

For: State and County Offices

2017 Conservation Payments

Approved by: Acting Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



1 Overview

A Background

According to 2-CRP, subparagraph:

- 462 B, CRP annual rental payments will be made, when authorized, after October 1 for each effective year
- 801 A, retired or retiring owners and operators who qualify under Transition Incentive Program (TIP) may be eligible to receive annual rental payments for up to 2 additional years.

Also, Emergency Forestry CRP (EFCRP) annual rental payments are scheduled to be issued each year, on or after the anniversary of the effective date of the contract.

B Purpose

This notice:

- advises State and County Offices that Conservation Systems will be shut down September 29, 2017, to perform the annual batch payment process for 2017 TIP, EFCRP, and 1-PL CRP annual rental payments
- advises State and County Offices that Conservation Systems will be shut down again the afternoon October 11, 2017, to perform the annual batch payment process for 2017 corrected 1-PL CRP annual rental payments, and 4-PL and 5-PL CRP annual rental payments
- provides State and County Offices with the upcoming schedule for payment processing for CRP, TIP, and EFCRP
- reminds State and County Offices that payment reports are accessible through the Common Payment Reports System according to 9-CM.

Disposal Date	Distribution
January 1, 2018 9-25-17	State Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices

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2 CRP Schedule

A Batch Processing Order of CRP Contracts

For the system to properly determine payment limitation for CRP, CRP contracts subject to 1-PL provisions **must** be processed first followed by processing of CRP contracts subject to 4-PL and 5-PL provisions. To ensure that payments are processed in the correct order and to allow time for County Offices to correct any issues that have reduced or prevented payment on 1-PL CRP contracts before the 4-PL and 5-PL CRP contract batch occurs, there will be 2 separate batch payment processes.

The first batch will begin running October 2, 2017, to process TIP, EFCRP, and 1-PL CRP contracts. The 2017 TIP, EFCRP annual rental, and 1-PL CRP annual rental payments will begin to be available for signature on October 2, 2017. NPS will remain online and payments will be available for certification and signature as they are processed.

The second batch will begin running October 12, 2017, to process corrected 1-PL CRP contracts and start processing 4-PL and 5-PL CRP contracts. The 2017 annual rental payments for 1-PL and 4-PL and 5-PL CRP contracts will begin to be available for signature on October 12, 2017. NPS will remain online and payments will be available for certification and signature as they are processed.

Note: Program year 2018 will not be available in Conservation Payments System to process 2018 CRP incentive payments until the batch payment processes are completed October 12, 2017.

B Conservation Software Schedule

The following is the projected software schedule for CRP, EFCRP, and TIP.

Projected Date	Action
September 29, 2017 at 5:00 PM CT	Shutdown the following conservation applications for annual batch payment processing for TIP, EFCRP, and 1-PL CRP: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BCAP • Conservation Contract Maintenance System • Conservation Funds Ledger System (CFLS) • Conservation Online System (COLS) • Conservation Payments • Cost Share Software (CSS) • EFCRP • GRP.
October 2, 2017 at 6:00 AM CT	All conservation applications back online after TIP, EFCRP, and 1-PL payment processing is completed.
	TIP payments processed and available in NPS for certification and signature.
	EFCRP payments available in NPS for certification and signature.
	1-PL CRP payments available in NPS for certification and signature.

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2 Schedule (Continued)

B Conservation Software Schedule (Continued)

Projected Date	Action
October 11, 2017 at 5:00 PM CT	Shutdown the following conservation applications for annual batch payment processing for corrected 1-PL CRP annual rental payments and 4-PL and 5-PL CRP annual rental payments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BCAP • Conservation Contract Maintenance System • Conservation Funds Ledger System (CFLS) • Conservation Online System (COLS) • Conservation Payments • Cost Share Software (CSS) • EFCRP • GRP.
October 12, 2017	As payments process through to NPS, users can begin certification and signature of all payments in NPS. All conservation applications back online after payment processing is completed.

3 Action

A State Office Action

Ensure that County Offices are aware of the contents of this notice.

B County Office Action

County Offices will:

- use the Common Payment Reports, Prepayment Report to resolve any outstanding reduction issues **before** the batch payment run begins **September 29, 2017**
- begin certifying and signing:
 - TIP, EFCRP, and 1-PL CRP payments in NPS on or about **October 2, 2017**
 - 1-PL, 4-PL, and 5-PL CRP payments in NPS on or about **October 12, 2017**
- use the Common Payment Reports, Nonpayment/Reduction Report to resolve issues that prevented or reduced payments after each batch payment run
- use the Conservation Payments, “Make NPS Payment” option after the issue causing the payment failure is corrected, if applicable.