

Farm Service Agency, USDA

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(3) Emergency conservation measures, in accordance with the provisions of this part and such modifications there of as may hereafter be made.

(b) Cost-sharing may be made available to eligible program participants by the Farm Service Agency for:

(1) Soil and water conservation and pollution abatement practices under the Agricultural Conservation Program.

(2) Forestry practices under the Agricultural Conservation Program or Forestry Incentives Program.

(3) Practices to correct damage to land or conservation practices caused by natural disaster under the Emergency Conservation Program.

(4) Installation of water conservation measures under the Emergency Conservation Program during periods of severe drought.

(c) Information on the practices for which costs will be shared, the exact specifications and rates of cost-sharing for such practices, and the eligibility requirements for participating in the programs, may be obtained from the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation county committee (hereinafter referred to as "county committee") for the county in which the farm, ranch or other eligible land is located or from the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation State committee (hereinafter referred to as "State committee"), for the State in which such county is located.

§ 701.2 Definitions.

(a) *County conservation review group* consists of the county committee; the county extension agent; a representative of the Soil Conservation Service; a representative of the U.S. Forest Service; a representative of the Farmers Home Administration; a representative of the State forestry agency or its equivalent, when the representative accepts an invitation to be a member of the group; and a representative of the conservation district in the county, where the governing board of the district accepts an invitation to designate a representative (if there is more than one district in the county, the governing boards of the districts may jointly designate only one person to represent all of the districts). The

county conservation review group shall have the responsibilities as provided for in §§ 701.10 and 701.35.

(b) *Farm* or *ranch* means that area of land considered as a farm under the regulations governing reconstitution of farms, allotments, and bases, part 719 of this chapter, as amended, and, for the forestry incentives program, "farm" or "ranch" means eligible land (or ownership tracts) as provided in § 701.30.

(c) *National conservation review group* consists of representatives of the Farm Service Agency; Soil Conservation Service; U.S. Forest Service; Science and Education Administration; Economics, Statistics, and Cooperatives Service; Farmers Home Administration; Office of the General Counsel, U.S. Department of Agriculture; Office of Budget Planning and Evaluation, U.S. Department of Agriculture; Environmental Protection Agency; and Office of Management and Budget. The national conservation review group is responsible for recommending changes in program administrative procedures and policy guidelines, and evaluations of program effectiveness and operating arrangements.

(d) *Program year* means the Federal fiscal year for accounting purposes.

(e) *State* means any one of the United States, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and (1) In the case of the Agricultural Conservation Program and the Emergency Conservation Program, Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands; and (2) In the case of the Forestry Incentives Program, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands and the Territories and possessions of the United States.

(f) *State conservation review group* consists of the State committee, the State Director of Extension; the State Conservationist of the Soil Conservation Service; a representative of the U.S. Forest Service; a representative of the Farmers Home Administration; a representative of the State forestry agency, or its equivalent, when the representative accepts an invitation to be a member of the group; a representative of the State Soil Conservation Committee, or its equivalent, when the

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representative accepts an invitation to be a member of the group; and a representative of the State Water Quality Agency, or its equivalent when it accepts an invitation to be a member of the group. The State conservation review group has the responsibility provided for in § 701.11.

(g) *State forestry committee*, or its equivalent, consists of the State forester or equivalent State official, who serves as chairperson; and a head or representative at the State level of the following USDA agencies: Farm Service Agency; U.S. Forest Service; Science and Education Administration; Farmers Home Administration; Soil Conservation Service. At the discretion of the committee, State and local interests may also be involved. The function of the State forestry committee is to coordinate forestry budget proposals, agency roles in education, technical assistance, technology transfers, and forestry incentives.

(h) In the regulations in this part and in all instructions, forms, and documents in connection therewith, all other words and phrases specifically relating to FSA operations shall, unless the context or subject matter otherwise requires, have the meanings assigned to them in the regulations governing reconstitution of farms, allotments and bases, part 719 of this chapter, as amended.

[45 FR 49522, July 25, 1980, as amended at 47 FR 46998, Oct. 22, 1982; 53 FR 15657, May 3, 1988]

Subpart—Agricultural Conservation Program

§ 701.3 Program objective.

(a) The objective of the Agricultural Conservation Program (hereinafter referred to in this subpart as the “program”) is to assure the continued supply of food and fiber necessary for the maintenance of a strong and healthy people and economy, and to provide for environmental conservation or enhancement.

(b) This will be accomplished through a program that has been formulated and is to be carried out, taking into consideration:

(1) The need to control erosion and sedimentation from agricultural land

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and conserve the water resources on such land.

(2) The need to control pollution from animal wastes.

(3) The need to facilitate sound resource management systems through soil and water conservation.

(4) The need to encourage voluntary compliance by agricultural producers with Federal and State requirements to solve point and non-point sources of pollution.

(5) National priorities reflected in the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and other congressional and administrative actions.

(6) The degrees to which the measures contribute to the national objective of assuring a continuous supply of food and fiber necessary for the maintenance of a strong and healthy people and economy.

(7) The type of conservation measures needed to improve water quality in rural America.

(8) The types of conservation measures needed that have significant energy conserving benefits.

[45 FR 49522, July 25, 1980, as amended at 47 FR 939, Jan. 8, 1982]

§ 701.4 State funds.

Funds available for practices to be performed under the program will be distributed among the States in accordance with conservation needs as determined by the Secretary.

§ 701.5 County funds.

The State committee will allocate the funds available for practices among the counties within the State consistent with the program objective, and will give particular consideration to the furtherance of special projects, watershed conservation projects, resources conservation development projects, approved State water quality plans, and other conservation and pollution abatement projects sponsored by local people and organizations.

§ 701.6 Availability of funds.

(a) The provisions of the program are subject to such legislation as the Congress of the United States may hereafter enact; the paying of the cost-shares provided herein is contingent