United States Department of Agriculture

NRCS

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November 14, 2011

NEW MEXICO BULLETIN NO. 440-12-01

SUBJECT: Revised FY 2012 EQIP and WHIP Implementation Deadlines

TO: All Offices

Purpose: Advise Area and Field Office Staff of updated program deadlines.

Expiration Date: September, 30 2012.

NM Bulletin 440-11-2 is being revised as follows:

Please see attached schedule for revised FY 2012 EQIP and WHIP program deadlines. Further updates may be necessary, and will be communicated via electronic mail by programs staff.

Among changes in the attached, please note that EQIP and WHIP general sign-up application evaluation date and associated deadlines have all been pushed back five (5) weeks to accommodate delays in release of regional payment schedules and ranking tools. Also of note:

- Final funding decisions on in-state initiatives and prior year CCPI projects are pending until receipt of budget allocations.
- We anticipate releasing EQIP and WHIP General ranking tools in draft format at least one week prior to their finalization in order to allow time for Field Office/Area Office review and comments, and possible edits. However, we do not have a firm date yet for releasing the ranking tool drafts.

Questions or comments may be directed to Michael Neubeiser at 505-761-4419, Seth Fiedler at 505-761-4416, or Kenny Branch at 505-761-4407.

NORMAN VIGIL
Acting State Conservationist

Important dates in NM Programs as of 11-10-2011
Changes since 10-27-2011 shown in Red

Program	Source	Items	Dates
CSP	National Bulletin 300-12-2	Approve CSP payments to producers requesting payment in Colander Year 2011	December 16,2011
		Approve CSP payments to producers requesting payment in Colander Year 2012	April 2,2012
NM EQIP General & In-State Initiatives	NM Bulletin 440-11-2 Attachment 1	Evaluation Period Deadline - 1200's Must be signed/dated, submitted to FO	**January 6, 2012**
		Applications entered into ProTracts	January 13, 2012
		Other Documentation Grace Period Deadline - Deed, leases, permits, CCC-926, AD-1026, CCC-901, FSA-211, etc.	January 20, 2012
		Applications Ranked and Recorded in ProTracts (selected apps. need to be in the 'approved' or 'pre-approved' status.	February 24, 2012
		Field Offices complete plan development in Toolkit, upload plans to ProTracts, finalize FA fund amounts. (Develop plans for highest priority apps. first, then next highest, etc. Develop enough plans to utilize initial FA allocation, plus next five)	March 16, 2012
		Area Conservationists Complete Contract Folder Review/FA Re-Allocations as Needed/Approve Contracts. 75% of funds obligated.	March 30, 2012
		100% of funds obligated	April 13, 2012
EQIP National Initiatives: On-Farm Energy, Seasonal High Tunnel Initiative, Organic, CAPs	National Bulletins 300-12-4 (Energy), 300-12-5 (High Tunnel), 300-12-xx (Organic), 300-12-xx (CAPs)	Offered practices incorporated into CPS, Payment Schedules Cost Lists; AERT tools populated per applicable bulletins	**November 25, 2012**
		Period 1: All eligible applications received by this date will be ranked and pre-approved for funding	**February 3, 2012**
		Period 1: State funding request to NHQ based on Pre-Approved applications	February 13, 2012
		Period 2: Batching Date	March 30, 2012
		Period 2: State funding request to NHQ based on Pre-Approved applications	April 9, 2012
		Period 3: Batching Date	June 1, 2012
		Period 3: State request	June 11, 2012
GRP	NM Bulletins 440-11-2 Attachment 5	End First Batching Period	**February 3, 2012**
		Ranking Sheets Due to State Office	February 17, 2012
WRP	NM Bulletin 440-11-2 Attachment 5	End First Batching Period	**December 2, 2011**
FRPP		End First Batching Period	**February 3, 2012**