

Taos Field Office
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NRCS Team III Monthly Report

June 2, 2021

Environmental Quality Incentives Program – EQIP

- Staff are currently working on engineering and vegetative practice designs, checkouts, cultural resource clearances and conducting site visits.
- Total of 112 EQIP apps for the FY 2021 Funding
 - Contracts are being developed
 - New Mexico NRCS EQIP website for FY 2022
<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/nm/programs/financial/eqip/>

Conservation Stewardship Program - CSP

- Total of 6 CSP applications for FY 2021 Funding
- 1 NIPF contract was funded in Hernandez
- Total of 4 CSP applications for FY 2022 Renewals
- New Mexico NRCS CSP website for FY 2022
<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/nm/programs/financial/csp/>

Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production Grant

- \$4 million in competitive grants is available to support the development of urban agriculture and innovative production projects. USDA will accept applications on Grants.gov for planning and implementation projects until midnight July 30, 2021
- Planning projects initiate or expand efforts of farmers, gardeners, citizens, government officials, schools and other stakeholders in urban areas and suburbs. Projects may target areas of food access, education, business and start-up costs for new farmers, urban agroforestry or food forests, and development of policies related to zoning and other needs of urban production.
https://content.govdelivery.com/attachments/USDANRCS/2021/06/01/file_attachments/1841955/2021%20NRCS%20Urban%20Grants%20News%20Release.pdf

Team III Update

- As of April 19, 2021 NRCS, Field Offices are operating up to 50% of office staffing. We can accept visitors by appointment only until further notice. 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.
- 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

- July 28- North Area all Employees Meeting
- August 9-12 -Conservation Planning Training-

Staffing

- Advertised for Team 3
 - Civil Engineer, GS-0810-5/7/9, North Area, Hernandez

**Respectfully Submitted,
David Griego
District Conservationist, Team III**