

Farm Bill Outreach Grant Program
New Mexico Association of Resource Conservation & Development
Agreement #NR198C30XXXXC10
Executive Summary
July 26, 2021

This proposal was submitted in July of 2019. The initial plan for the proposal had been to assist with local work group meetings and planning for the meetings, along with conducting workshops in nine field office areas in the southwest area of New Mexico. The timing of the signed grant agreement between the NRCS and the NMARCD was concluded just days before most of the field offices in the area identified had already planned and scheduled their local work group meetings. During the fall of 2019 NMARCD was coordinating with the NRCS state office staff and the Area South Conservationist on what should be the focus of the scope of work since the window for local work group meetings had closed. In early of 2020 plans were being developed to begin establishing educational workshops regarding the various EQIP programs, along with connections with staff at New Mexico State University for assistance in materials for pollinator workshops. However, before those plans could be scheduled the COVID-19 virus became a national concern. The State of New Mexico issued Stay-At-Home orders for the general public and this emergency order was basically still in place until June 1, 2021. During early 2021 some counties were able to have small groups gather, but that restriction changed every two weeks so it was just impossible to determine when or how a workshop could be conducted.

In 2021 NMARCD felt that the project needed to take a different direction, so the initial concept of the grant proposal needed to change. NMARCD determined to create a video detailing in a step-by-step method how an agriculture producer goes through the process of applying for the Farm Bill programs Environmental Quality Incentive program (EQIP) and the Conservation Security Program (CSP). Sierra SWCD was contracted to complete the video. The video informs the producer on how to fill out all the application forms, how and what they must provide to the Farm Services Agency (FSA) and how to submit their application and also how the ranking process works. This video is being distributed through the following methods:

Sierra Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) YouTube Page www.sierrasoil.org

Sierra SWCD Facebook Page

New Mexico Association of RC&Ds website www.nmarcd.org

The video will also be provided and encouraged to distribute to: New Mexico Association of Conservation Districts, NM Cattlegrowers, and New Mexico Farm and Livestock Bureau. It will be distributed to each field office in the southwest (the area detailed in the original proposal) and to each SWCD within the same area.

The video link is: [Sierra Soil and Water Conservation District EQIP & CSP Outreach - YouTube](#)