

**For:** State and County Offices

**Announcing General CRP Signup 58**

**Approved by:** Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



**1 Overview**

**A Background**

On January 26, 2022, USDA announced that the next general CRP signup (signup 58) will be held from January 31, 2022, through March 11, 2022. Land that is not currently enrolled in CRP may be offered for enrollment during general CRP signup 58. In addition, a CRP participant with a contract scheduled to expire on September 30, 2022, may submit an offer for land enrolled under that contract that, if accepted, will have a contract beginning on October 1, 2022.

For general CRP signup 58, FSA will use the environmental benefits index (EBI) to rank otherwise eligible offers for selection. The Tool for Environmental Resource Results Assessment (TERRA) and the Conservation Online System (COLS) must be used for all general CRP signup 58 offers. These tools will use updated databases for applicable soils, Conservation Priority Areas, wildlife, and water and air quality zones.

**B Purpose**

This notice provides information about:

- policy for general CRP signup 58
- required practice information for conservation plans
- conservation plan deadlines.

<b>Disposal Date</b>	<b>Distribution</b>
October 1, 2022	State Offices; State Offices relay to Service Centers and NRCS State Offices

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### 2 Policy for General CRP Signup 58

#### A Signup Period

The signup period for general CRP signup 58 is January 31, 2022, through March 11, 2022.

#### B Look-Up Tables, CPA's, and Zones

Look-up tables for EBI sub-factors N2b, N2c, and N5a have been updated for general CRP signup 58. The updated tables are located at [https://usdagcc.sharepoint.com/sites/fsa-dafp/CEPD/policy/Lookup\\_Tables?viewpath=%2Fsites%2Fsa-dafp%2FCEPD%2Fpolicy%2FLookup\\_Tables](https://usdagcc.sharepoint.com/sites/fsa-dafp/CEPD/policy/Lookup_Tables?viewpath=%2Fsites%2Fsa-dafp%2FCEPD%2Fpolicy%2FLookup_Tables).

#### C Maximum Annual Payment Rate

The maximum per-acre annual payment rate for general CRP signup 58 offers is \$240 per acre. The maximum annual rental rate includes the Climate-Smart incentive, productivity factor, and 10 percent inflationary factor.

### 3 Required Practice Information for Conservation Plan

#### A Job Sheets or Implementation Requirements

2-CRP, subparagraph 66 B, provides a list of eligible conservation practices and their contract period for general CRP signup 58. When developing the conservation plan, FSA State Conservation Program Specialists must work with the NRCS State CRP Program Manager to update or develop job sheets or implementation requirements by practice to provide County Offices with seeding practice requirements for all general CRP signup 58 practices.

**Note:** It is possible that multiple job sheets or implementation requirements could be needed if there is a variance because of soil properties, moisture regimes, etc., that would impact planting requirements.

As part of these job sheets or implementation requirements, State Offices must request that NRCS provide any soil limitations for suitable vegetation by practice that includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- grasses
- legumes
- forbs
- shrubs
- trees.

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### 3 Required Practice Information for Conservation Plan (Continued)

#### A Job Sheets or Implementation Requirements (Continued)

These job sheets or implementation requirements must list the factors (salinity, water table, depth to bedrock, etc.) that would limit planting or practice options for CRP.

**Example:** Depth to bedrock may limit potential to plant CP3A, Hardwood Trees, on a site.

**Note:** Longleaf pine suitability index information is recorded for each map unit symbol in the Soils Database Management System and is automatically applied by the TERRA and COLS offer system.

These job sheets or implementation requirements must include a minimum of the following:

- seedbed and site preparation
- timing of seeding or planting
- fertilization requirements
- weed control
- varieties of seed or planting material
- amount of seeding or planting
- maintenance requirements for the practice
- soil limitations
- management activities if practice requires management.

### 4 Conservation Plan Deadline for General CRP Signup 58

#### A Deadline for Conservation Plans

To ensure that CRP contracts for accepted general CRP signup 58 offers are approved by September 30, 2022, **all** participants must request a conservation plan from NRCS by COB April 15, 2022.

A conservation plan for a general CRP signup 58 offers must be completed, signed by NRCS/Technical Service Provider (TSP) and all signatories on CRP-1, and returned to FSA by July 16, 2022.

The NRCS National Headquarters is in concurrence with these timelines.

**Note:** Participants must be notified that starting a practice before approval of the CRP contract is at their own risk. Cost-share will only be paid for eligible costs that are approved under the contract. The specifications for all applicable practices will be included in the approved conservation plan.

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### 5 Deadlines for Processing Offers, Conservation Plans, and Approvals in COLS

#### A Deadlines

The following table provides deadlines for general CRP signup 58.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Action</b>
March 11, 2022	Deadline to submit an offer for general CRP signup 58.
April 15, 2022	Deadline for producers to request a conservation plan from NRCS. County Office deadline to enter the status in COLS as "Submit for Plan".
July 16, 2022	Deadline for NRCS/TSP to complete the conservation plan for general CRP signup 58 offers, obtain signatures on the conservation plan for all signatories on CRP contract, sign and return the conservation plan to FSA.
September 30, 2022	Deadline for County Offices to obtain all signatures on the CRP contract and for COC or CED to approve CRP-1's and load CRP-1 approvals in COLS.  <b>Note:</b> There is no authority to approve CRP-1 after September 30, 2022, for re-enrolled land.

### 6 Action

#### A State Office Action

State Offices will:

- follow the provisions in this notice
- ensure that County Offices follow the provisions in this notice
- submit questions to Beverly Preston, CRP Program Manager.

#### B County Office Action

County Offices must:

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