



Southern Ute Indian Tribe  
Environmental Programs Division, Water Quality Program  
P.O. Box 737 #81, Ignacio, CO 81137  
(970) 563-2295

**APPLICATION FOR FUNDING**  
**Voluntarily Participation in a**  
**Cost-Share Agricultural Project**

**Note:** Due to limited funding not all applicants will be chosen. Projects are judged based upon the potential to reduce agriculture related pollution and to improve water quality. It is advised to **complete** the entire application as it relates to your project to increase your chance for funding.

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First Middle Initial

Tribal Member \_\_\_\_\_ Lessee \_\_\_\_\_ Non-Tribal \_\_\_\_\_ (check one)

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Physical Address \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**What watershed is your project located in? (Check one)**

- Pine  Animas  Florida

**Is the property on the SUIT Reservation? (Check one) Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_**

**Additional Land Description / Location**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Township Range Section  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**What is the status/control of land and the number of acres? (Check box, describe, list acreage)**

- Assignment  Allotment  Fee (private)  Lessee\*

Total property acreage: \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage to be served by potential project (if known): \_\_\_\_\_

\* (If Lessee, please give name of Tribal assignment holder) \_\_\_\_\_

**Name/type of waterbody on property (check all that apply and describe each)**

- Irrigation Ditch \_\_\_\_\_
- Creek \_\_\_\_\_
- River \_\_\_\_\_
- Wetland \_\_\_\_\_
- Spring \_\_\_\_\_
- Pond \_\_\_\_\_
- Lake \_\_\_\_\_
- Other (please explain) \_\_\_\_\_

**Definition of Agricultural Best Management Practices (BMP):** Practices to improve agricultural practices, and/or to protect/restore riparian corridors to reduce runoff, streambank erosion, sediment input and increased temperatures of creeks and rivers:

**Do you need help deciding which are the most effective BMPs for your land? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_**

**What types of BMPs are you interested in implementing (fill in below)**

**Irrigation system improvements:** Application of gated-pipe, side-roll, or comparable equipment. Provide estimated acreage for improvements.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Riparian Livestock Exclusion Fencing/Grazing Management:** Construction of fence to manage livestock near sensitive riparian habitat. Provide type and estimated length of fencing to be installed. Management of grazing through appropriate grazing plan.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**New livestock watering facilities** Construction or installation of livestock watering facilities removed from streams, sensitive habitat, or steep banks. List type and number of watering facility/facilities to be installed.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Stabilization of stream banks/riparian revegetation activities:** Collaborating with professionals to control erosion, slope steep banks, plant native vegetation, restore native riparian ecology.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Are you currently using any conservation or best management practices on this property?**

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, list current practices in place?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Please list any structures built in or near the water body.** (Check appropriate box, and give the distance, in feet, from waterbody)

- Fences \_\_\_\_\_
- Corrals \_\_\_\_\_
- Dams, diversions, canals, earth berms \_\_\_\_\_
- Roads/highways \_\_\_\_\_
- House/garage \_\_\_\_\_
- Septic/sewer \_\_\_\_\_
- Bridges \_\_\_\_\_
- Barns \_\_\_\_\_

**Would you be willing to move any of your structures away from the water body?** (Check one)

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Please comment: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**How is the land currently being used:** (check box)

- Non-irrigated crop production       Irrigated crop production
- Pastureland       Range Land
- Animal holding / management area       Feedlots
- Other (please explain)

**Do you currently have a Farm Plan in place?** (Check one)      Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

If so, who are you working with on its implementation?

**Please draw a sketch of your land (or include a digital image) showing the water body(s) and existing irrigation structures**



**If your project is chosen as a NPS Cost Share Project, are you willing to provide at least 5% cost assistance in implementing BMPs?** Note: this assistance can be monetary, or “in-kind” such as labor or existing materials. (Check one) **Yes** \_\_\_\_\_ **No** \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, what will you contribute to the project? (Please explain)

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Applications will be reviewed and scored annually by the Selection Committee, comprised of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe Water Quality Program, Natural Resources Department (Agriculture, Lands, Water Resources and Wildlife) and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service. Funding will be considered based on funding availability and priority ranking (which project gives the most benefits to water quality and Nonpoint Source Pollution prevention). Tribal preference will be given, and the Tribal Employee Rights Office (TERO) rules apply to all contracts awarded under this program.

**IMPORTANT: Any structures built or methods/systems implemented under the Cost Share Project must be maintained and kept in place by the participant for at least the fifteen-year period designated in the signed Agreement.**

## DEFINITIONS

**Assignment** – Tribal Trust Land held in trust status by the United States Government for the benefit of a Tribe. The Southern Ute Indian Tribe assigns a tract of Tribal Trust Land to an individual Tribal member for their use only, but it is still owned by the Southern Ute Tribe.

**Allotment** – An individual tribal member owns the land, but the United States Government keeps the land in trust status.

**Best Management Practices or BMPs** – Practices or procedures designed to control or reduce nonpoint source pollution. Examples of Best Management Practices available for implementation:

1. Irrigation system improvements – gated pipe, side roll sprinkler, drip, tight-lining canals/laterals, tailwater recovery;
2. Reduction of runoff from pasture/range lands – grazing management (rotational or deferred), cross fencing, heavy-use protection areas, nutrient management, stock trails/walkways, land leveling, contour plowing, field corrugation with catchment ponds/wetlands at the bottom of the field to catch runoff and trap sediment, pasture/hayland management and/or planting;
3. Riparian exclusion fencing – keeps livestock out of the streams and other water bodies;
4. Off-channel watering devices – provides clean water for livestock, and keeps them away from streams and other water bodies (examples: wells, water tanks, stock ponds, watering devices);
5. Riparian revegetation – reduces sediment input into water bodies and decreases temperatures by restoring riparian corridors with grasses, trees and shrubs;
6. Slope protection and erosion control – stabilization of stream banks: sloping back banks, erosion control practices (erosion cloth, seeding), use of mulch, and/or living plants/brush.

*Under this program a “plan” describing the use of BMPs will be developed and/or projects will be designed by qualified staff or contractors, in coordination with landowners.*

**Fee Land** – Private land other than Tribal Trust or Allotted Lands.

**Nonpoint Source Pollution (NPS)** – Occurs when rainfall, snowmelt or irrigation runs over land or through the ground, picks up pollutants, and deposits them into rivers, lakes, or the ocean, or introduces them into the ground water. Major pollutants can include sediment, nutrients (excess fertilizer), pathogens, pesticides, salts and increased stream temperatures.

Examples of activities that may cause agricultural nonpoint source pollution in a watershed include:

1. Livestock access to creeks causing erosion:
  - a. Trampling/destruction of vegetation along banks;
  - b. Loss of protective riparian vegetation results in increased water temperatures, and damage to aquatic life.
2. Livestock confinement in, or near a water body results in excess nutrients into water body:
  - a. Manure in water results in high nutrients (nitrogen) promoting the growth of algae;
  - b. Algae blooms, then dies and depletes the oxygen from the water. This can cause the death of aquatic insects, invertebrates, and fish.
3. Livestock overgrazing results in topsoil being exposed to wind and rain:
  - a. Rainfall and/or wind washes exposed topsoil into water;
  - b. Results in poor water quality, turbidity, reduced predator sighting by aquatic animals;

**Riparian** – The area that borders creeks, streams, and rivers. Without impacts from livestock or humans, riparian corridors naturally contain trees (willows and cottonwoods), shrubs and grasses. The vegetation in riparian areas traps sediment and removes harmful materials from the water, modulates streamflow and flooding, stores water, provides forage for livestock (when managed properly), and provides rich habitat for wildlife.

**Watershed** – An area of land that encompasses everything that runs down from the mountains, across rangelands and pastures, through small creeks and irrigation ditches, and eventually ends up in the river. The size of a watershed can be as small as a few hundred acres, or thousands of square miles across several states.