

# FY 2011 Wyoming Organic Initiative Payment Rate and Guideline Sheet

There is a payment rate for EQIP and a second payment rate for EQIP-HU (Historically Underserved which includes Socially Disadvantaged, Limited Resources and Beginning Farmers and Ranchers).

**PRIOR to payment:** Refer to the FOTG conservation practice standard and specification for required criteria and documentation to certify completion of ALL practices prior to payment.

**For the Organic Initiative:**

- Listed below are only the conservation practices that have specific organic scenarios **however**, conservation practices that are likely to be needed by organic or transitioning producers may be contracted **if directly related to organic production systems and correspond to requirements of the National Organic Program (NOP)**.
- Financial assistance is limited to \$20,000 per year and \$80,000 in a six-year period.
- To participate in the program, producers will need to submit a copy of their current organic system plan. Producers transitioning to organic will need to sign a statement that they will develop and carry out an organic system plan.

**CONSERVATION ACTIVITY PLAN (CAP) PRACTICE NOTATIONS:**

- } CAP practices must be in a stand-alone contract under the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP).
- } **Only one** CAP contract is allowed to be developed on eligible acres at any given time. Contracting of multiple CAP contracts on the same acres is prohibited.
- } Multiple CAP contracts may be approved for the same participant; but not multiple contracts on same acres.
- } CAP contracts should be scheduled for completion in one year.
- } CAPs developed within 12 months (Two-year ProTracts contract – **MODIFICATIONS DISCOURAGED**).
- } Plan development must be completed by a Technical Service Provider (TSP) certified in the related and relevant category/discipline.
- } Producer will select a certified TSP from TechReg.
- } NRCS staff will not complete development of Conservation Activity Plans.
- } NRCS will complete EE/CPA-52 (no longer part of TSP criteria).
- } The written site specific plan will meet the technical criteria described in Section III of the Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG). The written plan will include the required environmental compliance documentation and the essential conservation practices along with associated specifications, job-sheets

	EQIP Payment Rate	Unit Type	Geographic Area	EQIP-HU Payment Rate
138 – Conservation Plan Supporting Organic Transition – Written ( <i>Conservation Activity Plan</i> )	\$6.00	ac.	Statewide	\$7.20
<p>∅ Practice 138 applies to the development of a written Transition to Organic System Plan. The typical operation consists of 160 acres of organic winter wheat. CAP practice 138 development involves data collection on existing crop production operations including all crop inputs to the operation. The plan system of conservation practices and management activities will be generated to incorporate all requirements of national organic certification program and develops alternative production practices to meet client objectives for transitioning to an organic system while meeting NRCS resource quality criteria for soil erosion/quality, plant condition, and energy conservation. CAP practice 138– Transition to Organic System Plan must comply with applicable federal, state, tribal, and local laws, regulations and permit requirements.</p>				

	<u>EQIP Payment Rate</u>	<u>Unit Type</u>	<u>Geographic Area</u>	<u>EQIP-HU Payment Rate</u>
<b>327 – Conservation Cover</b>				
∅ This practice does not apply to plantings for forage production (cannot be harvested).				
<b>Seedbed Preparation, Seed &amp; Seeding, Pollinator</b>	\$190.30	ac.	Statewide	\$228.30
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Pollinator enhancement encourages the establishment of adapted, native flowering plants to benefit pollinators, beneficial insects, and provide food and cover resources for other wildlife species. At a minimum, nine (9) species of flowering plants will be seeded. Species selection will be based on flowering to be early, middle and late growing season (1/3 each). This can be applied alone, but will more typically be used to supplement other grass-dominated seedings to diversify the seed mix. Seedbed preparation will be needed. Typical size will be one acre. (Additional guidance provided in Wyoming Plant Materials Technical Note No. 17, Plants for Pollinators in Wyoming).</li> </ul>				
<b>Seedbed Preparation, Seed &amp; Seeding, Organic</b>	\$182.30	ac.	Statewide	\$243.60
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Seeding an area at a minimum width of 30 feet to permanent vegetation to provide a setback or protected area from potential pesticide drift from fields with non-organic crop management, to reduce erosion and provide a buffer between non-organic and an organic field. Facilitating practice for an organic cropping system.</li> </ul>				
<b>328 – Conservation Crop Rotation</b>				
<b>∅ Maximum payment on this management practice is \$15,000 per year. Exception: The scenario for Irrigation Reduction (convert cropland to dryland) scenario.</b>				
∅ In order to document meeting the soil erosion requirement for organic certification, WY-ECS-40A and WY-ECS-40B are also required.				
<b>Crop Rotation, Resource Conserving</b>	\$12.40	ac.	Statewide	\$14.90
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Crop rotation will include an additional crop species (minimum of 3 crops) and at least 1/2 the rotation is a high-residue crop. A rotation may also be a minimum of 2 crops, if no perennial, and includes an unharvested cover crop OR a minimum of 2 crops, if one crop is a perennial lasting 2 years. Note: summer fallow will have a cover crop.</li> </ul>				
<b>Cropland, Irrigation Reduction (conversion to dryland farming)</b>	\$283.40	ac.	Statewide	\$283.40
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Eligible only for pumped irrigation where ground water levels are declining to address the resource concern of reduced water quantity. The crop rotation will convert from conventional irrigation to dryland farming. The payment would require growing different crops for diversity, improved soil quality and the interruption of pest cycles. A resource conserving crop rotation requires one of the following sequences: 1) a minimum of 3 crops with at least 2 of the crops being high-residue; OR 2) a minimum of 2 crops, if one crop is a perennial lasting 2 years; OR 3) a minimum of 2 crops, one high-residue and an unharvested cover crop following one of the crop years (i.e. summer fallow will always have a cover crop). Cover crop cannot be aftermath grazed following a low-residue crop. Corn, sorghum, and millet harvested for silage or hay is considered a low-residue crop, however if harvested for grain, they are considered a high-residue crop.</li> </ul>				
<b>Crop Rotation, Organic</b>	\$48.80	ac.	Statewide	\$58.60
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· The payment would require growing different crops for diversity, improving soil quality, maintaining adequate surface residue, and the interruption of pest cycles. A resource conserving crop rotation requires one of the following sequences: 1) a minimum of 3 crops with at least 2 different crops being high-residue; OR 2) a minimum of 2 different crops, if one crop is a perennial lasting 2 years; OR 3) a minimum of 2 different crops, 1 high-residue and an unharvested cover crop following 1 of the crop years (i.e. summer fallow will always have a cover crop). For this scenario, a sequence of crops would be winter wheat, millet, and Austrian peas seeded into millet residue and plowed following summer. Practices including 340, 345, 590, and 595 are associated conservation practices and should be encouraged.</li> </ul>				

	<u>EQIP Payment Rate</u>	<u>Unit Type</u>	<u>Geographic Area</u>	<u>EQIP-HU Payment Rate</u>
<b>340 – Cover Crop</b>				
<b>Cover Crop, Residue (small grain or sorghum)</b>	\$34.90	ac.	Statewide	\$41.80
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Small grains planted for seasonal cover which will not be harvested and to improve soil organic matter. Selected species will be suitable for the site to be seeded during the summer fallow. Cover crop will be terminated by frost, mechanical (mowing, tillage, crimping), or chemical.</li> </ul>				
<b>Cover Crop, Nitrogen Fixing</b>	\$85.10	ac.	Statewide	\$102.10
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Legumes planted for nitrogen fixing and seasonal cover which will not be harvested. Cover crop will be terminated by frost, mechanical (mowing, tillage, crimping), or chemical.</li> </ul>				
<b>Cover Crop, <b>Organic</b></b>	\$133.30	ac.	Statewide	\$160.00
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organic: Legumes or Brassicaceae species planted for nitrogen fixing, to interrupt pest cycles and provide seasonal cover which will not be harvested. Cover crops will be selected to improve soil condition or based on their capacity to improve soil fertility or provide a deterrent to pests. Common application to improve fertility would be peas or lentils terminated by frost or mechanical (mowing, tillage, crimping). Common application to interrupt pest cycles would be radishes (or something of a Brassicaceae species).</li> </ul>				
<b>345 – Residue and Tillage Management, Mulch Till</b>				
<b>Ø Maximum payment on this management practice is \$15,000 per year.</b>				
<b>Residue and Tillage Management, Mulch Till</b>	\$22.50	ac.	Statewide	\$27.00
<b>Mulch Till, <b>Organic</b></b>	\$22.50	ac.	Statewide	\$27.00
<b>386 – Field Border</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ø Provide a habitat to cause pests to congregate. Select plants for the field border that attract pests.</li> <li>Ø Include appropriate plants that attract beneficial organisms that prey on target pests.</li> <li>Ø Mowing, harvesting, and other disturbance activities will be scheduled to accommodate life cycle requirements of the beneficial organisms.</li> </ul>				
<b>Seedbed Preparation, Seed &amp; Seeding, Introduced</b>	\$99.30	ac.	Statewide	\$119.10
<b>Seedbed Preparation, Seed &amp; Seeding, Native (100% of the seed mix/species must be native)</b>	\$126.30	ac.	Statewide	\$151.60
<b>Seedbed Preparation, Seed &amp; Seeding, Pollinators</b>	\$190.30	ac.	Statewide	\$228.30
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This scenario encourages the establishment of native and/or introduced species, adapted flowering forbs and legumes, as pollinator enhancement to benefit pollinators, beneficial insects, and provide food and cover resources for other wildlife species. At a minimum, nine (9) species of flowering plants will be seeded. Species selection will be based on flowering to be early, middle and late growing season (1/3 each). This can be applied alone, for seed production, but will more typically be used to supplement seedings with stands limited to 50% grass. Consideration is given to selecting plants or specialty crops that bloom sequentially throughout the growing season where feasible. See Wyoming Plant Materials Technical Note No. 17, Plants for Pollinators.</li> </ul>				
<b>Seedbed Preparation, Seed &amp; Seeding, Introduced, <b>Organic</b></b>	\$134.10	ac.	Statewide	\$161.00
<b>511 – Forage Harvest Management</b>				
<b>Forage Harvest Management, <b>Organic</b></b>	\$4.70	ac.	Statewide	\$5.50
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The timely cutting and removal of forages. The stand will have a remaining height of four (4) inches during the growing season. The stand will have a remaining height of six (6) inches at the end of the growing season to protect the crown of the dormant plant and increase wildlife benefits.</li> </ul>				

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<b>528 – Prescribed Grazing</b>				
<b>Ø Maximum payment on this management practice is \$15,000 per year. Exception: The scenario for Irrigation Reduction (convert cropland to grazing).</b>				
<b>Prescribed Grazing - Irrigation Reduction (convert cropland to grazing)</b>	\$281.30	ac.	Statewide	\$281.30
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To address the resource concern of reduced water quantity. The crop rotation will convert from conventional irrigation to grazing with seed establishment of the field (use practice 512–Forage and Biomass Planting).</li> </ul>				
<b>Prescribed Grazing - Private, Tribal, or Organic land</b>	\$0.80	ac.	Statewide	\$1.00
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development and implementation of a planned grazing system, including: Livestock/Forage Balance, Planned Grazing Schedule that incorporates the rotation of season of use on summer grazing units, Actual Use Records (WY-ECS-414), Photo Points and one additional Monitoring method from the Wyoming Rangeland Monitoring Guide. The current system will be improved by a minimum of one management step.</li> </ul>				
<b>Prescribed Grazing, Public Land</b>	\$0.30	ac.	Statewide	\$0.35
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coordinate with federal agency to develop a formal agreement approved by the State Resource Conservationist. The planned grazing system will include: Livestock/Forage Balance, Planned Grazing Schedule that incorporates the rotation of season of use on summer grazing units, Actual Use Records (WY-ECS-414), Photo Points and one additional Monitoring method from the Wyoming Rangeland Monitoring Guide. The grazing plan must include both private and federal land. The current system will be improved by a minimum of one management step.</li> </ul>				
<b>Prescribed Grazing - Wildfire Recovery</b>	\$14.60	ac.	Statewide	\$16.70
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wildfire Recovery Component: Land affected by wildfire during the most recent fire season is eligible to receive a fore-gone income payment for implementing a grazing deferment to allow for rest and recovery of the forage resources during the first year of the contract. This does not include compensation for fences or other structures lost or destroyed, or rental of additional pasture to allow for deferment.</li> </ul>				
<b>Prescribed Grazing - Monitoring</b>	\$0.30	ac.	Statewide	\$0.35
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitoring of Key Grazing Areas will include: Actual Use Records (WY-ECS-414), Photo Points, and one additional Monitoring method from the Wyoming Rangeland Monitoring Guide.</li> </ul>				

**590 – Nutrient Management**

**Ø Maximum payment on this management practice is \$15,000 per year.**

- Ø **Ineligible:** Payment on this practice is ineligible if nitrogen is applied in the fall.
- Ø The nutrient management practice scenario is for cropland. In order to receive this payment the landowner must maintain records. Soil test are required according to the current conservation practice standard.
- Ø The following associated practices are required: 1) Practice 449–Irrigated Water Management must be implemented for irrigated acres; 2) Practice 554–Drainage Water Management must be implemented for acres that have been drained. 3) Practices 328–Conservation Crop and Rotation and 340–Cover Crop must be implemented for acres that are organic or transitioning to organic.
- Ø Practice(s) 328, 340, 449, 554, if contracted, must be separate item(s).

<b>Nutrient Management – Crop/Hayland, Basic</b>	\$4.40	ac.	Statewide	\$5.20
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Basic: Collecting tissue test or soil samples (1 per 20 acres or 40 acres if soils and crops are similar) and sending them into a NAPT-PAP certified lab or Land Grant University. Analyze soil test and lab recommendations, adjusting nutrient budget to meet crop needs. Record keeping will include the 4 R's: 1) right source; 2) right timing; 3) right rate; 4) right method as well as crop grown, anticipated and actual yields, and location of fertilizer application.</li> </ul>				

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<b>590 – Nutrient Management- continued</b>				
<b>Nutrient Management – Crop/Hayland, Intense</b>	\$8.70	ac.	Statewide	\$10.40
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Intense: All components of the basic level. In addition overlap reduction technologies and use of organic fertilizers.</li> </ul>				
<b>Nutrient Management - Crop/Hayland, Precision Ag</b>	\$32.10	ac.	Statewide	\$38.50
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Precision AG: All components of the basic and intense levels. In addition zonal sampling based on an EC or yield monitor map, chlorophyll readers, variable rate applied, and use of Global Positioning Systems (GPS).</li> </ul>				
<b>Nutrient Management - Crop/Hayland, Organic Basic, Level I</b>	\$10.20	ac.	Statewide	\$12.20
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All components of the basic and intense levels, along with tillage of green manure. Conversion to organic farming and State certification.</li> </ul>				
<b>Nutrient Management - Crop/Hayland, Organic Basic, Level II</b>	\$21.00	ac.	Statewide	\$25.20
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All components of the basic and intense levels, along with organic certified compost and application to dryland. Conversion to organic farming and State certification.</li> </ul>				

**595 – Integrated Pest Management (IPM)**

**Ø Maximum payment on the following scenarios for this management practice is \$15,000 per year.**

<b>IPM Implementation, Basic</b>	\$2.30	Treat Ac	Statewide	\$2.70
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Basic: Implementation of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) strategies (prevention, avoidance, mitigation, and suppression) along with record keeping and scouting, biological, mechanical, and cleaning equipment (tillage planting, and harvest). Appropriate suppression methods will be mitigated based on environmental risk assessments (WIN-PST, WEPS, RUSLE2).</li> </ul>				
<b>IPM Implementation, Intense</b>	\$6.00	Treat Ac	Statewide	\$7.20
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Intense: All components of the basic level, drift reducing nozzles, lower boom height, and the use of adjuvant with one of the following: 1) Laser technology to reduce overlap; or 2) a Chlorophyll Sensor System.</li> </ul>				
<b>IPM Implementation, Precision Agriculture</b>	\$9.80	Treat Ac	Statewide	\$11.70
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Precision Ag: All components of the basic and intense levels, with a higher level of management and technology using selective/precision spray program and equipment technologies including Global Positioning Systems (GPS) or Real Time Kinetics (RTK). For this payment level, a suite of practices including 328, 449, 590, and 329 or 345 must be implemented.</li> </ul>				
<b>IPM Implementation, Organic</b>	\$10.20	Treat Ac	Statewide	\$12.20
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organic: All components of the basic level, for the conversion to organic farming and State certification by implementing a high level of pest management techniques. Along with this scenario of IPM, practice 328–Conservation Crop Rotation, Organic scenario is also required. An Organic Management Plan is recommended for transitioning to organic production and a requirement for certified organic. Practice 340–Cover Crop is optional, but is encouraged. The national list of allowed and prohibited substances for approved pest suppression compounds can be found at the website for the <i>National Organic Program (NOP)</i> <a href="http://www.ams.usda.gov/nop/">www.ams.usda.gov/nop/</a>.</li> </ul>				