



Natural Resources Conservation Service  
125 South State Street, Room 4010  
Salt Lake City, UT 84138-1100

Date: DEC 13 2013

UTAH BULLETIN NO. UT-440-14-12

**SUBJECT: Provide Conservation Activity Plans (CAP) Guidance for Utah**

**Purpose. To communicate CAP guidance and list CAP assigned fund pools in Utah.**

**Expiration Date. September 30, 2014**

**Background. The Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (2008 Farm Bill) and subsequent congressional actions authorize NRCS to provide financial assistance through EQIP to support development of CAPs. This bulletin provides program and technical guidance for support and management of 17 approved CAPs during FY 2014.**

**Explanation. This bulletin provides the list of CAPs and their associated fund pools. Information for CAPs will be found in NB 300-14-6. Highlights from that National Bulletin are listed below.**

**“ProTracts will not allow the application to be approved or obligated without a ranking score for applications for CAPS.”**

**“All EQIP program contracts must be supported by an NRCS approved conservation plan per requirements in 440-CPM Part 512, Subpart B, prior to approval of the CAP contract. To ensure that CAPs appropriately address all relevant resource concerns, an NRCS-certified conservation plan, supported with an agency-prepared NRCS-CPA-52, must be provided to the participant prior to approval of the CAP contract.”** *In order to meet the planning requirements for CAPs, the CAP must be developed in toolkit by identifying the PLU, and selecting the appropriate 100 series conservation practice code for the applicable CAP for that land unit. This plan should then be uploaded in the ProTracts wizard for contracting.*

**“As in FY 2013, there is no requirement for TSPs to complete portions of Form NRCS-CPA-52, “NRCS Environmental Evaluation Worksheet,” and program payment does not include time to complete this document. Qualified NRCS staff must complete the entire NRCS-CPA-52 for CAPs prior to approval of the CAP contract. The TSP proficiencies on the TSP Web site were revised in FY 2010 to reflect this change and should encourage more TSPs to seek certification to complete CAPs. NRCS has responsibility for completion of the NRCS-CPA-52.”** *All CAPs are eligible for USDA Categorical Exclusion No 1. Policy development; planning and implementation which relates to routine activities, such as personnel, organizational changes, or similar administrative functions. A template CPA-52 can be found in eFOTG section 1/References and Tools/NEPA. Prior to any future practice based contracts being obligated based on the CAP, a new CPA-52 must be completed analyzing such practices.*

**“Eligible producers may submit applications for development of multiple CAPs; however, only one CAP contract may be concurrently approved and developed on an eligible land unit (e.g., field) at the**

same time. Once a CAP contract is completed, then another CAP application may be considered on the same land. Note: State Conservationists must ensure that approved EQIP contracts will not allow duplication of payments for the same planning services in program contracts (i.e., contracts with both 100-series practice payments financial assistance (FA) and 900-series TA payments for the same planning services on the same land)."

"Applications for CAPs must address all the identified and applicable resource concerns and include all the eligible fields that—

- The CAP is designed to address (i.e., all farmstead, crop or pasture operations).
- Are within the operating unit.
- The producer has control.
- Are included in the NRCS-certified conservation plan.

CAPs that do not cover the entire area described above will be determined ineligible, as they are not effective in assisting the producer to meet the purpose of the program."

#### Approved CAPs and associated ProTracts Subaccounts FY2014

| Practice Code | Conservation Activity Plan Name   | Required to be offered                                | CAP's Assigned Fund Pools in Utah  |
|---------------|---|---|--|
| 102           | Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan  | All States  | All AFO/CAFO Fund Pools  |
| 104           | Nutrient Management Plan  | All States  | All AFO/CAFO, Crop/Hayland, and Pasture Fund Pools   |
| 106           | Forest Management Plan  | All States  | All Forestry Fund Pools  |
| 108           | Feed Management Plan  | All States  | All AFO/CAFO, Crop/Hayland, Range and Pasture Fund Pools   |
| 110           | Grazing Management Plan   | All States  | All Range and Pasture Fund Pools   |
| 112           | Prescribed Burning Plan   | All States  | All Forestry, Crop/Hayland, Pasture, and Salinity Wildlife Fund Pools  |
| 114           | Integrated Pest Management  | All States  | All EQIP Fund Pools (except Salinity)  |
| 118           | Irrigation Water Management Plan  | All States  | All Crop/Hayland, Pasture, and Salinity Fund Pools   |
| 122           | Agricultural Energy Management Plan - Headquarters                              | All States  | Energy Initiative Fund Pool  |
| 124           | Agricultural Energy Management Plan - Landscape                                 | All States  | Energy Initiative Fund Pool  |
| 126           | Comprehensive Air Quality Management Plan                                       | Required in Air Quality States. Optional other States | Not used in Utah   |
| 130           | Drainage Water Management Plan  | All States  | Put in any appropriate EQIP Fund Pool  |
| 134           | Conservation Plan Supporting Transition from Irrigation to Dryland Farming Plan | Required in AWEP States. Optional other States.       | Not used in Utah   |
| 138           | Conservation Plan Supporting Organic Transition                                 | All States  | Organic Initiative and Crop/Hayland Fund Pools   |
| 142           | Fish and Wildlife Habitat Management Plan                                       | All States  | All Wildlife Fund Pools (Salinity Wildlife, and Working Lands for Wildlife Fund Pools) Riparian, Salinity, and Forestry Fund Pools |
| 146           | Pollinator Habitat Enhancement Plan   | All States  | All EQIP Fund Pools  |
| 154           | Integrated Pest Management Herbicide Resistant Weed Conservation Plan           | Optional all States                                   | Not used in Utah   |

**Contact.** For questions, contact Pedro Ramos, Assistant State Conservationist for Programs, (801) 524-4552, [pedro.ramos@ut.usda.gov](mailto:pedro.ramos@ut.usda.gov).

  
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