Dawson County Irrigation Water Efficiency Improvement TIP Amendment

2024 - 2026 Re-Opening

Need for Opening the TIP

The Field Office has received inquiries from producers within the 2020 TIP area regarding opportunities to apply for EQIP assistance to improve irrigation water use efficiency on cropland. The success of the 2020 TIP has generated interest in applying the conservation measures to additional fields and operations within the original TIP boundary.

Expected Participation

Based on recent conversations with operators who irrigate within the TIP boundary, the Field Office expects to receive at least nine applications for Montana Focused Conservation through the re-opened 2020 TIP. It is likely that the number of applications will be higher as the success of prior-year conservation plans draws more attention.

Length of Opening

The 2020 TIP would be re-opened for three years. This will allow adequate time for planning, contracting, and installation of infrastructure.

Outreach

The Dawson County Local Work Group met in the fall of 2021. Concerns related to irrigated crop production were selected as priority resource concerns. Buffalo Rapids Irrigation District 1 and pivot vendors continue to promote conversion from flood irrigation and gated pipe to the more efficient sprinkler systems. Communication among the Buffalo Rapids, Dawson County Conservation District, the NRCS Field Office, MSU Extension, and local producers share information about and fosters interest in converting from flood or gated pipe to pivots along the Yellowstone River. The Glendive Field Office plans for outreach include sending information about the renewed TIP opportunities to all producers within the 2020 TIP Area and may include a news release through MSU Extension and local media.

Projected Costs

The estimate is based on the average attributes of 2020 TIP projects.

| Practice | Code | Component | Scenario | Units | Cost Per Unit | Units | Estimated Cost |
|---------------------------------|------|---|----------|--------|------------------|-------|----------------|
| Sprinkler, Center Pivot | 442 | Center Pivot 801-1200 feet | 3 | acres | 704.83 | 53.2 | 37,497 |
| Pumping Plant | 533 | Electric Powered Pump 30-74 HP | 5 | HP | 319.56 | 50 | 15,978 |
| Pumping Plant | 533 | Variable Frequency Drive < 75 HP | 6 | HP | 108.09 | 50 | 5,405 |
| Structures for Water Control | 587 | Flow Meter with Electronic Index | 15 | each | 261.31 | 1 | 261.39 |
| Structures for Water Control | 587 | Miscellaneous Structures Extra Small | 17 | each | 3748.12 | 1 | 3748.12 |
| Irrigation Pipeline | 430 | HDPE Greater than or Equal to 10" | 4 | pounds | 3.49 | 5,073 | 17,705 |
| Irrigation Water Management | 449 | Irrigation Water Management Basic | 2 | acres | 350.33 | 53.2 | 55,913 |
| Total per Project | | - | | | | | \$ 136,507 |
| Cost per Acre | | | | | | | \$2,610.10 |

| Projected Annual EQIP Budget Needs | | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Fiscal Year | Number of Projects | Total Expenditure | | | | |
| 2024 | 4 | \$546,028 | | | | |
| 2025 | 3 | \$409,521 | | | | |
| 2026 | 3 | \$409,521 | | | | |
| Total | 10 | \$1,365,070 | | | | |

Project Location

