

For Immediate Release  
February 27, 2007

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## ESPANOLA MAN GARNERS NATIONAL AWARD

ALBUQUERQUE, NM – David Manzanares, Northern Rio Grande Resource Conservation and Development coordinator for the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), has garnered NRCS's National Civil Rights Committee's 2006 Individual Award.

As NRCS New Mexico's Hispanic Emphasis Program Manager, Manzanares has carried out a number of duties in this role that are being recognized by this award. He has translated presentations, traveled throughout the state to conduct NRCS field office civil rights reviews, and assisted in recruitment efforts for the agency at New Mexico State University.

Manzanares is one of northern New Mexico's leaders responsible for the installation of 90 dry hydrants and six 10,000 gallon water storage tanks that provide additional fire protection to at least 25 rural communities in the areas. The areas where this work has been performed have limited resources and a population of approximately 10,000 to 15,000 – much of which is Hispanic.

Manzanares is being recognized for his professionalism and experience in improving customer service. He has been requested to facilitate numerous Local Work Group meetings as a result of his local knowledge of resource issues and culture in northern New Mexico.

It is with pride that NRCS New Mexico congratulates one of its own on receiving the prestigious NRCS National Civil Rights Award.

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