



CARLSBAD SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Annual Report

July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021

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

District Staff:

Sandi Wilkie, District Manager	Riki Lopez, Business Administrator
Ray Keller, Natural Resource Specialist	Judy Bock, Consultant
Judith McCollaum	Information & Education Specialist

During the year, the following Natural Resources Conservation Service Staff assisted the Carlsbad SWCD:
Raquel Chacon, District Conservationist Timsan Bricker, Rangeland Management Specialist

Watershed Conservation/Habitat Restoration Projects

Federal and State 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, National Fish and Wildlife Federation, NM Game and Fish, NMDA as well as private landowners to implement 23,215 acres of aerial brush control.
- ◆ In conjunction with NMDA, NMACD, and BLM performed caliche pit reclamation and reseeding with ground treatments on 20 caliche pits totaling approximately 167 acres.
- ◆ 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.
- ◆ Partnered with PFW to treat 2777 acres of brush for enhanced pronghorn and mule deer habitat.
- ◆ Began working on the NFWF Vegetative Restoration of Blue Spring.
- ◆ Began working on the 2021 NFWF Pronghorn Mule Deer Restoration.
- ◆ Continued planning with BLM Recreation team on the Guadalupe Ridge Trail.
- ◆ Water Quality & Conservation Grant for \$4384 toward Pollinator Project.

District Funding

- ◆ Continued Gopher Tail Bounty Program and collected approximately 2992 tails for a total of \$17,952.
- ◆ Provided \$53870 in matching funds for vegetation control under the District’s vegetation management program for twenty-two brush control and noxious weed treatment projects (1,543 acres).
- ◆ Sponsored \$500 toward BLM Public Lands Day project – clean-up around 6 Mile Dam.
- ◆ Bought and paid installation of three bottle refilling water fountains at Jefferson Montessori Academy for \$9285.



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- ◆ Adopted project Firm Foundation Farms second Hoop House at \$10,000.
- ◆ Sponsored \$368 for water and snacks for USFS "Queen up the Guad's".

Community Collaboration & Coordination

- ◆ Coordinated approximately 2,092 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.
- ◆ Staff met with multiple agencies to coordinate mesquite treatment.
- ◆ Staff met with multiple BLM departments to coordinate reclamation projects.
- ◆ Provided administrative oversight to Hackberry Draw Watershed District as well as oversight of structure and drainage maintenance.
- ◆ Working with BLM Recreation and multiple oil and gas industry representatives to improve recreation areas within the District, finishing the new Sunset Reef Campground and working on the Cottonwood Day Use and Black River Areas.
- ◆ Coordinated with BLM and Plains Pipeline for a clean-up and planting day at Cottonwood Day Use Area.
- ◆ Worked with successful applicants for the Healthy Soils Program Pilot Grant. Oversaw implementation of the project, testing and reporting.
- ◆ Staff helped with well surveys with team from NM Tech/NM Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources.
- ◆ Provides assistance for Desert Willow Wildlife Rehabilitation Center.

Information & Education

- ◆ Produced and distributed over 4000 Pollinator packets to Carlsbad and Loving Municipal Schools and to homeschoolers.
- ◆ Produced and distributed newsletter about District activities.
- ◆ Staff participated in continuing education for Healthy Soils Academy workshops, Healthy Soil Program trainings, Procurement Officer Certification training, NMDFA training, Supervisor training.
- ◆ Staff and board members contacted District Legislators in Santa Fe during session to discuss issues concerning the District.
- ◆ Participated in interview about fracking for research paper for students from Skidmore College.

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.

Handwritten signature of Nathan Jurva in black ink.

Nathan Jurva, Chairman

Handwritten signature of Jim Carr in black ink.

Jim Carr, Secretary/Treasurer