Table 1: CREP Watersheds and Page Numbers for Required Land Eligibility Worksheets

CREP Watershed	Pg. No.
Lower Mississippi in Southeastern MN	2
Missouri / Des Moines in Southwestern MN	5
Red River in Northwestern MN	7

Table 2: CREP Practice Codes, Titles and Page Numbers for Practice Suitability Worksheets

CP#	Practice Title	Pg. No.
2	Establishment of Permanent Native Grasses	10
3A	Hardwood Tree Planting	10
4D	Permanent Wildlife Habitat	10
12	Wildlife Food Plot	11
15A CREP	Establishment of Permanent Vegetative Cover (Contour Grass Strips)	11
21	Filter Strips	12
22	Riparian Buffer	15
23	Wetland Restoration within 100 year floodplain	19
23A	Wetland Restoration outside 100 year floodplain	21
34	Flood Control System	23

Table 3: Practices Available for Eligible CREP Watersheds

CP#	Eligible Watershed		
	Lower Mississippi	Missouri / Des Moines River	Red River
2	X	X	X
3A	X		
4D	X	X	
12	X	X	X
15A	X		
21	X	X	X
22	X	X	X
23	X	X	X
23A	X	X	X
34			X

Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program

Documentation of Land Eligibility for the Lower Mississippi Watershed

Required for all offers in the Lower Mississippi Waterhsed. Submit a copy to FSA.

APPLICANT: COUNTY:
FSA TRACT NO.: FSA FIELD NO.:

Determine which one criteria (I though VI) fits the offer and check the practice to be applied.

I. Excessively Eroded Cropland

1. FSA will document excessively erodible cropland in a field or redefined field with an EI of 15 or greater using General Sign-Up Offer Processing (GSOP). Use the 3 most predominant soils when calculating the weighted average EI. **Note: Do not add the EIs of water or wind together**.
2. Attach a printout of the GSOP result showing the average EI.
3. Attach the GIS map/soil map of the CLU of the eligible areas.
4. Landowner, with the assistance of technical agencies, chooses one of the practices below: (Refer to page 10 for more information on these practices.)

☐ CP2 Establishment of Permanent Native Grasses
☐ CP3A Hardwood Tree Planting
☐ CP4D Permanent Wildlife Habitat

II. Erodible Cropland (Contour Buffer Strips)

1. FSA will document erodible cropland in a field or redefined field with an EI of 8 or greater using General Sign-Up Offer Processing (GSOP). Use the 3 most predominant soils when calculating the weighted average EI. **Note: This determination is different than the NRCS HEL determination process.**
2. Attach a printout of the GSOP result showing the average EI.
3. Attach a GIS map/soil map from the CLU of the eligible area.
4. Attach a GIS map of the contour strips and buffer areas. Within eligible fields the area enrolled is restricted to contour buffer strips between 15 and 60 ft in width and field borders up to 60 ft in width.

☐ CP15A CREP Contour Grass Strips (Refer to page 11 for more information on this practice.)

III. Riparian Areas

1. LOCATION CRITERIA (Indicate the type of area being protected)

☐ A. Perennial Stream
☐ B. Seasonal Stream (contains water for only part of the year but more than just during and/or after rainfall or snowmelt). Stream identified by:
  ☐ USGS map(s) and one of the following:
    ☐ County soil survey maps verified by an on-site visit
    ☐ On-site visit and documented approval of the ARC if stream is unmapped
☐ C. Wetland determined to be Cowardin classification of Double click here for list
(Refer to Table 4 Page 25 for a copy of the list)
  ☐ On-site visit and documented approval of the ARC if wetland is unclassified
☐ D. Permanent water body containing water throughout the year in all years.

2. SELECT PRACTICE - Landowner, with the assistance of technical agencies, chooses one of the practices below and **attach a practice documentation worksheet**:
   ☐ CP21 Filter Strip (Refer to page 12 for required documentation worksheet)
   ☐ CP22 Riparian Buffer (Refer to page 15 for required documentation worksheet)

IV. Wetland Restoration

1. Restorable wetland acres must include altered or manipulated wetlands or prior converted cropland areas that can have their hydrologic component restored.
2. The area offered must be entirely (Check one):
   ☐ within the 100-year floodplain for CP23
   ☐ outside the 100-year floodplain for CP23A
3. Attach the required practice documentation worksheet, found on page 19 for CP23 or page 21 for CP23A, and include a map identifying each eligible site.

V. Ground Water Protection

Sinkholes and Karst Areas:

1. Use a County Soil Survey or in field observation to determine that sinkholes and karst areas exist. Attach a copy of the soil survey or a map showing the sinkholes or karst areas.
2. The buffer can be up to a maximum average width of 200 ft. from the edge of the sinkhole or karst area.
3. Landowner, with the assistance of technical agencies, chooses one of the practices below:
   ☐ CP2 Establishment of Permanent Native Grasses (Refer to page 10 for more information on this practice.)
   ☐ CP3A Hardwood Tree Planting (Refer to pg 10 for more information on this practice.)
   ☐ CP4D Permanent Wildlife Habitat (Refer to pg 10 for more information on this practice.)
   ☐ CP21 Filter Strip (Refer to page 12 for required practice documentation worksheet)
   ☐ CP22 Riparian Buffer (Refer to page 15 for required practice documentation worksheet)

Wellhead Protection Areas

1. Eligible land must be entirely within a MN Dept. of Health (MDH) designated 10-year wellhead protection area. Attach map of area offered and with the 10-year wellhead protection area outlined.
2. Landowner, with the assistance of technical agencies, chooses one of the practices below, check one: (Refer to page 10 for more information on these practices.)
   ☐ CP2 Establishment of Permanent Native Grasses
   ☐ CP3A Hardwood Tree Planting
   ☐ CP4D Permanent Wildlife Habitat

Decorah Shale Outcrops

1. In the field determination is required based on county soil survey or County Geological Atlas. Attach a map showing the location and extent of the Decorah Shale outcrops.
2. Adjacent areas 50 feet immediately upslope and down slope are eligible for enrollment.
3. Whole fields can be enrolled if more than 75% of the field is eligible.

Continued next page

4. Landowner, with the assistance of technical agencies, chooses one of the practices below, check one: (Refer to page 10 for more information on these practices.)
   - ☐ CP2 Establishment of Permanent Native Grasses
   - ☐ CP3A Hardwood Tree Planting
   - ☐ CP4D Permanent Wildlife Habitat

VI. Flood Damage Reduction areas

1. Select practice
   - ☐ CP21, Filter Strip (Refer to page 12 for required practice documentation worksheet)
   - ☐ CP22, Riparian Buffer Strip (Refer to page 15 for required practice documentation worksheet)
   - ☐ CP23, Wetland Restoration (Refer to page 19 for required practice documentation worksheet)
   - ☐ CP23A Wetland Restoration (Refer to page 21 for required practice documentation worksheet)

Offered areas for practices CP-21 and CP-22 must have 51% of the soils mapped as occasionally and frequently flooded.

2. The acreage offered must meet one of the following:
   A. Eligible for EWP or ECP in the last 20 years, indicate year and program.
   B. Identified for possible flood mitigation or water retention areas through long range planning including comprehensive water plans, watershed plans or county and city plans. Indicate the type of flood mitigation and the plan.
3. And must contain one or more of the following, (check all that apply):
   A. ☐ Agricultural dikes in flood plains
   B. ☐ Severe scour erosion
   C. ☐ Channel realignment problems
   D. ☐ Areas that will provide direct offsite flood damage benefits to public infrastructure
4. All sites must be approved by the FSA CoC and SWCD as providing long term flood reduction benefits.

Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program

Documentation of Land Eligibility for the Missouri/Des Moines River Watersheds

Required for all offers in the Missouri/Des Moines River Watersheds. Submit a copy to FSA.

APPLICANT: COUNTY:
FSA TRACT NO.: FSA FIELD NO.:

Determine which one criteria (I though IV) fits the offer and check the practice to be applied.

I. Riparian Areas

1. LOCATION CRITERIA (Indicate the type of area being protected)
   - ☐ A. Perennial Stream
   - ☐ B. Seasonal Stream (contains water for only part of the year but more than just during and/or after rainfall or snowmelt). Stream identified by:
     - ☐ USGS map(s) and one of the following:
       - ☐ County soil survey maps verified by an on-site visit
       - ☐ On-site visit and documented approval of the ARC if stream is unmapped
   - ☐ C. Wetland determined to be Cowardin classification of Double click here for list
     (Refer to Table 4 Page 25 for a copy of the list)
     - ☐ On-site visit and documented approval of the ARC if wetland is unclassified
   - ☐ D. Permanent water body containing water throughout the year in all years.

2. SELECT PRACTICE - Landowner, with the assistance of technical agencies, chooses one of the practices below and **attach a practice documentation worksheet**:
   - ☐ CP21 Filter Strip (Refer to page 12 for required documentation worksheet)
   - ☐ CP22 Riparian Buffer (Refer to page 15 for required documentation worksheet)

II. Wetland Restoration

1. Restorable wetland acres must include altered or manipulated wetlands or prior converted cropland areas that can have their hydrologic component restored.
2. The area offered must be entirely (Check one):
   - ☐ within the 100-year floodplain for CP23
   - ☐ outside the 100-year floodplain for CP23A
3. Attach the required practice documentation worksheet, found on page 19 for CP23 or page 21 for CP23A, and include a map identifying each eligible site.

III. Ground Water Protection

Wellhead Protection Areas

1. Eligible land must be entirely within a MN Dept. of Health (MDH) designated 10-year wellhead protection area. Attach map of area offered and with the 10-year wellhead protection area outlined.
2. Landowner, with the assistance of technical agencies, chooses one of the practices below, check one: (Refer to page 10 for more information on these practices.)
   - ☐ CP2 Establishment of Permanent Native Grasses
   - ☐ CP4D Permanent Wildlife Habitat

IV. Flood Damage Reduction areas

1. Select practice
   ☐ CP21, Filter Strip (Refer to page 12 for required practice documentation worksheet)
   ☐ CP22, Riparian Buffer Strip (Refer to page 15 for required practice documentation worksheet)
   ☐ CP23, Wetland Restoration (Refer to page 19 for required practice documentation worksheet)
   ☐ CP23A Wetland Restoration (Refer to page 21 for required practice documentation worksheet)

Offered areas for practices CP-21 and CP-22 must have 51% of the soils mapped as occasionally and frequently flooded.

1. The acreage offered must meet one of the following:
   a. Eligible for EWP or ECP in the last 20 years, indicate year and program.
   b. Identified for possible flood mitigation or water retention areas through long range planning including comprehensive water plans, watershed plans or county and city plans. Indicate the type of flood mitigation and the plan.
2. And must contain one or more of the following, (check all that apply):
   a. ☐ Agricultural dikes in flood plains
   b. ☐ Severe scour erosion
   c. ☐ Channel realignment problems
   d. ☐ Areas that will provide direct offsite flood damage benefits to public infrastructure
3. All sites must be approved by the FSA CoC and SWCD as providing long term flood reduction benefits.

Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program

Documentation of Land Eligibility for the Red River Watershed

Required for all offers in the Red River Watershed. Submit a copy to FSA.

APPLICANT: COUNTY:
FSA TRACT NO.: FSA FIELD NO.:

Determine which one criteria (I though III) fits the offer and check the practice to be applied.

I. Riparian Areas

1. LOCATION CRITERIA (Indicate the type of area being protected)
   - ☐ A. Perennial Stream
   - ☐ B. Seasonal Stream (contains water for only part of the year but more than just during and/or after rainfall or snowmelt). Stream identified by:
     - ☐ USGS map(s) and one of the following:
       - ☐ County soil survey maps verified by an on-site visit
       - ☐ On-site visit and documented approval of the ARC if stream is unmapped
   - ☐ C. Wetland determined to be Cowardin classification of Double click here for list
     (Refer to Table 4 Page 25 for a copy of the list)
     - ☐ On-site visit and documented approval of the ARC if wetland is unclassified
   - ☐ D. Permanent water body containing water throughout the year in all years.
   - ☐ E. Scour Area that does not meet any other criteria listed above.
2. SELECT PRACTICE - Landowner, with the assistance of technical agencies, chooses one of the practices below and **attach a practice documentation worksheet**:
   - ☐ CP21 Filter Strip (Refer to page 12 for required documentation worksheet)
   - ☐ CP22 Riparian Buffer (Refer to page 15 for required documentation worksheet)
   - ☐ CP-2 Establishment of Permanent Native Grasses - Scour areas resulting from a flood event that do not meet any of the location criteria for Filter Strip CP21 or Riparian Buffer CP22 may be eligible to be enrolled using practice CP2. They are limited to the same CREP width requirements as practice CP21. (Refer to page 12 for more information on this practice.)

II. Wetland Restoration

1. Restorable wetland acres must include altered or manipulated wetlands or prior converted cropland areas that can have their hydrologic component restored.
2. The area offered must be entirely (Check one):
   - ☐ within the 100-year floodplain for CP23
   - ☐ outside the 100-year floodplain for CP23A
3. Attach the required practice documentation worksheet, found on page 19 for CP23 or page 21 for CP23A, and include a map identifying each eligible site.

III. Flood Damage Reduction areas

1. Select practice

- ☐ CP21, Filter Strip (Refer to page 12 for required practice documentation worksheet)
- ☐ CP22, Riparian Buffer Strip (Refer to page 15 for required practice documentation worksheet)
- ☐ CP23, Wetland Restoration (Refer to page 19 for required practice documentation worksheet)
- ☐ CP23A Wetland Restoration (Refer to page 21 for required practice documentation worksheet)
- ☐ CP34 Flood System (see notes # 6, 7 on next page) (Refer to page 23 for more information)

Offered areas for practices CP-21 and CP-22 must have 51% of the soils mapped as occasionally and frequently flooded.

2. The acreage offered must meet one of the following:
    a. Eligible for EWP or ECP in the last 20 years, indicate year and program.
    b. Identified for possible flood mitigation or water retention areas through long range planning including comprehensive water plans, watershed plans or county and city plans. Indicate the type of flood mitigation and the plan.
3. And must contain one or more of the following, (check all that apply):
    a. ☐ Agricultural dikes in flood plains
    b. ☐ Severe scour erosion
    c. ☐ Channel realignment problems
    d. ☐ Areas that will provide direct offsite flood damage benefits to public infrastructure
4. All sites must be approved by the FSA CoC and SWCD as providing long term flood reduction benefits.
5. All sites involving practice CP-34 must be reviewed and approved as meeting flood damage reduction by either the local Watershed District or Watershed Organization.
6. All sites with practice CP-34 have a special status and will probably require additional environmental assessment, and a cultural resources review is required prior to approval.
7. All sites with CP-34 practices must have a local sponsor that will provide financial incentives for all construction activities.

CREP Practice Implementation

CREP is a unique program with its own set of rules and guidelines. In general, prior to determining if a practice is eligible for CREP the planner must first determine if the land lies within an eligible CREP watershed location. Once in an eligible location the CREP practice is selected. This selection must take into account an environmental assessment of the site, which includes completion of form NRCS-CPA-052.

Part of the CREP approval process was development of a programmatic environmental assessment. In some cases the environmental requirements for CREP go beyond those for CRP and CCRP. In our normal environmental assessment process we generally document that no adverse impact will occur as a result of implementing each conservation practice. In addition to these requirements CREP also is emphasizing and promoting the restoration of threatened, endangered and declining habitats.

To help promote the restoration of declining habitats and fulfill the requirements of the CREP environmental assessment planners should refer to the native vegetation maps (Marshner) and their knowledge of the landscape when providing assistance on practice selection. All applicants will be made aware of their site's original native vegetative type. Applicants will retain the ability to choose any eligible practice except;

1. All practices will only recommend planting native grass or tree species.
2. All CREP wetland restorations (CP-23 and CP-23A) must have the associated buffer area restored to the native vegetation as identified on the Marshner maps.
3. In the Tall Grass Prairie Ecosystem Zone, within the Southwest and Northwest CREP areas, **tree planting practices will not be implemented** on sites determined to be;
    - Within ¼ mile of native prairie/native grass plantings greater then 80 acres in size
    - Within 1 mile of known Greater Prairie Chicken lecs
    - Within 1 mile of Sharp-tailed Grouse lecs
4. In the Tall Grass Prairie Ecosystem Zone, within the Southwest and Northwest CREP areas, first identify the original native vegetation (prairie of forest cover) using the Marshner maps. Strongly encourage the landowner to re-establish the original native vegetation. When a landowner is adamant about planting trees on what was a prairie site only modified tree planting practice designs will be implemented on sites determined to be;
    - Greater then ¼ mile of native prairie/native grass plantings greater then 80 acres in size
    - Greater then 1 mile of known Greater Prairie Chicken lecs
    - Greater then 1 mile of Sharp-tailed Grouse lecs

These modified planting designs will be limited to woody species with less then a 20-30 foot expected mature height, see Appendix B for a list of acceptable woody species by CREP area.

CREP Practices

CP2 Establishment of Permanent Native Grass

This practice is available in all watersheds.
The purpose of this practice is to establish native grass species on eligible cropland. Use NRCS Conservation Practice Standard Upland Wildlife Habitat Management, Code 645 to install the practice using a mixed stand with a minimum of 5 native species consisting of at least 3 grasses and 1 forb.

In the Red River watershed only, this practice can be used on land capable of being cropped that is immediately adjacent to eroded or scoured channels that do not meet the definition of perennial or intermittent streams. The width is limited to the same design used in a CREP CP-21.

Practice suitability documentation worksheet is not needed.

CP3A Hardwood Tree Planting

This practice is available for the Lower Mississippi Watershed.
The purpose of this practice is to establish a native stand of predominantly hardwood trees in a timber planting that will enhance environmental benefits. Use NRCS Conservation Practice Standard Tree/Shrub Establishment, Code 612 to establish this practice with the qualification that only native species are eligible to be established.

Practice suitability documentation worksheet is not needed.

CP4D Permanent Wildlife Habitat

This practice is available for the Lower Mississippi and Missouri/Des Moines River Watersheds.
The purpose of this practice is to establish a permanent wildlife habitat cover to enhance environmental benefits for the wildlife habitat of the designated or surrounding areas. Apply this practice to eligible cropland that is suitably located and adapted to the establishment of permanent wildlife habitat. This practice must also include both native woody and grass vegetation.

Use NRCS Conservation Practice Standard Upland Wildlife Habitat Management, Code 645 to establish the native grass and woody components. The native grass component must consist of a mixed stand with a minimum of 5 native species consisting of at least 3 grasses and 1 forb.

Practice suitability documentation worksheet is not needed.

CP12 Wildlife Food Plot

This practice is available in all watersheds as a component of all CP-2 (except Red River Watershed), CP-4D, CP-23 and CP-23A practices and certain CP-21 and CP-22 practices.
The purpose of this practice is to establish annual or perennial wildlife food plots that will enhance wildlife and wildlife habitat. Cost share is not authorized for this practice and it may only be used as a component in an otherwise eligible CREP practice.

Use NRCS Conservation Practice Standard Upland Wildlife Habitat Management, Code 645 to establish this practice. The practice must establish suitable plant species for food plots. Determine food plot location and the total acres to be devoted to food plots. Individual food plots shall not exceed 5 acres in size. Total food plot acreage shall not exceed the lesser of 10% of the contract acreage or 5.0 acres.

Food plots must be separated by a sufficient distance to maximize wildlife benefits and accessibility. Food plots may be placed in one location throughout the life of the CRP-1 or may be relocated annually. If relocated, the previous food plot must be seeded to an approved permanent vegetative cover at the participant's expense.

When this component will be established on practices CP-21 and CP-22 it must be located so it will not interfere with the water quality function of the practice. This means it must be set-back from the receiving water a distance at least equal to the practice design minimum width for water quality. If this can not be achieved then a food plot is not an eligible component on these practices. In the Red River watershed the food plot must not interfere with the flood damage reduction function of the practice.

Practice suitability documentation worksheet is not needed.

CP15A Establishment of Permanent Vegetative Cover (Contour Grass Strips)

This practice is available for the Lower Mississippi Watershed only.
The purpose of this practice is to establish strips of permanent native vegetative cover generally following the contour on eligible cropland alternated with wider cultivated strips farmed on the contour that will reduce erosion to "T" and control runoff. NRCS Practice Standard Contour Buffer Strips, Code 332 will be used to design this practice with the qualification that only native species are eligible to be established. The native grass component must consist of a mixed stand with a minimum of 5 native species consisting of at least 3 grasses and 1 forb

The buffer strips must be established for erosion control and **must** be alternated with wider cultivated strips of cropland (not enrolled in CREP) for eligibility. Contour buffer strips are not eligible to be installed on terraces within this practice. The buffer strips must be established for soil erosion and runoff control purposes.

The enrolled contour buffer strips are restricted between 15 and 60 feet wide while the field borders can be up to 60 feet wide. Field borders may be included in the offered acres if NRCS documents the need in writing that the field border is necessary to drain water and insure the functionality of the contour buffer system.

Practice suitability documentation worksheet is not needed.

CP21 Filter Strips

This practice is available for all watersheds.
The purpose of this practice is to remove nutrients, sediment, organic matter, pesticides, and other pollutants from surface runoff and subsurface flow by deposition, absorption, plant uptake, denitrification, and other processes, and thereby reduce pollution and protect surface water and subsurface water quality while enhancing the ecosystems of the water body.

The vegetation to be established must consist of at least 5 native species of which at least 3 must be native grasses and one native forb. Use the NRCS Practice Standard Filter Strip, Code 393 to design this practice with the qualification that only native species are eligible to be established.

Filter Strip Width

The minimum design filter strip width is that needed to achieve the water quality function of this practice.

On all sites the filter strip may be extended beyond the normal CREP maximum limitation of 120 feet. All sites are authorized to extend the width, up to a maximum of 350 feet, without additional site specific technical need to provide water quality improvement, wildlife habitat, and reduce the impacts of flooding.

An extension up to a total width of 600 feet may be allowed if the soil types on at least 51% of the land within the extension areas are mapped as frequently or occasionally flooded soils.

Additional land may be enrolled (beyond 600 feet) as determined by FSA using the "infeasible to farm" provisions.

The filter strip begins at the top of the stream bank. Some land adjacent to the stream may not meet the eligibility criteria and will not be enrolled in the CCRP; however, this ineligible land shall be included:

- In the area used as a filter strip.
- In the conservation plan
- When determining the allowable width of the filter strip.

Additional Guidance for Watering Facilities
This practice allows for cost sharing the establishment of alternative watering facilities and fencing only when livestock are present on the site and the enrollment into CREP removes the source of livestock water. Fences will be established according to NRCS Conservation Practice Standard Fencing Code 382. There are 2 options for alternative water sources; 1. water facilities such as troughs and tanks, and 2. water developments for example dug, bored or drilled wells or springs or ponds. The choice of alternative water source will be the **lowest cost option** suitable for the situation. Alternative water sources will be designed according to the NRCS Conservation Practice Standard Watering Facilities Code 614. All landowners receiving cost share assistance on watering facilities will be encouraged to develop a separate prescribed grazing plan on their grazeable non-CRP acres.
Filter Strip sites determined to provide flood damage reduction benefits may also be enrolled under the flood damage reduction location eligibility. When enrolled for this purpose the land must be placed under a permanent easement.

Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program

Documentation of Eligibility and Suitability for Filter Strip **CP21**

Version 4/05

APPLICANT: COUNTY:
FSA TRACT NO.: FSA FIELD NO.:

Site Suitability and practice width (from site visit):

Explain water quality problem that qualifies the site:

☐ **Suitable Site Conditions**

☐ > 50% of field runoff currently occurs as uniform sheet flow (not as concentrated flow) OR
☐ > 50% of field runoff will occur as uniform sheet flow after installation of a (the) flow spreading practice(s) listed below. Indicate practice(s) to be used to convert concentrated flow areas to sheet flow:

☐ shaping and grading ☐ flow diversion ☐ level spreaders
☐ vegetative barriers ☐ contour buffers ☐ contour furrows ☐ *other

Explain "other" (required if checked)

☐ **Unsuitable Site Conditions**

Check appropriate reasons below

☐ < 50% of field runoff occurs as uniform sheet flow and no measures are planned to induce sheet flow.
☐ > 50% of field runoff bypasses proposed filter strip because of surface intakes and associated tile.
☐ inability to support acceptable vegetation.
☐ upland sheet and rill soil losses >10 tons/ac./yr.
☐ upland sheet and rill soil losses > 3 tons/ac./yr. and contributing watershed will be ≥ 60 times the area of the filter strip.
☐ contributing watershed slope ≥ 10%
☐ channel bank not stable

STOP!!!! Unsuitable site

Extent of eligible area: (must complete A, B and C separately)

A. Minimum width needed for water quality filtering is: Width ft.
Note: NTE 120 ft.

B. Width can be extended up to a maximum of 350 ft. Extended Width Selected: ft.
Check one (required)
Note: NTE 230 ft.

☐ water quality
☐ wildlife
☐ reduce flooding impacts

C. Width can be further extended if the soil mapped types are at least 51% occasionally flooded or frequently flooded within the extension area. Show location and extent of "frequently and occasionally flooded" soils on photo, map or sketch. Extended Width Selected: ft.
Note: NTE 250 ft.

Continued Next Page

D. TOTAL WIDTH

Total width ___ ft. (NTE 600 ft. total width)

E. NON PAYMENT AREAS

1. Are areas present that may not be eligible for payment? YES (double click to change)
2. Check appropriate reason(s) below if yes.
   - ☐ Non-cropland acres between cropland acres and area to be protected provide effective filtering
   - ☐ Part or all of offered cropland acres currently provide effective filtering.
3. Effective filtering vegetation in non-cropland and cropland acres must: be included in the area used as a filter strip and be in the conservation plan. Acreage of this vegetation may be deducted by FSA from overall filter strip acreage to determine acreage eligible for CRP payments.
   - For CRP the starting point for measuring minimum riparian widths begins immediately adjacent to the feature to be protected.
   - Land with a restrictive easement or covered by a state or local law that requires the establishment of vegetation may not be eligible for CRP.

CP22 Riparian Buffer

This practice is available for all Watersheds.

The purposes of this practice are to: remove nutrients, sediment, organic matter, pesticides, and other pollutants from surface runoff and subsurface flow by deposition, absorption, plant uptake, denitrification, and other processes, and thereby reduce pollution and protect surface water and subsurface water quality while enhancing the ecosystems of the water body; create shade to lower water temperature to improve habitat for aquatic organisms; provide a source of detritus and large woody debris for aquatic organisms and habitat for wildlife.

Use the NRCS Practice Standard Riparian Forest Buffer, Code 391 to design this practice with the qualifications that only native species will be planted.

Buffer Width

The minimum practice width will be that needed to achieve the desired purpose for this practice.

On all sites the riparian buffer may be extended beyond the normal CREP maximum limitation of 180 feet. All sites are authorized to extend the width, up to a maximum of 350 feet, without additional site specific technical need to provide water quality improvement, wildlife habitat, and reduce the impacts of flooding.

An extension up to a total width of 600 feet may be allowed if the soil types on at least 51% of the land within the extension areas are mapped as frequently or occasionally flooded soils.

Additional land may be enrolled (beyond 600 feet) as determined by FSA using the "infeasible to farm" provisions.

The riparian buffer begins at the top of the stream bank. Some land adjacent to the stream may not meet the eligibility criteria and will not be enrolled in the CCRP; however, this ineligible land shall be included:

- In the area used as a riparian buffer
- In the conservation plan
- When determining the allowable width of the riparian buffer

Additional Guidance for Watering Facilities

This practice allows for cost sharing the establishment of alternative watering facilities and fencing only when livestock are present on the site and the enrollment into CREP removes the source of livestock water. Fences will be established according to NRCS Conservation Practice Standard Fencing Code 382. There are 2 options for alternative water sources; 1. water facilities such as troughs and tanks, and 2. water developments for example dug, bored or drilled wells or springs or ponds. The choice of alternative water source will be the **lowest cost option** suitable for the situation. Alternative water sources will be designed according to the NRCS Conservation Practice Standard Watering Facilities Code 614. All landowners receiving cost share assistance on watering facilities will be encouraged to develop a separate prescribed grazing plan on their grazeable non-CRP acres.

Natural regeneration of the riparian buffer is acceptable if MN/DNR documents that:

- An adequate seed source for trees and shrubs is present.

- Under normal conditions, the appropriate cover will be established within 2 years of CRP-1 effective date.
- Erosion and runoff will be controlled during the establishment period.
- Weeds, noxious plants, and other unapproved plant species will be controlled during the establishment period.
- **No cost share** is paid for natural regeneration and the producer will plant approved cover, without cost share, if the riparian buffer is not established within 2 years of CRP-1 effective date.

Design Guidance for Riparian Buffer Plantings

In the Tall Grass Prairie Ecosystem Zone, within the Southwest and Northwest CREP areas, tree planting practices will not be implemented on sites determined to be;

- Within ¼ mile of native prairie/native grass plantings greater then 80 acres in size
- Within 1 mile of known Greater Prairie Chicken lecs
- Within 1 mile of Sharp-tailed Grouse lecs

In the Tall Grass Prairie Ecosystem Zone, within the Southwest and Northwest CREP areas, first identify the original native vegetation (prairie of forest cover) using the Marshner maps. Strongly encourage the landowner to re-establish the original native vegetation. When a landowner is adamant about planting trees on what was a prairie site only modified tree planting practice designs will be implemented on sites determined to be;

- Greater then ¼ mile of native prairie/native grass plantings greater then 80 acres in size
- Greater then 1 mile of known Greater Prairie Chicken lecs
- Greater then 1 mile of Sharp-tailed Grouse lecs

These modified planting designs will be limited to woody species with less then a 20-30 foot expected mature height, see Appendix B for a list of acceptable woody species by CREP area.

Riparian Buffer sites determined to provide flood damage reduction benefits may also be enrolled under the flood damage reduction location eligibility. When enrolled for this purpose the land must be placed under a permanent easement.

Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program

Documentation of Eligibility and Suitability for Riparian Buffer — **CP22** Version 4/05

APPLICANT: _____ COUNTY: _____
FSA TRACT NO.: _____ FSA FIELD NO.: _____

Site Suitability (from site visit):

A. Document the water quality problem if this is the purpose of the practice:

_____

_____

B. When the practice purpose is water quality the site must be capable of providing this function. Indicate if additional practices need to be used to convert concentrated flow areas to sheet flow:

- ☐ shaping and grading
- ☐ flow diversion
- ☐ level spreaders
- ☐ vegetative barriers
- ☐ contour buffers
- ☐ contour furrows
- ☐ other
- ☐ site is not capable of providing a water quality function

C. When the site will be used for purposes other than water quality it must be determined to be capable of providing that function. Potential unsuitable site conditions include;

Check appropriate reasons below:

- ☐ inability to support acceptable vegetation.
- ☐ channel bank stability

STOP!!!! Unsuitable site

Extent of eligible area: (must complete A, B and C separately)

A. Minimum width needed for practice purpose is: Width _____ ft.
Note: NTE 180 ft.

B. Width can be extended up to a maximum of 350 ft. Extended Width Selected: _____ ft.
Note: NTE 170 ft.
Check one (required)

- ☐ water quality
- ☐ wildlife
- ☐ reduce flooding impacts

C. Width can be further extended if the soil mapped types are at least 51% occasionally flooded or frequently flooded within the extension area. Show location and extent of "frequently and occasionally flooded" soils on photo, map or sketch. Extended Width Selected: _____ ft.
Note: NTE 250 ft.

D. TOTAL WIDTH
Total width _____ ft. (NTE 600 ft. total width)

E. NON PAYMENT AREAS

a. Are areas present that may not be eligible for payment? YES
b. Check appropriate reason(s) below if yes.

- ☐ Non-cropland acres between cropland acres and area to be protected provide effective filtering
- ☐ Part or all of offered cropland acres currently provide effective filtering.

Continued Next Page

c. Effective filtering vegetation in non-cropland and cropland acres must: be included in the area used as a filter strip and be in the conservation plan. Acreage of this vegetation may be deducted by FSA from overall filter strip acreage to determine acreage eligible for CRP payments.
    - For CRP the starting point for measuring minimum riparian widths begins immediately adjacent to the feature to be protected.
    - Land with a restrictive easement or covered by a state or local law that requires the establishment of vegetation may not be eligible for CRP.

CREP Practice

CP23 Wetland Restoration, Inside the 100-year Floodplain

This practice is available in all Watersheds.

The purpose of the practice is to restore the functions and values of wetland ecosystems that are entirely **within** the 100-year floodplain. Eligible sites are limited to only those wetland areas that have had the wetland hydrology component removed through alteration by drainage and/or manipulation and where it is feasible and practical to restore the wetland. If any of the hydrologic components of the wetland cannot be restored through removing, blocking, manipulating, or otherwise rendering inoperable the wetland drainage system and/or the wetland alteration the wetland area is not eligible for enrollment. Cropping cessation and the subsequent establishment of vegetation on a wetland area in itself is not considered an eligible restoration option.

All restorable wetland areas must meet USDA wetland criteria. This means that it, 1) contains hydric soils, 2) meets wetland hydrology criteria (when restored), and 3) has or will have after restoration, hydrophytic vegetation. The goal of this practice is to restore the wetland ecosystem to the maximum extent possible and practical as agreed to by the CREP participant, Technical Service Provider (NRCS, SWCD, etc.), FSA County Committee and the Board of Water and Soil Resources. Initial wetland restoration feasibility assessments must be completed by a qualified individual and must consider avoiding impacts to adjacent properties, utilities, or other infrastructures unless approvals, permits or consents are attainable. This assessment must include an evaluation of the extent of the existing drainage system and its impact on the site's hydric soils. Floodplain restorations must be evaluated to insure that the flood storage area is not reduced or adversely impacted through the placement of fill, dikes, levees, or embankments.

The National Food Security Act Manual and 1987 Crops of Engineers Delineation Manual will be used in making a programmatic determination to determine the extent of eligible wetland areas. Eligible wetland areas include farmed wetland (FW), wetland (W), or prior converted wetland (PC). This acreage will typically include all hydric soil map units (SMU) directly affected by the drainage and/or manipulation of the wetland. In other words, when a hydric SMU is altered by drainage all acres in that SMU count as restorable wetland acres.

Wetlands will be restored using the NRCS Practice Standard Wetland Restoration, Code 657. Seeding mixes for the wetland zone can be found in the 657 standard. The CP23 practice may also enroll a buffer limited to a ratio of 2 acres of buffer to 1 acre of restored wetland. The entire practice area including the buffer area must be within the 100-year floodplain. Wetland areas including the buffer for sites developed under a grassland ecosystem will be seeded according to NRCS Practice Standard Upland Wildlife Habitat Management, Code 645 or Restoration of Declining Habitats Code 643, with a mixed stand of a minimum of 5 native species consisting of at least 3 grasses, and 1 forb. Wetland areas for sites under a woodland ecosystem will use NRCS Practice Standard Tree/Shrub Establishment, Code 612. The buffer areas for woodland ecosystems can use the 612, 645 or 643 standard. When restoring woodland ecosystems, plant hard mast species along with other species suitable for the wet nature of the site. As appropriate the NRCS Practice Standard Upland Wildlife Habitat Management, Code 645 as above may also be included in a woodland ecosystem planting.

Wetland sites determined to provide flood damage reduction benefits may also be enrolled under the flood damage reduction location eligibility.

Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program

Documentation of Eligibility and Suitability for Wetland Restoration **CP23**

Version 4/05

APPLICANT: COUNTY:
FSA TRACT NO.: FSA FIELD NO.:

Site Suitability (from site visit)

Will restoration of this site impact adjacent properties either by ponding water or disruption of a multi-farm drainage system?

☐ Yes
☐ No

Is the restoration of this project dependent on the simultaneous enrollment of another contract? If yes, list the tract(s) or contract(s)

_____

_____

_____

Document whether the native vegetation is herbaceous or woodland and list species.

☐ Herbaceous:
☐ Woody:

Document the extent of the existing drainage system and its impact on the hydric soils of the site. Documentation could include the soils map, drainage worksheet, engineering technician's on-site findings.

Acres of Hydric Soil Map Units with altered hydrology

Extent of eligible area:

Size of restored wetland acres

Buffer Area*: feet

***Will not exceed 2:1 buffer to wetland ratio**

Total Size of practice area acres

Does this site meet the flood damage reduction location criteria?

☐ Yes
☐ No

CP23A Wetland Restoration, Outside the 100-year Floodplain

This practice is available for the Lower Mississippi, Missouri/Des Moines and Red River Watersheds.

The purpose of the practice is to restore the functions and values of wetland ecosystem that are entirely **outside** the 100-year floodplain. Eligible sites are limited to only those wetland areas that have had the wetland hydrology component removed through alteration by drainage and/or manipulation and where it is feasible and practical to restore the wetland. If any of the hydrologic components of the wetland cannot be restored through removing, blocking, or otherwise rendering inoperable the wetland drainage system and/or the wetland alteration the wetland area is not eligible for enrollment. Cropping cessation and the subsequent establishment of vegetation on a wetland area in itself is not considered an eligible restoration option.

All restorable wetland areas must meet USDA wetland criteria. This means that it, 1) contains hydric soils, 2) meets wetland hydrology criteria (when restored), and 3) has or will have after restoration, hydrophytic vegetation. The goal of this practice is to restore the wetland ecosystem to the maximum extent possible and practical as agreed to by the CREP participant, Technical Service Provider (NRCS, SWCD, etc.), FSA County Committee and the Board of Water and Soil Resources. Initial wetland restoration feasibility assessments must be completed by a qualified individual and must consider avoiding impacts to adjacent properties, utilities, or other infrastructures unless approvals, permits or consents are attainable. This assessment must include an evaluation of the extent of the existing drainage system and its impact on the site's hydric soils.

The National Food Security Act Manual and 1987 Crops of Engineers Delineation Manual will be used in making a programmatic determination to determine the extent of eligible wetland areas. Eligible wetland areas include farmed wetland (FW), wetland (W), or prior converted wetland (PC). This acreage will typically include all hydric soil map units (SMU) directly affected by the drainage and/or manipulation of the wetland. In other words, when a hydric SMU is altered by drainage all acres in that SMU count as restorable wetland acres.

Wetlands will be restored using the NRCS Practice Standard Wetland Restoration, Code 657. Seeding mixes for the wetland zone can be found in the 657 standard. The CP23 practice may also enroll a buffer limited to a ratio of 2 acres of buffer to 1 acre of restored wetland. The entire practice area including the buffer area must be outside the 100-year floodplain. Wetland areas including the buffer for sites developed under a grassland ecosystem will be seeded according to NRCS Practice Standard Upland Wildlife Habitat Management, Code 645 or Restoration of Declining Habitats Code 643, with a mixed stand of a minimum of 5 native species consisting of at least 3 grasses, and 1 forb. Wetland areas for sites under a woodland ecosystem will use NRCS Practice Standard Tree/Shrub Establishment, Code 612. The buffer areas for woodland ecosystems can use the 612, 645 or 643 standard. When restoring woodland ecosystems, plant hard mast species along with other species suitable for the wet nature of the site. As appropriate the NRCS Practice Standard Upland Wildlife Habitat Management, Code 645 as above may also be included in a woodland ecosystem planting.

Wetland sites determined to provide flood damage reduction benefits may also be enrolled under the flood damage reduction location eligibility.

Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program

Documentation of Eligibility and Suitability for Wetland Restoration CP-23A

APPLICANT: COUNTY:
FSA TRACT NO.: FSA FIELD NO.:

Site Suitability (from site visit)

Will restoration of this site impact adjacent properties either by ponding water or disruption of a multi-farm drainage system?

☐ Yes
☐ No

Is the restoration of this project dependent on the simultaneous enrollment of another contract? If yes, list the tract(s) or contract(s)

_____

_____

_____

Document whether the native vegetation is herbaceous or woodland and list species.

☐ Herbaceous:
☐ Woody:

Document the extent of the existing drainage system and its impact on the hydric soils of the site. Documentation could include the soils map, drainage worksheet, engineering technician's on-site findings.

Acres of Hydric Soil Map Units with altered hydrology

Extent of eligible area:

Size of restored wetland acres

Buffer Area*: feet

***Will not exceed 2:1 buffer to wetland ratio**

Total Size of practice area acres

Does this site meet the flood damage reduction location criteria?

☐ Yes
☐ No

CP34 Flood Control System

This practice is available for the Red River Watershed only.
The purpose of this practice is to create a man-made structural barrier capable of temporarily impounding or managing run-off water for potential flood damage reduction and water quality benefits. The primary purposes for this practice are to reduce downstream flood damage and improve water quality.

Note: This is not a pond development, wetland restoration, sediment control basin or a grade stabilization control practice. The intent of this practice is to establish structures that will either temporarily impound upland water run-off or prevent channelized flood waters from leaving the flood plain area.

Apply this practice to eligible cropland where water can be impounded or regulated by dikes, levees, ditches or flood storage structures. Only *existing cropland* is eligible for this practice.

Note: Wetlands, farmed wetlands and prior converted cropland soils where wetland restorations could be established for the same purpose are not eligible.

Eligibility requirements:

- Topographic, geologic, hydrologic and soil conditions at the proposed site are satisfactory for constructing an impoundment, dike or levee.
- Eligible sites are not otherwise eligible to serve as a wetland restoration.
- The watershed is protected from erosion to the extent that the sediment yield will not significantly shorten the planned life of the impoundment.
- All sites must be in a location and determined to be capable of serving the intended purpose by a local unit of government responsible for mitigating potential flood damages. When evaluating a site, consider the water management within the entire floodplain including both sides of perennial streams.
- All sites must be protected by an adequate buffer to protect the flood reduction structure.
- The cover specified in the conservation plan shall have the ability to filter sediment and pollutants from runoff water before it reaches the inundated portion of the structure.
- Eligible sites must have all necessary environmental permits and safety requirements secured by the applicant prior to construction.
- All structural work will require and additional environmental assessment completed prior to contract approval.

MN NRCS Conservation Practice Standards Dam, Code 402 or Dike, Code 356 or Diversion, Code 362 will be used to design the structure for water controls. Approved cover will be established on all exposed portions (embankments, spillway and borrow areas) of the structure consistent with the soil type and intended purpose. Use MN NRCS Conservation Practice Standard Critical Area Planting Code 342 for these areas.

CREP will not provide cost share assistance to implement the structural components of this practice and NRCS will not be responsible to design the structural components of this practice.

On the required buffer portion of the site a mixed stand consisting of a minimum of 5 native species of which at least 3 native grasses and at least 1 forb species according to practice Upland Wildlife Habitat

Management, Code 645 or Restoration of Declining Habitats, Code 543 will be used. The temporary water storage area will be seeded according to practice Wetland Restoration, Code 657.

For temporary cover the following seedings are authorized:
Where ground conditions are normal and permanent seeding cannot be carried out for reasons other than atrazine* residue seed one of the following:

Plant Material	Rate #/ac.
Winter Wheat	120
Winter Rye	90
Oats	68
Annual Ryegrass	24

*For sites with atrazine carryover seed Sudangrass at 25 #/ac.

Table 4: Wetland Classifications for CREP Eligibility for Riparian Areas for CP21 and CP22 Practices

	HERBACEOUS	SCRUB-SHRUB	FORESTED
SEASONALLY FLOODED	PEMC	PSS(1-5)C	PFO(1,2,4,5)C
SEMI-PERMANENTLY FLOODED	PEMF	PSS(1-5)F	PFO(1,2,4,5)F
INTERMITTENTLY EXPOSED	PEMG	PSS(1-5)G	NA
PERMANENTLY FLOODED	PEMH	NA	NA

Note: For more information about these wetland classifications refer to the following website: http://wetlands.fws.gov/mapcodes.htm.

Table 5: List of Native Trees for CREP II Watersheds

Trees and Shrubs for SE Minnesota: Any tree species native to SE Minnesota may be planted. Use the list of trees in the NRCS Conservation Practice Standard Riparian Forest Buffer, Code 391 as a guide for choosing trees.

5A Trees and Shrubs for NW and SW Minnesota: Sites adjacent to existing woodlands, shelterbelts, windbreaks, etc. and outside of the ¼ mile critical distance to native prairie/native grass plantings and outside of 1 mile for known Greater Prairie Chicken or Sharp-tailed Grouse leks or other sensitive grassland species. There are no restrictions in areas where forests are historically located. Match tree and shrub species to soils and site suitability.

Common Name	Scientific Name	NW MN	SW MN
American hazel	Corylus americana	X	
American wild plum	Prunus americana	X	
Balsam poplar	Populus balsamifera	X	
Basswood	Tilia americana	X	X
Beaked hazel	Corylus cornuta	X	
Bigtooth aspen	Populus grandidentata	X	
Black ash	Fraxinus nigra	X	
Black cherry	Prunus serotina	X	
Black maple	Acer nigrum		X
Black spruce	Picea mariana	X	
Black walnut	Juglans nigra		X
Bur oak	Quercus macrocarpa	X	X
Common chokecherry	Prunus virginiana	X	X
Downy serviceberry	Amelanchier arborea		X
Eastern cottonwood	Populus deltoids	X	X
Gray dogwood	Cornus racemosa	X	
Hackberry	Celtis occidentalis	X	X
Hawthorn sp.	Crataegus spp.	X	X
Highbush cranberry	Viburnum trilobum	X	X
Ironwood	Ostyra virginiana	X	X
Jack pine	Pinus banksiana	X	
Nannyberry viburnum	Viburnum lentago	X	
Northern pin oak	Quercus ellipsoidalis	X	
Pagoda dogwood	Cornus alternifolia	X	
Paper birch	Betula papyifera	X	
Pin cherry	Prunus pensylvanica	X	X
Red osier dogwood	Cornus sericea	X	X
Silverberry	Elaeagnus commutate	X	X
Smooth sumac	Rhus glabra	X	X
Speckled alder	Alnus rugosa	X	
Sugar maple	Acer saccharum	X	X
Trembling aspen	Populus tremuloides	X	
White Spruce	Picea glauca	X	
Willow sp.	Salix spp.	X	X

5B Trees and Shrubs for NW and SW Minnesota: Sites greater than ¼ mile from prairies/native grass plantings (plantings greater than 80 acres), Prairie Chicken (1 mile for known leks) or Sharp-tailed Grouse leks but not adjacent to existing woodlands, shelterbelts, windbreaks, etc. Match tree and shrub species to soils and site suitability.

Common Name	Scientific Name	NW MN	SW MN
American hazel	Corylus americana	X	
American wild plum	Prunus americana	X	
Beaked hazel	Corylus cornuta	X	
Black cherry	Prunus serotina	X	
Bur oak	Quercus macrocarpa	X	X
Common chokecherry	Prunus virginiana	X	X
Downy serviceberry	Amelanchier arborea		X
Elderberry	Sambucus canadensis		X
Gray dogwood	Cornus racemosa	X	
Hawthorn sp.	Crataegus spp.	X	X
Highbush cranberry	Viburnum trilobum	X	X
Ironwood	Ostyra virginiana	X	X
Nannyberry viburnum	Viburnum lentago	X	
Pagoda dogwood	Cornus alternifolia	X	
Paper birch	Betula papyifera	X	
Pin cherry	Prunus pensylvanica	X	X
Red osier dogwood	Cornus sericea	X	X
Silverberry	Elaeagnus commutate	X	X
Smooth sumac	Rhus glabra	X	X
Speckled alder	Alnus rugosa	X	
Trembling aspen	Populus tremuloides	X	
Willow sp.	Salix spp.	X	X