



# 2001 Environmental Quality Incentives Program



## Success Story

Lanny Bosnick, a farmer in Lee County signed up for EQIP in 1997 and 1998 and did not get accepted. He went into the office to discuss what he needed to do to get accepted into the EQIP program. He was informed that the government wants to get the most bang for their buck. His Environmental Index Score was not low enough to get into the program. To lower his index score he would have to increase personal inputs and decrease the amount of cost-share that he would receive. In 1999, Mr. Bosnick signed up 732 acres into the EQIP program. He was interested in installing an irrigation tail water recovery system to improve his farm operation and was willing to install practices, such as grade stabilization structures, irrigation water management, land smoothing, nutrient management, and wetland wildlife habitat management at no cost to the government to make his score more desirable. By doing this he was able to get an acceptable contract that enabled him to receive the maximum cost-share amount which is 75 percent. The total payment was \$3,667.00. A tail water recovery system captures irrigation water runoff for reuse, which decreases the use of well water in a critical ground water use area. Installation of these systems will greatly improve local water quality and protect adjacent riparian wildlife habitat areas.

## Arkansas Summary

### Overview

Strong interest and participation in the Environmental Quality Incentives Program continued through 2001. Applications requesting federal cost-share funds totaling more than \$8,911,482 million dollars were submitted by 2,039 landowners. The Arkansas FY 2001 allocation for financial assistance was approximately \$3,608,800. This falls \$5.3 million short of the requested needs in the state. NRCS staff and partners developed and approved 1,105 EQIP conservation plans and contracts, which obligated 99.6 percent of allocated financial assistance funds.

### Accomplishments

EQIP financial assistance has been distributed in Arkansas through 16 Priority Areas and five statewide resource concerns. Approximately \$3,594,872 in EQIP federal cost-share dollars were obligated. FY 2001 conservation plans and contracts treated 150,298 acres. Approximately 2,039 clients were provided assistance associated with EQIP in FY 2001. In addition to financial assistance, \$68,000 in EQIP education funds was awarded in grants to organizations and groups promoting resource conservation throughout the state.

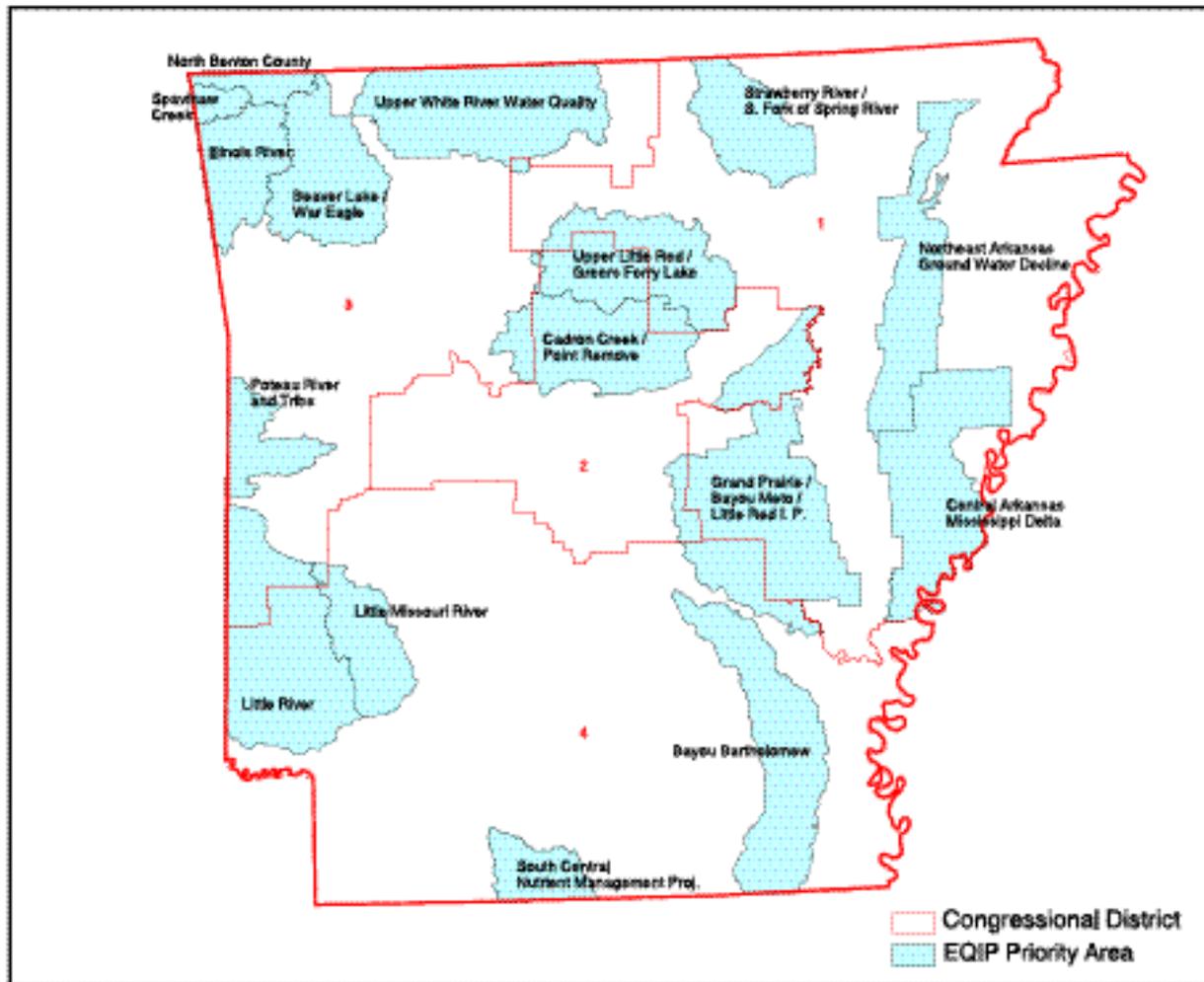
### Outlook

If participation were a measure of success of this program, EQIP in Arkansas is a tremendous success! The total unmet need requests from clients equals \$2.9 million in statewide concern areas and \$2.4 million in priority areas. These figures indicate the need for continued program support to address significant resource concerns.

### State Contact

Jim Caudle, State Resource Conservationist, Room 3416 Federal Building, 700 West Capitol Avenue, Little Rock, AR 72201, (501) 301-3122, [Jim.Caudle@ar.usda.gov](mailto:Jim.Caudle@ar.usda.gov)

## Arkansas EQIP Priority Areas Within Congressional District



## Arkansas EQIP Dollars and Contracts by Congressional District

Congressional Districts	Fiscal Year 2001		Cumulative Total (97-01)	
	Obligated Dollars	Number of Contracts	Obligated Dollars	Number of Contracts
District 1	\$1,498,832	601	\$19,379,550	2,874
District 2	\$171,306	70	\$2,894,668	382
District 3	\$999,483	225	\$10,146,041	1,263
District 4	\$925,296	209	\$5,087,713	765
<b>State Totals</b>	<b>\$3,594,872</b>	<b>1,105</b>	<b>\$37,507,972</b>	<b>5,284</b>

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, or marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice and TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.