Ways we have made TSP more Efficient

- Training
- Assigned Responsibility
- Electronic Invoices
- Monthly Invoices – Daily Entry
- Allocations based on workloads
- NRCS is a client
Historical TSP Funding

- 2004 – $1 million
- 2005 – $500,000
- 2006 – $250,000
- 2007 – $180,000
- 2008 – $226,000
TODAYS TSP ISSUES

- 15 of 75 offices don’t participate
- Allocation process not effective
- $33,000 EQIP funding lost in 2007
- Building technical capacity difficult
10 to 15 Offices don’t participate - Problems

- Offices have employees with no time to assist NRCS through TSP
- Newer district employees do not have ability at this time to assist NRCS
- DCs who will not delegate work to district employees
- Poor NRCS-Districts relations
- District board does not want to participate
10 to 15 Offices do not Participate – Solutions:

- Training scheduled for district employees
- TSP established as a priority for DCs
- ANRC encourages CD employees and directors to participate
Allocation of TSP funding - Problems

- Use of projected farm bill and CTA workloads inefficient because a county that has a high Farm Bill or CTA workload is not a guarantee this county will be a high user of TSP funds
Allocation of TSP Funding - Solution

- Funds will be allocated based on dollars earned in last two years
- Each office making application will receive a minimum of $200 for CTA & $300 for EQIP
$33,000 in EQIP funds allocated to Districts not earned - Problems

- Do not have consistent timeline for billing
- Districts tend to wait until the last minute to earn and charge TSP hours
- Districts not committed to earn dollars they are allocated
- Some districts not earning TSP$
$33,000 in EQIP funds allocated to Districts not earned - Solution

- Allocation process - $ earned in lieu of projected workload
- Quarterly allocation process established - 35%-15%-35%-15%
- Offices could lose allocation for quarter if not used
Building Technical Capacity Difficult

(One goal is to build the capacity of district employees to allow them to work independently)

- Insufficient funds to allow employment of technical employees from one year to the next.
- NRCS budgets unpredictable
Building Technical Capacity

Difficult - Solution

- New TSP position funded this year
  1. State Employee
  2. Will operate as private TSP
  3. Engineering, Agronomy, etc.

  professional support will be provided by ANRC.
- Grants to District Funds - priority established on technical positions. Employees encouraged to work on TSP.
- Encourage TSP funds to be used on Technical NRCS workloads
Summary

- Addressing issues in a proactive manner
- NRCS-Conservation Districts-ANRC working together
- District employees accepting changes with positive attitude