

Appendix F. Agricultural Information

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Table 1

Particulate matter (PM) pollution is a public health issue because smaller particles can penetrate deep into the lungs and cause health problems. Particulate matter comes from soot, dust, unburned fuel suspended in the air, and can also be formed in the air from chemical reactions involving gaseous precursors.

Matrix for Approved Conservation Practices and Impacts on Air Quality Resource Concerns				
		Particulate Matter and PM Precursors	Ozone Precursors	Greenhouse Gases
Air Quality Conservation Practices by PM 10	Code	Comprehensive Air Quality Management Plan (CAP 126) has no certified NRCS technical service providers (TSP) available. N/A		
Combustion System Improvement*	372	High	High	Medium
Residue and Tillage Management, No Till/Strip Till/Direct Seed*	329	High	Medium	High
Residue and Tillage Management, Mulch Till*	345	High	Low	Medium
Dust Control from Animal Activity on Open Lot Surfaces	375	High	None	None
Dust Control on Unpaved Roads and Surfaces*	373	High	None	None
Feed Management*	592	High	Low	High
Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment*	380	High	None	High
Air Filtration and Scrubbing*	371	High	Medium	Medium
Roofs and Covers*	367	Medium	Low	High
Conservation Cover*	327	Medium	Low	High
Conservation Crop Rotation*	328	Medium	None	Low
Hedgerow Planting*	422	Medium	None	Low
Mulching*	484	Medium	None	None
Prescribed Grazing*	528	Medium	None	Low
Pumping Plant*	533	Medium	Medium	Medium
Windbreak/Shelterbelt Renovation*	650	Medium	None	Low
Alley Cropping	311	Medium	None	Medium
Amendments for Treatment of Agricultural Waste	591	Medium	Low	Low
Anionic Polyacrylamide (PAM) Erosion Control	450	Medium	None	None
Cover Crop	340	Medium	None	Medium
Critical Area Planting	342	Medium	None	Low
Cross Wind Ridges	588	Medium	None	None
Cross Wind Trap Strips	589c	Medium	None	Low
Drainage Water Management	554	Medium	None	Low

Matrix for Approved Conservation Practices and Impacts on Air Quality Resource Concerns (continued)				
		Particulate Matter and PM Precursors	Ozone Precursors	Greenhouse Gases
Air Quality Conservation Practices by PM 10	Code	Comprehensive Air Quality Management Plan (CAP 126) has no certified NRCS technical service providers (TSP) available. N/A		
Heavy Use Area Protection	561	Medium	None	None
Herbaceous Wind Barriers	603	Medium	None	Medium
Integrated Pest Management	595	Medium	Medium	None
Irrigation System, Sprinkler	442	Medium	None	Low
Irrigation Water Management	449	Medium	None	Low
Nutrient Management	590	Medium	Medium	High
Stripcropping	585	Medium	None	None
Surface Roughening	609	Medium	None	None
Access Control	472	Low	Low	Low
Agrichemical Handling Facility	309	Low	Low	None
Composting Facility	317	Low	Low	Low
Field Border	386	Low	None	Low
Forage and Biomass Planting	512	Low	None	High
Forest Stand Improvement	666	Low	Low	High
Multi-Story Cropping	379	Low	None	Medium
Range Planting	550	Low	None	Medium
Riparian Forest Buffer	391	Low	None	Medium
Riparian Herbaceous Cover	390	Low	None	Medium
Silvopasture Establishment	381	Low	None	High
Solid/Liquid Waste Separation Facility	632	Low	Medium	Low
Tree/Shrub Establishment	612	Low	None	High
Waste Treatment	629	Low	Low	Low
Anaerobic Digester, Controlled Temperature	366	None	Low	High
Waste Treatment Lagoon	359	None	Low	None
Woody Residue Treatment	384	None	Low	Medium

Table location:

http://efotg.sc.egov.usda.gov/efotg_locator.aspx?map=WA/County/Section IV/WA Conservation Practice Standards Section 1/Reference Lists/ Technical Notes by Discipline/ Air Quality

Figure 1 Washington NRCS Air Quality Conservation Practices, 2014

Table 1. Conservation Reserve Program—Washington State Cumulative Enrollment by Fiscal Year (acres)

COUNTY	FIPS	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994
ADAMS	53001	8,924	86,979	141,690	168,168	213,370	213,402	214,052	214,237	214,237
ASOTIN	53003	21	11,856	25,291	25,291	25,291	25,291	25,291	25,291	25,291
BENTON	53005	1,174	15,850	29,075	32,916	33,549	34,566	37,102	41,503	41,503
CHELAN	53007	148	332	332	332	332	332	332	332	332
CLALLAM	53009	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CLARK	53011	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
COLUMBIA	53013	936	6,886	12,160	15,509	20,937	20,949	23,541	23,763	23,763
COWLITZ	53015	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
DOUGLAS	53017	14,299	117,676	153,690	153,690	153,690	153,690	153,690	153,690	153,690
FERRY	53019	142	1,284	1,627	1,893	1,919	1,919	1,919	1,919	1,919
FRANKLIN	53021	1,717	36,069	65,849	72,847	81,800	81,808	84,335	84,422	84,422
GARFIELD	53023	300	3,604	10,485	12,769	15,189	15,207	15,947	16,446	16,446
GRANT	53025	6,972	46,342	60,204	65,056	68,611	69,085	70,859	73,491	73,491
GRAYS HARBOR	53027	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ISLAND	53029	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
JEFFERSON	53031	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
KING	53033	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
KITSAP	53035	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
KITTITAS	53037	0	746	1,435	1,626	1,666	1,828	1,838	2,090	2,090
KLICKITAT	53039	2,425	22,734	43,596	46,010	46,857	46,857	46,857	47,562	47,562
LEWIS	53041	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
LINCOLN	53043	3,533	55,315	86,741	95,338	99,807	99,924	102,713	104,908	104,908
MASON	53045	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
OKANOGAN	53047	256	14,318	17,478	17,724	18,681	18,681	18,681	18,681	18,681
PACIFIC	53049	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PEND OREILLE	53051	0	0	196	196	196	196	196	196	196
PIERCE	53053	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SAN JUAN	53055	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SKAGIT	53057	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SKAMANIA	53059	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SNOHOMISH	53061	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SPOKANE	53063	2,849	18,560	29,979	32,551	33,597	34,998	37,911	41,076	41,076
STEVENS	53065	985	2,888	4,507	4,994	5,334	5,471	5,976	6,063	6,063
THURSTON	53067	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
WAHKIAKUM	53069	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
WALLA WALLA	53071	6,909	66,441	95,469	97,410	101,455	101,475	105,304	108,906	108,906
WHATCOM	53073	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
WHITMAN	53075	345	4,099	12,750	18,800	19,479	24,168	35,073	45,887	45,887
YAKIMA	53077	2,684	18,273	30,898	32,222	32,950	33,078	35,103	36,013	36,013

Table 1. CRP for Washington, Cont'd

<u>COUNTY</u>	<u>FIPS</u>	<u>1995</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>1997</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1999</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>
ADAMS	53001	212,786	210,075	207,182	144,250	146,540	157,461	213,023	212,532	212,464
ASOTIN	53003	25,291	25,221	24,222	21,394	27,994	27,987	28,032	28,508	29,146
BENTON	53005	39,732	40,079	40,234	41,780	51,608	62,424	75,595	75,018	74,266
CHELAN	53007	332	288	104	321	377	1,368	1,373	1,373	1,373
CLALLAM	53009	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	34	34
CLARK	53011	0	0	0	0	0	18	*	63	77
COLUMBIA	53013	22,848	23,276	24,793	25,198	26,867	32,062	38,057	38,214	38,526
COWLITZ	53015	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	*	*
DOUGLAS	53017	153,690	153,764	151,360	131,877	186,002	186,114	187,671	187,734	187,711
FERRY	53019	1,919	1,717	1,717	1,058	1,117	1,091	1,091	1,091	1,091
FRANKLIN	53021	84,376	83,355	81,322	73,826	84,442	95,591	104,500	104,507	104,427
GARFIELD	53023	17,373	17,026	17,626	17,226	23,874	33,450	43,575	44,133	44,673
GRANT	53025	73,633	72,342	70,570	49,069	50,705	52,911	60,768	60,762	60,715
GRAYS HARBOR	53027	0	0	0	20	20	23	37	68	65
ISLAND	53029	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
JEFFERSON	53031	0	0	0	0	0	0	*	76	97
KING	53033	0	0	0	0	0	2	*	*	*
KITSAP	53035	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	*	*
KITTITAS	53037	1,863	1,863	1,807	1,424	3,042	3,328	3,344	3,324	3,294
KLICKITAT	53039	47,555	45,817	44,742	36,747	41,443	49,205	53,980	57,754	57,904
LEWIS	53041	0	0	0	56	56	64	246	435	516
LINCOLN	53043	105,738	103,999	99,869	65,244	71,403	75,690	86,369	86,320	86,229
MASON	53045	0	0	0	0	0	0	*	*	37
OKANOGAN	53047	18,681	18,619	17,296	1,942	1,760	2,657	4,048	4,057	4,065
PACIFIC	53049	0	0	0	3	3	3	0	*	*
PEND OREILLE	53051	196	55	55	0	0	0	0	0	0
PIERCE	53053	0	0	0	13	16	16	*	21	19
SAN JUAN	53055	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SKAGIT	53057	0	0	0	0	0	13	125	316	430
SKAMANIA	53059	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SNOHOMISH	53061	0	0	0	1	21	21	34	84	136
SPOKANE	53063	41,021	39,475	38,265	23,666	26,495	28,065	32,037	31,651	32,103
STEVENS	53065	6,059	5,846	5,766	3,756	3,354	3,656	4,090	3,552	3,516
THURSTON	53067	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	33
WAHKIAKUM	53069	0	0	0	183	301	342	372	361	374
WALLA WALLA	53071	108,904	107,306	103,924	89,275	108,539	122,421	148,781	148,565	148,927
WHATCOM	53073	0	0	0	0	0	20	302	853	1,054
WHITMAN	53075	45,854	46,408	49,667	48,589	60,492	98,946	133,254	135,513	138,896
YAKIMA	53077	36,737	36,543	36,467	33,134	41,848	48,164	53,671	53,727	53,476

Table 1 Table 1. CRP for Washington, Cont'd

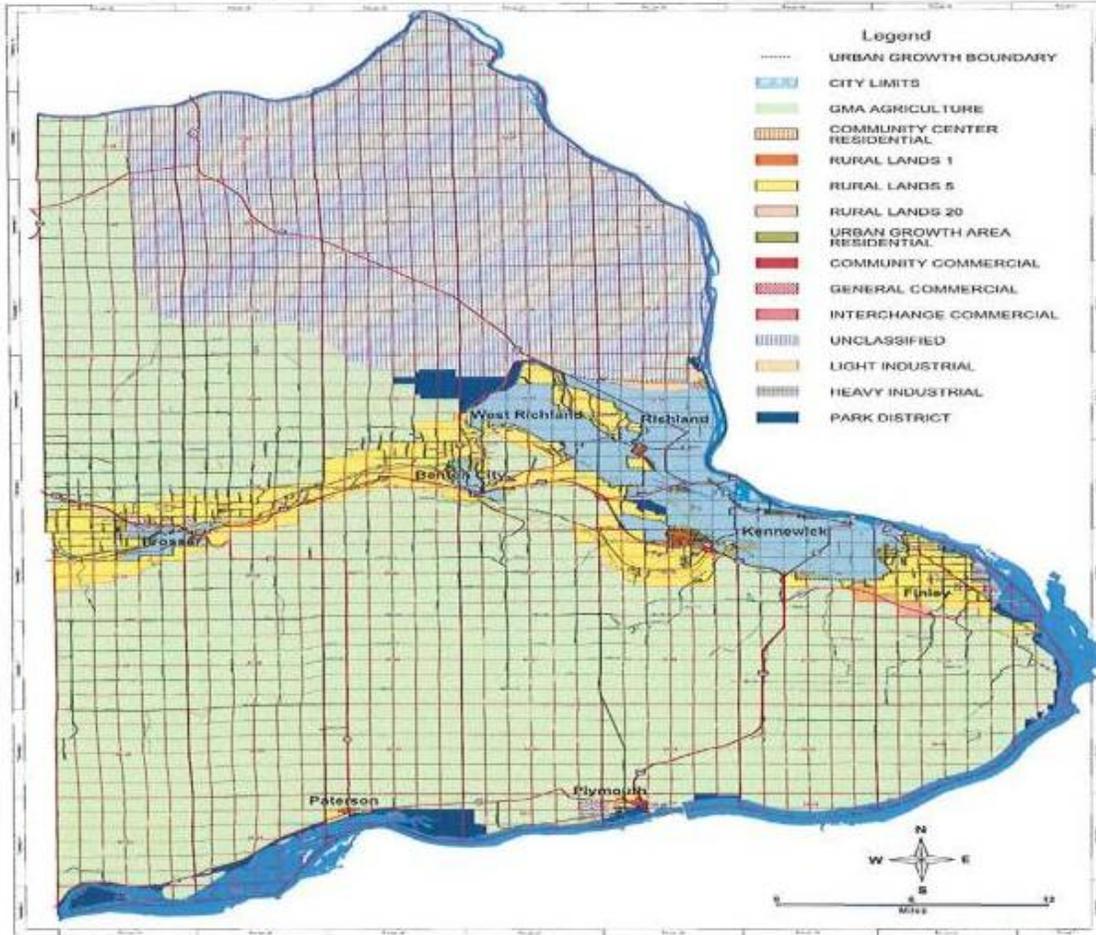
COUNTY	FIPS	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
ADAMS	53001	215,557	215,691	215,454	213,708	212,392	211,104	207,929	212,706	210,289	205,362
ASOTIN	53003	29,637	29,415	29,443	29,472	29,301	28,295	26,672	25,121	23,299	21,924
BENTON	53005	92,602	99,019	117,582	121,309	119,660	118,533	116,918	113,796	112,342	111,258
CHELAN	53007	1,373	1,373	1,363	1,363	1,363	1,363	710	668	664	509
CLALLAM	53009	50	49	46	58	77	69	77	90	102	102
CLARK	53011	92	118	122	121	128	128	128	132	132	132
COLUMBIA	53013	46,130	47,338	53,912	55,289	54,579	54,246	54,362	53,586	49,552	48,226
COWLITZ	53015	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	15	15
DOUGLAS	53017	189,094	186,341	187,087	186,367	184,965	183,123	154,518	160,618	190,798	182,800
FERRY	53019	1,091	1,091	1,091	1,025	1,021	1,032	1,032	941	480	339
FRANKLIN	53021	114,955	116,049	117,362	117,984	117,480	112,053	110,766	109,598	110,319	104,728
GARFIELD	53023	51,425	52,892	53,001	52,948	52,837	52,587	51,852	50,536	49,329	47,445
GRANT	53025	60,694	61,801	73,051	84,705	82,940	80,737	78,264	78,703	78,357	76,918
GRAYS HARBOR	53027	120	120	123	123	123	138	150	149	152	134
ISLAND	53029	0	0	0	0	0	*	*	*	3	3
JEFFERSON	53031	108	108	147	154	154	158	160	161	161	161
KING	53033	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	46	56
KITSAP	53035	*	*	*	19	19	19	19	19	19	19
KITTITAS	53037	3,270	3,270	3,278	3,278	3,074	3,024	3,024	2,768	4,347	3,954
KLICKITAT	53039	59,972	60,655	62,401	59,473	58,659	57,448	45,088	48,901	54,477	51,052
LEWIS	53041	507	518	618	667	694	744	776	836	886	878
LINCOLN	53043	105,566	105,701	130,448	170,101	168,880	166,246	161,586	166,719	165,007	162,283
MASON	53045	37	37	37	64	64	139	135	135	135	158
OKANOGAN	53047	4,108	4,115	4,116	4,125	3,946	3,931	3,848	4,014	4,831	5,662
PACIFIC	53049	43	99	106	113	113	113	131	132	132	132
PEND OREILLE	53051	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PIERCE	53053	19	19	*	*	*	*	*	*	14	1
SAN JUAN	53055	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SKAGIT	53057	448	456	475	470	478	478	523	555	568	573
SKAMANIA	53059	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SNOHOMISH	53061	186	254	249	249	273	282	289	273	228	227
SPOKANE	53063	32,102	33,686	34,206	37,224	35,417	33,255	30,255	31,332	33,163	32,384
STEVENS	53065	3,139	2,743	2,839	3,125	2,369	1,565	1,357	1,088	1,066	951
THURSTON	53067	21	21	21	27	27	27	27	27	27	27
WAHKIAKUM	53069	404	396	396	396	225	180	180	213	237	237
WALLA WALLA	53071	158,765	157,805	155,947	155,531	151,834	149,766	147,304	147,706	152,148	152,539
WHATCOM	53073	1,146	1,228	1,434	1,553	1,703	1,750	1,894	1,966	2,092	2,269
WHITMAN	53075	144,754	154,270	169,336	197,432	195,235	194,246	193,137	192,407	192,826	190,297
YAKIMA	53077	54,099	54,035	54,979	58,217	57,425	57,357	51,158	52,567	50,379	50,765

BENTON COUNTY
 STATE OF WASHINGTON
OFFICIAL ZONING MAP A-1
 Effective 12-3-2012

WE HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS MAP CONSTITUTES THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP AS APPROVED BY ORDINANCE # 524 OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AND SIGNED BY ITS CHAIRMAN

DATED THIS 4 DAY OF Dec 2012.

BY [Signature] CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD ATTEST [Signature] CLERK OF THE BOARD



This is to certify that this Official Zoning Map supersedes and replaces the Official Zoning Map adopted by Ordinance, No. 516 (2011)

Figure 2. Benton County Zoning Map



CONSERVATION

FACT SHEET

July 2014

Highly Erodible Land Conservation and Wetland Conservation Compliance

OVERVIEW

Highly Erodible Land Conservation (HELCS) and Wetland Conservation (WC) provisions aim to reduce soil loss on erosion-prone lands and to protect wetlands for the multiple benefits they provide. HELCS and WC provisions apply to all land owned or farmed that is considered highly erodible or a wetland, unless USDA determines an exemption applies. The regulations covering these provisions are set forth in the Code of Federal Regulations at 7 CFR Part 12.

Producers, and any individual or entity considered to be an affiliated person of the producer, who participate in most programs administered by the Farm Service Agency (FSA), the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), and the Risk Management Agency (RMA) are required to comply with these provisions. Non-compliance may affect the following types of USDA program benefits:

- FSA loans and disaster assistance payments
- NRCS and FSA conservation program benefits
- Federal crop insurance premium subsidies

COMPLIANCE WITH HELCS AND WC PROVISIONS

To be in compliance with the HELCS and WC provisions, producers must fill out and sign form AD-1026 by June 1, 2015, certifying they will not:

- Plant or produce an agricultural commodity on highly erodible land without an NRCS approved conservation plan or system;
- Plant or produce an agricultural commodity on a converted wetland; or
- Convert a wetland which makes the production of an agricultural commodity possible.

Producers planning to remove fence rows, convert woodlots to cropland, combine fields, divide a field into two or more fields, or conduct drainage

activities that have not been previously evaluated by NRCS such as installing, improving or modifying new or existing drainage systems, must notify FSA by filing form AD-1026 detailing these types of planned or completed activities. FSA will notify NRCS, and NRCS will then provide highly erodible land or wetland technical evaluations and issue determinations if needed.

A copy of form AD-1026 can be found at this link: <http://forms.sc.egov.usda.gov/efcommon/eFileServices/eForms/AD1026.PDF>

HIGHLY ERODIBLE LAND

Highly erodible land is any land that can erode at excessive rates. This is defined as having an erodibility index of eight or more. Highly erodible fields are fields where either:

- 33.33 percent or more of the total field acreage is identified as soil map units that are highly erodible, or
- 50 or more acres in such field are identified as soil map units that are highly erodible.

Producers that own or operate land identified as highly erodible are required to farm such land in accordance with a conservation plan or system approved by NRCS that substantially reduces soil loss. Producers proposing to crop highly erodible land that has no crop history prior to Dec. 23, 1985, (known as Sodbusting) are required to farm such land in accordance with a conservation plan or system that provides for no substantial increase in soil erosion. A conservation plan or system to reduce soil erosion is not required for land that is determined not to be highly erodible.

WETLAND

A wetland is an area that:

- Has a predominance of hydric soils (wet soils);
- Is inundated or saturated by surface or ground-

water (hydrology) at a frequency and duration sufficient to support a prevalence of hydrophytic (water tolerant) vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions; and

- Under normal circumstances supports a prevalence of such vegetation except that this term does not include lands in Alaska identified as having a high potential for agricultural development and a predominance of permafrost soils.

AGRICULTURAL COMMODITY

An agricultural commodity is any crop planted and produced by annual tilling of the soil, including one-trip planters or sugarcane.

NRCS AND FSA ROLES IN MAKING DETERMINATIONS

When making HELC and WC compliance determinations:

- NRCS makes technical determinations that include:
 - o For HELC compliance
 1. Whether land is considered highly erodible;
 2. Establishing conservation plans and systems; and
 3. Whether highly erodible land is being farmed in accordance with a conservation plan or system approved by NRCS.
 - o For WC compliance:
 1. Whether land is a wetland and if certain technical exemptions apply, such as prior converted; and
 2. Whether a wetland conversion has occurred.
- FSA makes eligibility determinations, such as who is ineligible based upon NRCS technical determinations of HELC or WC non-compliance. FSA also acts on requests for the application of certain eligibility exemptions, such as the good faith relief exemption.

HIGHLY ERODIBLE LAND AND WETLAND IDENTIFICATION

FSA maintains the official USDA records of highly erodible land and wetland determinations. The determinations are recorded both within the geographic information system and the automated farm and tract records maintained by FSA; however, it is important to know that determinations may not include all of the producer's land. Producers may obtain aerial imagery of their farms and a printout of their farm and tract records from the FSA office administering their farm. If a producer is uncertain of the highly erodible land and wetland determinations applicable to their land, the producer should contact the appropriate USDA Service Center for assistance. The following link will help in locating local USDA Service Centers: <http://offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app>.

HELCS AND WC NON-COMPLIANCE – FSA AND NRCS PROGRAMS

Producers who are not in compliance with HELC and WC provisions are not eligible to receive benefits for most programs administered by FSA and NRCS. If a producer received program benefits and is later found to be non-compliant, the producer may be required to refund all benefits received and/or may be assessed a penalty.

In particular, unless specific exemptions apply, a producer participating in FSA and NRCS programs must be in compliance with an NRCS approved conservation plan or system for all highly erodible land; not have planted or produced an agricultural commodity on a wetland converted after Dec. 23, 1985; and after Nov. 28, 1990, must not have converted a wetland making the production of an agricultural commodity possible on such converted wetland.

A producer who violates HELC or WC provisions is ineligible for applicable FSA and NRCS benefits for the year(s) in violation. A planting violation, whether on highly erodible land or a converted wetland, results in ineligibility for benefits for the year(s) when the planting occurred. A wetland conversion violation results in ineligibility

beginning with the year in which the conversion occurred and continuing for subsequent years, unless the converted wetland is restored or mitigated before January 1 of the subsequent year.

HELIC AND WC NON-COMPLIANCE – RISK MANAGEMENT AGENCY – POLICIES REINSURED BY THE FEDERAL CROP INSURANCE CORPORATION

Producers obtaining federally reinsured crop insurance will not be eligible for any premium subsidy paid by the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (FCIC) for any policy or plan of insurance if the producer:

- Has not filed an accurately completed AD-1026 with FSA certifying compliance with HELIC and WC provisions; or
- Is not in compliance with HELIC and WC provisions. Unless specific exemptions apply, a producer must:
 - Be in compliance with a NRCS-approved conservation plan for all highly erodible land;
 - Not plant or produce an agricultural commodity on a wetland converted after Feb. 7, 2014; and
 - Not have converted a wetland making the production of an agricultural commodity possible on such converted wetland after Feb. 7, 2014.

A producer is ineligible for any premium subsidy paid by FCIC on all policies and plans of insurance for the reinsurance year(s) (July 1 – June 30) following the reinsurance year of a final determination of a violation of HELIC or WC provisions, including all administrative appeals, unless specific exemptions apply. Further, a producer will be ineligible for any premium subsidy paid by FCIC on all policies and plans of insurance for the reinsurance year if they do not have a completed form AD-1026 on file with FSA certifying compliance on or before June 1 prior to the beginning of the subsequent reinsurance year (July 1), unless otherwise exempted.

REGAINING ELIGIBILITY FOR BENEFITS LOST BECAUSE OF A VIOLATION

Producers who are found to be in violation of HELIC or WC provisions, but acted in good faith and without the intent to violate, may file a request to regain eligibility for the period in violation at the FSA office where their farm records are administered. If the request is approved, producers are required to take corrective action within an established period. There are exemptions that may apply in limited circumstances.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For additional information on HELIC and WC compliance, contact the FSA office or the NRCS office at a local USDA Service Center. Additional information can be found online at www.fsa.usda.gov for FSA, www.nrcs.usda.gov for NRCS and www.rma.usda.gov for RMA.

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Figure 3. NRCS Highly Erodible Land Fact Sheet



Below is a quick summary of changes made to conservation programs in the new Farm Bill, enacted on February 7, 2014. These programs are administered by USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service. The new Farm Bill streamlines conservation programs that enable farmers, ranchers and forest landowners to get assistance.

To get started with NRCS, visit www.nrcs.usda.gov/GetStarted or visit your local USDA service center.

	Previous Farm Bill	vs.	New and Streamlined Farm Bill
Financial Assistance	Environmental Quality Incentives Program Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program	}	Environmental Quality Incentives Program
	Conservation Stewardship Program		Conservation Stewardship Program
	Agricultural Management Assistance		Agricultural Management Assistance
Easements	Wetlands Reserve Program Grassland Reserve Program Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program	}	Agricultural Conservation Easement Program
	Healthy Forests Reserve Program		Healthy Forests Reserve Program
Partnerships	Cooperative Conservation Partnership Initiative Agricultural Water Enhancement Program Chesapeake Bay Watershed Initiative Great Lakes Basin Program	}	Regional Conservation Partnership Program
Other	Technical Service Providers	}	Technical Service Providers
	Conservation Innovation Grants		Conservation Innovation Grants
	Agriculture Conservation Experienced Services Program		Agriculture Conservation Experienced Services Program
	Voluntary Public Access and Habitat Incentive Program – administered by Farm Service Agency		Voluntary Public Access and Habitat Incentive Program
	Emergency Watershed Protection Program*		Emergency Watershed Protection Program*
	Small Watershed Rehabilitation Program*		Small Watershed Rehabilitation Program*

*EWP and Small Watershed Rehabilitation Program are not Farm Bill programs but are offered by NRCS; Small Watershed Rehabilitation Program was funded through the 2014 Farm Bill.
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Figure 4 2014 Farm Bill flyer

Air Quality Initiative

Application Summary

The 2014 Environmental Quality Incentives Program Air Quality Initiative is a continuous sign-up and applications may be submitted at any time. Applications will be evaluated periodically as funding becomes available.

Application Deadline

May 23, 2014

Eligible Counties

Counties which have been identified as having significant air quality resource concerns related to designated non-attainment for emissions of Particulate Matter (PM) and PM

Precursors:

- Benton
- King
- Pierce
- Spokane
- Thurston
- Walla Walla
- Yakima

Eligible Land Uses

Crop, Forest, Range, Farmstead, Pasture

Find out More

www.wa.nrcs.usda.gov



This initiative is designed to help producers meet air quality compliance requirements, as well as an opportunity to support practices which address impacts associated with particulate matter.

USDA'S NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE IS A LOCAL RESOURCE FOR INNOVATIVE CONSERVATION SOLUTIONS TO IMPROVE THE LAND AND PROTECT YOUR WAY OF LIFE.

Financial and technical assistance is available for agricultural producers, private non-industrial forest landowners and range and pasture land managers through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program Air Quality Initiative. In eligible counties, this initiative will provide eligible producers with program support to address serious air quality concerns from agricultural operations and help meet regulatory requirements.

This is a competitive program, and you may be able to receive assistance to implement the following conservation activities:

- Mulch Till
- No Till/Strip Till/Direct Seed
- Windbreak/Shelterbelt
- Air Filtration and Scrubbing
- Combustion System Improvement
- Dust Control from Animal Activity on Open Lot Surfaces
- Dust Control on Unpaved Roads and Surfaces
- Feed Management
- And more (see entire list on back).

Contact your local NRCS field office to learn more about how NRCS may benefit you and your land.

Full List of Eligible Practices for AQI

Medium Priority Eligible Practices to address PM and PM precursors

Access Control, 472
 Amendments for Treatment of Agricultural Waste, 591
 Conservation Crop Rotation, 328
 Conservation Cover, 327
 Cover Crop, 340
 Critical Area Planting, 342
 Cross Wind Ridges, 588
 Cross Wind Trap Strips, 589c
 Alley Cropping, 311
 Hedgerow Planting, 422
 Herbaceous Wind Barriers, 603
 Heavy Use Area Protection, 561
 Integrated Pest Management, 595
 Irrigation Water Management, 449
 Mulching, 484
 Nutrient Management, 590
 Prescribed Grazing, 528
 Pumping Plant, 533
 Residue and Tillage Mng, Ridge Till, 346
 Roofs and Covers, 367
 Sprinkler System, 442
 Strip Cropping, 585
 Surface Roughening, 609
 Windbreak/Shelterbelt Renovation, 650

Other Eligible Practices to address PM and PM precursors

CNMP Plan, 102
 Feed Mng Plan, 108
 Forest Mng Plan, 106
 Integrated Pest Mng Plan, 114
 Nutrient Mng Plan, 104
 Agrichemical Handling Facility, 309
 Composting Facility, 317
 Field Border, 386
 Forage and Biomass Planting, 512
 Forest Stand Improvement, 666
 Multi-Story Cropping, 379
 Range Planting, 550
 Residue Mng, Seasonal, 344
 Riparian Forest Buffer, 391
 Riparian Herbaceous Cover, 390
 Silopasture Establishment, 381
 Tree/Shrub Establishment, 62
 Waste Separation Facility, 632
 Waste Treatment, 629

Contact Information

Puyallup Service Center

1011 E. Main, Ste 106
 Puyallup, WA 98372
 253-845-9272

Olympia Service Center

1835 Black Lake Blvd SW, Ste E
 Olympia, WA 98512
 360-704-7740

Renton Service Center

941 Powell Ave SW, Ste 102
 Renton, WA 98057
 425-277-5580

Spokane Service Center

8815 E. Mission Ave, Suite B
 Spokane Valley, WA 99212
 509-924-7350

Walla Walla Service Center

325 North 13th Ave
 Walla Walla, WA 99362
 509-522-6347

Yakima Service Center

1606 Perry Street, Suite F
 Yakima, WA 98902
 509-454-5736

Yakama Tribal Office

401 Fort Rd., Room 217
 Toppenish, WA 98948
 509-865-2255

Zillah Service Center

200 Cheyne Road
 Zillah, WA 98953
 509-829-3003

Figure 5. Air Quality Initiative Flyer



March 2014

Overview

The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) provides financial and technical assistance to agricultural producers in order to address natural resource concerns and deliver environmental benefits such as improved water and air quality, conserved ground and surface water, reduced soil erosion and sedimentation or improved or created wildlife habitat.

EQIP



Environmental Quality Incentives Program



USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service offers voluntary Farm Bill conservation programs that benefit agricultural producers and the environment.



Helping People Help the Land

Benefits

Eligible program participants receive financial and technical assistance to implement conservation practices, or activities like conservation planning, that address natural resource concerns on their land. Payments are made to participants after conservation practices and activities identified in an EQIP plan of operations are implemented. Contracts can last up to ten years in duration.

Eligibility

Agricultural producers and owners of non-industrial private forestland and Tribes are eligible to apply for EQIP. Eligible land includes cropland, rangeland, pastureland, non-industrial private forestland and other farm or ranch lands.

Socially disadvantaged, beginning and limited resource farmers, Indian tribes and veterans are eligible for an increased payment rate and may receive advance payment of up to 50 percent to purchase materials and services needed to implement conservation practices included in their EQIP contract.

Applicants must:

- Control or own eligible land
- Comply with adjusted gross income limitation (AGI) provisions
- Be in compliance with the highly erodible land and wetland conservation requirements
- Develop an NRCS EQIP plan of operations

Additional restrictions and program requirements may apply.

How to apply

Visit your local USDA Service Center to apply or visit www.nrcs.usda.gov/getstarted.

NRCS will help eligible producers develop an EQIP plan of operations, which will become the basis of the EQIP contract.

EQIP applications will be ranked based on a number of factors, including the environmental benefits and cost effectiveness of the proposal.

More Information

For more information visit your local USDA Service Center or www.nrcs.usda.gov/farmbill.

Find your local USDA Service Center

<http://offices.usda.gov>

What's New in EQIP

- The former Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program was folded into EQIP.
- Advance payment opportunities now exist for veteran agricultural producers.
- Advance payments for socially disadvantaged, beginning and limited resource farmers, Indian tribes and veterans were raised from 30 percent to 50 percent.
- Payment limitations are set at \$450,000 with no ability to waive.



This Pond provides water for livestock and wildlife.

www.nrcs.usda.gov

Natural Resources Conservation Service

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Conservation

ACH12-6/July 2014

Producers Protect or Improve Millions of Acres of Agricultural Land

278,290 farms . . .

. . . used no till on 96.5 million acres in 2012.

Top States in No till (millions of acres)

Kansas	10.4
Nebraska	9.4
North Dakota	7.8
South Dakota	7.2
Iowa	7.0
Montana	6.9

In 2012, the Census of Agriculture for the first time asked whether producers applied specific practices to conserve the farmland or improve the productivity of their cropland. Such practices protect land from water and wind erosion, improve water quality, provide wildlife habitat, and reduce producers' operating costs by reducing the number of trips over fields. Census questions focused on tillage and drainage practices, as well as farmers' use of cover crops, conservation easements, and other practices.

Tillage Practices

Farmers applied tillage practices on 278.8 million acres in 2012, including no till on 96.5 million acres, conservation tillage on 76.6 million acres, and conventional tillage on 105.7 million acres.

Across the country, 278,290 farms used no till. In no-till farming, the farmer plants the crop directly into the vegetative cover or crop residue of the previous crop. Farms of all sizes reported having acreage they did not till, but more than half the no-till acres (54.4 million) were on farms that

applied the practice on a thousand or more acres (Table 1).

In addition, 195,738 farms used other conservation tillage practices (excluding no till) on 76.6 million acres. Conservation tillage includes some tillage, but leaves a minimum of 30 percent of the soil surface covered by the previous crop's residue following the planting operation. Over half the acreage (41.6 million acres) was on farms that practiced conservation tillage on a thousand or more acres.

Table 1
Conservation Tillage Practices, 2012
(millions of acres and number of farms)

Practice applied to:	No Till		Conservation Tillage ¹	
	Acres (millions)	No. of Farms	Acres (millions)	No. of Farms
Less than 500 acres	24.1	227,612	19.0	152,652
500 to 999 acres	18.0	25,968	15.9	22,741
1,000 to 1,999 acres	21.0	15,386	18.5	13,529
2,000 or more acres	33.3	9,324	23.2	6,816
Total	96.5	278,290	76.6	195,738

¹Excluding "no till"

Source: USDA NASS, 2012 Census of Agriculture.



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

www.agcensus.usda.gov
(800)727-9540

Figure 7. Conservation Tillage Practices Flyer

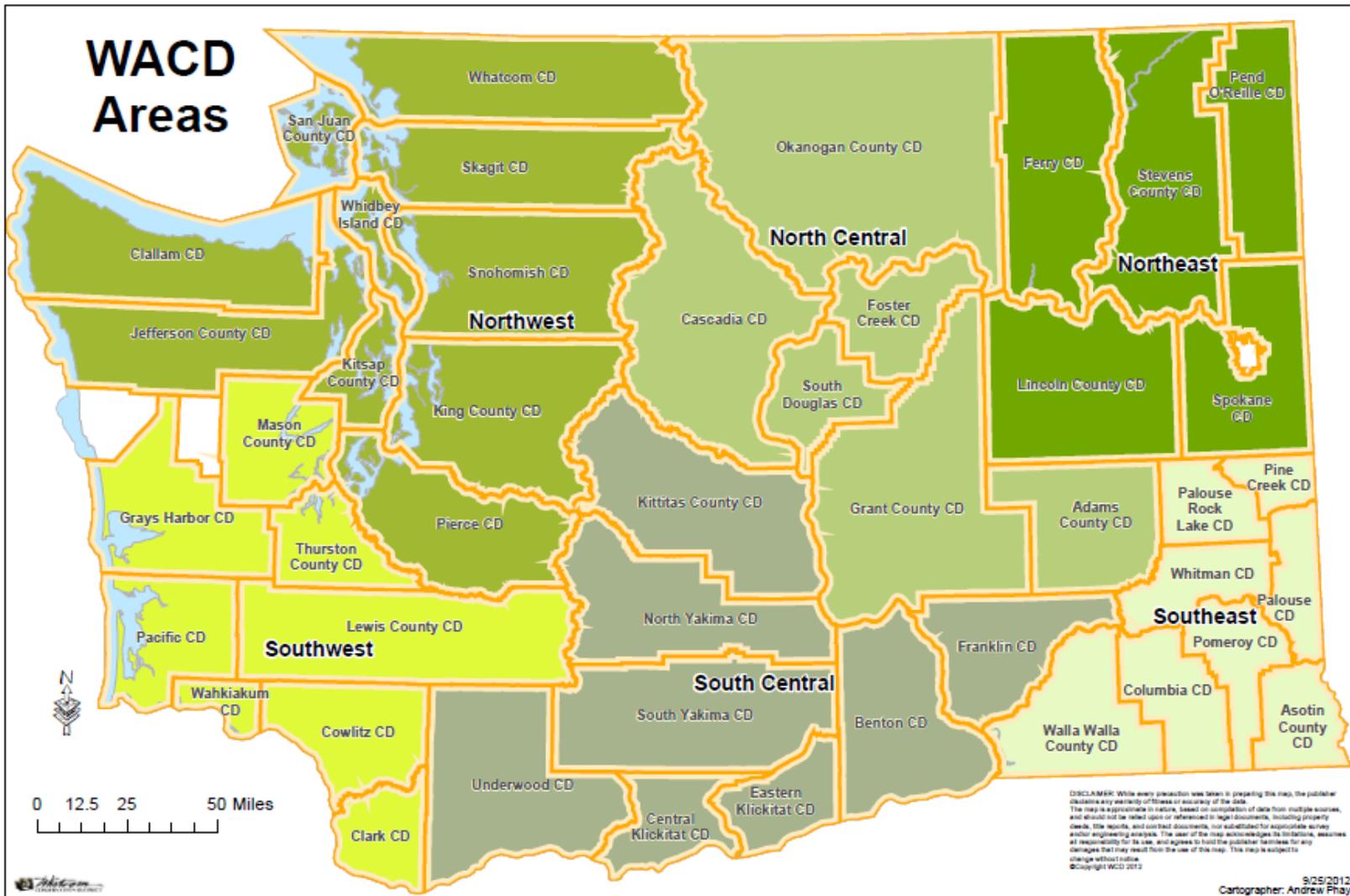


Figure 8. Map of Washington Association of Conservation District Jurisdictions

State Resource Assessment Priority Area: NRCS recognizes that much of the Columbia Plateau is HEL. Figure 9 shows that much of the Columbia Plateau and the HHH are ranked as State Resource Assessment (SRA) Priority Treatment Areas by NRCS, making the area a focus for erosion practices. NRCS program uses the SRA as a part of their screening and ranking tools. Landowner applications to qualify for NRCS programs are given a higher ranking if the application addresses one or more of the SRA Priority Resource Concerns.

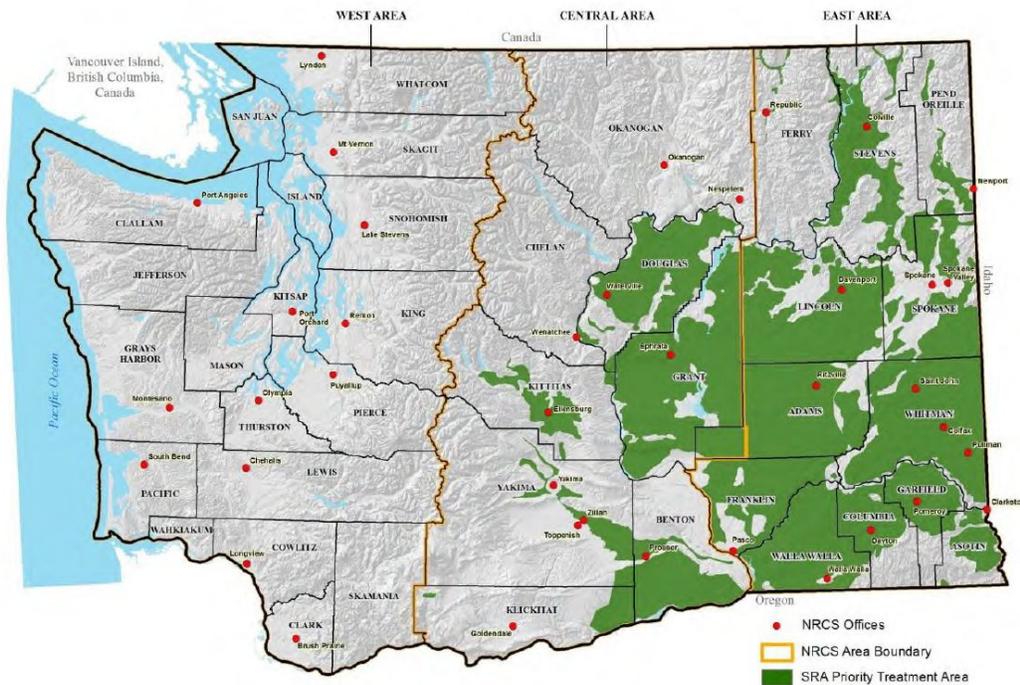


Fig. 2 - Crop – Sheet, Rill, and Wind Erosion Resource Concern Priority Treatment Area Map

Figure 9. NRCS Priority Treatment Areas on the Columbia Plateau

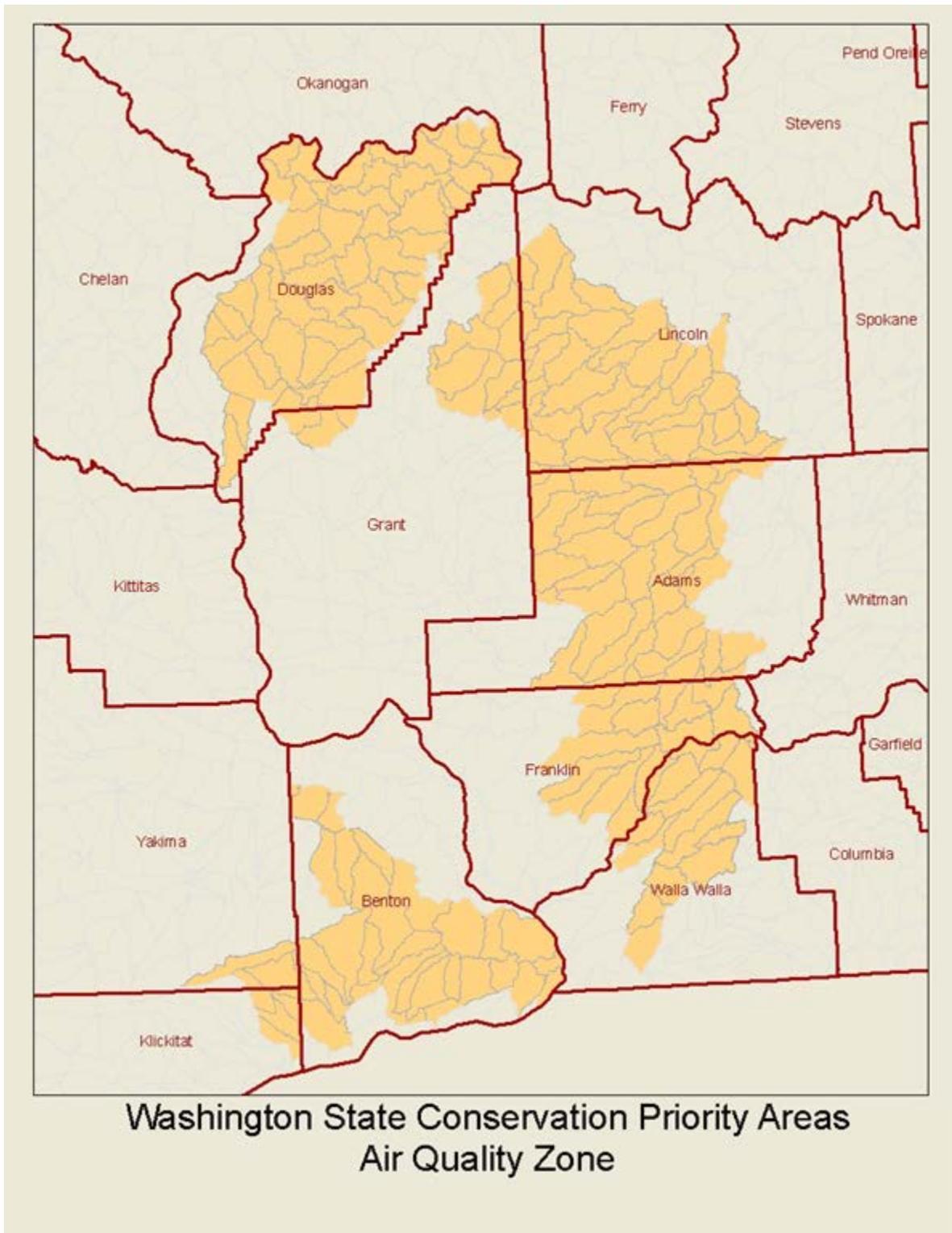


Figure 10 FSA's Washington State Conservation Priority Areas - Air Quality Zone