Commodity Credit Corporation, USDA

§ 1470.6 Eligibility requirements.

(a) Eligible applicant. To be eligible to participate in CSP, at the time of application, an applicant must meet all the following requirements:

(1) Be the operator in the Farm Service Agency (FSA) farm records management system for the agricultural operation being offered for enrollment in the program. Potential applicants that are not in the FSA farm records management system must establish records with FSA prior to application. Potential applicants whose records are not current in the FSA farm records management system must update those records with FSA prior to application;

(2) Have documented control of the land for the term of the proposed contract unless an exception is made by the Chief in the case of land allotted by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), Indian lands, or other instances in which the Chief determines that there is sufficient assurance of control;

(3) Be in compliance with the highly erodible land and wetland conservation provisions found at 7 CFR part 12;

(4) Be in compliance with Adjusted Gross Income provisions found at 7 CFR part 1400;

(5) Supply information, as required by NRCS, to determine eligibility for the program, including but not limited to, information related to eligibility requirements and ranking factors; conservation activity and production system records; information to verify the applicant’s status as a beginning farmer or rancher or socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher, if applicable; and payment eligibility as established by 7 CFR part 1400; and

(6) Provide a list of all members of the legal entity and embedded entities along with members’ tax identification numbers and percentage interest in the entity. Where applicable, American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Pacific Islanders may use another unique identification number for each individual eligible for payment.

(b) Eligible land. A contract application must include the eligible land on an applicant’s entire agricultural operation, except as identified in paragraph (b)(3) of this section. The land as described below is part of the agricultural operation, and eligible for enrollment and payment under CSP:

(1) Private agricultural land;

(2) Agricultural Indian lands; and

(3) Nonindustrial private forest land (NIPF).

(i) By special rule in the statute, NIPF is eligible land.

(ii) No more than 10 percent of the acres enrolled nationally in any fiscal year may be NIPF.

(iii) The applicant will designate by submitting a separate application if they want to offer NIPF for funding consideration.

(iv) If designated for funding consideration, then the NIPF component of the operation will include all the applicant’s NIPF. If not designated for funding consideration, then the applicant’s NIPF will not be part of the agricultural operation.

(c) Ineligible land. The following ineligible lands are part of the agricultural operation, but ineligible for inclusion in the contract or for payment in CSP:

(1) Land enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program, 7 CFR part 1410;

(2) Land enrolled in the Wetlands Reserve Program, 7 CFR part 1467;

(3) Land enrolled in the Grassland Reserve Program, 7 CFR part 1415;

(4) Land enrolled in the Conservation Security Program, 7 CFR part 1469;

(5) Public land including land owned by a Federal, State, or local unit of government; and

(6) Land used for crop production after June 18, 2008, that had not been planted, considered to be planted, or devoted to crop production for at least 4 of the 6 years preceding that date, unless that land—

(i) Had previously been enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program,

(ii) Has been maintained using long-term crop rotation practices as determined by the Designated Conservationist, or

(iii) Is incidental land needed for efficient operation of the farm or ranch as

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