

Brookings Conservation District Board Meeting
NRCS Monthly Board Report
May 5, 2021

Assistance/Progress

- CRP
 - CRP (General/Continuous) – Information has started to trickle out since the sign-ups were put on hold. We expect more information to come out in the coming weeks and a sign-up announcement shouldn't be too far off.
 - There are 39 contracts that will need to complete their seedings/reseedings this year.

- CSP
 - CSP-2021-1 Classic application deadline was March 26th.
 - We ended up with 5 applications that screened high and will proceed to ranking. The ranking deadline is June 4th.
 - The Big Sioux RU has been allocated \$359,058 for CSP Classic this sign-up which will likely only fund 2-3 applications in the RU.
 - The state has requested additional funds and we should know soon if our request has been granted.

- EQIP
 - The ranking deadline was 3/26.
 - 1 application was selected for funding and we are close to having the landowner sign the contract documents.
 - The state office has requested additional funding for EQIP, and we should know soon if our request has been granted.

- WRP/WRE/FPE
 - WRE applications selected for funding
 - One 30 year to permanent conversion and one new offer have received tentative offers in Brookings.
 - David continues to work on CUA requests.

- HEL/Wetland Determinations
 - 0 HEL determination requests on the log.
 - 8 wetland determination requests on the log.
 - Craig completed the field visits last week and should be sending out the completed reviews in the coming days.
 - Craig will start doing the FSA Compliance checks (randomly selected tracts for HEL/Wetland compliance) in the coming weeks as planting wraps up.

- CIS Proposal
 - The CIS proposal was submitted on time.
 - Thank you for your letter of support.
 - There were 38 proposals submitted in the state.
 - They intend to announce which proposals have been selected for funding in mid/late May.

Other Items of Interest

- We are still at 50% staffing levels in the office for the foreseeable future, which means we can have 4 people at a time. This time our partners are included in the count for that number. Vaccinated employees still count against the 50%. There is no timeframe for when this directive will end. We received the updated “playbook” last week, which had only minor changes.
- Jeremy’s Work Cell – 605-633-0527
- Megan’s Work Cell – 605-220-4716
- Louis’s Work Cell – 605-220-4715
- David’s Work Cell – 605-680-3996
- Laura Broyles will continue as acting State Conservationist until July.

