

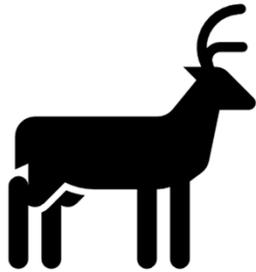
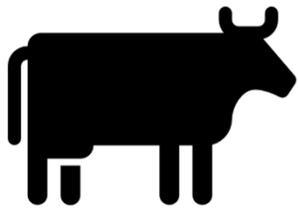
NRCS Farm Bill Program Updates

AMANDA CROWE

ASSISTANT STATE
CONSERVATIONIST - PROGRAMS

January 21, 2021

Who We Serve – Agricultural Producers













Farm Bill Program Overview



EQIP

Environmental Quality Incentives Program



CSP

Conservation Stewardship Program



Easements

Agricultural Conservation Easements Program (ACEP)



CIG

Conservation Innovation Grant

Farm Bill Program Overview



EQIP

\$8.8 million



CSP

\$500k



Easements

\$653k



CIG

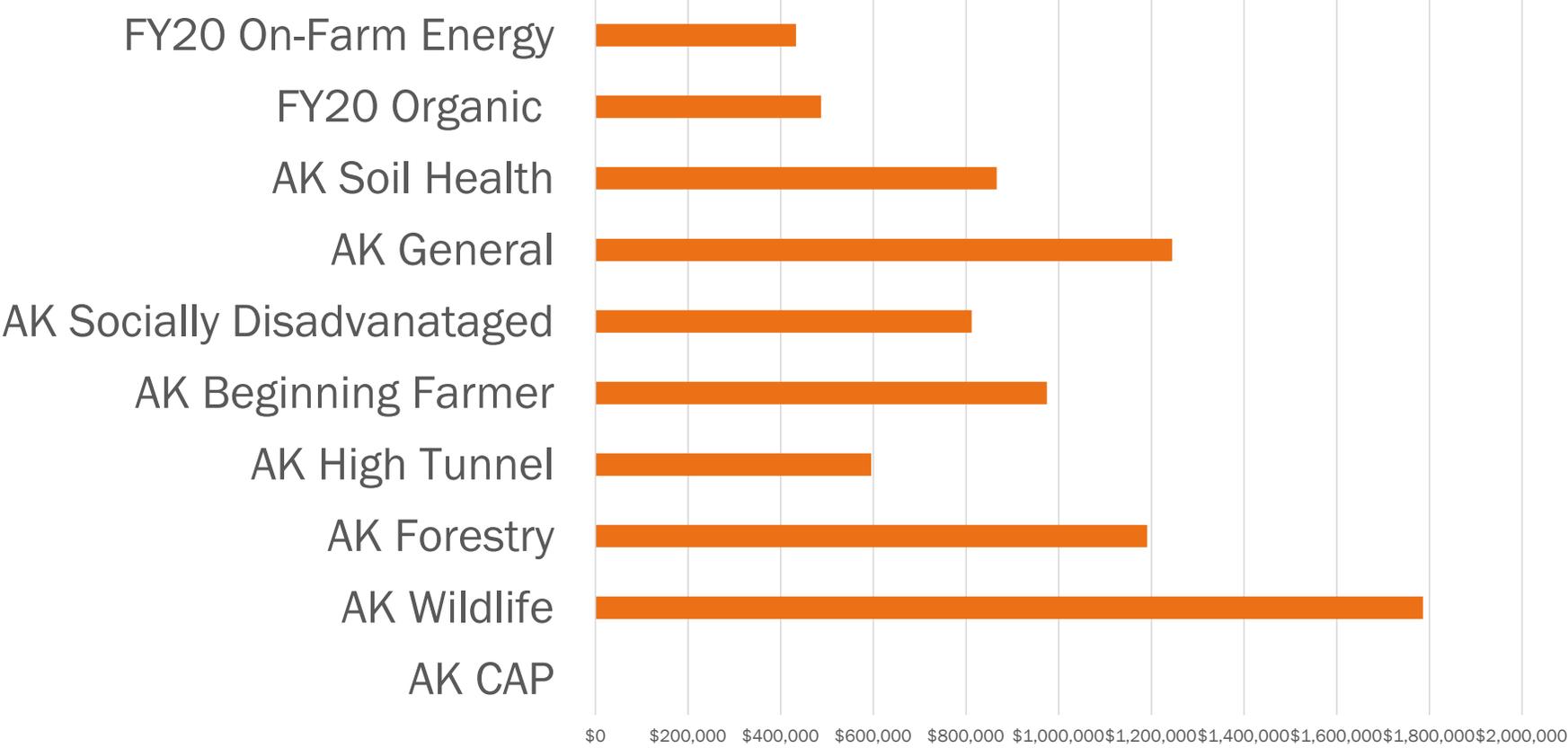
\$469k

EQIP- Funding Pool Priorities

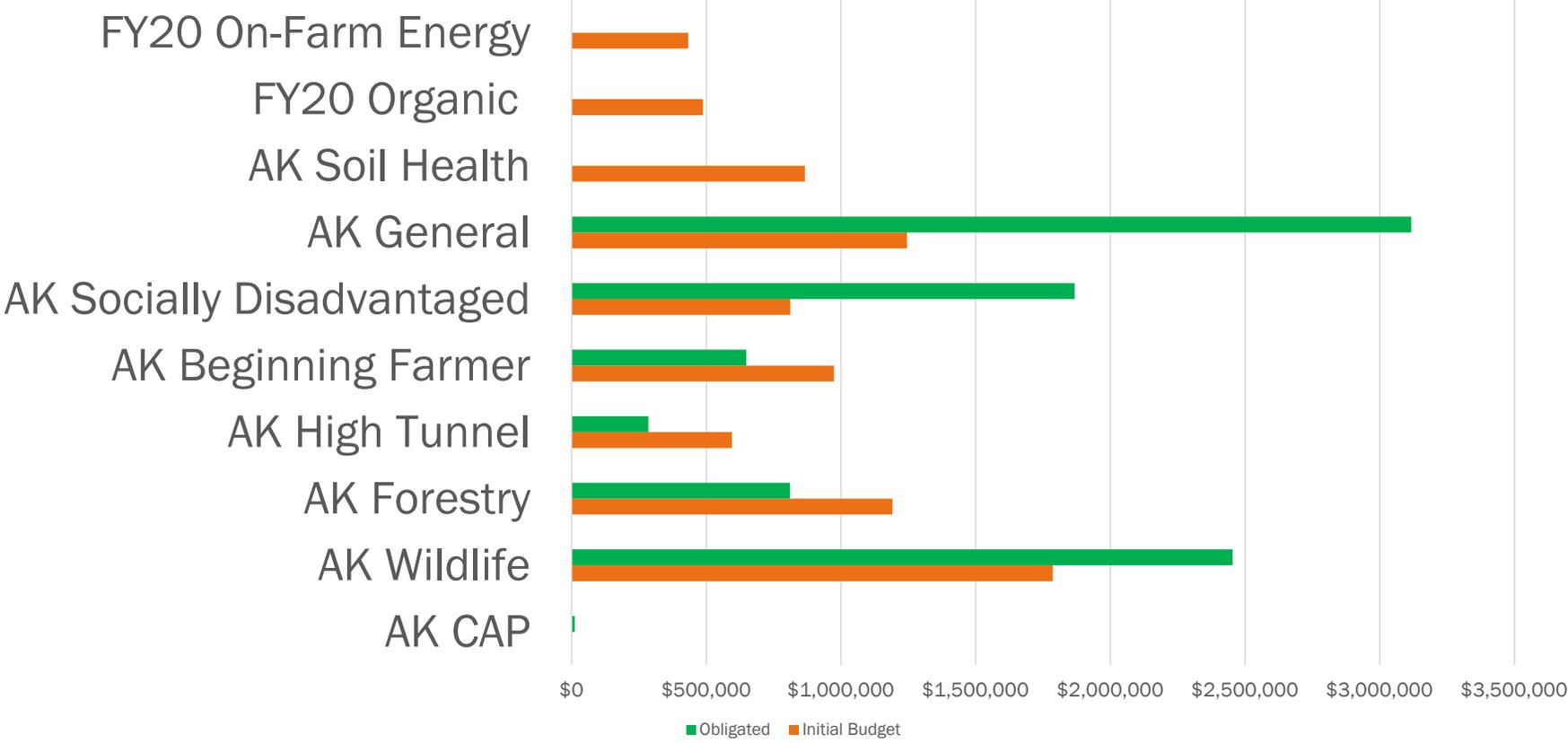
Alaska EQIP Funding Pools

23	General ★★ ★ ★★ ★	★★ ★ ★★ ★★ ★ Available to address all NRCS resource concerns on all land uses.	
18	Beginning Farmer ★★ ★★ ★ ★★ ★★ ★★ ★	Targeted to applicant's who meet the criteria of beginning farmer/rancher who self-certify their status when submitting an EQIP application. Available to address all NRCS resource concerns on all land uses.	
15	Socially Disadvantaged ★	Targeted to applicant's who meet the criteria of socially disadvantaged farmer/rancher who self-certify their status when submitting an EQIP application. Available to address all NRCS resource concerns on all land uses.	
16	Soil Health ★★ ★★ ★ ★★ ★★ ★	Designed to provide financial assistance to agricultural operators who want to improve soil on their land. ★★ ★★ ★★ ★★ ★	
11	High Tunnel ★★ ★	Designed to assist producers to extend the growing season for high value crops in an environmentally safe manner. <i>This is the only subaccount with the (Code 325) High Tunnel Conservation Practice.</i>	
33	Wildlife ★★ ★★ ★	Designed to address wildlife resource concerns on all land uses.	
22	Forestry ★★ ★	Designed to address resource concerns on non-industrial private forestland.	
9	Organic ★★ ★★ ★★ ★	Designed to provide financial assistance opportunities for organic, transition to organic and organic-exempt producers to address natural resource concerns related to organic production as well as requirements related to the National Organic Program (NOP) requirements.	
8	On-Farm Energy	A national on-farm initiative specifically designed to provide financial assistance to address energy conservation through practice implementation and for development of an agricultural energy management plan (AgEMP).	

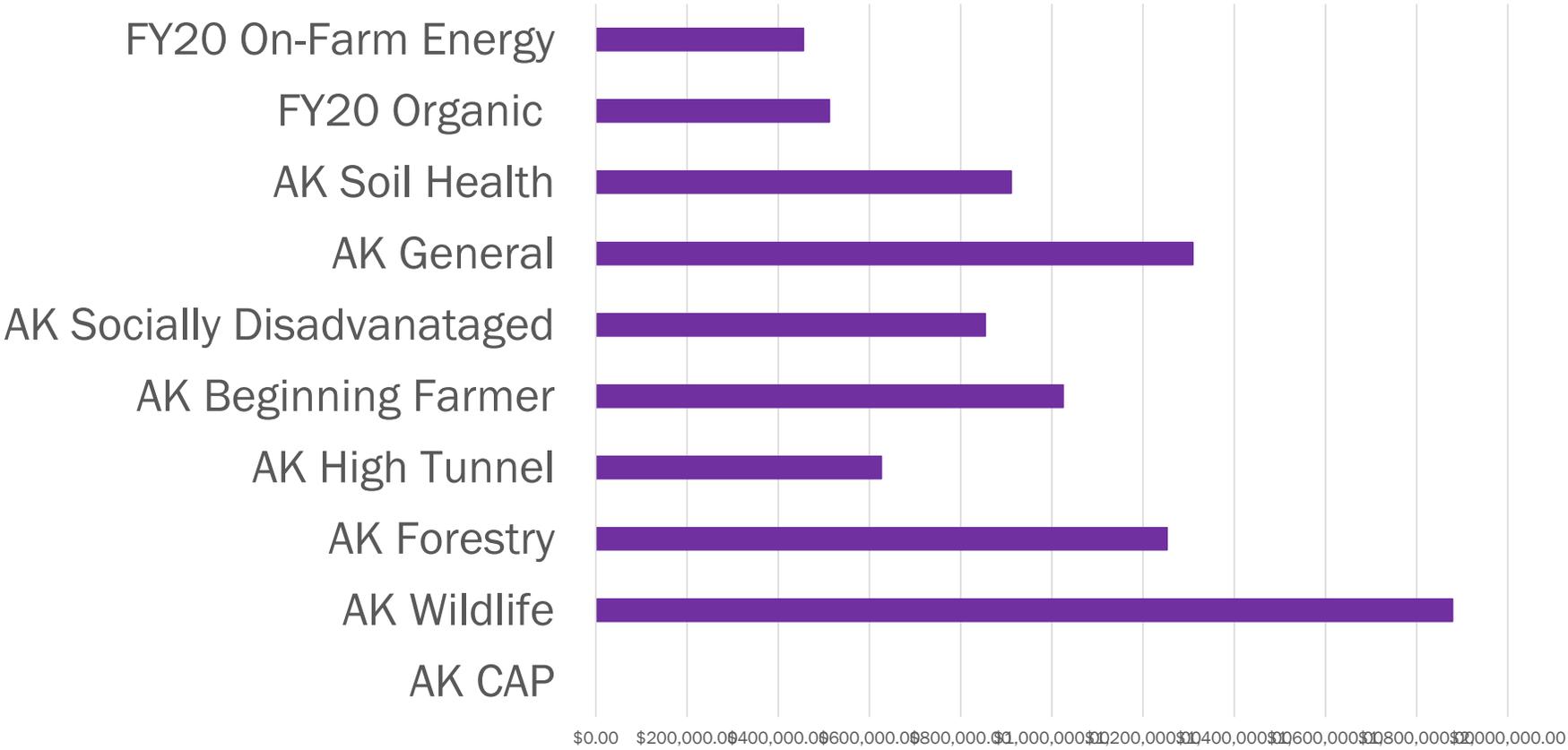
EQIP FY20 Initial Budget



EQIP FY20 Initial and Final Budget



EQIP FY21 Initial Budget \$8.9 million



Alaska EQIP Timeline FY21



Conservation Innovation Grant

State Competition FY21 – Anticipated Timeline



May

Applications
Due



Summer

Project
Selection



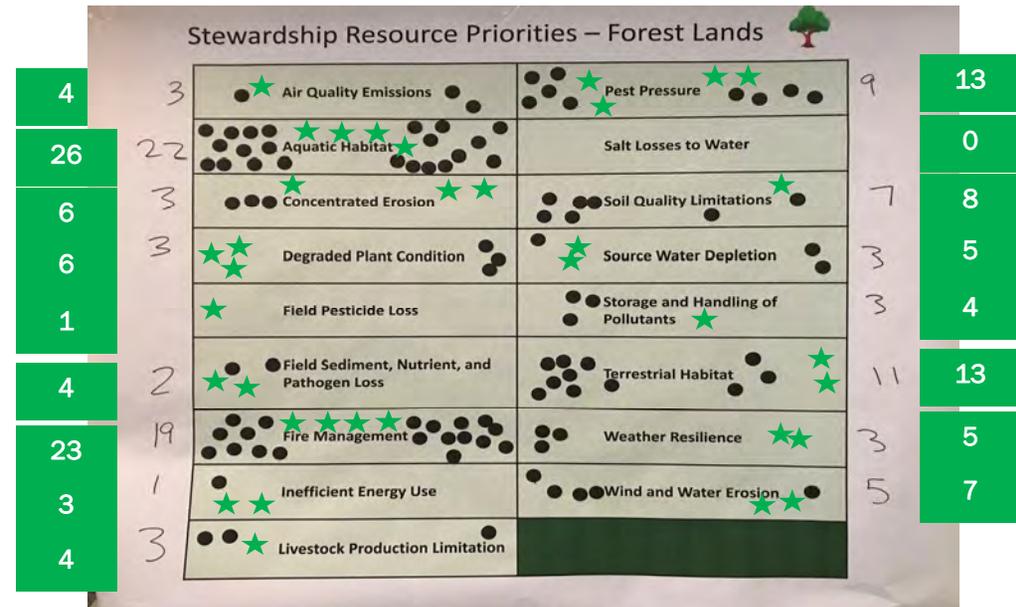
October

Start Work

Priority Resource Concerns

Agricultural Lands

Forest Lands



Priority Resource Concerns - **Agricultural Lands**

FY20

Field Sediment, Nutrient, and Pathogen Loss
Livestock Production Limitation
Pest Pressure
Soil Quality Limitations
Wind and Water Erosion

FY21

Degraded Plant Condition	Soil Quality Limitations
Field Sediment, Nutrient, and Pathogen Loss	Storage and Handling of Pollutants
Livestock Production Limitation	Terrestrial Habitat
Pest Pressure	Wind and Water Erosion

Priority Resource Concerns - Forest Lands

FY20

Aquatic Habitat
Degraded Plant Condition
Fire Management
Pest Pressure
Terrestrial Habitat

FY21

Aquatic Habitat	Fire Management
Concentrated Erosion	Pest Pressure
Degraded Plant Condition	Soil Quality Limitations
Field Sediment, Nutrient, and Pathogen Loss	Terrestrial Habitat

Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)

Potential Timeline



Early Spring
Applications
Due



Early Summer
Eligibility



Mid-Summer
Obligation



EQIP – Fund Pools

Fund Pool Name	Applicability
General	All resource concerns, most practices
Beginning Farmer	<10 years of farming/ranching
Socially Disadvantaged	Member of group who has been subject to racial or ethnic prejudices
Organic	Certified or Transitioning to USDA Organic Certification
CAP (Conservation Activity Plan)	Development of a CAP
On Farm Energy	Practices recommended from an Ag. Energy Management Plan or On Farm Audit



EQIP – Fund Pools

Fund Pool Name	Applicability
Wildlife	Primary focus aquatic or terrestrial habitat
Soil Health	Cropland only – primary focus soil health
Forestry	Primary focus forest health
High Tunnel	Application includes the High Tunnel practice or supporting practices in planned or existing high tunnels

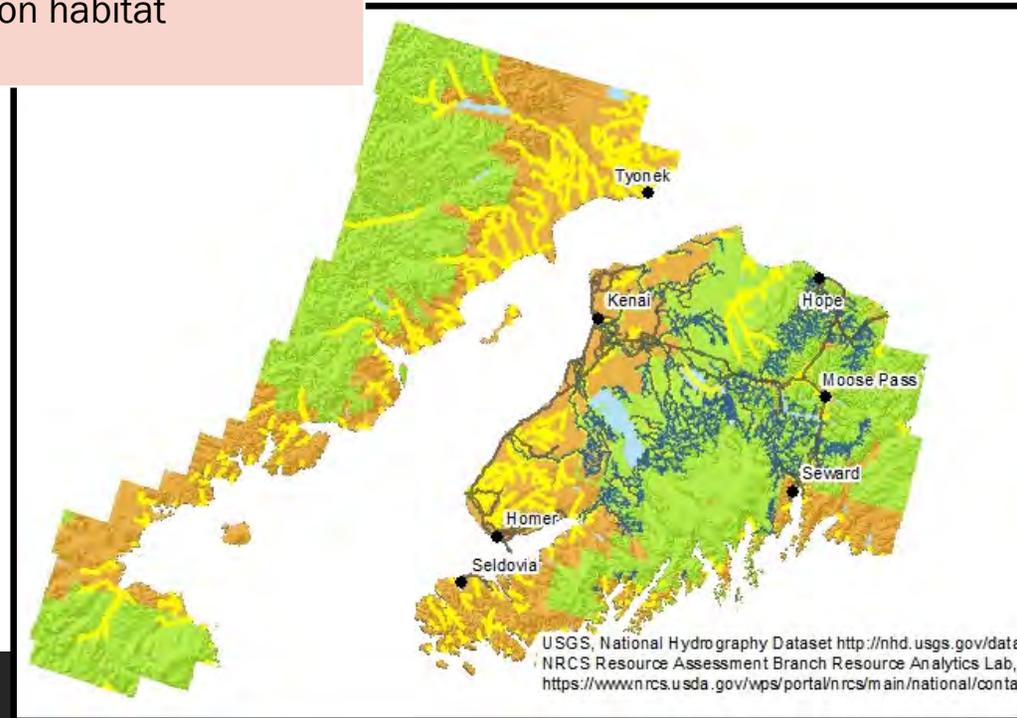


EQIP – Fund Pools

Fund Pool Name	Applicability
Working Lands for Wildlife	Primary focus salmon habitat

Original Project Area: 20 streams ~970 miles

FY21: Entire Kenai Peninsula Borough



Thank You

