



## **Resource Conserving Crop Rotation – (RCCR)- *Supplemental payment activity* – CCR99**

### **ATTACHMENT A – Montana Enhancement Activity Sheet Supplement**

#### **A Resource Conserving Crop Rotation (RCCR) for Montana can be**

1. A perennial grass, legume or grass legume mix grown with at least one year of another crop in the rotation. The RCCR enhancement is not eligible on land that currently is used for long term hay or pasture. The grass or legume must be grown for a minimum of one year but no more than 6 years; total rotation can be no more than 7 years.
2. Growing an annual legume or a “cocktail mix” cover crop as a green manure, or for soil health in a small grain rotation. Interseeding of green manure or “cocktail mix” is not allowed under dryland conditions and interseeding or seeding after harvest is allowed only under irrigated conditions. **No grazing or removal of crop residue of cover or green manure crops is allowed.**

#### **Modification of an existing RCCR to a higher conservation level.**

1. Add years of grass and/or legumes, Limited to those rotations with a current perennial grass and/or legumes of a least one year beyond the seeding year, but not more than 4 current years of perennial grass and/or legume. **Documentation for this must include current crop rotation showing legume or grass is grown for only 4 years before planting another crop.**
2. Add diversity of crops grown. Adding diversity to a rotation involves adding different types of crops (i.e.) adding legumes to small grain rotation or adding a warm season crop (corn, sunflower) to a cool season grass small grain rotation. Adding another small grain (barley) to a small grain (spring or winter wheat) rotation does not add diversity to the rotation.

#### **Example 1:**

Current Rotation: One year Winter Wheat, one year Spring Wheat, one year fallow, one year barley (4-year rotation).

New Rotation: One year Winter Wheat, one year Spring Wheat, one year fallow, one year peas (4-year rotation).

3. Add annual crops with cover crops (cover crops shall not be harvested or grazed).

#### **Example 2:**

Current Rotation: One year Barley, one year of Fallow, one year Spring Wheat (3-year rotation).

New Rotation: One year Barley, one year of ‘Cocktail Mix’<sup>1/</sup> planted in spring and terminated prior to maturity, one year Spring Wheat (3-year rotation).

**Current Rotation:** Winter Wheat, Spring Barley, Spring Wheat, (3-year rotation).

**New Rotation:** Winter Wheat, Peas for a green manure, Spring Wheat (3-year rotation).



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<sup>1/2</sup>**Cocktail mix:** A cover crop cocktail is a variety of broadleaf and grass species including those species listed in Montana Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG) Specification, Cover Crop (Code 340) listed for soil health (see table). Cocktail Mixes can be blended for a variety of purposes including soil nitrogen building, weed suppression, soil health, and wildlife enhancement. Mixtures can include warm or cool season grasses or broadleaf species and can be custom mixed depending on season of planting, objectives and species adaptation. The cover crop must be seeded in the spring or directly after harvest under irrigation. Cocktail mixes should be terminated by chemical, mechanical or other methods prior to seed set to prevent mix species from becoming weeds in subsequent crops. Depth of soil moisture should be considered when terminating cocktail mixes to conserve soil moisture for crops. Examples of these mixes can be found at [www.pulseusa.com](http://www.pulseusa.com), additional information on cover crops and suppliers (in South Dakota) can be found at: <http://www.sd.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/CoverCrops.html>.

**Cover Crop Species for Soil Health**

<b>Cool Season Broadleaves</b>	<b>Warm Season Broadleaves</b>	<b>Cool Season Grasses</b>	<b>Warm Season Grasses</b>
Alfalfa Camelina Canola Clover Crambe Faba Beans Peas, field Flax Lentils Radishes (Forage & Daikon) Sugar beets Sweet Clover Turnip Vetch	Buckwheat Cowpeas Safflower Soybeans Sunflower	Barley Durum Wheat Oats Rye (annual) Sorghum Spring Wheat Triticale Winter Wheat	Corn Millet Sorghum Sudangrass Teff

**If rotation consist mostly of small grains the cover crop mix must not contain more than 10% of small grains in mixture.**



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**Montana Documentation Requirements**

Planned Resource-Conserving Crop Rotation(s):

List crop rotations(s), resource conserving crops, and cover crops that will follow the specific crops as applicable for each rotation to receive supplemental payment:

Rotation # 1: \_\_\_\_\_ Fields: \_\_\_\_\_ Years \_\_\_\_\_

Resource Conserving Crop(s) to be used: \_\_\_\_\_

Rotation # 2: \_\_\_\_\_ Fields: \_\_\_\_\_ Years \_\_\_\_\_

Resource Conserving Crop(s) to be used: \_\_\_\_\_

Rotation # 3: \_\_\_\_\_ Fields: \_\_\_\_\_ Years \_\_\_\_\_

Resource Conserving Crop(s) to be used: \_\_\_\_\_

**Records: (for each year of the contract)**

- a. Crop rotation records by field
- b. Cover crops planted.
- c. Purpose of planting cover crop**
- d. Species and composition of cover crop mixes**
- e. Method and date of termination of cover crop mixes**
- f. Previous crops grown for current rotation**