United States Department of Agriculture

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July 12, 2012

NEW MEXICO BULLETIN NO. 300-12-05

SUBJECT: LTP - CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM (CRP) 43 PROGRAMMATIC AND TECHNICAL GUIDANCE WITH FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

TO: All Employees

Purpose. To provide programmatic and technical guidance with answers to frequently asked questions related to CRP signup 43.

Expiration Date. December 31, 2012

PROGRAMMATIC QUESTION:

1. On CRP, if a producer has signed up for CP-1 (existing stand of one to three species introduced grass species) and a field check shows that there are not any introduced species only natives such as silver bluestem and three awn species, does the producer have to establish lovegrass on this acreage or can they be left as is?

    a. As long as there is at least one grass species present as described in the Ecological Site Description (ESD) and bare ground doesn't exceed the maximum allowed in the ESD then the producer does not have to break out the site to plant one introduced grass. This would show that succession is taking place; the site is stable and providing wildlife benefits as good as or better than a monoculture of one introduced species. On most sites this would mean you would need between 80 to 90% vegetative cover.

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