



FY2017 (7/1/16 – 6/30/17) Annual Work Plan Mason Valley Conservation District

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The Annual Work Plan and Annual Budget for the Mason Valley Conservation District (MVCD) were reviewed and approved on May 17, 2016.

Natural Resource Priorities and Goals:

- **Improve the condition of all natural resources (water, air, soil, vegetation and animal) –** provide landowners with financial and technical assistance to increase water resource quantity and quality through river channel maintenance and bank stabilization; reduce nonpoint source pollution; reduce energy demands; develop alternative energy sources; reduce fire potential; improve grazing management; improve sage grouse habitat; provide fuels reduction/education; provide technical assistance wherever possible; and provide assistance to land planning agencies
- **Invasive and Noxious Weeds** – Mason Valley Conservation District in partnership with the Smith Valley Conservation District and the Walker River Basin Cooperative Weed Management Area will continue a comprehensive noxious weed inventory, mapping and management on the Walker River and its tributaries; inventory and treat noxious weeds in Northern Nevada; and assist private landowners with noxious weed management
- **Conservation Education** – coordinate Walker River Basin Workdays for Mason and Smith Valleys; continue noxious weed, fire, and non-point source pollution education efforts; and provide information on resource conservation and management techniques to all stakeholders in the area (private, local, state, county and federal) at every opportunity
- **Walker River Channel Improvement** – MVCD in partnership with Walker River Irrigation District, Nevada Department of Wildlife, and adjacent landowners will continue the efforts begun in 2015 to remove sediment, improve the stability of the Walker River channel, and work toward improved fishery and wildlife habitat



Information – Education/Public Outreach Priorities and Goals:

- Outreach priority – coordinate two Walker River Basin Workdays in Mason and Smith Valleys that teach students to become aware of their natural resources by educating them about water quality, non-point source pollution, wildlife habitat, riparian vegetation, bioengineering techniques and noxious weeds.
- Outreach priority – sponsor registration fees for one student to attend Nevada Range Camp
- Outreach priority – develop a fuels reduction/fire awareness program for Mason Valley
- General Public Goal – provide all stakeholders noxious weed educational opportunities including handbooks, guides and brochures that detail identification, methods of dispersal, treatments and contacts for control
- General Public Goal – provide landowners with resource management and conservation technical and financial assistance



District Operations Priorities and Funding Sources:

MVCD Goals for District Operations

- Complete Financial Report, Annual Work Plan, Budget and other reporting as necessary
- Inventory and treat noxious weeds on private lands within District Boundaries; implement noxious weed treatment on federally managed lands within the basin. cut pinyon and juniper to benefit sage grouse habitat in the China Camp area
- Monitor river restoration projects for vegetation growth
- Attend the Nevada Association of Conservation Districts Annual Meeting



- Cut and treat tamarisk along the Walker River, begin weed treatments in Mineral County
- Conduct workdays at Mason and Smith Valley Elementary and High Schools
- Submit Proposed Budget and Annual Work Plan to State Conservation Commission
- Conduct “normal” year to year business including:
 - Hold regularly scheduled board meetings
 - Pay annual dues (NvACD, Nevada Weed Management Assoc.)
 - Clerical administration
 - Subdivision reviews
 - Promotion of conservation
 - Attend applicable meetings
 - Expand public relations
 - Apply for and administer grants
 - Nominate local conservation leaders for awards
 - Participate on the Nevada Forest Stewardship Committee
 - Attend State Technical Committee and Local Work Group meetings

Anticipated funding sources for fiscal year 2016-2017:

- *Indirect Local:* Mineral County, NV
 - Invenergy - Luning Solar Energy Project Restoration and Monitoring (\$100,000.00)
- *Local:* Lyon County, NV (\$7500)
- *Indirect Federal:*
 - National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) – Mason Valley Youth Initiative (\$45,560.24)
- *Direct Federal:*
 - USFWS Flying M (\$25,000.00)
 - USFWS Candidate Conservation Species Grant (\$88,325.75 pending notification of award)
- *In-Kind Services:* Board member/volunteers (\$3,500)



Summary of Grant Objectives and Tasks:

Invenergy – Luning Solar Energy Project

- Develop and evaluate projects submitted by other participating entities for noxious weed control in Mineral County
- Using MVCD field staff, treat noxious weeds in areas identified

3 Mason Valley Conservation District FY 2017 Annual Work Plan

- Provide grant administration over the three year course of the grant

NFWF Mason Valley Youth Initiative

- MVCD youth will treat tamarisk along the riparian corridor of the Walker River
MVCD will use chainsaws and brush cutters to cut materials and then burn slash piles when conditions allow.
- Youth will work in conjunction with MVCD field staff treating noxious weeds along the Walker River Corridor

Walker River Noxious Weed Project

- Gain access to properties along the Walker River and its tributaries for a basin-wide noxious weed inventory, mapping and treatment project
- Inventory all species identified as noxious by the State of Nevada
- Produce a comprehensive map of infestations depicting species identification and population size
- Treat areas using integrated pest management approaches
- Continue to locate new funding sources
- As funding allows, re-vegetate previously treated sites with desirable species

Walker River Channel Improvement

- MVCD will continue to work with the City of Yerington, Lyon County, Walker River Irrigation District, Nevada Division of Environmental Protection, Nevada Department of Wildlife Mason Valley Wildlife Management Area, US Army Corps of Engineers, and local landowners to maintain a clear channel in the Walker River
- Seek grant funding to remove silt from the channel as it is deposited to prevent flooding



Lyon County funds are used as match for all projects and assist with normal operating costs.

Jeff Borsini

Jeff Borsini
Mason Valley Conservation District

5-17-16

Date

**MASON VALLEY CONSERVATION DISTRICT ANNUAL BUDGET
SHEET 1 – ESTIMATE OF RECEIPTS**

FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2017

RECEIPT SOURCE	AMOUNT
Lyon County Contribution	7,500.00
USFWS Partners Flying M	25,000.00
Invenergy	51,044.09
Candidate Conservation ***	88,325.75
TOTAL RECEIPTS ESTIMATED FOR BUDGET	171,869.84

*** Pending Notification of Award

**MASON VALLEY CONSERVATION DISTRICT BUDGET
SHEET II – ESTIMATE OF EXPENDITURES**

FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2017

FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2017	Last FY Actual	This FY To Date	Proposed FY 17 Budget
US Postage	\$ 69.20	\$ 8.94	\$ 50.00
Bank Service Charge	\$ 28.00	\$ 31.50	\$ 42.00
Educational Workshop with Students and Public			\$ 350.00
Travel and Training	\$ 340.85	\$ -	\$ 500.00
Dues: NACD		\$ -	\$ -
NvACD	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00
NWMA			\$ -
Computer Software and Modernize Hardware	\$ 250.00	\$ 125.00	\$ 250.00
Financial Audit			\$ -
Bookkeeping services	\$ 688.11	\$ 30.00	\$ 200.00
MVCD Annual Meeting	\$ -	\$ 362.50	\$ 400.00
NV Range Camp Scholarship	\$ 600.00	\$ -	\$ -
NDPES Permit		\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
Office Supplies	\$ 881.08	\$ 301.97	\$ 500.00
Equipment (tools for project)	\$ 610.31	\$ -	\$ 100.00
Vehicle Insurance and Maintenance (oil, gas, upkeep)	\$ 1,119.45	\$ 5,338.13	\$ 2,000.00
Worker's Compensation for Board Members	\$ 3,745.87	\$ 1,813.28	\$ 2,000.00
Worker's Compensation for Volunteers	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
District Employee Wage's	\$ 15,303.76	\$ 18,122.05	\$ 15,000.00
Employee Drug Testing	\$ 1,050.00	\$ -	\$ 200.00
General Liability Insurance	\$ 901.53	\$ 4,654.94	\$ 5,000.00
Total	\$ 26,188.16	\$ 31,488.31	\$ 27,292.00

Total Available Project Funding 5/17/2016

Project Name:			
USFWS Partners Flying M			
	Salary + Fringe Benefits		\$ 18,000.00
	Operating		\$ 7,000.00
	Travel		
		\$ -	\$ -
			\$ 25,000.00
Invenergy			
	Salary + Fringe Benefits		\$ 9,980.69
	Operating		\$ 38,611.60
	Travel		\$ 2,451.80
			\$ 51,044.09
Total Available Project Funding 5/17/2016			\$ 76,044.09

Pending Notification of Award			
Project Name:			
Candidate Conservation			
	Salary + Benefits	\$	75,654.14
	Operating	\$	5,771.61
	Travel	\$	6,900.00
	Subcontract	\$	-
		\$	88,325.75
	Pending Notification of Award	\$	88,325.75

TOTAL EXPENDITURES FOR ESTIMATED BUDGET	\$ 26,188.16	\$ 31,488.31	\$ 191,661.84
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Annual Report

Mason Valley Conservation District

September 2017

Fiscal Year July 1, 2016–June 30, 2017

Board Members:

Jeff Borsini
 Robert Cooper
 Ken Spooner
 Randy Emm
 Robert Bryan
 Greg Hunewill (Lyon County Commissioner)
 Jerrie Tipton (Mineral County Commissioner)

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Project Name: Next Generation of Conservationists

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) granted funds to Mason Valley Conservation District (MVCD) in July, 2015, to educate and train young conservationists between the ages of 18 and 25 in conservation practices. Since the inception of this grant in 2015, two youth have planted and irrigated containerized stock, maintained irrigation systems, and sprayed for noxious weeds. In the Desert Creek area, the youth performed monitoring of the medusahead treatment area, spot treatment of medusahead, and installation of fence markers to prevent Sage Grouse from colliding with the wire fences adjacent to the



Monitoring in Desert Creek Area

meadow area that the Sage Grouse use to rear their chicks. MVCD was also able to get one youth involved in cutting pinyon and juniper from a meadow to increase the available water in the meadow and reduce the opportunity for raven predation on the Sage Grouse chicks using the area.

Funding Agency:

NFWF Grant
 Mason Valley Conservation District
 7/1/2015
 9/30/2017

Location:
 Start Date:
 End Date:

Expenses:

FY 2016 Total Project

\$25,345 \$49,560
 632.00 1,947.50

Project Hours:

Project Name: Walker Riverbank Stabilization Clements

Mason Valley Conservation District (MVCD) identified 100 linear feet of unstable riverbank on the Walker River in Lyon County for restoration. MVCD attempted to stabilize the bank in 2007 using bioengineering techniques; however, without soil protection vegetation establishment failed. The over 8 ft vertically high riverbank was eroding at approximately 3-4 ft per year. Desert Engineering began bank shaping and rock placement on March 10, 2014. In fiscal year 2014-2015, and 2015-2016 MVCD continued to monitor the effectiveness of the project. In June, 2016, MVCD prepared a final report with the intention of closing the project. Final cross sections had not been completed at that time, so a one-year extension was granted for that purpose. The flows through the summer of 2016 were high enough that the cross sections were scheduled for sometime in November through February, when the flow was anticipated to be low enough to safely cross the channel for cross sections. Due to the record winter precipitation, MVCD was never able to complete the cross sections, and the grant was closed out with the documentation we had compiled.



Fund. Agency/ Number:

NDEP/14-016

Walker River at South end of Quail Lane

Location:

Start Date: 2/28/2013

End Date: 6/30/2017

FY 2016 Total Project

Expenses: \$ 4,607 \$ 34,844

Project Hours: 144.25 655.50

Project Name: China Camp Pinyon Juniper Removal



China Camp showing lopped and scattered Pinyon

In February of 2013, the US Fish and Wildlife Service Partners Program (FWS) granted Mason Valley Conservation District (MVCD) \$25,000 to construct a “let down” fence on the Flying M Ranch to benefit the Bi-State Sage Grouse. The project languished until 2015 when the FWS suggested changing the project to Pinyon Juniper removal in the China Camp area of the ranch to open up a meadow and spring area which allows the Sage Grouse to rear their chicks with less danger of predation from ravens. The work was planned through several field trips to the site through the summer of 2015. Also in 2015, the property was purchased by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. The planning was completed in the fall of 2015, but by the time all of the permissions to enter the property were received, the site was too wet to access.

Agency/ Agreement USFWS Partners Program/F13AC00099
Location: China Camp
Start Date: 2/20/2013
End Date: 4/1/2017

	FY 2016-17 Labor	Total Project
Expenses:	\$23,644	\$25,000
Project Hours:	1,073.50	1,073.50

The Sage Grouse nest and rear their young from April through July, so MVCD wasn't able to begin work until the Fall of 2016. The crew was able to cut, lop, and scatter trees on **48** acres in the meadow before the winter snow closed the roads. The grant expired in April 2016, and final reporting was provided to FWS at that time.

Project Name: Walker Riverbank Stabilization, Mitchell Location

In the summer of 2016, Mason Valley Conservation District (MVCD) was made aware of a bank failure on the west fork of the Walker River near the site of the Clements stabilization project. The failure is 680 feet long on the west bank with a 12 foot vertical wall, and 50 feet long on the east bank just downstream with a 10 foot vertical wall. The river was threatening to breach an irrigation canal on the west, and wash out a fence on the east. MVCD was able to secure a grant from the Nevada Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Water Pollution Control (NDEP BWPC) to stabilize these riverbanks. To date, the cultural survey, historical survey, and the report to the State have been completed, the permit from the Army Corps of Engineers has been through a first draft, and the application will soon be complete. The record snowfall from the winter of 2016-2017, and the subsequent flood stage runoff beginning in January and continuing through the summer have caused more erosion, and additional losses to the properties adjacent to the river. The irrigation canal that was threatened has been washed out. A new canal was dug, and it too has been breached. The fence on the east side was moved back in the spring, and it has also been undermined and is hanging over the water at this time. MVCD has not been able to get any design completed yet due to the high water.

Agency/ Agreement NDEP BWPC/17-014 Walker River South End of Quail Lane
Location:
Start Date: 2/9/2017
End Date: 12/31/2018

	FY 2016-17 Labor	Total Project
Expenses:	\$1,720	\$142,320
Project Hours:	128.75	128.75

Normal Business



Mitchell Bank Stabilization

In November, 2016, the Mason Valley Conservation District received recognition from the Nevada Association of Conservation Districts as the Outstanding Conservation District in Nevada. This honor was shared with the Smith Valley Conservation District.

On January 24, 2017, the Conservation District held a joint meeting with the Smith Valley Conservation District at the Heyday Inn in Smith Valley. The meeting was well attended, and featured guest speaker Jasmine Kleiber from the Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW). NDOW has been a major partner in MVCD conservation work since we instituted an interlocal agreement with them in 2016.

MVCD held regular business meetings on:
 July 26, 2016, September 13, 2016, November 1, 2016, January 24, 2017, February 21, 2017, March 21, 2017, April 4, 2016, and May, 23, 2017.

Conserving natural resources for our future

Project Name: Luning Energy Noxious Weeds

In December, 2016, Luning Energy Inc. completed construction on their 50 megawatt solar energy plant just northwest of Luning, Nevada. One of the conditions of the Environmental Assessment was that the company provide \$140,000 to be used for invasive and noxious weed control in Mineral County. An agreement was signed between Luning Energy, Bureau of Land Management, the Wilderness Society, Friends of Nevada Wilderness, and the Mason Valley Conservation District (MVCD) in which MVCD receives the money, receives project requests from the partners, seeks comment, and volunteer labor from the partners, and coordinates the work to be done. Introductions among all parties were made at the open house/ribbon cutting in April. MVCD will receive a seven



Luning Energy Solar Plant

percent administrative fee for its services. MVCD has enlisted the assistance of the University of Nevada Cooperative Extension to identify noxious weed populations in Mineral County, but numerous site visits have not been fruitful, and there are no documented noxious weed infestations in the county. At the end of the fiscal year, Luning Energy has contributed the money to MVCD. Mineral County Public Works Department has offered assistance to MVCD to identify areas of noxious weed infestations for potential treatment. Once projects are identified, MVCD will canvass the partners for interest in volunteers to spray the weeds.

Funding Agency/ Agreement Number: Luning Energy
Location: Luning, Nevada
Start Date: 1/1/2017
End Date: 12/31/2020

Project Name: Walker Basin Conservancy, Flying M Noxious Weeds

The Walker Basin Conservancy (WBC) contracted the Mason Valley Conservation District (MVCD) \$39,528 to treat noxious weeds on the Flying M and Ninemile Ranch properties. These actives specifically relate to National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) and Walker Basin Conservancy (WBC) goals in the Walker River Basin for restoration efforts of retired farmland as a result of their water acquisitions in an attempt to restore Walker Lake.

Since the winter of 2016-17 provided so much snowfall, there was more water in the river, making most of the river corridor inaccessible. There was also a lot of surface water on many of the fields, making it inappropriate to use some herbicides. MVCD was able to work with WBC and the grazing operator to coordinate weed spraying activities in areas that weren't being actively grazed or irrigated. Most of the treated area was in former cultivated lands that have been fallowed, and the

weeds have begun to come in.

Funding Agency/ Agreement Number: WBC / Flying M
Location: Flying M Ranch
Start Date: 4/15/2017
End Date: 8/15/2017



Spraying Weeds at Flying M Ranch

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Or call toll free at (866) 632-9992 (voice) to obtain additional information, the appropriate office or to request documents. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing, or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay service at (800) 877-8339 or (800) 845-6136 (in Spanish). USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

MASON VALLEY CONSERVATION
DISTRICT

FINANCIAL REPORT TO
THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION
2016/2017 FISCAL YEAR

SUMMARY OF RECEIPTS
 For the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2017
MASON VALLEY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Mason Valley (Income)	
MV Annual Noncompetitive Grants	
Lyon County	7,500.00
State Conservation Commission	4,000.00
State Risk Management Refund	853.20
Annual Dinner	277.50
Projects	
14-016 Clements	
Fringe	1,952.48
Salary	5,079.28
Travel/Mileage	164.70
17-016 Mitchell	
Fringe	1,005.12
Salary	2,614.78
Travel	52.43
China Camp	
Operating	116.09
Salary	19,783.70
Subcontract	2,072.97
Travel/Mileage	3,027.24
Luning Energy LLC	140,000.00
MV Next Generation Conservationists 2016	
Mileage	791.21
Operating	6,693.89
Salary	8,477.76
Walker Basin Conservancy Flying M Contract	
Travel	641.76
Salary and Fringe	5,390.64
Total Mason Valley (Income)	210,494.75

SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURES

For the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2017

Mason Valley Conservation District

Mason Valley Expenses

General Operating Expenses

Advertisement	
Annual Dinner	375.00
Bank Service Charge	38.50
Bookkeeping	0
Dues	600.00
Drug Testing	
Equipment	
Insurance Premium	1,126.87
Office Supplies	590.90
Payroll Expenses	
District Administration	23,452.78
Employee Health Insurance	8,907.25
Income Tax	7,191.88
Holiday	3,619.16
Nevada Unemployment	784.57
Vacation	3,833.12
Workers Compensation	2,629.14
Postage and Delivery	25.45
Travel and Training	570.19
Vehicle Maintenance	
1500 Chevy	1,969.07
2500 Chevy	719.86
2007 Chevy	3,048.40
Ranger	101.11
Volume Fuel Discount	-20.06
Other (Chemical and Quad Storage)	302.50

Projects

14-016 Clements	
Mileage	126.60
Salary	3,846.62
17-016 Mitchell	
Mileage	102.06
Operating	200.00
Salary	3,648.03
Subcontract	3,300.00
China Camp	

Salary	16,557.82
Operating	733.80
Travel/Mileage	6,383.34
MV Next Generation Conservationists	
Mileage	2,874.43
Operating	7,292.61
Salary	9,815.84
WBC Flying M Contract	
Mileage	2,442.72
Operating	83.31
Salary	17,938.08
<hr/>	
Total Mason Valley Expenses	138,898.87

FINANCIAL SUMMARY
 For the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2016
 Mason Valley Conservation District

Beginning of Year Fund Balance


List of all bank accounts:	
Checking Account	
<i>Mason Valley</i>	\$99,044.25
<i>Joint Account</i>	\$11,436.35
Certificate of Deposit	
<i>Mason Valley Certificate of Deposit</i>	\$15,644.84
Total fund balance	\$126,125.44

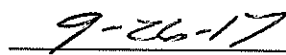
End of Year Fund Balance

List of all bank accounts:	
Checking Account	
<i>Mason Valley</i>	\$114,109.54
<i>Joint Account</i>	\$33,313.37
Certificate of Deposit	
<i>Mason Valley Certificate of Deposit</i>	\$15,646.41
Total End of Year Fund Balance	\$193,069.32

Summary:

Beginning of year fund balance	\$114,689.48
Plus total receipts	
<i>Mason Valley</i>	\$525,302.29
<i>Certificate of Deposit Interest</i>	\$1.57
+	\$639,993.34
Less total expenditures	
<i>Mason Valley</i>	\$480,482.11
Summary balance:	\$159,511.23


 Jeff Borsini, Chairman
 Mason Valley Conservation District


 Date