



Socorro Soil & Water Conservation District
FY 2008 Annual Work Plan

DISTRICT PRIORITIES:

- 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.
- Educate the Public in water rights and declaration processes.
- Continue to work with ISC on Regional and State water plans.
- Actively pursue grants to accomplish conservation programs.
- 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.



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

Goal: Conserve 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 irrigators regarding the need for improving irrigation efficiency. 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 promoting drip irrigation Cost Share program.
7. Continue promoting low flow water devices 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.
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. Continue installation of outdoor classroom with Sevilleta NWR on Unit D.
2. Assist with Food, Land & People education program development.
3. Update and advertise website: www.socorroswcd.com
4. Continue to publish quarterly newsletter with soil and water conservation issues and topics.
5. Participate in talks at each of the grade schools in the district.
6. Sponsor youth to summer youth conservation camp.
7. Provide soil stewardship materials to grade schools for Soil Stewardship Week.



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8. Set up and man booth at Socorro County Fair.
9. Participate in Sevilleta/La Joya open house.
10. Participate in Bosque Del Apache Conservation Day.
11. Continue working with the Socorro County Extension Agent to sponsor and promote Kids, Kows, and More.
12. 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.

PRIORITY: Assist local entities with conservation needs.

Goal- Assist County, City, and schools with conservation related projects.

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 fuels reduction under Socorro County Fire Plan.
4. Assist Save Our Bosque Task Force with education and public benefit programs.
5. Follow up as needed.

PRIORITY: Promote proper drainage and treatment of high water table and related problems.

Goal: Attain water table depths to maximize crops 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 to 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.



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PRIORITY: Administer Loan Program.

Goal: Enhance District's loan program.

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.

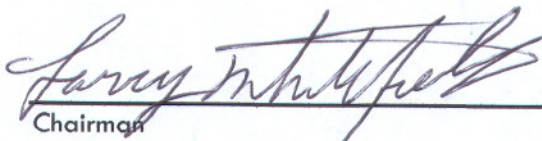
PRIORITY: Lead SWCDs along Rio Grande in Salt cedar eradication program funded by the NM State Legislature.

Goal: Continue treatment/removal of Salt cedar and native vegetation restoration with funding from the New Mexico State Legislature.

Action:

1. Treat Salt cedar.
2. Continue monitoring protocol. Recruit volunteers 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. Continue monitoring and installation of revegetation trial plots.
7. Continue implementing restoration work using Bingaman funds.

Approved:


Chairman

7-5-07
Date



Socorro Soil & Water Conservation District

Annual Work Plan FY 2008

Task	Completion Date
July	
◆ Finalize Budget for new fiscal year-submit to DFA, NMDA, & SWCC	July 9, 2007
◆ Complete 4th quarter and End of Year reports	July 31, 2007
◆ Elect executive board positions	July 3, 2007
◆ Complete Annual Report and distribute	August 14, 2007
◆ Attend NMACD Summer Meeting	
◆ Place order for materials for County Fair	
◆ Finalize acreage for Salt cedar control and restoration	August 14, 2007
◆ Contact landowners on treatment plan for Salt cedar and for restoration	ongoing
◆ Send out Quarterly Newsletter	June 22, 2007
◆ Treat Russian knapweed	ongoing
August	
◆ Contact schools regarding conservation education	
◆ Provide FLP training to Socorro Public School Teachers as requested	no requests
◆ Host booth at County Fair	8/31 and 9/1
◆ Install field trial revegetation plots	August-07
September	
◆ Set up and man booth at Socorro County Fair	8/30/and 8/31
◆ Aerial treatment of Salt cedar	9/13 - 9/22
◆ Mechanical control of Salt cedar	ongoing
◆ Treat Salt cedar (foliar), Russian knapweed	8/6 - 9/29
October	
◆ Complete first quarter Budget Report, LRGSCCP Report, NMACD Report	10/9/2007
◆ Plan for Annual Meeting	
◆ Set up and attend Bosque Conservation Day at Bosque del Apache	10/26/2007
◆ Set up and attend Sevilleta/La Joya Open House	10/13/2007
◆ Monitoring-LRGSCCP	10/15/2007
◆ Send out Quarterly Newsletter	10/2/2007
◆ Treat Russian knapweed	ongoing
◆ SSWCD Ed Center dedication--John J. Carangelo Children In Nature Outdoor Classroom	10/13/2007
November	
◆ Choose candidates for awards at Annual Meeting	
◆ Advertise and send out invitations for Annual Meeting	
◆ Attend NMVMA meeting	11/14/07 to 11/16/07
◆ Attend NMACD Annual Meeting	10/24/2007 to 10/25/2007
◆ Treat Russian knapweed, Salt cedar (cut stump)	ongoing
December	
◆ Treat Salt cedar (cut stump)	ongoing
◆ Annual Meeting at Rancher's Steakhouse	NA

Task	Completion Date
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January	
◆ Complete second quarter Budget Report, LRGSCCP report, NMACD report	1/8/2008
◆ Pass open meetings resolution	1/8/2008
◆ Pass mill levy rate resolution	1/8/2008
◆ Review NRCS MOU	1/8/2008
◆ Send out quarterly newsletter	1/21/2008
◆ Treat Salt cedar (cut stump)	Feb-08

February	
◆ Contact schools for numbers to order soil stewardship materials, then order	1/31/2008
◆ Approve summer camp scholarships	2/12/2008
◆ Advertise summer camp scholarships	Feb-08
◆ Treat Perennial pepperweed	Apr-08

March	
◆ Advertise summer camp scholarships	Mar/Apr 2008
◆ Host public information session on noxious weeds	
◆ Request FRIF funds from County	NA
◆ Treat Perennial pepperweed	8-Apr
◆ Sponsor and set up display at Kids, Kows, and More	4/17/2008

April	
◆ Complete third quarter Budget Report, LRGSCCP Report, NMACD Report	4/16/2008
◆ Budget subcommittee meeting to develop preliminary budget	5/13/2008
◆ Complete award nominations for Region/NMACD Summer meeting	5/2/2008
◆ Request loan money from ISC	NA
◆ Submit paperwork for summer camp scholarship winners	4/9/2008
◆ Treat Perennial pepperweed	Apr-08
◆ Send out quarterly newsletter	4/16/2008
◆ Monitoring-LRGSCCP	

May	
◆ Deliver soil stewardship materials to schools	4/21/2008
◆ Draft Annual Work Plan for FY 2009	6/10/2008
◆ Submit draft budget to DFA, NMDA & SWCC	5/14/2008
◆ Draft Annual Report	7/21/2008
◆ Treat Perennial pepperweed	Jun-08

June	
◆ Finalize Annual Report	8/12/2008
◆ Approve Annual Work Plan	7/8/2008
◆ Pass resolutions for NMACD Summer Meeting/Region III meeting	NA
◆ Treat Perennial pepperweed	Jul-08
◆ Appoint supervisors to positions # 6 and # 7	5/13/2008
◆ Make ISC loan payments	6/10/2008