



United States Department of Agriculture

NRCS Emergency Programs

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NRCS Emergency Programs
May 18, 2026

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

Agenda

- Field Office Locations
- Conservation Programs
- 5 Steps to Assistance
- How a contract works
- Existing vs New Applicants
- Interagency Collaboration
- Regenerative Pilot Program
- Emergency Watershed Program



Field Office Locations

- **10 Field Offices across Hawaii, American Samoa, Guam and CNMI**

- Lihue (Kaua'i County)
- Oahu (Honolulu County)
- Kaunakakai (Molokai)
- Kahului (Maui County)
- Hilo (Hawai'i County)
- Kamuela (Hawai'i County)
- Kealahou (Hawai'i County)

- American Samoa
- Guam
- Saipan

- [Service Center Locator](#)



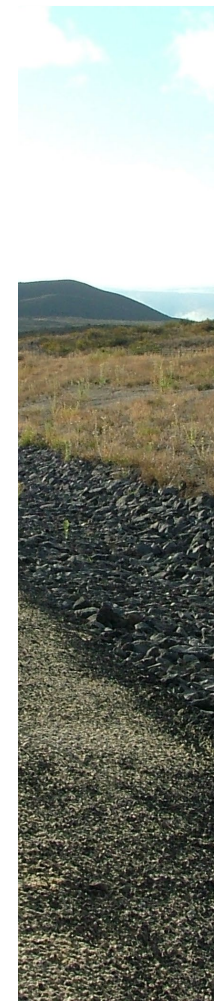
Conservation Programs

- Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)
- Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)
- Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP)
- Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)
- Agricultural Management Assistance Program (AMA)
- Emergency Watershed Protection Program (EWPP)



Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

- Provides financial assistance to farmers and ranchers to address natural resource concerns.
- Can assist with:
 - Improved water and air quality;
 - Conserved ground and surface water;
 - Increased soil health;
 - Reduced soil erosion and sedimentation;
 - Improved or created wildlife habitat; and
 - Mitigation against drought and increasing weather volatility.
- Uses [financial assistance rates](#) that are designed to approximate 75-90% of the cost.
- Contract length depends on extent of practices included. Can range from 1 to 5 years.
- Advance payments available for Historically Underserved participants (50% of contracted amount)
- Example practices:
 - Mulching (484)
 - High Tunnel System (325)
 - Watering Facility (614)
 - Grassed Waterway (412)
 - Many more
- [EQIP Fact Sheet](#)



Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)

- Rewards high levels of existing conservation
- Incentivizes taking conservation to the next level
- Unlike EQIP, CSP offers annual payments for benchmark conservation activities
- 75% payment rates for additional activities
- 5 year contract
- Annual minimum of \$4,000 (\$20,000 total)
- [CSP Fact Sheet](#)



5 Steps to Assistance

1. Planning
2. Application
3. Eligibility
4. Ranking
5. Implementing

[5 Steps to Assistance](#)



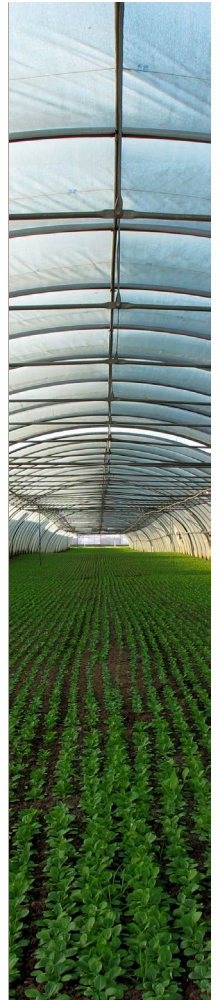
1. Planning

- NRCS provides landowners and operators with free technical assistance or advice for their land. Your conservation planner will help you determine if financial assistance is appropriate.
- Contact your local [USDA Service Center](#) Ensure your farm records are established with the Farm Service Agency (FSA)



2. Application

- Fill out [CPA-1200 “Conservation Program Application”](#)
- Applications accepted on a continual basis
- We’ll walk you through the application process, just ask
- If applying as an entity, please include all members of the entity



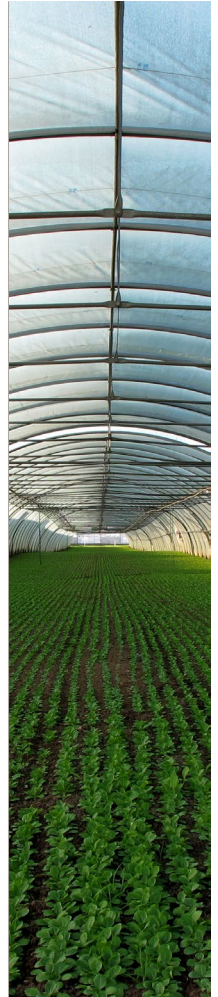
3. Eligibility

- Person Eligibility
 - Individual, entity or non-profit
 - Must meet Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) provisions not greater than \$900k annually
- Land Eligibility
 - Can be owner or operator
 - Deed, lease or other written agreement
 - If not owner, landowner concurrence will be needed for conservation practices



4. Ranking

- Applications are ranked and assessed based on the applications ability to meet targeted resource concerns
- Funding is contingent on availability of funds
- Applications are ranked annually
- If selected, a contract is developed and moved to final step



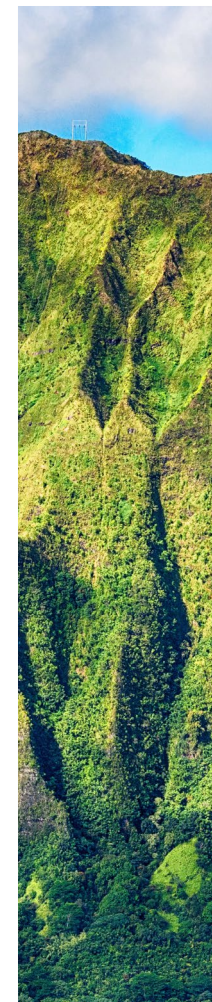
5. Implementing

- Contract is provided to client
- Outlines the who, what, where and how much
- Practices follow NRCS Standards and Specifications
- Advance payments are available under EQIP to eligible clients



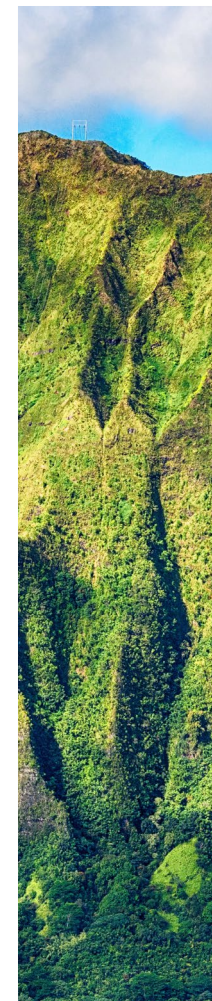
How a contract works

- If a contract is awarded, NRCS will provide the designs and specifications for the items in the contract
- The actual cost to install the practice may be more or less but NRCS will pay for the extent installed according to the agreed to payment rate
- Client is responsible for installing the items in the contract. At least 1 item must be completed within the first 12 months
- NRCS will assist with preparing the permits, if applicable/needed however, the client is responsible for submission of any fees
- Client indicates they are ready for advance payment, if applicable
- Client notifies NRCS that practice has been installed and is ready for inspection
- Client and NRCS agree on any corrections, if applicable
- NRCS issues final payment



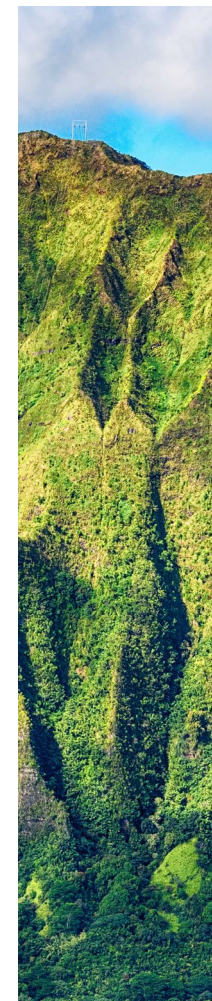
How a contract works (cont.)

- Contract limitations are \$450,000 for EQIP and \$300,000 for CSP
- Participant may need to cancel contract due to:
 - Financial hardship
 - Medical hardship
 - Loss of control of land
- NRCS may terminate contract due to:
 - Inability to communicate with client
 - Contract being behind schedule
 - We always work with client to come into compliance before termination



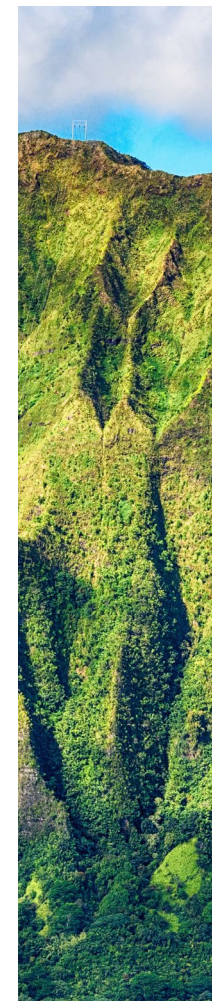
Existing Contracts

- If you already have an active contract with NRCS:
 - Contact your local field office
 - Provide pictures of damage to completed practices
 - Work with NRCS planner to identify the cost of replacing or repairing previously installed item
 - Extent needing replacement or repair
 - Quotes
 - NRCS may be able to add additional items into your existing contract
 - Only works for active or completed contracts that have not passed their expiration date



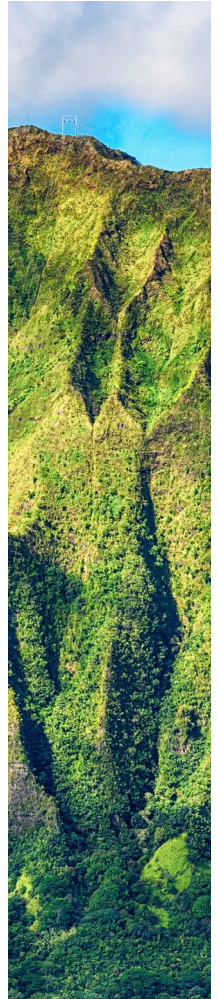
New Contracts

- New clients or completed contracts:
 - Contact your local field office
 - Provide pictures of damage to completed practices
 - Work with NRCS planner to identify the cost of replacing or repairing previously installed item
 - Extent needing replacement or repair
 - Quotes
 - If you already have an application with NRCS, NRCS will amend your application to include emergency conservation practices or assist you with submitting a new application
 - Regular eligibility requirements apply



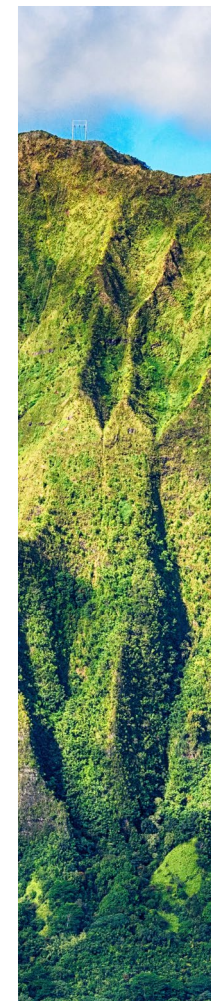
Interagency Collaboration

- USDA agencies work together closely:
 - Farm Service Agency (FSA) and Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) are sister agencies
 - FSA will be sharing with NRCS the list of clients that have signed up for the Emergency Conservation Program (ECP)
 - NRCS will assist with Conservation Structures as part of ECP and other items not covered by ECP.



Regenerative Pilot Program

- What it is
 - A new national priority, prioritizing regenerative agricultural practices
 - 25% of program funding is targeted to RPP
 - Available and encouraged in EQIP and CSP
- Conservation Practices
 - **199, 216, 217, 328, 329, 330, 331, 340, 345, 554, 511, 666, 449, 484, 585, 590, 595, 528**
- Existing practices
 - Existing practices are practices that a producer has installed with NRCS, another agency, or on their own. They also include practices or enhancements that are contracted but not yet installed
 - Contracted but not installed practices and enhancements are considered functional
- 4 Major Requirements
 1. Must be 5 years for both EQIP and CSP
 2. Must assess all resource concerns and meet all Soil and Water resource concerns by end of contract
 3. Must have Soil Health testing planned at beginning and end of contract
 4. Must have at least 1 of the practices above (existing or planned)

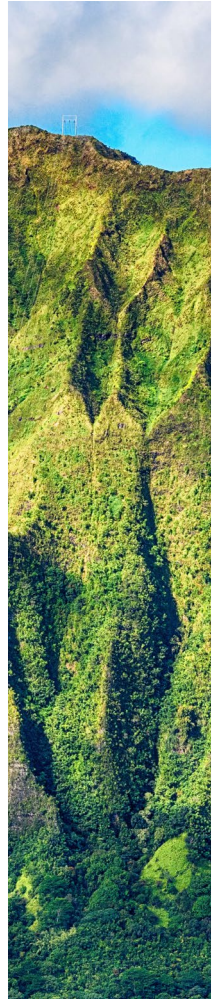




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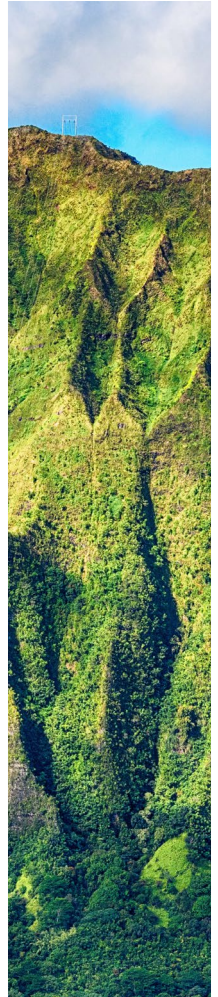
Emergency Watershed Protection Program (EWP)

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QUESTIONS?

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Find an NRCS Service Center Near You

The Pacific Islands Area includes the state of Hawai'i, territories of American Samoa, Guam, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Freely Associated States. Our mission is to deliver conservation solutions so agricultural producers can protect natural resources and feed a growing world.

Contact a service center near you for more information.

■ **American Samoa Service Center**
Pago Plaza Building, Ste 211
Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799
(684) 633-1031, ext. 125

■ **Guam Service Center**
PACAIR Air Cargo Facility
770 East Sunset Blvd, Ste 270
Barrigada, Guam 96913
(671) 300-8591

■ **Hilo Service Center**
154 Waiianuenue Avenue, Rm 203
Hilo, Hawai'i 96720-2452
(808) 933-8381

■ **Kahului Service Center**
77 H'ookele Street, Ste 202
Kahului, Hawai'i 96732
(808) 871-5500, ext. 3

■ **Kaunakakai Service Center**
15 Kaunakakai Place, Unit 7
Kaunakakai, Hawai'i 96748
(808) 213-0360

■ **Kealahou Service Center**
Central Kona Center, Building 9
81-948 Waena'oihana Loop, Ste 101
Kealahou, Hawai'i 96750
(808) 339-9069

■ **Lihue Service Center**
4334 Rice St. Ste 207
Lihue, Hawai'i 96766-1801
(808) 245-9014, ext. 3

■ **O'ahu Service Center**
Prince Kuhio Federal Building
300 Ala Moana Blvd., Ste 4-118
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96850-0050
(808) 600-2912

■ **Palau Service Center**
US Embassy Building
AIRAI, PW 96940
011 (680) 587-2499, ext. 102

■ **Pohnpei Service Center**
Pohn Umpomp Bldg., Ste 1C
Pohn Umpomp Place
Nett, Pohnpei
011 (691) 320-5893

■ **Saipan Service Center**
DY Building, Beach Road
South Garapan
Saipan, MP
(670) 233-3415,
ext. 103

■ **Waimea Service Center**
Parker Ranch
Shopping Center
67-1185 Mamalahoa
Hwy, Ste H148
Kamuela, Hawai'i 96743
(808) 885-6602, ext. 100

Visit our website:
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