

NRCD Annual Report

Welcome to the **Hereford** Natural Resource Conservation District's (NRCD) Annual Report. My name is **Jim Lindsey**, as Chair of the **Hereford** NRCD I would like to take a moment and explain what an NRCD is and inform you about the mission of our Board.

NRCD history is rooted in the problems of soil erosion from agricultural production of the Dust Bowl era. The Federal Government established the now Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to develop and demonstrate improved farming methods to help conserve our nation's soil resources. NRCDs were conceived as the mechanism to involve and coordinate with local landowners on the voluntary implementation of NRCS conservation practices on private lands. States were encouraged by the Federal Government to adopt a "Standard Soil Conservation District Law" that allowed for the establishment of Conservation Districts as entities of state government. Arizona passed its Conservation District Law in 1942 (Laws, 1941, Ch. 43, § 2).

Arizona NRCD Law grants its Conservation Districts the authority to:

Provide for the restoration and conservation of lands and soil resources of the state, the preservation of water rights and the control and prevention of soil erosion, and thereby to conserve natural resources, conserve wildlife, protect the tax base, protect public lands and protect and restore this state's rivers and streams and associated riparian habitats, including fish and wildlife resources that are dependent on those habitats, and in such manner to protect and promote the public health, safety and general welfare of the people. (A.R.S. § 37-1001 (A)).

As mandated by the State of Arizona, our mission statement addresses the conservation of our State's natural resources:

Working together to protect our natural resources, adopted on **July 29, 2009**.

In the past year, we have focused our efforts on:

- ❖ Follow-up work on the Horseshoe Draw Flood and Erosion Control to Reduce Sediment and E.coli Transport to San Pedro River Project

Water testing at the site

Site visit with Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) personnel

Darling Geomatics drone flying of the site

- ❖ Arizona Rangeland Conservation Partnership
- ❖ Brush management

- ❖ Fort Huachuca Sentinel Landscape Restoration Partnership (SLRP)
- ❖ Conservation Implementation Strategy report for the Douglas Field Office, NRCS
- ❖ Submitted comments on:
 - Mexican Wolf Recovery Plan
 - BLM Planning Regulation
 - Villages of Vigneto (to Army Corps of Engineers)
 - Waters of the United States (WOTUS)
- ❖ Attended US Forest Service (USFS) district meeting for USFS updates, grazing updates, and wolf updates
- ❖ Attended Arizona Legislative/NRCD Phoenix meeting
- ❖ Held coordination meeting with BLM on the San Pedro National Conservation Area (SPRNCA) Resource Management Plan
- ❖ Adopted a resolution on Big Cat Hunting in Arizona
- ❖ Prepared a grant to ADEQ for Phase II of the Horseshoe Draw Project
- ❖ Recruited five new cooperators to the HNRCD
- ❖ Prepared a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) for The Center of Biological Diversity
- ❖ Maintained a website: www.herefordnrcd.com
- ❖ Published three newsletters

We are most proud of accomplishing the following project(s):

- ❖ Culmination of the Horseshoe Draw Flood and Erosion Control to Reduce Sediment and E.coli Transport to San Pedro River Project
- ❖ Brush management/control projects

The Board is always looking ahead. If you have any concerns or comments on natural resource related issues you would like us to address, the Board can be reached by contacting:

Kathy Morris
Board Clerk
Hereford NRCD
P.O. Box 3361
Sierra Vista, AZ 85636
nrcdhereford@gmail.com

We look forward to hearing from you and welcome you to our next board meeting.

Sincerely,

Jim Lindsey

_____, Chair of the Board

This past year's goals were:

- ❖ Follow-up work on the Horseshoe Draw project of water testing, drone flying, and tours
- ❖ Phase II of the Horseshoe Draw project
- ❖ Brush management
- ❖ To reach out to non producing, small acreage land owners to gather information on their resource concerns

This past year's objectives to meet these goals were:

- ❖ Submitting a grant to ADEQ for Phase II of the Horseshoe Draw Project
- ❖ Brush control within the District
- ❖ Find partnerships and funding to address the resource concerns of small acreage land owners

These goals and objectives were our priorities because:

- ❖ The Horseshoe Draw and therefore the San Pedro River would benefit from another similar, smaller site
- ❖ Brush control is an ongoing problem within the District
- ❖ To broaden our membership base to include rural, yet non producing land owners with resource concerns which we have named: Small Acreage Resource Concerns (SARC)

We accomplished the following projects and have attached pictures:

- ❖ Follow-up work on the Horseshoe Draw project of water testing, drone flying, and tours
Please see our website, <http://www.herefordnrcd.com/Horseshoe-Draw-Project.html>
and click on July, 2017 Newsletter
- ❖ Continued brush management
- ❖ SARC is ongoing

We were provided funding for our projects this last year by:

- ❖ Arizona State Land Department
- ❖ Arizona Department of Environmental Quality
- ❖ Howard G. Buffett Foundation
- ❖ HNRCD cooperators
- ❖ Iroquois Foundation

Volunteers:

- ❖ Arizona Association of Conservation Districts
- ❖ Arizona Community Foundation

- ❖ Arizona Department of Agricultural
- ❖ Arizona Game and Fish Department
- ❖ Arizona State Land Department
- ❖ Cascabel Ranch & Consulting
- ❖ City of Sierra Vista
- ❖ Cochise Conservation and Recharge Network
- ❖ Cochise County, AZ
- ❖ Douglas Field Office, NRCS
- ❖ Fort Huachuca
- ❖ **HNRCD supervisors, advisors, and cooperators**
- ❖ Sierra Vista Ranger District, USFS
- ❖ Tucson Field Office, BLM
- ❖ University of Arizona, Department of Agriculture

The benefits of accomplishing our goals are the following:

- ❖ Erosion and sediment control and reduction of E coli transport to the San Pedro River
- ❖ Restore native grasses to the habitat/District and improve water quantity and quality through brush management. In the District 7,242 acres of brush management were accomplished.
- ❖ Education of people on the methods of and the benefits of brush control and natural resources conservation.
- ❖ By addressing ranchers' resource concerns in the District: 4,658 acres of prescribed grazing, 204 feet of livestock pipeline, one solar pumping plant and one watering facility were dealt with.

Those who benefited the most from our accomplishments were:

- ❖ The San Pedro River
- ❖ Hereford NRCD cooperators
- ❖ Hereford NRCD natural resources
- ❖ Cochise County
- ❖ Arizona Department of Environmental Quality
- ❖ All the communities within our District

This last year the Board partnered with the various federal, state, and local government agencies, individuals and businesses listed below:

- ❖ Alpha Graphics
- ❖ American Stewards of Liberty
- ❖ Arizona Association of Conservation Districts
- ❖ Arizona Community Foundation
- ❖ Arizona Department of Agricultural
- ❖ Arizona Department of Environmental Quality

- ❖ Arizona Game and Fish Department
- ❖ Arizona State Land Department
- ❖ Cascabel Ranch & Consulting
- ❖ City of Sierra Vista
- ❖ Cochise Conservation and Recharge Network
- ❖ Cochise County, AZ
- ❖ Coronado RC & D
- ❖ Darling Geomatics
- ❖ Douglas Field Office, NRCS
- ❖ Fort Huachuca
- ❖ Granite Construction
- ❖ Howard G. Buffett Foundation
- ❖ HNRCD supervisors, advisors, and cooperators
- ❖ Iroquois Foundation
- ❖ National Bank of Arizona
- ❖ Neal Galt Insurance
- ❖ Sierra Vista Herald
- ❖ Sierra Vista Ranger District, USFS
- ❖ Tucson Field Office, BLM
- ❖ University of Arizona, Department of Agriculture
- ❖ Upper San Pedro Partnership
- ❖ UPS Store
- ❖ Wicked Limitz

NRCD Financial Statement

Please see the attached fiscal year financials

If you would like to attend one of our meetings, they are held continuously at the following location:

Cochise County Complex, Foothills Drive & Highway 92, Sierra Vista, AZ

Month: **Every month**

Date: **Third (3rd) Wednesday**

Time: **9:30 a.m.**

NRCD supervisor elections and appointments take place every two years on even number years. The Board also accepts individuals as advisors for anyone interested in offering their skills and expertise for conservation. If anyone is interested in serving on the board or working with the board please contact us. Our current board members serve in various capacities in the community and personally own several businesses. Below are their names and capacities on the Board.

Member: **Jim Lindsey**

Title: **Chairman**

Member: **Lucinda Earven**

Title: **Vice Chairwoman**

Member: **John Ladd**

Title: **Supervisor**

Member: **David Greenberg**

Title: **Supervisor**

Member: **Pat Call**

Title: **Supervisor**

This Annual Report of the Hereford NRCD was accepted and approved on this 18th day of July, 2018.

Three Board Member signatures required:

Signature _____

Signature _____

Signature James A. Long _____

Signature John W. Lusk _____

Signature Russida Eason _____