

Subject: 6-8-10 eBlast from NRCS



June 8, 2010

TAKE A NEW LOOK AT THE CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

USDA has announced the release of new rules for NRCS' Conservation Stewardship Program, known as CSP. In addition, the deadline for submitting applications to local NRCS field offices has been extended to **June 25th**. For more details visit the NRCS national Web site at www.nrcs.usda.gov, or the updated NRCS Utah Web site at www.ut.nrcs.usda.gov.

Highlights to note:

- Increased opportunity for applicants, more attractive financial incentives and payment options, and a split payment structure.
- Higher payment limit for joint operations has increased to \$80,000 for annual payments and to \$400,000 for the term of the contract.
- New minimum payment of \$1,000 for socially disadvantaged, beginning and historically underserved producers.
- Land designated as "pastured cropland" with higher payments.
- Enhancement "bundles" that merit higher ranking scores.
- Grass and legumes are now part of resource-conserving crop rotations.

For all the details on changes to CSP, the final rule is available on-line at <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2010/pdf/2010-12699.pdf>

Periodic news reports from NRCS Utah



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