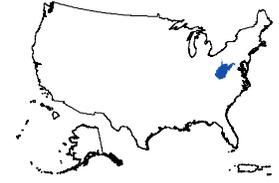


2000 Environmental Quality Incentives Program



Customer Focus—

Mike and Phil Bumgarner operate a beef cattle farm of 75 animals in Wirt County, West Virginia. They entered into an EQIP contract on their farm in 1998.

A significant part of the contract and plan was the construction of two animal use protection areas where they could do their winter feeding. During a farm visit Phil said that if they had known it would have made such a difference, they would have borrowed the money and installed a feeding area 10 years ago. Not only did it save feeding time, reduce erosion, and improve water quality runoff, they also fed a third less hay than in previous years. They claim in years past they would have 3 or 4 acres to reclaim every spring from the areas torn up by winter feeding.

Water development was also a must for the brothers to improve pasture rotation. With NRCS assistance they developed a unique pumping system from a spring development that provides water to four troughs using 2,500 feet of pipeline.

The Bumgarner's are extremely pleased with their EQIP plan and contract. They say EQIP is the best cost-share program they have participated in.

West Virginia Summary

Overview

West Virginia had overwhelming Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) interest in FY 2000. Nearly 450 landowners applied for funding, which totaled over \$2.8 million. NRCS assisted landowners to develop 165 contracts, which obligated nearly \$1,280,000 of Federal cost-share assistance. Many of these landowners qualified for a low cost loan for their portion of the cost through the West Virginia Agriculture Water Quality Loan Program.

Accomplishments

FY 2000 was an active year for EQIP in the state. Over 1,300 landowners applied practices including more than 21,000 acres of prescribed grazing, over 15,000 acres of nutrient management, and 36 waste management systems. Over 19,000 acres were planned to Resource Management Systems

Outlook

Demand for this program greatly exceeds the funding provided. West Virginia has 50 unfunded priority area applications. It is anticipated that only five to six of these priority areas will be funded in FY2001. In FY 2000, about a third of the applications in approved areas received funding.

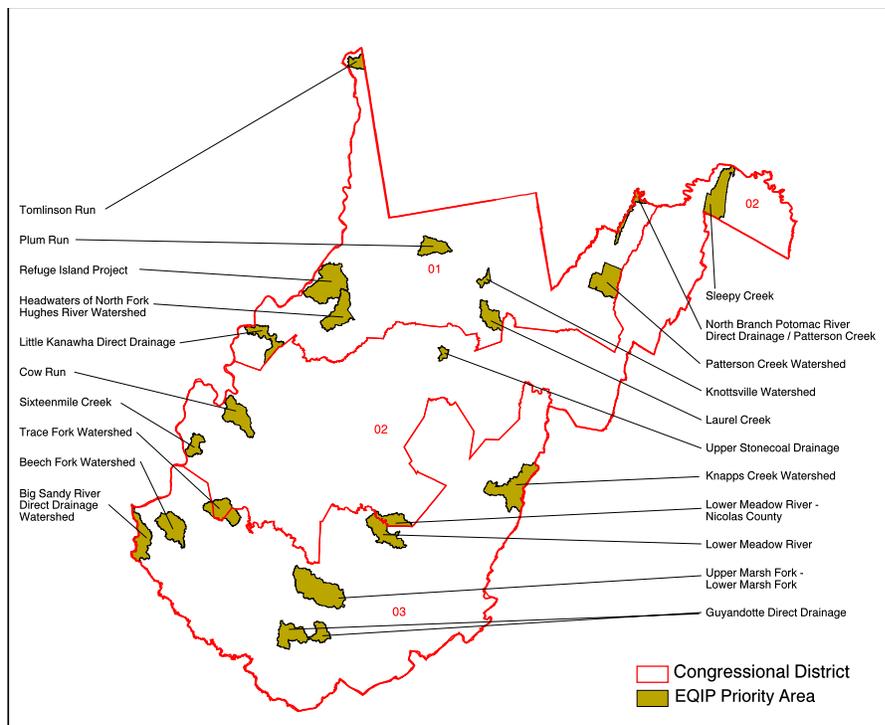
State Contact

James Piper, Assistant State Conservationist (Operations Management), (304) 284-7543



The Bumgarner brothers are pleased with the benefits from their EQIP plan and contract.

West Virginia EQIP Priority Areas Within Congressional Districts



West Virginia 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	\$386,233	77	\$1,868,833	424
District 1	405,802	35	1,216,845	135
District 2	224,048	20	1,696,605	271
District 3	256,917	33	971,219	174
State Totals	\$1,273,000	165	\$5,753,502	1,004

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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