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# **NRCS Team III Monthly Report**

**December 3, 2021** 

### Environmental Quality Incentives Program - EQIP

- Staff are currently working on engineering and vegetative practice designs, checkouts, cultural resource clearances and conducting site visits.
- New Mexico NRCS EQIP website for FY 2022
- Deadline January 7, 2022
   https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/nm/programs/financial/eqip/

#### **Conservation Stewardship Program - CSP**

- New Mexico NRCS CSP website for FY 2022
- Deadline January 7, 2022
- SJ RC RCPP CSP Rankings Due December 10, 2021
- Obligation TBA https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/nm/programs/financial/csp/

#### **Conservation Innovation Grants**

- CIG -\_is a competitive program that supports the development of new tools, approaches, practices, and technologies to further natural resource conservation on private lands.
- Proposals must be submitted through Grants.gov by July 19 <a href="https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/financial/cig/">https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/financial/cig/</a>

## 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.
- USDA employees will not be expected to begin returning to work in-person any earlier than January 1, 2022. It will be a phased re-entry.
- 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:

Soil Health Seminar- Dec 7-10th

Respectfully Submitted, David Griego District Conservationist, Team III