



Natural Resources Conservation Service
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November 1, 2012

KANSAS BULLETIN NO. KS300-13-6

SUBJECT: LTP–Conservation Stewardship Program Fiscal Year 2013 Annual Payments

Action required by: December 7, 2012, and March 22, 2013 (Field Offices [FOs])

Purpose. To provide guidance on completing the Fiscal Year (FY) 2013 Conservation Stewardship Program (CStP) annual payments

Expiration Date. September 30, 2014

The Food Security Act of 1985, as amended, requires the Secretary of Agriculture to make stewardship contract payments as soon as practicable after October 1 for activities carried out in the previous FY. Participants may choose to receive payment in calendar year 2012 or 2013. FOs must complete (approve payments in Program Contracts System [ProTracts]) the annual payments by December 7, 2012, for participants wanting their payment in calendar year 2012 to allow adequate processing time in FMMI (Financial Management Modernization Initiative) prior to the financial closing at the end of the calendar year. Payments must be approved in ProTracts by March 22, 2013, for those requesting payment in calendar year 2013. Payments must have a second level review completed prior to being approved following bulletin KS300-12-49.

NOTE: CStP participants may only be paid on contracts where either no corrective action is needed or all necessary corrective actions have been taken.

The annual payment for the established conservation system is to include the installation and adoption of additional conservation activities and the improvement, maintenance, and management of existing conservation activities. Participants receiving annual payments, who also agree to adopt a resource conserving crop rotation on cropland, may receive a supplemental payment. The annual payment or

(more)

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supplemental payment will not include payment for new enhancements or new practices that are not ready for certification and payment unless the participant has entered into a Form NRCS-CPA-153, Agreement Covering Non-Compliance with Provisions of the Contract. New practices and new enhancements are to be certified and approved for payment only after they are documented as established.

A CStP participant enrolling land covered by the CStP contract in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP), or Grassland Reserve Program (GRP) will need to modify the contract to reflect the removal of those acres from the contract to comply with Title 7 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Section 1470.6(5)(c).

Participants receiving payments in multiple contracts, both directly and indirectly, may be affected by the order in which the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) certifies and make those payments. This results from changes to the contract and payment limit for Joint Ventures and General Partnerships (collectively called "Joint Operations") in the final rule. Since the payment eligibility increased for Joint Operation participants with contracts under both rules, the contracts from 2010-1 signup should be paid before the later signup contracts. Below is a list of 2010-1 contracts in this category that need to be paid first before others with the same participants:

Scott County	816215100G9
Pratt County	816215100LY

Contact: Forward questions, through established channels, to Joni Y. Franklin, Resource Conservationist, joni.franklin@ks.usda.gov or call (785) 823-4556.

(Signed)

ERIC B. BANKS
State Conservationist