



2001 Environmental Quality Incentives Program



Customer Focus

Dwight Anderson is using EQIP cost-share funds and NRCS technical assistance to improve grazing and animal waste management on his dairy farm in Jackson County.

An animal waste system, grassed waterway, and grazing management were components of his EQIP contract. Anderson installed a stabilized animal walkway with his own funds. Improved water quality is the major environmental benefit of his conservation improvements.

As part of the process, Anderson converted from a traditional corn-fed dairy operation to a grassland dairy.

“A grassland dairy is less work,” Anderson reported. “I have 60 cows now compared to 25 before; And I have more free time.”

Better grazing management has improved the quality and quantity of forage. Increased milk production and farm income is paying for the farm and enabling Anderson to build a new house.

West Virginia Summary

Overview

West Virginia, strong interest and participation in the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) continued through FY 2001. Landowners submitted 450 applications requesting federal financial and technical assistance to apply conservation practices. NRCS staff and our partners developed and approved 167 contracts for nearly \$1.5 million. The approved contracts obligated all of the allocated financial assistance funds, leaving insufficient resources to fund the remaining 283 applications.

Accomplishments

EQIP financial assistance has been distributed in West Virginia through 27 Geographic Priority Areas (GPA) and a statewide at-large project. Twelve new priority areas were funded this year. More than \$969,850 in EQIP federal cost-share dollars were obligated in GPAs and nearly \$489,000 obligated in statewide at-large project. Nearly 7,900 clients were provided assistance associated with EQIP in West Virginia. Conservation planning was completed on 37,164 acres and conservation practices were applied on 46,053 acres.

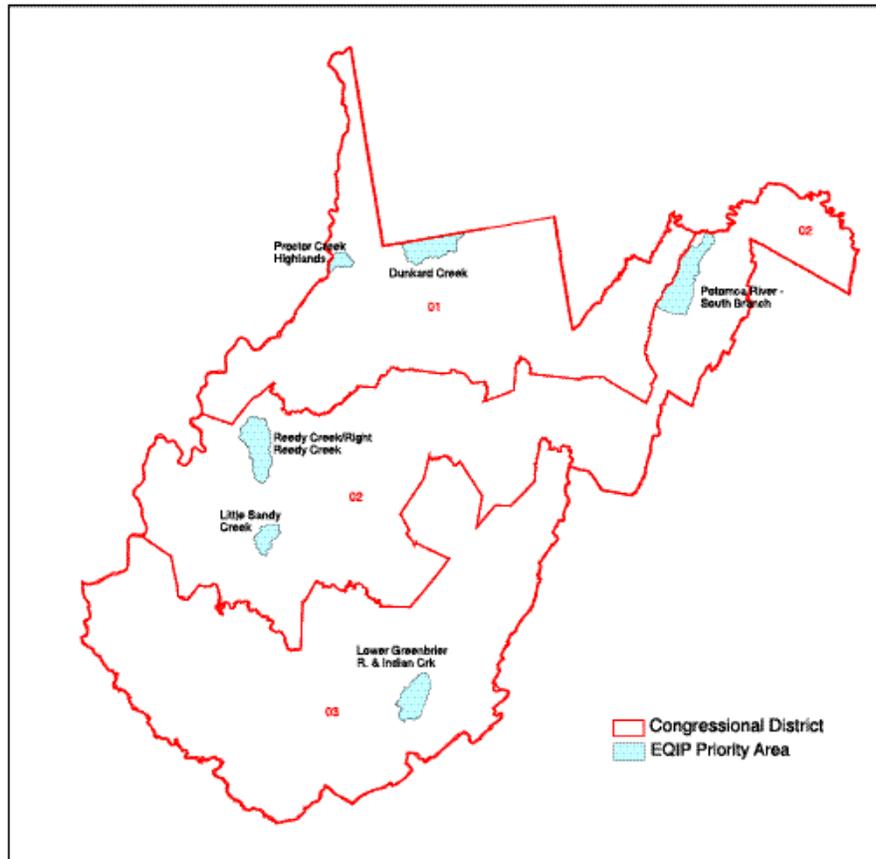
Outlook

Demand for this program greatly exceeds the funding provided. In FY 2001, about a third of the applications received funding. This indicates the need for continued program support to address significant resource concerns.

State Contacts

James Piper, Assistant State Conservationist for Operations Management
75 High St. Room 301, Morgantown, WV 26505
(304) 284-7543
Jim.Piper@wv.usda.gov

West Virginia EQIP Priority Areas Within Congressional Districts



West Virginia 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 0	\$488,976	53	\$2,357,809	477
District 1	399,735	24	1,616,580	159
District 2	263,082	49	1,959,687	320
District 3	307,036	41	1,278,255	215
State Totals	\$1,458,829	167	\$7,212,331	1171

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 Resource Concerns, which may be in any Congressional District in the state.

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