

Over  
Sixty  
Years



N A T U R A L  
R E S O U R C  
E S C O  
N S E R V A T I  
O N S E R V I  
C E



N E W M E X I C O N M A C D



# Scheduled Meetings for local work groups

	15	Estancia Local Work Group Meeting
	25	Taos Local Work Group Meeting
<b>November</b>	2	Fort Sumner Local Work Group Meeting
	3	Portales Local Work Group Meeting Las Vegas Local Work Group Meeting Roswell Local Work Group Meeting Las Cruces Local Work Group Meeting Alamogordo Local Work Group Meeting
	4	Tucumcari Local Work Group Meeting Carlsbad Local Work Group Meeting Capitan Local Work Group Meeting
	5	Deming Local Work Group Meeting
	9	Raton Local Work Group Meeting Socorro Local Work Group Meeting
	10	Santa Fe Local Work Group Meeting
	15	Albuquerque Local Work Group Meeting

Front Cover Top Photo:

The day had been relatively calm with light wind from the southwest. The dust storm rolled in on a very light breeze, but about 15 minutes later a regular hurricane struck which lasted 30 minutes. Visibility was zero, and tightly closed rooms were filled with fine choking dust.

Clayton, New Mexico from atop the Palace Hotel, May 21, 1937



The USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

# New Mexico FY 2004 Farm Bill Programs Summary

## Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

1478 applications received  
866 contracts developed  
\$24,530,586 obligated  
3,513,576 acres under contract

## Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP)

### Regular Program

68 applications received  
33 contracts developed  
\$374,593 obligated

### Riparian Restoration Special Program

12 applications received  
12 contracts developed  
\$189,600 obligated  
4 field trials under development (\$240,000)

## Grassland Reserve Program (GRP)

94 applications received  
1 permanent easement on 8,559 acres in Roosevelt County (\$1,745,030)  
Two, 30-year rental agreements approved  
7,338 acres in Roosevelt County (\$1,210,770)  
880 acres in Union County (\$145,200)

## Wetland Reserve Program (WRP)

6 applications on file  
1 permanent easement funded, 94 acres in Valencia County, (\$440,000)

## Farm and Ranchland Protection Program (FRPP)

7 applications received  
2 applications funded  
Taos Land Trust, 4.4 acres, \$127,832  
Rio Grande Ag Land Trust, 57 acres, \$294,168

## Conservation Security Program (CSP)

16 applications funded  
2004 cost of \$586,373

## Conservation Innovation Grants (CIG)

1 application funded in New Mexico  
\$34,289 obligated



# New Mexico FY 2004 Technical Services Summary

ecological site descriptions completed on 120 sites

RUSLE II implemented – new erosion prediction model

7 cultural resource contracts with private firms completed



# New Mexico FY 2004 Engineering Summary

## Watershed Operations (PL 83-566)

Truth or Consequences-Williamsburg Arroyos Watershed, Site 3C

Phase III, (\$5.5 million) – work progressed from 53% to 100% completion in fiscal year 2004.

Phase IV, (\$2.4 million) – work began in October 2003 and progressed to 56% completion.

## Watershed Rehabilitation

Dona Ana, Sites 1 and 2 – completed planning and design, under the pilot watershed rehabilitation program. Installation is pending the acquisition of landrights from project sponsors (EBID and Dona Ana County, OFC).

Hackberry Site 1 – construction was completed in June 2004 for this \$1.6 million project under the pilot watershed rehabilitation program. This was the first project for New Mexico NRCS to utilize the relatively new construction material called Roller Compacted Concrete (RCC), which was used to harden the earth auxiliary spillway.

Sandia Mountain Tributaries, Site 1 – Planning and development of Environmental Assessment was accomplished to a level of 95% completion by A&E contract.

Hatch Valley Arroyos, Site 6 – Planning and development of Environmental Assessment was accomplished to a level of 95% completion by A&E contract.

Caballo Watershed, Site 2 – Planning and development of Environmental Assessment was initiated.

Hatch Valley Arroyo, Site 5 – Planning and development of Environmental Assessment was initiated.

**Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP)** – Although no projects were funded under EWP in fiscal year 2004, two events occurred in New Mexico for which assessments were made for potential EWP funding. These were the flooding in Carlsbad in April 2004 and flooding in June 2004 in the vicinity of the Penasco fire that burned in May 2002.

**Agricultural Waste Designs** – Engineering policy revision was enacted that enables NRCS employees to perform design services on agricultural waste facilities. Designs were initiated for agricultural waste facilities on four dairies with EQIP contracts in New Mexico.

**Acequia Program** – Work progressed on design and installation services for rehabilitation work on 19 acequias throughout New Mexico.

**Snow Survey Program** – NRCS obtains snow survey data on 43 sites in New Mexico. Of these 43 sites, 20 are automated SnoTel remote sensing stations which transmit weather data electronically. The other 20 are manually read courses which are read once a month.



# New Mexico FY 2004 Operations Activities Summary

**Technical Service Providers** (Private and Public individuals contracted to provide technical assistance on behalf of NRCS)

**Private Contracts**

3 engineering contracts at \$607,650

9 archeological contracts were hired at \$117,430

**Public Contracts**

25 specialists hired through a contribution agreement with

NMDA, total expense \$612,500, NRCS expense \$306,250

**Conservation Partnership Initiative** (An initiative promoting watershed planning by partner organizations)

4 applications received

1 application submitted for National funding

**Resource Conservation and Development Program**

\$1,049,000 of RC&D program funds leveraging \$48,196,313 in contributions for New Mexico rural community projects.

22 conservation projects (watershed, crop, forest, range, wildlife...) on 138,400 acres

56 community and economic development projects directly helping 5,140 people

30 information/education events

211 jobs created

24 business started or expanded

51 plans completed

211 on-going plans

60 new RC&D plans developed

# S FY 2004 Resource Inventories and Assessments Summary

## Soil Survey Program

190,000 acres mapped in New Mexico and an additional 136,000 acres in adjoining states in support of projects extending across state lines.

Two soil survey reports were printed in 2004. These are the Shiprock Area of New Mexico and Arizona, and the Ft. Bliss Military Reservation .

The soil survey manuscripts for Guadalupe and Sandoval Counties have been completed and submitted for publication. The Rio Arriba manuscript was developed and is being finalized for submission for final edits and typesetting.

The soil survey Report for Jicarilla Apache Nation has been sent to the publisher for printing. Anticipate delivery by the end of December.

The soil survey staff stationed in El Paso completed mapping in Texas and was moved to Las Cruces. Soil Survey evaluations are underway to initiate mapping in Dona Ana, Otero, Sierra, Lincoln, Socorro and Torrance County areas. The evaluations are prerequisites to update mapping. The update mapping being undertaken will create seamless soils information between counties and states.

Since October 1, 2003, we have hired 8 new soil scientists and 1 new range conservationist.

Soil survey database population and validation was completed for 30 soil survey areas this year. This represents 3/4 of the survey areas in the state.

The Soil Data Mart (SDM) has been populated with 26 survey areas to date. Anticipate placing 8 additional areas on SDM before end of 2004.

Provided support to the BIA Ft. Defiance Survey staff with NASIS database population, and training to their new soil scientists. This area includes about 700,000 acres in New Mexico.

### **GIS Program**

Soil survey map compilation was completed on 8 survey areas this year and soil survey digitizing was completed on 6 survey areas. An additional 3 survey areas are being digitized at this time.

Final soil survey report publication maps were completed for Jicarilla Apache Nation. Final maps for McKinley County are being developed now.

We completed GIS training for the Customer Service Toolkit in all offices. Geospatial data is being kept current in all field offices.

Work on the Watershed Boundary Digitizing project continues. Anticipate completion of the project in 2005.

### **NRI Program**

Completed the FY2003 field inventory on 48 primary sampling units (PSUs)

Supported the NRI-CEAP inventory with National Agricultural Statistical Service (NASS) data collectors for FY2004. The Conservation Effects Analysis Project (CEAP) is to determine the effectiveness of conservation practices in achieving conservation program objectives.



# New Mexico FY 2004 East Area Summary

## **Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)**

330 contracts funded  
\$9,000,000+ obligated

## **Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP)**

<b>Regular Program</b>	<b>Special Program</b>
3 contracts developed	6 contracts developed

## **Wetland Reserve Program (WRP)**

1 contract  
Easement signed, appraisal ordered

## **Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plans**

9 CNMPs developed on AFO/CAFO operations

## **Farm Bill Employees**

10 Farm Bill Employees delivering Farm Bill programs in field



# New Mexico FY 2004 SouthEast Area Summary

## Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) and Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP)

146 new contracts

\$5.4 million obligated

Record year for Southeast Area

All 7 field offices developed a record number of contracts

All 7 field offices received a record level of funding

## Conservation Technical Assistance (CTA)

Conservation plans developed on 8,357 acres of cropland

Conservation plans developed on 1,042,312 acres of rangeland

Conservation practices assistance provided on 525,954 acres of rangeland

Forest stand improvement assistance provided on 1,686 acres

Watershed improvement assistance resulting in brush management applied to  
approximately 35,000 acres

## Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plans

8 developed on animal feeding operations

6 applied on animal feeding operations

# New Mexico FY 2004 northwest Area Summary

## **Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)**

- 212 new contracts
- \$4.9 million obligated
- 1,191,497 acres contracted
- 384 applications received
- \$5.2 million requested

## **Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program (WHIP)**

- 15 new applications
- \$240,334 obligated

## **Acequia Program**

- 15 new projects requested and planned

## **Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D)**

### **HUB**

- 7 new projects approved by council
- 7 projects completed
- 33 on-going

### **Northern Rio Grande**

- 16 new projects approved by council
- 10 projects completed
- 42 on-going

## **Conservation Technical Assistance**

- Conservation plans developed on 39,191 acres of crop
- Conservation plans developed on 566,259 acres of range
- Conservation practices assistance on 184,974 acres range
- Forest stand improvement assistance on 3,584 acres

### **Watershed assistance resulting in:**

- 87,607 feet of livestock water pipeline
- 10 livestock wells
- 10,160 ac. of range planting
- 57,703 ac. of cross-fencing
- 44,169 feet of irrigation pipeline
- 96 water control structures
- 100 ac. of wetland restoration/enhancement
- 57,866 ac. wildlife habitat

## **Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plans**

- 2 developed on animal feeding operations



## New Mexico FY 2004 southwest Area Summary

### **Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)**

226 applications received  
141 applications approved to contracts  
\$4,468,058 in applications requested  
\$4,262,543 in approved Contracts  
These are record numbers for the Field Offices

### **Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP)**

Regular Program	Special Program
2 contracts developed	1 contract developed

### **Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plans**

1 CNMP (new) developed on AFO/CAFO operations  
2 CNMP's applied on 900 acres

### **Farm Bill Employees**

4 Farm Bill Employees delivering Farm Bill programs in field

### **Conservation Technical Assistance (CTA)**

Conservation plans developed on 7,569 acres of cropland  
Conservation plans developed on 1,106,996 acres of grazing land  
Conservation practices assistance provided on 425,161 acres of grazing land  
Sediment delivery reduction on ag lands only: 20,000 tons/yr.  
Irrigation systems (no.) applied including drip, sprinkler and delivery systems: 164  
Watershed improvement assistance resulting in brush management applied to 9,529 acres  
Prescribed grazing applied to 170,337 acres