

How States Survive the Appropriations Process

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Overview

- The Ideal World...How it Should Work
- FY 2008...How it Really Works
- Challenges and Impacts

In An Ideal World: The Process

- Obligate all past year funds by Oct. 1
- Prepare for a New Fiscal Year
 - Business Plan
 - Training Plan
 - Efficiency Plan
 - Staffing Plan
 - Recruitment Plan

In An Ideal World: The Process

- **First Quarter**

- No Allocations in October—operate at same level as previous fiscal year
- Develop Detail Operating Summary
- Enter into Partner Agreements (SWCDs)
- Develop Conservation Plans
- Accept Program Applications
- Receive Discretionary Funds
- Receive Mandatory Funds
- Start to Monitor FFIS—NRCS accounting system and Protracts obligation database

In An Ideal World: The Process

- Second Quarter
 - Finalize Budget for Remaining Year
 - Make Staffing, Travel & Training Decisions
 - Obligate Program Dollars
 - Monitor Agreements and Open Obligation Reports

In An Ideal World: The Process

- Third Quarter
 - Implement Farm Bill Contracts
 - Monitor Agreements and Obligation Reports
 - Implement Conservation Practices on the Land
 - Constantly Look at New Funding Opportunities (i.e., RWAs)

In An Ideal World: The Process

- Fourth Quarter
 - Implement Farm Bill Contracts
 - Implement Conservation Practices on the Land
 - Monitor Agreements and Obligation Reports, and Prepare for Completion
 - Obtain and Obligate ‘Sweeps’ Dollars
 - Obligate Any ‘Year End’ Dollars
 - Close Out Fiscal Year

FY 2008: How It Really Works

- Challenges

- A New Farm Bill
- An Election Year
- Multiple Continuing Resolutions

FY 2008: How It Really Works

- Obligate all past year funds by Oct. 1
- Prepare for a New Fiscal Year
 - Business Plan
 - Training Plan
 - Efficiency Plan
 - Staffing Plan
 - Recruitment Plan

FY 2008: How It Really Works

- First, Second and Third Quarters
 - Started with \$4.8 Million Deficit—due to Farm Bill
 - Three Continuing Resolutions—Created Monthly to Weekly Allocations to Pay Employees
 - Hold on All Partnership Agreements—that were ready first quarter
 - No Hiring
 - No Major Purchases
 - Limited Training & Travel
 - Obligated all EQIP by Dec 30
 - Flood of June 2008 Hits

FY 2008: How It Really Works

- Fourth Quarter
 - New Farm Bill
 - Mandatory Funds Allocated
 - WHIP – June
 - EQIP – July
 - All Funds to be Obligated by August 31
 - May Get ‘Sweep Funds’ to Obligate Within Days
 - Make Purchases within Days if Funds Available
 - Close Out Fiscal Year

FY 2008: How It Really Works

- Recap 2008
 - 11 Programs
 - 143 Allocation Transactions

Detailed Allocation Transaction Report by State

DOC DATE	End Budget Fy	FUND		FUND NAME	DESCRIPTION
10/11/2007		76F	EQIP	Environmental Quality Initiative Program	FY08 INITIAL ALLOCATION
10/11/2007		76T	EQIP	Environmental Quality Initiative Program	INITIAL FY08 ALLOCATION
10/11/2007		85F	CSP	Conservation Security Program	FY08 INITIAL ALLOCATION
10/11/2007		85T	CSP	Conservation Security Program	INITIAL FY08 ALLOCATION
10/11/2007	2009	01T	CTA	Conservation Technical Assistance Multi-Year	INITIAL ALLOC_CR THRU 11-16-07
10/11/2007	2009	02T	SS	Soil Surveys Multi-Year	INITIAL ALLOC_CR THRU 11-16-07
10/12/2007		11T	RC&D	RC&D	INITIAL ALLOC-CR THRU 11-16-07
10/12/2007		85F	CSP	Conservation Security Program	REVISED INITIAL FY08 ALLOC - REDUCE
10/12/2007		85T	CSP	Conservation Security Program	REVISED INITIAL FY08 ALLOC - REDUCE
10/23/2007		67R	CRP	Conservation Reserve Program	FY08 INITIAL ALLOWANCE
10/23/2007		77T	WRP	Wetland Reserve Program	FY08 INITIAL ALLOWANCE
10/24/2007	2009	01T	CTA	Conservation Technical Assistance Multi-Year	FY08 ALLOC REDUCE FOR WRP
11/8/2007		77F	WRP	Wetland Reserve Program	OUT OF SCOPE PY CONTRCT CHANGE
11/15/2007		76F	EQIP	Environmental Quality Initiative Program	REVISED EQUIP ALLOC-11/5/07
11/15/2007		76T	EQIP	Environmental Quality Initiative Program	REVISED EQUIP ALLOC-11/5/07
11/15/2007		77F	WRP	Wetland Reserve Program	OUT OF SCOPE PY CONTRCT CHANGE
11/23/2007		11T	RC&D	RC&D	ALLOCATION CR#2-THRU 12-14-07
11/23/2007	2009	01T	CTA	Conservation Technical Assistance Multi-Year	ALLOCATION CR#2-THRU 12-14-07
11/23/2007	2009	02T	SS	Soil Surveys Multi-Year	ALLOCATION CR#2-THRU 12-14-07
12/11/2007		67R	CRP	Conservation Reserve Program	ADD'L FUNDING
12/11/2007		77F	WRP	Wetland Reserve Program	NEW ENROLLMENTS
12/11/2007		77T	WRP	Wetland Reserve Program	NEW ENROLLMENTS
12/19/2007		77F	WRP	Wetland Reserve Program	OUT OF SCOPE PY CONTRCT CHANGE
12/19/2007		77T	WRP	Wetland Reserve Program	ADD'L TA FUNDS
12/20/2007		77F	WRP	Wetland Reserve Program	OUT OF SCOPE PY CONTRCT CHANGE
12/20/2007		77T	WRP	Wetland Reserve Program	SRVC PY RESTORATIONS & EASMNT
12/26/2007		77F	WRP	Wetland Reserve Program	PY WRP ACTIVITIES
12/31/2007		77F	WRP	Wetland Reserve Program	ADD'L 08 FUNDING
1/15/2008		77T	WRP	Wetland Reserve Program	1ST QTR - ALLOCATION
1/15/2008	2009	01T	CTA	Conservation Technical Assistance Multi-Year	1ST QTR - ALLOCATION
1/15/2008	2009	02T	SS	Soil Surveys Multi-Year	1ST QTR - ALLOCATION
1/18/2008		11T	RC&D	RC&D	1ST QTR - ALLOCATION
2/1/2008	2009	01T	CTA	Conservation Technical Assistance Multi-Year	FY08 ALLOC-BAL--1/30/08 LTR
2/1/2008	2009	02T	SS	Soil Surveys Multi-Year	FY08 ALLOC-BAL--1/30/08 LTR
2/4/2008		11T	RC&D	RC&D	FY08 ALLOC-BAL--1/30/08 LTR
2/4/2008		75F	WHIP	Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program	FY08 ALLOC-BAL--1/30/08 LTR
2/4/2008		76T	EQIP	Environmental Quality Initiative Program	FY08 ALLOC-BAL--1/30/08 LTR
2/5/2008		75T	WHIP	Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program	FY08 ALLOC-BAL--1/30/08 LTR
2/5/2008		78F	GSWC	EQIP-Ground Surface Water Cons	FY08 ALLOCATION-1/30/08 LTR

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2/5/2008		78T	GSWC	EQIP-Ground Surface Water Cons	FY08 ALLOC-BAL--1/30/08 LTR
2/5/2008		86T	GRP	Grasslands Reserve Program	FY08 ALLOC-BAL--1/30/08 LTR
2/6/2008		67R	CRP	Conservation Reserve Program	FY08 ALLOC-BAL--1/30/08 LTR
2/7/2008		77T	WRP	Wetland Reserve Program	FY08 ALLOC-BAL--1/30/08 LTR
2/21/2008		76T	EQIP	Environmental Quality Initiative Program	ALL'L FUNDS - 95%
2/21/2008		76F	EQIP	Environmental Quality Initiative Program	ADD'L FUNDS - 95%
2/25/2008		77F	WRP	Wetland Reserve Program	ADD'L FUNDING
2/25/2008		77T	WRP	Wetland Reserve Program	ADD'L FUNDING
2/26/2008		77T	WRP	Wetland Reserve Program	DISTRIBUTE 2008 FUNDS
3/4/2008		77T	WRP	Wetland Reserve Program	ADD'L FUNDS-EASE/APPRaisal
3/4/2008		77F	WRP	Wetland Reserve Program	ADD'L FUNDS-EASE/APPRaisalS
3/6/2008	2009	01T	CTA	Conservation Technical Assistance Multi-Year	NRI IMAGERY-RETURN OF FUNDS
3/10/2008		75T	WHIP	Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program	ADD'L FUNDS
3/10/2008		75F	WHIP	Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program	ADD'L FUNDS
3/11/2008		67R	CRP	Conservation Reserve Program	TO GB-ITS CHARGES
3/11/2008		75T	WHIP	Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program	TO GB-ITS CHARGES
3/11/2008		86T	GRP	Grasslands Reserve Program	TO GB-ITS CHARGES
3/12/2008		77T	WRP	Wetland Reserve Program	TO GB-ITS CHARGES
3/19/2008		67R	CRP	Conservation Reserve Program	FY08 ALLOCATIONS-4-18-08
3/19/2008		75F	WHIP	Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program	FY08 ALLOCATIONS-4-18-08
3/19/2008		75T	WHIP	Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program	FY08 ALLOCATIONS-4-18-08
3/19/2008		77T	WRP	Wetland Reserve Program	FY08 ALLOCATIONS-4-18-08
3/19/2008		78F	GSWC	EQIP-Ground Surface Water Cons	FY08 ALLOCATION-4-18-08
3/19/2008		78T	GSWC	EQIP-Ground Surface Water Cons	FY08 ALLOCATIONS-4-18-08
3/19/2008		86T	GRP	Grasslands Reserve Program	FY08 ALLOCATIONS-4-18-08
3/21/2008		85T	CSP	Conservation Security Program	ADDT'L CSP FUNDING
4/4/2008		75T	WHIP	Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program	FY08 ALLOC-BAL--1/30/08 LTR
4/4/2008		75F	WHIP	Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program	FY08 ALLOC-BAL--1/30/08 LTR
4/8/2008		77F	WRP	Wetland Reserve Program	AMENDED OATP
4/8/2008		75F	WHIP	Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program	ADDT'L FUNDING
4/8/2008		75T	WHIP	Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program	ADDT'L FUNDING
4/10/2008		75F	WHIP	Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program	ADDT'L FUNDING
4/10/2008		75T	WHIP	Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program	ADDT'L FUNDING
4/11/2008		77F	WRP	Wetland Reserve Program	NEW EASEMENT & APPRAISALS (4)
4/11/2008		77T	WRP	Wetland Reserve Program	NEW EASEMENT & APPRAISALS (4)
4/14/2008		67R	CRP	Conservation Reserve Program	ADD'L FUNDS
4/14/2008		77T	WRP	Wetland Reserve Program	ADD'L FUNDING
4/14/2008		77F	WRP	Wetland Reserve Program	ADD'L FUNDING
4/16/2008	2009	01T	CTA	Conservation Technical Assistance Multi-Year	RAPID WATERSHED ASSESSMENT

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4/17/2008		85T	CSP Conservation Security Program	CSP 08-01 SIGN-UP
4/21/2008		67R	CRP Conservation Reserve Program	FY 08 ALLOC THRU 4/25/08
4/21/2008		75T	WHIP Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program	FY 08 ALLOC THRU 4/25/08
4/21/2008		77T	WRP Wetland Reserve Program	FY 08 ALLOC THRU 4/25/08
4/21/2008		78T	GSWC EQIP-Ground Surface Water Cons	FY 08 ALLOC THRU 4/25/08
4/21/2008		86T	GRP Grasslands Reserve Program	FY 08 ALLOC THRU 4/25/08
4/28/2008		67R	CRP Conservation Reserve Program	FY08 ALLOC THRU 5/2/08
4/28/2008		75T	WHIP Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program	FY08 ALLOC THRU 5/2/08
4/28/2008		77T	WRP Wetland Reserve Program	FY08 ALLOC THRU 5/2/08
4/28/2008		78T	GSWC EQIP-Ground Surface Water Cons	FY08 ALLOC THRU 5/2/08
4/28/2008		86T	GRP Grasslands Reserve Program	FY 08 ALLOC THRU 5/02/08
5/1/2008		76F	EQIP Environmental Quality Initiative Program	ADD'L FUNDING
5/1/2008		76T	EQIP Environmental Quality Initiative Program	ADD'L FUNDING
5/6/2008		77F	WRP Wetland Reserve Program	OATP
5/7/2008		67R	CRP Conservation Reserve Program	FY08 ALLOC THRU 5/16/08
5/7/2008		75F	WHIP Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program	FY08 ALLOC THRU 5/16/08
5/7/2008		75T	WHIP Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program	FY08 ALLOC THRU 5/16/08
5/7/2008		77T	WRP Wetland Reserve Program	FY08 ALLOC THRU 5/16/08
5/7/2008		78T	GSWC EQIP-Ground Surface Water Cons	FY08 ALLOC THRU 5/16/08
5/7/2008		86T	GRP Grasslands Reserve Program	FY08 ALLOC THRU 5/16/08
5/8/2008		75F	WHIP Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program	COST OVERRUN ACCOUNTS
5/8/2008		78F	GSWC EQIP-Ground Surface Water Cons	COST OVERRUN ACCOUNT
5/9/2008	2009	01T	CTA Conservation Technical Assistance Multi-Year	TO GB - FY08 OWCP
5/12/2008		11T	RC&D RC&D	TO GB - ITS CHARGES
5/12/2008		76T	EQIP Environmental Quality Initiative Program	TO GB - ITS CHARGES
5/12/2008		85T	CSP Conservation Security Program	TO GB - ITS CHARGES
5/12/2008	2009	01T	CTA Conservation Technical Assistance Multi-Year	TO GB - ITS CHARGES
5/12/2008	2009	02T	SS Soil Surveys Multi-Year	TO GB - ITS CHARGES
5/20/2008		67R	CRP Conservation Reserve Program	FY08 ALLOC THRU 5/23/08
5/20/2008		75T	WHIP Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program	FY08 ALLOC THRU 5/23/08
5/20/2008		77T	WRP Wetland Reserve Program	FY08 ALLOC THRU 5/23/08
5/20/2008		78T	GSWC EQIP-Ground Surface Water Cons	FY08 ALLOC THRU 5/23/08
5/20/2008		86T	GRP Grasslands Reserve Program	FY08 ALLOC THRU 5/23/08
5/22/2008		77F	WRP Wetland Reserve Program	OATP & APPRAISALS
5/29/2008	2009	01T	CTA Conservation Technical Assistance Multi-Year	TO GB - FY08 STATE ASSESSMENTS
5/29/2008	2009	02T	SS Soil Surveys Multi-Year	TO GB - FY08 STATE ASSESSMENTS
5/29/2008		11T	RC&D RC&D	TO GB - FY08 STATE ASSESSMENTS
5/29/2008		76T	EQIP Environmental Quality Initiative Program	TO GB - FY08 STATE ASSESSMENTS
5/29/2008		85T	CSP Conservation Security Program	TO GB - FY08 STATE ASSESSMENTS

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DOC DATE	End Budget Fy	FUND	FUND NAME		DESCRIPTION
6/3/2008		67R	CRP	Conservation Reserve Program	FY08 ALLOC - THRU 9/30/08
6/3/2008		75F	WHIP	Wildllife Habitat Incentives Program	FY08 ALLOC - THRU 9/31/08
6/3/2008		75T	WHIP	Wildllife Habitat Incentives Program	FY08 ALLOC - THRU 9/30/08
6/3/2008		77T	WRP	Wetland Reserve Program	FY08 ALLOC - THRU 9/30/08
6/3/2008		78F	GSWC	EQIP-Ground Surface Water Cons	FY08 ALLOC - THRU 9/30/08
6/3/2008		78T	GSWC	EQIP-Ground Surface Water Cons	FY08 ALLOC - THRU 9/30/08
6/3/2008		86T	GRP	Grasslands Reserve Program	FY08 ALLOC - THRU 9/30/08
6/4/2008		77F	WRP	Wetland Reserve Program	ADD'L FUNDING
6/4/2008		77T	WRP	Wetland Reserve Program	ADD'L FUNDING
6/17/2008		16T	EWP	EWP	EXIGENCY-JUNE 08 FLOODS
6/17/2008		16F	EWP	EWP	EXIGENCY-JUNE,08 FLOODS
6/18/2008		16F	EWP	EWP	#5033-EXIGENCY-JUNE,08 FLOODS
6/18/2008		16T	EWP	EWP	#5033-EXIGENCY-JUNE,08 FLOODS
6/19/2008		16F	EWP	EWP	EXIGENCY PROG #5033 JUNE 08 FL
6/19/2008		16T	EWP	EWP	EXIGENCY PROG #5033 JUNE 08 FL
6/20/2008		16F	EWP	EWP	EXIGENCY-JUNE FLOOD
6/20/2008		16T	EWP	EWP	EXIGENCY-JUNE FLOOD
6/20/2008		77T	WRP	Wetland Reserve Program	OATP & SURVEY
6/20/2008		77F	WRP	Wetland Reserve Program	OATP&SURVEY
7/1/2008		16F	EWP	EWP	EXIGENCY-JUNE 08 FLOOD
7/1/2008		16T	EWP	EWP	EXIGENCY-JUNE,08 FLOOD
7/3/2008		85F	CSP	Conservation Security Program	FUNDING OF FY 08 APPLICATIONS
7/3/2008		85T	CSP	Conservation Security Program	FUNDING OF FY 08 APPLICATIONS
7/7/2008		77F	WRP	Wetland Reserve Program	SURVEY
7/9/2008		16T	EWP	EWP	PROJ#5033-JUNE,08 FLOODS
7/9/2008		16F	EWP	EWP	PROJ#5033-JUNE,08 FLOODS

RED ITEMS ARE RETURN OF FUNDING

Challenges & Impacts

- Difficult to Manage on a Weekly Allowance
- Manage a \$50 Million Budget in One Quarter
- Work Daily with SWCD, while giving NRCS employees work priority
- Employee Morale and Stress
- Impact on SWCDs and Partnering Efforts
- Multiple Farm Bill Extensions
- Deficit Reduction Planning
- STC Circle of Influence is Limited
- Fourth Quarter is the Quarter from 'Hell'

Opportunities

- New Field Delivery System
- Great Leadership Team, Employees, and Partners' Endurance
- SWCD Employees as Partners (CITs)
- SWCDs Assist with Program Marketing/Implementation
- Local Leaders are Critical
 - IASWCD Strategic Plan
 - One State Conservation Plan
- Establish Responsibilities
- More Program Dollars/More Conservation on the Land
 - At What Cost? . . . Jane has more gray hair!!