



United States
Department of
Agriculture

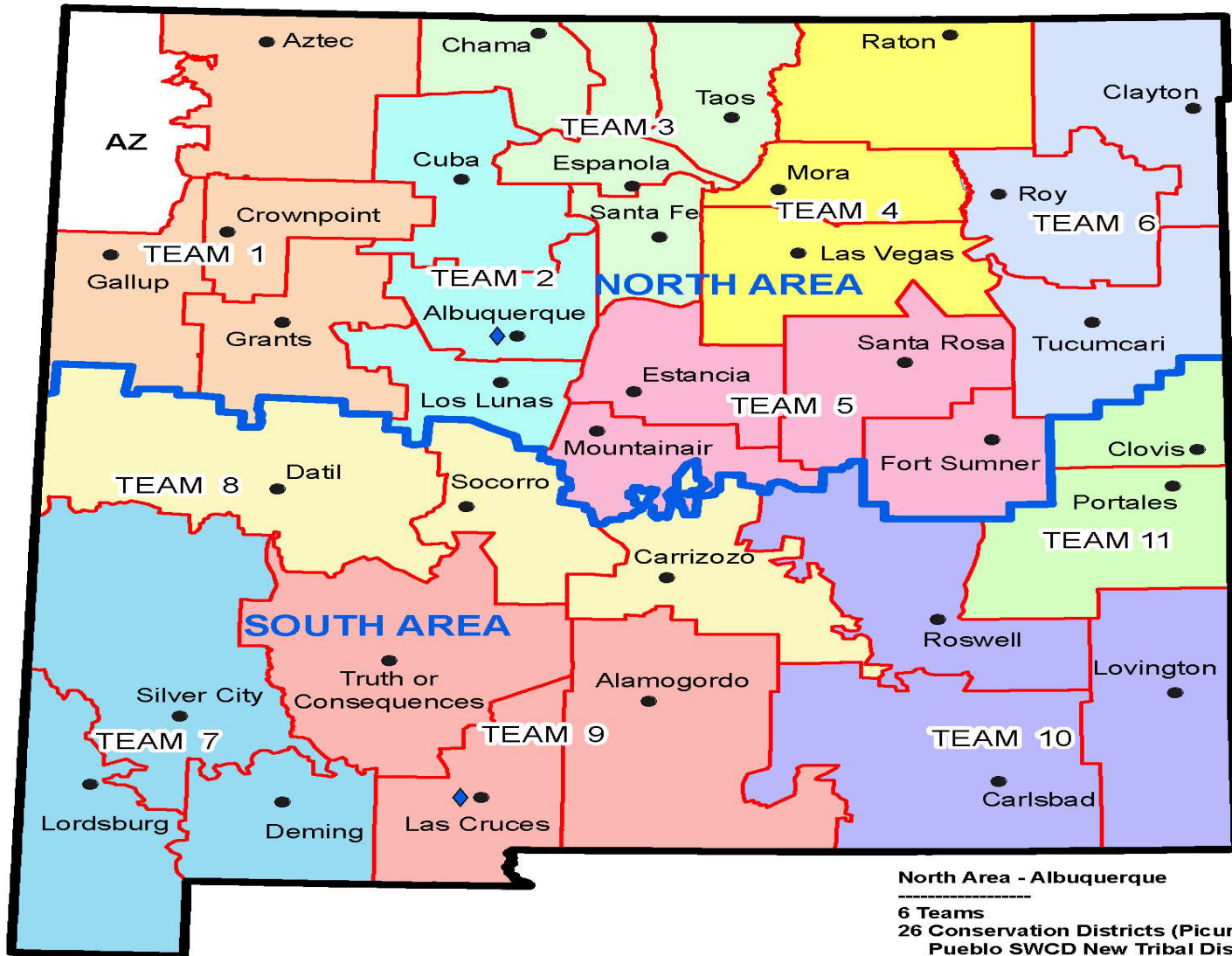


Natural Resource Conservation Service

Natural
Resources
Conservation
Service

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NRCS - New Mexico Administrative Areas



North Area - Albuquerque

6 Teams

26 Conservation Districts (Picuris
Pueblo SWCD New Tribal District)
23 Nations, Tribes, and Pueblos

South Area - Las Cruces

5 Teams

22 Conservation Districts

2 Nations, Tribes, and Pueblos





United States Department of Agriculture

Inflation Reduction Act

FARM PRODUCTION AND CONSERVATION
FSA | NRCS | RMA | Business Center

IRA Funds

- Signed into law in August 2022
- Investment in climate and clean energy
- Promote climate-smart agriculture and forestry greenhouse gas mitigation activities

Agroforestry,
Forestry and Upland
Wildlife Habitat

420	Wildlife Habitat Planting (acres)*
422	Hedgerow Planting (feet)
612	Tree/Shrub Establishment (acres)
645	Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (acres)
666	Forest Stand Improvement (acres)*

IRA Funds

*The funds shall **only** be available for 1 or more agricultural conservation practices, enhancements, or bundles that the Secretary determines directly improve soil carbon, reduce nitrogen losses, or reduce, capture, avoid, or sequester carbon dioxide, methane, or nitrous oxide emissions, associated with agricultural production;*



IRA Requirements

Follow NRCS Eligibility
Requirements:

Control of Land

Be an individual, legal entity, or
Tribe.(Can't be government
entity)

All work is completed by Sept
2023



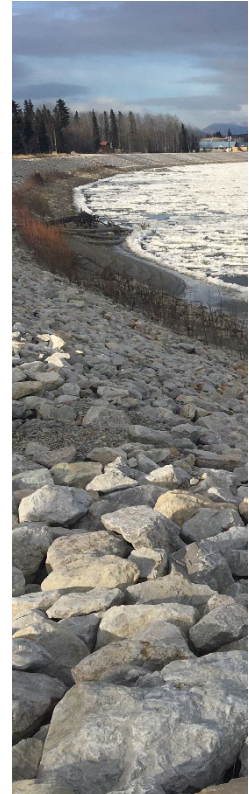
EWP Project Criteria

- provide protection from flooding or soil erosion;
- reduce threats to life and property;
- restore the hydraulic capacity to the natural environment;
- economically and environmentally defensible.

EWP Process

- **Request for assistance/ Electronic Disaster Report(EDR)/Emergency Declared (Request for Assistance from Sponsor)**
- **NRCS Performs Damage Survey Report(DSR)(Who, What, When, Where, why) Details**
 - *NRCS has 60 days, from date sponsor makes request, to complete Damage Survey Reports (DSRs)**
- **Submit DSR to NHQ (Request for Funding)**

*******Funding is based on the availability of funds (not automatic) usually on a first come first serve basis.**



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EWP Sponsors

EWP Assistance

- Technical
- Financial



Recipient

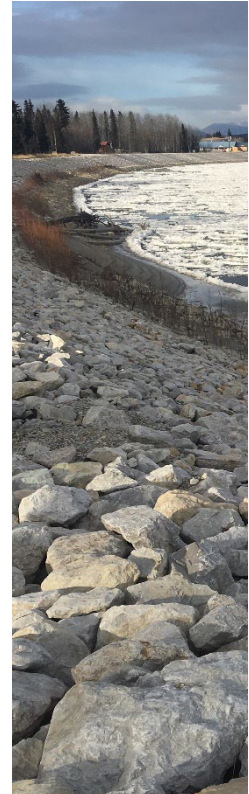
- Sponsor
- Landowner (if easement preferred by NRCS)

Eligible Sponsors

- State
- Political Subdivision of State
- Qualified Indian Tribe or Tribal Organization
- Unit of local government
- *All sponsors must have a legal interest in or responsibility for the areas threatened*

Sponsor Responsibilities

- Share of project costs (**25 % of total costs**) as determined by NRCS as cash or in-kind services
- Real property rights, water rights, and regulatory permits
- Provide for required O&M as determined necessary by NRCS
- Document they have insufficient resources to provide adequate relief



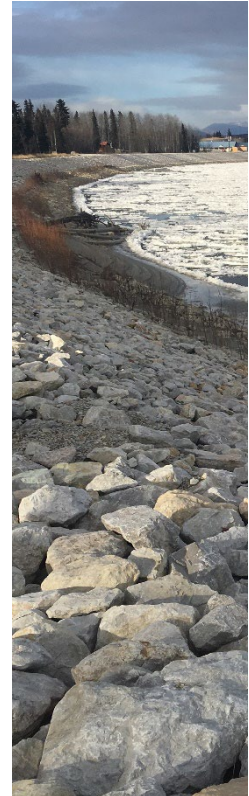
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Share of project costs(**25 % of total costs**) as determined by NRCS as cash or in-kind services

Payment Process:

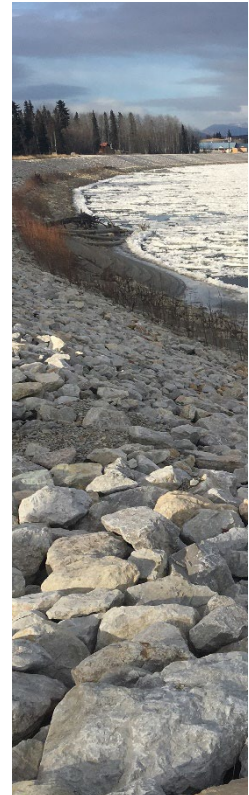
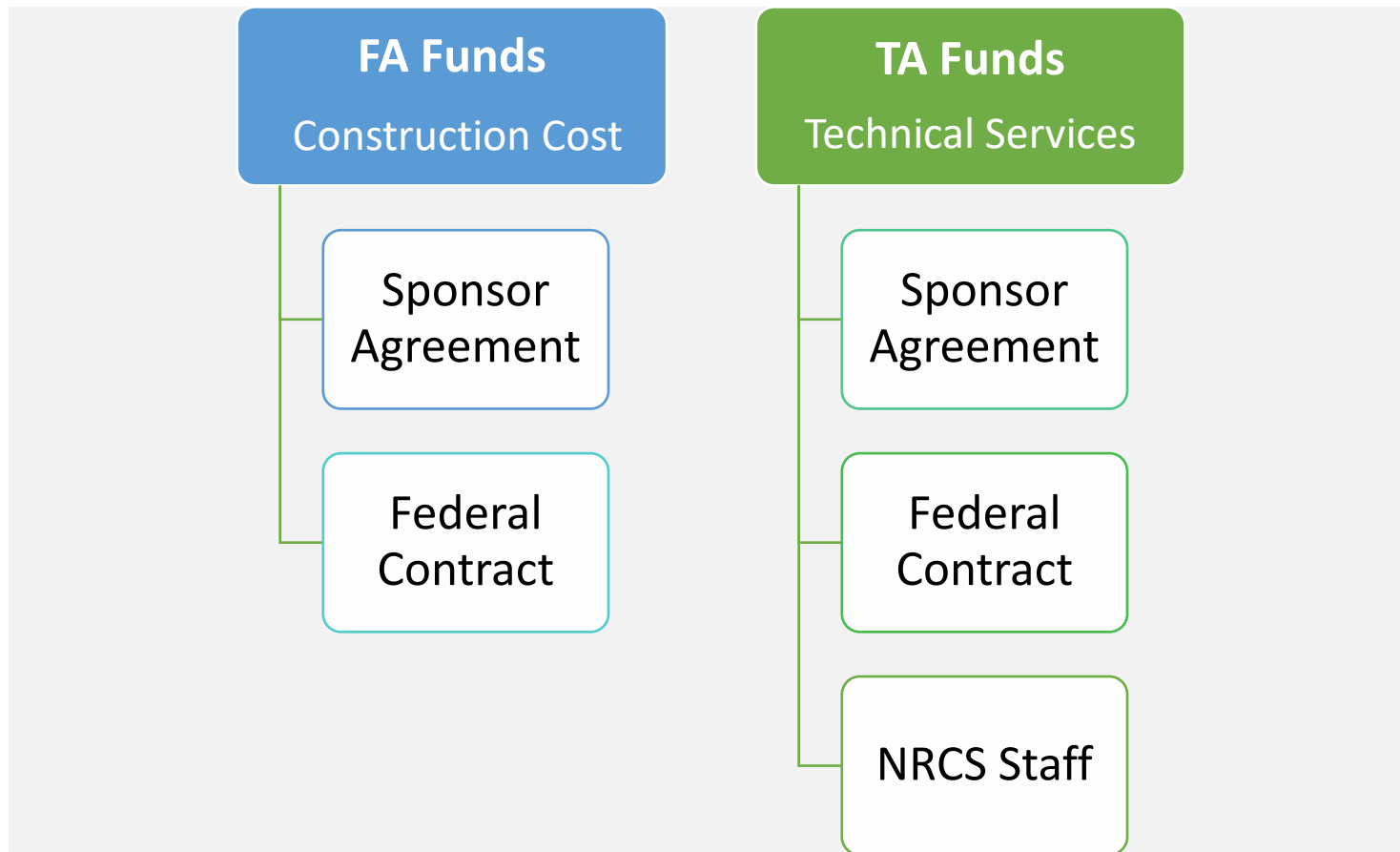
- An invoice from the sponsor is given to NRCS, NRCS will only pay 75% of that total invoice.
- If the invoice was \$100,000 then NRCS will reimburse the sponsor \$75,000.
- The left over 25% is up to the sponsor produce, that match can be either by cash or through in-kind service
- In-Kind Service can be considered expenses such as labor, equipment, design, surveys, contract administration and construction inspection, and other services as determined by the State Conservationist;



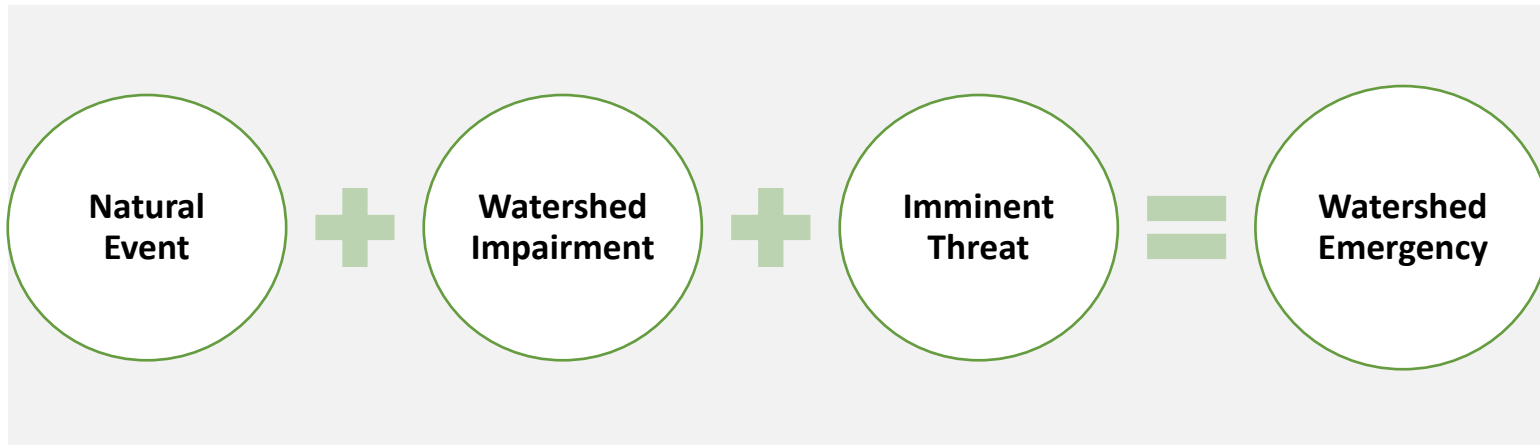
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Fund Types



Program Eligibility

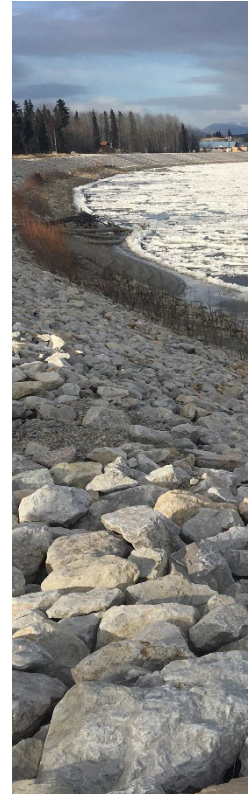


Property EWP
Program Can Be
Used to Protect:

- Permanent structures
- Houses & Buildings
- Roads & Utilities
- Dams & Flood Control

EWP Program
Cannot Be Used to
Protect Only:

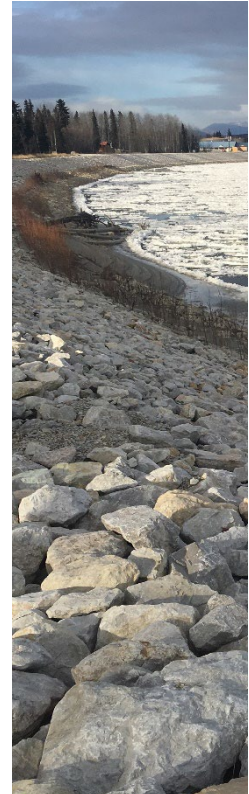
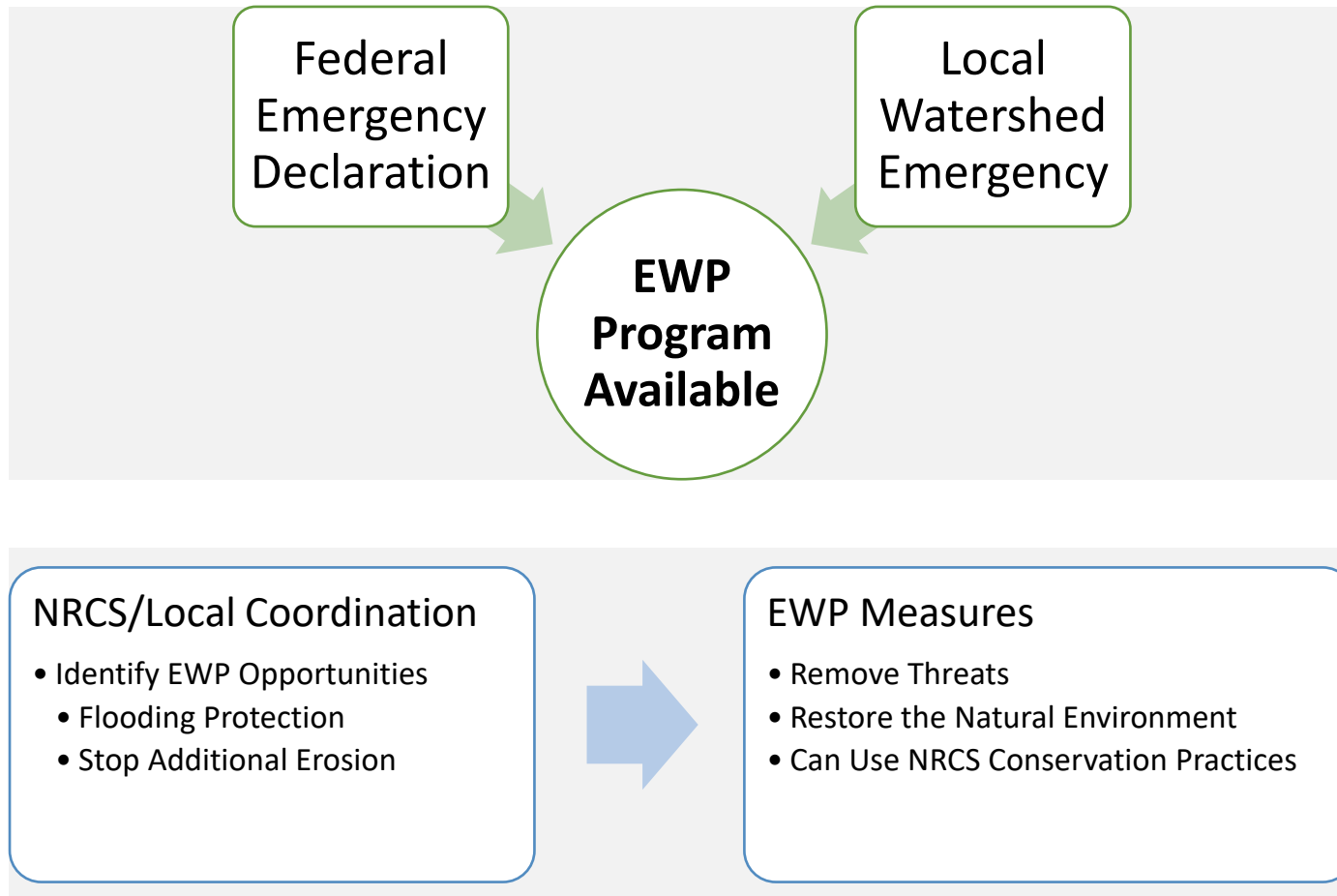
- Standing Timber
- Orchards
- Agronomic crops
(other USDA programs are available for Ag Land)



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EWP Provides Recovery Assistance



Sponsor Requests for Assistance

Date

- Disaster
- or Safe Site Access

Within
60 Days

Sponsor Must Formally
Request for Assistance

USDA WATERSHED EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE
Template Version 2020-10-19

Date]

State Conservationist name]
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Street address for the NRCS State office]
City, State]

Year [STC Name]:

I/We request Federal assistance under the provisions of section 216 of the Flood Control Act of 1950, Public Law 81-516 or section 403 of the Agricultural Credit Act of 1978, Public Law 95-34, to restore damages sustained in [County name] County by [Enter name and/or type of disaster that occurred] on [Enter date disaster occurred]. This work is needed to safeguard lives and property from an imminent hazard of [scope of the problems]. [Explain the assistance needed].

I/We are a [State, political subdivision of a State, qualified Indian tribe or tribal organization, or unit of local government] with a legal interest in or responsibility for the values threatened by the watershed emergency. We understand, as sponsors of emergency watershed protection measures, that our responsibilities will include:

- Contributing a share of the project costs, as determined by NRCS, by providing funds or eligible services necessary to undertake the activity.
- Obtaining any necessary real property rights, water rights, and regulatory permits.
- Agreeing to provide for any required operation and maintenance of the completed emergency measures.

I/We have exhausted or have insufficient funding or other resources available to provide adequate relief from applicable hazards. We acknowledge that NRCS will not provide funding for activities undertaken by a sponsor prior to the signing of an agreement between NRCS and the sponsor.

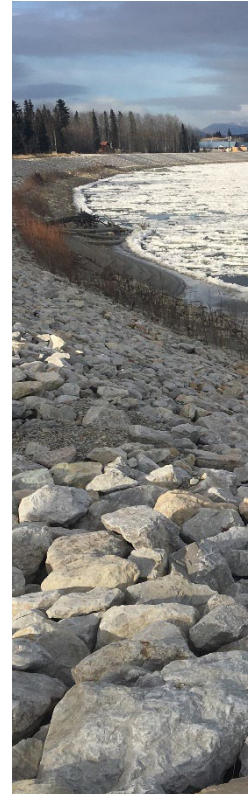
I/We have names, addresses, and telephone numbers of the administrative and technical contact persons in our organization as follows:
[Enter name, title, address, email, and telephone of sponsor's representatives]

Please contact them for any additional information that you might need in assessing our request.

Sincerely,

Template Letter

- A State's EWP Program Manager can provide
- Using template ensures a complete request



Damage Survey Report Documentation

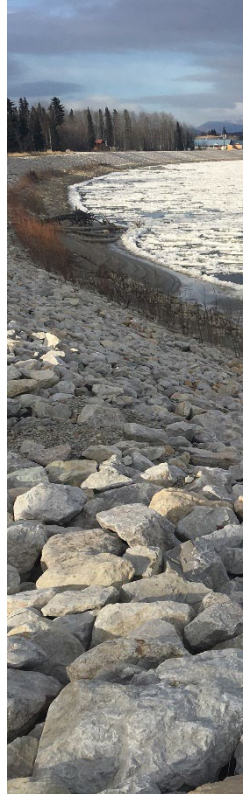
Formal Sponsor Request

60
days

At Least 1 DSR by NRCS

DSR Contents

- Disaster Info and the Sponsor
- Program eligibility, watershed impairment, and program limitations
- Practice eligibility
 - protection from additional flooding or soil erosion
 - reduces threats
 - restores the hydraulic capacity
 - is defensible and technically sound
- Site information and associated risks
- Cost estimates and the benefits provided



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Eligible EWP Practices

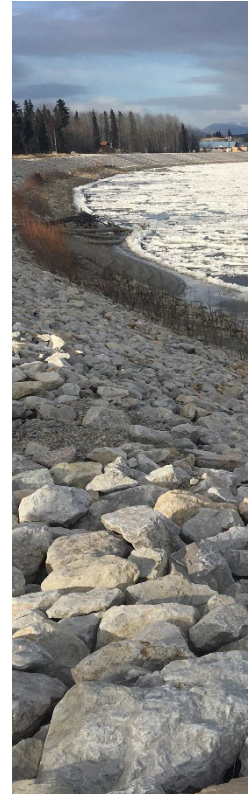


**'every time,
all the time'
EWP
Conditions**

- Provide protection from flooding or soil erosion
- Reduce threats to life or property
- Restore the hydraulic capacity to the natural environment to the maximum extent practical
- Be economically/environmentally defensible & technically sound

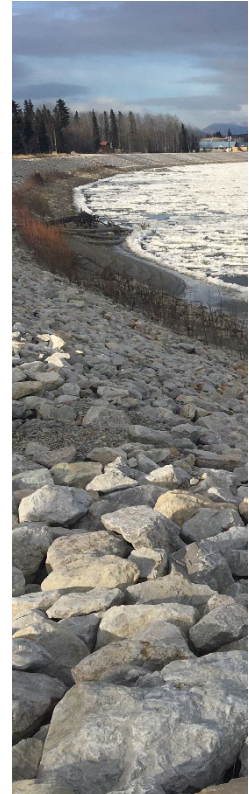
The Fine Print

- NRCS may determine that a measure is not eligible for assistance for any reason.
- NRCS will not provide funding for activities undertaken by a sponsor prior to the signing of an agreement.



Construction Time Limits

Standard Timeline

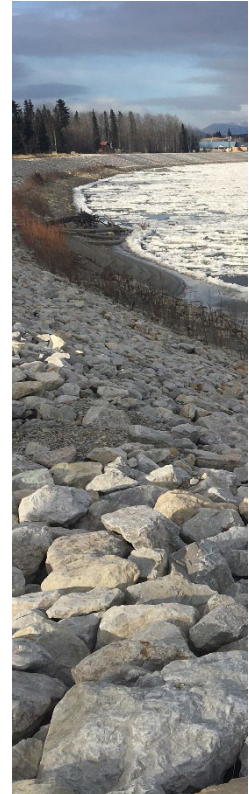


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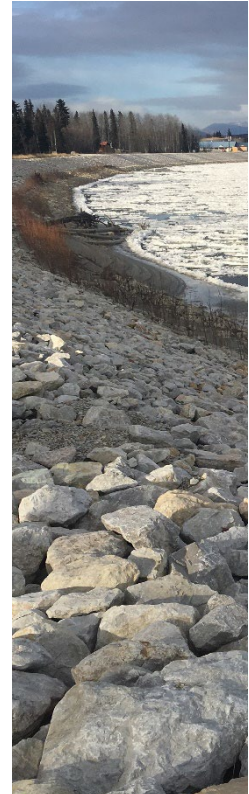
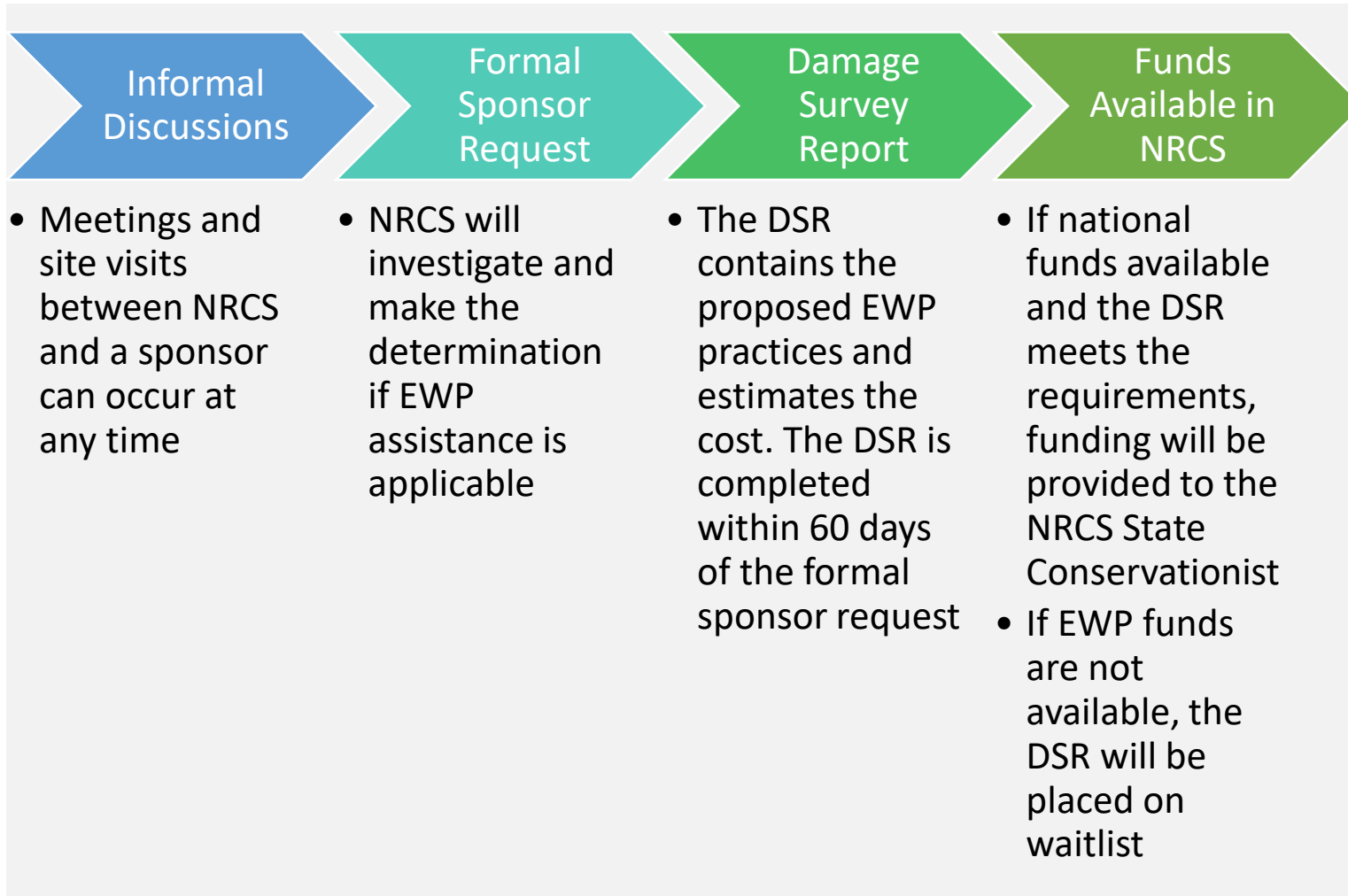
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Limits on EWP Assistance

- ✘ Provide recovery assistance for structural measures to a site more than twice in any 10-year period
- ✘ Not to be used for a lack operation and maintenance e.g., removing sediment or debris from reservoirs or debris basins
- ✘ Repair or rebuild, or maintain any transportation facilities, utilities, or similar facilities
- ✘ Repair of nonstructural management practices, such as conservation tillage
- ✘ The recovery measures are instead eligible for the Emergency Conservation Program (FSA)



Steps to Fund Availability



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Conclusion

The EWP Program provides protection from flooding and soil erosion when necessary to safeguard lives and property when a natural occurrence causes a watershed impairment.

Sponsor Request for Assistance

- Units of government
- Sponsors have responsibilities during planning, design, construction, and maintenance



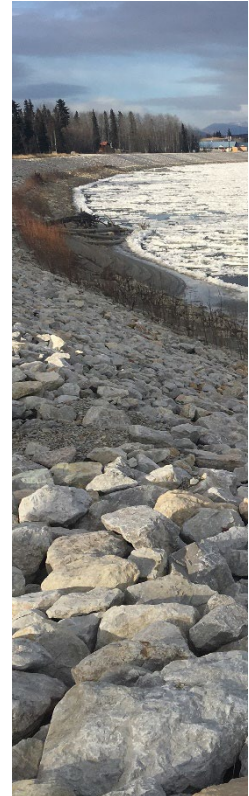
Damage Survey Report

- NRCS will propose practices and cost estimates
- NRCS follows requirements, limits, and practice eligibility criteria when providing financial assistance



Formal Agreement

- The agreement will detail responsibilities and cost share
- The agreement will document if and how funding is provided based on the sponsor's role during planning, design, and construction



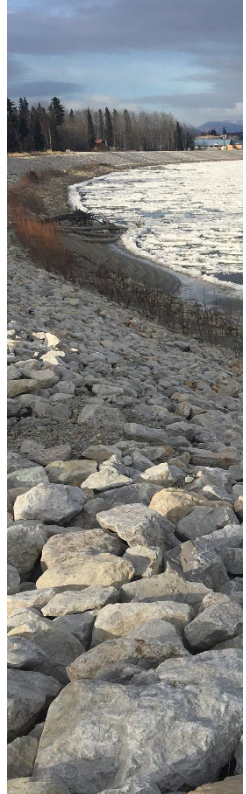
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Calf Canyon Hermits Peak EWP Progress

Approx \$127 Million of work has been completed and paid.

Work includes approx. 50,000 acres seeded and 30,000 acres mulched, flood barrier protection, sediment catchments, earth diversions and debris removal. Work will continue throughout the following year as funding and weather allows.

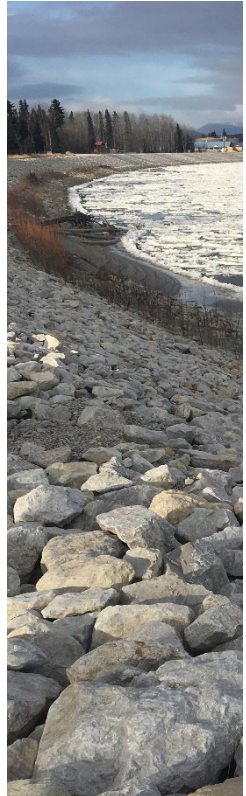


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Active/Closed EWP's in 2023

**Calf Canyon Hermits Peak
Apache Creek-Catron County
Mcbride Fire- Ruidoso County
Hondo Valley- Lincoln County
Chaves County-
Cooks Peak- Colfax
Black Fire- Sierra
Gila Mimbres Flooding- Grant County
Hidalgo County
Nogal Fire- Lincoln**



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