



# CARLSBAD SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

## Annual Report

July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019

The Carlsbad Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) presents this annual report of the activities within the District during the past fiscal year, to inform those interested in our efforts to conserve our natural resources.

### Mission Statement

To facilitate programs that conserve the District’s natural resources for all citizens and future generations by utilizing any available funding, technical and educational resources and through voluntary efforts.

The governing Board of Supervisors:

- |                             |                               |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Nathan Jurva, Chairman      | Jim Carr, Secretary/Treasurer |
| Kristin Pope, Vice-Chairman | Henry Vasquez, Member         |
| Charles Goodwin, Member     | Lupe Carrasco, Member         |
| Fred Beard, Member          |                               |

District Staff:

- |                  |                                    |
|------------------|------------------------------------|
| Judy Bock        | District Manager                   |
| Judith McCollaum | Information & Education Specialist |
| Ray Keller       | Natural Resource Specialist        |

During the year, the following Natural Resources Conservation Service Staff assisted the Carlsbad SWCD:

- |               |                                 |
|---------------|---------------------------------|
| Raquel Chacon | District Conservationist        |
| Michael Young | Rangeland Management Specialist |

### Watershed Conservation/Habitat Restoration Projects

#### Federal Funding

- ◆ Continued cooperative agreement with the New Mexico Association of Conservation Districts (NMACD) and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) – Pecos Valley District, NM State Land Office as well as private landowners to implement 54,101 acres of aerial brush control.
- ◆ In conjunction with NMACD performed caliche pit reclamation and reseeding on 2 caliche pits totaling approximately 54 acres. An addition, one, seventeen acre caliche pit was reclaimed in coordination with NM Department of Agriculture.
- ◆ Continued with BLM – Carlsbad Field Office (CFO) assistance agreement in hand herbicide treatment of saltcedar and follow-up maintenance along 22 miles of the Pecos River and 12 combined miles on the Delaware and Black Rivers.

#### District Funding

- ◆ Continued Gopher Tail Bounty Program and collected approximately 1817 tails for a total of \$10,902.
- ◆ Provided \$72,100 in matching funds for vegetation control under the District’s vegetation management program for twenty brush control and noxious weed treatment projects (2,716 acres).



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- ◆ Sponsored \$500 toward BLM Public Lands Day project – trash pickup and removal around Cottonwood Day Use Area and erosion control project at “Ladder Hole”.

#### Community Collaboration & Coordination

- ◆ Coordinated approximately 1,090 acres in treatment (i.e., African rue, Malta Star thistle, saltcedar, etc.) as lead agency for the Eddy County CWMA; collaborated with various oil and gas companies and private companies within the county to assist them with noxious weed control.
- ◆ Provided administrative oversight to Hackberry Draw Watershed District as well as oversight of structure and drainage maintenance.
- ◆ Continued work on the “native orchard” for Desert Willow Wildlife Rehabilitation Center.
- ◆ Working with BLM Recreation and multiple oil and gas industry representatives to improve recreation areas within the District.

#### Information & Education

- ◆ Participated at the following events with the District’s booth: Eddy County Fair; NM State Parks Living Desert Zoo Earth Day Community Event and March for Parks, Carlsbad Mayors Energy Summit.
- ◆ Gave a presentation to the Carlsbad Rotary Club about the District and its activities.
- ◆ Provided the Rolling Rivers Trailer for NM State Parks Earth Day, Brantley Lake State Park for Public Lands Day, and Desert Willow Elementary School’s third grade classes.
- ◆ Participated in Water Field Day at Brantley Lake State Park for Desert Willow Elementary School third grade classes.
- ◆ Produced and distributed quarterly newsletter about District activities.
- ◆ Sponsored a public workshop and training on building a compost reactor.
- ◆ Staff participated in continuing education for NM Pesticide Applicators, Department of Finance Budget Workshop, and Procurement Officer Certification.
- ◆ Staff attended Ag Fest and helped to man the NM Coalition of Conservation District’s booth.
- ◆ Staff visited with District Legislators in Santa Fe during session to discuss issues concerning the District.

The Carlsbad SWCD Board of Supervisors submits this report and hereby acknowledges the work done by all cooperating agencies and their contributions to the Districts overall programs. With continued support, this District will carry on a strong conservation program throughout the coming years.

Nathan Jurva, Chairman

Jim Carr, Secretary/Treasurer