

**State Technical Committee Meeting**  
**August 30, 2017**  
**USDA Conference Room**  
**100 Sun Avenue N.E, Suite 629**  
**9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

- 8:30 – 9:00 Sign-In and Refreshments
- 9:00 – 9:05 Introductions Kris Graham Chavez
- 9:05 – 9:20 State Conservationist Xavier Montoya
- 9:20 – 10:00 Programs Kris Graham Chavez
- State Technical Committee and Local Work Groups
  - Funding Levels
  - Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)
- 10:00 – 10:30 EQIP and EWP Kenneth Branch
- Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)
    - FY-2017 and 2018 State Initiatives
    - FY-2017 and 2018 National Initiatives
  - Emergency Watershed Protection Program (EWP)
- 10:30- 11:00 ACEP and CSP Athena Cholas
- Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP)
  - Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)
- 11:00 – 11:30 Conservation Reserve Program CRP Steve Kadas
- Update on Grasslands
  - Roles and Responsibilities
- 11:30 – PARTNER UPDATES

## State Technical Committee

### Purpose

NRCS has established a technical committee in each State to assist in making recommendations relating to the implementation and technical aspects of natural resource conservation activities and programs.

## Responsibilities

- (1) Provide information, analysis, and recommendations to USDA on conservation priorities and criteria for natural resources conservation activities and programs, including application and funding criteria, recommended practices, and program payment percentages.
- (2) Identify emerging natural resource concerns and program needs.
- (3) Recommend conservation practice standards and specifications.
- (4) Recommend State and national program policy based on resource data.
- (5) Review activities of the local working groups to ensure State priorities are being addressed locally.
- (6) Make recommendations to the State Conservationist on requests and recommendations from local working groups.
- (7) Assist NRCS with public outreach and information efforts and identify educational and producers' training needs.

## Membership

Each State Technical Committee will be composed of agricultural producers, owners and operators of nonindustrial private forest land, and other professionals who represent a variety of interests and disciplines in the soil, water, wetlands, plant, and wildlife sciences.

# Local Work Group Purpose

Subcommittees of State Technical Committee that are used to help identify and provide recommendations to NRCS on local and state natural resource priorities and criteria for conservation activities and programs.

# Local Work Groups -

The screenshot shows the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service New Mexico website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for 'About Us', 'National Centers', and 'State Websites'. Below this is a search bar and a secondary navigation bar with 'Topics', 'Programs', 'Newsroom', and 'Contact Us'. The main content area is divided into several sections: a featured news item titled 'USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Office in Albuquerque' with a photo of a modern building; a 'Popular Topics' sidebar listing 'Financial Assistance', 'Technical Assistance', 'Field Office Technical Guide', 'Plants & Animals', and 'Snow Survey'; and a 'Helpful Links and Information' section containing links for 'FY2018 Local Work Group Information', 'Find a Field Office', 'New Mexico NRCS Annual Report', 'Landscape Conservation Initiatives', 'NRCS Publications', and 'Receipt For Service'. There are also social media icons and a 'Sign up for email updates' button.

Schedule of NM Local Work Group Meetings					
Team	Location	Address	Time	Contact	Phone
<b>Team 1</b>					
8/15/17	Gallup USDA Service Center	2330 East Highway 66, Gallup, NM	3:00pm		
8/29/17	Grants USDA Service Center	1020 Nimitz, Drive, Grants, NM	6:00pm	Richard Montoya	(505)287-4045
9/12/17	La Plata Water Users Building (aka Old School House)	1438 NM Hwy 170, La Plata, NM	4:00pm		
<b>Team 2</b>					
				Pearl Armijo	(505)865-4643
<b>Team 3</b>					
8/30/17	Chama SWCD	17305 US Hwy 64/84, Tierra Amarilla, NM	9:00am		
9/7/17	East Rio Arriba (Hernandez)	19283 US Hwy 84/285, Hernandez, NM	9:00am		
9/8/17	Taos SWCD	202 Chamisa Road, Taos, NM	10:00am	Liz Beth Walker	(505)471-0410
9/13/17	Santa Fe - Pojoaque	4001 Office Court Drive, #1001, Santa Fe, NM	12:00pm		
<b>Team 4</b>					
9/13/17	Helping Hands	HWY 518 NM 30, Mora, NM	10:00am	Kenneth Alton	(505)425-5584
<b>Team 5</b>					
8/29/17	Encino City Hall	427 B North Main Street, Encino, NM	10:00am	Kenneth Lujan	(505)847-2941
<b>Team 6</b>					
9/14/17	NMSU Extension Office	100 Court Street	10:00am	Relisa Niles	(575)461-3801
<b>Team 7</b>					
9/20/17	La Fonda Restaurant	601 E. Pine St, Deming, NM 88030	10:00am	Matt Wiseman	(575) 546-9692
<b>Team 8</b>					
8/14/17	Carrizozo Field Office	305 12th Street, Carrizozo, NM	10:00am		
9/16/17	Datil Field Office	w/ Highway 60, Datil, NM 87821	10:00am	Rafael Sierra-Castro	(575) 836-1710
8/28/17	Socorro Field Office	103 Neel Avenue N.W. Socorro, NM	9:00am		
<b>Team 9</b>					
9/21/17	NM Farm & Ranch Livestock Bureau Conference Room	2220 N. Telsor, Las Cruces, NM	9:30am	Kristi Justice	(575)694-2212
<b>Team 10</b>					
9/19/17	Soil and Water Conservation District Building	3105 W. Main, Artesia, NM	10:00am	Phil Carter	(575)398-5857
<b>Team 11</b>					
9/14/17	Clovis USDA Service Center	918 Parkland Drive, Clovis, NM	9:00am	D'Laynn Bruce	(575)7624769

# Local Work Group Guidance for FY 2018 (NM-440-17-05)



August 2, 2017

NEW MEXICO BULLETIN NO. 440-17-05

SUBJECT: PGM – FARM BILL PROGRAMS – LOCAL WORKING GROUP GUIDANCE FOR FY 2018

TO: All Employees

**ACTION NEEDED BY OCTOBER 13, 2017**

**Purpose:** To provide guidelines for meeting with Local Working Groups (LWG) for 2018 EQIP, CSIP, CIG and ACEP

**Expiration Date:** December 31, 2017

New Mexico will implement conservation programs in 2018 based on the most current information/instructions from NHQ.

Attached are Guidance for LWG (Attachment #1), EQIP Fund Account Proposal (Attachment #2), Local Watershed Initiative Worksheet (Attachment #3), and CSIP, CIG and ACEP recommendation worksheet (Attachment #4) for all Designated and Area Conservationists in New Mexico to use in assisting LWG make recommendations on implementing the EQIP for FY 2018. The State Conservationist has the responsibility of grouping applications to the extent possible by similar crop, forestry, and livestock operations for evaluation purposes and ensure that funding is targeted to identified priorities. For this reason, the local EQIP fund accounts will be established in 2018 by Team and not by Field Office.

**The FY 2018 EQIP proposals and other program recommendations are due to the ASTC-Programs and appropriate Program Manager by October 13, 2017.**

LWG meetings should be scheduled no later than **September 29, 2017**. Please keep in mind that LWGs are advisory, not decision making, groups. The proposal from the Team is the final recommendation of the Designated Conservationist to the State Conservationist on the various aspects of carrying out the program for FY 2018. As soon as meeting dates, times and locations have been established for your LWG meeting please convey that information to Kristin Graham Chavez and the appropriate Program Manager for posting to the state website. LWG/D.C.s are encouraged to consider including the following in their proposal:

- Screening criteria to determine High, Medium and Low priority (Please see EQIP 515.72 for policy regarding screen criteria)
- Technical criteria to address tiebreakers

## Local Work Group Guidance for FY 2018

### Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

- ▶ Screening Criteria
- ▶ Ranking Criteria
- ▶ Technical Criteria (Tie Breakers)
- ▶ Cost Caps
- ▶ Payment Schedules
- ▶ Priority Resource Concerns
- ▶ Initiatives - Watershed and Acequia

## Local Work Group Guidance for FY 2018 (NM-440-17-05)

### Conservation Stewardship Program

- ▶ Ranking Criteria
- ▶ Fund Accounts

### Conservation Innovation Grants

### Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP)

- ▶ Geographic Priority Areas
- ▶ Ranking

## Local Work Group Guidance for FY 2018

Scheduled Meetings: 9-29-17

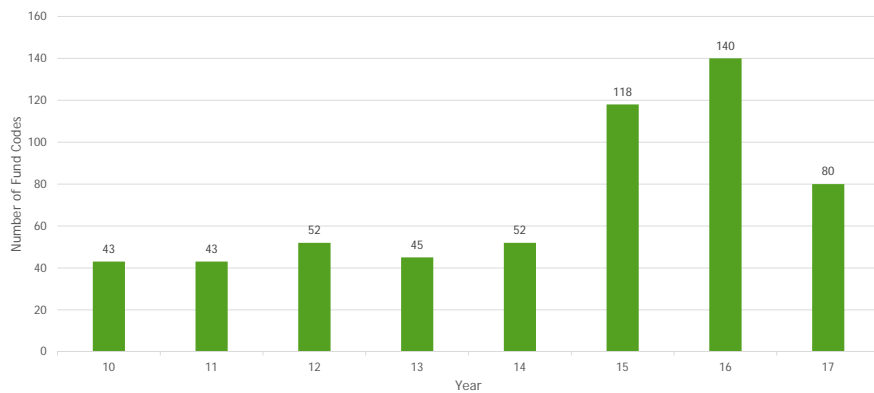
Recommendations to State Office: 10-13-17

Application Deadline EQIP: 12-22-17

Pre-Application ACEP: 1-19-18

CStP and CIG application deadlines will be set according to national instruction.

## Funding Distribution



## 2018 RCPP

- ▶ April 21, 2017 Pre-proposal applications due
- ▶ Week of June 26, 2017 Announcement of selected pre-proposals
- ▶ September 7, 2017 Full proposal applications due
- ▶ November, 2017 Announcement of selected full proposals

## 2018 RCPP

- ▶ 3 Applicants
- ▶ 2 Requested to Submit Full Proposals

New Portal

## 2017 RCPP

- ▶ Received Allocations
- ▶ Waiting on Grants and Agreements to Complete Process
- ▶ Sign Agreements

## 2016 RCPP

### North Central

	\$308,500.00	Total Allocation
Team 1	\$114,715.11	Obligated
Team 3	\$38,038.00	
Team 2	\$111,583.00	
	\$44,163.89	Balance for Mods



## 2016 RCPP

### **Acequia**

Acequia de Los Barriales - Vallecitos

Archibeque - Cuba

Acequia Madre del Pueblo - Taos

Storm Ditch - Ruidoso

Acequia de la Isla and San Jose (Morphy Lake) - Mora

Torreon -

Manzano -

Acequia de los Fresquez - Santa Cruz

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