



United States
Department of
Agriculture



CRP CLEAR30

Photo's courtesy of NRCS

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CRP CLEAR30 PILOT

Introductions

- **Deputy Administrator of Farm Programs Scott Marlow**
- **Virginia Green, Continuous CRP Program Manager**



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Introductions

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Q&As



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Photo courtesy of Pure Michigan



Photo courtesy of Chesapeake Bay Program



Photo courtesy of NRCS

Clean Lakes Estuaries and Rivers (CLEAR)

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Pilot Program: **CLEAR 30**

- In 2020, Chesapeake Bay and Great Lakes States
- Expanded to be available **NATIONWIDE** in 2021!
- Expiring CRP water quality benefitting practices **re-enrolled into 30-year contracts**

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Sources of Authority

- The Food Security Act of 1985, as amended, Section 1231C. [16 U.S.C. 3831c] PILOT PROGRAMS
 - Secretary shall establish a pilot program to enroll land in the conservation reserve program through a 30-year conservation reserve contract (referred to in this subsection as a “CLEAR 30 contract”) in accordance with this subsection.
- 7 CFR Part 1410.8



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SU57 CLEAR30 Signup Period

Start: April 1, 2022

End: August 5, 2022

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Eligible Land

Land that meets all the following criteria will have the opportunity to be offered for reenrollment into a CLEAR30 contract:

- expires on September 30, 2022.
- has a CRP CLEAR initiative practice established.
- practice is in compliance.



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Authorized Practices

Practice	Title
CP8A	Grass Waterways, Non-easement
CP15A	Establishment of Permanent Vegetative Cover (Contour Grass Strips)
CP15B	Establishment of Permanent Vegetative Cover (Contour Grass Strips) on Terraces
CP21	Filter Strips
CP22	Riparian Buffer

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Authorized Practices, *continued*

Practice	Title
CP23	Wetland Restoration on a Floodplain
CP23A	Wetland Restoration, Non-floodplain
CP29	Marginal Pastureland Wildlife Habitat Buffer
CP30	Marginal Pastureland Wetland Buffer
CP31	Bottomland Timber Establishment on Wetlands
CP37	Duck Nesting Habitat

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Producers may offer:

- all or a portion of the expiring acres
- new acres, in addition to the expiring acres, **if necessary**, to meet the current NRCS practice standard.

Example: An expiring CP22, Riparian Buffer was originally established with a 35-foot buffer width. NRCS conducts a site visit and determines that a 100-foot width is needed to meet current practice standards or address natural resource concerns.

The additional 65 feet is **eligible** to be enrolled in CRP CLEAR30.

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CLEAR30 Payments

- SIP and PIP are not authorized for CLEAR30.
- Cost-Share is not authorized for CLEAR30.
- SRR's for signup 57 CLEAR30 will be calculated:
 - Using FY22 Soil Rental Rates for the 3 predominant soils, or MPL, as applicable, including the following:
 - SPI adjustments;
 - The reduction to 90%
 - The 10% inflationary factor.

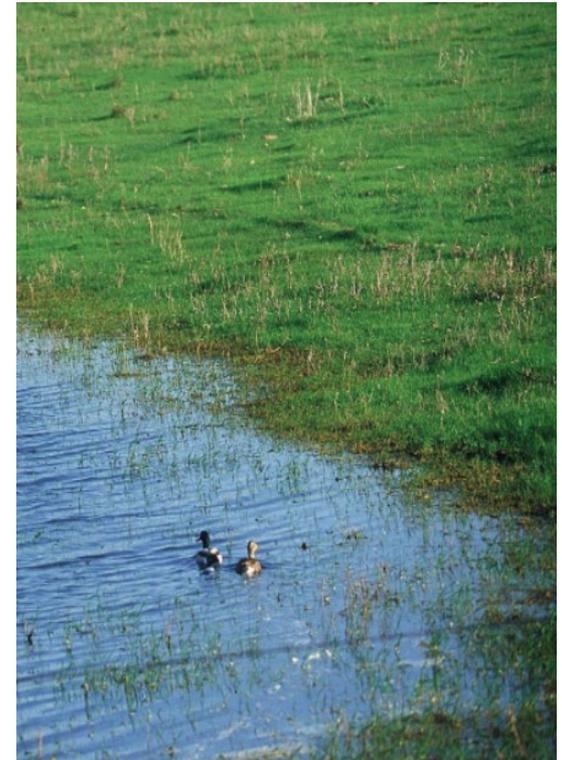


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CLEAR30 Payments (cont)

- SRR's for signup 57 CLEAR30 will be calculated to also include:
 - The **Climate-Smart Incentive**, applicable for the CLEAR practice
 - The **Water Quality Incentive** of 20%
 - A **CLEAR30 adjustment of 27.5%**.
- The maximum per acre payment rate for all CRP CLEAR30 signup 57 offers is \$380 per acre.
- Rental payments will be issued for CRP CLEAR30 contracts on an annual basis on the same schedule as other CRP contracts.

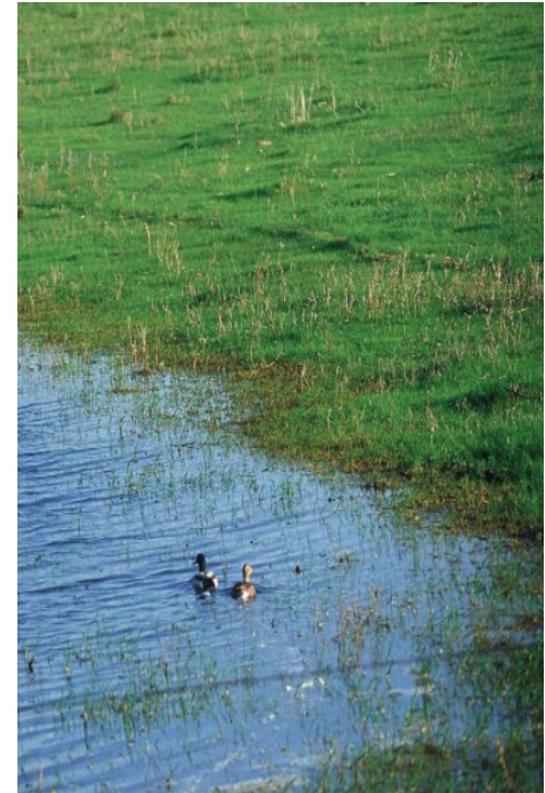


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Example CLEAR30 Annual Payment Calculation

State	County	NASS Rate	Map Unit Symbol	10 Percent Inflationary Incentive	Rate with Inflationary Incentive	Continuous CRP Signup - 90 Percent	SPI	SPI Adjusted SRR 1/
Any State	Any County	\$100	ADC1	\$10	\$110	\$99	1.50	\$149
Any State	Any County	\$100	ADC2	\$10	\$110	\$99	1.25	\$124
Any State	Any County	\$100	CR1	\$10	\$110	\$99	1.00	\$99
Any State	Any County	\$100	PVa	\$10	\$110	\$99	.75	\$75
Any State	Any County	\$100	PVb	\$10	\$110	\$99	.50	\$50

10 acres CP22 CLEAR30 Offer

- **The following incentives apply:**
 - 10% Climate Smart Incentive
 - 20% Water Quality Incentive
 - 27.5% CLEAR30 rental rate adjustment
- 57.5%**

Example CLEAR30 Annual Payment Calculation

Soil	Acres	COLS Soil Rate	Total Rent	Weighted Average SRR
CR1	4	\$99.00	\$396.00	
ADC2	3	\$124.00	\$372.00	
PVa	2.5	\$ 75.00	\$188.00	
Totals	9.5		\$956.00	\$100.63/acre

4 acres of Soil CR1 – COLS rate = $\$99 \times 4 \text{ acres} = \396.00

3 acres of Soil ADC2 – COLS rate = $\$124 \times 3 \text{ acres} = \372.00

2.5 acres of Soil PVa– COLS rate = $\$75 \times 2.5 \text{ acres} = \188.00

- **Total Incentive Adjustment (57.5 percent) =**
 $\$100.63 \times .575 = \$57.86/\text{acre}$
- **Maximum rental rate = $\$100.63 + \$57.86 = \$158.49/\text{acre}$**
- **Annual payment = $10 \text{ acres} \times \$158.49/\text{acre} =$**
 $\$1585.00/\text{year for 30 years.}$

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Monitoring Site Visits

- NRCS or TSP will complete monitoring site visits every 3 years for all CLEAR30 contracts.
- Modifications to the conservation plan will occur as needed after the site visits to schedule needed **maintenance** activities over the next 3 years.



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Maintenance Activities and Payments

All of the following activities are considered CLEAR30 maintenance activities and are eligible for maintenance payments:

- practice establishment/re-establishment, activities needed to maintain the practice and included in the conservation plan,
- traditional “mid-contract management” activities,
- operation and maintenance activities as determined by NRCS monitoring site visits and planning.



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Maintenance Activities and Payments, *continued*

CLEAR30 offers additional assistance to participants to perform maintenance activities throughout the contract period. Participants will have 2 options for performing maintenance:

OPTION 1: Participant performs all needed maintenance activities; FSA issues maintenance payment to participant.

OPTION 2: FSA will enter into an agreement or contract with a third-party vendor who will perform the needed maintenance activities onsite; FSA issues maintenance payment to vendor.

Note: Producer will elect their maintenance option on the form CRP-2C-30.



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Maintenance Activities and Payments, *continued*

Maintenance Option	Maintenance Payment Rate
Option 1 – Producer performs maintenance	75%
Option 2 – Vendor performs maintenance through contract/agreement.	100%



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Maintenance Activities and Payments, *continued*

To assist CLEAR30 participants that elect **OPTION 2**, FSA will enter into a contract or agreement with partner organizations or third-party vendors who will facilitate completion of maintenance activities on enrolled land on a regular basis.

Maintenance payments are authorized for all CLEAR30 maintenance activities, including conservation cover re-establishment and management, **consistent with conservation plans**, NRCS or TSP monitoring, or other documentation made a part of the CRP-1, upon completion.



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Maintenance Payment Rates

- Maintenance payment rates are established by the FSA State Committee, in consultation with NRCS, for all CLEAR30 maintenance activities to be used within the State.

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Maintenance Activities and Payments, *continued*

- Site Prep
- Seeding/Inter-seeding/Planting
- Control of weeds – chemical/mechanical
- Mowing/Discing
- Prescribed Burning/Firebreaks
- Maintenance of structures, i.e:
 - Grassed Waterways
- Re-establishment of conservation practice damaged by no fault of producer
- Maintenance of installed structures, i.e:
 - Fence
 - Watering components
 - Livestock crossing



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CLEAR30 Provisions Common to CRP

- CLEAR30 will be subject to same AGI, payment limit, HEL/WC, and many of the common provisions of CRP
- CLEAR30 will use the same policy as the rest of CRP regarding ACEP/Agricultural Land Easements (ALE) including any future change



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Compatible Uses

CRP CLEAR30 will allow the following compatible uses if the use is consistent with the conservation plan and does not degrade water quality or other purposes of the practice:

- hunting and fishing and wildlife food plots
- managed timber harvest
- periodic haying and grazing (according to 2-CRP Part 19)

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Outreach

Postcards will be mailed from the National Office to each unique address associated with an expiring contract that is potentially eligible for CLEAR30.

- contracts expiring Sept. 30, 2022
- eligible practices

Webinar Recording and Slides will be posted on FSA Outreach's Webinar page:

<https://www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/outreach-and-education/webinars/index>



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Contract Effective Dates

All approved
CLEAR30 Signup 57
offers, will be
effective on:

October 1, 2022



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Deadlines

August 5, 2022

- Deadline for producers to submit signed CLEAR30 offers.

September 9, 2022

- Deadline for NRCS/TSP to complete the conservation plan and return the conservation plan to FSA.

September 30, 2022

- Deadline for FSA to approve the CLEAR30



*If Conservation of natural resources goes wrong,
nothing else will go right.*
- M.S. Swaminathan