

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



**Enhancement Description**

Resource-conserving crop rotation means a crop rotation that:

1. Includes at least one resource conserving crop as determined by the State Conservationist;
2. Reduces erosion;
3. Improves soil fertility and tilth;
4. Interrupts pest cycles; and
5. In applicable areas, reduces depletion of soil moisture or otherwise reduces the need for irrigation.

Resource-conserving crop means a crop that is one of the following:

1. A perennial grass;
2. A legume grown for use as forage, seed for planting, or green manure;
3. A legume-grass mixture;
4. A small grain grown in combination with a green manure crop consisting of a grass, legume, forbs, or grass-forbs mixture, whether interseeded or planted in rotation.

**Land Use Applicability**

Cropland

**Benefits**

Resource-conserving crop rotations provide:

- Substantial aboveground residue and extensive root systems resulting in controlled erosion, improved soil tilth and carbon sequestration into soil organic matter.
- Improved soil condition and deep root channels resulting in enhanced water infiltration and soil moisture holding capacity; all of which reduce runoff losses as well as the frequency and amount of irrigation required.
- Improved soil biological activity for enhanced soil health via green manures and rhizodeposition (i.e., root exudates; fine root sloughing).
- Biological N fixation by legumes for soil fertility building and reduced energy consumption.
- Disrupted pest and weed life cycles by varying plant families and timing of field management activities

**Conditions Where Enhancement Applies**

This enhancement applies to all annually planted crop land use acres. The enhancement does not apply to permanent hayland, orchards, or vineyards.



**Criteria**

Design the crop rotation with sufficient diversity in plant family and species as well as timing and type of field operations to reduce the weed and pest populations. The rotation plan should reduce anticipated needs for pesticides, cultivation, or other pest/weed control measures.

The resource conserving crop rotation shall include at least one of the following resource conserving crops:

1. With at least one other crop in the rotation, include a perennial grass grown at least 2 years from time of planting;
2. With at least one other crop in the rotation, include a legume that is grown at least 2 years from time of planting;
3. With at least one other crop in the rotation, include a legume-grass mixture that is grown at least 2 years from time of planting;
4. With at least one other crop in the rotation, include a grass-forbs or legume-grass-forbs mixture, in which at least the grass component of the mixture is grown at least 2 years from time of planting, or
5. With at least two other crops in the rotation, include a small grain grown in combination with a grass, legume, forbs or any grass-forbs mixture that is used as a green manure, whether interseeded or planted after small grain harvest. Neither the small grain residue nor the cover crop shall be harvested or grazed.

**Contract Criteria**

1. The rotation shall cover at least 3 fiscal years of the CSP contract.
2. The resource conserving crop must be adopted by the third fiscal year of the contract and established or planted on all planned acres prior to the final annual payment.

**Adoption Requirements**

This enhancement is considered adopted when the resource conserving crop rotation is planted on at least 1/3 of the rotation acres.

**Documentation Requirements**

Planned Resource-Conserving Crop Rotation(s):

List crop rotation(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: \_\_\_\_\_



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2013 Ranking Period 1

Rotation#3: \_\_\_\_\_ Fields: \_\_\_\_\_ Years \_\_\_\_\_  
Resource Conserving Crop(s) to be used: \_\_\_\_\_

Records:

- a. Crop rotation records by field
- b. Cover crops planted
- c. Photographs of representative fields showing different phases of the rotation
- d. Seed tags and receipts



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## **IDAHO ADDENDUM - 2013-1**

### **Resource Conserving Crop Rotation – *Supplemental Payment Activity - CCR99***

**Additional guidance for Resource Conserving Crop Rotations:**

#### **Idaho Resource Conserving Crops**

1. Perennial alfalfa (grown for forage or seed)
2. Clovers
3. Perennial grass or combination grass/legume mixture
4. Legumes grown as a green manure crop (e.g., Austrian winter peas)
5. Small grains ONLY when grown in combination with a green manure crop

For Option 5 above, the small grain residue shall not be harvested or grazed, nor will the cover crop be harvested or grazed.

For an existing RCCR, there is no option to improve the rotation to a higher level solely by adding an additional year of a high residue crop. Where the producer uses Option #2 to add diversity of crops grown, the added crop, 1) may NOT reduce the existing conservation level, and 2) it must address another resource concern or further enhance the objectives of the RCCR discussed on the first page of the job sheet. For example, substituting spring wheat for spring barley provides no conservation benefit, while adding spring barley to a rotation with fall-seeded small grains helps to break insect and weed cycles. A justification must be provided as to how the added crop meets the two criteria above.

ALL NEW AND MODIFIED EXISTING RCCRs MUST BE APPROVED IN ADVANCE BY THE ARC.

**Criteria for Rotations and Contract Criteria must be followed (refer to first two pages).**

**This activity may NOT be used with the following enhancements:  
AIR03, ANM12, ANM21, SQL09, WQL09**

**Duplicate practice: 328 – Conservation Crop Rotation, 340 – Cover Crop**