

530.320E CSP Contract Renewal Notification Letter

<<Insert Date>>

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL: RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

«Decision_Maker_Common_Name»

«Decision_Maker_Information_Address_Line»

«Decision_Maker_Delivery_Address_Line»

«Decision_Maker_Address_City», «Address_State» «Address_ZIP_Code»

Re: Conservation Stewardship Program Contract Renewal Opportunity

Dear «Decision_Maker_Common_Name»:

Your existing Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) contract is in its fifth year, and at this time you have the opportunity to apply to renew your CSP contract for an additional 5-year term.

If you are interested in applying for renewal consideration, the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) must receive your complete renewal application no later than <<Insert cutoff date>>.

To apply for renewal consideration, please complete and submit the enclosed Forms NRCS-CPA-1200, “Conservation Program Application,” and NRCS-CPA-1248, “Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) Contract Renewal Offer Worksheet.” You can also obtain these forms online at <http://forms.sc.egov.usda.gov/eForms/> or by contacting me at the local NRCS office.

To be eligible for a renewal contract, you must—

- (1) Be in compliance with the terms of your existing CSP contract.
- (2) Include all newly acquired or newly eligible land that is part of the agricultural or nonindustrial private forest (NIPF) operation and for which you will have effective control for the 5-year renewal contract term. Do not include land enrolled in another CSP contract, including a CSP Grassland Conservation Initiative (GCI) contract.

Note: Public land associated with other eligible land uses—cropland, pasture, range, NIPF, associated agricultural land, or farmstead—which is under the effective control of the applicant, and which is a working component of the producer’s agricultural or NIPF operation, may now be considered eligible for enrollment in CSP.

- (3) Agree to adopt and integrate new or improved conservation activities across the entire agricultural or NIPF operation, demonstrating continued improvement during the additional 5-year period.
- (4) Agree by the end of the renewal contract period to either—
 - Meet or exceed the stewardship threshold of at least two additional priority resource concerns on the agricultural or NIPF operation; or
 - Adopt new or improve existing conservation activities to achieve higher levels of

conservation performance for at least two priority resource concerns met or exceeded in the existing contract.

Note: Other provisions may apply per contract terms and conditions as specified on Appendix to Form NRCS-CPA-1202, "Conservation Program Contract."

NRCS will assess and rank all renewal applications received on or before the renewal application cutoff date. Renewal applicants will compete within a separate State-established ranking pool, and NRCS will make funding selections based on ranking score and available funds.

Please be aware that if you make changes to your existing contract while we are evaluating your renewal application, you may no longer meet the renewal eligibility requirements. We evaluate your application based on the system in place at the time of the contract renewal offer to determine if it meets minimum program requirements.

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact me at <<(XXX) XXX-XXXX>> or by email at <<first.last>>@usda.gov. You may securely view and interact with your NRCS Conservation Records through www.Farmers.gov.

Sincerely,

<<Enter DC's name>>
District Conservationist

Enclosures