

Choctawhatchee River Watershed CSP Preliminary Checklist

Since you currently own/operate land in the Choctawhatchee River Watershed, you could be eligible for the 2008 CSP. Eligibility hinges on treating soil and water quality to specific levels. It is likely you could be eligible to participate if you can answer “yes” to the following questions.

1. Do you share in the risk of producing crops or livestock on this operation? (Landowners that only use the CASH RENT option are not eligible for this program; however, the operator could still be eligible.)
2. Is your land in compliance with the highly erodible land and wetland conservation provisions of the 1985 Farm Bill?
3. If you are a renter, could you show in writing that you will have control of the land for the length of the contract (5 – 10 year contracts)?

For at least a portion of land that is cropped:

1. Have you been using a crop rotation system which includes conservation tillage, perennial grass, a high residue crop (i.e. corn), or cover crops for a minimum of the past two years?
2. Are all areas of concentrated water flow stabilized with grassed waterways or terraces are present which have eliminated the need for grassed waterways?

For at least a portion of land that is currently pastured:

1. Are you following a rotational grazing management plan?
2. Do you manage the access of livestock to water?
3. Are your pasture fields free of actively eroding areas?
4. Are heavy use and livestock feeding areas managed to prevent contaminated runoff from entering ground and surface water?

For all land to be enrolled in CSP:

1. Have you assessed the environmental risks of pesticide use and addressed any risks with appropriate measures such as filter strips or set-backs, use of low risk pesticides, or timing of applications to reduce drift or runoff?
2. Are you following a nutrient management plan and applying nutrients according to fertilizer recommendations of a university lab, or equivalent, using soil test results from a soil sample taken within the last 5 years?
3. Do you have records, going back at least two years, that document and support the answers provided above?

Alabama County Contacts	Phone
Barbour	334-775-3266
Coffee	334-894-5581
Dale	334-774-4749
Geneva	334-684-2235
Henry	334-585-2284
Houston	334-793-2310
Florida County Contacts	Phone
Bay	850-638-1718
Holmes	850-638-1718
Jackson	850-526-2610
Walton	850-892-3712
Washington	850-638-1718

Note: Portions of your farm or operation currently enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program, Grassland Reserve Program, or Wetland Reserve Programs are not eligible acres for CSP.

For more CSP information, check these websites:

http://www.al.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/csp08/choct_rv_ws.html

<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/csp>