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Archeology Field School Training HB 315- Bipartisan Bill- \$300,000 HB2

NMACD has contracts with 11 Private Arch Firms to work with USDA-NRCS approved by SHPO.

2 will only work on certain Pueblos and 1 only in Lea and Eddy Counties

NMACD has hired firms to do 58 Cultural Survey Projects since the end of 2021 for Farm Bill contracts

This year so far, NMACD has contracts for 12 and 7 are complete.

Critical Need for Cultural Survey Training



Working with USDA-NRCS and BLM to assist with the Arch Surveys or “Cultural Surveys”, NMACD recognizes the need for more people in NM to be Trained to in this field.



We understand there is more of a need in NM because of federal staff shortages and federal hiring freeze.



Since this bill passed, we have been notified by Utility Companies, Home Builders, Federal and State Agencies and the Tribal Communities that they also have this need.



We have focused on Natural Resource projects but, so many more entities have the same critical need.



Workforce Solutions

Soil and Water Districts are starting to use and understand the different opportunities for training. Cuba SWCD just completed a contract with Workforce Solutions

There is a huge need to do training for Acequia Rehab and Improvements.

NMACD has invited Workforce Solutions Department to our annual meeting to do training about their programs.



TRAINING NEEDED

The 9 million for 3 years from HB 2 to build Capacity for Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs) is working to hire technical staff locally but we have a huge need for training.

The 47 District Boards also have a critical need for Training as “Elected Officials.”

USDA-NRCS in NM lost 52 federal employees but the Farm Bill dollars will be increased so the DEMAND for technical service providers is more important than ever.

Capacity

We have managed the Technical Service Provider program (TSP) program for 20 years through NMSU/NMDA contracts and this past year USDA-NRCS added an extra 1.2 million to the contract, so we currently have 30 employees placed in USDA-NRCS offices and we are still hiring. NRCS does the training for the TSPs.

Currently the NM State Legislature provides \$600,000 and USDA-NRCS matches those funds-

WE NEED TO INCREASE THE STATE FUNDS SO WE CAN INCREASE THE FEDERAL MATCH!!!