

#### **United States Department of Agriculture**





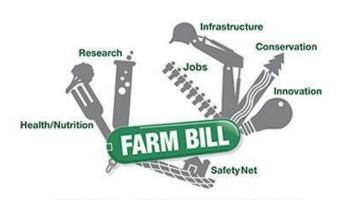
#### **NRCS Technical and Financial Assistance**

By: Tomas Aguilar Campos District Conservationist Certified Crop Advisor Natural Resources Conservation Service

## Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

- Non-Regulatory Agency under USDA-Farm Production and Conservation mission area.
- April 27, 1935 Congress passed Public Law 74-46. Developing the Soil Conservation Service.
- NRCS provides farmers, rancher, and forestland owners with financial and technical assistance to voluntary put conservation on the ground, not only helping the environment but the operation as well.
- Funding comes from Farm Bill (Current: 2018 Farm Bill)





"It's like a Swiss Army knife."

- President Obama 2/7/1





## **Programs Available**



Conservation Technical Assistance (CTA)

Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)

**Emergency Watershed Protection Program** 

Wetlands Reserve Program

Grassland Reserve Program

Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program

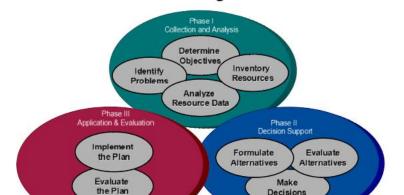
And much more...



### **Conservation Technical Assistance (CTA)**

- NRCS provides conservation technical assistance to individuals and groups of decision makers, communities, conservation districts, State and local government, tribes, and other Federal agencies, to help them voluntarily conserve, maintain, and improve natural resources.
- National Handbooks
- Electronic Field Office Technical Guides (eFOTG)
- Web Soil Survey (WSS)
- The Product: Conservation Plan





NRCS Planning Process





















Cumulative **Payment** Limitation of \$450,000 for Farm Bill Lifespan. Tribes are exempt.

**Contract Lengths** 1-10 years.

Financial assistance covers part of costs from implementing the conservation practices.

Payment Rates for conservation practices are reviewed and set each fiscal year.















# **Environmental Quality Incentive** Program (EQIP)







# EQIP Eligibility

Have to address at least one identified resource concern. 47 Listed Resource Concerns.

Must meet Producer and Land Eligibility

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Must
meet conservation compliance
provisions of the Food Security
Act of 1985, as
amended, for "Highly Erodible
Land Conservation (HELC) and
Wetland Conservation
(WC) Certification.

Be in compliance with adjusted gross income (AGI) requirements. Less than \$900,000 of the past 3 years avergage.

Have control of the land for the term of the contract period\*

Be in compliance with the provisions for protecting the interests of tenants and sharecroppers, including the provisions for sharing EQIP payments on a fair and equitable basis.

Natural Resources Conservation Service





### Ineligible Participants.

- A producer is ineligible for USDA program benefits if engaged in controlled substance activities, including growing marijuana on any part of their agricultural operation in violation of Federal law, even if the requested assistance does not relate to the part of the agricultural operation used for the production of the controlled substance. See section 530.21D, in this subpart, for guidance on hemp production.
- Federal, State, county, and local governments, and political subdivisions of State government (e.g., school districts, conservation districts, etc.) and entities with members of units of government or subdivisions, are not eligible. See to subpart R, section 530.402, "EQIP Eligibility," of this manual for exceptions to this policy.



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Kind of operation or agricultural enterprise (e.g., horse boarding operation, subsistence producers, organic, aquaculture operation, etc.)

Size of operation (e.g., forest land less than x acres in size)

Location of operation (e.g., back yard production in urbanzoned area)

Income – profit or loss (e.g., applicant must sell \$1,000 worth of product)







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Combustion System Improvement (372)

Micro-Irrigation System(441) Irrigation Water Management (449) Nutrient Management (590)

Mulching (484)

Cover Crop (340)

High Tunnel Systems (325) Pumping Plant (533)







#### USDA United States Department of Agriculture **Natural Resources Conservation Service**

#### **Environmental Quality Incentives Program**

Fiscal Year 2022



Code	Practice	Component	Units	Unit Cost
101	CNMP Design and Implementation Activity	Design- Dairy greater than 300 AU and less than 700 AU with Land Application	No	\$8,495.72
101	CNMP Design and Implementation Activity	HU-Design- Dairy greater than 300 AU and less than 700 AU with Land Application	No	\$10,194.86
101	CNMP Design and Implementation Activity	Design- Dairy greater than or equal to 700 AU with Land Application	No	\$9,442.56
101	CNMP Design and Implementation Activity	HU-Design- Dairy greater than or equal to 700 AU with Land Application	No	\$11,331.07
101	CNMP Design and Implementation Activity	Design- Dairy less than 300 AU Land Application	No	\$8,495.72
101	CNMP Design and Implementation Activity	HU-Design- Dairy less than 300 AU Land Application	No	\$10,194.86
101	CNMP Design and Implementation Activity	Design- Livestock Operations greater than 300 AU without Land Application	No	\$5,798.11
101	CNMP Design and Implementation Activity	HU-Design-Livestock Operations greater than 300 AU without Land Application	No	\$6,957.73
101	CNMP Design and Implementation Activity	Design-Livestock Operations greater than 300 AU without Land Application and Minimal Engineering	No	\$3,643.34
101	CNMP Design and Implementation Activity	HU-Design-Livestock Operations greater than 300 AU without Land Application and Minimal Engineering	No	\$4,372.01
101	CNMP Design and Implementation Activity	Design-Livestock Operations less than or equal to 300 AU without Land Application and Minimal Engineering	No	\$4,890.04
101	CNMP Design and Implementation Activity	HU-Design-Livestock Operations less than or equal to 300 AU without Land Application and Minimal Engineering	No	\$5,868.05
101	CNMP Design and Implementation Activity	Design- Non Dairy Operation greater 700 AU with Land Application	No	\$9,610.21
101	CNMP Design and Implementation Activity	HU-Design- Non Dairy Operation greater 700 AU with Land Application	No	\$11,532.26
101	CNMP Design and Implementation Activity	Design- Non Dairy Operation greater than 300 AU and less than 700 AU with Land Application	No	\$8,004.57
101	CNMP Design and Implementation Activity	HU-Design- Non Dairy Operation greater than 300 AU and less than 700 AU with Land Application	No	\$9,605.49
101	CNMP Design and Implementation Activity	Design- Non Dairy Operation Less than 300 AU with Land Application	No	\$7,094.29
101	CNMP Design and Implementation Activity	HU-Design- Non Dairy Operation Less than 300 AU with Land Application	No	\$8,513.15
101	CNMP Design and Implementation Activity	Design-Small Livestock Operations greater than 300 AU with Land Application and Minimal Engineering	No	\$6,352.76
101	CNMP Design and Implementation Activity	HU-Design-Small Livestock Operations greater than 300 AU with Land Application and Minimal Engineering	No	\$7,623.32
101	CNMP Design and Implementation Activity	Design-Small Livestock Operations less than 300 AU with Land Application and Minimal Engineering	No	\$5,045.88

**Environmental Quality Incentives Program** 

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California - Fiscal Year 2022



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# Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)

5 Year Contract

Cumulative Payment Limitation of \$200,000. \$40,000 per year. Can be renewed once.

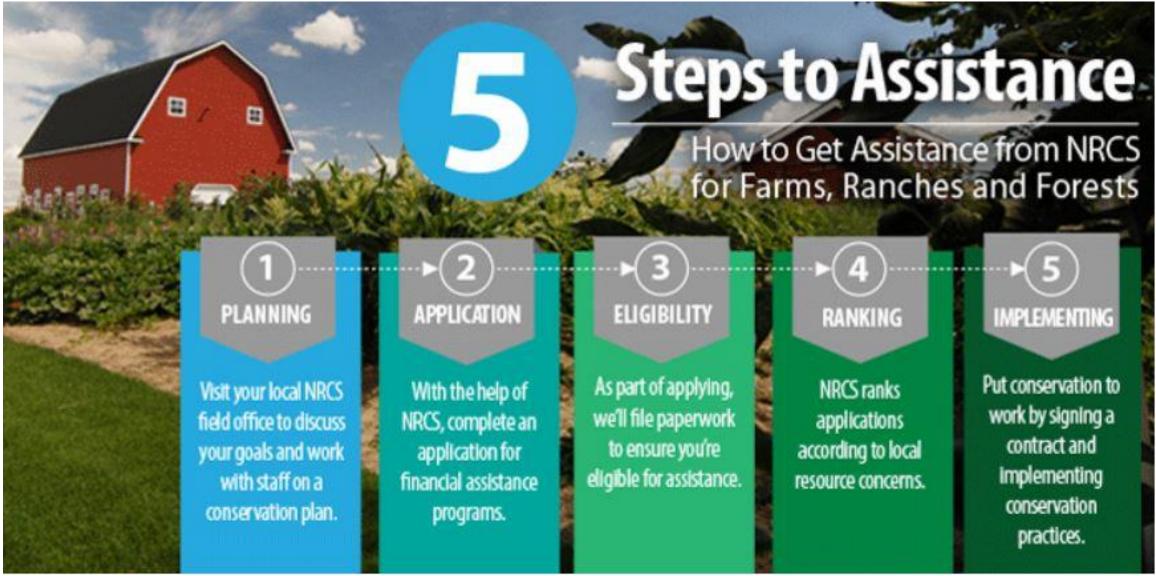
Applicant receives and Annual Payment with additional payments for enhancements completed per year. Minimum Annual Payment of \$1,500

### Payments based on two components:

- To maintain existing conservation based on operation type and number of resource concerns that are meeting stewardship level at the time of application.
- Payment to implement additional conservation activities





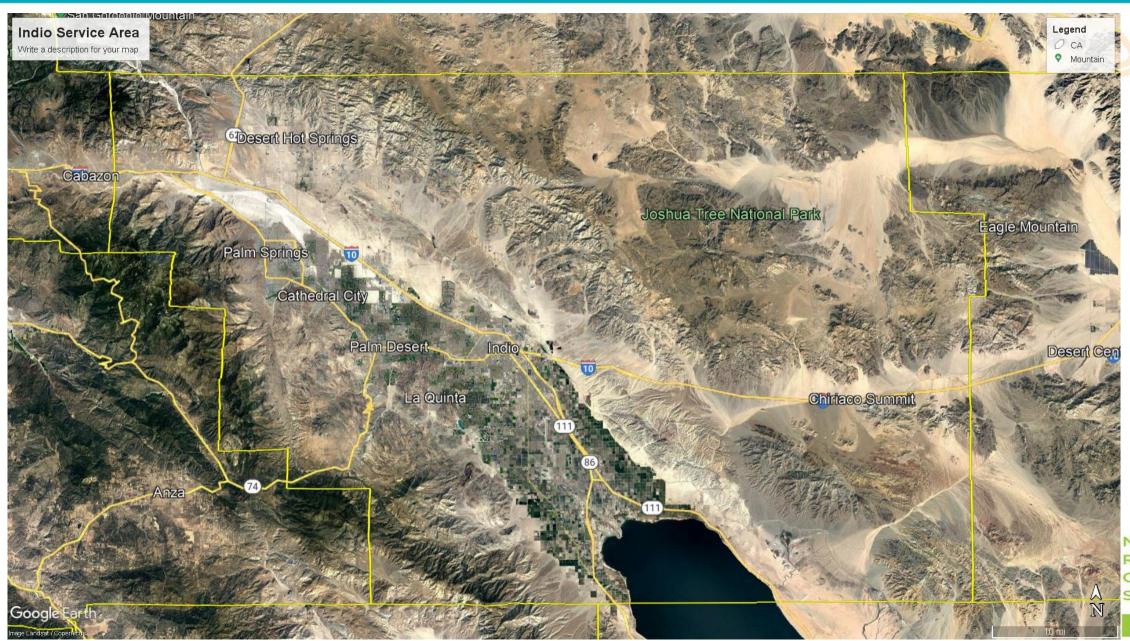


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Natural Resources Conservation Service





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