

North Dakota State Technical Committee FSA Update – March 2018

FSA Updates



Topics to be covered

- Secretary Perdue's Visit
- CRP Signup/Offer Suspension
- State Tech Sub-Committee Meetings Regarding Primary Nesting Season
- Mid-Contract Management of CRP
 Need to realign MCM activities



 On March 9, 2018, Secretary Of Agriculture, Sonny Perdue, visited Fargo and one of his stops was the ND State FSA Office.

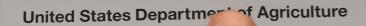
 He was greeted by USDA employees as he drove into the parking lot.







March 28, 2018



Farm Service Service

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United States Department of Agriculture

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CRP Signup Suspension

- On October 6, 2017, FSA County Offices were notified that they shall not accept continuous CRP signup offers until notified otherwise.
 - The authority for accepting continuous
 CRP offers was suspended as of October
 1, 2017.
 - There are exceptions...

CRP Signup Suspension

 CRP Grasslands and CREP offers may be accepted, processed and approved at this time.

- When will FSA be allowed to accept offers under a continuous signup, other than CREP II and CRP Grasslands?
 - No indication has been given.



Primary Nesting Season

- Due to the drought of 2017 and that Montana's Primary Nesting Season (PNS) ends on July 15th, there was a lot of discussion to explore the possibility of changing North Dakota's PNS ending date to July 15th.
- North Dakota's PNS is from April 15 to August 1.



PNS Sub-Committee

- Members of a State Tech Sub-Committee met on January 31st and February 22nd to discuss the possibility of changing the ending date of the PNS applicable to CRP.
- There was good discussion between the members, but in the end, the PNS period will remain as is.



PNS Sub-Committee

 One out-come of the PNS Sub-Committee was a possible MOU between partners that would be supportive of allowing haying and grazing of CRP in the PNS due to emergency conditions.

New Sub-Committee

- For CRP Contracts approved since 2004, there is a requirement to conduct at least one mid-contract management (MCM) activity during the life of the contract.
- After the original MCM activities were developed and approved by the State Tech Committee and the FSA State Committee, more conservation practices were created.



New Sub-Committee

- Furthermore, in 2016, the FSA National Office reviewed the MCM activities and some of the activities were not approved.
 - Chemical herbaceous vegetation control
 - Fabric management (trees)*
 - We have been waiting for official word on the approval/disapproval of the MCM activities.



New Sub-Committee

- FSA has requested another subcommittee be formed to re-align MCM activities.
- WDC approved MCM activities are:
 - Litter Removal clip/remove/destroy
 - Disking vertical tillage equipment also
 - Heavy Harrow
 - Lawson Aerator
 - Inter-Seeding Legumes/Forbs
 - Prescribed Burning
 - Light Harrow