

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Bismarck State Office PO Box 1458 Bismarck, ND 58502-1458

Voice 701.530.2000 Fax 855-813-7556 September 8, 2020

NORTH DAKOTA BULLETIN NO. 300-20-23

SUBJECT: LTP – ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY INCENTIVES PROGRAM (EQIP) PRIORITY PROJECT(S) PROPOSALS

<u>Purpose.</u> To announce Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 EQIP Priority Project Proposals. The purpose of EQIP Priority Projects proposals are to leverage NRCS and partner resources, and to provide Local Work Groups (LWG) the opportunity for additional local input in addressing identified resource concerns.

Expiration Date. September 30, 2021.

ACTION REQUIRED BY: January 22, 2021

<u>Background.</u> The State Conservationist is seeking proposals outside of existing EQIP funding pools to address resources concerns identified by your Local Work Group. Proposals are required to produce outcomes that are measurable and attainable, as they relate to the proposed resource concerns.

All proposals must have the following elements, failure to provide these will result in the proposal being rejected:

- 1. Proposal must be submitted by the Local Work Group or State Technical Committee.
- 2. All items in the enclosed proposal template must be addressed.
- 3. The proposal and project area cannot be for the purpose of addressing resource concerns where only one producer is the beneficiary of the project funds.

Proposal will be evaluated and ranked at the State Office based on the following criteria:

- 1. Summary (0-10 Points)
- 2. Needs Assessment ((0-30 Points)
- 3. Program Objectives (0-30 Points)
- 4. Deliverables (0-15 Points)
- 5. Map (0-15 Points)

As noted in North Dakota bulletin 300-20-21, Animal Feeding Operations (AFO), Irrigation, Forestry and High Tunnel Systems funding pools will no longer be available in Fiscal Year 2021. Through the Priority Projects, LWG's have the opportunity to guide funding to areas that will best address local resource concerns.

(More)

Proposals are due in the Bismarck State Office by January 22, 2021. If you have any questions, please contact Todd Hagel, Assistant State Conservationist (Programs), at (701) 530-2004.

MARY E. PODOLL State Conservationist

Enclosure

DIST: ND NRCS, NDASCD, FSA