

Colorado Republican River CREP (RRCREP)

Farm Service Agency
And
Republican River Water Conservation District

Colorado Republican River CREP (Colorado RRCREP)

- Eligible Counties
 - Eligible counties may or may not include all acres within the county. Eligible acres are based on Colorado RRCREP approved Project Area.
 - Eligible counties are:
 - Kit Carson
 - Lincoln (new 2018)
 - Logan
 - Phillips
 - Sedgwick
 - Washington (new 2018)
 - Yuma
 - [Map](#)



Colorado Republican River CREP (Colorado RRCREP)

- RRCREP Area Map

Colorado Republican River CREP (Colorado RRCREP)

- Program Elements
 - Colorado RRCREP consists of a continuous sign-up CRP component, cost-share, annual rental payments, a State incentive program for the purchase of permanent water rights, permanent retirement of water use for irrigation, and limited use of water for certain purposes.
 - Eligible Conservation Practices
 - CP2 – Establishment of Permanent Native Grasses
 - CP4D – Permanent Wildlife Habitat
 - CP22 – Riparian Buffer
 - CP23 – Wetland Restoration
 - CP23A – Wetland Restoration, Non-Floodplain

Colorado Republican River CREP (Colorado RRCREP)

- Program Elements (Continued)
 - All installed practices and approved conservation plans must be consistent with and meet the minimum criteria in the NRCS Field Office Technical Guide, CRP regulations at 7 CFR Part 1410, FSA National CRP Directives, and the CREP Agreement.
 - Only cropland, as defined and determined by FSA, is eligible for enrollment.

Colorado Republican River CREP (Colorado RRCREP)

- Program Elements (Continued)
 - CRP contracts must be for a period of not less than 14 years and not more than 15 years.
 - FSA is to provide the RRWCD the cropping history including whether the land was irrigated or non-irrigated, of the land offered for the six years immediately prior to the date the land is offered for enrollment under the Colorado RRCREP after receiving the producers permission.

Colorado Republican River CREP (Colorado RRCREP)

- Cropland Eligibility Requirements
 - land must be physically located within the State, and meet the cropland eligibility requirements in 7 CFR Part 1410, FSA National CRP Directives, and the CREP Agreement.
 - 51 percent of the cropland enrolled per CRP contract, and the well from which the cropland enrolled is irrigated, must be physically located within the project area, as determined by FSA.
 - Cropland determined infeasible to farm by FSA in accordance with FSA National CRP Directives may be enrolled, provided such cropland is otherwise eligible for enrollment.

Colorado Republican River CREP (Colorado RRCREP)

- Cropland Cropping History Eligibility Criteria
 - Offered acreage must have been cropped 4 of the 6 years from 2012 through 2017
 - Established by the 2018 Farm Bill
 - The 12 years for eligible rotations are 2006 through 2017

Colorado Republican River CREP (Colorado RRCREP)

- Irrigated Cropland Eligibility requirements for cropland being enrolled as irrigated cropland in Colorado RRCREP

All of the following must be met

Colorado Republican River CREP (Colorado RRCREP)

- Irrigated Cropland Eligibility requirements for cropland being enrolled as irrigated cropland in Colorado RRCREP (Continued)
 1. The person or entity who owns the water right and/or permit to be retired for the land offered for enrollment must:
 - a. Be in compliance with all State laws and procedures regarding such water rights and permits, as determined by the State, at the time the land is offered for enrollment; and
 - b. Agree with the State that the person or entity will permanently cease withdrawing or diverting water under the permitted or decreed water right to irrigate the acres enrolled or any other use, except not more than $\frac{1}{2}$ acre-foot of irrigation water may be applied to the enrolled land during first 12 months of CRP-1 effective date, if specified in the Conservation Plan.

Colorado Republican River CREP (Colorado RRCREP)

- Irrigated Cropland Eligibility requirements for cropland being enrolled as irrigated cropland in Colorado RRCREP (Continued)
 2. The land must have been irrigated at a rate of not less than $\frac{1}{2}$ acre-foot per acre per year for four out of the six years immediately prior to the date the land is offered for enrollment. If the land offered was irrigated in the calendar year the land was offered for enrollment, that calendar year shall be included in the six year period.
 3. The land must be physically and legally capable of being irrigated in a normal manner, as determined by FSA, when offered for enrollment.

Colorado Republican River CREP (Colorado RRCREP)

- Irrigated Cropland Eligibility requirements for cropland being enrolled as irrigated cropland in Colorado RRCREP (Continued)
 4. All irrigated cropland associated with one or more wells or surface water sources must be offered combined as a single manageable unit to facilitate water rights/use management. Partial field or farm enrollments that would require pro-rated well or pro-rated surface water use reductions are not eligible.

Colorado Republican River CREP (Colorado RRCREP)

- Irrigated Cropland Eligibility requirements for cropland being enrolled as irrigated cropland in Colorado RRCREP (Continued)
 5. For land irrigated from:
 - a. Groundwater, the well must be physically located within the project area.
 - b. Surface water, the surface water must be from the Arikaree River or the South Fork or North Fork of the Republican River. Surface water from the Arikaree River or the South Fork or North Fork of the Republican River includes any surface water that has a point of diversion directly from the Arikaree River or the South Fork or North Fork of the Republican River; the point of diversion of the surface water must be within the project area.

Colorado Republican River CREP (Colorado RRCREP)

- Irrigated Cropland Eligibility requirements for cropland being enrolled as irrigated cropland in Colorado RRCREP (Continued)
 6. The maximum number of irrigated cropland acres that can be enrolled per CRP contract is the lessor of the following.
 - a. The total number of acres allowed on the well permit or decreed acres, as applicable, as determined by the State.
 - b. The total number of acres reported to FSA as irrigated.
 - c. The total number of acres irrigated according to the county assessor records, as determined by the State, for the most recent year prior to the date the land is offered for enrollment.

Colorado Republican River CREP (Colorado RRCREP)

- **Non-irrigated Cropland Eligibility** requirements for cropland being enrolled as non-irrigated cropland in Colorado RRCREP

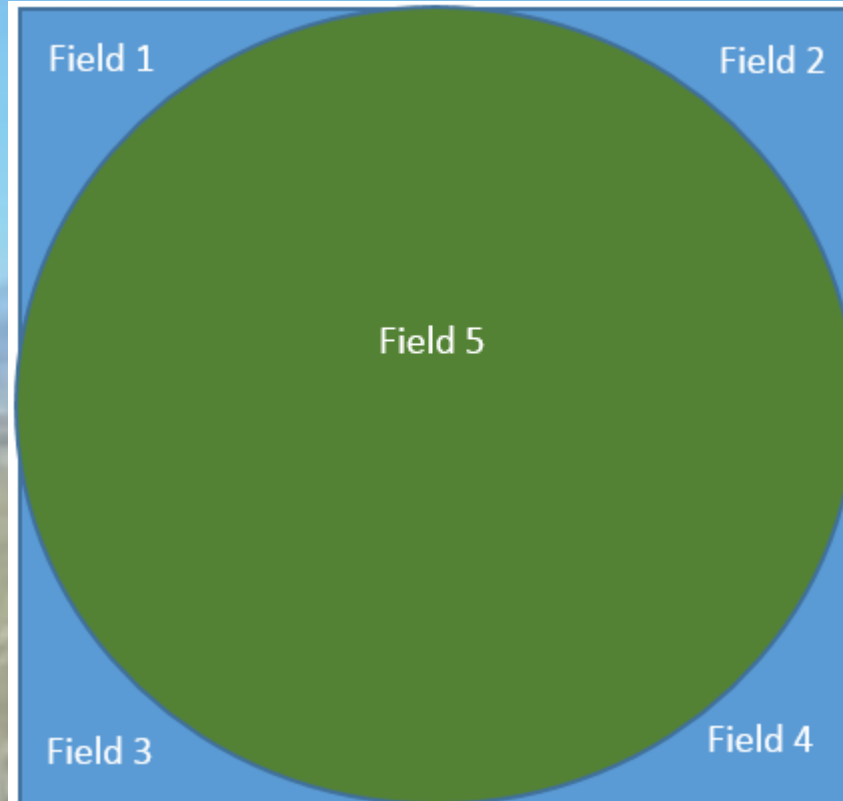
All of the following must be met

Colorado Republican River CREP (Colorado RRCREP)

- Non-irrigated Cropland Eligibility requirements for cropland being enrolled as non-irrigated cropland in Colorado RRCREP
 1. Meet the cropland eligibility requirements in 7 CFR Part 1410 and FSA CRP National Directives.
 2. Be a center-pivot corner immediately adjacent to the center-pivot irrigated cropland being enrolled. Both the eligible non-irrigated center-pivot corner and the immediately adjacent eligible center-pivot irrigated cropland must be enrolled at the same time under the same CRP contract.

No more than 5,000 acres of eligible non-irrigated cropland center-pivot corners may be enrolled under the CREP at any one time.

Colorado Republican River CREP (Colorado RRCREP)



- Producer A is offering the following acres into RRCREP
- 141 acres of a irrigated pivot
 - Field 5 = 141 acres
- 19 acres of non-irrigated pivot corners
 - Field 1 = 4.9 acres
 - Field 2 = 4.70 acres
 - Field 3 = 4.30 acres
 - Field 4 = 5.1 acres

Colorado Republican River CREP (Colorado RRCREP)

- Cropland NOT eligible for Colorado RRCREP
 - Land enrolled under the CREP is not eligible for re-enrollment under the CREP.
 - Irrigated acres that do not meet the Colorado RRCREP irrigated requirements.
 - Non-irrigated pivot corners not associated with a offered irrigated pivot acres.
 - **Acreage enrolled cannot be substituted or switched for other land. The acreage of the non-irrigated corners cannot be combined/consolidated/moved in to a block(s) that result in any enrolled land being cropped/harvest in any manner.**

Colorado Republican River CREP (Colorado RRCREP)



- Can the county combine the 4 pivot corners and redraw them into one field?
 - Field 6 = 19 acres
- Can the county combine and redraw the pivot into a rectangle field?
 - Field 7 = 141 acres

NO!

Colorado Republican River CREP (Colorado RRCREP)

- Irrigation and Water Program Elements (Continued)
 - After the CRP contract is approved (Continued)
 - Participants may apply not more than 1/2 acre foot of irrigation water to enrolled irrigated cropland during the first 12 months after the effective date of the CRP contract, but only when determined necessary and specified in the participant's approved conservation plan with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to establish the approved vegetative conservation cover. Otherwise, no irrigation water may be applied to the land at any time during the term of the CRP contract, unless specifically approved in writing by DAFP.

Colorado Republican River CREP (Colorado RRCREP)

- Federal Commitments – Cost Share
 - Provide cost-share payments to eligible participants for up to 50 percent of the eligible reimbursable costs incurred for establishment of approved conservation practices and eligible management activities according to FSA National CRP Directives.
 - The total of all cost-share payments, from all sources, shall not exceed 100 percent of the participant's out-of-pocket.
 - FSA will use the CRP regulations and FSA National CRP Directives in determining the cost of practice establishment, management activities, and any limitations.
 - A management activity is required. **HOWEVER**, cost share payments are not authorized for any management activities.

Colorado Republican River CREP (Colorado RRCREP)

- Federal Commitments – Annual Rental Payments

- Effective FY2019
and FY2020

County	Irrigated Rental Rate
Kit Carson	\$ 180.00
Lincoln	\$ 181.00
Logan	\$ 153.00
Phillips	\$ 195.00
Sedgwick	\$ 182.00
Washington	\$ 181.00
Yuma	\$ 212.00

Colorado Republican River CREP (Colorado RRCREP)

- Federal Commitments – Annual Rental Payments (Continued)
 - When only irrigated cropland is enrolled, make annual rental payments based on county per-acre irrigated rental rates, as determined by FSA.
 - Irrigated rental rates shall only apply to irrigated cropland that meets all eligibility requirements.
 - The per-acre maximum payment rate for eligible irrigated cropland will be equal to the sum of:
 - A maintenance incentive payment, Practice CP22 (Riparian Buffer) only.

Colorado Republican River CREP (Colorado RRCREP)

- Federal Commitments – Annual Rental Payments (Continued)
 - When a combination of irrigated cropland and non-irrigated cropland is enrolled, make annual rental payments based on a weighted average of the irrigated rental rate determined for the irrigated acres and the non-irrigated rental rate determined for the non-irrigated acres. The per-acre maximum payment rate for a combination of eligible irrigated and non-irrigated cropland will be equal to the sum of:

Colorado Republican River CREP (Colorado RRCREP)

- Federal Commitments – Annual Rental Payments (Continued)
 - A. The weighted average of the:
 - i. Non-irrigated soil rental rate at the time the offer is submitted for the two predominant soils of the eligible non-irrigated acreage offered; and
 - ii. Irrigated cropland rental rate at the time the offer is submitted for the county in which the majority of the eligible irrigated cropland offered is physically located; and
 - B. Maintenance incentive payment, Practice CP22 (Riparian Buffer) only.

Colorado Republican River CREP (Colorado RRCREP)

- Federal Commitments – Annual Rental Payments (Continued)
 - Total Offered Acreage
 - 150.0 acres
 - Irrigated Soils
 - 125.00 acres @ \$180.00
 - The two predominant non-irrigated soils are:
 - 20.00 acres of Soil MUSYM 17 @ \$20.00
 - 10.00 acres of Soil MUSYM AnB @ \$40.00

Colorado Republican River CREP (Colorado RRCREP)

Rental Rate Calculation with Irrigated and Nonirrigated Acres

150.00 total acres

125.00 acres X \$180.00 = \$22,500.00

20.00 acres X \$20.00 = \$4,000.00

5.00 acres X \$40.00 = \$200.00

$\$22,500.00 + \$4,000.00 + \$200.00 = \$26,700.00$

$\$26,700.00 / 150.00 = \178.00 per acre rental rate

Colorado Republican River CREP (Colorado RRCREP)

- Federal Commitments – Incentive Payments
 - Make a one-time Signup Incentive Payment (SIP) if applicable to the practice and land enrolled and in an amount according to FSA National CRP Directives for continuous CRP signup. The SIP is considered a rental payment for payment limitation purposes. SIP is only applicable for the following practices:

Colorado Republican River CREP (Colorado RRCREP)

- Federal Commitments – Incentive Payments (Continued)
 - The following table provides which practices under the Colorado RRCREP are eligible for a one-time SIP.

Practice	SIP Eligibility
CP2	Not Eligible
CP4D	Not Eligible
CP22	Yes (\$10.00) <u>1/</u>
CP23	Yes (\$15.00) <u>2/</u>
CP23A	Yes (\$15.00) <u>2/</u>

1/ CP22 is eligible for a \$10 per acre enrolled SIP. CRP-SIP is calculated by multiplying the number of eligible acres enrolled times the number of full years, **not to exceed 10 years**, of CRP-1 multiplied times \$10.

2/ CP23 and CP23A are eligible for a \$15 per acre enrolled SIP. CRP-SIP is calculated by multiplying the number of eligible acres enrolled times the number of full years, **not to exceed 10 years**, of CRP-1 multiplied times \$15.

Colorado Republican River CREP (Colorado RRCREP)

- Federal Commitments – Incentive Payments (Continued)
 - Make a one-time Practice Incentive Payment (PIP) if applicable to the practice and land enrolled and in an amount according to FSA National CRP Directives for continuous CRP signup. The PIP is considered a rental payment for payment limitation purposes

Colorado Republican River CREP (Colorado RRCREP)

- Federal Commitments – Incentive Payments (Continued)
 - The following table provides which practices under the Colorado RRCREP are eligible for a one-time PIP.

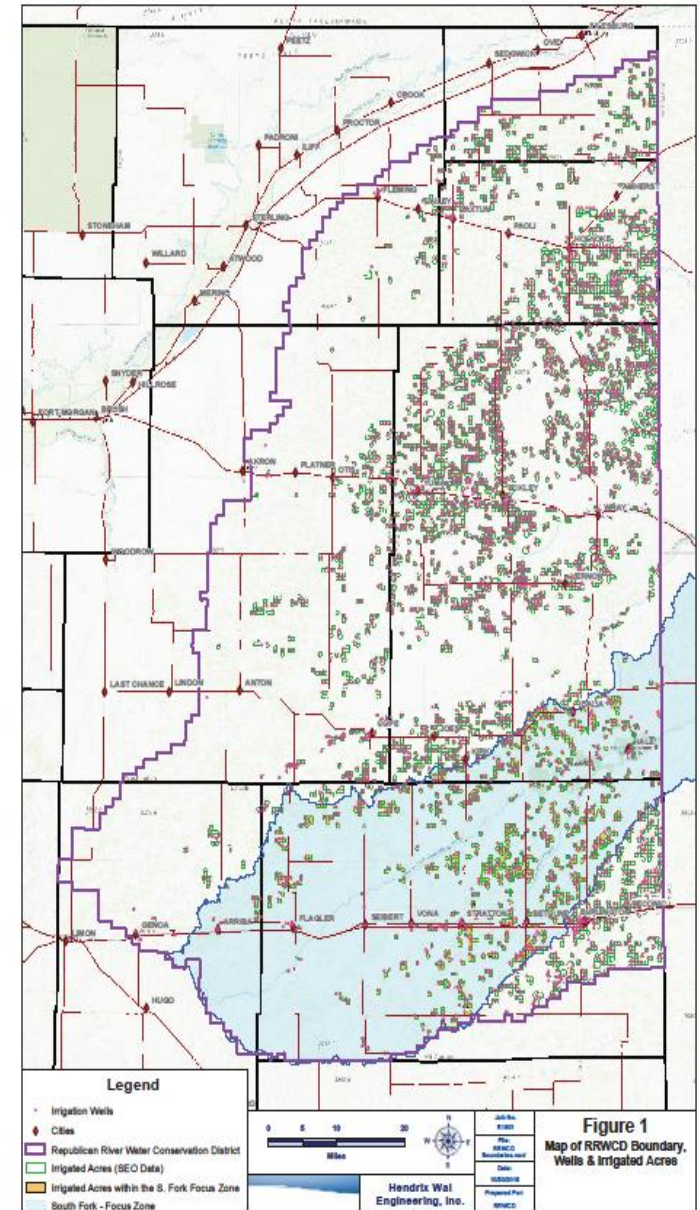
Practice	PIP Payment Eligibility
CP2	Not Eligible <u>1/</u>
CP4D	Not Eligible
CP22	Yes
CP23	Yes
CP23A	Yes

1/ PIP is authorized for CP2 when land is enrolled under wellhead protection criteria.

CREP Signup Dates

- CRP Continuous Signup 53 for Republican River CREP
 - Ends September 30, 2020
 - Do not wait until the last day as an NRCS determination of Needed, Feasible, and Suitable Evaluation is necessary for new land before an offer can be submitted.
 - Effective date of the contract for new land will be the first day of the month following the month the contract is approved.
 - May defer the effective date for up to 6 months but must always be the first day of the applicable month

Republican River Water Conservation District Supplemental CREP





RRWCD Required Documents

1. Copy of the well permit
2. Copy of the deed for the land where the well is located
3. If the applicant is a company/corporation the applicant must provide corporate paperwork showing the members of the company/corporation
4. Documentation authorizing the applicant the legal right to sign on behalf of another person or entity
5. The previous 6 years of FSA-578 forms and corresponding maps showing the acres certified as irrigated land by the well
6. Ownership and Encumbrance Memorandum from the abstract office for the land irrigated by the well

The RRWCD office will also request assessed irrigated acres from the County Assessor

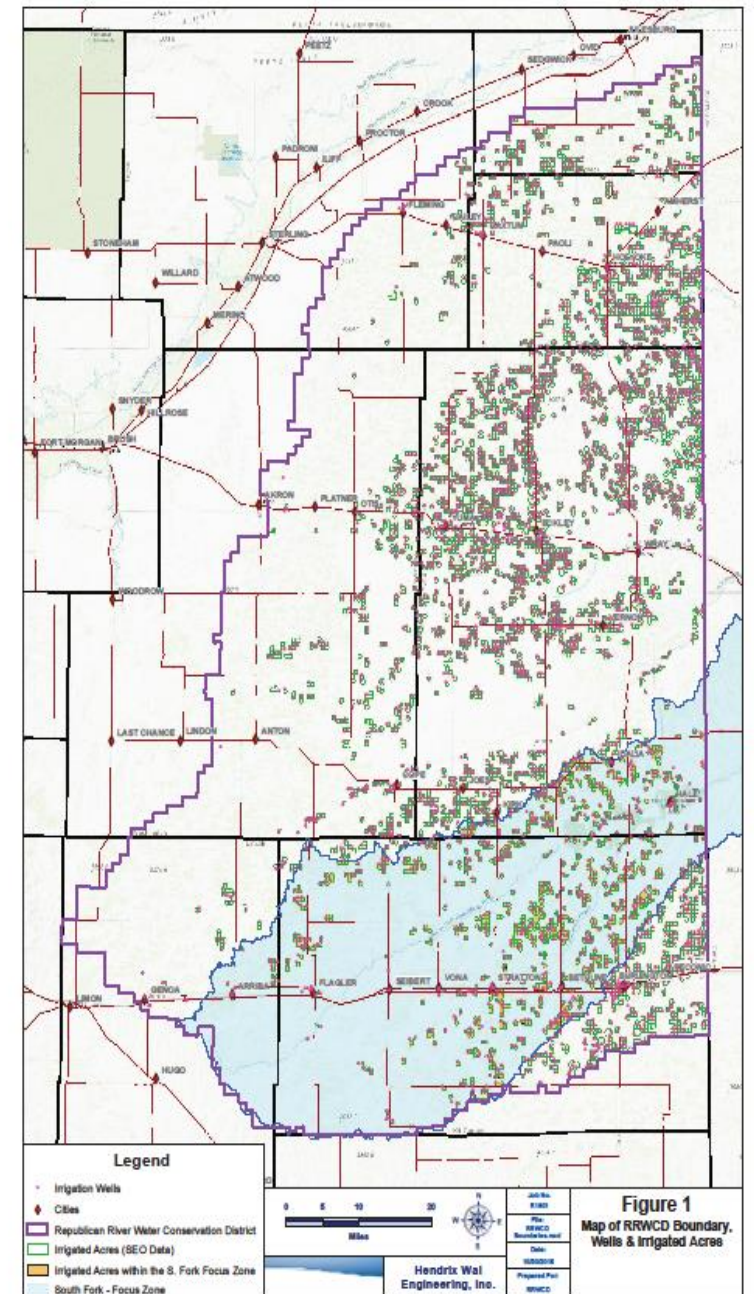
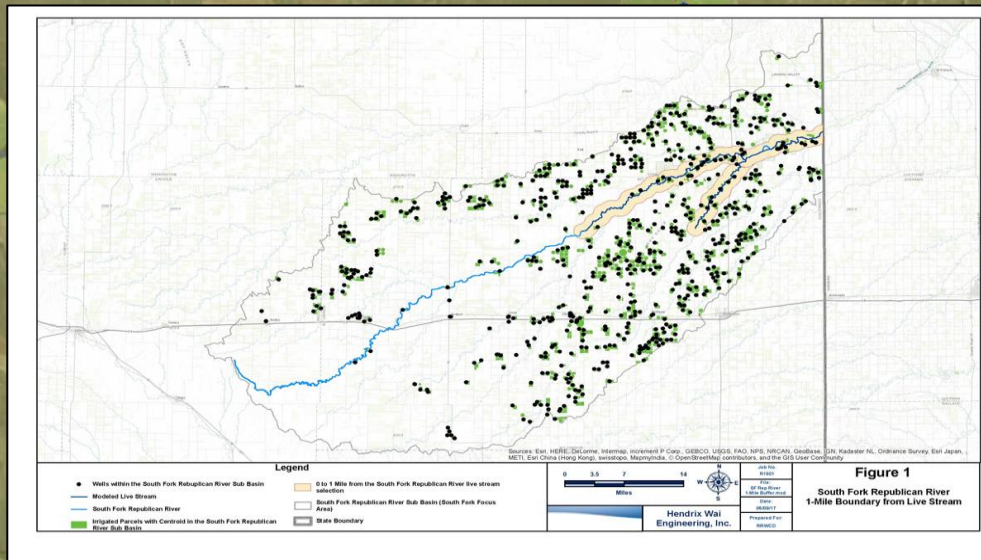


Determination of acres

1. The RRWCD pays on the lesser of three values when determining the number of irrigated acres:
 - Number of acres allowed on the well permit
 - Number of acres irrigated by the well as assessed by the County Assessor the previous year
 - Number of irrigated acres the last six years according to the FSA cropping records

RRWCD Payments

- The RRWCD CREP rates vary due to the location of the water right according to the following descriptions
 - Surface water throughout the entire RRWCD area
 - Wells inside the SF Focus Zone and less than 1 mile from the South Fork Republican River
 - Wells inside the SF Focus Zone and more than 1 mile from the South Fork Republican River
 - Wells less than one mile of the North Fork Republican River and the Arikaree River
 - Wells outside the South Fork Republican Focus Zone and more than 1 mile from the North Fork Republican River and the Arikaree River



REPUBLICAN RIVER WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
WATER ACTIVITY ENTERPRISE

CREP SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING EVALUATION FORM

NAME _____ PERMIT NO. _____
 ADDRESS _____ RRWCD CREP Contract Nr. _____
 CITY/ST/ZIP _____ PHONE _____
 WELL/DIVERSION LOCATION 1/4 1/4 Sec. - T _____ - R _____ W _____
 COMMINGLED WELL LOCATION 1/4 1/4 Sec. - T _____ - R _____ W _____
 LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF ACRES: 1/4 1/4 Sec. - T _____ - R _____ W _____ See attached Final Permit
 FSA County Office that administers the farm for the acres offered: _____

1. County in which WELL(S)/DIVERSION is located															
2. Must be within the CREP project area: A -(Surface water); B-(GW < 1 mile from S.F. live stream-Exhibit 2); C-(GW > 1 mile from S.F. live stream w/in sub basin- Exhibit 2); D- (GW < 1 mile from N.F.-Exhibit 3 or Arikaree - Exhibit 4); E- (GW > 1 mile from any stream and not in SF sub basin- Exhibit 2)															
3. RRWCDWAE payment per acre per year rate (Based on input in box 2)															
4. Copy of Deed, and POA if necessary?															
5. Lien Holder Information?															
IRRIGATED ACRES															
6. Total # of irrigated acres allowed on well permit(s)/decree; or on the commingle approval															
7. Total # of acres irrigated last year (from assessor's records)															
8. Number of acres reported as irrigated at a rate of not less than one-half acre-foot per year for four out of the six years immediately prior to the date of the offer to enroll the land under the Colorado Republican River CREP. FSA 578 forms & maps of irrigated crop records from last 6 years															
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>YEAR</th> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>ACRES</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		YEAR							ACRES						
YEAR															
ACRES															
4th Largest # of Irrigated Acres <input type="text"/>	Note: This is an estimate by RRWCD. FSA will use its form CRP-2C and the to determine the number of acres that meet the FSA requirements. FSA-578														
9. Maximum # of acres to consider(lesser of box 6, box 7, or 4th largest # of acres in box 8)															
10. Annual RRWCDWAE payment, subject to FSA and RRWCDWAE contract approvals (box 3 times box 9)															
11. Total estimated RRWCDWAE dollars, subject to FSA and RRWCD-WAE contract approvals															
12. The producer identified above has been notified by RRWCD, and fully understands, that the well permit number identified above will be cancelled by the Colorado Groundwater Commission after FSA notifies the RRWCD that the approved cover has been established on the acres enrolled under the Colorado Republican River CREP. The producer has been notified, and fully understands, that once the well permit is cancelled, the well can no longer be used for irrigation purposes. Or if this is a surface water right, the right will be removed from irrigation and the RRWCD may change that right to use for compact compliance purposes.															
EVALUATED BY: _____	DATE: _____														

When a commingled system is submitted for CREP, all of the commingled acres will be entered in one contract. The rate per irrigated acre payment of the contract will be based on the applicable rate for the location of the each well.

Payment calculation

- The amount to be paid by the RRWCD for the contract is determined by multiplying the determined number of irrigated acres for the contract by the rate paid per acre for the well, depending on the location of the well.
 - *Rate paid by FSA varies by county*
- If there is a lien on the property, the payment from the RRWCD will include the name of the applicant and the name of the lien holder as the payee.



Next steps

- The vegetation required for each CREP contract is determined by the local NRCS office.
 - The producer may use up to 6 inches of water within the first 12 months of the contract to assist in establishing the cover crop.
 - After the NRCS approves vegetation, they notify the FSA, who forwards the approval to the RRWCD. The RRWCD and the participant completes the form cancelling the final permit for the large capacity well and submits the form to the CO Division of Water Resources.
 - The well owner may choose to downsize the well, the application form is completed with the RRWCD.
 - Upon receiving the Order of the Ground Water Commission that the final permit has been cancelled the RRWCD notifies the FSA that the cancellation has been approved.



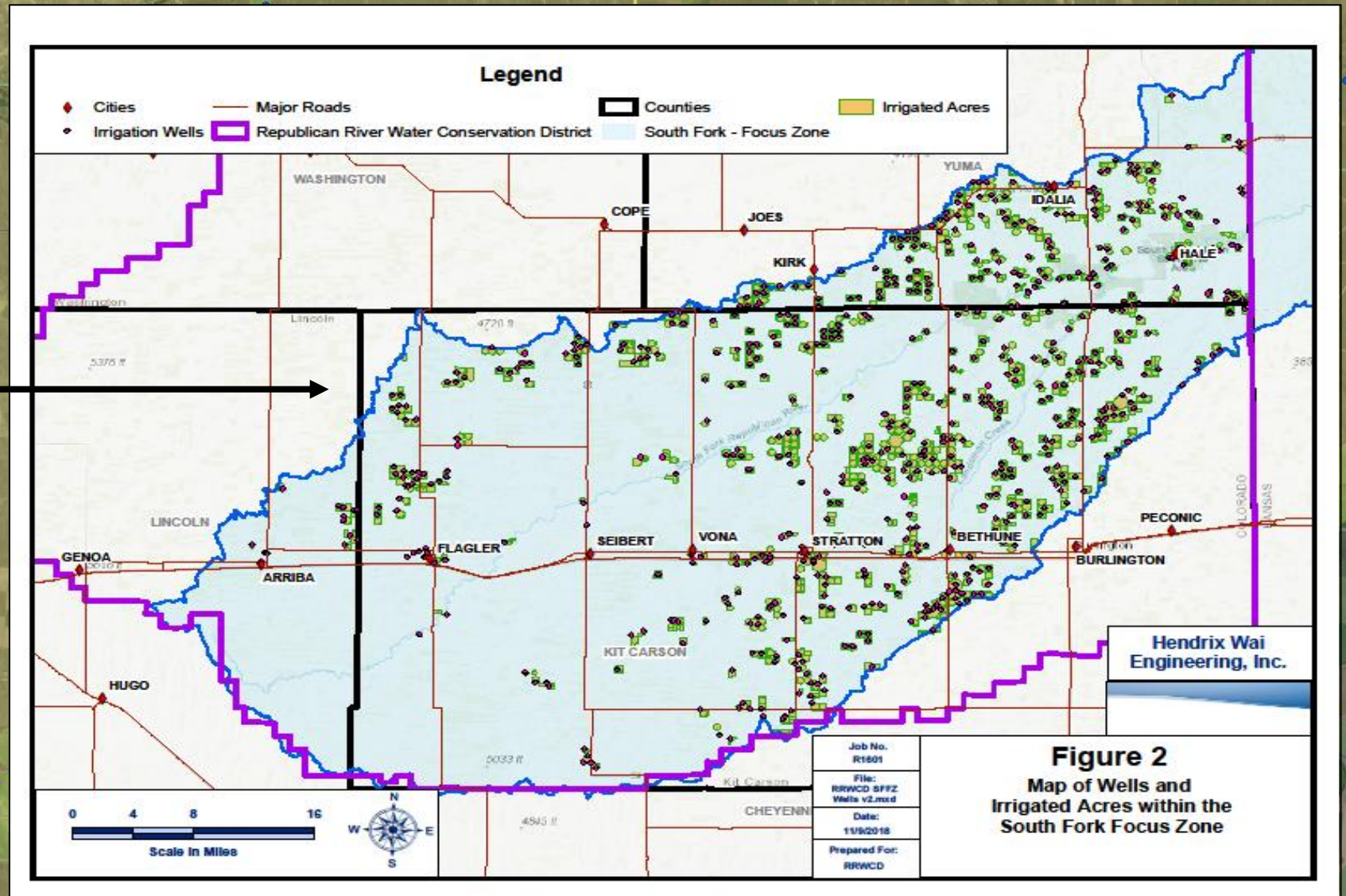
RRWCD Water Use Fee

- The RRWCD Water Use Fee is no longer assessed beginning the first full year of non-irrigation.
 - Applying the 6 inches of water within the first 12 months to establish the cover crop is not considered irrigation when assessing the water use fees.
- Land is assessed as irrigated land for property tax purposes until the end of the 15-year CREP contract by the County Assessor .

	A	B	C	D	E
	Surface Water entire RRWCD area	< 1 mile South Fork & INSIDE Focus Zone	> 1 mile South Fork & within South Fork Focus Zone	< 1 mile North Fork & Arikaree	> 1 mile North Fork, Arikaree - Not in SF Focus Zone
FSA Grass Install Cost Share	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%
Payment per acre per year					
FSA	\$180.00	\$180.00	\$180.00	\$180.00	\$180.00
RRWCD	\$300.00	\$55.00	\$35.00	\$20.00	\$6.00
Total paid per acre for 15-year CREP contract					
Total FSA	\$2,700.00	\$2,700.00	\$2,700.00	\$2,700.00	\$2,700.00
Total RRWCD	\$4,500.00	\$825.00	\$525.00	\$300.00	\$90.00
Total \$ to Producer	\$7,200.00	\$3,525.00	\$3,225.00	\$3,000.00	\$2,790.00

State of Colorado Incentive Payment

The State of Colorado approved **\$2,000,000.00** to be used to incentivize retirement of irrigated acres in the South Fork Focus Zone.



Total Payments Including Incentive Payment

	Surface Water entire RRWCD area	< 1mile South Fork & INSIDE S.F. Focus Zone	> 1mile South Fork & within S.F. Focus Zone	< 1mile North Fork & Arikaree	> 1mile North Fork, Arikaree - Not in SF Focus Zone
Total paid per acre for 15-year CREP contract					
Total FSA	\$2,700.00	\$2,700.00	\$2,700.00	\$2,700.00	\$2,700.00
Total RRWCD	\$4,500.00	\$825.00	\$525.00	\$300.00	\$90.00
Total \$ to Producer	\$7,200.00	\$3,525.00	\$3,225.00	\$3,000.00	\$2,790.00
Incentive Paymt	**	\$200.00	\$200.00		
Total \$ to Producer	\$7,200.00	\$3,725.00	\$3,425.00	\$3,000.00	\$2,790.00
** add \$200.00/ acre if surface irrigated land is in the South Fork Focus Zone					

If you have questions about the CREP program contact

Woody Woods, FSA Colorado District 3 Director
Office: 970-345-2364
Email: woody.woods@co.usda.gov

Deb Daniel, RRWCD General Manager
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Email: deb.daniel@rrwcd.com

Website: www.republicanriver