

ADDENDUM TO SOUTH CAROLINA STANDARD 391A,  
RIPARIAN FOREST BUFFERS

This addendum to the Riparian Forest Buffer Standard 391A is intended only for use in making eligibility determinations for re-enrollment into CP-22 Riparian Forest Buffers in the **Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)**. The re-enrollment of expiring CRP contracts with practices, such as, CP-3, CP-3a (longleaf pine), CP-13 and CP-22, in which the entire area was **planted in pines**, will not meet this current Riparian Forest Buffer standard of requiring the establishment of hardwood species based on Table 1 of this standard.

The following conditions were in place under the addendum 391-A, issued February 2000:

The width requirements for CP-22 will remain at a minimum of 35 feet, and a maximum of 100 feet, where no croplands exist adjacent to the re-enrollment buffer acres.

For purposes of making eligibility determinations for re-enrollment in CP-22, these existing buffers (**planted pines only**) will be determined eligible based on the acceptance of the applicant to implement the following management plan with the contract.

- Within five (5) years of the new contract, the pines will be thinned to less than three hundred (300) trees per acre in the riparian forest buffer acres.
- A prescribed burning plan will be included if applicable, during the year following the thinning operation, to provide site conditions to encourage the natural regeneration of hardwood species, and where an adequate seed source is present.
- Desirable hardwood and/or shrub species, from Table 1, *may* be planted at landowner's expense, in small openings within the riparian buffer.
- Number, species, and location will be included in the conservation plan/map.
- Consider competition from existing pines and other vegetation, in planning location of plantings.

Conservation practice standards are reviewed periodically, and updated if needed. To obtain the current version of this standard, contact the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

**If the site has had a previous enrollment and a determination of eligibility needs to be made:**

The width requirements for CP-22 will remain at a minimum of 35 feet, and a maximum of 100 feet, where no croplands exist adjacent to the re-enrollment buffer acres.

For purposes of making eligibility determinations for re-enrollment in CP-22, these existing buffers (**planted pines only**) will be determined eligible based on the acceptance of the applicant to implement the following management plan with the contract.

- The pines must be at a density of less than three hundred (300) trees per acre in the riparian forest buffer acres. (If the planted pines are greater than 300 trees per acre, then the conditions required under the 391 A, 2000 addendum were not met, we will consider the landowner out of compliance with the 2000 Addendum and the site is NOT eligible for re-enrollment)
- Prescribed burning must have been applied on the site, to provide site conditions to encourage the natural regeneration of hardwood species, and where an adequate seed source is present.
- Desirable hardwood and/or shrub species, from Table 1, *may* be planted at landowner's expense, in small openings within the riparian buffer.
- Number, species, and location will be included in the conservation plan/map.
- Consider competition from existing pines and other vegetation, in planning location of plantings.

For any re-enrollment acres not in **planted pines** (natural regeneration), the vegetation requirements for the Riparian Forest Buffer standard will apply:

- Zone 1 – hardwoods with a minimum of 30% oaks
- Zone 2 – mixed pine/hardwoods (minimum 20% hardwoods)
- Zone 3 – native grasses and forbs

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