

# 2000 Environmental Quality Incentives Program



## Customer Focus—

## Nebraska Summary

### Overview

Nebraska once again had overwhelming EQIP interest in 2000, 1,082 landowners applied for funding, totaling \$12,138,698 in conservation cost share requests. NRCS assisted landowners to develop 371 contracts, which obligated \$3,959,563 of federal cost share. In addition, \$400,000 of State Environmental Trust funds and \$345,000 of local leverage funds were incorporated to the available EQIP.

### Accomplishments

FY 2000 was an active year for EQIP in Nebraska. A total of 371 landowners participated in the program, contracting for conservation treatment on 312,918 acres. Practices included terracing, dams, grass seedings, irrigation water management, nutrient management and prescribed grazing plans. As a result the primary state resource concerns including excessive soil erosion, water quantity and quality, sedimentation, animal waste utilization, plant vigor, wetland and wildlife habitat will be addressed.

### Customer Focus Steve Chatt

With a tributary of Silver Creek flowing through a 100-acre pasture. Steve Chatt had problems with the cattle in the water and overgrazing the nearby grasses. Chatt is now changing all that with the help of an EQIP contract. "We are dividing 2 large pastures into 8 smaller ones and we will rotate the grazing in each pasture," said Chatt. "This will improve the water quality, stop the overgrazing in parts of the pastures, better control the weeds with grazing, and more evenly distribute the manure." The new 8 pastures will be divided into cool- and warm-season grasses. "With four paddocks in each pasture, we will be able to systematically rotate our cattle and more evenly utilize the cool- and warm-season grasses," said Chatt. "The Chatt family has a long history of caring for the land," said Dave Ivey, NRCS technician in Burt County. "Steve's dad was a conservation award winner and Steve was an early user of no-till cultivation on his cropland," said Ivey.

### Outlook

The diversity of Nebraska's landscape offers numerous resource challenges. Many willing landowners are still unable to receive adequate funding. Additional funding can ease the demand from private landowners and provide much needed financial incentives.

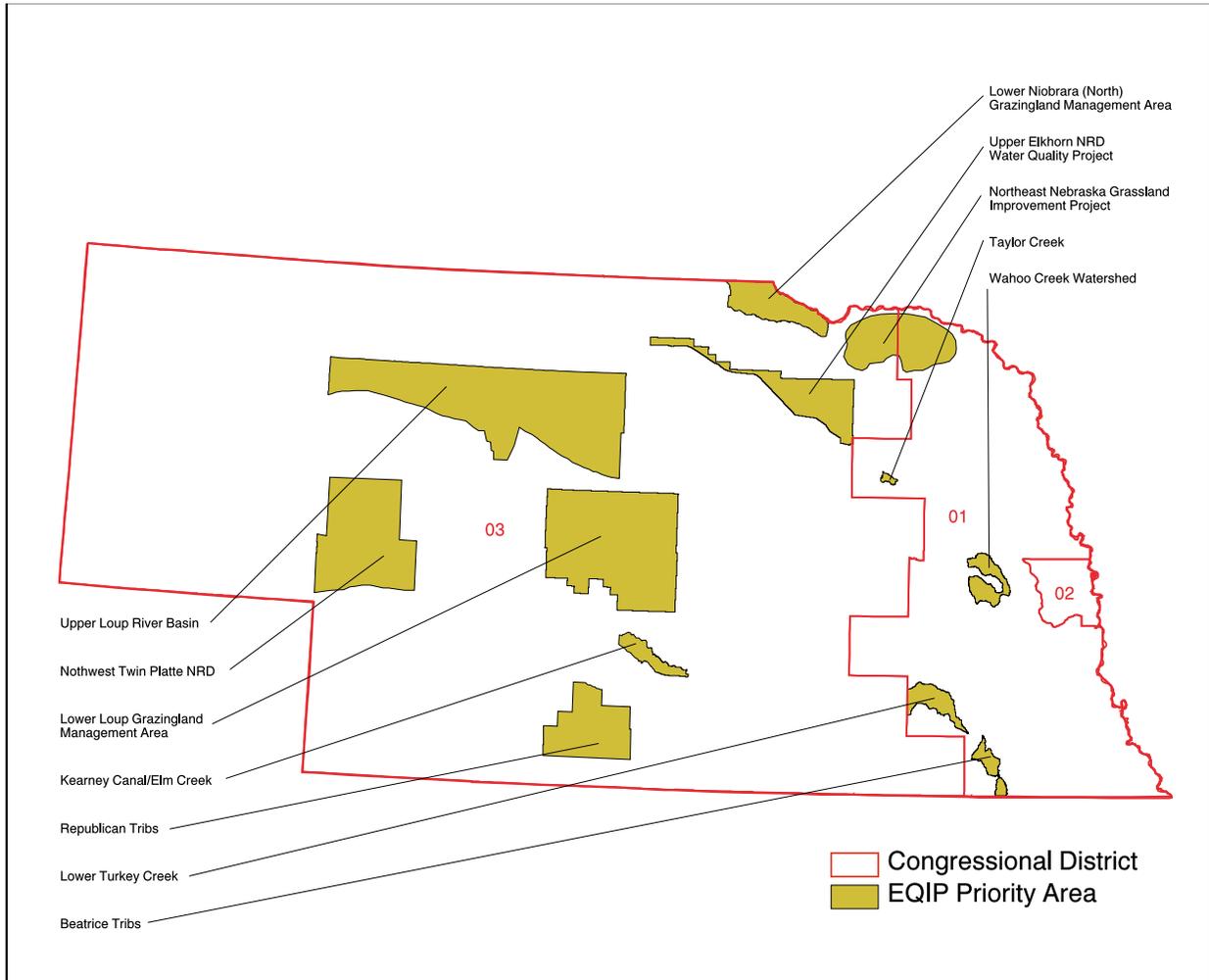
### State Contact

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Steve Chatt



## Nebraska EQIP Priority Areas Within Congressional Districts



## Nebraska 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 1	\$1,335,121	126	\$5,890,140	714
District 2	55,580	3	2,181,792	219
District 3	2,588,251	245	8,866,361	932
<b>State Totals</b>	<b>\$3,978,952</b>	<b>374</b>	<b>\$16,938,293</b>	<b>1,865</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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