

# 2000 Environmental Quality Incentives Program



## Customer Focus—

Brian Vanderspek of Vanderspek Dairy in southern Sacramento County is participating in the FY 2000 USDA EQIP. With the assistance of local NRCS specialists and EQIP cost-share funds (\$16,000), Brian has developed a conservation plan designed to address dairy waste storage and distribution systems along with nutrient management and irrigation water management on his dairy farm. With the installation of waste storage ponds and a tailwater recovery irrigation system, he will have the flexibility needed to control all waste produced by his 250-head dairy. What was once waste now becomes a nutrient-rich resource that can be used by forage crops grown on the dairy farm. Brian, at his own expense, has already installed new pipelines for the dual purpose use of waste and irrigation water distribution and further plans to install a separator for more efficient solid waste management. Waste storage ponds allow him to store waste during the rainy season and apply it in response to crop needs during dry periods. A tailwater recovery system captures irrigation surface water runoff for reuse, which reduces ground water overdraft and helps to manage nutrients. Incentive payments targeted at nutrient management and irrigation water management will complement his efforts to evaluate waste ingredients and irrigation water use efficiency. Installation of these systems will greatly improve local water quality and protect adjacent riparian wildlife habitat areas.

## California Summary

### Overview

In California, strong interest and participation in the Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) continued through FY 2000. Applications requesting Federal cost-share funds totaling over \$9 million dollars were submitted by 1,031 landowners. The California FY 2000 allocation for financial assistance was about \$5,880,000. This is a shortfall of about \$3 million to meet current client needs. NRCS staff and our partners developed and approved 594 EQIP conservation plans and contracts, which obligated nearly 99 percent of allocated financial assistance funds. Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) employees in California devoted over 78,000 hours to EQIP administration in FY 2000. This is equivalent to \$1,758,000 in wages associated with the EQIP.

### Accomplishments

EQIP financial assistance has been distributed in California through 38 Geographic Priority Areas (GPA) and 3 statewide Natural Resource Concern (NRC) projects. About \$4,841,000 in EQIP Federal cost-share dollars were obligated in GPAs and \$951,600 obligated in NRC projects. FY 2000 EQIP conservation plans and contracts covered nearly 300,000 acres throughout the State. About 14,000 clients were provided assistance associated with EQIP in California as reported in PRMS. In addition to financial assistance, nearly all of \$600,000 in EQIP education funds was awarded in grants to organizations and groups promoting resource conservation throughout the state. Since the inception of EQIP in California, over 20,000 distinct conservation practices have been planned in EQIP contracts.

### Outlook

If participation were a measure of success of this program, California would report tremendous success with EQIP. The total unmet need requests from clients are \$3,253,832 in FY 2000, and the total unmet need of unfunded GPAs (approved GPA applications that have not been funded) is about \$19,998,400. These figures indicate the need for continued program support to address significant resource concerns.

### State Contacts

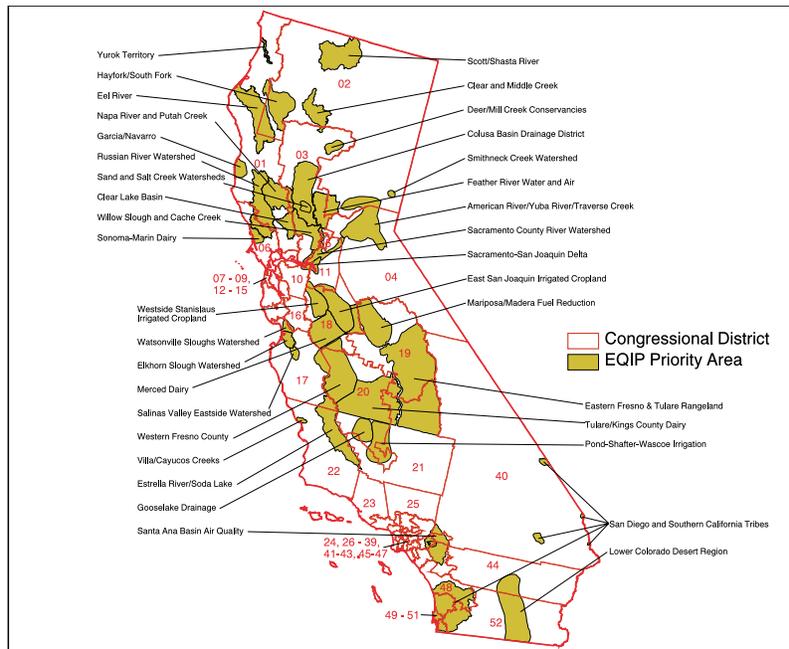
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### *Waste storage facility under construction*

*Photography, plan, and contract information provided by NRCS staff, Sacramento County, CA*



## California EQIP Priority Areas Within Congressional Districts



## California EQIP Dollars and Contracts by Congressional District

Congressional Districts	Fiscal Year 2000		Cumulative Total (97-00)	
	Obligated Dollars	Number of Contracts	Obligated Dollars	Number of Contracts
District 0	\$1,009,946	277	\$3,290,154	608
District 1	635,251	40	2,842,426	218
District 2	484,306	41	1,375,762	127
District 3	504,959	36	1,795,627	147
District 4	151,162	13	279,047	29
District 6	308,520	18	1,381,395	86
District 11	749,990	88	3,120,671	311
District 17	70,067	5	1,082,322	52
District 18	174,750	5	371,175	15
District 19	374,323	19	1,222,774	55
District 20	474,643	16	1,789,524	65
District 21	439,834	43	1,674,782	154
District 40	40,000	4	99,800	9
District 43	23,600	1	67,380	4
District 49	116,198	4	425,525	27
District 52	253,573	22	1,048,848	99
<b>State Totals</b>	<b>\$5,811,122</b>	<b>632</b>	<b>\$21,867,212</b>	<b>2,006</b>

Note: EQIP contracts for each Congressional District are estimated from Conservation Priority Areas which may include more than one district Congressional District 0 = EQIP Contracts for Statewide Natural Resource Concerns which can be in any Congressional District in the state.

Source: FSA Recordset type01, data through 4th quarter FY2000

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