



Natural Resources Conservation Service
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December 15, 2011

NEW MEXICO BULLETIN NO. 300-12-01

SUBJECT: LTP – CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM (CRP) 41 SIGNUP AND MEETING HEL REQUIREMENTS

TO: All Employees

Purpose. To provide technical guidance on the use of WEPS for meeting HEL requirements on CRP 41 signup.

Expiration Date. September 31, 2012

The Wind Erosion Prediction System (WEPS) model is to be used in our conservation planning for CRP expiring contracts that are proposed for conversion to crop production. The WEPS model shall be used to design strip planting widths that meet HEL requirements (i.e., to determine maximum tillage widths and also protect the soil resource). Agronomy Technical Note 55 (<http://www.nm.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/tech-notes/agro.html>) contains the background, purpose and guidance for implementing WEPS as part of the conservation planning technical assistance provided.

To assist with this effort, the attached 3 WEPS scenarios can be used for conversion to native grass strips. One is a fall cover, another is a spring cover and the third is the burning of a quarter section where the regrowth will be sprayed and interseeded to native grass. For those offices working on CRP, you can upload these management files. Once uploaded, you then select your Client Information, Region (field shape), Location, Management (i.e., one of the attached management scenarios) and the Soils information. The attached scenarios are to be placed in the: *C:\Documents and Settings\All Users\Application Data\USDA\WEPS\Databases\NRCS\man\local*. They are then available in WEPS in the management folder.

If you have any questions, please call Rudy Garcia, State Agronomist at (505) 761-4424.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Steve Kadas", written over a horizontal line.

STEVE KADAS
Acting State Conservationist

Attachments:

CRP Spring Cover CMZ15.man
Burn, Spray, Seed CRP.man
CRP Fall Cover CMZ15.man

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