



The conference begins at 1:00 PM Eastern Time on July 15, 2020;  
**you may join the conference 10 minutes prior.**

**Step 1:** Dial into the conference.

**Dial-in:** 888-251-2949 or 215-861-0694

**Access Code:** 4442472#

**[Need an international dial-in number?](#)**

**Step 2:** Join the conference on your computer.

**Entry Link:** **<https://ems8.intellor.com/login/828162>**

When you access the entry link above, you will be provided a choice - to install the WebEx plug-in for your preferred browser or to join the web conference using a temporary path. Either option is acceptable.

**Need technical assistance?**

**Audio Connection:** 1-888-796-6118 or 1-847-562-7015

**Web Connection:** 1-888-793-6118



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**Please Stand By  
We will be starting soon!**

**Please mute your microphones &  
phone lines.  
If using audio only – do not put phone  
on “hold.”**

**USDA Natural Resources Conservation  
Service**



USDA NRCS Programs Deputy Area

**FARM PRODUCTION AND CONSERVATION  
FSA | NRCS | RMA | Business Center**



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# Farm Bill Roll Out Training Weekly Meeting

July 15, 2020

FARM PRODUCTION AND CONSERVATION  
FSA | NRCS | RMA | Business Center

# Agenda

1. **ProTracts Update – Nicola Giardina**
2. **Projects Branch Update – Kari Cohen**
3. **Policy Branch Update – Irma Hernandez & Mike Whitt**
4. **Implementation Branch Update – Kenny Hitch**
5. **Conservation Planning Branch Update – Aaron Lauster**
6. **CART Ranking and RCPP-ALE Workflow – Danielle Balduff**
7. **Easement Program Division – Danielle Balduff**
8. **Missing Land Units – Eric McTaggart**
9. **Agreement Items SAT – Kristie McKinley**
10. **Practice Narratives – Casey Sheley**
11. **Q&A**



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# ProTracts Update

Nicola Giardina,  
Business Tools Specialist

FARM PRODUCTION AND CONSERVATION  
FSA | NRCS | RMA | Business Center



# ProTracts Regional Support Cadre

- Leadership is standing up a ProTracts Regional Support Cadre similar to the Regional CD/CART cadre to:
  - Assist states in troubleshooting program issues that are supported in ProTracts. Including:
    - ❖ AMA, CSP, CSP-GCI, EQIP, ACEP-ALE, RCPP-EQIP and RCPP-CSP
  - Other duties:
    - ❖ Includes: Software enhancements; Testing; Identify training needs.
  - This is a 6-month appointment, expected to use 30% of your time.
  - Interested individuals need approval from their supervisors and State Conservationist.
  - Respond by: July 30<sup>th</sup> ; Selections: August 5<sup>th</sup>


# AGI Issue: “Compliant – FSA Determined” Value

- FSA released a new AGI value last weekend, but this is not picked up in ProTracts.
- PT code change is needed, but there is not sufficient developer capacity to build this change.
- Inability to read this new value in PT creates a block in obligations of all programs requiring AGI eligibility.
- Additionally – We are evaluating if this new AGI value aligns with & meets NRCS programs requirements.

# AGI Issue: Compliant – FSA Determined Value (continued)

- PT –

- Error message is returned when managing applications:



Participant [REDACTED] Subsidiary records indicate ineligible participant.

- AGI reads “N” (not AGI eligible)

Add Participant
Delete Participant
View Eligibility
Update Eligibility
Vendor Info
Save
Cancel
Apply

☐
Name: [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED]

Telephone:

Email: [REDACTED]

Farm Y  
Records:

Participant Lmt'd Liability  
Applying As:

Proof to Sign: ☒ Yes ☐ No

Decision Maker: ☒ Yes ☐ No

Payment Share %: 100.00

Signature Required for: ☒ Modifications ☒ Payments

Other Eligibility: ☒ Yes ☐ No

AD-1026: Y

FTE: Y

AGI: N



# AGI Issue: Compliant – FSA Determined Value (continued)

- FSA AGI IRS Verification/Determination – New Value

**Adjusted Gross Income - 2014 and 2018 Farm Bills**

\$900,000 Total Income Producer Certification

☐ Not Filed
 ☒ **Filed CCC-941**
☐ Exempt
 ☐ Not Met-Producer

Date Documentation Filed by Producer

**IRS Verification/Determination**

☐ Not Processed
 ☐ Compliant-Producer
 ☐ Compliant - Less Than 3 Years
 ☐ Not Compliant
 ☒ **Compliant - FSA Determined**

Date Processed by IRS

FSA determined the producer as AGI Compliant because IRS and/or State O

**State Office/SED Determination**

☒ No Determination
 ☐ Compliant-Review
 ☐ Mismatch Verified
 ☐ Not Compliant-Review

SED Determination Date



# AGI Issue: Compliant – FSA Determined Value (continued)

- FSA Subsidiary Print:

United States Department Of Agriculture  
Farm Service Agency  
Producer Subsidiary Print

Date: 07-13-2020

New AGI Value (**Compliant - FSA Determined**) = Eligible  
ProTracts Not Reading New Value

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

## SCIMS Information

### Business Type Information

2020 Individual

Citizenship Country - UNITED STATES  
Resident Alien Flag - N/A

## SCIMS Links

### Summary Eligibility Information

Recording County: Oconto - Wisconsin

Office Phone: (920)829-5406 x2

AD-1026	2020
First Time Producer Filing AD-1026	Certified
Date First Time Filing AD-1026	No
Affiliate Violation for RMA	No
Actively Engaged Determination	Actively Engaged
Actively Engaged - 2002 Farm Bill	Not Filed
AGI - 75% Rule	No
AGI - 2014 and 2018 Farm Bills	Compliant - FSA Determined
AGI - 2008 Farm Bill - Commodity	
AGI - 2008 Farm Bill - Direct \$750,000	
AGI - 2008 Farm Bill - Direct \$1 Million	
AGI - 2008 Farm Bill - Conservation	

## AGI Issue: Compliant – FSA Determined Value (continued)

- To address this block, a work around is being developed for use until the code change can be made.
- Currently working to streamline the work around process for the affected programs
- NHQ will distribute the workflow process once finalized.





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# Projects Branch



Natural  
Resources  
Conservation  
Service

[nrcs.usda.gov/](https://nrcs.usda.gov/)

# RCPP and Fund Requests



## RCPP will use the FAPD Funds Assessment for RCPP fund movement requests

- Extra Funds
- Return of Funds
- Transfer of funds

← → ↺ 🏠 [usdagcc.sharepoint.com/sites/nrcs\\_programs/fapd/FundsAssessment/default.aspx](https://usdagcc.sharepoint.com/sites/nrcs_programs/fapd/FundsAssessment/default.aspx)

SharePoint

BROWSE PAGE



Funds Assessment

Funds Assessment

FAPD Sharepoint Home

Funds Assessment Home

Funds Assessment

Recent

Instructions

Funds Assessment

1.) Click "new item" below

2.) Fill out the form as directed.

3.) Save.

\*You will only be able to view and edit items that you have created\*

Funds Assessment

[+ new item](#) or [edit this list](#)

Current View

...

Find an item



# How to use the Funds Assessment

The screenshot shows a SharePoint web page for the 'Funds Assessment' site. The address bar at the top displays the URL: [usdagcc.sharepoint.com/sites/nrcs\\_programs/fapd/FundsAssessment/default.aspx](https://usdagcc.sharepoint.com/sites/nrcs_programs/fapd/FundsAssessment/default.aspx). The page header includes the 'SharePoint' logo and navigation links for 'BROWSE' and 'PAGE'. The main content area features the 'NRCS Funds Assessment' title and a list of navigation links on the left: 'FAPD Sharepoint Home', 'Funds Assessment Home' (highlighted), 'Funds Assessment', and 'Recent'. The main content area lists 'Instructions' for using the Funds Assessment, followed by a note: '\*You will only be able to view and edit items that you have created\*'. At the bottom of the page, there is a section titled 'Funds Assessment' with a '+ new item' button, a link to 'edit this list', and a search bar labeled 'Find an item'. A blue arrow points from the text 'Click on New Item' to the '+ new item' button.

← → ↺ 🏠 [usdagcc.sharepoint.com/sites/nrcs\\_programs/fapd/FundsAssessment/default.aspx](https://usdagcc.sharepoint.com/sites/nrcs_programs/fapd/FundsAssessment/default.aspx)

SharePoint

BROWSE PAGE

**Funds Assessment**

FAPD Sharepoint Home  
**Funds Assessment Home**  
 Funds Assessment  
 Recent

Instructions

**Funds Assessment**

1.) Click "new item" below  
 2.) Fill out the form as directed.  
 3.) Save.

\*You will only be able to view and edit items that you have created\*

**Click on New Item**

Funds Assessment  
 + new item or edit this list  
 Current View ... Find an item 🔍

[https://usdagcc.sharepoint.com/sites/nrcs\\_programs/fapd/FundsAssessment/default.aspx](https://usdagcc.sharepoint.com/sites/nrcs_programs/fapd/FundsAssessment/default.aspx)



# Form To Fill Out





### Funds Assessment Form

---

Funds Assessment Type:

Requesting State:  \*

General Program:  \*

Point of Contact:    \*

---

### Request/Return Information

---

FA Amount:  \*      TA Amount:  \*

Purpose/Justification:  \*

☐ STC/Director Concurrence

**Fill in the requested information and Click Submit**



# New RCPP Agreements Update

- **Reminder that the following PPA modules are open in the Portal—FA/TA and Partner Contribution Deliverables, Outcomes and Map uploads.**
- **Training webinar for RCPP Coordinators is posted on the RCPP Coordinator SharePoint.**



# New RCPP Agreements Update

- When new Portal agreement elements (+ exhibits and privacy attachment) are ready for informal NHQ review, please send a request through the FAPD SharePoint.



# FY 20/21 RCPP Classic Update



- **Funding announcement is now in clearance**
- **Tentative release the last week in July-mid-August**
- **Advisory State allocations are forthcoming**





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# **FAPD**

# **Policy Branch Update**

**Irma Hernandez**  
**Michael Whitt**

**FARM PRODUCTION AND CONSERVATION**  
**FSA | NRCS | RMA | Business Center**



# Part 530 Updates

- Updated the following 7 exhibits to add the ER option omitted in the appeal rights section:
  - **530.141A**, Application Deferral Letter
  - **530.141B**, Ineligibility Determination for Conservation Program Contract Letter
  - **530.141H**, Debt Collection Letter
  - **530.141N**, Cancelation with Cost Recovery Letter
  - **530.141O**, Termination with Cost Recovery Letter
  - **530.420E**, EQIP Advance Payment Collection Letter
  - **530.143M**, Appeal Rights

# Part 530 Updates



- Additional update to Exhibit 530.1410, Termination with cost recovery letter, to add the statement that the letter is not a bill.

This is not a bill. Your debt as shown above has been entered into the USDA National Finance Center (NFC) accounting system to generate a bill requesting payment for these amounts.

# Part 530 Updates



- Updated Exhibit 530.141C, Intent to Proceed Letter, to address the second purpose of the letter.
  - The primary purpose is to notify an applicant who has ranked high enough for funding and determine whether they are still interested in moving forward with contract development.
  - The second purpose of the letter is to identify any eligibility documentation that might be missing and provide the applicant a timeframe for returning that to NRCS.
  - Added language to clarify that when an applicant fails to supply documentation needed for NRCS to determine eligibility within the timeframe provided, NRCS will determine the application ineligible.



# Part 530 Updates



- Updated Exhibit 530.143C, Program Eligibility Matrices for Individuals, Entities, and Joint Operations to address the 2018 Farm Bill requirements.

- Final review in preparation for clearance
- States will be notified when the exhibit is published.

Business Type Code	Business Type	SCIMS Tax ID Type	Individual or Entity			Entity Members		
			FTE Eligibility Required 1/	AGI Eligibility Required 2/, 10/	\$450,000 Contract and Payment Limits Apply 3/, 4/	Members Required 5/	Member's AGI Affect \$450,000 Limitation and Payment 6/	Impact FTE Eligibility
1	Individual	SSN	Yes	Yes	Yes			
2	General Partnership	EIN	Yes 11/	Exempt 7/	Yes 7/	Yes	Yes	Yes
3	Joint Venture 15/	EIN 8/	Yes 11/	Exempt 7/	Yes 7/	Yes	Yes	Yes
4	Corporation 15/	EIN	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
5	Limited Partnership	EIN	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
6	Estate	EIN	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
7	Trust - Revocable	SSN	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
7	Trust - Revocable	EIN	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
9	State/ Local Government 12/ 15/	EIN	Yes	Exempt	Yes	No	No	No
10	Nonprofit and Tax-Exempt Organizations 13/ 15/	EIN	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
15	Indians Represented by Bureau of Indian Affairs	EIN	No	Exempt	Exempt	No	No	No
17	Trust - Irrevocable	EIN	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No



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# FAPD

# Implementation Branch Update

Kenny Hitch

FARM PRODUCTION AND CONSERVATION  
FSA | NRCS | RMA | Business Center

# CSP Contract Activities

## ■ CSP Payment Status

- ✓ • Total obligation amount at 99.9 percent
- ✓ • There are 266 CINs remaining for a total of \$1,417,281
  - ❑ 2014 CSP: 246 CINs - \$1,257,825
  - ❑ 2014 RCPP-CSP: 12 CINs - \$120,000
  - ❑ 2018 CSP: 4 CINs - \$32,460
  - ❑ 2018 CSP-GCI: 4 CINs - \$6,996

## ■ CSP Promote and Obligate Status of the Outyears

- ✓ RCPP-CSP 2014 - There are 2 not promoted.
- ✓ CSP 2014 - There are 20 not promoted, 5 pending second level review, and 3 waiting approval.



# Sign-ups Status

*ProTracts: July 14, 2020*

Program	Pending	Eligible	Preapproved	Approved	Total
CSP Renewals	159	265	57	76	557
CSP Classic	9,455	8,972	543	105	19,075
EQIP	27,324	51,041	12,176	5,330	95,871
AMA	143	377	140	120	780

Program	# of Contracts	Obligation	Percent Obligated
CSP Renewals	1,592	\$134,212,018	78.9%
CSP Classic	8	\$603,534	0.2%
EQIP	3,526	\$99,445,080	10.9%
AMA	23	\$353,026	9.4%



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# Conservation Planning Branch

## Aaron Lauster

Planning Policy & Training,  
Conservation Desktop (CD) &  
Conservation Assessment  
Ranking Tools (CART), Technical  
Service Providers (TSP), and  
Conservation Reserve Program  
(CRP)

## By the Numbers

- **4,836 users**
- **95,784 Assessments Completed on 76,727,422 Million Acres**  
**(229% of Average acres Planned)**
- **119,312 Ranked Assessments**  
(includes assessments in multiple ranking pools)

**Do not just click things!**

# Resource Concerns Potentially Impacted

## Resource Concern Category: Soil Quality Limitations

### Resource Concerns:

1. Aggregate Stability
2. Compaction
3. Concentration of salts or other chemicals
4. Organic Matter Depletion
5. Soil organism habitat loss or degradation
6. Subsidence



# Soils data refresh ---- July 1

## Issue:

Ranking scores could change, higher or lower, based on changes made during the yearly soils update to Soil Data Access.


- If the assessment needs to be rolled back to the status of “In Assessment” and it had ranked prior to July 1
- If the assessment was completed prior to July 1 but the assessment status was not changed to “Ready for Ranking” until after July 1

# Soils data refresh ---- July 1

## Issue:





Refresh of data exposed that on the recalculate process, when changing the assessment status from “In Assessment” to “Ready to Rank”, if there are changes that effect the resource inventory survey’s, users are not being prompted to answer changed conditional questions. For example, you would see a screen like that on the below where the assessment is locked but the land use survey shows in progress; in this one case that is due to the Organic Matter value from the webservice changing and triggering a conditional questions that should have been answered.

[> Assessment Search](#) [> Assessment Summary](#) [> Resource Inventory](#)

**Resource Inventory: CSP2020** 

No changes can be made on this page while the assessment is locked.

**Survey Groups**

Survey Type	Status
Land Use	 In Progress
Management	 Complete
Infrastructure	 Complete
Wildlife	 Complete



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# **CART Ranking and RCPP-ALE workflow**

## **Danielle Balduff**

# Vulnerability

For a given resource concern, CART establishes a site vulnerability. Site vulnerability is determined by subtracting the existing condition and existing practice scores from the threshold. An acre weighted average is calculated per PLU. These values are weighted by a ranking pool to address the resources concerns and categories prioritized by that ranking pool.

## Vulnerability Equation =

$$RCW \sum RCC \left[ RC \left\{ \left[ \text{Threshold} - \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Existing Condition} \\ + \\ \text{Existing Practice} \end{array} \right) \right] \text{Acre Weighted Average} \right\} \right]$$

RCW = Ranking Component Weight %; RCC = Resource Concern Category %; RC = Resource Concern %

# Planned Practice Effects

The planned practice score is based on the sum of the planned practice by PLU and Resource Concern. An acre weighted average is calculated per PLU. These values are weighted by a ranking pool to address the resources concerns prioritized by that ranking pool.

## Conservation Assessment Practice Points (CAPP)

### Planned Practice Effects Equation:

$$RCW \sum RC \left[ \text{Planned Practice Points} \times \text{Acre Weighted Average} \right]$$

RCW = Ranking Component Weight %; RC = Resource Concern %

# Resource Priorities

Derived from Display Group Questions

Resource Priority Equation:

$$RCW \sum \left( \text{Points Allocated to Answers} \right)$$

RCW = Ranking Component Weight %

# Program Priorities

Derived from Display Group Questions

Program Priority Equation:

$$RCW \sum \left( \text{Points Allocated to Answers} \right)$$

RCW = Ranking Component Weight %



# Efficiency Score

The efficiency score is the summation of all primary practices qualified for the ranking pool. An acre weighted average per PLU is applied. Each practice is divided by the log10 (PAAC). All efficiency point are summed and multiplied by the Ranking Component Weight.

Efficiency Equation:

$$= \text{RCW} \sum \left( \frac{((\text{Practice Points} \times \text{Acre Weighted Average}))}{\sqrt{\text{Practice Average Annual Cost}}} \right)$$

RCW = Ranking Component Weight %

Practice Average Annual Cost (PAAC) from SmarTech

# RCPP-ALE Workflow

1. Enter Application in NEST
2. Find Client in CD or create CD Client
3. In Conservation Folder
4. Identify PLUs and add to Practice Schedule
5. Launch CART Assessment
  - Identify Resource Concerns
    - Long-Term Protection of Land – Threat of Conversion
  - Completed Resource Inventory
  - Identify Observed Practices
  - Plan Practices
    - LTPPE, LTAPERS, and LTAPTR1

# RCPP-ALE Workflow

6. Rank Assessment
  - New ranking pool is not required
7. Answer the applicable ranking pool survey questions
8. Ranking Status – set to Completed with estimated costs entered
  - Assessment cannot be linked to RCPP-ALE Application Number
9. Export Ranking Pool list from SAT
10. Complete Pre-approvals in NEST
11. Digitize practices in CD
12. Create Cost List Agreement Items in CD
  - Generate the conservation plan and map

# RCPP-ALE Workflow

- 13. Manual entry of data on parcel contract document**
  - NRCS-CPA-1265
  - Appendix to NRCS-CPA-1265
  - NRCS-CPA-1266
- 14. Complete NEST data entry**
- 15. Request National Level Internal Controls Review**
- 16. Upon approval of IC, execute parcel contract documents**
- 17. Submit for obligations in NEST through Bulk Obligation Process**



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# **Easement Program Division**

## **Danielle Balduff**

# NB440-20-30: AWMA for ACEP-WRE

To provide States with guidance and issue the Statement of Work and specifications for the ACEP-WRE Area Wide Market Analysis (AWMA)

Attachment B – Statement of Work and Specifications

FPAC Notice 5090-003 – Contracting  
Deadline of **July 24, 2020**, for all simplified acquisitions under \$250,000 to be approved in IAS

# NB440-20-30: AWMA for ACEP-WRE

## Attachment A

EPD is hosting AWMA workshops

Contact D'Angelo Davis to sign-up

[dangelo.davis@usda.gov](mailto:dangelo.davis@usda.gov)

July 16, 2020 12:00-1:30 eastern

July 20, 2020 2:30-4:00 eastern

July 21, 2020 10:00-11:30 eastern

July 22, 2020 3:00 to 4:30 eastern

July 23, 2020 11:00 to 12:30 eastern

# **NB300-20-46: NEST Mailing and Phone Lists**

**Notification to States of the availability of mailing and phone lists report in NEST to assist with contacting easement landowners**

**Found in NEST under Miscellaneous Reports section “Mailing and Phone Lists”**

**Used to contact landowners for easement monitoring – ownership verification and onsite reviews**



# Adjusted Gross Income (AGI)

All landowners and members of landowner-entities must have an AGI compliant status prior to Internal Controls Review.

**FSA Notice PL-287:** Easement programs can request FSA State Offices to conduct AGI compliance reviews and record the SED determination in Subsidiary

Work with your FSA office to determine process and necessary documents needed



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# Missing Land Units

## Eric McTaggart

# Missing Land Units in Practice Schedule and CART

## Scenario 1

### Symptoms:

### Causes:

- Starting the assessment using a land unit from the Active PLU and then using the Transfer tool after assessment has been started to move the land unit to the assessment case file **or**

### Preventatives:

- Make sure all land units are in the desired case before starting the assessment

# Missing Land Units in Practice Schedule and CART

## Scenario 2

### Symptoms:

### Causes:

- Add/Removing land units from the practice schedule after the assessment status was changed to “Ready for Ranking” and before CD reads the CART lock on the practice schedule

### Preventatives:

- Close and Reopen the practice schedule in CD if you have been working on an assessment in CART with CD still open.



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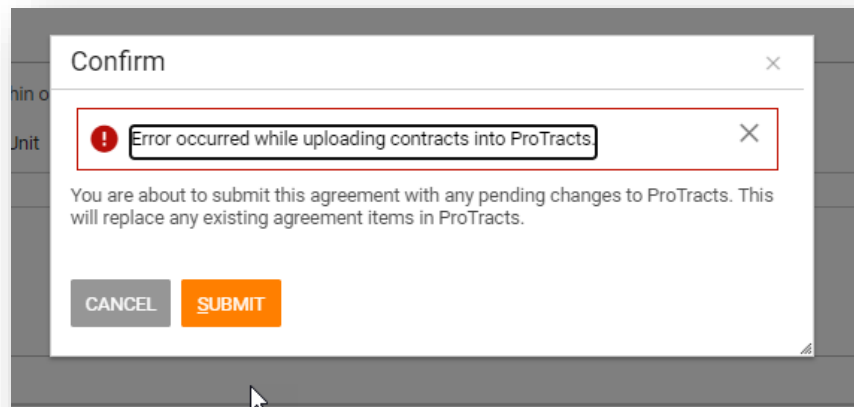
# Agreement Items SAT

## Kristie McKinley

# Agreement Items

Users will get this error when agreement items will not upload to ProTracts.

- The Agreement Items are removed from the view and the user cannot select the agreement items until the script is ran to restore the item status.



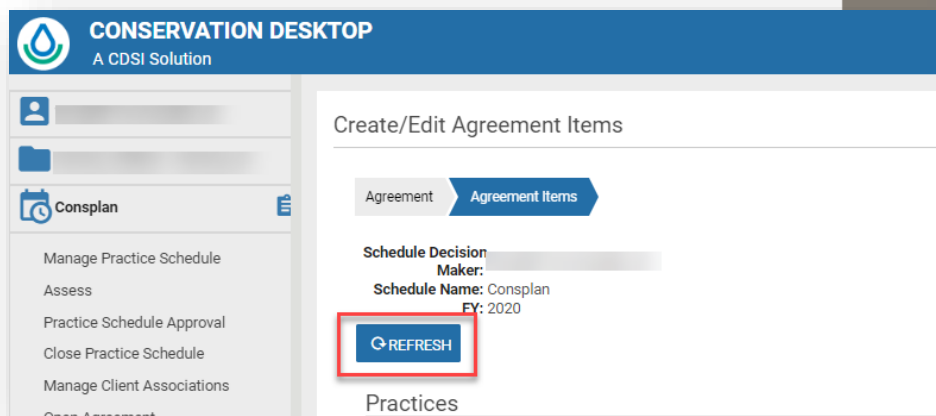
- Script **to be** ran hourly from 6:00 AM-6:00 PM MT to restore the items to a pending status, until Elderberry release fixes the issue. *(was nightly)*
- The Team is actively working on better messaging for the user to identify the error(s) that occurred.
- There are some errors that the user/Point of Contact can verify prior to submitting a ticket on the following slides*

# Agreement Items – Error #1

**Cost list was changed after 1 or more agreement items have been created.**

Workaround: *(after hourly script)*

1. Delete all items from ProTracts & CD
2. Change cost list to the correct cost list in ProTracts
3. In 'Create/Edit Agreement Items' select 'Refresh'
4. Re-Create Agreement Items
5. Re-Submit to ProTracts

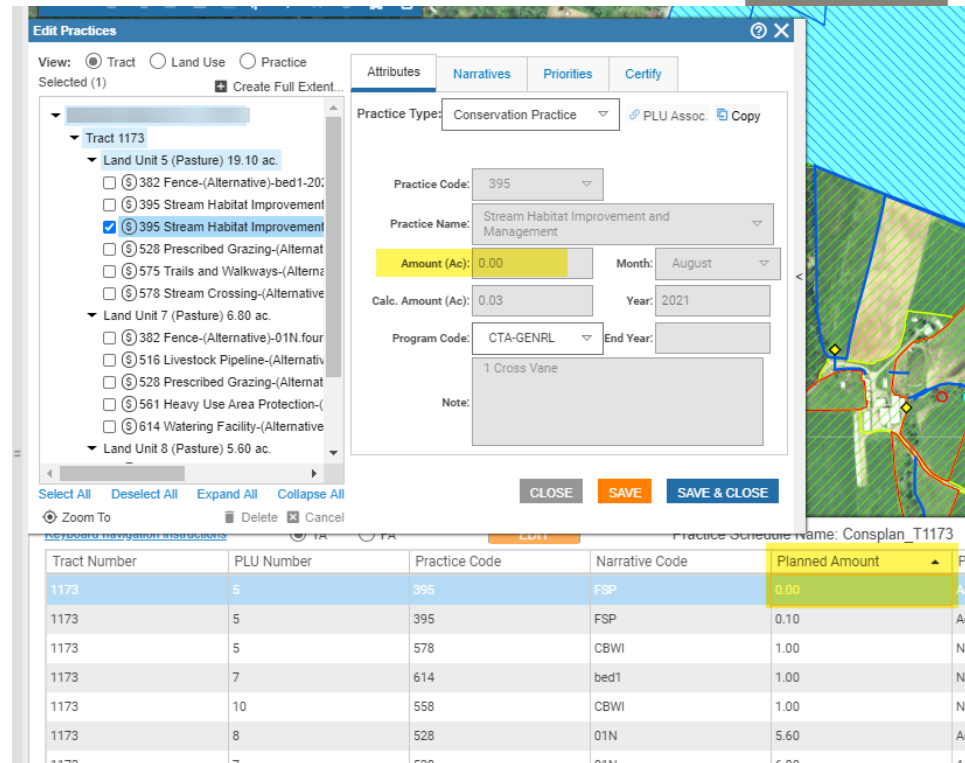


# Agreement Items – Error #2

Practice Planned amount of '0' for any instance

Workaround: *(after hourly script)*

1. Delete the item that has the planned practice instance of '0' agreement item
2. Create/Edit Practices
3. Select the practice that is a '0' planned amount
4. Do either of the following
  - a) Delete the instance
  - b) Update practice planned amount attribute to be greater than 0.1
5. Re-create agreement item
6. Submit to ProTracts



The screenshot shows the 'Edit Practices' window with a tree view on the left and a detailed form on the right. The tree view shows 'Tract 1173' expanded, with 'Land Unit 5 (Pasture) 19.10 ac.' selected. The form on the right shows the 'Attributes' tab with the following details:

- Practice Type: Conservation Practice
- Practice Code: 395
- Practice Name: Stream Habitat Improvement and Management
- Amount (Ac): 0.00
- Month: August
- Calc. Amount (Ac): 0.03
- Year: 2021
- Program Code: CTA-GENRL
- End Year: (empty)
- Note: 1 Cross Vane

At the bottom, there is a table showing practice instances for Tract 1173:

Tract Number	PLU Number	Practice Code	Narrative Code	Planned Amount	PLU
1173	5	395	FSP	0.00	Ac
1173	5	395	FSP	0.10	Ac
1173	5	578	CBWI	1.00	Nc
1173	7	614	bed1	1.00	Nc
1173	10	558	CBWI	1.00	Nc
1173	8	528	01N	5.60	Ac
1173	7	528	01N	5.60	Ac



# Agreement Items – Error #3

Agreement items with **no ranking pool and category** showing up in the 'Create/Edit Agreement Item' practice tree. The user cannot delete because they will never show up in the Agreement Item grid

- Submit a Support Request
  - \*please take a screenshot of the practice tree

Production Site

Programs CCG Events Reports Tasks Notes Client Search Help

Create/Edit Agreement Items Legend

Agreement Agreement Items

Schedule Decision  
Maker:  
Schedule Name: Pollinator\_2020  
FY: 2020

Agreement ID: 746633201W2  
Cost Source:  
Status:  
Obligated: N

Ranking Pools:  
Honey Bee Pollinator: Is this

REFRESH

Practices

Select only one practice and or specific land units and tracts within one practice and click Load Components.

View By: ☐ Year ☒ Agreement Item ☐ Land Use ☐ Tract/Land Unit

Item 1, 2020, Tree/Shrub Site Preparation(490), 00N  
Item 2, 2021, Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment(380), 00N  
Item 3, 2021, Conservation Cover(327), 00N  
Item 4, 2021, Forage and Biomass Planting(512), 00N  
☐ No Item, 2022, Forage and Biomass Planting(512), 00N, Honey Bee Pollinator: Is this application in ND?

LOAD COMPONENTS Expand All Collapse All

Components

# Agreement Items – Missing \$ on Practices

## Work-around Steps:

1. Delete all agreement items (if created)
2. Undo preapproval in SAT
3. Set the assessment status to 'In-Assessment'
4. Verify in CART Planned practices that the practices are planned on the land unit.
  - a) If practices are missing, add practices to land units as needed
5. Select the 'Actions' icon from the Assessment Summary (**VERY IMPORTANT, DO NOT SKIP**)
  - a) Select 'Recalculate'
6. Re-rank
7. Preapprove in SAT
8. Verify the 'Current Ranking Pool-Assessment Details' practices have the selected checkbox checked
9. Verify '\$' signs on practices.

# Agreement Items - Delete Button

Email was sent out on July 10 about the 'Delete All' and 'Delete Selected' buttons in 'Create/Edit Agreement Items' not working consistently.

- These issues should be **resolved**. Please continue with using the buttons.
- If you have issues still please submit a support request.

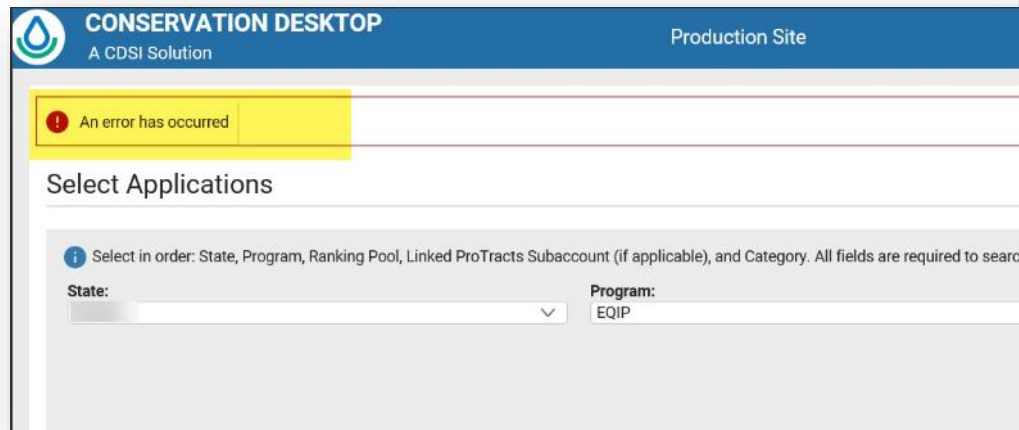
# SAT

Users Delete an Application from ProTracts with submitted or preapproved ranking pool assessment status. This corrupts the data in SAT, making the ranking pool assessment results not viewable.

Workaround:

1. Undo-Preapproval prior to the application being deleted
  2. Then change the Ranking Poll Assessment back to a 'Completed' status
- Or
1. Do not delete the application from ProTracts

If this error shows up please submit a Support Request



The screenshot displays the 'CONSERVATION DESKTOP' interface, identified as 'A CDSI Solution' and 'Production Site'. A yellow error banner at the top states 'An error has occurred'. Below this, the 'Select Applications' section contains an information icon and a note: 'Select in order: State, Program, Ranking Pool, Linked ProTracts Subaccount (if applicable), and Category. All fields are required to search'. The 'State' field is a dropdown menu, and the 'Program' field is a text input containing the value 'EQIP'.

# SAT- Assessment Details

Deleted and Applied practices are showing up in this assessment detail reports.

- This is **not** impacting the selection of practices for preapproval.
- Only practices that have a primary or supporting checkbox will get selected for funding.

## Assessment Details - Current Ranking Pool

**Decision Maker:** ITALIA G ZHOU

**Agreement Number:** 7621J2200GC

**Assessment Name:** Douglas G Hudson EQIP20

**Funding Level:** Partial

### Associated Practices (7)

Code	Practice	Units	Ranking Pool	Selected	Primary	Supporting
313	Waste Storage Facility	Number	RMA-AMA	--	--	--
340	Cover Crop	Acre	RMA-AMA	--	--	--
442	Sprinkler System	Acre	RMA-AMA	--	--	--
449	Irrigation Water Management	Acre	RMA-AMA	--	--	--
561	Heavy Use Area Protection	Square Foot	RMA-AMA	--	--	--
367	Roofs and Covers	Number	RMA-AMA	--	--	--
372	Combustion System Improvement	Number	RMA-AMA	--	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	--



United States Department of Agriculture

# Practice Narratives

## Casey Sheley

## Historical Use of Practice Narratives

- **Managed at the local, state and national level**
- **Many local narratives became site specific practice implementation requirements**
- **Q/A results showed disparities between schedule, contracts, and specifications resulting in confusion and increased risk in appeals**

## Historical Use of Practice Narratives

- **As of Nov. 2016:**
  - **614K narratives in CPDES**
  - **Only 155K were distinct - rest were duplicates**
  - **Of the 614K, only 174K were in plans**
  - **Within Toolkit, outside of CPDES, there were 3.9M custom narratives**



## Decision Memo on Practice Narratives

- **Signed by Associate Chief of Conservation 3/2017**
  - **Fits within CDSI framework connecting practice:**
    - **Definitions**
    - **Purposes**
    - **Resource Concerns**
  - **Practice implementation instructions conveyed through IR's and practice designs**

## Practice Narratives for 2021

- **Narratives will be locked at the National Level (no local/State narratives) this includes CRP narratives**
- **Narratives will reflect Practice Variability affecting resource concerns**
- **Assessment points will be tied to the practice narratives by land use and resource concern**

## **Actions and Important Dates**

- **NB 180-20-XX on the way**
- **National Discipline Leads within S&T working on finalizing – 7/15/20**
- **CART Resource Concern Assessment Teams reviewing/updating '20 assessment for use in '21 – 7/28/20**
- **Opportunities to provide feedback on assessment, narratives, and points – 7/29-8/12/20**

## **Actions and Important Dates**

- **CART Development Team review comments and make appropriate changes – 8/13 – 8/28/20**
- **Develop new CART Assessment Display Group for testing, training, and publishing for new cycle year – Month of September '20**

## Where to Provide Input

**CART Feedback SharePoint site at:**


**[https://usdagcc.sharepoint.com/sites/nrcs\\_st\\_entsc/CART/CARTFeedback/default.aspx](https://usdagcc.sharepoint.com/sites/nrcs_st_entsc/CART/CARTFeedback/default.aspx)**

**This link is also available on the CART USDA Connect Community (which is accessible through “Help” within CART)**

## From the CART USDA Connect Community, select “CART Feedback SharePoint Site”

You are in: [CART Help Wiki](#) > Welcome to CART Help

### Welcome to CART Help

 11 [Like](#) | Updated Jun 16 by [BREANNA BARLOW](#) | Tags: *None*

Page Actions ▾



### CONSERVATION ASSESSMENT RANKING TOOL

#### Welcome to the CART USDA Connect community!

In this community, you can access resources for the Conservation Assessment Ranking Tool (CART), including webinar recordings, the user guide/lesson plans, and additional reference documentation. See below for some helpful resources to get you started!

URL for this Community: <https://connections.usda.gov/communities/community/CARTHelp>

#### CART User Guide

 [CART\\_Online\\_Help.pdf](#) | [View Details](#)

Link to CART Training Environment: <https://carttrain.sc.egov.usda.gov/>

Link to CART Production Environment: <https://cart.sc.egov.usda.gov/>

For software related questions or issues, please reach out to your State CD/CART Point of Contact. They can escalate issues up to the CART Regional Cadre, as well as submit Service Desk tickets.

[View Details](#) |  [CD\\_CART\\_State Points of Contact.xlsx](#)

Policy questions regarding CART can be submitted to [CARTHelpdesk@usda.gov](mailto:CARTHelpdesk@usda.gov)

Feedback for future versions of CART can be submitted on the [CART Feedback SharePoint site](#)

## Within the CART Feedback SharePoint Site, Select “+new item”

The screenshot shows the SharePoint interface for the 'CART Feedback' site. The top navigation bar includes 'SharePoint' and 'BROWSE PAGE'. The left-hand navigation bar contains 'Home', 'CART Questions', and 'EDIT LINKS'. The main content area displays the 'CART Feedback' title, 'Instructions', and 'CART Questions'. Below 'CART Questions', there are three numbered steps: 1.) Select "new item" above for CART Questions., 2.) Fill in all required fields within the form., and 3.) Select "Submit" at the bottom of the form. A red text box states: "\*\*To view state requests and status click on the link on the left-hand navigation bar.\*\*". Below this, the 'CART Questions' section is visible, with the '+ new item' button highlighted in yellow. The 'Current View' section shows a search bar and a table with columns: Question Type, User Type, Created By, Created, Question, Service Center, Ranking Pool Name, Assessment Name, Template Name, Status, Response, and Point of Contact. The table is filtered by 'State : California (1)'.

SharePoint

BROWSE PAGE

NRCS

CART Feedback EDIT LINKS

CART Feedback

Home

CART Questions

EDIT LINKS

Instructions

CART Questions

1.) Select "new item" above for CART Questions.

2.) Fill in all required fields within the form.

3.) Select "Submit" at the bottom of the form.

**\*\*To view state requests and status click on the link on the left-hand navigation bar.\*\***

CART Questions

+ new item

Current View ... Find an item

✓ Question Type User Type Created By Created Question Service Center Ranking Pool Name Assessment Name Template Name Status Response Point of Contact

State : California (1)

Selecting new item will open the CART Feedback Submission Form. Select “Practice Narratives/Points” for the Question Type

The screenshot displays the 'CART QUESTION SUBMISSION FORM' within a SharePoint environment. The interface includes a top navigation bar with 'EDIT' and a ribbon with 'Save', 'Close', 'Paste', 'Copy', 'Cut', 'Commit', and 'Clipboard'. A left sidebar shows 'Home' and 'CART Questions' with an 'EDIT LINKS' option. The main form area contains the following fields:

- Question Type:** A dropdown menu with a red asterisk indicating a required field.
- User Type:** A dropdown menu with a red asterisk.
- State:** A dropdown menu with a red asterisk.
- Service Center:** A dropdown menu with a red asterisk.
- Assessment Name:** A text input field.
- Environment Type:** A dropdown menu.
- Web Browser:** A dropdown menu.
- Internet Connection Type:** A dropdown menu.
- Question:** A large text area for the question content.
- Attachments:** A button labeled 'Click here to attach a file'.
- Status:** A dropdown menu with 'New' selected and a red asterisk.
- Point of Contact:** A text input field.
- Response:** A large text area for the response.

Below the 'Attachments' section, there is a red heading 'For Headquarters Use Only'.



**One point of contact from each state  
should compile and submit  
feedback/comments into this form**



**There is an option to attach a file to the submission form. We kindly ask that if you are going to attach a comprehensive list of comments that it follow the format of the form in an Excel format.**

**Thanks!**

## Reminder

- **States assure that Implementation Requirements are available to address details previously put into narratives for use in FY21 practice planning, design, and implementation activities.**



# Questions



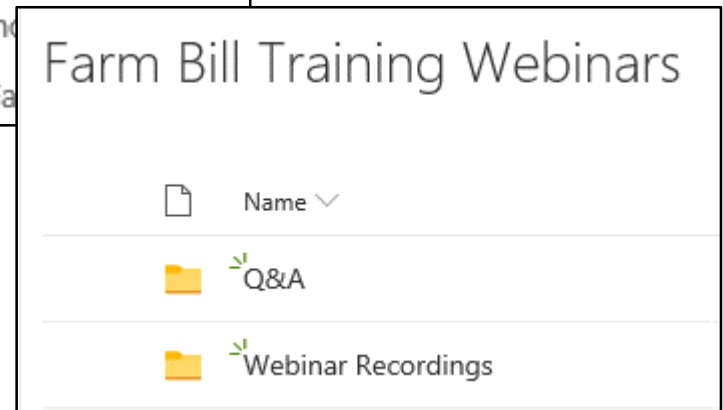
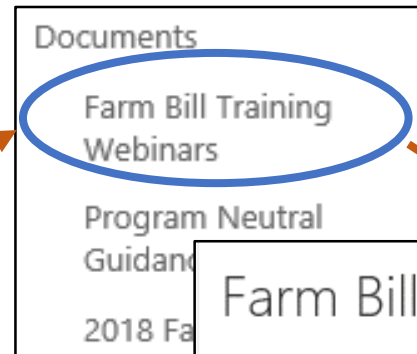
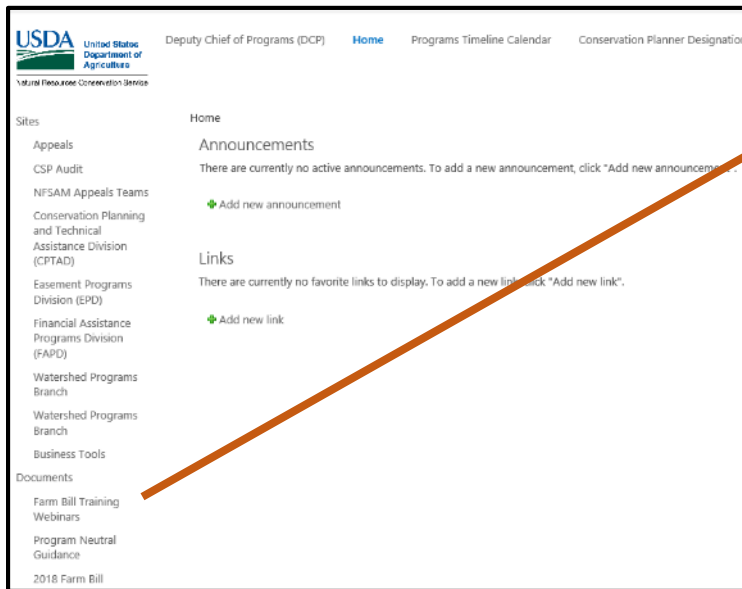
**Questions can also be submitted through the USDA Connect Forum:**

<https://connections.usda.gov/communities/community/farmbillrollout>

# Training Recordings and Q&A

- Now available on the Deputy Chief for Programs SharePoint page:

[https://usdagcc.sharepoint.com/sites/nrcs\\_programs/default.aspx](https://usdagcc.sharepoint.com/sites/nrcs_programs/default.aspx)



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- (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
  - (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or
  - (3) email: [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).
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