

For: State and County Offices

Clarification About General and Continuous CRP Contract Letters and Information

Approved by: Acting Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



1 Overview

A Background

Notice CRP-592 provided information about post cards, letters, and pamphlets mailed or scheduled to be mailed by the National Office to CRP participants with expiring **general, continuous, or CREP** CRP-1's.

In some cases, post cards were sent to producers that had already re-enrolled their expiring CRP-1's. Questions have arisen about the post card mailing.

B Purpose

This notice provides:

- clarification about letters and other materials scheduled to be mail from the National Office
- an example of the revised letter for expiring **continuous** or **CREP** CRP-1's that will be mailed by the National Office to producers. See Exhibit 1.

C Contact Information

Direct questions about this notice to Shawn Bucholtz by either of the following:

- e-mail at shawn.bucholtz@wdc.usda.gov
- telephone at 202-720-0048.

Disposal Date	Distribution
January 1, 2009	State Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices and NRCS State Offices

Notice CRP-597

2 Clarification About Letters and Other Materials From National Office

A Postcards

On April 18, 2008, the National Office mailed post cards to all CRP participants with **general, continuous, or CREP** CRP-1's scheduled to expire on September 30, 2008. One postcard was mailed to each participant.

B General Signup Letters and Pamphlets

In May or early June 2008, the National Office will be mailing an Administrator's letter and a "Conservation Options for Expiring CRP" pamphlet to all CRP participants with **general** CRP-1's scheduled to expire on September 30, 2008. The National Office is making every effort to ensure that CRP participants with **general** CRP-1's scheduled to expire on September 30, 2008, who accepted re-enrollment and extension (REX), do **not** receive a letter and pamphlet. However, the National Office anticipates that some CRP participants who did accept a REX re-enrollment will still receive a letter and pamphlet. CRP participants who accepted a REX extension will **not** receive a letter or pamphlet.

In response to concerns, a listing of CRP participants who are receiving **general** signup letters and pamphlets will be posted at <http://dc.ffasintranet.usda.gov/dafp/cepdsto.htm>, CLICK "2008 Listing of Letters Sent by National Office for Expiring General Contracts". **This list will be posted on May 28, 2008, and is being provided for review purposes only. No action by State or County Office is necessary.**

C Continuous and CREP Letters and Pamphlets

In May or early June 2008, the National Office will be mailing an Administrator's letter and a "Conservation Options for Expiring CRP" pamphlet to all CRP participants with **continuous** or **CREP** CRP-1's scheduled to expire on September 30, 2008, including participants who may have re-enrolled their expiring **continuous** or **CREP** CRP-1's into **continuous** signup number 36.

As indicated in Notice CRP-592, a report of CRP participants with expiring **continuous** or **CREP** CRP-1's is provided on FSA's Intranet. County Offices were instructed to compare the State and County Office CEPD Information Center's "2008 Listing of Letters Sent by National Office for Expiring Continuous Contracts" with the following:

- 2008 expiring CRP-1's to ensure that all applicable producers were notified
- current addresses on file in the county for the producers listed.

If it is determined that a participant has a **continuous** or **CREP** CRP-1 scheduled to expire on September 30, 2008, and the National Office did **not** send a letter or sent a letter to an incorrect address, then County Offices must reproduce the letter in Exhibit 1 and send the letter to the participant **immediately**.

The State and County Office CEPD Information Center web site is located at <http://dc.ffasintranet.usda.gov/dafp/cepdsto.htm>.

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2 Clarification About Letters and Other Materials From National Office (Continued)

D Revised Continuous Signup Letter

The letter being mailed for **continuous** and **CREP** CRP-1's scheduled to expire on September 30, 2008, has been revised to acknowledge that some CRP participants may have already re-enrolled their expiring **continuous** CRP-1. See Exhibit 1.

E Practice-Specific Pamphlets

In June or July 2008, the National Office will be mailing "Wetlands" and "Buffers, Filter Strips, and Grass Waterways" pamphlets to CRP participants with **general, continuous, or CREP** CRP-1's scheduled to expire September 30, 2008. The National Office is making every effort to ensure that CRP participants with **general** CRP-1's scheduled to expire on September 30, 2008, who accepted re-enrollment under REX, do **not** receive either pamphlet.

3 Action

A State Office Action

State Offices shall provide a copy of this notice to County Offices.

B County Office Action

County Offices shall review the revised letter in Exhibit 1 with the local FSA and NRCS staff.

Revised Sample Letter for CRP Participants With Continuous CRP Contracts Scheduled to Expire on September 30, 2008

United States
Department of
Agriculture



Farm and Foreign
Agricultural
Services

Farm Service
Agency

1400 Independence
Ave, SW
STOP 0501
Washington, DC
20250-0501

June XX, 2008

Dear CRP Participant:

This letter informs you that one or more of your continuous or CREP Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) contracts are scheduled to expire on September 30, 2008.

These expiring continuous CRP contract(s) may be eligible to be re-enrolled for a new 10- to 15-year contract provided the current contract scheduled to expire in September is in full compliance. If re-enrolled, the new continuous signup contracts would begin October 1, 2008.

All re-enrolled continuous signup CRP contracts will require new conservation plans to be developed. Other provisions may also apply.

For further information regarding re-enrolling expiring continuous CRP contract acreage or for information regarding conservation and wetland compliance provisions for land leaving the CRP and returning to production, please contact your local FSA and NRCS offices.

Please note that after the expiration of a CRP contract that had been devoted to trees, the acreage will no longer be considered cropland and may become ineligible for CRP or other farm programs. However, this does not apply for acreage immediately re-enrolled to a new contract without any intervening period of time.

To ensure that this acreage can be re-enrolled, please submit an offer for any new contract(s) at your local office before August 1, 2008.

Due to the differences between the date of this letter and the completion of data processing of continuous signup offers, it is possible that you may have already re-enrolled your contract and are unnecessarily receiving this letter.

Sincerely,

Teresa C. Lasseter
Administrator