



## 2010 Annual Report

# Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

*This report contains fiscal year activity for the state of Colorado from the time period of October 2009 to September 2010.*

### 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

*"I got involved under the NRCS EQIP program for assistance in effective water management in reseeded my alfalfa and grass.*

*Through EQIP, I get 5 1/4 tons-per-acre production using the pivot system where I only got 3 tons-per acre in the past using the side roll system."*

**Colorado Landowner**

### See 2010 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, range-land 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 one year and a maximum term of ten years.
- NRCS pays up to 75 percent of the cost of certain conservation practices.
- Total cost-share and incentive payments are limited to \$450,000 per individual.

### Initiatives Under 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 2010 EQIP Contract Funding

## Totals by Watershed

Watershed	# Applications Received	# Applications Approved	Dollars Approved	Acres
Colorado River	73	45	\$2,046,485	2,889
Gunnison - Dolores	80	58	\$2,968,835	7,770
Lower Arkansas	292	122	\$5,300,953	\$186,183
Lower South Platte	152	78	\$2,916,884	34,525
North Platte/White/Yampa	76	26	\$1,477,239	58,031
Republican	88	59	\$1,601,616	66,582
Rio Grande	171	83	\$2,073,774	68,034
San Juan	112	97	\$2,215,984	99,910
Upper Arkansas	130	76	\$1,561,327	22,839
Upper South Platte	187	121	\$5,077,123	67,933
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>1,361</b>	<b>765</b>	<b>\$27,240,220</b>	<b>614,695</b>

## Totals by Issue

Issue	# Applications Received	# Applications Approved	Dollars Approved	Acres
Acequais	34	25	\$255,838	4,541
Agro-Forestry	40	30	\$216,571	3,752
Animal Waste Management	5	4	\$147,617	129
Wildlife	48	35	\$610,947	15,705
Soil Management	57	35	\$1,232,487	31,771
Water Quality/Quantity	384	166	\$6,752,609	45,015
Forestry	62	29	\$786,907	3,941
Grazingland	331	162	\$5,647,112	329,312
Riparian	15	7	\$417,499	227
CCPI	3	3	\$18,720	763
Sage Grouse	22	6	\$687,279	13,059
Lesser Prairie Chicken	6	4	\$284,252	30,751
Ogallala	31	17	\$1,248,234	2,785
Air Quality	42	36	\$1,745,375	18,952
Organic-Certified	14	12	\$492,339	6,813
Organic-Transition	15	12	\$556,980	3,140
Colorado Partnership	59	46	\$1,087,855	29,399
Planning - CO Activity Plans	40	18	\$100,163	54,346
Salinity	150	115	\$4,614,766	4,214
Tribes	3	3	\$336,673	16,080
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>1,361</b>	<b>765</b>	<b>\$27,240,220</b>	<b>614,695</b>