

For: State and County Offices

2003 Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) Forum

Approved by: Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



1 Overview

A Background

There are 26 CREP agreements implemented in 24 States and approximately 5 additional CREP agreements are under development.

In June 2002, Illinois hosted a national forum to review CREP implementation and provide an opportunity to learn from the success of other States. This meeting was attended by FSA, NRCS, and State and local officials from existing and potential CREP States.

This year, Washington State is hosting the fourth CREP Forum. Representatives from FSA and partner agencies have been invited to attend this meeting.

Information on the 2003 CREP Forum is available online at:
<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/pas/publications/crepforum/>.

The meeting will provide an opportunity to review and discuss:

- current status and accomplishments of State CREP's
- update on CREP policies and implementation
- review of Endangered Species Act and Clean Water Act
- history and impact of salmon listings
- status of other conservation programs
- community viewpoint
- effects of Farm Bill changes on CREP agreements.

Disposal Date

August 1, 2003

Distribution

State Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices

Notice CRP-430

1 Overview (Continued)

B Purpose

This notice provides:

- information about who should attend the training
- the scheduled dates and times of the training session
- registration, hotel, and airport information
- a request for State CREP information
- a draft agenda (Exhibit 1).

C Who Should Attend

State FSA Offices with signed CREP agreements, pending proposals and/or agreements, and States that are considering a CREP proposal are authorized to attend. States shall charge travel to Washington-controlled travel funds. The following States, which have signed CREP agreements, are approved for up to 2 representatives to attend:

Arkansas	California	Delaware
Florida	Illinois	Iowa
Kentucky	Maryland	Michigan
Minnesota	Missouri	Montana
Nebraska	New York	North Carolina
North Dakota	Ohio	Oregon
Pennsylvania	Vermont	Virginia
Washington	West Virginia	Wisconsin.

States developing or planning to develop a CREP are approved for 1 representative to attend.

2 General Information

A Training Dates

The training will be held in Port Angeles, Washington from June 9 through June 11, 2003.

Sunday travel is authorized if necessary for participants to arrive on time at the training. Travel arrangements shall be made so that participants will be present at the start of training at 8 a.m., Monday, June 9. Participants should not schedule departing flights before 10 a.m. on Wednesday, June 11.

Notice CRP-430

2 General Information (Continued)

B Hotel Information

The meeting will be held at the Red Lion Inn, 221 North Lincoln, Port Angeles, Washington, 98362. Participants must make reservations by May 30, 2003. Reservations can be made by telephone at 800-733-5466 or through the hotel's website at <http://www.redlionportangeles.com/>.

When making reservations with the hotel, participants shall specify that they are attending the Washington State CREP Forum. The room rate for this conference is \$65 per night for either a single or double room. An additional guest in the room is \$10.

In addition, the Red Lion Inn is offering a "Stay A Day" rate which allows participants to arrive a day early or stay a day later at the same rate as indicated above. Inquiries about the "Stay A Date" rate should be made when making reservations.

C Airline Information

Airline reservations may be made through the Seattle/Tacoma International Airport to the William R. Fairchild International Airport (CLM) in Port Angeles. Alaska/Horizon Air is the only airline that has scheduled service into Port Angeles. There are 4 arrival and 4 departure flights per day. Additional information is available on Alaska/Horizon Air's website at <http://www.alaskaair.com/>.

D Ground Transportation

Taxi service is available and is approximately a 10 minute ride from the airport to the hotel. The hotel does not provide shuttle service.

E Registration for Training

The registration form for the CREP Forum can be downloaded from the CREP Forum website at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/pas/publications/crepforum/>. The registration fee for the forum is \$200, \$225 includes an optional Tuesday evening salmon bake, and is due by May 30, 2003. The registration fee includes meals, breaks, and the tour.

Note: As part of the Tuesday evening meal, a salmon bake on the beach and evening entertainment is planned. The salmon bake is an optional event. If a participant chooses not to attend, the registration fee is \$200.

Make checks payable to the Clallam Conservation District. **Mail your registration form and check to Clallam Conservation District at the following address:**

Clallam Conservation District
Attention: Laura Hall
111 East 3rd Room 2A
Port Angeles, WA 98362.

Telephone: 360-452-1912, ext. 109
FAX: 360-452-5088

2 General Information (Continued)

E Registration for Training (Continued)

Each employee must have an approved AD-202 or FSA-164, as applicable, before incurring travel expenses. This notice does not constitute an approved travel authorization. The per diem rate for Port Angeles is \$107 a day (\$65 for lodging and \$42 for M&IE).

Note: Subtract the cost for meals included with the registration fee as follows:

- **\$9 for breakfast**
- **\$9 for lunch**
- **\$22 for dinner.**

F Reasonable Accommodations

Notify the airlines and hotel directly of any required accommodations.

Persons with disabilities who require accommodations to attend or participate in this training shall contact Chad Chadwell by May 30, 2003, by telephone at 202-720-7674 or e-mail to charles_chadwell@wdc.usda.gov.

G Additional Information

If additional information is needed about this training contact Chad Chadwell at 202-720-7674 or Mike Linsenbigler at 202-720-6303.

H CREP Overview

States with existing CREP's should work with their State CREP specialists to jointly submit information that will be used for an introductory 1½ hour status review of the State CREP's. This information should include at a minimum:

- program description and funding
- project area, practices, and eligibility
- points of contact and partners
- goals, objectives, and progress
- successes and challenges
- program marketing strategies
- lessons learned
- photos or graphics of the program.

Provide information in Word or WordPerfect format to Jillene Johnson, FSA Public Affairs Staff, by May 2, 2003. E-mail the information to jillene.johnson@wdc.usda.gov. Jillene can be reached by telephone at 202-720-9733.

Notice CRP-430

2 General Information (Continued)

I State Office and Participant Action

State Offices and participants shall take the following action.

Step	Action
1	By COB May 30, 2003, register directly with the hotel according to subparagraph 2 B.
2	By May 30, 2003, each participant shall send a registration form and registration fee to the Clallam Conservation District according to subparagraph 2 E.
3	Participants, or the State Training Officer, shall document this training by using the Internet Combined Administrative Management System (ICAMS). The ICAMS course number is 020109 (session #0001). Direct questions about processing in ICAMS to the State Training Coordinator.

Tentative Agenda

**Tentative Agenda
CREP Forum - June 8-11, 2003
Red Lion Inn Port Angeles, WA**

SUNDAY, JUNE 8

6:00 – 6:30 p.m. Welcome and registration. - Brief program, introductions, schedules, and contacts.

MONDAY, JUNE 9

7:00 – 8:30 Breakfast and Registration

8:30 – 9:15 Opening and Welcome

9:15 – 9:45 Governor, Welcome to Washington State (Invited)

9:45 – 10:00 Honorable Norm Dicks (Invited)

10:00 – 10:15 Break

10:15 – 12:00 Presentation on State CREPs and Q&A Session

12:00 – 1:00 Lunch

1:00 – 2:30 “Ask DC.” – CREP update with panel of FSA and NRCS national staff

2:30 – 3:30 Endangered Species Act (ESA) and Clean Water Act (CWA) Compliance in Federally Funded Programs. Impact of salmon listings under ESA

3:30 – 3:45 Break

3:45 – 5:00 History of Salmon in the Pacific Northwest. Shellfish and related water quality issues from Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission

6:30 Dinner – *Keynote: Secretary of Agriculture Ann Veneman and/or Jim Little, Administrator, Farm Service Agency. (Invited)*

TUESDAY, JUNE 10

7:00 – 8:30 Breakfast

8:30 – 9:30 NRCS presentation on status of other conservation programs from the Farm Bill

9:30 – 11:15 Community Viewpoint

11:15 – 11:30 Tour Preview

12:00 – 1:15 Lunch

1:15 – 4:15 Tour

Evening Salmon Bake on the beach

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11

8:00 – 9:00 Breakfast

9:00- 10:00 Wrap-up Q&A

Preview 2004 CREP Forum

Closing

Adjourn