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September 16, 2013

KANSAS BULLETIN NO. KS300-13-70

SUBJECT: LTP—Conservation Stewardship Program— Fiscal Year 2013 Signup 1

Purpose: To provide guidance on requesting Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP08) waivers to commence enhancements by September 30, 2013, for CSP08–2013-1 signup (SU)

Expiration Date: September 30, 2014

All CSP08 applicants are required to schedule one enhancement in fiscal year (FY)2013 under the proposed contract. While some enhancements can be installed before September 30, 2013, some enhancements may pose a challenge. In order to ensure that all participants receive a FY2013 payment, a waiver may be requested for those unable to meet the September 30, 2013, deadline.

Applicants who cannot adopt at least one enhancement in the first FY of the contract may be permitted to schedule the enhancement in the Conservation Measurement Tool (CMT) for FY2013 as long as they show proof that they commenced the practice before September 30, 2013. An enhancement is considered commenced if the participant can provide evidence of commitment of labor or incurred cost. The CSP–2013-1 Certification of Practice Commencement (Attachment 1) shall be used for this option and kept in the case file. **It does not need to be submitted to the area office (AO) or state office (SO).**

Applicants who cannot adopt at least one enhancement by September 30, 2013, may schedule an enhancement for FY2013 if, and only if, the enhancement will be implemented or installed before December 31, 2013. The CSP–2013-1 FY2013 Enhancement Scheduling Waiver Request (Attachment 2) shall be used to request a waiver in this case. This option must be submitted to the state conservationist for approval. Field offices shall upload these waivers via eContracts “waiver” folder and send an email notification to the AO. AOs shall review submissions for accuracy and completeness and then submit to the SO using the eContracts “notification” button.

(more)

DIST: A, F, S

A national memo authorizing state conservationists to use waivers to ensure that all CSP08 participants have the opportunity to earn a FY2013 contract payment is posted on the Kansas SharePoint website under the CSP-2013-1 SU folder.

All CSP08 waivers must be completed by **September 27, 2013**.

Contact: Please forward questions through established channels to Xiomara Tryban, Assistant State Conservationist, at (785) 823-4569 or xiomara.tryban@ks.usda.gov.

(Signed)

ERIC B. BANKS
State Conservationist

Attachments