

**Natural Resources Conservation Service
Written Report To
Papio-Missouri River NRD Board
May 13, 2021
Andy Bohnenkamp, District Conservationist**

Good afternoon Board members and General Manager Winkler! I hope this report finds you all well.

FIELD OFFICE STATUS

Thus far NRCS has made only a slight change in posture on Field Office operations as we move through the COVID-19 Pandemic situation. We are allowing one customer to enter the Field Office building at a time to work with FSA and/or NRCS. Customers have been slow to return to the office but we hope that as planting season winds-down we will start to see our customers trickle in a little more.

PROGRAMS

Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)

We have been extremely busy this spring handling several hundred Mid-Contract Management plans. We've been working with participants on seed sheets, prescribed burn plans, disking, spraying you name it and it has also generated a ton of paperwork. We have also been working with new CRP contract participants assisting with new seedings and upgrades to old CRP stands, which the NRD graciously helps cost share on a portion of that new CRP upgrade. We have over 100 of those new CRP contracts. Once we are done with this round we will jump right into CRP status reviews and planning for next year's management practices.

EQIP

NRCS staff are also busy working on developing EQIP contracts for the 18 pre-approved applications, currently approximately \$260,000 total in pre-approved applications. We have a May 28 deadline to get these written and signed into contracts. I anticipate another round of funding allocation very soon and will report on that amount at the next board meeting.

Staffing

Unfortunately I have no NRCS news to report on staffing or NRCS positions within the NRD at this time.

Farm Service Agency (FSA) Compliance Reviews

Its that time of year when our NRCS staff head into the crop fields and do compliance checks on random farms in the District. We have 60 compliance reviews to complete this crop year and it's a great opportunity for our staff to discuss opportunities for conservation on farmland with farmers in the NRD, especially since we haven't had much direct contact with our customers in over a year.

Respectfully Submitted

Andy Bohnenkamp
P-MRNRD District Conservationist



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