

## CRS UNIFORM MINIMUM CREDIT ARKANSAS

### SUMMARY

The Community Rating System (CRS) provides Uniform Minimum Credit (UMC) for certain state laws, regulations, and standards that support floodplain management within the state and have proven effective in reducing flood damage.

The following table summarizes UMC credit. It includes UMCs available to all communities. It also includes possible additional credit available for selected areas or state activities. ISO/CRS Specialists and the communities need to determine which possible additional credits apply to their area. These UMCs do not necessarily apply to Tribal Nations.

The range of credit available to communities within the state is shown below, followed by an explanation of each activity. The credit is based on the 2013 *CRS Coordinator's Manual*.

Activity	Element	Credit
<b>Uniform Minimum Credit</b>		
430	State-mandated Standards (SMS)	0.5
430	Regulations Administration (RA)	5
450	Erosion and Sediment Control (ESC)	10
	<b>Total</b>	<b>15.5</b>
<b>Possible Additional Credit</b>		
420	Open Space Preservation (OSP)	0 - 1450
420	Natural Functions Open Space (NFOS)	0 - 170
430	Building Codes (BC)	48
430	Local Drainage Protection (LDP)	10
430	State-mandated Standards (SMS)	5.8 - 20
450	Water Quality (WQ)	20
630	State Dam Safety	0 - 29
	<b>Total</b>	<b>83.8 - 1747</b>

Credit for activities in the 400 series can increase based on the Community Growth Adjustment. The CRS requires participating communities to maintain elevation certificates, which provide an additional 38 points. Five hundred points are needed for Class 9.

## UNIFORM MINIMUM CREDIT

### Activity 430. Higher Regulatory Standards

**Regulations Administration (RA)** – 5 points are awarded for the requirement that each floodplain administrator must become accredited by the Arkansas Soil & Water Conservation Commission.

**Legal basis:** *Act 745* provides for the appointment of a floodplain administrator in a municipal or county government and to authorize the accreditation of the floodplain administrator by the Arkansas Soil and Water Conservation Service. Accreditation requirements are in Arkansas Code 14-268-106, Floodplain Administrator and Title 18 of the Rules Governing the Arkansas Soil and Water Commission’s Floodplain Administrator Accreditation Program at <https://www.arkansasfloods.org/afma/cfm/index.php?p=ACT745> and [https://static.ark.org/eeuploads/anrc/title\\_18-rules.pdf](https://static.ark.org/eeuploads/anrc/title_18-rules.pdf)

**Annual UMC verification:** ISO/CSR Specialists will verify that the regulations are still in effect.

**State-mandated Standards (SMS)** – 0.5 points are awarded for state-mandated regulatory standards. Credit equals 0.10 times the sum of credit points for floodplain management regulatory standards. Total SMS is limited to 20 points.

State-mandated Standards		
Activity	Element	Credit
430	Regulations Administration (RA)	5
	<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>
	<b>x 0.1</b>	<b>0.5</b>

**Source:** Section 432.n of the *CRS Coordinator’s Manual*.

### Activity 450. Stormwater Management

**Erosion & Sedimentation Control (ESC)** – 10 points are awarded for the requirement that construction projects of greater than 1 acre require erosion and sediment control measures.

**Legal basis:** Stormwater Discharge Permit No. ARR150000 at [http://www.adeq.state.ar.us/water/branch\\_permits/general\\_permits/stormwater/construction/pdfs/ARR150000\\_permit.pdf](http://www.adeq.state.ar.us/water/branch_permits/general_permits/stormwater/construction/pdfs/ARR150000_permit.pdf).

**Verification:** ISO/CRS Specialists will verify credit by reviewing permits and erosion control plans.

**Annual UMC verification:** ISO/CSR Specialists will verify that the regulations are still in effect.

## POSSIBLE ADDITIONAL CREDIT

Some state standards are eligible for CRS credit, but may not be in effect in every community. These standards are addressed below. ISO/CRS Specialists and the communities need to determine whether they are creditable in their area.

### Activity 420. Open Space Preservation

**Open Space Preservation (OSP)** - Up to 1450 points are awarded for those parts of the regulatory floodplain that are preserved as Open Space as part of the Arkansas Wetlands Mitigation Bank Program. This program is established to promote the restoration, maintenance, and conservation of aquatic resources, including wetlands, streams, and deep water aquatic habitats to offset losses of aquatic resources. The mitigation bank provides for public ownership and management of wetland sites.

**Legal basis:** Arkansas Natural Resources Commission (ANRC) Rules Governing The Arkansas Wetlands Mitigation Bank Program, Title XII, ANRC 138.00, Section 1201 at [http://www.anrc.arkansas.gov/Rules%20and%20Regulations/title\\_12.pdf](http://www.anrc.arkansas.gov/Rules%20and%20Regulations/title_12.pdf).

**Verification:** ISO/CRS Specialists will review impact adjustment maps and area calculations prepared by the community, review documentation showing the development restrictions for each parcel, and conduct a field verification visit. Recent aerial photos or recent images from Google Earth may be used to assist with the verification process.

**Annual UMC Verification:** ISO/CRS Specialists will verify that the regulations are still in effect.

**Natural Functions Open Space (NFOS)** - Up to 170 points are awarded for wetlands in the Arkansas Wetlands Mitigation Bank, which are in an undeveloped natural state, have been restored to a natural state, or protect natural and beneficial functions.

**Legal basis:** Arkansas Natural Resources Commission (ANRC) Rules Governing The Arkansas Wetlands Mitigation Bank Program, Title XII, ANRC 138.00, Section 1201. It is at: [http://www.anrc.arkansas.gov/Rules%20and%20Regulations/title\\_12.pdf](http://www.anrc.arkansas.gov/Rules%20and%20Regulations/title_12.pdf).

**Verification:** ISO/CRS Specialists will review impact adjustment maps and area calculations prepared by the community, review documentation showing the property is managed and kept in a natural state, and conduct a field verification visit.

**Annual UMC Verification:** ISO/CRS Specialists will verify that the regulations are still in effect.

## Activity 430. Higher Regulatory Standards

**Building Codes (BC)** – 48 points are awarded for the adoption of the Arkansas Fire Prevention Code (2007 edition), which incorporates the 2006 editions of the International Building Code (IBC), International Residential Code (IRC), in addition to the International Plumbing, Mechanical, and Fuel Gas Codes.

**Legal basis:** Pursuant to A.C.A. § 12-13-101 et seq., the Director of the Department of Arkansas State Police, who serves by operation of law as the Arkansas State FireMarshal has promulgated rules to aid in the implementation, interpretation, and enforcement of the Arkansas Fire Prevention Code (AFPC), 2007 Edition. Per Ark. Admn. Code 130 00 003. The rules are at:  
[http://www.sos.arkansas.gov/rulesRegs/Arkansas%20Register/2008/may\\_2008/130.00.07-003.pdf](http://www.sos.arkansas.gov/rulesRegs/Arkansas%20Register/2008/may_2008/130.00.07-003.pdf)

**Verification:** ISO/CRS Specialists will verify that communities have adopted the 2007 edition of the Arkansas Fire Prevention Code, without amendments.

**Annual UMC Verification:** ISO/CRS Specialists will verify that the regulations are still in effect.

**Local Drainage Protection (LDP)** – 10 points are awarded for adoption of the IBC and the IRC which require positive drainage away from the foundation.

**Legal basis:** Arkansas Fire Prevention Code, Per Ark. Admn. Code 130 00 003. The rules are at:  
[http://www.sos.arkansas.gov/rulesRegs/Arkansas%20Register/2008/may\\_2008/130.00.07-003.pdf](http://www.sos.arkansas.gov/rulesRegs/Arkansas%20Register/2008/may_2008/130.00.07-003.pdf)

**Verification:** ISO/CRS Specialists will verify that communities have adopted the 2007 edition of the Arkansas Fire Prevention Code, without amendments.

**Annual UMC verification:** The ISO BC technical reviewer will verify that the regulations are still in effect.

**State-mandated Standards (SMS)** – An additional 5.8 to 20 points are awarded for state-mandated regulatory standards. Credit equals 0.10 times the sum of credit points for floodplain management regulatory standards. Total SMS is limited to 20 points.

State-mandated Standards		
Activity	Element	Credit
420	Open Space Preservation (OSP)	0 - 1450
420	Natural Functions Open Space (NFOS)	0 - 170
430	Building Codes (BC)	48
430	Local Drainage Protection (LDP)	10
	<b>Total</b>	<b>58 - 1678</b>
	<b>x 0.1</b>	<b>5.8 to 20</b>

**Source:** Section 432.n of the *CRS Coordinator's Manual*.

## Activity 450. Stormwater Management

**Water Quality Regulations (WQ)** – 20 points may be awarded if new developments' stormwater management facilities are required to improve the quality of stormwater management runoff.

**Legal basis:** This is part of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), Phase II Program requirements.

**Verification:** ISO/CRS Specialists will review a copy of the local ordinance language that requires best management practices for water quality and copies of development plans showing implementation of the law.

**Annual UMC verification:** ISO/CRS Specialists will verify with best management practices for water quality is required.

## Activity 630. Dams

**State Dam Safety (SDS)** – Up to 29 points of credit for State Dam Safety Program activities based on the Dam Safety Program Management Tool. 7 points awarded for Condition Assessment, 15 points for Risk Communication and Public Awareness, and 7 points for Emergency Action Planning.

**Verification:** ISO/CRS Specialists will verify that the community is in compliance with the State Dam Safety Program. SDS credit is limited to communities that would be affected by a flood from the failure of a high-hazard-potential dam. This must be documented with a description and a map.

**Annual UMC verification:** The Federal Emergency Management Agency's Dam Safety Office annually verifies SDS credit.