

## CRP Planning Guidance—FY15

Land that is re-enrolling into CRP is **NOT** eligible for a Sign up Incentive Payment (SIP). The prohibition on SIP payment applies to all re-enrollments including fields where existing cover is terminated and replanted.

The CP 10 cover type is obsolete and cannot be re-enrolled after 03/14/2011. CP-10 cover types will default back to the grass cover type that most closely matches the existing vegetative cover; CP 1, CP 2, CP 25, CP 4D (at least one signup had CP 4D re-enrolled as a CP 10). The CP 11 cover type will default back to a CP 3 or CP 3A.

Expiring CP4 B/D cover types will typically only be eligible for re-enrollment within wellhead protection areas.

NRCS or a TSP shall field verify the existing cover type and condition and submit a written status review for approval by the COC prior to re-enrollment.

Contact the local FSA office for county specific information for contracts expiring on 09/30/2015.

The FY15 CRP Scheduling and Contract Guidance is located on the WI – NRCS Homepage at: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/wi/technical/cp/> under Conservation Planning Tools. The Required Management (RM) Job Sheet posted here summarizes the approved alternatives for Required Management by CP cover type.

Job Sheet 130A CRP – Mid – Contract Management Honey Bee Habitat was recently posted at:

[http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/wi/technical/cp/?cid=nrcs142p2\\_024032](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/wi/technical/cp/?cid=nrcs142p2_024032). CRP policy allows CP 1, 2, 4D, 10, 25 and 38E conservation cover practices to be utilized for enhancing honey bee habitat. The introduced and native mixtures in Job Sheet-130A shall be used. Additional species can be added at the expense of the participant. The Required Management – Honey Bee Habitat is not allowed for use as a mid-management option for the CP 42 cover type.

### CP 42 Pollinator Habitat

- the CP 42 cover will qualify for both general and continuous CRP (except for the Highly Erodible Land Initiative (HELI)),
- Wisconsin NRCS practice standards applicable for use when planning and designing vegetative cover are; 327, 342, 386, 390, 643, 645, and 647. Only native herbaceous plant species are approved for this cover type (woody plants and introduced plants are not permitted),
- At least 1 and a maximum of maximum of 2 bunch grass species seeded at a maximum rate of 10 grass seeds per ft<sup>2</sup>,
- minimum of 9 native forbs and/or legumes consisting of at least 3 species per bloom period, and seeded at a minimum rate of 30 seeds per ft<sup>2</sup>,
- the CP 42 cover type can be contracted statewide (must meet producer and land eligibility criteria),
- minimum enrollment size is 0.5 acres. Minimum planting width is 20 ft. Contract length is limited to 10 year maximum. Eligible for Sign up Incentive Payment of \$15.00 per acre under the continuous sign up option (no Sign up Incentive Payment for general sign up option). This practice is **NOT** eligible for the Practice Incentive Payment, 20% soil rental incentive or maintenance incentive.
- Custom seeding mixtures are allowed.

## Highly Erodible Land Initiative (HELI)

Wisconsin allocation for HELI is 50,000 acres.

To qualify for HELI the field must have an Erodability Index of 20 or greater determined using the TERRA software program.

Covers on both newly enrolled land or expiring CRP land, must meet the minimum N1A Environmental Benefits Index (EBI) point value provided in 2-CRP, Exhibit 26, for the applicable practice. Expiring CP 10s or CP 11s may be offered when the appropriate cover practice meets or exceeds the minimum N1A EBI point value requirement.

The following practices are eligible for HELI. The minimum N1A EBI point value for enrollment is provided in parenthesis: CP 1 (10), CP 2 (20), CP 3 (10), CP3A (10), CP 4D (40) or (50), CP 25 (50). See the attached scoring matrix for additional information.

<b>CP1 Permanent introduced grasses and legumes</b>		
MIX #	Species	Points
N/A	Existing stands with 1 or 2 species of introduced grasses and/or legumes	10
1	Timothy 2#, Smooth <u>bromegrass</u> 3#, Alfalfa 6#	10
2	Timothy 2#, Orchardgrass 3#, Red Clover 5#	10
3	Timothy 2#, <u>Orchardgrass</u> 3#, Alfalfa 6#	10
4	Timothy 2#, Smooth bromegrass 3#, Red clover 5#	10
5	Timothy 2#, Smooth bromegrass 2#, Red clover 5#, <u>Orchardgrass</u> 1#	40
6	Timothy 2#, <u>Orchardgrass</u> 1#, Red clover 5#, Red top 1#, Ladino 1/2#	40
7	Timothy 2#, <u>Orchardgrass</u> 1#, Alfalfa 6#, Red top 2#	40
8	Kentucky bluegrass 2#, Red top 1#, <u>Orchardgrass</u> 1#, Red clover 5#	40
N/A	Existing stand of at least 3 introduced grasses and 1 forb	40

Clarification of CP 3/3A, and 25 - If the field verified EBI for re-enrollment is less than the original EBI score, these practices qualify for HELI as long as the tree density requirement is met. In addition, CP3A's must have 50% or more hardwood trees. Re-enrolled CP 25's shall meet the 50 point score.

Maximum contract length is 10 yrs. HELI contracts are **NOT** eligible for the Sign up Incentive Payment, Practice Incentive Payment, 20% soil rental incentive or maintenance incentive payment.

New land, where the current crop in the rotation is a legume/grass stand at the time of application for enrollment into HELI will not qualify even if the land unit meets the general CRP cropping history requirement.

### State Acres For Wildlife (SAFE)

New (eligible for Sign up Incentive Payment and Practice Incentive Payment) and expiring (ineligible for Sign up Incentive Payment and Practice Incentive Payment) CRP can be enrolled into SAFE areas. Expiring CRP herbaceous cover types CP 1, 2, 10, and 25 (prairie/oak savanna) are eligible for re-enrollment.

The 20% soil rental rate incentive and maintenance incentive payment **DO NOT** apply to SAFE areas.

### Wellhead Protection Areas

The approved wellhead protection area designated for each municipality shall be determined using the TERRA software program. Acres enrolled shall not exceed a 2000 feet radius from the wellhead protection area and at least 51% of the acreage offered must be located within the wellhead protection area (exceptions allowed upon approval).

Eligible cover types for wellhead protection areas are CP 1, 2, 3, 3A and 4 B/D.

The standard seed mixtures in 2-CRP must be used. The minimum point score for the applicable cover type may be used (refer to the example CP1 scoring matrix in the HELI section of this document). All cover practices will receive the Practice Incentive Payment and a 10% soil rental incentive payment. CP3A and CP3B contract length is 10-15 years.

Example map of a wellhead protection area



## Re-Enrollment CP 9, 21, 23 and 23A Cover Types **WITH** Reed Canary Grass Present

Re-enrollment CRP land where Reed Canary Grass (*Phalaris arundinacea*) is now the dominant plant in the following cover types: 1) CP 9 Shallow Water Areas for Wildlife, 2) CP 21 Filter Strip, 3) CP 23/23A Wetland Restoration (floodplain and non-floodplain) is allowed **IF** the contract is compliant with the following conditions:

1. All erosion problems are addressed.
2. The cover type is meeting the intent of CRP program goals (water quality and wildlife enhancements).
3. Contract is compliant with state and local weed laws.
4. Less than 5% of the total canopy coverage consist of woody vegetation 5 feet in height or less and patches of woody vegetation cannot encompass an area greater than 1 acre in size. NOTE: Wisconsin's CRP policy currently does not allow the planting of woody vegetation or the natural regeneration of woody plants on these cover types.
5. Re-enrollment of an existing contract with a CP 9 cover type is allowable if the application meets all current program policy, eligibility criteria and items 1-4 above.

Additional clarification: policy changes since the original CRP-1 was approved that may impact CP 9 re-enrollments are: 1) number of CP 9 cover types per tract, 2) maximum size 3) minimum and maximum area of the shallow water scrape, etc. See exhibit 11 in 2—CRP, for current program policy and eligibility criteria.

6. Re-enrollment of an existing CP 23 or CP 23A cover type with a predominant cover of Reed Canary Grass (*Phalaris arundinacea*) into regular CCRP and/or CREP is allowed **IF** the application meets all current program policy, eligibility criteria and items 1-4 above.

Additional clarification: The District Conservationist must submit the preliminary plan and associated information to the NRCS State Biologist for concurrence prior to the development of the contract support documents to ensure the intent of the wetland restoration for CREP are being met. Refer to exhibit 11 in 2—CRP, for program policy and eligibility criteria.

7. The participant may re-enroll an existing CP23 and CP23A cover type that utilized cessation of cropping—natural regeneration of hydrophytes or seeding of CRP cover into regular CCRP as long the current contract complies with items 1-4 above. NOTE: These sites are ineligible for CREP.
8. The exemption for CRP cover dominated by Reed Canary Grass (*Phalaris arundinacea*) is limited to CP9, CP21 and CP23/23A CRP cover types.

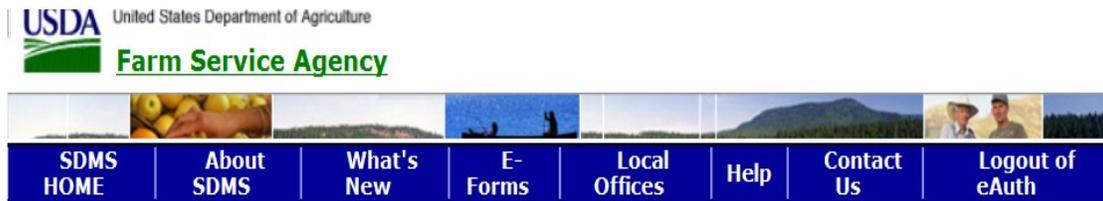
Soil Rental Rates for 2015

CRP Notice – 783 states: STC’s, COC’s, or State and County Offices may select either of the following: maintain the existing rate or adopt the NASS 2014 plus 10 percent rate and the National Office will post the updated SRR’s in SDMS by COB April 23, 2015. As of 05/19/2015, the SRR’s has not been updated.

Click on the link below to view county specific CRP soil rental rates

<https://intranet-apps.fsa.usda.gov/soilDbMgmt/SoilWelcome.do?isAnonymousUser=true>

Click on View only

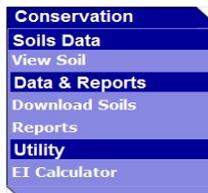


**Welcome To The Soils Data Management System**

This site was built in partnership with [NRCS](#)  Natural Resources Conservation Service

1. [View Only](#) - National and county users
2. [Authorized User](#) - State users authorized to Add, Edit and void Soil Records for their State(s).

Select View Soil or Reports to retrieve county specific soil information



**Welcome to CRP Soils Data Management System**

Please select the language

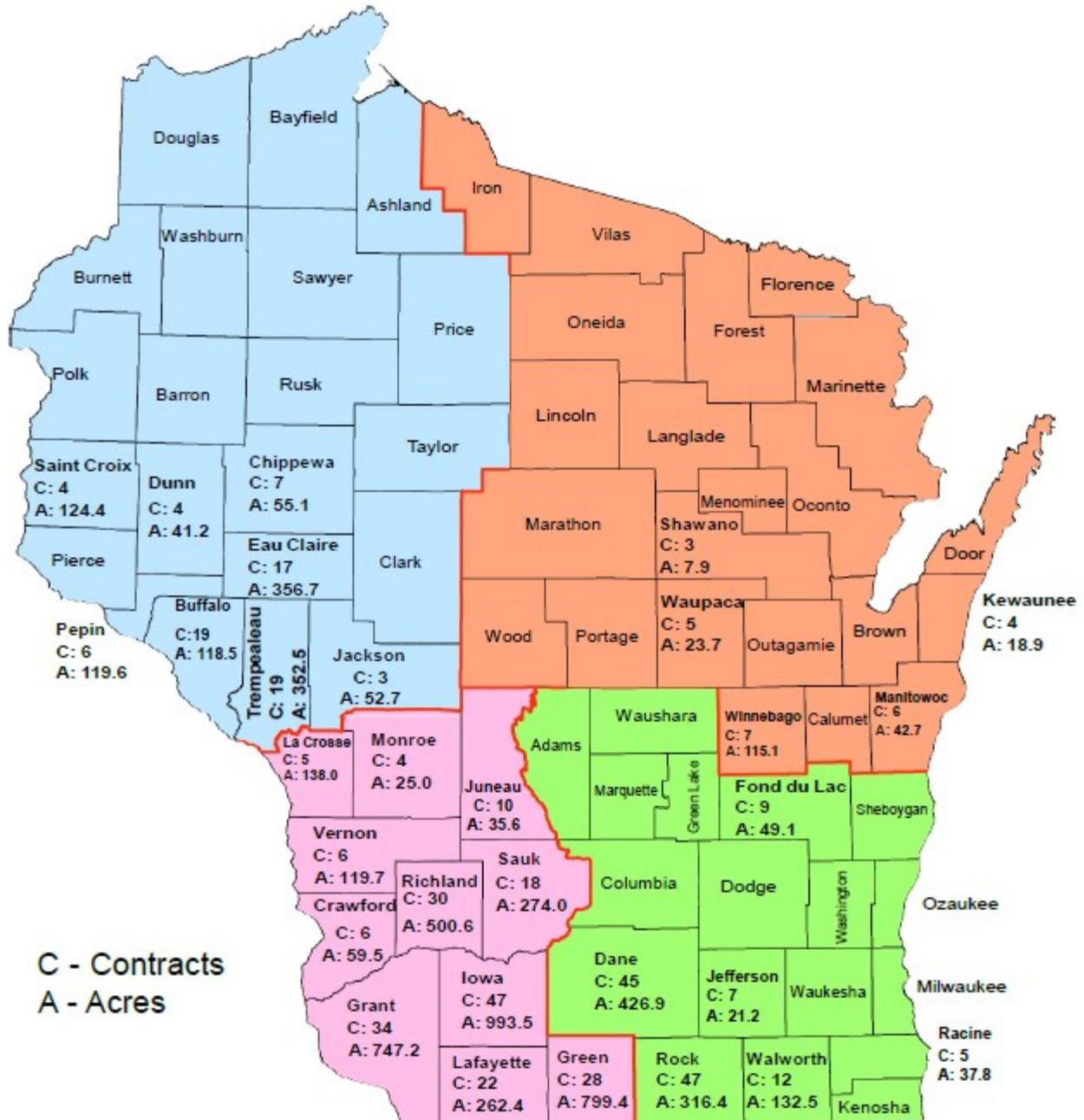
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We recommend Internet Explorer for this site 



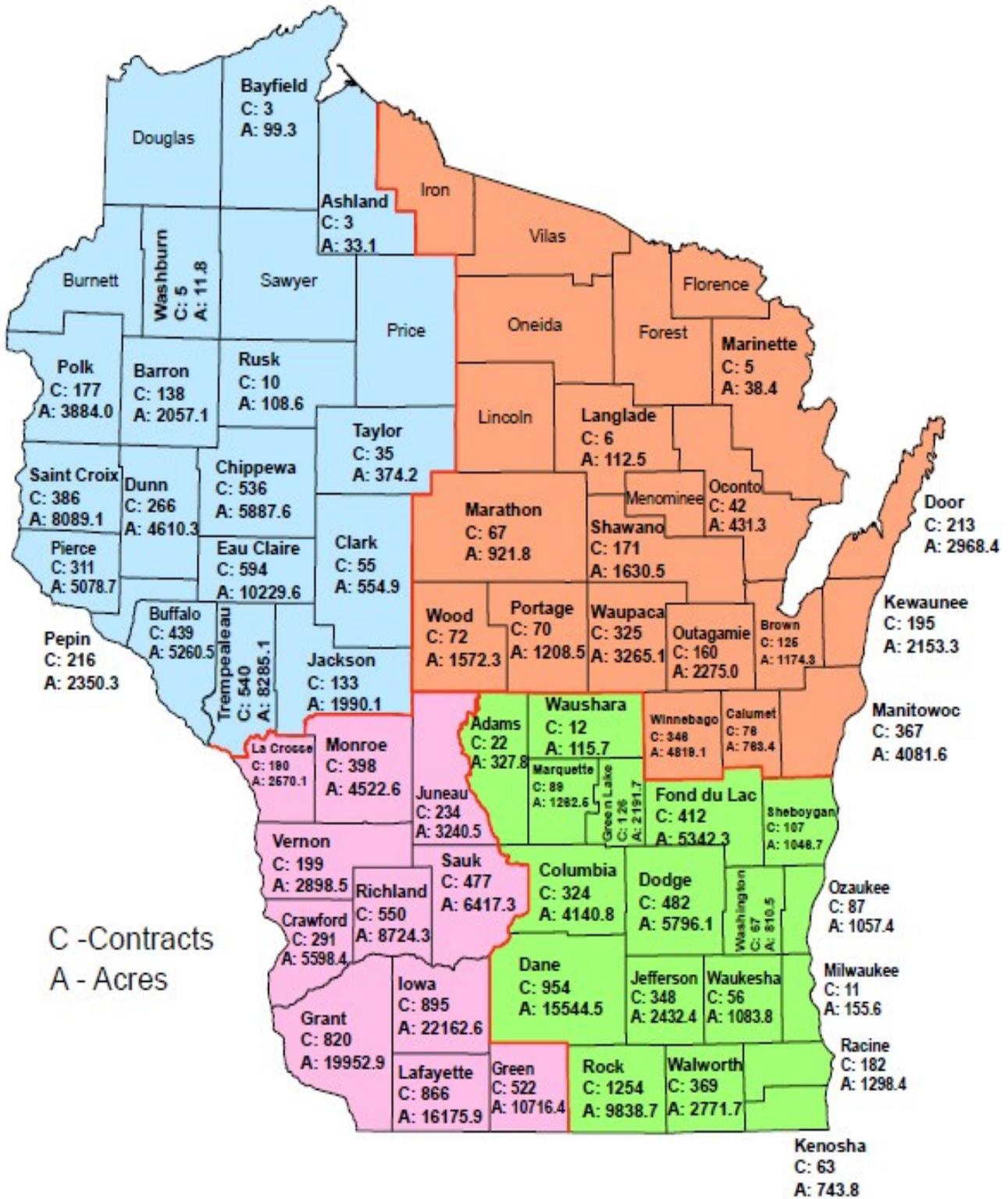
## New CRP Contracts and Acres

- as of 10/01/2014



\*New CRP contracts and acres enrolled in the continuous conservation reserve program (regular CCRP, CREP, FWP, HELI, and SAFE)

# CRP Active Contracts and Acres as of 10/01/2014



# Expiring CRP Contracts and Acres per County

- as of 9/30/2015

