
August 20, 2003

WEST VIRGINIA BULLETIN NO: WV300-3-12

SUBJECT: LTP-FY2003 Grassland Reserve Program (GRP)

Purpose: To announce selection of successful GRP applicants.

Expiration Date: September 30, 2003

Attached is a list of nine (9) Grassland Reserve Program rental applications that have been selected for contract development. District Conservationists are requested to verify that the information is correct for any selected applicants in their work area, and to confirm this information with Jerry Brackenrich at the South Area Office, (304) 255-9225, ext. 109.

We also expect to fund one 30 year easement in Wayne County, pending Office of General Counsel (OGC) resolution of issues related to easements.

District Conservationists with successful applicants will notify the applicants of their selection and work with the applicant to develop a conservation plan. Since all of the selected applicants are already at an RMS level, the conservation plan will document the existing conservation practices and the necessary operation and maintenance needed to maintain the practices. Prescribed Grazing Management will be documented on all grazing land, and Forage Harvest Management on any hayland. Since no cost shared practices are being applied, the conservation plan from Toolkit should be adequate. An AD-1155 will not be necessary.

After the conservation plan has been prepared and signed by the landowner and NRCS, a copy will be provided to Farm Service Agency (FSA).

FSA will prepare the CCC-920, Grassland Reserve Program Contract and CCC-920 Appendix.

FSA will schedule a joint meeting with the landowner and NRCS to review the contract documents and conservation plan prior to the landowner signing the CCC-920.

Applicants not selected for contract development will be notified in writing that they are on a waiting list, subject to future availability of funds. A sample letter is attached for your use.

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact Kelley Sponaugle or Jerry Brackenrich at (304) 255-9225.

/s/ Charlotte Wertz, Acting for

/s/

**LILLIAN V. WOODS
State Conservationist
Natural Resources Conservation Service**

**JOHN RADER
State Executive Director
Farm Service Agency**

**Attachment: GRP Applications Selected for Contract Development
 Letter for Plan Development
 Letter of Deferral**

**DIST: AO
 FO**

**John Rader, State Executive Director, FSA, Morgantown
Truman Wolfe, Ex. Director, WVCA, Charleston, WV
Joe Gumm, President, WVACD, Elkins, WV
Jim McClelland, WV RC&D Assoc., Huntington, WV**

GRP Applications Selected for Contract Development

FY-2003

Rental Applications Selected

<u>Farm#</u>	<u>Tract#</u>	<u>Index</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Amount</u>
154	37	525	10-Rent Dixie Lou	Cabell	100	\$8,500
715	69	250	10-Rent Playford Clark	Preston	104.5	\$7,315
301	1036	210	10-Rent Robert Teter	Randolph	283	\$22,640
301	1044	200	10-Rent Robert Teter	Randolph	87.2	\$6,980
19	180	150	10-Rent Kermit Bonner	Tucker	118	\$9,940
1675	1869	100	10-Rent Matthew Hott	Hampshire	49.3	\$4,190
B21	207	100	10-Rent Matthew Hott	Hampshire	56.2	\$4,777
1749	1208	100	10-Rent Matthew Hott	Hampshire	66.9	\$5,687
1941	4614	85	15-Rent Don Helgason	Preston	119	\$12,495

Easement Application Selected (30 Year)

<u>Farm#</u>	<u>Tract#</u>	<u>Index</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Amount</u>
245	170	400	Mr. & Mrs Lewis Nelson	Wayne	40.9	\$204,500

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE Natural Resources Conservation Service <Field Office or Service Center Name> <Street Address> <City, State, Zip Code>	Telephone: < > FAX: < > Email: < >
	August 21, 2003

<Participant Name>
<Street Address>
<City, State, Zip Code>

Farm No: < > Application No: < >
Program: Grassland Reserve Program (GRP)

Dear <Participant Name>:

Your request for a contract in the Grassland Reserve Program (GRP) has been deferred for possible funding at a later date due to a current lack of sufficient funding for the program. Your application, while having been evaluated as having high potential environmental benefits, ranked lower than other applicants during this application ranking period. Your application will be placed on a waiting list and considered in the next ranking period, subject to the availability of funds. You will be contacted by the USDA Service Center if funds become available.

The deferred approval of your application due to a current lack of funds and the use of application ranking criteria is not an appealable issue under the NRCS and USDA rules of appeal. You may appeal the technical determination that was the basis for the deferral if you find that an error was made in either the correct application of the ranking criteria or in any of the calculations made while applying the ranking criteria to your application. The NRCS rule governing appeals of adverse agency decisions and determinations is 7 CFR 614. If you feel that your appeal rights have been incorrectly denied, you may request a Review of Appealability from the Regional Office of the National Appeals Division (NAD) at the following address:

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
National Appeals Division
East Regional Office
3500 DePauw Boulevard, Suite 2052
Indianapolis, Indiana 46268

The NAD rule governing appealability reviews and formal appeals is 7 CFR 11.

Thank you for your interest in this program. We look forward to assisting you in the future.

Sincerely,

<Name>
District Conservationist

cc: [enter Name of CED, Farm Service Agency]

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE Natural Resources Conservation Service <Field Office or Service Center Name> <Street Address> <City, State, Zip Code>	Telephone: < > FAX: < > Email: < >
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<Participant Name>
<Street Address>
<City, State, Zip Code>

Farm No: < > Application No: < >

Program: Grassland Reserve Program (GRP)

Dear <Participant Name>:

Your request for participation in the Grassland Reserve Program (GRP) was selected as a high priority request and will require a conservation plan prior to signing of a contract. You have the option of having the conservation plan developed by NRCS or by any certified technical service provider with experience in natural resource conservation planning. After your plan has been developed and has been determined to be acceptable to NRCS, the Farm Service Agency (FSA) will prepare the appropriate contract documents.

This letter does not serve as a formal approval of your contract request. Please do not start any proposed conservation practice before your contract is formally approved and signed. Starting any practice before approval will invalidate that practice for financial assistance and may alter the chances of your request being selected for approval.

Please contact this NRCS office at [insert telephone number] to make arrangements to finalize your conservation plan. This conservation plan will serve as the basis of your GRP contract to be prepared by FSA.

Sincerely,

<Name>
District Conservationist

cc: FSA CED