Natural Resources Conservation Service, USDA

(k) *Contract.* The legal document, qu that includes the water-quality plan and is executed by the participant and the administering agency. It details the agreement between parties for carrying out BMP's on the participant's

land. (1) *Cost-share level.* The percentage of the total cost of installing BMP's included in the participant's contract that is paid by the administering agency.

(m) *Critical areas or sources.* Those finite areas or sources of agricultural nonpoint source pollutants identified as having the most significant impact on the quality of the receiving waters.

(n) *Federal Management Circular FMC* 74-4. "Cost Principles Applicable to Grants and Contracts with State and Local Governments."

(o) *Financal burden.* The participant's contribution to the total cost of BMP's that would be inequitable or probably prevent participation in RCWP.

(p) *Identifiable unit.* A component of a BMP that can be clearly identified in carrying out BMP's in the water quality plan.

(q) Letter of Credit—Treasury Regional Disbursing Officer System. The system whereby the letters of credit are maintained and serviced by Treasury disbursing centers and Treasury regional disbursing officers.

(r) *Management agency.* The Federal, State, interstate, regional, or local agency designated by the Governor to carry out the approved agricultural portion of the 208 water-quality management plan.

(s) *OMB Circular A-34.* "Instructions on Budget Execution."

(t) *OMB Circular A-102 (Rev.)* Office of Management and Budget Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grantsin-Aid to State and local governments.

(u) *Offsite benefits.* Those favorable effects of BMP's that occur away from the land of the participant receiving RCWP assistance and accrue to the public as a result of improved water quality.

(v) *Participant.* A landowner or operator who applies for and receives assistance under RCWP.

(w) *Participants water quality plan.* The plan which identifies critical agricultural nonpoint source(s) of water quality problems and sets forth BMP's which contribute to meeting the water quality objectives of the project.

(x) *Privately owned rural land.* Those lands not held by Federal, State, or local governments which include cropland, pastureland, forest land, rangeland, and other associated lands.

(y) *RCWP projects.* The total system of BMP's, institutional arrangements, and technical, cost-sharing, and administrative assistance activities that are authorized in a RCWP project area.

(z) Standards and specifications. Requirements that establish the minimum acceptable quality level for planning, designing, installing, and maintaining BMP's.

(aa) *State.* Any of the several States of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas, and the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

(bb) *Technical assistance cost.* Those direct and indirect costs associated with the preparation and review of participant water quality plans; design, layout and application of BMP's; and investigations associated with monitoring and evaluating progress toward meeting project objectives.

(cc) *Treasury Circular 1075 (Rev.).* Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants-in-Aid to State and local governments.

Subpart B—Project Authorization and Funding

§634.10 Applicability.

RCWP is applicable in project areas that meet the criteria for eligibility contained in §634.12 and are authorized for funding by the Administrator, NRCS.

§634.11 Availability of funds.

(a) The provisions of the program are subject to the appropriation of funds by Congress to the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

(b) The allocation of funds to the administering agencies is to be made on the basis of the total funds needed to carry out the project.

(c) The obligation of Federal funds for RCWP contracts with participants