



Natural Resources Conservation Service  
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***News Release***

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**Intermingled Grazing Lands Eligible for USDA Application**

ALBUQUERQUE, NM-USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) announced today that \$1,576,000 in earmarked Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) funds is available for livestock producers in New Mexico who operate on intermingled private, state, and federal lands. The funding available through EQIP can be used to assist with the installation of conservation practices on state and federal lands, as well as private property, which differs from traditional EQIP funding that can focus on private lands.

“April 29, 2005 has been set as the application evaluation date,” said John Gleim, assistant state conservationist for programs. “All applications received on or before that date will be ranked using a collaborative grazing project ranking sheet that is in the process of being finalized.”

The ranking sheet follows a similar approach to the grazing lands ranking sheets used for the regular EQIP program.

“The Natural Resources Conservation Service works with producers to develop conservation plans that cover all land in the farm or ranch operation, including both owned and leased land,” Gleim said. “Through EQIP, NRCS works with eligible producers to improve soil, air and water quality, and other related resources.”

EQIP funds announced today will be used for local, collaborative livestock grazing projects that enhance environmental quality, encourage economic stability and improve efficiency and effectiveness of federal efforts. Local projects may include federal, tribal, state, and private land. EQIP funds are used on federal lands only when conservation practices directly improve resource concerns on nonfederal lands.

Additional information on this funding can be obtained by contacting John Gleim, assistant state conservationist for programs at (505)761-4445.

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