



## News Release

100 Sun Avenue, NE, 602  
Albuquerque, NM, 87109  
Leonard.Luna@usda.gov

### **NRCS New Mexico ready to provide assistance to producers with the New World Screwworm.**

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M., June 6, 2026 – The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in New Mexico is ready to support ranchers along the southern border with technical assistance and resources to reduce the risk of potential for New World Screwworm (NWS). By integrating conservation practices and activities, NRCS can help to mitigate the infestation and spread of the NWS, while complementing and supporting APHIS’s regulatory and operational response.

“NRCS New Mexico will work closely with both producers and other government agencies to give a unified and diligent response to this concerning development. NRCS continues to be committed to New Mexico agriculture producers,” said NRCS State Conservationist J. Xavier Montoya.

#### **Conservation Practices and Activities to Consider**

**Conservation Evaluation and Monitoring Activity Feral Swine Damage Assessment (Code 297).** Manage and detect where feral swine are present, guiding NWS surveillance as feral swine are highly susceptible to NWS and they are a potential reservoir for NWS establishment and spread.

**Access Control (Code 472).** Controlling access for the purpose of excluding animals can reduce movement of infested animals, prevent exposure to high-risk areas, and limit contact with wildlife.

**Animal Mortality Facility (Code 316).** Appropriate handling and disposal of carcasses can reduce odors that attract flies and reduce larva development in animal tissue (although the NWS flies prefer live tissue). This will help disrupt the NWS fly production cycle but won’t necessarily prevent infestation in live animals.

**Brush Management (Code 314).** Cleaning and thinning brush enhancing vegetative cover and wildlife habitat can reduce habitat for flies by improving airflow and creating an environment unfavorable to flies.

**Grazing Management (Code 528).** Facilitate livestock movement and monitoring based on NWS response movement requirements, as part of an integrated plan to support continuity of business.

**Livestock Shelter Structure (Code 576).** Improve distribution of grazing animals to enhance wildlife habitat, reduce over-used areas, or correct other resource concerns resulting from improper animal distribution that would attract flies, provide breeding habitat, or encourage infestation.

**Pest Management Conservation System (Code 595).** Monitoring and scouting pests to reduce injury to livestock.

Stay updated on the New World Screwworm (NWS) website at [screwworm.gov](http://screwworm.gov).

### **More Information**

To learn more about NRCS programs, producers can contact their local [USDA Service Center](#). Producers can also apply for NRCS programs, manage conservation plans and contracts, and view and print conservation maps by [logging into their farmers.gov account](#). If you don't have an account, [sign up today](#).

For over 90 years, NRCS has helped farmers, ranchers and forestland owners make investments in their operations and local communities to improve the quality of our air, water, soil, and wildlife habitat. NRCS uses the latest science and technology to help keep working lands working, boost agricultural economies, and increase the competitiveness of American agriculture. NRCS provides one-on-one, personalized advice and financial assistance and works with producers to help them reach their goals through voluntary, incentive-based conservation programs. For more information, visit [nrcs.usda.gov](http://nrcs.usda.gov).

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