

Toolkit Task Guide #33

Accessing Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) Scenarios

June 6, 2013

Abstract

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) conservationists can utilize the approved CRP scenario boundaries created during the Farm Service Agency (FSA) CRP signup. Four options exist for the inclusion of CRP scenario polygons into a Toolkit consplan layer.

National Planning Procedures Handbook, Section KS600.31, 8(c) states “Land use designations will be based on the intended/planned land use. Land use/land unit designations are not to be used to delineate a specific practice. Conservation practices are applied to the land to treat a specific resource concern(s). For example, Conservation Practice Grassed Waterway (412) should not be designated as a separate land use/land unit apart from the cropland field on which it has been applied.”

Instructions

1. At the Service Center level, FSA has been instructed to provide NRCS with a hard copy map of the accepted CRP scenario for each tract. *Advise the FSA County Executive Director (CED) to review EC-CRP-06-040 if there are any questions. CRP Scenario data for use by NRCS conservationists has already been copied by the NRCS Technical Services Staff and is available for use.*
2. Scenario data will be available on the field office server. FSA will notify NRCS when the data is available and where it is located on the server.
3. Choose one option in this task guide for importing CRP scenario polygons into a consplan layer. *It is likely when using options 1, 2, or 3 that additional land units not associated with CRP will exist in the consplan; these additional land units may have data associated with other contracts and/or conservation plans and should not be deleted or modified.*

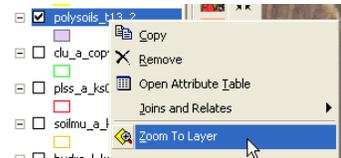
- Option #1 - Customer Folder Exists - CRP scenario boundaries match consplan land units
- Option #2 - Customer Folder Exists - CRP scenario does not overlap existing consplan land units
- Option #3 - Customer Folder Exists - CRP scenario does overlap existing consplan land units
- Option #4 - Customer Folder Does Not Exist - Create new customer folder and consplan

4. If not in edit mode, click the **Toolkit Digitizer**  button and select the consplan layer to be edited.
5. From the Land Unit Editor toolbar, use the **Select Field**  button to select all polygons which will compose a single land unit. *The data provided by FSA includes the CRP scenario field boundary and the soil boundaries within the field. The soil boundaries provided by FSA are not needed by NRCS and will be merged into land units for conservation planning.*

- From the Land Unit Editor toolbar, use the **Merge**  button to combine the selected polygons into one land unit.
- Repeat Steps 5 and 6 for each additional group of polygons which compose a land unit.
- From the Land Unit Editor toolbar, click **Editor** then click **Stop Editing**.
All CRP scenario fields are now available in the consplan layer.
- Continue the Toolkit conservation planning process (i.e., attribute land units, schedule practices).

Option #1 - Customer Folder Exists - CRP scenario boundaries match consplan land units

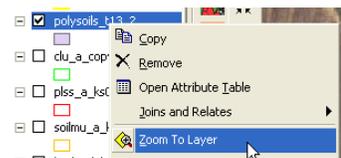
- Open Toolkit and check out the existing customer folder.
- Open the appropriate Map Document (MXD) file.
- Click the **Select a Plan**  button and select the consplan.
- Click the **Add Data**  button and navigate to the appropriate CRP scenario tract subfolder.
- Select the approved CRP scenario shapefile, then click **OK**.
- Make the CRP scenario shapefile visible by checking the box to the left of the layer in the Table of Contents (TOC).
- Zoom to the CRP scenario shapefile by right clicking the layer name and then click **Zoom to Layer**.



- Verify that existing consplan land units match all CRP scenario boundaries.
If the CRP scenario boundaries do not match the existing consplan land units, option 2 or 3 may need to be followed.

Option #2 - Customer Folder Exists - CRP scenario does not overlap existing consplan land units

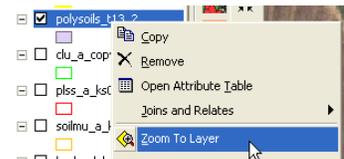
- Open Toolkit and check out the existing customer folder.
- Open the appropriate Map Document (MXD) file.
- Click the **Select a Plan**  button and select the consplan to add the CRP scenario polygons into.
- If not in edit mode, click the **Toolkit Digitizer**  button and select the consplan layer to be edited.
- Click the **Add Data**  button and navigate to the appropriate CRP scenario tract subfolder.
- Select the approved CRP scenario shapefile, then click **OK**.
- Make the CRP scenario shapefile visible by checking the box to the left of the layer in the TOC.
- Zoom to the CRP scenario shapefile by right clicking the layer name and then click **Zoom to Layer**.



9. Click the **Select Features**  tool on the Tools toolbar and select all polygons that need to be copied from the CRP scenario shapefile into the consplan layer.
10. On the Land Unit Editor toolbar, click the **Copy**  button and then the **Paste**  button.
11. Turn off the CRP scenario shapefile by unchecking the box to the left of the layer in the TOC. *The CRP scenario shapefile may also be removed from the TOC; right click the layer in the TOC, then click **Remove**.*
12. Toolkit may not refresh the consplan data; on the Land Unit Editor toolbar, click **Editor** then **Save Edits**, followed by a click of the **Refresh**  button.
13. From the Land Unit Editor toolbar, click **Editor** then click **Stop Editing**. *All CRP scenario fields should now be available in the consplan layer.*

Option #3 - Customer Folder Exists - CRP scenario does overlap existing consplan land units

1. Open Toolkit and check out the existing customer folder.
2. Open the appropriate Map Document (MXD) file.
3. Click the **Select a Plan**  button and select the consplan to add the CRP scenario polygons into.
4. If not in edit mode, click the **Toolkit Digitizer**  button and select the consplan layer to be edited.
5. Click the **Add Data**  button and navigate to the appropriate CRP scenario tract subfolder.
6. Select the approved CRP scenario shapefile, then click **OK**.
7. Make the CRP scenario shapefile visible by checking the box to the left of the layer in the TOC.
8. Zoom to the CRP scenario shapefile by right clicking the layer name and then click **Zoom to Layer**.
9. Use the CRP Scenario shapefile as a guide to split the existing consplan land unit.



The Split  tool on the Land Unit Editor toolbar will be used to modify the existing consplan land units. Zooming into a scale of 1:4800 or larger will allow for detailed digitizing which will result in nearly identical field boundaries. Do not attempt to copy and paste polygons from the CRP Scenario, this will create overlapping polygons and duplicate acreages.

When using the Split  tool with a land unit that has attributes assigned, the attributes will always be saved to the new land unit to the left of the split line in relation to the direction the split is drawn (top to bottom, bottom to top, right to left, or left to right). Refer to National Toolkit Tech Note #11a at <http://www.itc.nrcs.usda.gov/toolkit/Downloads/TKTechNote011a.doc>.

10. Turn off the CRP scenario shapefile by unchecking the box to the left of the layer in the TOC. *The CRP scenario shapefile may also be removed from the TOC; right click the layer in the TOC, then click **Remove**.*

- From the Land Unit Editor toolbar, click **Editor** then click **Stop Editing**.
All CRP scenario fields should now be available in the consplan layer.

Option #4 - Customer Folder Does Not Exist - Create new customer folder and consplan

This option is only used when the Agricultural Operation does not already have a customer folder available in Toolkit.

- Open Toolkit and use the **Create New Customer Folder**  button.
- Open the ArcMap ToolkitGIS_Template.mxd file.

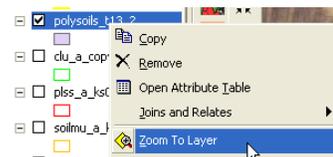
- Click the **New Toolkit Layer**  button and create a new “Consplan” layer.
If the Layer Name does not default to “Consplan” then option #1 or Option #2 of this task guide should be used, unless this is a new agricultural operation which has not previously been created.



- Click the **Add Data**  button and navigate to the appropriate CRP scenario tract subfolder.
- Select the approved CRP scenario shapefile, then click **OK**.

- Make the CRP scenario shapefile visible by checking the box to the left of the layer in the TOC.

- Zoom to the CRP scenario shapefile by right clicking the layer name and then click **Zoom to Layer**.



- Click the **Select Features**  tool on the Tools toolbar and select all polygons that need to be copied from the CRP scenario shapefile into the consplan layer.

- On the Land Unit Editor toolbar, click the **Copy**  button and then the **Paste**  button.

- Turn off the CRP scenario shapefile by unchecking the box to the left of the layer in the TOC.
*The CRP scenario shapefile may also be removed from the TOC; right click the layer in the TOC, then click **Remove**.*

- Toolkit may not refresh the consplan data; on the Land Unit Editor toolbar, click **Editor** then **Save Edits**, followed by a click of the **Refresh**  button.
All CRP scenario polygons should now be available in the consplan layer.