Fiscal Year 2020 was a productive year for NRCS in PMRNDRD and was met with several major challenges and to be honest, I think I speak for all my staff, we are happy to see 2020 in our rear-view mirror.
Through it all our NRD FO staff managed to apply conservation practices designed to improve environmental quality on approximately 40,267 acres of cropland and grassland in 6 counties. We obligated 32 EQIP contracts for $717,660 and 6 CSP contracts for a total of $823,127 financial assistance. We completed 111 FSA compliance reviews and 306 – 1026 HEL requests. Work on the Emergency Conservation Program for 2020 was on-going and centered mostly around certifying completion of grading and shaping of scour holes, fixing fences and repairing conservation practices in the field as needed for FSA and our customers, which included approximately 50 of the 90 total ECP applications for 2020. We hired 4 new NRCS employees, 2 new grants funded NRD FO employees and said farewell and congratulations to a retiring 32-year veteran District Secretary, Teresa Murphy this past week. Her kindness and passion to serve her customers will be sorely missed as will 32 years of hard-earned experience. Through all the program sign-up and obligation deadlines, some last minute, we were also able to complete roughly 73 of 111 total active EQIP contracts in FY2020 addressing soil erosion and improving water quality on over 11,200 acres of cropland.
Looking forward to a new fiscal year, undoubtedly full of challenges and surprises and thanks to 2020 we can handle them all!

Respectfully Submitted

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P-MRNDRD District Conservationist
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