely within the newly created field 3, one wetland point would be removed from the layer, resulting in one point in field 3.
- Q37.** If a wetland is located in multiple fields, and NRCS-CPA-026 has the only the total acreage for the wetland, do I have to determine the amount of wetland acreage which falls within each field?
- A37.** No, do not enter an acreage in this case as the total acreage of the wetland is not equal to the acreage associated with any of the wetland points.

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2 Additional Information (Continued)

A Updated Questions and Answers from Notice CP-626 (Continued)

- Q38.** Some NRCS-CPA-026's list specific field numbers and acres and some NRCS-CPA-026's list multiple field numbers and a total acreage figure for all wetlands on the tract. How should I handle this?
- A38.** Do not enter an acreage as the total acreage of the wetland is not equal to the acreage associated with any of the wetland points in this case.
- Q39.** How should the FSA County Offices handle notifying NRCS of reconstitutions?
- A39.** NRCS will only complete NRCS-CPA-026 in response to receiving AD-1026 or FSA-569 from FSA. FSA County Offices will continue to follow policy in 6-CP, subparagraph 201 C and paragraph 439 for information on redeterminations due to reconstitutions and information provided to NRCS on producer record changes.
- Q40.** How does the FSA County Office handle situations where fields with an HEL/NHEL determination are split or combined during a farm reconstitution, or if new land is broken out on the farm?
- A40.** FSA County Offices will follow 6-CP, paragraph 202 for guidance on HEL determinations for redefinition of fields, and paragraph 305 for guidance on when a new AD-1026 with referral to NRCS is required. NRCS policy on when a field redetermination is required can be found in the National Food Security Act Manual, Part 511.12 at <https://directives.sc.egov.usda.gov/ViewRollUp.aspx?hid=29340&sf=1>.
- Note:** The trigger for a redetermination is not the reconstitution, but AD-1026. As such, a new NRCS-CPA-026 will only be prepared and distributed in response to a revised AD-1026 and only when a redetermination is required according to the policy references above.
- Q41.** If discrepancies are noticed between NRCS-CPA-026's and the HEL determination data in the FRS and/or the CLU layer, should FRS and/or the CLU layer be updated to reflect the forms?
- A41.** Yes. HEL status in farm records and the CLU layer will reflect what is on NRCS-CPA-026's. If discrepancies are noticed about HEL they must be fixed. Both databases must match what is indicated on NRCS-CPA-026 that was sent to the producer.

2 Additional Information (Continued)

A Updated Questions and Answers from Notice CP-626 (Continued)

- Q42.** Some FSA County Offices have indicated they have not recently received NRCS-CPA-026 from NRCS, even in situations where a new determination is needed because of a reconstitution. What should FSA do?
- A42.** FSA State and County Offices will attempt to obtain this information through appropriate communication practices with the NRCS State Office. If this is a recurring issue in your State, contact Joe Fuchtman, PECD by e-mail at joseph.fuchtman@wdc.usda.gov.
- Q43.** While we are awaiting a response from NRCS on determinations made on reconstituted farms, do we make any changes on the wetland layer?
- A43.** Wetland determinations generally will not change because of reconstitutions. However, it is possible that some points will have to be added or removed from the layer based on field splits or divisions. See Q34 through Q37. The reconstitution will more likely result in an HEL/NHEL determination change.

B Questions and Answers Received From October 17, 2017, Training

- Q1.** Is FSA required to notify NRCS after a reconstitution?
- A1.** Yes, see paragraph 439 of 6-CP. This guidance will be added to 10-CM in the future. NRCS should be notified of tract number changes as the result of a reconstitution or farm transfer.
- Q2.** Is it required to check box 6 and submit the AD-1026 to NRCS if determination is UHEL for existing cropland?
- A2.** Offices must first verify if a determination has already been made on an existing NRCS-CPA-026e. If a determination has not been made and land is being brought into production, check box 6 and submit the determination request to NRCS.
- Q3.** Do determinations for all cropland fields need to be requested?
- Example:** Land meets the definition of cropland but is now in grass, does this land need a determination?
- A3.** No, only land that is being planted to an agricultural commodity (crops that require annual tillage, including one pass planters and sugarcane), per question 6 of AD-1026. Instructions were provided during the recent trainings sessions for utilizing the crop data files to identify cropland fields that required an HEL determination.

2 Additional Information (Continued)

B Questions and Answers Received From October 17, 2017, Training (Continued)

- Q4.** Current procedure is that there can only be one current AD-1026 on file for a producer. How should the determinations requests be submitted to NRCS if the producer has proposed breaking land on multiple farms?
- A4.** One AD-1026 will be completed listing all farm, tract, and fields associated with the new breakings or multiple tracts requesting wetland determinations. The form will be photocopied and attached with the applicable map for each tract to be submitted to NRCS.
- Q5.** Who is the official record holder of the NRCS-CPA-026 once NRCS provides FSA the determination(s)?
- A5.** FSA is the official record holder. The AD-1026 and returned NRCS-CPA-026 must be maintained by FSA. Maintain this data in the farm folder or establish a tract folder system.
- Q6.** If it is determined that the tract level Wetland or HEL Determination was not loaded correctly in a prior year, should it be updated?
- A6.** If it is determined that there is a violation in a prior year, then yes the prior year records must be updated accordingly. If there is no violation, but it is determined that the incorrect tract determination is entered, correct the records for current year only.
- Q7.** Does EDW have all of the wetland and HEL determinations?
- A7.** The Tract Level Farm Record Detail report in EDW provides both the tract level HEL Determination and the Wetland Status. The field level data in EDW provides the HEL determination associated with the field.
- Q8.** What is the definition of a permanent boundary, per slide 45?
- A8.** A permanent boundary is defined in 10-CM and 8-CM when delineating a field/CLU. Boundaries must not be delineated in the CLU based solely on an HEL determination.
- Q9.** Can fields be renumbered in numerical order when field changes occur?
- A9.** Fields **cannot** be renumbered in numeric order when a field change occurs. As fields are split or merged, the next highest number available in the tract will be assigned to the resulting field(s). This maintains the history of the conservation compliance determinations of the field. Users are not authorized to renumber and reuse field numbers as new fields are delineated.

2 Additional Information (Continued)

B Questions and Answers Received From October 17, 2017, Training (Continued)

Q10. Is the HEL determination of a field removed when using the vertex edit tool to adjust a boundary?

A10. The use of the vertex edit tool does not change the HEL determination of the field though users are notified of a percentage change and provided a pop-up message when significant boundary/acreage changes occur through the use of the tool. The message will indicate that a new HEL determination may need to be requested.

A user's comfort level with making boundary changes may impact the associated HEL determinations. If the vertex edit tool is used to adjust boundaries the HEL determination is not removed. If the split and merge process is used to make boundary adjustments, then the original HEL determination will be lost in the process.

Q11. What if we have a wetland identified on noncropland and the producer is looking at manipulating the wetland or the nearby noncropland in order to pasture the land for livestock only. Would a wetland determination need to be completed?

A11. Determinations are required based on the answers given on AD-1026 regardless of land use. A manipulation of a wetland that impacts pastureland may make the production of an agricultural commodity possible in a potential wetland resulting in a potential wetland violation.

Q12. What if the noncropland has an "NI" non-inventoried label and the producer wants to level the land for pasture. Would a wetland determination be required?

A12. Determinations are required based on the answers given on form AD-1026 regardless of land use. NI means a wetland determination has not been completed. Leveling pasture may make the production of an agricultural commodity possible in potential wetlands resulting in a potential violation.

Q13. If a producer wants to create a drainage system on cropland which also has adjacent noncropland on the tract, and the producer checks box 7A on the AD-1026. Is NRCS required to complete a wetland determination for the entire tract, including the noncropland?

A13. If the drainage system is only going to impact the cropland that is the only area where the determination is required. NRCS will determine which fields need to have determinations based on the scope of the proposed activity.

2 Additional Information (Continued)

B Questions and Answers Received From October 17, 2017, Training (Continued)

Q14. How should we be filling out the Tract General Data in CRM Farm Records? There are two areas where we can enter whether the wetland is certified. Yes, No and Partial are the options from the drop down list and if we choose Yes we have to enter a date.

A14.a If the wetland is certified you would choose Wetland Certified – “Yes” and enter the date.

A14.b If the wetland is NOT certified you would choose Wetland Certified – “No” and you would not enter a date.

A14.c Example: We have a certified CPA-026 for tract 1, fields 1 and 2. The tract contains fields 1, 2, 3 and 4. If you continue to look in the CPA-026 folder there is NOT another certified wetland determination for fields 3 and 4. The wetland labels identified in fields 1 and 2 are W and considered certified, in CRM we would indicate “Tract Contains a Wetland or Farmed Wetland.” In this case you would choose Wetland Certified – Partial and you would enter a date those wetlands were certified.

3 Wetland Determination, Wetland Point, and Farm Records Crosswalk

A Overview

FSA is required to record wetland determinations received from NRCS on NRCS-CPA-026 or NRCS-CPA-026e in both the Wetland Point layer and at the tract level in Farm Records. Wetland points are required to be displayed on any official FSA map provided to the associated producer or accessed for a program application. Additionally, the tract level wetland determination in farm records is populated on form FSA-156EZ that is provided to the associated producer(s). It is important that the correct wetland determinations are recorded and displayed in all applications so accurate information is relayed to the producers.

B Crosswalk

To assist users with ensuring the correct wetland determinations are entered in both the wetland point layer and at the tract level in Farm Records, a crosswalk of the wetland points and tract level determinations is listed in Exhibit 1.

The crosswalk provides the following for each wetland determination type.

- Wetland Code/Label – The abbreviation for the type of wetland identified by NRCS. The wetland code is selected in the attributes of the wetland point layer when a wetland point is created
- Description – The description of the associated wetland type
- GIS Wetland Code – The associated numeric wetland code used in GIS

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3 Wetland Determination and Farm Records Crosswalk (Continued)

B Wetland Point and Farm Records Crosswalk (Continued)

- GIS Map Symbol – The map symbol associated with each wetland type that is displayed on all official FSA maps
- GIS Map Symbol Definition – An explanation of each map symbol used for the specific wetland type that indicate that allowed farming use or restrictions associated with the wetland determination
- CRM Tract Wetland Determination – The tract level wetland determination to be entered in Farm Records for the associated wetland type.

4 Action

A State Office Action

State Offices are required to:













- assist counties with identifying any missing or incorrectly recorded HEL or Wetland determinations using the queries and instructions provided by the National Office
- work with counties and NRCS to address any issues identified
- contact the National Office if issues cannot be corrected at the local or state level.

B County Office Action















County Offices are required to:

- review the questions and answers in this notice to ensure that HEL and Wetland determinations are requested timely and accurately from NRCS
- ensure that HEL and Wetland determinations are accurately recorded in GIS and Farm Records
- review and correct any HEL and/or Wetland issues identified by the State Office
- discuss any identified issues with the local NRCS Office or State Office that cannot be corrected a local level.







Wetland Determination and Farm Records Crosswalk

Wetland Code/Label	Description	GIS Wetland Code	GIS Map Symbol	GIS Map Symbol Definition	CRM Tract Wetland Determination
AW	Artificial or irrigation induced wetland.	1		Exempt from Conservation Compliance Provisions	Tract does not contain a wetland.
AW/FW	Artificial or irrigation induced wetland and farmed wetland.	2		Limited Restrictions	Tract contains a wetland or farmed wetland.
AW/W	Artificial or irrigation induced wetland and wetland.	3		Restricted Use	Tract contains a wetland or farmed wetland.
CC	Commenced conversion exemption.	4		Exempt from Conservation Compliance Provisions	Tract contains a wetland or farmed wetland.
CMW	Categorical minimal effect.	5		Limited Restrictions	Tract contains a wetland or farmed wetland.
CPD	<u>COE Permit with Mitigation:</u> A converted wetland authorized by a permit issued under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. Production of agricultural commodities is allowed subject to conditions of the permit.	32		Limited Restrictions	Tract contains a wetland or farmed wetland.
CW	Wetland converted between December 23, 1985, and November 28, 1990.	6		Restricted Use	Tract contains a wetland or farmed wetland.
CW+Year	Wetland converted after November 28, 1990.	7		Restricted Use	Tract contains a wetland or farmed wetland.
CWIL	Converted wetland payment in lieu. Wetland that is converted after February 7, 2014, with payment in lieu of mitigation (maintains RMA's federal crop insurance subsidy premium eligibility only).	30		Restricted Use	Tract contains a wetland or farmed wetland.
CWNA	Wetland converted to other than agricultural commodity production.	8		Limited Restrictions	Tract contains a wetland or farmed wetland.
CWTA	Converted wetland technical assistance. Wetland that is converted after February 7, 2014, because of the lack of timely assistance (maintains RMA's federal crop insurance subsidy premium eligibility only).	31		Restricted Use	Tract contains a wetland or farmed wetland.
CWTE	Wetland converted or commenced based on an incorrect NRCS determination.	9		Limited Restrictions	Tract contains a wetland or farmed wetland.

Wetland Determination and Farm Records Crosswalk (Continued)

Wetland Code/Label	Description	GIS Wetland Code	GIS Map Symbol	GIS Map Symbol Definition	CRM Tract Wetland Determination
Easement	A wetland easement exists on the land.	10		Limited Restrictions	Tract contains a wetland or farmed wetland.
FW	A farmed wetland that was manipulated and planted before December 23, 1985, but still meets wetland criteria.	11		Limited Restrictions	Tract contains a wetland or farmed wetland.
FWP	Pasture or hayland converted before December 23, 1985, that still meets wetland criteria and is not abandoned.	12		Limited Restrictions	Tract contains a wetland or farmed wetland.
GFW	CW that has been restored under the good faith provision.	25		Restricted Use	Tract contains a wetland or farmed wetland.
GFW+Year	CW+Year that has been restored after 1990 under the good faith provision.	26		Restricted Use	Tract contains a wetland or farmed wetland.
MIW	A frequently cropped wetland area that is converted under an agreement that another wetland, which was converted before December 23, 1985, is restored to replace it. The restored area may be protected by an easement.	13		Limited Restrictions	Tract contains a wetland or farmed wetland.
MW	Conversion activity was determined to have a minimal effect.	14		Limited Restrictions	Tract contains a wetland or farmed wetland.
MWM	Minimal effect mitigation.	15		Limited Restrictions	Tract contains a wetland or farmed wetland.
NI	Area that is not inventoried by NRCS.	16		Limited Restrictions	Wetland determinations not complete.
NW	The field does not contain wetland.	17		Exempt from Conservation Compliance Provisions	Tract does not contain a wetland.
NW/NAD	Nonwetland per national appeals decision.	18		Exempt from Conservation Compliance Provisions	Tract does not contain a wetland.
OW	Other waters of the United States.	19		Limited Restrictions	Wetland determinations not complete.
PC	Land converted before December 23, 1985, to make agricultural production possible.	20		Exempt from Conservation Compliance Provisions	Tract does not contain a wetland.
PC/NW	Prior converted and nonwetland.	21		Exempt from Conservation Compliance Provisions	Tract does not contain a wetland.

Wetland Determination and Farm Records Crosswalk (Continued)

Wetland Code/Label	Description	GIS Wetland Code	GIS Map Symbol	GIS Map Symbol Definition	CRM Tract Wetland Determination
RPW	A not frequently cropped wetland area that is converted to improve efficiency under an agreement that another wetland, that was converted before December 23, 1985, is restored to replace it.	27		Restricted Use	Tract contains a wetland or farmed wetland.
RSW	A wetland area that was not converted between December 23, 1985, and November 28, 1990, that is restored to preconversion conditions. No violation by planting on the converted wetland has occurred.	28		Restricted Use	Tract contains a wetland or farmed wetland.
RVW+Year	A wetland converted after December 23, 1985, on which NRCS determined a violation occurred and restoration to preconversion conditions has been completed.	29		Restricted Use	Tract contains a wetland or farmed wetland.
TP	Wetland converted by a third party.	22		Limited Restrictions	Tract contains a wetland or farmed wetland.
W	Wetland or wetland farmed under natural conditions and no drainage has occurred.	23		Restricted Use	Tract contains a wetland or farmed wetland.
WX	Wetland manipulated after December 23, 1985, but agricultural production was not made possible.	24		Limited Restrictions	Tract contains a wetland or farmed wetland.