



# 2011 Annual Report

## Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

*This report contains fiscal year activity for the state of Colorado from the time period of October 2010 to September 2011.*

**See 2011 EQIP Funding Allocations on Reverse Side.**

### Who We Are

NRCS provides technical and financial assistance to help agricultural producers and others care for the land. NRCS has six mission goals that include high quality, productive soils; clean and abundant water; healthy plant and animal communities; clean air; an adequate energy supply; and working farms and ranchlands.

### Vision

Productive Lands -  
Healthy Environment

### Mission

Helping People Help the Land

*“The EQIP program has helped improved conservation on my farm in many ways. I have installed an efficient irrigation system, which has helped in my production and profit. It’s a great program that I would recommend to all my friends.”*

**Landowner**



Helping People Help the Land

[www.co.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.co.nrcs.usda.gov)

USDA is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer.

### See 2011 EQIP Funding Allocations on Reverse Side.

### The Program

The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) is a voluntary conservation program that provides technical, financial, and educational assistance to farmers and ranchers.

It is a tool that addresses significant natural resource concerns including water quality and quantity, soil quality, rangeland health, and drought while implementing conservation practices such as:

- Stockwater development
- Irrigation delivery and system improvements
- Tree and shrub plantings
- Grass seeding
- Related management practices such as prescribed grazing, irrigation water management, and wildlife habitat management

### Funding Allocations

EQIP funds are distributed in Colorado’s ten watershed areas. These watershed areas are identified at the local level and are reviewed and supported by the State Technical Committee, made up of conservation partners from various Federal, state, and local agencies, several agricultural organizations, and others.

In addition to the general EQIP process, Colorado also receives funds in three watersheds earmarked for salinity control work.

### The Assistance

EQIP activities are carried out according to an EQIP plan of operation developed in conjunction with the producer.

- Contracts for confined livestockfeeding operations require the development and implementation of a comprehensive nutrient management plan.
- EQIP offers contracts with a minimum term of two years and a maximum term of ten years.
- NRCS offers incentive payments for certain conservation practices.
- Total cost-share and incentive payments are limited to \$450,000 per individual.

### Initiatives Under the EQIP Program

- Agricultural Water Enhancement Program
- Air Quality
- Historically Underserved Farmers and Ranchers
- Colorado Partnership Program
- Conservation Activity Plans
- Conservation Innovation Grants
- Cooperative Conservation Partnership Initiative
- Lesser Prairie Chicken
- Ogallala Aquifer
- Organic
- Sage Grouse
- Salinity

**(See individual reports for more information on the above-listed Colorado initiatives.)**

# Fiscal Year 2011 EQIP Contract Funding

## Totals by Watershed

Watershed	# Applications Received	# Applications Approved	Dollars Approved	Acres
Colorado River	78	47	\$2,470,053	3,177
Gunnison - Dolores	107	70	\$2,431,466	6,375
Lower Arkansas	293	86	\$3,726,005	95,597
Lower South Platte	152	60	\$2,320,576	24,100
North Platte/White/Yampa	64	36	\$1,486,360	20,566
Republican	112	58	\$1,481,470	27,293
Rio Grande	182	83	\$2,251,999	56,582
San Juan	180	129	\$3,577,995	37,932
Upper Arkansas	173	114	\$2,121,295	27,675
Upper South Platte	190	105	\$4,120,421	36,426
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>1,531</b>	<b>788</b>	<b>\$25,987,638</b>	<b>335,722</b>

## Totals by Issue

Issue	# Applications Received	# Applications Approved	Dollars Approved	Acres
Acequias	37	24	107,312	1,594
Agro-Forestry	42	28	172,169	1,881
All Lands/Animal Waste Management	9	7	312,777	1,957
All Lands/Wildlife	29	18	310,910	2,323
Cropland/Soil Management	107	54	1,409,834	28,154
Cropland/Water Quality/Quantity	425	132	6,977,245	18,039
Forestry	55	27	725,608	3,848
Grazingland	292	144	4,633,072	203,165
Riparian	18	5	242,542	266
Colorado Partnership Program (CPP)	45	44	558,645	1,570
CCPI	22	16	223,020	2,456
EQIP Sage-Grouse Initiative	10	1	91,821	3,377
Lesser Prairie Chicken Initiative	3	3	328,651	10,335
Ogallala Initiative	18	13	718,249	5,003
Seasonal High Tunnels Pilot	64	49	281,316	185
EQIP Air Quality Initiative	57	42	1,887,814	15,765
Organic-Certified	18	12	262,929	1,911
Organic-Transition	9	5	81,829	175
Planning	41	26	123,054	5,198
Salinity	206	134	6,027,886	5,288
Tribes	6	6	516,056	24,543
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1,531</b>	<b>788</b>	<b>\$25,987,638</b>	<b>335,722</b>