

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Commodity Credit Corporation****Natural Resources Conservation Service**

RIN 0578-AA36

Conservation Security Program

AGENCY: Natural Resources Conservation Service and Commodity Credit Corporation, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

DATES: The administrative actions announced in the notice are effective on June 21, 2004

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Craig Derickson, Conservation Security Program Manager, Financial Assistance Programs Division, NRCS, P.O. Box 2890, Washington, DC 20013-2890, telephone: (202) 720-1845; fax: (202) 720-4265. Submit e-mail to: craig.derickson@usda.gov, Attention: Conservation Security Program.

SUMMARY: This document announces the first sign-up for the Conservation Security Program. This sign-up for the Conservation Security Program (CSP) will be open from July 6, 2004, through July 30, 2004, in selected 8-digit watersheds in Arkansas, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Texas, Washington, and Wisconsin.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In an Interim Final Rule published elsewhere in this issue of the **Federal Register**, USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) established the Conservation Security Program (CSP). The CSP is a voluntary program administered by NRCS using authorities and funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation, that provides financial and technical assistance to producers who advance the conservation and improvement of soil, water, air, energy, plant and animal life, and other conservation purposes on Tribal and private working lands. On May 4, 2004, NRCS published a notice in the **Federal Register** (69 FR 24560), announcing the process NRCS will use in determining priority watershed, and the details of the enrollment categories that will be used in the FY 2004 sign-up.

This document announces that the first sign-up for the CSP will be open from July 6 through July 30, 2004 in selected 8-digit watersheds in Arkansas, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri,

Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Texas, Washington, and Wisconsin, which can be viewed at <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/csp/watersheds04.html>.

These watersheds were selected using the process set forth in the May 4, 2004, notice to the **Federal Register**. In addition to other data sources, this process used National Resources Inventory data to assess land use, agricultural input intensity, and historic conservation stewardship in watersheds nationwide. A list of candidate watersheds was generated. State Conservationists were queried and watersheds were excluded based on the assessment of locations where staff capacity was inadequate, soils were not digitized, and required technical tools, specifically the Revised Uniform Soil Loss Equation Version 2.0 (RUSLE2) and Toolkit would not be fully operational for a 2004 sign-up.

Watersheds were also evaluated from a national perspective in consultation with State Conservationists regarding regional resource issues that would enhance CSP's environmental goals. Preference was given to two watersheds, the Lemhi and Hondo watersheds, where improving resources would assist the recovery of threatened and endangered species or add measurably to critical resource recovery efforts and extensive watershed level measures were in place.

To be eligible for CSP, a majority of the agricultural operation must be within the limits of the watershed. Applications which meet the minimum requirements as set forth in the final rule (listed below) will be placed in enrollment categories for funding consideration. Categories will be funded in order from A through H until funds are exhausted. If funds are not available to fund an entire category, then the applications will fall into subcategories and funded in order until funds are exhausted.

Applicants can submit only one application for this sign-up. Producers should begin the application process by filling out a self assessment to determine if they meet the basic qualification for CSP. Self assessment workbooks are available in hard copy at USDA Service Centers within the watersheds, and electronically for download or an interactive Web site linked from www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/csp. The self assessment workbook includes a benchmark inventory where the applicant documents the conservation practices and activities that are ongoing on their operation. This benchmark inventory

serves as the basis for the stewardship plan.

In order to apply, applicants must submit:

1. A completed self assessment workbook, including the benchmark inventory;
2. Documentation for calendar years 2002 and 2003 to show the stewardship completed including fertilizer, nutrient, and pesticide application schedules, tillage, and grazing schedules.
3. Completed CCC-1200 available through the self assessment online guide, Web site, and any USDA Service Center.

Applicants are encouraged to attend preliminary workshops, which will be announced locally, the basic qualifications will be explained, and assistance provided to complete the self assessment workbook and benchmark inventory.

CSP is offered at three tiers of participation. Some payments are adjusted based on the tier, and some payments are tier-neutral. See payment information below.

Minimum Tier Eligibility and Contract Requirements

The following are the minimum tier eligibility and contract requirements:

CSP Tier I—the benchmark condition inventory demonstrates to the satisfaction of NRCS that the applicant has addressed the nationally significant resource concerns of water quality and soil quality to the minimum level of treatment for any landuse on part of the agricultural operation. Only the acreage meeting such requirements is eligible for stewardship and existing practice payments in CSP.

CSP Tier II—the benchmark condition inventory demonstrates to the satisfaction of NRCS that the applicant has addressed the nationally significant resource concerns of water quality and soil quality to the minimum level of treatment for all land uses on the entire agricultural operation. Additionally, the applicant must agree to add another significant resource concern of their choice to be completed by the end of the contract period.

CSP Tier III—the benchmark condition inventory demonstrates to the satisfaction of NRCS that the applicant has addressed all of the existing resource concerns listed in Section III of the NRCS Field Office Technical Guide with a resource management system that meets the minimum level of treatment on the entire agricultural operation, including other land.

Delineation of the Agriculture Operation

Delineating an agriculture operation for the Conservation Security Program is an important part in determining the Tier of the contract, stewardship payments, and the required level of conservation treatment needed for participation. The applicant will delineate the agriculture operation to include all agricultural lands, and other lands such as farmstead, feedlots, and headquarters and incidental forestlands, under the control of the participant and constituting a cohesive management unit that is operated with equipment, labor, accounting system, and management that is substantially separate from any other. In delineating the agriculture operation, Farm Service Agency farm boundaries may be used. If farm boundaries are used in the application, the entire farm area must be included within the delineation. An applicant may offer one farm or aggregate farms into one agriculture operation.

Minimum Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible to participate in CSP, the applicants must meet the requirements for eligible applicants, the land offered under contract must meet the definition of eligible land, and the application must meet the conservation standards for that land as described below.

Eligible Applicants

To be eligible to participate, an applicant must:

- (1) Be in compliance with the highly erodible land and wetland conservation provisions;
- (2) Tenants must show control of the land for the life of the proposed contract period by providing NRCS with the written evidence or assurance of control from the landowner. In the case of land allotted by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) or tribal land, there is considered to be sufficient assurance of control.
- (3) Share in risk of producing any crop or livestock and be entitled to share in the crop or livestock available for marketing from the agriculture operation landlords and owners are ineligible to submit an application for exclusively cash rented agriculture operations.
- (4) Complete a benchmark condition inventory for the entire agricultural operation or the portion being enrolled in accordance with § 1469.7(a) in the Interim Final Rule;
- (5) Supply information, as required by NRCS, to determine eligibility for the program; including but not limited to,

information related to eligibility criteria in this sign-up announcement; and information to verify the applicant's status as a beginning farmer or rancher if applicable.

Eligible Land

To be eligible for enrollment in CSP, land must be:

- (1) Private agricultural land;
- (2) Private non-industrial forested land that is an incidental part of the agriculture operation;
- (3) Agricultural land that is Tribal, allotted, or Indian trust land;
- (4) Other incidental parcels, as determined by NRCS, which may include, but are not limited to, land within the bounds of working agricultural land or small adjacent areas (such as center pivot corners, linear practices, field borders, turn rows, intermingled small wet areas or riparian areas); or
- (5) Other land on which NRCS determines that conservation treatment will contribute to an improvement in an identified natural resource concern, including areas outside the boundary of the agricultural operation or enrolled parcel such as farmsteads, ranch sites, barnyards, feedlots, equipment storage areas, material handling facilities, and other such developed areas. Other land must be treated in Tier III contracts.

Land Not Eligible for Enrollment in CSP

The following lands are ineligible for enrollment in CSP:

- (1) Land enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program, the Wetlands Reserve Program, or the Grassland Reserve Program; and
- (2) Public land including land owned by a Federal, State, or Local unit of government.

Land referred to above may not receive CSP payments, but the conservation work on this land may be used to determine if an applicant meets eligibility criteria for the agricultural operation and may be described in the Conservation Stewardship Plan.

Land Not Eligible for Any Payment Component in CSP

Land that is used for crop production after May 13, 2002, that had not been planted, considered to be planted, or devoted to crop production, as determined by NRCS, for at least 4 of the 6 years preceding May 13, 2002, is not eligible for any payment component in CSP.

Conservation Standards for Tier I and Tier II

The following conservation standards apply for Tier I and Tier II:

1. The minimum level of treatment on cropland:

- (i) The minimum level of treatment for soil quality on cropland is considered achieved when the Soil Conditioning Index is positive;
- (ii) The minimum level of treatment for water quality on cropland is considered achieved if the benchmark inventory indicates that the current level of treatment meets or exceeds the quality criteria according to the NRCS technical guides for these specific resource considerations: nutrients, pesticides, salinity and sediment for surface waters and nutrients, pesticides, and salinity for groundwater, if applicable.

2. The minimum level of treatment on pastureland and rangelands for Tier I and Tier II is vegetation and animal management, which enhances the soil resource by following a grazing management plan that provides a forage animal balance, proper livestock distribution, and timing of use and managing livestock access to water courses.

Conservation Standards for Tier III

The minimum level of treatment for Tier III on any land use is meeting the quality criteria for the local NRCS FOTG for all existing resource concerns with these exceptions:

- (A) The minimum requirement for soil quality on cropland is considered achieved when the Soil Conditioning Index value is positive.
- (B) The minimum requirement for water quality—irrigation water management on cropland or pastureland is considered achieved when the current level of treatment and management for the system results in a water use efficiency value of at least 50%.
- (C) The minimum requirement for wildlife is considered achieved when the current level of treatment and management for the system results in a value of at least 0.5 on the NRCS wildlife habitat index.

CSP Contract Payments and Limits

CSP contract payments include one or more of the following components subject to the described limits:

- An annual per acre stewardship component for the benchmark conservation treatment. This component is calculated separately for each land use by multiplying the number of acres times the tier factor (0.05 for Tier I, 0.10 for Tier II, and 0.15 for Tier III) times the stewardship payment rate established for the watershed times the tier reduction factor (0.25 for Tier I and 0.50 for Tier II, and 0.75 for Tier III).

- An annual existing practice component for maintaining existing conservation practices. Existing practice payments will be calculated as a flat rate of 25% of the stewardship payment.

- A new practice component for additional practices on the watershed specific list. New practice payments will be made at not more than a 50% cost-share rate and are limited to \$10,000 cumulative total for the contract.

- An annual enhancement component for exceptional conservation effort and additional conservation practices or activities that provide increased resource benefits beyond the prescribed level. Enhancement payments will not exceed \$10,000 for Tier I, \$17,500 for Tier II, and \$22,500 for Tier III annually.

- An advance enhancement payment, not-to-exceed \$10,000, available in the FY 2004 sign-up. The advance enhancement payment is available to contracts with an initial enhancement payment as determined in the benchmark inventory and interview. The advance enhancement payment would shift that annual enhancement payment amount into the first year payment and deduct it from the following year's payments. This is in addition to the enhancement payment limit.

Tier I contracts are for a 5 year duration, Tier II and Tier III contracts are for a 5 to 10 year duration at the option of the participant.

The combined stewardship, existing practice, and enhancement payments cannot exceed the following contract limits:

- Tier I—15% of the stewardship rate times the enrolled acres
- Tier II—25% of the stewardship rate times the enrolled acres
- Tier III—40% of the stewardship rate times the enrolled acres

Total annual maximum payments limits are \$20,000 for Tier I, \$35,000 for Tier II, and \$45,000 for Tier III.

The payment components are tailored for the selected watersheds. For more details, call or visit the local USDA Service Center, or view on the Web at <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/csp/watersheds04.html>.

Enhancement Components Available in This Sign-up

The following are the enhancement components available this sign-up:

1. Additional conservation treatment above the quality criteria for soil quality, nutrient management, pest management, irrigation water management, prescribed grazing, and energy management; and
2. Addressing locally identified conservation needs shown on the watershed specific enhancement lists.

The payment components are tailored for the selected watersheds. For more details, call or visit the local USDA Service Center, or view on the Web at <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/csp/watersheds04.html>.

The Administration budget projects that about 3000 contracts will be available under this sign-up, with roughly 45 percent of those in Tier I, 45 percent in Tier II, and 10 percent in Tier III.

CSP Enrollment Categories and Subcategories

Technical adjustments to the enrollment categories were made based on field testing of the criteria published in a previous notice. This notice provides updated enrollment category criteria.

The CSP will fund the enrollment categories A through H in alphabetical order (Attachment #1). If an enrollment category cannot be completely funded, then subcategories will be funded in the following order:

1. Applicant is a limited resource producer;

2. Applicant is a participant in an ongoing monitoring program;

3. Agricultural operation in a designated water conservation area or aquifer zone;

4. Agricultural operation in a designated drought area;

5. Agricultural operation in a designated water quality area, such as designated watersheds with Total Maximum Daily Loading (TMDL) limits with a priority on pesticides;

6. Agricultural operation in a designated water quality area, such as designated watersheds with TMDL limits with a priority on nutrients;

7. Agricultural operation in a designated water quality area, such as designated watersheds with TMDL limits with a priority on sediment;

8. Agricultural operation in a designated non-attainment area for air quality or other local or regionally designated air quality zones;

9. Agricultural operation in a designated area for threatened and endangered species habitat creation and protection;

10. Participating in an ongoing watersheds plan or conservation project;

11. Agricultural operation is intermingled with public land where there is no way to distinguish the public from the private land for management purposes; and

12. Other applications.

(Designated means "officially assigned a priority by a Federal, State, or local unit of government" prior to this notice.)

If a subcategory cannot be fully funded, applicants will be offered the FY 2004 CSP contract payment on a prorated basis.

Signed in Washington, DC, on June 9, 2004.

Bruce I. Knight,

Vice President, Commodity Credit Corporation, Chief, Natural Resources Conservation Service.

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CSP Enrollment Categories – Criteria by Land Use and Category

Attachment 1

Category		Soil Conditioning Index	Stewardship Practices (from list below) in place for two or more years	Stewardship Activities (from list below) in place for two or more years	Criteria
Cropland (row crops, closely grown crops, hay or pasture in rotation with row or closely grown crops, orchards, vineyards, horticultural crops, and permanent hayland)	A	at least 0.1	at least 3 practices	at least 3 activities	Actions to be completed by the third contract year
	B	at least 0.0	at least 3 practices	at least 3 activities	Agree to move to next Tier or to complete two additional Stewardship Practices or Activities from list below
	C	at least 0.1	at least 2 practices	at least 2 activities	Agree to move to next Tier or to complete two additional Stewardship Practices or Activities from list below
	D	at least 0.0	at least 2 practices	at least 2 activities	Agree to complete two additional Stewardship Practices or Activities from list below
	E	at least 0.1	at least 2 practices	at least 1 activity	Agree to complete two additional Stewardship Practices or Activities from list below
	F	at least 0.0	at least 1 practice	at least 1 activity	Agree to complete two additional Stewardship Practices or Activities from list below
	G	at least 0.0	at least 1 practice	any number of activities	Agree to complete two additional Stewardship Practices or Activities from list below
	H	Must meet minimum program eligibility requirements as defined in 7CFR1469			Do not agree to do complete additional actions by the end of the third contract year

Attachment 1 **CSP Enrollment Categories – Criteria by Land Use and Category****Stewardship Practice List for Cropland, including Orchards, Vineyards, Horticultural Crops, and Permanent Hayland (Conservation practices from the Field Office Technical Guide that improve soil and/or water quality)**

- Alley Cropping (ac.) (311)
- Atmospheric Resources Quality Management (370)
- Composting (317)
- Conservation Crop Rotation (328)
- Constructed Wetland (656)
- Contour Buffer Strips (332)
- Contour Orchard and Other Fruit Area (331)
- Cover Crop (340)
- Critical Area Planting (342)
- Cross Wind Ridges (589A)
- Cross Wind Trap Strips (589C)
- Drainage Water Management (554)
- Field Border (386)
- Filter Strip (393)
- Forage Harvest Management (511)
- Hedgerow Planting (422)
- Herbaceous Wind Barriers (603)
- Hillside Ditch (423)
- Irrigation System-Micro-irrigation (441)
- Irrigation Water Management (449)
- Lined Waterway or Outlet (468)
- Low Disturbance Cropping (No Till/Strip Till/Direct Seed) (329d1)
- Mulching (484)
- Pasture & Hayland Planting (512)
- Prescribed Grazing (on cropland) (528)
- Residue Management (329)
- Riparian Forest Buffer (391)
- Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390)
- Sediment Basin (350)
- Soil Salinity Management-Nonirrigated (571)
- Stream Habitat Improvement and Management (395)
- Stripcropping (585)
- Structure for Water Control (587)
- Water & Sediment Control Basin (638)
- Well Decommissioning (351)
- Wetland Enhancement (659)
- Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment (380)

Stewardship Activity List for Cropland, including Orchards, Vineyards, Horticultural Crops, and Permanent Hayland (Activities that mitigate off-site resource damage or improve soil and/or water quality)

- Addition of soil amendments such as polyacrylamide (PAM) or gypsum
- Collection of yield data
- Conduct an energy audit on the agricultural operation
- Conduct spraying activities and other control of noxious/invasive weeds on a spot basis
- Enhance sustainable drainage management through seasonal on-farm water storage and retention
- Harvest crops from center of field outward
- Increase amount of sod or perennial crops in rotation for a minimum of 2 years
- Irrigation system efficiency evaluations and adjustment
- Low energy precision application sprinklers
- Minimize the use of irrigation by planting alternative crops with reduced water needs
- Minimize the use of pesticides by using pest resistant plant varieties
- Precise application of nutrients such as – banding, side dressing, injection, fertigation
- Split Nitrogen Application to meet crop needs
- Surge irrigation
- Test soil and/or plant tissue on annual basis
- Use a risk assessment tool such as WINPST to select the least toxic product to minimize harmful effects on human health and environmental resources
- Use established local guidelines to set economic thresholds for pest to minimize use of pesticides and herbicides
- Use of a resource-conserving crop rotation
- Use of beneficial insects
- Use of data from on-farm weather station
- Use of tensiometers or other techniques to assess and improve irrigation water management
- Use of yield monitoring data
- Weather stations installation and/or data collection

CSP Enrollment Categories – Criteria by Land Use and Category

Attachment 1

Category	Overall Pasture Condition Scoring Assessment	Stewardship Practices (from list below) in more years	Stewardship Activities (from list below) in place for two or more years	Criteria
Pasture	A	at least 45 practices	at least 3 activities	Actions to be completed by the third contract year
	B	at least 45 practices	at least 2 activities	Agree to move to next Tier or to complete two additional Stewardship Practices or Activities
	C	at least 35 practices	at least 3 activities	Agree to complete two additional Stewardship Practices or Activities
	D	at least 35 practices	at least 2 activities	Agree to move to the next Tier or to complete two additional Stewardship Practices or Activities
	E	at least 35 practices	at least 2 activities	Agree to complete two additional Stewardship Practices or Activities
	F	at least 25 practice	at least 1 activity	Agree to complete two additional Stewardship Practices or Activities
	G	at least 25 practice	any number of activities	Agree to complete two additional Stewardship Practices or Activities
	H	Must meet minimum program eligibility requirements as defined in 7CFR1469		Do not agree to do complete additional actions by the end of the third contract year

Attachment 1 **CSP Enrollment Categories – Criteria by Land Use and Category**

Stewardship Practice List for Pasture

(Conservation practices from the Field Office Technical Guide that improve soil and/or water quality)

- Animal Trails and Walkways (575)
- Brush Management (314)
- Channel Bank Vegetation (322)
- Critical Area Planting (342)
- Fence (for sensitive area protection only) (382)
- Grassed Waterway (412)
- Grazing Land Mechanical Treatment (516)
- Heavy Use Area Protection (561)
- Irrigation Water Management (449)
- Pasture and Hay Planting (512)
- Pipeline (516)
- Pond (378)
- Prescribed Burning (338)
- Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390)
- Soil Salinity Management – Nonirrigated (571)
- Spring Development (574)
- Stream Crossing (578)
- Stream Habitat Improvement and Management (395)
- Streambank & Shoreline Protection (580)
- Waste Utilization (pathogen and organic runoff control) (633)
- Water & Sediment Control Basin (638)
- Water Well (642)
- Watering Facility (614)
- Wetland Enhancement (659)
- Wetland Restoration (657)
- Wildlife Watering Facility (648)

Stewardship Activity List for Pasture

(Activities that mitigate off-site resource damage or improve soil and/or water quality)

- Added functional group pastures
- Conduct an energy audit on the agricultural operation
- Confinement animal wastes, if applied, are injected
- Flash graze riparian corridors to keep healthy grass stands on stream banks in former prairie areas
- Grazing distribution facilitated by watering locations, based on locally identified distances between water locations and water available in each sub-divided pasture
- Improved laneways
- Increased plant diversity – forbs and legumes greater than 40%
- Integrated pest management activities for weeds, brush, insects, or diseases
- Interseeding
- Livestock ponds and watering areas have controlled access points or are outfitted with watering facility
- Pastured bottomland or riparian area is treated as a separate grazing treatment unit and alternative watering facilities in place
- Rotate feeding and salting areas
- Rotational grazing
- Test soil and/or plant tissue test every 3 years on pastures not receiving confinement wastes
- Timed grazing on a portion of paddocks to create habitat for targeted species
- Use of decision support tools in development of grazing management plans, such as Grazing Lands Spatial Analysis Tool (GSAT), Nutritional Balance Analyzer (NUTBAL), Water Erosion Prediction Project (WEPP), etc.
- Where confinement wastes are applied, test soil and/or plant tissue on annual basis prior to next application
- Where fertilizer nitrogen is applied, split applications to meet current crop needs

Attachment 1 CSP Enrollment Categories – Criteria by Land Use and Category

Category	Rangeland Health Assessment	Stewardship Practices and Activities (from list below) in place for two or more years	Criteria	Actions to be completed by the third contract year
A	none to slight for all 3 attributes	Prescribed grazing plus 3 or more practices or activities in place, including brush management or range seeding resource needs adequately addressed	Prescribed grazing plus 3 or more practices or activities in place and either brush management or range seeding resource needs adequately addressed	Agree to move to next Tier or to complete two additional Stewardship Practices or Activities from list below
B	none to slight for all 3 attributes	Prescribed grazing plus 2 or more practices or activities in place and either brush management or range seeding resource needs adequately addressed	Prescribed grazing plus 2 or more practices or activities in place and either brush management or range seeding resource needs adequately addressed	Agree to move to next Tier or to complete two additional Stewardship Practices or Activities from list below
C	none to slight for 2 attributes and slight to moderate for 1 attribute	Prescribed grazing plus 2 or more practices or activities in place and either brush management or range seeding resource needs adequately addressed	Prescribed grazing plus 3 or more practices or activities in place and either brush management or range seeding resource needs adequately addressed	Agree to complete two additional Stewardship Practices or Activities from list below
D	none to slight for 2 attributes and slight to moderate for 1 attribute	Prescribed grazing plus 2 or more practices or activities in place and either brush management or range seeding resource needs adequately addressed	Prescribed grazing plus 2 or more practices or activities in place and either brush management or range seeding resource needs adequately addressed	Agree to complete two additional Stewardship Practices or Activities from list below
E	none to slight for 2 attributes and slight to moderate for 1 attribute	Prescribed grazing plus 1 or more practices or activities in place and either brush management or range seeding resource needs adequately addressed	Prescribed grazing plus 1 or more practices or activities in place and either brush management or range seeding resource needs adequately addressed	Agree to complete two additional Stewardship Practices or Activities from list below
F	none to slight for 1 attribute and slight to moderate for 2 attributes	Prescribed grazing plus 2 or more practices or activities in place	Prescribed grazing plus 2 or more practices or activities in place	Agree to complete two additional Stewardship Practices or Activities from list below
G	slight to moderate for 2 attributes	Prescribed grazing plus 1 or more practices or activities in place	Prescribed grazing plus 1 or more practices or activities in place	Agree to complete two additional Stewardship Practices or Activities from list below
H	Must meet minimum program eligibility requirements as defined in 7CFR1469			Do not agree to do complete additional actions by the end of the third contract year

Range

Attachment 1 CSP Enrollment Categories – Criteria by Land Use and Category

Stewardship Practice and Activity List for Range

(Conservation practices from the Field Office Technical Guide that improve soil and/or water quality)

- Animal Trails and Walkways (575)
- Brush Management (314)
- Channel Bank Vegetation (322)
- Channel Stabilization (584)
- Critical Area Planting (342)
- Fence (for sensitive area protection only) (382)
- Grazing Land Mechanical Treatment (548)
- Heavy Use Area Protection (561)
- Pipeline (516)
- Pond (378)
- Prescribed Burning (338)
- Range Planting (550)
- Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390)
- Spring Development (574)
- Stream Crossing (578)
- Stream Habitat Improvement and Management (395)
- Streambank and Shoreline Protection (580)
- Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645)
- Water and Sediment Control Basin (638)
- Watering Facility (614)
- Water Well (642)
- Wetland Enhancement (659)
- Wetland Enhancement (659)
- Wetland Restoration (657)
- Wildlife Watering Facility (648)

(Activities that mitigate off-site resource damage or improve soil and/or water quality)

- Application of monitoring protocols
- Brush and weed management utilizing integrated techniques that include follow-up treatment
- Conduct an energy audit on the agricultural operation
- Create a mosaic or pattern to enhance wildlife habitat linkages and corridors through mechanical, chemical or burning means
- Management that provides for shallow water wildlife habitat improvement
- Management that provides for upland wildlife habitat improvement
- Management that provides for wetland wildlife habitat improvement
- Managing vegetative fuels to reduce wildfire hazards
- Participating in grassbanking
- Planting high diversity native grassland mixes
- Prescribed burn prescriptions designed to create a mosaic or pattern to enhance wildlife habitat linkages and corridors
- Use of decision support tools in development of grazing management plans, such as Grazing Lands Spatial Analysis Tool (GSAT), Nutritional Balance Analyzer (NUTBAL), Water Erosion Prediction Project (WEPP), etc.
- Vegetation manipulation to reduce sediment and other pollutants in surface runoff