

ACEQUIA REHABILITATION PROGRAM OVERVIEW

New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission

Presentation to the Water and Natural Resources Committee
August 12, 2021 Taos, NM



Overview

- Program 5-Year Summary
- Who is Eligible?
- Eligible Projects
- Rehabilitation Programs (ACDIF)
 - Planning
 - Engineering
 - Construction
 - ISC 90/10 Program
 - US Army Corps of Engineers Programs
 - COE 215 Program
 - COE 1113 Program
 - ISC Loans
- Capital Improvement Project (CIP)



5-Year History/Summary



- In Total, between 2017 and 2021, the Program(s) have provided over \$5.3 Million of State dollars towards acequia/community ditch infrastructure improvement projects.
 - Over 60 projects completed
 - Total Construction Costs in excess of \$12.4M boosting local/rural economy of New Mexico

Who is Eligible



- Acequia and Community Ditch systems
 - Political Subdivisions of the State
- Have a Federal Tax ID Number
- Have valid water rights as per State Engineer Office
- Are in Compliance with EO 2013-006
 - Audit – Office of the State Auditor
 - Budget Reporting – NM Dept. of Finance and Admin.

Eligible Projects: Small Diversion Structures



Eligible Projects: Large Diversion Structures



Eligible Projects: Arroyo Overshot Structures



Eligible Projects: Flume Structures



Eligible Projects: Concrete Ditch Lining



Eligible Projects: Pipe Lining



Eligible Projects: Turnout Structures



Eligible Projects: Headgate Rehabilitation



Acequia and Community Ditch Infrastructure Fund (ACDIF) - Overview

- 2019 Legislative Session - Senate Bill 438 passed and was signed into law by Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham
 - Appropriates \$2.5M annually from the Irrigation Works Construction Fund (IWCF) to the ACDIF to be administered by the New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission (NMISC)
 - Increase of \$600K annually from \$1.9M previously requested by NMISC
 - for planning, engineering design, or construction of irrigation works of acequias or community ditches for the purposes of restoration, repair, improvement of irrigation efficiency or protection from floods
 - Requires that the NMISC shall:
 - In consultation with the New Mexico Acequia Commission (NMAC) and the New Mexico Acequia Association (NMAA), develop guidelines and criteria for program eligibility, applications and selection requirements;
 - Prioritize the provision of funding based on project readiness;
 - Review acequia and community ditch plans and specifications and inspect completed projects; and
 - Report biannually to the NMAC on the progress of projects funded through the fund and the expenditure of money from the fund.
 - Guidelines approved at May 26, 2021 NMSIC Meeting

ACDIF

- Planning
 - Assist acequias and community ditches in the planning and scoping phase of their project.
 - Assess and identify potential solutions to identified problem with conceptual design alternatives and high-level cost estimates.
 - Contractual services of on-call engineering firms that NMISC has under contract or small PSA, if needed.

ACDIF

- Engineering
 - Cover the cost of the engineering design services of selected projects (up to \$50,000 per acequia per year).
 - All engineering services required to provide final construction drawings (stamped by a NM licensed professional engineer), and engineer's construction cost estimate, and a bid package.
 - Application is required and projects will be ranked in accordance with the ACDIF Guidelines.

ACDIF

- ## Construction

- ACDIF funding will pay for the NMISC share of the total project construction costs of the following cost-share programs:
 - NMISC 90/10 Cost-Share Program
 - US Army Corps of Engineers Section 215 and 1113 Programs
 - NMACD Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)
- Written request required and projects funded on a first-come, first-served basis.
- NMISC staff will work with each acequia or community ditch in determining which cost-share program best fits their needs.
- Acequias or community ditches may also request funding for the engineering services required for bidding assistance, construction oversight and inspection, and providing as-builts for the completed project.

NMISC 90/10 Cost-Share Program

- Grant from the Interstate Stream Commission
 - 90% of Project Cost provided by the State of New Mexico
 - 10% Acequia Responsibility
 - May be paid by:
 - ISC Loan
 - Assessment of parciantes (acequia members)
 - Other Sources of Funding (i.e.: Grants, Donations, etc.)
 - Maximum project size – \$250K per fiscal year

COE 215/1113 Programs



- Joint Federal/State Cooperative Program
 - Water Resource Development Act of 1986
 - NM Irrigation Works Construction Fund
- Cost-Share
 - 75% Federal
 - 20% State
 - 5% Acequia
- Maximum project size – \$2M per fiscal year

NMACD RCPP Program



- Joint Federal/State Partnership Program
 - NM Association of Conservation Districts
 - NM Interstate Stream Commission
- Cost-Share
 - 50% Federal
 - 45% State
 - 5% Acequia
- State's cost-share is capped at \$225K per fiscal year

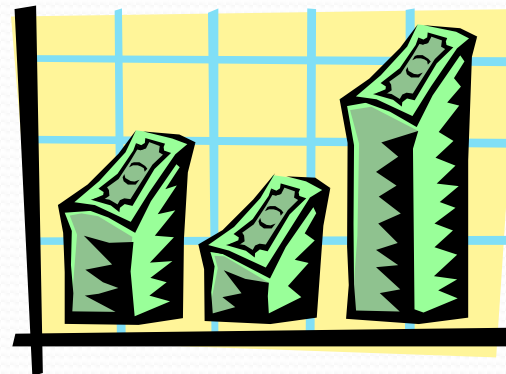
Federal Programs



- Fund Leveraging
 - Acequias CAN leverage ISC Loans and CIP Monies into these Programs
- Federal Laws/Regulations must be followed during these projects (i.e. environmental assessments, 404/401 permits, archeological clearances, etc.)

ISC Loan Program

- Loan funds at 2.5% interest – typically a 10-year repayment schedule
- Used for engineering design, construction & rehabilitation of any acequia project
- No Set Deadline – applications accepted throughout the year



Capital Outlay Projects

- NMISC is the state agency responsible for the administration of capital outlay funds to individual acequias/community ditches.
- Currently administering approximately 200 individual capital outlay appropriations for acequias/community ditches totaling approximately \$15.2M (2018-2021).



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 - https://www.ose.state.nm.us/Acequias/isc_acequias.php

Other Important Contacts



- NRCS – Local District/Field Offices
- NMACD
 - Norman Vigil - (575) 684-0042
- US Army Corps of Engineers
 - Amanda Velasquez
- NM Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management
 - (505) 476-9601
- NM OSE Water Rights Division – Local District/Field Offices
- New Mexico Acequia Association
 - (505) 995-9644