

National Carbon Offset Coalition, Inc. (NCOC)



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Conservation Tillage

The National Carbon Offset Coalition (NCOC) is currently accepting applications for continuous no-till management on cropland to be placed on the Chicago Climate Exchange (CCX) market. NCOC is an aggregating member of CCX. The Chicago Climate Exchange is the only active voluntary, legally binding integrated trading system to reduce emissions of all six greenhouse gases (GHGs). Exchange Soils Offsets (XSOs) are allowed for landowners that agree to conduct continuous no-till on cropland between 2007-2010. Specific rules vary slightly between CCX identified zones, but in general include:

- Low-residue crops (cotton, soybeans, beans, peas, lentils, etc.) are eligible only if a cover crop is included in the rotation. Chemical fallow is eligible.
- Histosol (organic) soils are not eligible
- Implements allowed include, but are not limited to, no-till drill, no-till and strip-till planters, rolling harrows, low disturbance liquid manure injectors, anhydrous ammonia applicator, manure knife applicator, sub-soil ripper with at least 24" spacing. Implements not allowed are field cultivators, tandem disk, offset disk, chisel plow, moldboard plow.
- No XSOs are allowed for years in which residue removal or burning occurs
- No till on irrigated cropland is allowed in some CCX zones. **Contact NCOC for eligible irrigated cropland counties.

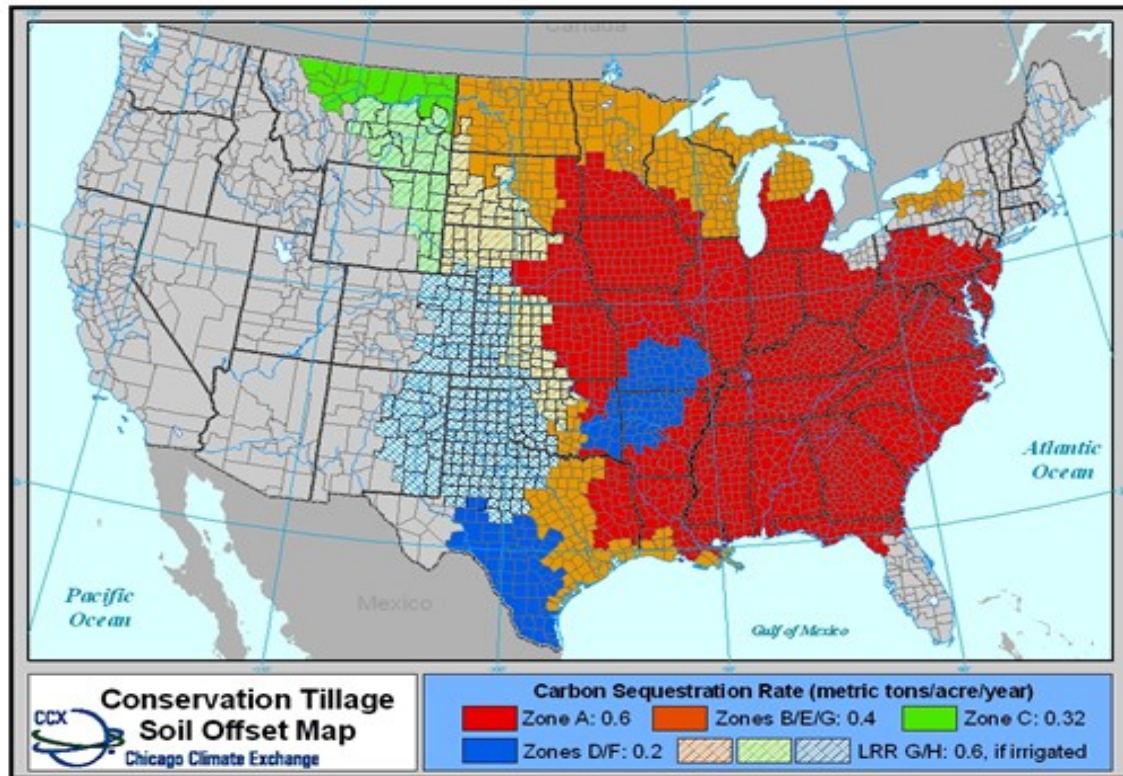
The zones and default values are:

CCX Zone	General Region	Dry land Allowance	Irrigated Allowance
A	Midwest	0.6tCO ₂ e/ac/yr	N/A
B	Northern Plains	0.4	0.6
C	Western N. Plains	0.32 ^a	0.6**
D	Central Plains	0.2	0.6
E	Southern Plains	0.4	0.6
F	Ozarks	0.2	N/A
G	Western New York	0.4	N/A
H	Canadian Prairies	0.4 ^b	N/A

NCOC has developed simple application forms for agricultural and forestry carbon offsets.

Additional eligible projects include:

- Rangeland (degraded & non-degraded)
- Grass planting on cropland
- Methane (agricultural)
- Afforestation (tree planting) on land that had not been in forest for 10 years or more
- Reforestation on land where forests were destroyed by natural events (usually wildfires) and are unable to regenerate naturally
- Urban forests planted since January 1, 1990
- Sustainable forest management
- Energy Fuel Switching



The NCOC Application Process

NCOC has defined an initial process for assembling individual projects into a group of projects (portfolio) that contains the necessary amount of offset credits to meet buyer or trading system requirements of the CCX. Under this process, the following outline the steps for cropland.

Landowner prepares and submits the Conservation Tillage Application Form available on line at <http://www.ncoc.us> (Downloads). The form requires the following information:

- Ownership of carbon
- County
- Acres in Project
- Start date of continuous no-till
- System description, prior management, purposes, duration
- Location — FSA or other maps
- Marketing rights, including term

NOTE: All projects put 20 percent of the carbon credits into a reserve pool. If at the end of the market period the project has not been lost or compromised, the 20 percent is returned to the project owner. (A.K.A. Reserve Pool)

Technical Assistance

The NCOC has Affiliate Members who specialize in cropland that may be available to provide technical assistance in project planning with the landowner. The cost of project planning is between the landowner and the Affiliate Member. Contact NCOC for list of Affiliates who specialize in crops.

Visit Our Website: <http://www.ncoc.us>