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HELPING PEOPLE HELP THE LAND



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from USDA-NRCS
New Mexico

4 you



Meet Our Staff

I was raised in the country about seven miles from the town of Melrose, New Mexico. The good thing about growing up in Melrose was that you knew everyone in town and they knew you, your parents, and your grandparents. The community is always willing to help when someone is in need and everyone looks out for each other. I was involved in 4-H, FFA, Business Professionals of American, and my church youth group. -

I grew up in Coyote Canyon, New Mexico on the Navajo Reservation. -

I grew up in Utuado, Puerto Rico. In the mornings you can see the mist, and in the distance you can hear the roosters' songs. -

Dimmitt, Texas was my home which is a highly agricultural-based community. -



I was a soil conservationist student trainee for two summers. As of January 9, 2006 I am a soil conservationist in Las Cruces, New Mexico. -

I was in 4-H, student council, FFA, played volleyball, and was in the youth group at my church while in high school.

I put myself through college by working on a ranch, cowboying, and farming. In college I was a member of the Society for Range Management, and continued this membership after graduation. -

Hear Their Voices

One of the best things about working for NRCS is the variety with each position and field office. Many careers have employees that become complacent with their positions as they have the 'same old routine day in and day out' - however, with NRCS this is not true. -

I appreciate the diversity of people that I get to work with. One day it may be a farmer or rancher who has worked the land for years, and they teach me something. Another day it is a school kid coming in asking questions for a school project. -

It is not like other agencies, in that we are a voluntary agency. Farmers and ranchers work with us on their request - not ours. I enjoy planning, designing, and implementing conservation practices with the producers, and getting to see it work - which is the most rewarding part of the job. -

Throughout my life I have had what I would call jobs. When I started with the NRCS I was looking for a fulfilling career that benefited not only myself but also my wife and three young sons. After two and a half years I think my expectations and more have been met. No two days are alike. -

Working with people of different cultures has helped me to understand the complexity of human beings. -

One of the positive attributes of my job is the family friendliness. -



“As far as personal achievements at the NRCS, you yourself are the only obstacle to your success”

- John Hartung, Alamogordo rangeland management specialist, NRCS 3 years -