

INTERIM PERFORMANCE MILESTONES IN AGRICULTURE COST SHARE PROGRAM CONTRACTS

STATEMENT OF INTENT

The Commission has determined that a significant percentage of Agriculture Cost Share Program (ACSP) contracts are cancelled with no work ever completed. Many of these contracts tie up ACSP funds for up to three years. It is the intent of the Commission that the staff develops and uses contracts that will require cooperators in ACSP to initiate work on implementing best management practices within twelve months.

STATEMENT OF POLICY

It is the policy of this Commission that all ACSP contracts written beginning with the 2002 program year shall include an interim performance milestone for at least 1/3 of the work required to be implemented on a contract to be completed within twelve months of the date the contract receives final Division approval. District Boards of Supervisors may grant up to an additional six months for the work to begin if the cooperator requests an extension in writing or by appearance before the District Board. In the event that the cooperator fails to complete at least 1/3 of the required work within 12 months, or within 18 months if the District grants a 6-month extension, the District shall terminate the contract and notify the cooperator and Division (using form NCACSP-18).

Determination of what constitutes 1/3 of the work required by the contract shall be at the discretion of the District Board of Supervisors.

This policy shall become effective beginning July 1, 2001 and shall remain in effect until rescinded, amended, or otherwise altered by the Soil and Water Conservation Commission. Any change in policy shall be effective at the discretion of the Commission. Notice shall not be required.