Texas Partners for Conservation

Program Overview

United States Department of Agriculture

The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in Texas has opportunities for Texas partners to receive funding through agreements as part of the Texas Partners for Conservation Program.

The program will leverage NRCS resources, address local natural resource issues, encourage collaboration, and develop state and community level conservation leadership. It will accelerate the development of conservation plans that address environmental quality issues on agricultural lands within Texas and outreach to Historically Underserved producers.

Program Assistance

Priority will be placed on Conservation Technical Assistance projects that:

- Provide high quality technical services that help customers achieve their conservation goals.
- Increase adoption of conservation in Texas.
- Increase easement outreach, training, and education.

Priority will be placed on Outreach projects that:

- Provide high quality technical services that help historically underserved producers achieve their conservation goals through NRCS conservation practice standards.
- Increase participation of historically underserved producers in conservation programs (technical and/or financial assistance) by at least 1 percent of the total number of participants reached.



• Provide training opportunities through one-on-one consultations, workshops, conferences, or any other event that focuses on historically underserved producers.

• Provide a method to follow-up with historically underserved producers to measure rate of success of their participation in both technical and financial assistance by NRCS staff.

• Provide training opportunities, outreach, and education on easements through one-on-one consultations, workshops, and conferences.

Funding

NRCS Texas expects to allocate funding to this effort annually. There is no cost sharing or matching requirement for this opportunity, but this factor is considered in the review process. Cost sharing may be achieved with contributions of cash, services, materials, equipment, or third-party in-kind contributions. The funding floor is \$25,000, and the ceiling is \$75,000. These numbers refer to the total agreement amount, not any specific budget period.

Applicant Information

Applicants and applications must meet eligibility criteria by the application deadline to be considered for award.

For more information about NRCS conservation programs and activities, visit the NRCS Texas website at www. tx.nrcs.usda.gov. Eligibility for this opportunity is limited to the following entity types:

- City or township governments
- County governments
- Native American tribal governments (Federally recognized)
- Nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS (other than institutions of higher education)
- Private institutions of higher education
- Public and State-controlled institutions of higher education
- State governments

How to Apply

All funding applications will be submitted via Grants.gov (www. grants.gov). Allow adequate time to complete the registration process.

For assistance with the registration process, contact grants.gov applicant support at 1-800-518-4726 or support@grants.gov.

Successful applicants are required to have an administrative and technical contact participate in the Texas NRCS training for Administration of Federal Agreements. This training is usually held within six months of the award start date. Awardees will be notified of the training opportunities available for this class.

> Texas Natural Resources Conservation Service tx.nrcs.usda.gov/