

PSS – CRP Proposed Agreement with IASWCD – Frequently Asked Questions

Background – Currently IN NRCS has contribution agreements with IASWCD to provide administrative and technical assistance for Farm Bill Programs. The Program Support Services (PSS) agreement started July 2015 and will be ending December 31, 2016. The Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) agreement has been a yearly agreement and will be ending December 31, 2016.

The proposed PSS – CRP Agreement would start January 1, 2017 and expire December 31, 2019.

Questions can be sent to;

IASWCD – Jennifer Boyle Warner: Jennifer-boyle@iaswcd.org or 317-692-7519

SWCD – Whitney McGrew: Whitney.McGrew@in.nacdnet.net or 812-897-2840, Ext. 3

NRCS – Susan Meadows: susan.meadows@in.usda.gov or 317-295-5892

Contract Questions

1. **Without access to toolkit, will we still be able to participate:** Yes, we will work with you on an individual basis if you are interested in participating in the agreement.
2. **Can districts do PSS and not CRP?** Yes.
3. **Will a district be able to add additional items in a future year?** Yes.
4. **Which contract years will the agreement apply to?** All years.
5. **If a county doesn't do the PSS deliverables, will that particular DC still have access to PSS services from some county somewhere?** Possibly, if another county is willing to pick up the workload.
6. **Will a district be able to enter into the agreement in a future year?** Yes.
7. **By signing the agreement in fy17, is the district committing to a whole 3 years of services?** Yes, the agreements will be for 3 years.
8. **How soon will you be sending the webinar follow up email with additional info?** As soon as we get the link to the recorded webinar. However, the deliverables are already loaded on the NRCS Sharepoint under the PPS Resources folder in the Programs tab.

Deliverable Questions

1. **Other than the 3 required deliverables, how many additional deliverables are required, if any?** The minimum is three deliverables (1a, b, and c), the remaining eight are optional.
2. **Can you split the PSS deliverables amongst more than 1 SWCD for 1 Service Center?** One District will have to take on the contract with the minimum of the 3 required deliverables. If they want to split that work out to another District, then they can subcontract that work out.
3. **Where are the 11 deliverables listed?** In attachment A which will be sent with the webinar link.
4. **On 5b: Toolkit Documentation Support, is that EQIP & CTA only or does that include CSP as well?** No, NRCS has not chosen to direct CSP \$ into this deliverable.
5. **We have a question on item 2b – HELC/WC AD1026. In the deliverables column on work description it says “This includes onsite”, and we wanted some clarification on what is meant by onsite. Our understanding is that the onsite investigation has to be completed by someone who is certified to do onsite HELC/WC investigations, and as far as we know the only people certified to do this are NRCS employees. What exactly is meant by onsite?** The “This includes on-site...” means those determinations that were completed on-site by a certified NRCS employee, and using the on-site information and data to create the maps and forms, not that the SWCD employee would collect on-site data. – *2b in Attachment A has been clarified. 11/7/2016*

Miscellaneous Questions

1. **Can the district do CRP field visits this fall?** At this time there is no money allocated to do fall CRP activities by either the SWCD or NRCS.

Quality Assurance

Will QA continue to be quarterly? Yes, there will be a QA component, the PSS portion will stay the same. We are investigating the QA for the CRP portion.

Updated 11/7/2016