Overview

The Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2014 (2014 Farm Bill) continues to address the unique circumstances and concerns of traditionally underserved producers. The Natural Resources Conservation Service, as an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, is committed to ensuring that its programs and services are accessible to all our customers, fairly and equitably, with emphasis on reaching the underserved and socially disadvantaged farmers, ranchers, and tribes of our state.



Do you qualify as a Historically Underserved Producer?

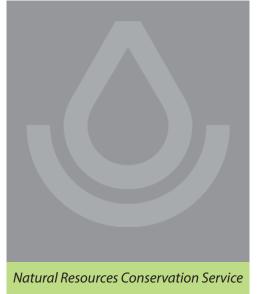


USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service offers voluntary Farm Bill conservation programs that benefit agricultural producers and the environment.

Historically Underserved Groups are:

- Beginning Farmer or Rancher
- Limited Resource Farmer or Rancher
- Socially Disadvantaged Farmer or Rancher
- Veteran Farmer or Rancher

NRCS in Alaska considers any land that produces food and fiber, including subsistence hunting and gathering lands, as agricultural land for Farm Bill programs eligibility purposes, so people using subsistence lands for customary and traditional activities may consider themselves "farmers or ranchers".



Self-Evaluation Determination Questions

Use these questions as your guide to the NRCS-CPA-1200 Conservation Program Application block 9.

To qualify as historically underserved, you must answer *yes* to *all* of the questions within a category.

Beginning Farmer or Rancher	Yes	No
Have you, as the individual or entity applying, operated a farm or ranch for not more than 10 consecutive years?		Next Step
Will you, the individual or entity applying, be materially and substantially participating in the operation of the farm or ranch such that if you did not, the operation would be seriously impaired?		When filling out your application, the NRCS-CPA 1200, you may confidently self-certify your historically underserved status.
If you are a legal entity or joint operation, do all members of the entity or operation individually qualify?		Applicants who self-certify as limited resource, beginning, or veteran farmer or rancher may be requested
Veteran Farmer or Rancher		to provide records to verify their
Did you serve in the United States Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, and Coast Guard, including the reserve components thereof, and were you discharged or released therefrom, under conditions other than dishonorable?		The term Indian Tribe, band, nation, or other organized
Do you qualify as a beginning farmer or rancher? See above.		group or community, includes any Federally recognized Alaska
If you are a legal entity or joint operation, do all members of the entity or operation individually qualify as both veteran and beginning farmer and rancher?		Native village, or regional or village corporation.
Limited Resource Farmer or Rancher*		Contact NRCS in Alaska
In each of the last two years, was your direct or indirect gross farm sales less than or equal to the pre-determined amount found online at the NRCS Limited Resource Farmer Tool?		North Hub, Fairbanks (907) 479-3159 Delta Junction
(\$174,600 for FY 2018) In each of the last two tax years, was your total household		(907) 895-4241
income less than the "County/Area Value," as found online on the NRCS Limited Resource Farmer Tool?		South Hub, Kenai (907) 283-8732
If you are a legal entity or joint operation, do all members of the entity or operation individually qualify?		Homer (907) 235-8177
*You must reference data found online to answer these questions. Search for "NRCS Limited Resource Farmer and Rancher tools" and look for the current fiscal year.		Juneau (907) 586-7220
Socially Disadvantaged Farmer or Rancher		Central Hub, Wasilla (907) 373-6492
Are you, as the individual or entity applying, a member of a socially disadvantaged group? (Including: American Indians or Alaska Natives, Asians, Black or African Americans, Native Hawaiians or other Pacific Islanders, Hispanics.) Gender alone is not a socially disadvantaged group for the purposes of NRCS conservation programs.		State Office, Palmer (907) 761-7760
If you are a legal entity or joint operation, is at least 50 percent ownership of the entity or operation held by socially disadvantaged individuals?		www.ak.nrcs.usda.gov Natural Resources Conservation Servi