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## Fiscal Year 2024 Description of Funded Projects

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**Number of Grants Awarded:** 1  
**Amount of Funds Awarded:** \$400,000.00

For more information, please visit the grant program's website:  
<https://www.ams.usda.gov/services/grants/spmgrp>

**NOTE:** The below project descriptions were provided by the grant recipients.

### Colorado

**Recipient:** National Sheep Industry improvement Center  
**Award Amount:** \$400,000.00

*NSIIC Competitive Grant Initiative for Production and Marketing Enhancement and Long-Term Infrastructure Improvement*

The project will fund grants to strengthen and enhance the production and marketing of sheep and sheep products in the United States including infrastructure, business, resource development, and the development of innovative approaches to solve long term needs. Funds will be awarded to projects that meet the priorities established by the industry to assist long term needs. Each year the Sheep Center requests the major segments of the industry as well as individuals to provide the most pressing needs of the sector and to prioritize those needs. Priorities are reviewed annually to be sure that needs are met as they arise. At present the primary needs are increasing numbers of producers and increasing the size of the flock along with research in health and disease. A yearly call for proposals will be published in late summer or early fall and proposals will be reviewed by the Sheep Center Board of Directors. The Review Board consists of producers, financial management, as well as marketing personnel. All projects will be reviewed in by established selection criteria and industry priorities. A ranking system of evaluation is established to ensure that all projects are judged on a fair and equal basis. All grants are monitored by the program manager to ensure that project goals are being met and that activities are on target as outlined in their proposals.