**CHARLES ULMER, JR. CERTIFICATION REQUEST REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION**

Mr. Ulmer has a corn silage, hay, and cash grain operation located in Hepburn Township, Lycoming County. He farms tracts in Eldred, Fairfield, Hepburn, Loyalsock, Lycoming, and Upper Fairfield Townships.

**CERTIFICATION REQUEST DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS**

1. **Baseline and Threshold (25 Pa Code 96.8)**

The Ulmer farm meets baseline requirements of 025 PA Code 96.8 by having the following required items:

1. Nutrient Management Plan for all tracts receiving manure (025 PA 83 Subchapter D)
2. Conservation Plans for all tracts (025 PA 102)

The Ulmer farm is in full compliance of the requirements of its Conservation Plans and Nutrient Management Plan.

The Ulmer farm meets the threshold needed to generate credits by the requirement states as, “Manure is not mechanically applied within 100 feet of a perennial or intermittent stream with a defined bed or bank, a lake or a pond”. The Ulmer farm also applies commercial fertilizer at or below agronomic rates contained in the current *Penn State University Agronomy Guide* published by Pennsylvania State University.

**Credit Generation**

The Ulmer farm is a no-till operation. In addition to tillage credits, The Ulmer farm generates credits by planting cover crops on all corn silage and corn grain acres and as many soybean acres as it can every year. RUSLE2 calculations were run for each field over the entire operation. All credits generated by The Ulmer farm are generated by going beyond the baseline tillage and/cover cropping requirements to meet the tolerable soil loss rate.

**Credit Calculation Method**

All credits for this certification request will be for Nitrogen (N) credits only. To do this, the current version of the Nonpoint Source Nitrogen Calculation Spreadsheet found on the PA DEP Nutrient Trading Webpage was used. The manure figures used include the manure application rates and manure analysis found in the original certification.

 Cropland associated with this certification lies within Watershed Segment 60 or Watershed Segment 70. Watershed Segment 60 has a Nitrogen delivery ratio of 0.93. The Nitrogen Edge of Stream Ratios for this watershed is 55% for conventional tillage, 31% for conservation tillage, 78% for hay, and 15% for pasture. Watershed Segment 70 has a Nitrogen delivery ratio of 0.941. The Nitrogen Edge of Stream Ratios for this watershed is 45% for conventional tillage, 45% for conservation tillage, 86% for hay, and 13% for pasture.

1. **Location Maps of the Proposed Prevention Reduction Activity (PRA)**

The following maps have been submitted to show the locations of the proposed PRA for each tract:

1. An FSA map showing the farm boundaries, the field boundaries of tracts that generate credits, adjacent or nearby road names, and any visible receiving streams.
2. A soil map showing the soils in the fields generating credits. A chart with all of the operation’s soil type symbols and their names is also attached with this proposal.
3. A topographic map showing the general area, topography of the tract, and a latitude and longitude reading for the center of the PRA activity.
4. **Details on the Timing of Credits**

Credits will be verified twice annually. The first time credits will be verified is as soon after April 15th as possible for fields that had a cover crop. To receive credit for having a successful cover crop, there must be a minimum of 50% ground cover by April 15th of that year. The second verification will take place after the spring crops have been planted. Animal numbers and pasture movement information will also be collected during this visit.

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| **Water Quality Uses Under Chapter 93**Tract number(s) | Local Watershed Name | Watershed Name | Major Basin |
| 1774 & 1776 | Lick Run | Loyalsock Creek | Susquehanna River |
| 1282, 1591, 1783 & 3029 | Loyalsock Creek and UNTs | Loyalsock Creek | Susquehanna River |
| 3123 & 3673 | Lycoming Creek and UNTs | Lycoming Creek | Susquehanna River |
| 1283 | Mill Creek (East) | Loyalsock Creek | Susquehanna River |
| 1254, 1275,1560, 1732 & 2855 | Mill Creek (West) | Loyalsock Creek | Susquehanna River |
| 1558, 1563, 1720, 1723, 1724, 1744, 2351, 2352, 2744, 3156, 3563 & 3159 | Mill Creek and UNTs | Lycoming Creek | Susquehanna River |

All of the receiving streams listed in Chapter 93 have a designated use of Trout Stocked Fishes (TSF), except Lycoming Creek and Mill Creek/Lycoming Creek, which are listed as Warm Water Fishes (WWF). Lycoming Creek, which is the receiving stream for Tract 3673, has an impairment listed as Atmospheric Deposition;pH. Mill Creek/ Lyco-ming Creek has an impairment listed as Source Unknown:Pathogens. The remaining receiving stream segments do not have any listed impairments.

1. **Funding Source Information**

The Ulmer farm has not received public funding sources to generate these credits.

1. **Risk Reduction Plan**

Provisions have been put into place to minimize the operator from not producing the credits through a contract with him, the Lycoming County Conservation District, and the County of Lycoming. The contract states that if the operator is under contract for future credits, he must supply them or provide the money required to pay the Lycoming County Nutrient Trading Program the amount it would cost to buy the amount of credits he did not generate. In most cases, we recommend that our producers sign one year contracts for practices that are not permanent like the CREP BMPs. In addition to this provision, the Lycoming Nutrient Trading Program has a fund set aside equal to 25%-30% of all previously sold credits in case there is a credit generator who defaults on contracted credits by no fault of his own. This fund could also be used to produce contracted credits for a generator instead of having a generator purchase them if he defaults depending on the circumstance of the credit default.

1. **Preservation and Conservation Easement Information**

Tract 1774 is enrolled in the Eldred Township Ag Security Program. Tract 3123 is enrolled in the Lycoming Township Ag Security Program. Neither tract is enrolled in the Lycoming County Ag Preservation Program.

1. **Confidential Business Information**

N/A

1. **Submitting Person and PRA Participants**

**Submitter’s Information**

Submitting Agency: Lycoming County Conservation District

Address: 542 County Farm Road, Suite 202

 Montoursville, PA 17754

Contact Name: Rod Morehart, Chesapeake Bay Technician

Contact Phone #: 1(570) 329-1619

**PRA Participants Information**

Operation Information: Charles Ulmer, Jr. farm

Address: 3923 RT 973 HWY E

 Cogan Station, PA 17728

Contact Name: Charles Ulmer, Jr.

Other PRA Participants: None

1. **Professional Qualifications**

Rod Morehart received a B.S.in Wildlife Management from Delaware State University in 2001. He has worked in the conservation field full time since May 2001. He has been nutrient management certified in Maryland, Delaware or Pennsylvania since 2002. He is also a certified conservation planner through the NRCS’s training program. Rod has been involved with the Lycoming County Nutrient Trading Program since its inception. He has written most of the proposals that have been submitted to date. He has completed all of the annual field verification and credit verification submission work since the program started selling credits.

1. **Verification Plan**

Credit verification will start with a cover crop field check in the spring of every year. Successful cover crop fields will have their credits generated and sent in once all of the cover crop credit work is completed for all program participants. Another field verification visit will be made to inspect the tillage used on all fields that can generate tillage related credits after the spring planting has occurred. This visit will also be used to collect animal numbers and pasture rotation information. The tillage and pasture credits will be sent in as a separate verification request after the credit calculation work is completed.

**Attachments to Supplement the Certification Request Form and**

**Certification Request Required Documentation**

1. **Maps Folder (Each folder listed below contains an FSA map, Soil Map, and a Topographic Map)**

Tract 1254 Tract 1275 Tract 1282 Tract 1283 Tract 1558 Tract 1560

Tract 1563 Tract 1591 Tract 1720 Tract 1723 Tract 1724 Tract 1732

Tract 1744 Tract 1774 Tract 1776 Tract 1783 Tract 2351 Tract 2352

Tract 2744 Tract 2855 Tract 3029 Tract 3123 Tract 3156 Tract 3159

Tract 3563 Tract 3673

An Aerial Map or FSA map showing the farm boundaries, the field boundaries of tracts that generate credits, adjacent or nearby road names, and any visible receiving streams.

A soil map showing the soils in the fields generating credits.

A topographic map which shows a tract’s general location, topography, and a latitude and longitude coordinate of the center of the tract’s PRA activities.

**NOTE:** There are several topographic maps with two or more tracts on the map. There are15 topographic maps that cover 26 separate tracts.

1. **RUSLE2 Folder (This folder contains the following RUSLE2 PDFs)**

Tract 1254 F 1 Tract 1254 F 2 Tract 1254 F 3 Tract 1275 F 1

Tract 1275 F 2 Tract 1275 F 3 Tract 1275F 4 Tract 1275 F 5

Tract 1275 F 6 Tract 1282 F 1 Tract 1283 F 1 Tract 1283 F 2-5

Tract 1558 F 1 & 2 Tract 1560 F 1 Tract 1560 F 2

Tract 1563 F 1 Tract 1563 F 2 Tract 1563 F 4 Tract 1591 F 1-3

Tract 1591 F 4-6 Tract 1720 F 1 Tract 1723 F 1-3

Tract 1724 F 1 Tract 1732 F 1 Tract 1744 F 2 Tract 1744 F 4

Tract 1774 F 2 Tract 1774 F 3 Tract 1774 F17, 18 & 19

Tract 1774 F 19 Tract 1776 F 1 Tract 1783 F 1 & 2 Tract 2351 F 1

Tract 2351 F 3 Tract 2352 F 2 T 2744 F 1 Tract 2855 F 1

T 3029 F 1 & 2 Tract 3123 F 4-8 Tract 3156 F 1 Tract 3159 F 1

Tract 3563 F 1 Tract 3673 F 1-3

1. **Spreadsheet Folder**

**This folder contains the following spreadsheets:**

Tract 1254 F 1 Tract 1254 F 2 & 3 Tract 1275 F 1-2 Tract 1275 F 3-4

Tract 1275 F 5-6 Tract 1282 F 1 Tract 1283 F 1-5 Tract 1558 F 1 & 2

Tract 1560 F 1 Tract 1560 F 2 Tract 1563 F 1-2 Tract 1563 F 4

Tract 1591 F 1-6 Tract 1720 F 1 Tract 1723 F 1-3 Tract 1724 F 1

Tract 1732 F 1 Tract 1744 F 2 Tract 1744 F 4 Tract 1774 F 2

Tract 1774 F 3 Tract 1774 F17, 18 & 19 Tract 1774 F 19

Tract 1776 F 1 Tract 1783 F 1 & 2 Tract 2351 F 1 & 3 Tract 2352 F 2

T 2744 F 1 Tract 2855 F 1 T 3029 F 1 & 2 Tract 3123 F 4 & 5

Tract 3123 F 6-8 Tract 3156 F 1 Tract 3159 F 1

Tract 3563 F 1 Tract 3673 F 1-3

1. **BMP Summary Spreadsheet**
2. **Spreadsheet Summary**