

ANNUAL WORKPLAN FY-2000

DISTRICT PRIORITIES:

1. Improve irrigation system efficiency.
2. Reduce erosion and increase productivity of rangeland within the Socorro SWCD.
3. Develop federally authorized conservation program.
4. Assist local entities with conservation needs.
5. Promote proper drainage and treatment of high water table and related problems.
6. Continue to educate public with emphasis on schools about the importance of soil and water conservation.
7. Revise District long-range Plan
8. Improve management on irrigated pastures in District.
9. Improve management on irrigated cropland in District.
10. Administer loan program.
11. Administer Cost Share program.
12. Begin Regional Water Plan update with contractor.
13. Promote Soil and Water Conservation District publicly with newspaper, radio, and television media.
14. Pursue lead role in water rights and declaration processes.
15. Actively pursue grants to accomplish conservation programs.

PRIORITY 1 - Improve Irrigation System Efficiency.

Goal - Save 1500 acre-feet of irrigation water in District.

Action:

1. Evaluate Irrigation Water Plan management of selected farms in District and invite local farmers to attend.
2. Report on Evaluations in local paper.
3. Publicize annual report and in newspaper article the total amount of water saved and secondary benefits derived due to district activities in the Socorro SWCD.
4. Administer and publicize BOR Water Conservation Drip Irrigation Grant.

PRIORITY II - Reduce Erosion and Increase Productivity of Rangeland in District.

Goal - Reduce Erosion on 50,000 acres of rangeland in District.

Action:

1. Continue to treat brush through district program.
2. Continue to supplement District Cost Share Program with Range Improvement funds.
3. Develop coordinated noxious weed program with BLM and other interested entities.
4. Emphasize importance of applying conservation systems to the land through local media.

PRIORITY III – Develop federally authorized Conservation Program

Goal – Update criteria for Socorro County Irrigated Valley and Lower Rio Grande Geographic Priority Areas

Action:

1. Coordinate and hold Local WORK Group Meetings as needed.

PRIORITY IV - Assist Local Entities with Conservation Needs.

Goal - Assist County, City, and Schools with at least one Conservation Related Project each.

Action:

1. Contact City and other entities as needed and offer applicable technical and planning assistance.
2. Write brochure for Escondida Lake-install stations around lake path.
3. Follow up as needed.
4. Participate in SOB Task Force Meetings.

PRIORITY V - Promote Proper Drainage and Treatment of High Water Table and Related Problems.

Goal - Attain minimum of 4 foot water table depth on all irrigated lands in district.

Action:

1. Meet with MRGCD at least once during year to express district concerns over problems.
2. Publicize detrimental effects caused by high water tables including salinity problems.
3. Emphasis special areas of concern.
 - a. San Juan drain and diversion from Rt. 60 to the river.
 - b. High water tables North of Bosque Del Apache.

PRIORITY VI - Continue to Educate Public with Emphasis on Schools about the Importance of Soil and Water Conservation.

Goal - Reach at least 2000 people first hand demonstrating benefits of Soil and Water conservation.

Action:

1. Develop Conservation Education Program
2. Publish in depth newspaper article on Soil and Water Conservation.
3. Participate in talks at each of the grade schools in the district.
4. Sponsor youth to summer youth conservation camp.
5. Provide Soil Stewardship materials to grade schools for Soil Stewardship Week.
6. Participate in Bosque Del Apache Conservation Day.
7. Assist in outdoor classroom development at least two schools.
8. Publish Quarterly District Newsletter.
9. Attend Project Wet training.
10. Meet with School Superintendent to develop education program in schools.

PRIORITY VI - Complete revision of District Long-range Plan.

Goal - Long-range Plan which reflects current resource problems and a plan of action to treat those problems.

Action:

1. Request assistance from FO staff in updating resource concerns and needs.
2. Revise Long Range Plan.

PRIORITY VII - Improve Management on Irrigated Pastures in District.

Goal - Apply intensive rotation grazing management on 150 acres in District.

Action:

1. Publicize benefits of intensive pasture rotation and management with local media.

PRIORITY VIII - Administer Loan Program

Goal – Revitalize District’s loan program – make at least 2 loans this fiscal year

Action:

1. Obtain reauthorization from Interstate Stream Commission – request \$50,000.00 for new loans
2. Publicize availability of Program through local media.
3. Evaluate and revise District Loan Policy

PRIORITY IX - Implement and Improve Cost/Share Programs as needed.

Goal - Create Cost Share Program which encourages and promotes Soil and Water Conservation.

Action:

1. Develop and administer program.
2. Publicize program with local media.
3. Evaluate and revise District Cost Share Policy

PRIORITY X - Update Regional Water Plan as agreed upon in contract signed with ISC.

Goal - Use Interstate Stream Commission funds to update Regional Water Plan.

Action:

1. Meet with hired contractor monthly to oversee Regional Water Plan update.
2. Inform ISC of programs quarterly progress reports.
3. Complete Regional Water Plan Update.
4. Submit request for funds for continuation of revision of Regional Water Plan.

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES: FY-2000

JULY:

1. Formalize Plans for Region Meeting.
2. Make Loan Payment to ISC (if applicable); revise loan policy and request loan limit to be raised.
3. Assist with and attend Regional Water Plan meetings.
4. Fourth Quarter Report and budget summary for fiscal year 99.
5. Annual report.

AUGUST:

1. Attend Cooperative Planning Meeting with NRCS, BLM, USFS, and SLO.
2. Participate in Regional Water Planning process.

SEPTEMBER:

1. Discuss Upcoming State Association Meeting.
2. Contact Schools and Offer assistance in Conservation Education.
3. Participate in Regional Water Planning process.
4. First legal notice announcement for annual meeting.
5. Newsletter.

OCTOBER:

1. Plan and attend State Association Meeting.
2. Publicize Brush Control Program.
3. Legal rfq for Regional Water Plan update.
4. Second legal announcement for annual meeting.
5. Submit Article on Benefits of Soil and Water Conservation to Local Media.

NOVEMBER:

1. Hire Regional Water Plan update contractor.
2. Report State Association Meeting.
3. Committee Update on Long-range Plan.
4. Participate in Regional Water Planning activities.
5. Plan and hold Local Work Group Meeting.
6. Hold annual meeting and elections.
7. Meet with ISC to finalize scope of work for Regional Water Plan update.

DECEMBER:

1. Meet with ISC on Regional Water Plan update.
2. Meet with newly elected supervisors.
3. Contact Legislators about the importance of regional water planning.
4. Apply for BOR Field Water Conservation grant.
5. Newsletter.

JANUARY:

1. Contact Local State Legislators in Support of District.
2. Begin work on Regional Water Plan update with contractor.
3. Begin work on Long-range plan.

FEBRUARY:

1. Present talks to Grade Schools concerning the conservation of Natural Resources.
2. Attend Project Wet.
3. Start planning for Soil Stewardship week.
4. Continue developing outdoor classrooms.
5. Advertise noxious weed job.

MARCH:

1. Develop/revise/submit Preliminary 2000 Budget to DFA.

2. Continue planning for Observing Soil Stewardship Week.
2. Advertise Brillion Seeder and Other District Programs.
3. Hire noxious weed person.
4. Publish article on managing irrigated pastures.
5. Newsletter.
6. Pass mill levy rate resolution.
7. Continue work on Long-range plan.

APRIL:

1. Begin Work on Annual Workplan for FY 2000.
2. Nominate Cooperator of Year.
3. Submit Article on Water Conservation to Local Media.
4. Advertise for Candidates to Youth Summer Camp.
5. Continue work on Long-range plan.
6. Provide County with mill levy rate resolution.

MAY:

1. Observe Soil Stewardship Week.
2. Review Memo of Understanding between USDA-NRCS & SWCD.
3. Finalize Annual Workplan for FY 2001.
4. Begin Work on Annual Report for FY-2000.
5. Participate in Conservation Day at Bosque del Apache Refuge.
6. Continue work on Long-range plan.
8. Submit Budget to DFA & NMDA.

JUNE:

1. Finalize Annual Report.
2. Begin Planning for Upcoming Region Meeting (adopt any resolutions).
3. Tour Conservation Farm and Ranch of the Year.
4. Finalize annual workplan.
5. Newsletter.

APPROVAL:

CHAIRMAN:

SOCORRO SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT