

Carlsbad Soil & Water Conservation District
Annual Work Plan
Fiscal Year 2011

The Board of Supervisors of the Carlsbad Soil and Water Conservation District, along with the employees of the district, outline a planned program to accomplish the on-going and proposed activities that will be set forth in the district. This will stem off our Long-Range Plan of operations. Currently, the Board of Supervisors are:

Ridley Gardner	Chairman
Nathan Jurva	Vice-Chairman
Ron Head	Secretary/Treasurer
James Walterscheid	Supervisor
Tyson Mahaffey	Supervisor
Ray Nance	Supervisor
Jimmie Cisneros	Supervisor

The current employees for the District are:

Judy Bock	District Manager
Judith Ortego	Information & Education Specialist
Nancy Painter	Administrative Assistant

The following outline presents the objectives and goals the District has proposed to accomplish in fiscal year 2011.

Mission:

To facilitate programs that conserve our district's natural resources for all citizens and future generations by utilizing any available funding technical and educational resources and through voluntary efforts.

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Objective I. Continue to improve watershed health using proven conservation practices to assist landowners.

Actions:

- 1) Work with local State and Federal agencies, and assist landowners on watersheds within the district to apply control and restoration projects.
 - a) Continue the Pecos River Non-Native Phreatophyte Management Project by continuing efforts in the control of non-native phreatophytes and restoration of native vegetation on the riverbanks with applicants that had non-native phreatophytes treated in prior years.
 - b) Develop new and maintain existing agreements with BLM and BOR for assistance to carry out restoration and saltcedar control on Federal lands throughout the watershed.
 - c) Work with the private landowners along the tributaries to implement control of non-native phreatophytes.
 - d) Assist BLM in projects with Healthy Lands Initiative and Restore New Mexico programs.
- 2) Continue support of the Lower Pecos River Watershed Alliance.
- 3) Maintain and expand the brush control program to assist landowners with the removal of brush and other invasive plant species.
- 4) In conjunction with Carlsbad Irrigation District, continue implementation of the Gopher Tail Bounty program for the control of pocket gophers within the district.
- 5) Develop plans and implement watershed improvement projects in the Avalon and Alacran watersheds.
- 6) Investigate for new/innovative opportunities to continue watershed improvement.

Responsible parties: Project management and district staff

Objective II. Maintain the Information and Education program to improve the knowledge of conservation in our district.

Actions:

- 1) Maintain Carlsbad SWCD website and optimize use of internet for distribution of information to educators and others within the district.
- 2) Provide current information and better education about district activities by producing newspaper articles on conservation issues or district activities and modifying or preparing at least three pamphlets or brochures and maintaining the district quarterly newsletter.
- 3) Visit the community and local civic organizations periodically to inform the public of Carlsbad SWCD projects.
 - a) Communicate with public through media such as radio, television, newspaper, pamphlets, etc. on district activities.
 - b) Obtain responses from community on our projects.
- 4) Apply for grants to continue the information and education programs and/or activities.
- 5) Establish tour of district watershed activities.
- 6) Continue our support and efforts of information and education through the annual Eddy County Fair.

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- 7) Continue participation with district schools during Soil and Water Stewardship Week, Environmental Education Week and Children's Water Festival.
- 8) Continue participation in fourth Grade Forester's program in conjunction with Arbor Day.
- 9) Establish a herbarium library of plants found within local area.
- 10) Continue to inform schools of resources and opportunities available.

Responsible parties: information/education chair assisted by district staff

Objective III. Maintain our participation in projects that benefit communities within the district.

Actions:

- 1) Inform the community on funding for community projects, using CSWCD forms as guidelines for requests.
 - a) ranking of applications
 - b) award project
 - c) project completion
- 2) Seek grants for assistance on the application of community projects.
- 3) Investigate the development of a Native Species Propagation Center
- 4) Maintain Xeric Garden Demonstrations plots.
- 5) Continue collaboration with local agencies and community through assistance with development of xeric landscape designs.
- 6) Continue collaboration with Living Desert State Park on xeric gardening and composting workshops.
- 7) Continue distribution of wind energy information.

Responsible parties: planning/projects chairman assisted by district staff

Objective IV. Continue our interagency relations and support on conservation issues of common interest.

Actions:

- 1) Continue to provide co-leadership in the Eddy County Cooperative Weed Management Area.
 - a) Carry out quarterly noxious weed group meetings.
 - b) Contact additional agencies to collaborate and strengthen the task force.
 - c) Continue seeking funds for the noxious weed task force.
- 2) Maintain our working relationship with our local Natural Resources Conservation Service.
 - a) Assist with the Farm Bill Specialist.
 - b) Assist NRCS to meet producer requests for assistance.
- 3) Maintain partnerships with agencies dealing in natural resource concerns and work at implementing best practices for conservation.
 - a) Assist the BLM Southeast District on brush control and reclamation projects.
 - b) Assist the BOR in revegetation efforts within the McMillan Delta.

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- 4) Continue to review and revise MOU's with all agencies involved with the district as required.
- 5) Continue to review and submit comments on the terrain management portions of proposed residential and commercial subdivisions from the Eddy County commission that are within the district.

Responsible parties: Carlsbad SWCD Board assisted by district staff

Objective V. Develop and maintain flood control projects within the district.

Actions:

- 1) Continue support for the Hackberry Draw Watershed District in the maintenance and project efforts.
- 2) Continue support for the Avalon/Alacran and Cass Draw watershed projects.

Responsible parties: Carlsbad SWCD Board assisted by district staff

Objective VI. Increase involvement in the legislative activities that affect the district.

Actions:

- 1) Continue a good working relationship with public officials.
- 2) Follow up on communication with local officials, state, and national legislators on topics dealing with issues the district faces.
- 3) Review and revise our Infrastructure Capital Improvements Plan (ICIP) legislative plan to allow our State legislators a more direct vision of what the district's needs are during legislative sessions.
- 4) Provide information to our legislators on how the District implements the bills they carry.

Responsible parties: Carlsbad SWCD Board assisted by district staff

Objective VII. Support development and implementation of innovative ideas for maintenance of irrigation infrastructure.

Actions:

- 1) Investigate opportunities for various types of ditch repairs.
- 2) Create clearinghouse of information for local farmers.
- 3) Develop and host community forum and idea exchange on irrigation principals and ditch repair.

Responsible parties: Carlsbad SWCD Board assisted by district staff