

For: State and County Offices

Continuous CRP Signup 61 Acceptable Offers From Fifth Batching Period

Approved by: Acting Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



1 Overview

A Background

Notice CRP-1031 announced additional batching periods and provided accepted offers for the third and fourth batching periods.

B Purpose

This notice provides:

- authorization to approve signup 61 offers submitted during the fifth batching period, June 10, 2024, through July 31, 2024
- suspension of batching periods after July 31, 2024
- guidance on accepting offers through September 30, 2024
- notification of the time for an applicant to accept an offer
- revised CRP-23, Notice Regarding Acceptable CRP Offers (Exhibit 1)
- revised deadlines for continuous CRP.

C Contact

For questions about this notice, contact Joy Alspach, Continuous CRP Program Manager.

Disposal Date	Distribution
October 1, 2024 8-14-24	State Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices

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2 Offer Selection Overview

A Selection Process

All eligible signup 61 offers in a “Submitted” status in the Conservation Online System (COLS) by COB July 31, 2024, have been evaluated. All submitted offers were batched by the signup number and applicable maximum CRP acreage limits.

Signup 61 offers for which all signatures and eligibility requirements were met before COB July 31, 2024, but not in a “Submitted” status in COLS, will be considered when batching or approval of continuous offers resumes. A subsequent notice will be issued to provide guidance for continuous CRP offers submitted August 1, 2024, through September 30, 2024.

B Acceptable Signup 61 Offers

All signup 61 offers processed in COLS in a “Submitted” status by COB July 31, 2024, have been determined by DAFP as accepted or rejected and are listed in the [FPAC-FSA-CD-County - Continuous Batch Accepted Rejected Reports - All Documents](#) SharePoint site.

COLS has been updated to allow users to move accepted offers identified in the FPAC-FSA-CD-County - Continuous Batch Accepted Rejected Reports SharePoint site to a “Submit for Plan” status.

Important: CRP-23 (Exhibit 1) has been temporarily revised to allow producers only **10 calendar days** to notify the County Office of their intent to participate in CRP. Offers accepted in the 5th batching period will use the revised CRP-23 to notify participants.

C Unacceptable Signup 61 Offers

County Offices will process unacceptable offers by informing producers the eligibility requirements are not met using CRP-26.

3 Accessing and Reviewing Offer Batching Reports

A Accessing Accepted Offers

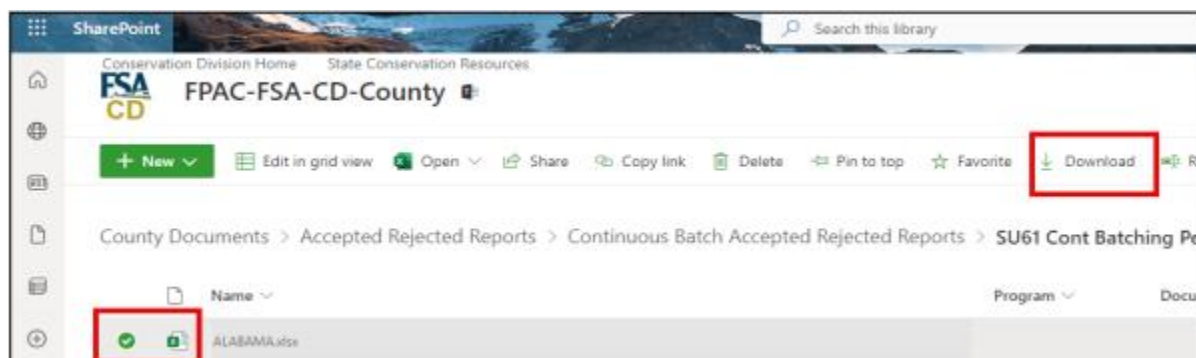
Offer batching reports are provided in a State Excel spreadsheet by the County Office. The State Excel spreadsheet is available in the [FPAC-FSA-CD-County - SU61 Cont Batching Period 5 - All Documents](#) SharePoint site. All offices will be able to access the SharePoint site. All lists will be in Excel format, and State Office specialists will download a copy of the State’s report and provide the list to County Offices.

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3 Accessing and Reviewing Offer Batching Reports (Continued)

A Accessing Accepted Offers (Continued)

State Office specialists will select the radio button for the State, CLICK “Download”, and save to the local drive.



B Reviewing Offer Batching Reports

Before notifying producers of the results of the offer selection, County Offices must compare the offer data in the offer batching report for each offer listed with the corresponding CRP-1 and CRP-2C data to ensure both of the following:

- all eligible offers submitted are listed in the report
- the data on each offer record listed in the report is correct.

4 Acceptable Offers

A Processing Acceptable Offers

After reviewing offer batching reports, County Offices will notify producers of acceptable offers using the revised CRP-23 provided in Exhibit 1. See step 13 in the continuous CRP signup process flow described in 2-CRP, subparagraph 171 C.

Producers have **10 calendar days** from the date of CRP-23 to notify the County Office whether they want to continue with the offer to participate.

Note: Producers are not required to notify the County Office in writing. If the producer fails to respond in the **10 calendar days**, or chooses not to continue with the offer, the County Office will note the producer’s response in the producer’s CRP folder. See 2-CRP, paragraph 341.

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4 Acceptable Offers (Continued)

A Processing Acceptable Offers (Continued)

Important: In preparation for when batching or approval of continuous offers resumes:

- County Offices will delete any offers not moving forward for contract approval

Note: County Offices will also delete any duplicate offers marked “Accepted” in the previous batching period that required a new scenario to be run in the Tool for Environmental Resource Results Assessment (TERRA).

- offers edited in COLS after being accepted in a prior batching period must be handled according to errors and omissions information in paragraph 7.

5 County Cropland Limitation

A Applying County Cropland Limitation

The National Office has applied the statutory 25 percent county cropland limitation based on the physical location of the acreage offered. The batching reports referenced in paragraph 3 reflect which offers have been rejected because of the 25 percent county cropland limitation.

Before notifying producers that an offer was determined acceptable, the County Office will ensure that the offered CRP acreage, excluding marginal pastureland, does not exceed the farm’s effective DCP cropland plus double-cropped acres minus base acres. Base acres may need to be reduced because of participation in CRP.

6 Effective Date of Signup 61 CRP-1

A Effective Date of CRP-1 for Land Not Currently Enrolled in CRP

For land not enrolled in CRP at the time the producer submits the acceptable offer, the CRP-1 effective date will be the first day of the month following the month COC or its delegate approves CRP-1. See 2-CRP, subparagraph 213 B.

Exception: The producer may defer the CRP-1 effective date up to 6 months. However, the effective date will always be the first day of the applicable month.

B Effective Date of CRP-1 With Land Scheduled to Expire on September 30, 2024

CRP-1’s with land scheduled to expire on September 30, 2024, will have an October 1, 2024, effective date.

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7 Errors and Omissions

A Software

Editing an offer for any reason:

- removes the “Accepted” status, which means the County Office will no longer have the ability to move the offer to “Submit for Plan”
- requires State Office review of the offer.

State Offices will:

- review the offers to ensure that County Offices have followed the requirements in the table in this subparagraph
- review the list of “Accepted” offers and ensure that the offer was included as “Accepted” in 1 of the 5 batching periods
- submit the applicable offers to the National Office through the [Program Delivery Division \(PDD\) Contracts and Applications](#) SharePoint site.

County Offices will provide the new and revised CRP-1 and CRP-2C through the State Office. The National Office will return the offer to an “Accepted” status where County Offices can “Submit for Plan”.

IF the offer is edited to change the...	THEN the County Office must...	AND the edited offer will...
practice	complete a new TERRA or COLS offer	require a new accepted or rejected determination when batching or approval of continuous offers resumes. Note: Do not place on the PDD Contracts and Applications SharePoint site.
acres offered		
signup type		
field number or numbers		
offer expiring date within 6 months, according to 2-CRP, paragraph 213, in situations where USDA processing delayed the offer		
tract number		
contract length	edit the COLS offer	be submitted to the PDD Contracts and Applications SharePoint site. Note: The National Office will return the offer to an accepted status.
producer or producers		
program year		

Note: When multiple edits are required, the more restrictive action will apply.

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7 Errors and Omissions (Continued)

A Software (Continued)

All revisions to offers submitted to PDD as listed in this subparagraph will need to be completed before **September 6, 2024**.

The status of offers in COLS will show as “Submitted”. State and County Offices will refer to the accepted or rejected reports to determine whether the offer is accepted.

Note: The PDD Contracts and Applications SharePoint site is for State Office specialists only. County Offices will not request access to the SharePoint site.

B Procedure

Offers not successfully submitted, such as offers for which all signatures and eligibility requirements were not met before COB July 31, 2024, will be considered when batching or approval of continuous offers resumes.

8 Signup 61 Offers After July 31, 2024

A Non-CREP Continuous CRP Offers After July 31, 2024

All continuous CRP signup 61 offers received after July 31, 2024, **will no longer be batched as instructed in Notice CRP-1031**.

County Offices will:

- continue to take offers
- **not** approve offers **not** listed as “Accepted” on 1 of the 5 batching period accepted reports
- ensure that producers understand that offers taken after July 31, 2024, can be made up until September 30, 2024, but there is no guarantee when and if the offer will be accepted.

A subsequent notice will be issued to address continuous offers through the remainder of the year.

Exception: County Offices will continue to accept and process offers for new acreage in approved CREP agreements. CREP offers are not subject to batching periods. Offers for new acreage in CREP can continue to be approved as required documentation is filed as long as FSA has authority to approve CRP. The deadlines for conservation planning in paragraph 9 do not apply to CREP offers.

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8 Signup 61 Offers After July 31, 2024 (Continued)

A Non-CREP Continuous CRP Offers After July 31, 2024 (Continued)

Important: The Further Continuing Appropriations and Other Extensions Act, 2024 was signed by the President on November 17, 2023, and included a 1-year extension of the 2018 Farm Bill re-authorizing CRP through **September 30, 2024**. As a result, unless legislation is enacted to re-authorize or extend FSA’s authority to deliver CRP, no offers may be processed after September 30, 2024.

9 FY 2023 Continuous CRP Deadlines

A Continuous CRP Deadline

The following are the FY 2024 continuous CRP deadlines.

Date	Action
July 31, 2024	Deadline for producers to submit an offer for new or re-enrolled land or combination of new or re-enrolled land for continuous CRP signup 61 to support an October 1, 2024, contract start date.
Within 5 workdays of notification of the producer’s intent to move forward with the contract	Producers must request a conservation plan from NRCS within 5 workdays upon notification to FSA that the producer intends to move forward with the contract. County Offices must enter the status in COLS as “Submit for Plan” for continuous CRP signup 61. Note: FSA must provide offers to NRCS within 5 workdays of receiving the submitted offer from the producer.
September 6, 2024	Deadline for NRCS or Technical Service Provider (TSP) to complete the conservation plan, sign, and obtain signatures of all signatories on CRP-1, and return the conservation plan to FSA.
September 30, 2024	Deadline for COC or CED to approve CRP-1’s and load CRP-1 approvals in COLS.

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10 Action

A State Office Action

State Offices will:

- ensure that County Offices follow this notice and 2-CRP
- notify NRCS or TSP of the provisions included in this notice
- contact Joy Alspach, Continuous CRP Program Manager, with any questions.

B County Office Action

County Offices will:

- follow the provisions of this notice
- contact the respective State Office specialist with any questions.

CRP-23, Notice Regarding Acceptable CRP Offers



United States Department of Agriculture

Farm Production and Conservation

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

NOTICE REGARDING ACCEPTABLE CRP OFFERS

Date: (MM/DD/YYYY) _____

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 FSA, 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.

Starting certain work (including, but not limited to, site preparation, grading, or ground disturbance) to install prescribed conservation practices prior to contract approval may result in the loss of program eligibility. This is because implementation of CRP is considered a Federal action by applicable laws, and FSA must first complete an environmental review before any federal action occurs, including the approval of a CRP contract and related cost share for conservation practice installation. Do not begin any activities that could have an adverse environmental impact or could limit the choice of reasonable alternatives before the environmental review has been completed, and you have been notified in writing of contract approval.

You have 10 days from the date of this letter to notify this office whether you want your acceptable offer to participate in CRP to be referred to NRCS or TSP for conservation plan development. If we do not hear from you within the 10-day period, your offer will be rejected.

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 (08-09-24)

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.