



Socorro Soil & Water Conservation District  
FY 2007 Annual Work Plan

**DISTRICT PRIORITIES:**

- Lead SWCDs along Lower Rio Grande in Salt cedar management program.
- Survey land for Salt cedar management prior to treatment; set up monitoring areas.
- Seek funds to conduct revegetation work on land that has been treated for Salt cedar infestation
- Improve irrigation system efficiency on farmland within Socorro SWCD utilizing Cost Share program.
- Continue management/eradication program for noxious weeds on private land.
- Continue to administer and coordinate Noxious Weed program.
- Continue to educate public with emphasis on schools about the importance of soil and water conservation.
- Develop federally authorized Conservation Program.
- Assist local entities with Conservation Needs.
- Promote proper drainage and treatment of high water table and related problems.
- Improve management on irrigated pastures in District.
- Administer Loan Program.
- Reduce erosion and increase productivity of rangeland within the Socorro SWCD.
- Improve management of irrigated cropland in District.
- Promote Soil and Water Conservation District publicly with media.
- Pursue lead role in water rights and declaration processes.
- Continue to work with ISC on Regional and State water plans
- Actively pursue grants to accomplish conservation programs.



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**PRIORITY:** Lead SWCDs along Rio Grande in Salt cedar eradication program funded by the NM State Legislature.

Goal- Continue treatment/removal of Salt cedar with funding from the New Mexico State Legislature.

Action:

1. Treat Salt cedar.
2. Continue monitoring protocol. Recruit volunteer organizations to help with monitoring where possible.
3. Set up new monitoring sites.
4. Begin developing restoration plans with individual landowners.
5. Seek more funding for continued management and for revegetation.
6. Implement revegetation trial plots.
7. Implement restoration work using Bingaman funds.

**PRIORITY:** Improve Irrigation System Efficiency on farmland within the Socorro SWCD utilizing Cost Share program.

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

Action:

1. Administer Cost Share program.
2. Advertise Cost Share program in local newspapers.
3. Develop Conservation Plans with landowners, especially those applying for Cost Share assistance.
4. Develop and manage soil testing program for private landowners. Work with County Extension Agent on this program.
5. Work with MRGCD to send letter to each irrigator regarding their efficiency. Document reasons why efficiency is poor. If efficiency can be improved, write conservation plan with landowners and discuss programs that would help them with funding to improve the efficiency.
6. Continue to develop criteria for Conservation Stewardship Cost Share Program.

**PRIORITY:** Continue management/eradication program for noxious weeds on private land.

Goal- Educate the public on noxious weeds. Eradicate small populations and control larger infestations.

Action:

1. Continue control/eradication program with local landowners.



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2. Expand noxious weed program into Catron County and investigate disturbed sites as requested by the BLM. Give data to other SWCDs so that they can develop and administer control/eradication program.
3. Educate public with seminars, newspaper articles, and brochures.
4. Pursue funding sources for herbicide and a computerized truck for treatment of noxious weeds.
5. Continue writing management plans with local entities.
6. Coordinate noxious weed treatments with all government entities on their land.
7. Request FRIF funds-for Spike (Tebuthiron pellets).

**PRIORITY:** 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. Draft plan for donated property at Bravo Farms.
2. Build conservation education center at Bravo Farms on donated land.
3. Assist with Food, Land & People education program development.
4. Redo and advertise website: [www.socorrowswcd.com](http://www.socorrowswcd.com)
5. Continue to publish quarterly newsletter with soil and water conservation issues and topics.
6. Participate in talks at each of the grade schools in the district.
7. Sponsor youth to summer youth conservation camp.
8. Provide Soil Stewardship materials to grade schools for Soil Stewardship Week.
9. Set up and man booth at Socorro County Fair.
10. Participate in Sevilleta/La Joya open house.
11. Participate in Bosque Del Apache Conservation Day.
12. Continue to work with schools to enhance Water Festival for the 4<sup>th</sup> grade in Socorro County.
13. Begin planning Ag Day with County Extension Agent and dairy producer.
14. Continue to work with School Administration to develop education program in schools.

**PRIORITY:** Develop federally authorized Conservation Program

Goal- Update criteria for Socorro County Irrigated Valley, Lower Rio Grande Geographic Priority Area, and the Yellow Dog Canyon Geographic Priority Area.

Action:

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



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**PRIORITY:** 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. Work with Jornada RC&D on such projects.
3. Assist in develop of Socorro County Fire Plan.
4. Assist Save Our Bosque Task Force with education and public benefit programs.
3. Follow up as needed.

**PRIORITY:** 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. Special Emphasis 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:** Improve Management on Irrigated Pastures in District.

Goal- Encourage landowners manage irrigated pasture.

Action:

1. Encourage landowners to level fields and re-establish pasture to be more efficient and productive.
2. Publicize benefits of intensive pasture rotation and management with local media.

**PRIORITY:** Administer Loan Program

Goal- Enhance District's loan program.



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Action:

1. Continue to work with Interstate Stream Commission to develop acceptable standards for loan program.
2. Continue to collect loan repayments from cooperators participating in loan program.

**PRIORITY:** Reduce erosion and increase productivity of rangeland within the Socorro SWCD.

Goal- Treat 1000 acres of brush

Action:

1. Manage Cost Share Brush Management Program.
2. Publicize benefits of controlling woody species on rangeland.
3. Monitor range improvement on previously treated acres.
4. Investigate drought mitigation projects.

Approved:

Chairman

*John Carangelo*

Date

*7-19-06*



## Socorro Soil & Water Conservation District

### Annual Work Plan FY 2007

Task	
<b>July</b>	
◆ Finalize Budget for new fiscal year-submit to DFA, NMDA, & SWCC	
◆ Complete 4th quarter and End of Year reports	
◆ Complete Annual Report and distribute	
◆ Place order for materials for County Fair	
◆ Finalize acreage for Salt cedar control	
◆ Contact landowners on treatment plan for Salt cedar	
◆ Send out Quarterly Newsletter	
◆ Treat Perennial pepperweed	
◆ Monitoring-LRGSCCP	
<b>August</b>	
◆ Contact schools regarding conservation education	
◆ Provide FLP training to Socorro Public School Teachers as requested	
◆ Meet with School Administration about Ag Day	
◆ Host booth at County Fair	
◆ Begin planning meetings on Ag Day with County Extension Agent	
◆ Monitoring-LRGSCCP	
◆ Treat Salt cedar (cut stump), Silverleaf nightshade	
◆ Install field trial revegetation plots	
◆ Meet with MRGCD regarding donated land ownership	
<b>September</b>	
◆ Set up and man booth at Socorro County Fair	
◆ Aerial treatment of Salt cedar	
◆ Mechanical control of Salt cedar	
◆ Monitoring-LRGSCCP	
◆ Treat Salt cedar (foliar), Russian knapweed	
◆ Ag Day planning	
◆ SSWCD Ed Center planning/work	
<b>October</b>	
◆ Complete first quarter Budget Report, LRGSCCP Report, NMACD Report	
◆ Plan and contact speaker for Annual Meetingg	
◆ Set up station with water trailer for Bosque Conservation Days	
◆ Evaluate Annual Work Plan	
◆ Attend Bosque Conservation Day at Bosque del Apache	
◆ Attend Sevilleta/La Joya Open House	
◆ Ag Day planning	
◆ Monitoring-LRGSCCP	
◆ Submit PTI grant for spray truck	

Task	
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<b>October continued</b>	
◆ Send out Quarterly Newsletter	
◆ Treat Russian knapweed	
◆ SSWCD Ed Center planning/work	

<b>November</b>	
◆ Choose candidates for awards at Annual Meetingg	
◆ Advertise and send out invitations for Annual Meetingg	
◆ Submit full PTI grant application	
◆ Monitoring-LRGSCCP	
◆ Ag Day Planning	
◆ Treat Russian knapweed, Salt cedar (cut stump)	
◆ Water Festival planning	
◆ SSWCD Ed Center planning/work	

<b>December</b>	
◆ Treat Salt cedar (cut stump)	
◆ Ag Day planning	
◆ Annual Meetingg at Rancher's Steakhouse	
◆ Monitoring-LRGSCCP	
◆ SWEMP-upload data to their site	
◆ SSWCD Ed Center planning/work	

<b>January</b>	
◆ Complete second quarter Budget Report, LRGSCCP report, NMACD report	
◆ Pass open meetings resolution	
◆ Pass mill levy rate resolution	
◆ Review NRCS MOU	
◆ Send out quarterly newsletter	
◆ Monitoring-LRGSCCP	
◆ Evaluate Annual Work Plan	
◆ Ag Day planning	
◆ Treat Salt cedar (cut stump)	
◆ Water Festival planning	
◆ SSWCD Ed Center planning/work	

<b>February</b>	
◆ Contact schools for numbers to order soil stewardship materials, then order	
◆ Approve summer camp scholarships	
◆ Advertise summer camp scholarships	
◆ Monitoring-LRGSCCP	
◆ Ag Day planning	
◆ Treat Perennial pepperweed	
◆ SSWCD Ed Center planning/work	

Task	
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<b>March</b>	
◆ Advertise summer camp scholarships	
◆ Host public information session on noxious weeds	
◆ Ag Day planning/Ag Day	
◆ Request FRIF funds from County	
◆ Monitoring-LRGSCCP	
◆ Treat Perennial pepperweed	
◆ SSWCD Ed Center planning/work	

<b>April</b>	
◆ Complete third quarter Budget Report, LRGSCCP Report, NMACD Report	
◆ Budget subcommittee meeting to develop preliminary budget	
◆ Complete award nominations for Region/NMACD Summer meeting	
◆ Request loan money from ISC	
◆ Evaluate Annual Work Plan	
◆ Submit paperwork for summer camp scholarship winners	
◆ Ag Day	
◆ Treat Perennial pepperweed	
◆ Send out quarterly newsletter	
◆ Monitoring-LRGSCCP	
◆ SSWCD Ed Center planning/work	

<b>May</b>	
◆ Deliver soil stewardship materials to schools	
◆ Draft Annual Work Plan for FY 2007	
◆ Submit draft budget to DFA, NMDA & SWCC	
◆ Draft Annual Report	
◆ Monitoring-LRGSCCP	
◆ Treat Perennial pepperweed	
◆ SSWCD Ed Center planning/work	

<b>June</b>	
◆ Finalize Annual Report	
◆ Approve Annual Work Plan and Business Plan	
◆ Pass resolutions for NMACD Summer Meeting/Region III meeting	
◆ Evaluate Annual Work Plan	
◆ Publish and distribute Annual Report	
◆ Attend NMACD Summer Meeting	
◆ Treat Perennial pepperweed	
◆ Monitoring-LRGSCCP	
◆ Make ISC loan payments	
◆ SSWCD Ed Center planning/work	