United States Department of Agriculture

NRCS Natural Resources
Conservation Service

NRCS Team III Monthly Report

January 4, 2021

Environmental Quality Incentives Program – EQIP

- Staff are currently working on engineering and vegetative practice designs, checkouts, cultural resource clearances and conducting site visits.
 - Signup Deadline for FY2021 is January 8, 2021
 - Ranking Deadline for FY2021 is April 2, 2021
 - New Mexico NRCS EQIP website for FY 2021 <u>https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/nm/programs/financial/eqip/</u>

Conservation Stewardship Program - CSP

Deadline has been set to Jan 15, 2021
<u>https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/nm/programs/financial/csp/</u>

Team III Update

- NRCS field offices are open by phone appointment only until further notice, and NRCS staff are available to continue to provide one-on-one, customer-specific advice to producers to help them meet their unique conservation and business goals.
- All USDA Service Centers are <u>not</u> currently accessible to customers in person.
- NRCS staff are working with customers through phone, mail and online communications, and field work continues with appropriate social distancing and to help producers with conservation planning and financial assistance through Farm Bill programs. Customers may contact their local service center to make arrangements to complete program application and contract paperwork by alternative means, such as over the phone, electronically, or by mail.

Training

- We are working on Planner Certification to develop Conservation Plans.
- Leadership/District Meeting Jan 19-21, 2021

Staffing

• Delia Pastran-Garcia will be acting North Area Engineer until the position is filled.

The following positions have approved to be advertised for Team 3.

- Civil Engineer, GS-0810-5/7/9, North Area, Hernandez
- Soil Conservationist, GS-0457-5/7/9, Team 3, Taos

Respectfully Submitted, David Griego District Conservationist, Team III