

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Farm Service Agency
Washington, DC 20250

Notice CRP-1036

For: State and County Offices

CRP Authority After September 30, 2024

Approved by: Acting Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



1 Overview

A Background

The Food Security Act of 1985, Section 1231(a), as amended, provides FSA's authority to administer CRP through September 30, 2024. As of the date of this notice, legislation has not been enacted to reauthorize or extend this authority beyond September 30, 2024.

B Purpose

No new offers or offers for re-enrollment may be processed or approved after September 30, 2024. If legislation is passed that re-authorizes USDA's authority to administer CRP, a new notice will follow with instructions for how to proceed.

This notice provides information about:

- accepting and approving offers for continuous CRP signup 61 through COB September 30, 2024
- CRP authorities beginning October 1, 2024
- CRP software availability at FY end
- authorized Conservation Contract Management System (CCMS) and Cost Share Software (CSS) activities beginning October 1, 2024
- avoiding Anti-Deficiency Act violations after September 30, 2024.

Disposal Date	Distribution
January 1, 2025	State Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices and NRCS State Offices

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2 Accepting and Approving Offers for Continuous CRP Signup 61

A Accepting and Approving Continuous CRP Offers

Continuous CRP offers accepted by DAFP in 1 of the 5 batching periods between January 12, 2024, and July 31, 2024, will be processed and approved by COB September 30, 2024.

Continuous CRP offers submitted after July 31, 2024, will **not** be accepted for enrollment in signup 61 at this time. Offers submitted after July 31, 2024, may be considered for enrollment after authority to administer CRP is re-established. County Offices will continue to accept offers from producers through COB September 30, 2024, but will not take any action to approve or disapprove the offer until further notice.

Using interim plans is **not** authorized for continuous CRP offer processing. NRCS was required to complete all necessary conservation planning by September 6, 2024.

Errors and omissions will be handled according to Notice CRP-1032 and 2-CRP, paragraph 5.

Example: CRP continuous offer for re-enrollment was timely filed and signed by the participant before the July 31, 2024, deadline for re-enrolled and new plus re-enrolled offers. The FSA employee failed to get the offer to “Submitted” status before the deadline for the end of the fifth batching period. The County Office will submit the offer with applicable FSA-321 and documentation for DAFP review and approval.

3 CRP Authorities Effective October 1, 2024

A Unauthorized Activities Beginning October 1, 2024

The Further Continuing Appropriations and Other Extensions Act, 2024 provided a 1-year extension of the 2018 Farm Bill through September 30, 2024. Statutory authority to administer CRP is set to expire at midnight on Monday, September 30, 2024, unless legislation is passed extending the 2018 Farm Bill beyond September 30, 2024.

3 CRP Authorities Effective October 1, 2024 (Continued)

A Unauthorized Activities Beginning October 1, 2024 (Continued)

Effective October 1, 2024, FSA **will not**:

- process offers for CRP enrollment for any signup type, meaning County Offices **will not**:
 - accept **manual** or **automated** offers
 - ask NRCS to perform site visits and develop conservation plans
 - perform any other work to prepare an offer for approval
- approve a new CRP-1 contract (automated or manual contract) for any CRP signup type
- approve a CRP contract revision or correction that will result in an increase in the CRP-1 acreage
- approve new FMI agreements
- approve new TIP contracts.

B CRP Payments After October 1, 2024

CRP-1 contracts approved **by COB September 30, 2024**, will continue to receive annual rental and C/S payments, and signup incentive and practice incentive payments, as applicable. See subparagraph D and Exhibit 1.

C Authorized CRP-1 Activities in CCMS

Beginning October 1, 2024, County Offices are only authorized to complete the CRP-1 activities in CCMS as provided in Exhibit 1 **if the original CRP-1 was approved prior to COB September 30, 2024, AND after the State Office determines the contract revision or correction does not result in an increase of the CRP-1 acreage.**

Before the County Office completes a CRP contract revision or correction in CCMS, the County Office:

- may process the revision or correction in CCMS through the finalization step (5-CRP)
- is not authorized to enter the COC approval date to complete the modification.

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3 CRP Authorities Effective October 1, 2024 (Continued)

C Authorized CRP-1 Activities in CCMS (Continued)

The County Office must submit all the following to the State Office:

- CRP-1 originally approved
- CRP-1 revised with the participant signature or signatures
- documentation supporting the modification
- screen print of the View Contract Screen showing the status of “Finalized”.

Note: The County Office may issue payments **only after the authorized State Office representative has entered the COC approval date into CCMS and CED or COC signs CRP-1**. The CED or COC signature date must be the same as the date entered in CCMS by the authorized State Office representative.

D Authorized CSS Activities

Agreements for CRP C/S, CLEAR30 maintenance, and Forest Management Incentive (FMI) payments are administered and processed through CSS subject to availability of funding.

Beginning October 1, 2024, County Offices are only authorized to complete the CSS activities provided in Exhibit 1 for contracts approved before COB September 30, 2024, **after State Office review of contract documents and approval by the State Office representative has been completed.**

Important: Modifications resulting in the acres on FSA-848A exceeding the approved CRP-1 acres are **not** authorized.

For all authorized CSS activities, the County Office:

- may process the modification in CSS up to COC or CED approval
- is **not** authorized to enter the COC approval date to complete the modification

Note: The COC or CED approval date will be entered by an authorized State Office representative.

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3 CRP Authorities Effective October 1, 2024 (Continued)

D Authorized CSS Activities (Continued)

- will submit all the following to the State Office:
 - CRP-1
 - conservation plan
 - FSA-848A
 - FSA-848A modification, if applicable
 - FSA-848B, if applicable
 - documentation supporting the modification or action
 - screen print showing the modification at the “Agreement Approval - Approval Date” Screen, as applicable

Note: 6-CRP, paragraph 65 contains the approval date screen for new agreements, and paragraph 225 contains the screen for revisions.

- will issue payments only after the authorized State Office representative has entered the COC approval date into CSS, as applicable. The COC or CED signature date must be the same as the date entered in CSS by the authorized State Office representative.

E Grassland CRP Signup 206 Final Conservation Plans

County Offices are authorized to review and approve final conservation plans for signup 206 according to the deadlines established in Notice CRP-1033. Revisions or corrections resulting in acreage increases after September 30, 2024, are **not** authorized.

Increases in C/S amounts between the interim conservation plan and the final conservation plan are authorized for CRP-1 contracts approved by COB September 30, 2024. State Office review or concurrence is not required.

4 CRP Software Availability

A FY Closeout Software Schedule

CRP software will be shut down at 5 p.m. CDT Monday September 30, 2024, for the annual batch payment process and will remain shut down until further notice.

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5 Authorized CCMS and CSS Activities

A CCMS and CSS Activities

The following table provides a list of action items by date.

Date	Action
September 30, 2024	Conservation Software will be shut down at 5 p.m. CDT for annual batch payment process and will remain shut down until further notice.
	Deadline for County Offices to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • obtain all signatures on the CRP-1 contract • obtain COC or CED approval of CRP-1 • load CRP-1 approvals in COLS by 5 p.m. CDT. <p>Note: There is no authority to approve CRP-1's after September 30, 2024.</p>
	Continuous CRP offers accepted from batching periods 1 through 5 are authorized to be approved by COB September 30, 2024. Interim conservation plans are not authorized for continuous CRP.
October 1, 2024	If legislation has not been enacted to re-authorize or extend FSA's authority to administer CRP after September 30, 2024, FSA will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • not process new offers for CRP enrollment for all signup types • not approve any CRP contracts for all signup types • not approve any new TIP contracts • approve CRP contract revisions or corrections when CCMS is reopened according to this notice • approve FSA-848's for contracts approved by COB September 30, 2024, according to this notice.

Note: A forthcoming notice will provide guidance on manual tracking of FSA-848A's not entered or approved in CSS and CRP-1 approvals not entered in COLS by COB September 30, 2024.

6 Avoiding Anti-Deficiencies After September 30, 2024

A Anti-Deficiency Act Violations

Any unauthorized actions described in this notice may result in a violation of the Anti-Deficiency Act. Federal employees who violate the Anti-Deficiency Act are subject to 2 types of sanctions:

- administrative
- penal.

Employees may be subject to appropriate administrative discipline including, when circumstance warrant, suspension from duty without pay or removal from office. In addition, employees may also be subject to fines, imprisonment, or both.

7 Action

A State Office Action

State Offices will:

- ensure that County Offices follow instructions in this notice
- complete the authorized representative certification statement (Exhibit 2) provided on [SharePoint at FPAC-FSA-CD-State - Authorized Representative Certification - All Items](#) before taking any actions provided in this notice

Note: Only 1 signed certification statement must be completed. After certification is completed, only the authorized State Office representative will enter the COC approval date into the applicable system.

- submit questions to the CRP Program Manager responsible for General, Continuous, Grasslands, or CREP as applicable.

B County Office Action

County Offices will:

- follow the provisions of this notice
- submit questions to the State Office.

CRP Contract Activities

A CCMS Contract Activities

The following table provides CCMS activities authorized and required State Office action.

CCMS Activity	Actions	Activity Authorized?	State Office Review Required?	State Office Entry of COC Approval Date Required?
Revision/Division	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Add or remove participants Update CRP-1 payment shares Update Farm or Tract Modify practice Decrease contract acres No change in contract acres 	Yes	Yes	Yes
Revision/Division	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase contract acres 	No	Not Authorized	
Terminate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partial termination Full termination 	Yes	Yes	State Office enters the "Last Day that Contract is in Effect"
Transfer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initiate transfer 	Yes	No	No
Transfer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finalize transfer 	Yes	Yes	Yes
Reinstate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reinstate contract terminated in error (no COC or STC action) Correct previously selected termination criteria, then terminate again 	Yes	Yes	Yes
Reinstate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contract termination approved by COC or STC is reversed through reconsideration, appeal, or mediation DAFP approval required (2-CRP, subparagraph 573 A) 	No	Not Authorized	
TIP Enrollment (approved before September 30, 2024)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finalize 	Yes	Yes	Yes
TIP Revision (See 5-CRP, subparagraph 158 C for procedure on effective dates.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Add or remove participants Update CRP-1 payment shares Decrease contract acres No change in contract acres 	Yes	Yes	Yes
Revise Rates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Correct SRR 	Yes	Yes	Yes
Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All reporting options 	Yes	No	No
Expired CRP Letters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Print and mail letter for contracts that expire on September 30, 2024 	Yes	No	No

CRP Contract Activities (Continued)

B CSS Activities

The following table provides CSS activities authorized and required State Office action.

CSS Activity Associated With Original CRP-1's Approved Before September 30, 2024	Description	Activity Authorized?	State Office Review Required?	State Office Entry of COC Approval Date Required?
New Application (new FSA-848A)	• Acres on FSA-848A are less than or equal to the acres on CRP-1	Yes	Yes	Yes
	• Acres on FSA-848A exceed acres on CRP-1	No	Not Authorized	
Revise C/S Agreement	• Acres on FSA-848A are less than or equal to the acres on CRP-1	Yes	Yes	Yes
	• Acres on FSA-848A exceed acres on CRP-1	No	Not Authorized	
Make C/S and associated PIP	• Acres on FSA-848A are less than or equal to the acres on CRP-1	Yes	Yes	Yes
	• Acres on FSA-848A exceed acres on CRP-1	No	Not Authorized	
Make Final PIP	• NRCS status review completed • Participant who received an initial PIP is removed from the CRP-1	Yes	No	N/A
Extend Practice Expiration Date	• Modify C/S agreement to extend practice expiration date	Yes	No	No
Zero Certification	• \$0, greater than 0 extent certification • \$0, 0 extent certification	Yes	No	No
\$0 Management Certification				
Negative Certification	• Correct previously entered certification • Establish receivables	Yes	No	No
Terminate C/S Agreement	Terminate C/S agreement: • Associated with terminated CRP-1 to establish receivables • Created in error	Yes	Yes	Yes
Issue PIP Through Conservation Payments	Applicable to: • SU51 and prior contracts • CREP agreements in effect on or before September 30, 2019, that have not been subsequently amended or revised	Yes	Yes	N/A

Authorized Representative Certification Statement

The following is an example of the authorized representative certification statement located on SharePoint at [FPAC-FSA-CD-State - Authorized Representative Certification - All Items](#) and must be completed by State Offices.

County Office employees MUST NOT Complete this form. This form is only to be completed by a State Office Specialist or State Executive Director

State

Washington ▼

By filling out this form, I acknowledge that the form has been signed and completed according to CRP policy and provisions. Further, I certify that the contract modifications reviewed by me will not have the effect of increasing acreage under the CRP contract.

State Office Representative <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">Martin, Stephanie - FPAC-FSA, WA ▼</div>	State Office Signature Date <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">10/3/2024 </div>
SED <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">Wyss, Jon - FPAC-FSA, WA ▼</div>	SED Signature Date <div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">10/4/2024 </div>