

Francis, Ronald - Salt Lake City, UT

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UTE TRIBE COMPLETES TWO PIVOTS UNDER NRCS EQIP CONTRACT

In 2009 the Ute Tribe Ag Products LLC made significant progress in its conservation work with NRCS by completed two pivots covering 268 acres, in conjunction with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). The irrigation project was done in Arcadia, Utah (T3S R3W



Section 22, 23) which is 12 miles southwest of Roosevelt, Utah. These fields were previously flood irrigated, producing hay, corn, and small grains. Currently, triticale has been planted under the new pivots. Water for the fields comes from a canal off the Lake Fork River, diverted into a 0.5 acre foot settling pond, which is then pumped through two 30 horsepower variable speed pumps (one pump for each pivot). Accompanying photo shows NRCS Staffer Mark Monsen checking a pivot.

With the new pivots, increased production will occur. The ability to fertilize during irrigation will more efficient, saving time and labor. Water will be used more efficiently by watering the field evenly and eliminating deep percolation. This on-farm practice will decrease the salinity of the Colorado River water system. Shaun Chapoose of the Ute Tribe Water Settlement Department and Ute Tribe employees Stan Keller and Mike Morris received technical assistance from NRCS District Conservationist Brett Prevedel and Soil Conservation Technician Mark Monsen. Financial assistance was provided by the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP).

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