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KANSAS BULLETION NO. 300-12-27

Subject: LTP – Grassland Reserve Program – Ranking Guidance

Action required by field offices: January 25, 2012

Purpose. To provide guidance on the Grassland Reserve Program (GRP) ranking process for Fiscal Year (FY) 2012 GRP applications

Expiration Date: September 30, 2013

The ranking process enables the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) State Conservationist, in accordance with the Farm Service Agency (FSA) State Executive Director, to prioritize enrollment offers by determining the projects that most merit enrollment. The NRCS State Conservationist, with advice from the State Technical Committee, has established a weighted ranking process to prioritize all eligible applications.

Applications are to be ranked by the district conservationist (DC) or NRCS representative with the landowner present. A site visit is not required to complete the initial ranking worksheet.

Kansas NRCS will give funding priority to Group A easements followed by Group B easements, Group A rentals and finally Group B rentals. All GRP easement applications are to be ranked in the Conservation Programs Geographic Information System Interface (CPGI) tool by January 25, 2012. Since rental applications are a lower priority for funding, at this time, new rental applications only need to be tracked using the CPGI tool.

Those easement applications from FY 2011 that were not funded and the landowner chose to defer the application until FY 2012 will need to be re-ranked due to changes in the GRP ranking worksheet. Deferred applications are those for which notification was received from the landowner that they wished to have their FY 2011 application deferred to FY 2012. See the list of those applications which were deferred to FY 2012, posted on the Kansas SharePoint site under Conservation Easement Programs.

For guidance on completing the GRP ranking worksheet, please see the attachment.

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(Signed) LOREN L. GRAFF. ACTING FOR

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Attachments
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