

## CCRP Practice

### CP23A Wetland Restoration, Non-Floodplain

#### Expiring CRP sites with Existing Vegetation

The purpose of the practice is to restore the functions and values of wetland ecosystems that have been devoted to agricultural use that are entirely outside the 100-year floodplain.

Eligible sites are defined as those cropped wetlands which have been manipulated, either entirely or partially, and which meet CRP cropland eligibility requirements along with the associated upland buffer areas. All hydric soils, as identified on the county hydric soils list, which have been cropped and meet CRP requirements are eligible for restoration. For soil complexes that are listed as having hydric soil components an in-field review will determine the extent of each site eligible as a cropped wetland. The following matrix gives general hydric soil criteria:

<u>SYMBOL</u>	<u>CRITERIA</u>	<u>TYPICAL LANDSCAPE LOCATION</u>
1	Organic soils	Sites may be depressional or non-depressional (county specific).
2B2, 2B3	Saturation	Sites typically non-depressional - flats, drainage ways, bogs, seeps. May include small depressional inclusions.
3	Ponded	Sites are depressional.
4	Flooding	Sites frequently flooded for long - very long duration.

The degree of restoration will be defined by the landowner after technical consultation with USDA. The goal of wetland restoration projects is to restore the original hydrology of the site. Practice feasibility, economic cost, off-site limitations along with other considerations may limit the extent of hydrology that can be restored. When NRCS determines that the existing level of restoration (including existing vegetation) meet the requirements of Practice Standard 657, Wetland Restoration, no additional implementation activity is required. Participants are still required to meet the cover requirements for the associated upland buffer.

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 depth, width, and extent of the existing drainage system and its impact on the site's hydric soils.

Wetland acreage eligibility will be determined independent of USDA wetland determinations or the FWS National Wetland Inventory although these sources should be used as references when determining eligibility. These areas will typically be considered as Farmed Wetlands

(FW), Wetlands Farmed Under Natural Conditions (W) or Prior Converted Cropland (PC). The CP-23A practice may also enroll a buffer limited to the number of acres required to provide protective buffer to the cropped wetland and to enhance wildlife habitat not to exceed a ratio of 4 acres of buffer to 1 acre of restored wetland.

Apply this practice to eligible cropped wetlands and associated acreage that are any of the following: located outside the 100-year floodplain, playa lakes. Note this practice may have overlapping eligibility criteria with either, or both, the CP-27, CP-28 practices in the Farmable Wetlands Program (FWP) and the CP-37 Duck Nesting Habitat practice. Vegetation establishment criteria are dependent on the native ecosystem. The native ecosystem can be determined by the soil survey or by the native vegetation maps (TRYGG or Marshner maps).

Wetlands will be restored using the NRCS Practice Standard Wetland Restoration, Code 657. Seeding mixes for the wetland zone, when needed, can be found in the 657 standard. Buffer areas 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 643 using a mixed stand with a minimum of 5 native species consisting of at least 3 grasses and 1 forb. Buffer areas for sites under a woodland ecosystem will use NRCS Practice Standard Tree/Shrub Establishment, Code 612. When restoring woodland ecosystems, plant hard mast species along with other species suitable for the wet nature of the site.

# Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)



Documentation of Eligibility and Suitability for  
Wetland Restoration, Non-Floodplain

CP23A

Version 4/07

APPLICANT: [redacted]

COUNTY: [redacted]

Resource Concerns for Eligibility  
Restoration of Wetlands

FSA TRACT NO.: [redacted]

FSA FIELD NO.: [redacted]

## Practice Eligibility (Need and feasibility):

1. Restorable wetland acres are located outside the 100-year floodplain?

Yes       No

2. The area offered includes hydric soils, altered or manipulated wetlands or prior converted cropland? (Additional map documentation must identify each eligible)

Yes       No

## Ineligible Practice:

The area offered does not include areas of altered or manipulated cropped wetlands and/or prior converted cropland.

## Site Suitability (from site visit)

Document whether native vegetation is herbaceous or woodland.

Notes:

[redacted]

## Unsuitable Site:

The offered acres are not located outside the 100-year floodplain.

## Extent of eligible area:

Size of restored wetland [redacted] acres

Buffer Area (optional)\*: [redacted]\*\* feet

\*If required to protect and enhance the practice.

\*\*Will not exceed 4:1 buffer to wetland ratio.

Total Size of practice area [redacted] acres