

Eligible Project Sponsors for the Emergency Watershed Protection Program



Project Sponsor Eligibility

To be an Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) program eligible “Project Sponsor” you must be a legal subdivision of a State government or State agency, including the following:

- Cities
- Counties or parishes
- Towns
- Municipal authorities
- Townships
- Natural Resources Districts
- Or when chartered under State laws, such as:
 - Levee districts
 - Irrigation districts
 - Drainage districts
- Any Native American Tribe or Tribal organization as defined in section 4 of the Indian Self Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. Section 450b).

As a Project Sponsor you must:

- Provide a written request to the Nebraska NRCS State Conservationist for assistance with appropriate documentation.
- Obtain the necessary real property rights, including any rights needed for the relocation of fences, bridges, etc.

- Obtain a signed Form NRCS-ADS-78, “Assurances Relating to Real Property Acquisition,” and a signed attorney’s opinion, as appropriate.
- Obtain the required Federal, State, Tribal, and local permits.
- Arrange for any necessary relocation of utilities.
- Provide the required local share of construction costs associated with the EWP project
- Execute an operation and maintenance agreement and ensuring compliance with the operation and maintenance, as necessary.
- Accept the completed work for projects installed using locally awarded contracting procedures as appropriate.

It is currently the understanding of USDA that Home Owners Associations, Lake Associations, etc. DO NOT meet the Sponsorship Eligibility criteria as defined in the NRCS Emergency Watershed Protection Program Manual.

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The Emergency Watershed Protection Program (EWP)

The Emergency Watershed Protection Program (EWP) is administered through the USDA– Natural Resources Conservation Service. EWP is designed to install recovery measures to safeguard lives and property as a result of a natural disaster. NRCS provides assistance to local sponsors (units of government or local municipality) to restore impaired watershed(s) to a stable hydrologic function following a natural disaster.

Watershed impairments that the EWP Program addresses include debris-clogged stream channels, scoured or eroded bridges, and undermined and/or unstable streambanks that pose an imminent threat to public infrastructure (i.e.: bridges, county roads, etc.).

Nebraska

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