United States Department of Agriculture

NRCS Natural Resources
Conservation Service

Hernandez Field Office 19283 US HWY 84/285 Suite 113, Hernandez, NM 87537 Phone: (575) 753-3508 x3 Web site: www.nm.nrcs.usda.gov

NRCS Team III Monthly Report

8/2/2024

Environmental Quality Incentives Program – EQIP

- Staff are currently working on engineering and vegetative practice designs, checkouts, cultural resource clearances and conducting site visits.
- Contracting –To be complete before July 26 and then funds to be returned.
- 120 applications were ranked.
- We have 56 EQIP applications that are preapproved
- EQIP Applications are totaling \$3,167,599.00
- We have 2 Watershed applications preapproved.
- Watershed Applications are totaling \$455,965.00
- Currently taking applications and conducting site visits for FY 2025.
- https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/nm/programs/financial/eqip/

Conservation Stewardship Program – CSP

- 4 CSP applications were funded.
- USDA is increasing the minimum annual payment for new and renewed contracts for agricultural producers participating in the Conservation Stewardship Program from \$1,500 to \$4,000 starting in fiscal year 2024.
- Currently taking applications for FY 2025, application deadline to be announced
- <u>https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/nm/programs/financial/csp/</u>

Environmental Quality Incentives Program - Conservation Incentive Contract-EQIP CIC

- No applications this year
- Currently taking applications for FY 2025
- <u>https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/ca/programs/financial/eqip/?cid=nrcseprd1788631</u>

Conservation Innovation Grants- CIG

- CIG -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.
- Currently taking applications for FY 2024- Deadline TBA by NHQ
- https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/financial/cig/

<u>Post-Inflationary Supplemental Payments (PISP)</u> – Payments have been extended from December 1, 2023, to September 1, 2024.

Team III Update.

- David Griego is Acting Program Manager for EWP
- Gerald "JJ" Dabbs is Acting District Conservationist for Team 3

Staffing:

- We still have 2 Engineering Tech positions open (Santa Fe and Hernandez).
- The HPCC and the EWP efforts are underway, some of the planners will be pulled to assist.

Training / Meetings:

- On the job training is being conducted by our lead planners to the new Techs, Planners and Farm Bills.
- North Area Meeting in Taos, August 21-22

Respectfully Submitted, Gerald Dabbs Acting District Conservationist, Team III