

STATE OF COLORADO

BOARD OF LAND COMMISSIONERS

1313 Sherman Street, Room 621
Denver, CO 80203
Phone: (303) 866-3454
Fax: (303) 866-3152

Department of Natural Resources



Managing
State Trust Lands
Since 1876

February 10, 2009

Sent via facsimile to (202) 720-4265

Financial Assistance Programs
Division of the USDA
NRCS
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Room 5237S
Washington, D.C. 20250-2890

RECEIVED MAR 04 2009

Bill Ritter, Jr.
Governor

Harris D. Sherman
Department of Natural Resources
Executive Director

John Brejona
State Board of Land Commissioners
Acting Division Director

To Whom it May Concern:

This letter is in response to the recently published Federal Register concerning the Environmental Quality Incentives Program Administered by the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Specifically, clarification of item 1466.8 Program Requirements (C) 2i, 2ii, and 2iii. Public lands are eligible based on the criteria listed. Colorado has consolidated large tracts of State Trust lands for ease of management. State Trust lands do not allow public access and are leased to operators for periods from 10-25 years. Conservation of these large tracts is easier when working with larger parcels where private land, owned by the lessee, may not be included in the larger tract.

Request:

Item 2ii (page 12 3rd column top of page) should reflect large tracts of State Trust lands can become eligible for EQIP cost-share, without the inclusion of deeded property, if conservation being conducted on tracts priority resource concerns identified by State Conservationist in consultation with State technical committee owns a priority for the State or watershed.

Sincerely,


John Brejona
Acting Director