

NRCS Financial Assistance Program policies generally prohibit payments for fencing on boundary lines between landowners. Due to numerous requests, consultation with tribal leaders, and an evaluation of the complex land management issues associated with tribal lands, NRCS in Nevada is making preparations to allow fencing between tribal members or permittees with allotments or assignments.

With regard to boundaries, NRCS in Nevada will determine that only the boundaries between tribal lands and other lands under private deeded ownership of individuals or federal/state domain meet the definition of a boundary.

Land located within the tribal boundaries will be eligible for fencing practices and financial assistance payments if it meets the following criteria:

1. The location and placement of the fence between two or more permittees will be determined by a tribal government representative or the Bureau of Indian Affairs.
2. An identified resource concern of livestock management that includes control of a tribal member's owned livestock will be addressed.
3. A tribal government, agency, or business entity applies for the fencing.

In the next several months, Nevada NRCS will determine or address:

- The extent of FA funds that will be made available to Nevada tribes for fencing.
- How tribal fencing applications will be prioritized as high, medium, or low, done in consultation with the tribes.
- How the funds will be distributed. Alternatives include Requests for Proposals (RFP's), local fund pools, or a state managed fund pool.
- Notifications and announcement to each tribe on the availability of fencing on interior boundaries for FY 2012.

Critical details for making program funds available for tribal interior fencing need to be fully developed and explored. Your comments and recommendations are requested. Please send your input to:

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