

2001 Environmental Quality Incentives Program



Customer Focus

Rudy and Ruth Fenk own and operate a dairy farm in the Tillamook Watershed. "We strive to provide a clean, pleasant, healthy environment for ourselves and our livestock," Fenk said. A contract with the Natural Resources Conservation Service through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program has helped the Fenks implement a Comprehensive Conservation Plan to improve the health of all the resources on their land. In order to reach their personal goal of providing clean water and healthy salmon habitat while maintaining an economic livelihood, the Fenks are implementing a farm and nutrient management plan. Some of the conservation measures they are implementing with the help of their EQIP funds are:

- Roof Water Management, this is done with the use of gutters and water runoff control to move excess surface water.
- They are installing a larger above ground manure storage tank.
- Rotational grazing is used to maintain pasture and animal health.
- They have fenced off their riparian area with the additional help of the Tillamook County Creamery Association.
- A "Fish Friendly Tide Gate" was installed that provides salmonids access to the slough.
- Three miles of native vegetation along the river has been planted to provide shade and habitat.

Mr. Fenk has become a strong supporter of conservation practices to keep his livelihood healthy as well as sustainable.

Oregon Summary

Overview

In Oregon, strong interest and participation in the Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) continued through FY 2001. Applications requesting Federal cost-share funds totaling nearly \$6.7 million dollars were submitted by 379 landowners. The Oregon FY 2001 allocation for financial assistance was \$3.5 million. This was a shortfall of over \$3 million to meet Oregon's current client needs. Throughout the year, NRCS staff and our partners developed and approved 201 EQIP conservation plans and contracts.

Accomplishments

EQIP financial assistance has been distributed in Oregon through 14 Geographic Priority Areas (GPA) and 3 statewide Natural Resource Concerns (NRC). Approximately \$2,493,400 in EQIP Federal cost-share dollars were obligated in GPAs and \$991,300 obligated in NRC contracts. FY 2001 EQIP conservation plans and contracts covered nearly 116,000 acres throughout the State. In Oregon, 4,142 clients were provided assistance associated with EQIP as reported in PRMS. In addition to financial assistance, nearly all of the \$48,600 in EQIP education funds was awarded in grants to organizations and groups promoting resource conservation to farmers and ranchers throughout Oregon.

Outlook

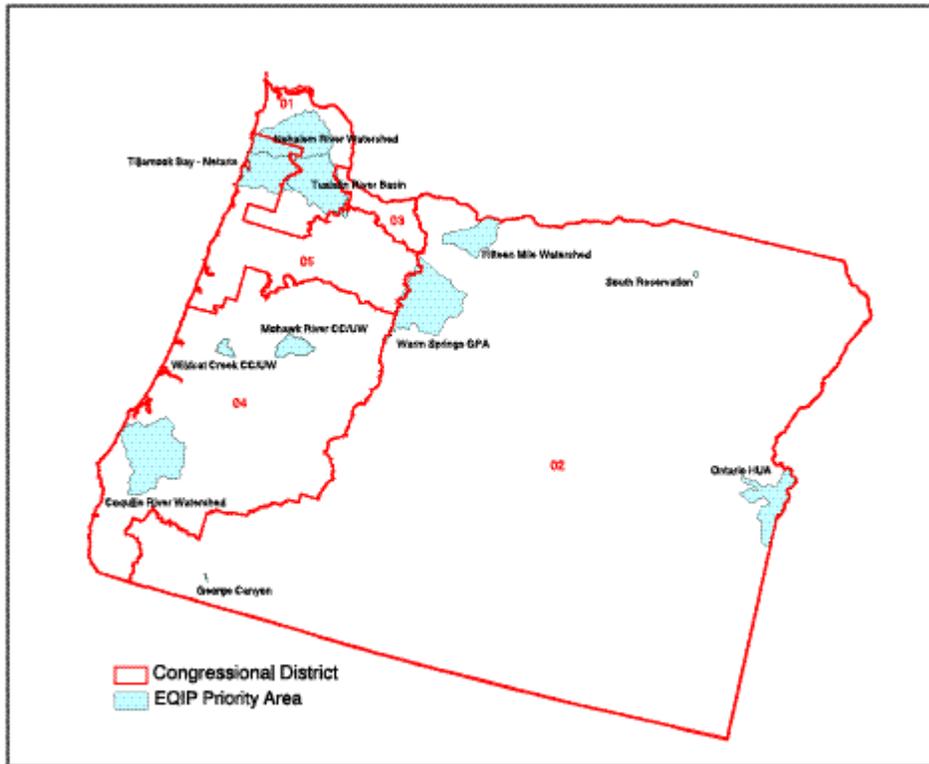
EQIP is the most effective, locally lead cost-share program for Oregon to address environmental issues on agricultural lands. EQIP is a valuable tool for farmers and ranchers to implement conservation plans balancing the needs of their natural resources and environmental regulations. Additional funding is needed to support the locally lead private lands conservation efforts. In Oregon EQIP funding has been insufficient to meet the demand for cost share funds and to support the NRCS field, servicing the EQIP workload. The total unmet demand for EQIP funds was approximately \$3 million in FY 2001. These figures indicate the need for continued program support to address significant resource concerns, in particular, for meeting the expected demand for comprehensive nutrient management planning and related waste management facilities.

State Contact

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Oregon EQIP Priority Areas Within Congressional Districts



Oregon EQIP Dollars and Contracts by Congressional Districts

Congressional Districts	Fiscal Year 2001		Cumulative Total (97-01)	
	Obligated Dollars	Number of Contracts	Obligated Dollars	Number of Contracts
District 00	\$0	0	\$2,908,938	203
District 01	300,881	14	1,875,170	101
District 02	2,046,048	142	6,436,812	369
District 03	0	0	315,313	7
District 04	534,972	26	1,722,644	83
District 05	602,746	19	2,690,589	104
State Totals	\$3,484,647	201	\$15,949,466	867

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