



CONSERVATION ENHANCEMENT ACTIVITY

E328C

CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

Conservation crop rotation on recently converted CRP grass/legume cover

Conservation Practice 328: Conservation Crop Rotation

APPLICABLE LAND USE: Crop (Annual & Mixed)

RESOURCE CONCERN: Soil

ENHANCEMENT LIFE SPAN: 1 Year

Enhancement Description

Crop rotation on acres converted, no more than 2 years prior, from CRP grass/legume cover to annual crops. Rotation minimizes disturbance (STIR less than 10) and reduces soil erosion below soil tolerance level. Enhancement not applicable on hayland.

Criteria

- Enhancement limited to acres where the conversion from Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) grass/legume conservation cover to annual cropland took place not more than 2 years prior to enrollment in Conservation Stewardship Program.
- This enhancement is not applicable on hayland.
- Crops shall be grown in a planned sequence as outlined in the implementation requirements.
- The crop rotation must include a minimum of three different crop types. For the purpose of this enhancement a cover crop is considered a different crop.
- Select crops, a tillage system, and cropping sequence(s) that will produce sufficient and timely quantities of biomass or crop residue which, in conjunction with other



practices in the management system that will reduce soil erosion from water and wind to a level below the soil tolerance (T) level (average annual soil loss).

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- Crop management must minimize soil disturbance resulting in a Soil Tillage Intensity Rating (STIR) less than 10 for the crop rotation (management STIR value).
- Where applicable, plan suitable crop substitutions when the planned crop cannot be planted due to weather, soil conditions, or other local situations.
- [Current erosion prediction models must be used to document crop rotation, average annual soil erosion estimate and STIR \(management value\) for the benchmark and planned operation.](#)





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Documentation and Implementation Requirements

Participant will:

- Prior to implementation, provide NRCS with the planned crop rotation and tillage operation(s) used for each crop.

Field	Acres	Planned Crops (in sequence)	Length of Crop Rotation (years)

Field	Crop	Field Operation	Timing of Field Operation (month/year)

- During implementation, notify NRCS of any planned changes in crops, crop rotation, or field operations to verify the planned system meets the enhancement criteria.
- After implementation, if changes to the rotation were made, complete the tables above to document the applied Conservation Crop Rotation for the contract period and provide to NRCS.

NRCS will:

- As needed, provide technical assistance in selecting crop rotations or substitute crops that would meet the criteria of the enhancement.
- As needed, provide additional assistance to the participant as requested.
- Prior to implementation, verify the enhancement is planned for acres where the conversion from CRP grass/legume conservation cover to annual cropland took place no more than 2 years prior to enrollment in CSP. **Date of Conversion:** _____



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- Prior to implementation, verify the enhancement is not planned on hayland.
- Prior to implementation, use information provided from the participant to calculate soil loss estimates and STIR calculations using the current NRCS approved wind and water erosion prediction technologies. The planned rotation must meet the enhancement criteria of a management STIR value of less than 10 and average annual soil erosion from water and wind less than "T".

"T" = _____ t/ac/year Soil erosion = _____ t/ac/year STIR value = _____

- During implementation, evaluate planned changes in crops, crop rotation, or field operations to verify the planned system meets the enhancement criteria.
- After implementation, if the applied crop rotation is different than the planned crop rotation, use information provided from the participant to calculate soil loss estimates and STIR calculations. The applied rotation must meet the enhancement criteria above.
Soil erosion = _____ t/ac/year and STIR value = _____

NRCS Documentation Review:

I have reviewed all required participant documentation and have determined the participant has implemented the enhancement and met all criteria and requirements.

Participant Name _____ Contract Number _____

Total Amount Applied _____ Fiscal Year Completed _____

NRCS Technical Adequacy Signature

Date