



2006 Fiscal Report

Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

Reverse to see 2006 EQIP Funding Allocations

NRCS provides technical and financial assistance to help agricultural producers and others care for the land. NRCS has six mission goals that include high quality, productive soils; clean and abundant water; healthy plant and animal communities; clean air; an adequate energy supply; and working farms and ranchlands.

Vision

Productive Lands -
Healthy Environment

Mission

Helping People Help the Land

“Without the cost-share, it’s doubtful if many ranchers could make certain conservation improvements. There aren’t a lot of financial benefits; but it does benefit society and other landowners downstream with better water quality.”

Landowner

 Natural Resources Conservation Service
HELPING PEOPLE HELP THE LAND
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The Program

The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) is a voluntary conservation program that provides technical, financial, and educational assistance to farmers and ranchers. It's a tool that addresses significant natural resource concerns including water quality and quantity, soil quality, rangeland health, and drought while implementing conservation practices such as:

- ♦ Stockwater development
- ♦ Irrigation delivery and system improvements
- ♦ Tree and shrub plantings
- ♦ Grass seeding
- ♦ Related management practices such as prescribed grazing, irrigation water management, and wildlife habitat management

Funding Allocations

EQIP funds are distributed in Colorado's ten watershed areas. These watershed areas are identified at the local level and are reviewed and supported by the State Technical Committee, made up of conservation partners from various Federal, state, and local agencies, several agricultural organizations, and others.

In addition to the general EQIP process, Colorado also receives funds in three watersheds earmarked for salinity control work. Colorado also receives funds through the *Ground and Surface Water Conservation (GSWC)* component of EQIP. These funds are available for water-conserving practices in the High Plains Aquifer, or that area generally known as the Ogallala Aquifer in Colorado.

The Assistance

EQIP activities are carried out according to an EQIP plan of operation developed in conjunction with the producer.

- ♦ Contracts for confined livestock feeding operations require the development and implementation of a comprehensive nutrient management plan.
- ♦ EQIP offers contracts with a minimum term of one year and a maximum term of ten years.
- ♦ NRCS pays up to 75 percent of the cost of certain conservation practices.
- ♦ Total cost-share and incentive payments are limited to \$450,000 per individual.

FISCAL YEAR 2006 EQIP CONTRACT FUNDING

Totals by Watersheds

Watershed	# Applications Received	# Applications Approved	\$ Applications Approved
Colorado River	157	96	\$ 2,676,123
Gunnison/Dolores	213	133	\$ 4,807,029
Lower Arkansas	325	187	\$ 5,406,330
Lower South Platte	205	113	\$ 3,281,324
North Platte/Yampa	64	48	\$ 955,581
Republican	215	117	\$ 3,596,392
Rio Grande	210	149	\$ 1,933,768
San Juan	199	168	\$ 4,276,596
Upper Arkansas	156	98	\$ 1,718,923
Upper South Platte	160	111	\$ 2,673,141
TOTAL	1,904	1,220	\$ 31,325,207

Totals by Issue

Issue	# Applications Received	# Applications Approved	\$ Applications Approved
Water Quality/Quantity	596	366	\$ 10,845,311
Soil Erosion	174	127	\$ 2,305,650
Grazing Land	364	210	\$ 4,435,596
Wildlife	66	37	\$ 523,225
Riparian	5	5	\$ 277,432
Water Quality/Waste Management	14	5	\$ 147,094
Forestry	75	63	\$ 510,659
Invasive Species	99	69	\$ 567,286
Salinity	295	207	\$ 7,682,660
CNMP	2	2	\$ 1,000
Acequias	40	33	\$ 231,866
GSWC	174	96	\$ 3,797,428
TOTAL	1,904	1,220	\$ 31,325,207