

wildlife enhancement activities, proportioned out to reflect the amount of CREP area within each organization's individual jurisdiction.

- B. Be responsible for:
 - 1. Providing cost-share payments to all participants for 50 percent of the eligible reimbursable costs for establishment of approved conservation practices, not to exceed five million dollars (\$5,000,000.00). Total of all cost share payments, from any sources, shall not exceed 100 percent of the producer's out of pocket expenses;
 - 2. Paying all costs associated with annual monitoring programs; and
 - 3. Providing other wildlife conservation planning for producers on an as requested basis.
- C. Establish an Enhancement Program Steering Committee, which will include representatives from the State technical Committee, FSA, Nebraska Department of Natural Resources, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, Nebraska Department of Agriculture, NRCS, agriculture and conservation groups and local governments. This group will advise the Nebraska Governor's office on the implementation of this CREP.
- D. Provide staffing support for a full-time CREP administrative coordinator to facilitate and oversee program implementation, coordination, promotional activities, technical assistance, and monitoring and evaluation.
- E. Seek applicants willing to offer eligible and appropriate land for enrollment in the CREP.
- F. Facilitate the provision of technical assistance from local conservation districts in promoting the CREP.
- G. Implement a broad campaign for continuous public information and education regarding the CREP.
- H. Work to ensure coordination with other agricultural conservation programs of State and federal agencies.
- I. Within 90 days after the end of each federal fiscal year, the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources shall provide a report to FSA summarizing the status of enrollments under this CREP and progress on fulfilling the other commitments of the program. The annual report to FSA shall include: level

of program participation; the results of the annual monitoring program; a summary of non-federal CREP program expenditures; and, recommendations to improve the program.

- J. Within 90 days after the end of the federal fiscal year, Nebraska will submit information summarizing its overall costs for the program. In the event that the State has not obligated 20 percent of the overall costs for the project, the State may be required by CCC to fulfill its obligation within 90 days, or to provide some other mutually agreed-upon remedy.
- K. Temporarily release the participant from any contractual or easement restrictions on crop production during the CRP contract period if such release is determined necessary by the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture in order to address a national emergency.
- L. For all cropland enrolled under a CREP contract at irrigated rental rates, the State shall enter into, and administer, a separate State Water Use Contract with each participant, or successor thereto, which shall require:

Discontinuation of the use of the water which had been applied to the enrolled irrigated cropland.

Management of the water under contract to ensure water savings conservation.

Non-use, except as provided below, of any surface or well water which, prior to enrollment in the CRP under this Agreement, had been used to irrigate the enrolled land, except as allowed for under the terms of this Agreement. Among other assurances as may be necessary or appropriate, the State Water Use Contract will require that the participant does not use, affect, transfer, sell, exchange or otherwise apply the surface or well water during the CRP contract period, except as agreed to by USDA. The State shall also require that the participant does not allow other individuals or entities to use, affect, transfer, sell, exchange or otherwise apply the surface or well water from the appropriation during the CRP contract period, except as agreed to by USDA.

- M. Take all reasonable steps to ensure use of the water savings achieved under the contracts in L. shall be used for environmental and public recreational purposes in a stream, river, aquifer, or reservoir except with respect to water savings under this CREP that would otherwise be retained in a reservoir for environmental and recreational purposes when the water levels exceed the applicable trigger point for the reservoir, as defined by the State of Nebraska and agreed to by the CCC, and the irrigation district. The trigger points listed