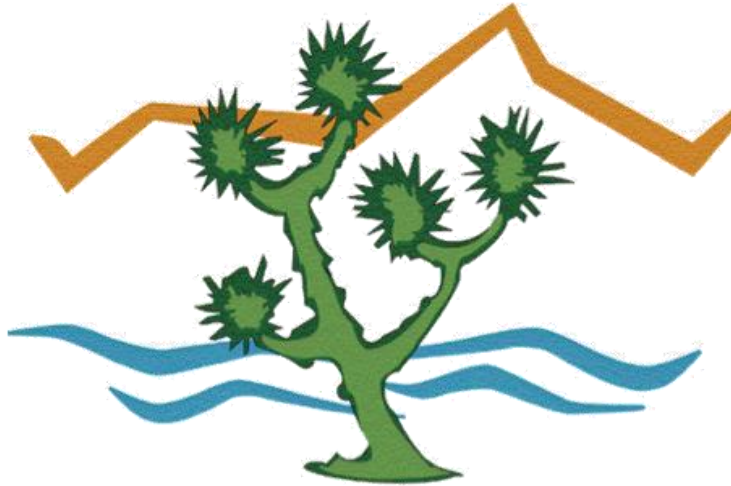


CDSN Annual Report 2020 – 2021



Conservation District
of Southern Nevada
Serving Clark County

Mission

To promote resource conservation, preservation, and sustainability through education, facilitation, and public and private partnerships to benefit the citizens of Clark County, Nevada.

The Conservation District of Southern Nevada (CDSN) is a non-regulatory agency organized in 1974 as a subdivision of State government. CDSN is administered by a seven-member, volunteer, Board of Supervisors. Five supervisors are elected at large, one is appointed to represent the Incorporated Cities of Clark County, and one is appointed by the Board of County Commissioners to represent Clark County. CDSN is **grant funded and donor supported!** For every dollar donated to CDSN approximately \$10 in benefits are provided back to the Community.

Board of Supervisors

	<u>Term</u>
Chris Magee, Chair, Incorporated Cities	2019 – 2021
Shane Ammerman, Vice-Chair, Clark County Representative	2019 – 2022
Rachel Lewison, Treasurer, District E	2019 – 2022
Bryan Cabble, Secretary, District B - Vacant	2016 – 2020
Mark Damron, District A	2020 – 2024
District C – Vacant	2019 – 2023
District D – Vacant	2019 – 2023

Board Supervisor Alternates

Jared Tasko, Clark County Alternate - Previous	2019 – 2021
Jodi Bechtel, Clark County Alternate - Current	2021 – 2022
Vacant, Incorporated Cities Alternate	2019 – 2021

CDSN Liaison

Jarrett DeCorte, Conservation Coordinator – Position term ended	2019 – 2020
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Bookkeeping Services

MilKat LLC



The CDSN in cooperation with USDA prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sexual orientation (including gender identity and expression), marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, political beliefs, genetic information, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual’s income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact us at CDSN@NVACD.org. To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

A history of community success!

- Key participant in the Southern Nevada Strong Regional Planning Program
- Completed 2018-2020 Resource Needs Assessment (RNA) and report
- Leading efforts to coordinate Community Gardening in the Las Vegas Valley
- Provided over **100,000 publications** to residents
- **Reached 24,330 students** through the Stormwater Pollution Poster Contest
- Removed over **100 acres of weeds** at the Valley of Fire State Park
- Distributed **3,700 drought tolerant plants** through plant sales
- Installed **14,600 “Kip the Fish – Don’t Pollute”** Storm Drain Plaques
- Conducted outreach programs to local business and industry groups
- Provided assistance to the following additional projects and programs:



CDSN Booth at GreenFest



2018, 11th Annual Stormwater Pollution Poster Contest – Partners: CCSD



Clark County Wetlands Park Funding & Education Partner: Clark County

Zion Garden Park Agricultural Assistance Program



Zion Garden Park Agricultural Assistance Program



Storm Drain Marketing Campaign Partners: all municipalities, SNWA, NDEP



Straw Bale Structure & Demonstration Garden – Partners: CCSD, DAQEM, Mesquite / Overton



Acacia Demonstration Garden Partners: City of Henderson



Drip Irrigation Educational Guide for residents – Partner: BOR

Our performance during 2020–2021 continues the tradition... Work Plan Summary & Accomplishments

Products, Services & Programs

- Continue to market Conservation District efforts to the public and business community during COVID impacts and restrictions. The CDSN board and its conservation partners have faced unprecedented impacts due to the pandemic which has limited our normal activities. We have pivoted to improve our social media presence to help with existing programs to more effectively promote outreach.
 - Board members increased interactions with stakeholders and participated in a variety of community events/organizations including: Impact NV, ConveneNV, SNRPC, Trees for Tomorrow 2020, Southern Nevada Strong (SNS), University of Nevada Cooperative Extension, Nevada Division of Environmental Protection, and UNLV
 - Supervisor Damron was appointed by the Governor to the Nevada State Conservation Commission and is also a member of the Board of Directors of the Nevada Association of Conservation Districts and a member of the Nevada State Technical Advisory Committee.
 - Stakeholder for Advisory Board for the College of Agriculture, Biotechnology and Natural Resources (CABNR).
 - Working with RTC and local work groups to assist with the RNA process and SNS approved plan.
 - CDSN Facebook page and Twitter account.
 - CDSN.org website updates to reflect current programming:
 - Christmas Tree Recycling, Pitch-A-Pumpkin event, Conservation Lecture Series, Trees for Tomorrow 2020, annual Stormwater Pollution poster contest, community gardens
- Take leadership role in advancing sustainability initiatives and programs in Southern Nevada.
 - Continue to support the Zion Community Garden and develop new opportunities
- Maintain and build partnerships that foster District priorities.
 - Added Part-time Liaison position to Cooperative Extension with 60% + duties dedicated to CDSN projects and day to day operations.
 - Work directly with Clark County Commissioners to enhance and develop new sustainability programs.
 - Starting Regional Needs Assessment, which will bring together local groups and agencies and general public to identify resource concerns and possible solutions.
 - Consult Clark County Commissioners to build programs that would meet intent of SB 476.

Funding

- Pursue funding from a variety of sources such as: foundations, endowments, grants, plant sales, etc. for sustainability issues, programs, and administrative operations.
 - Assistance Program in a low-income, low-access food desert.
 - Working to fund additional community gardening projects & resources.
 - Meetings held and continuing with outreach to local non-profit organizations to develop cooperative agreements for joint projects.
 - Develop Inter-Local Agency agreement for the CDSN Liaison position with University of Nevada Cooperative Extension, with a focus on the garden webpage portal and other shared initiatives.

Operations & Administration

- Meet the requirements of all applicable local, state, and federal laws and regulations.
- Employ staff to provide services needed to achieve the District's mission.
 - Bookkeeping Service retained.
 - Accounts reviewed, practices updated, and reporting standardized.
- Board of Supervisors provide leadership and coordination for District activities.
 - Board member duties divided among members.
 - Working groups continuing to coordinate outreach and ensure product delivery.

Conservation District of Southern Nevada
 Revenue & Expenditure Statement 2020-2021
 Fiscal Year July 30, 2020 to June 30, 2021

	Jul 30, '20 - Jun 30, 21
Income	
State of Nevada-Annual Grant	4,000.00
Interest Income	4.28
Total Income	4,004.28
Gross Profit	4,004.28
Expense	
PROJECT & EVENT EXPENSES	
NDEP-Stormwater Education Exp	900.00
Total PROJECT & EVENT EXPENSES	900.00
GENERAL & ADMINISTRATIVE	
Accounting & Bookkeeping Svcs	300.00
Computer & Internet	275.90
Dues & Subscriptions	1,375.00
"Reserve"*	1,153.38
Total GENERAL & ADMINISTRATIVE	3,104.28
Total Expense	4,004.28
Net Income	0.00

Conservation District of Southern Nevada
Balance Sheet Fiscal Year End 2021
As of June 30th, 2021

	Jun 30, 21
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Wells Fargo Ckg 4964	43,178.37
Paypal Account	376.50
Total Checking/Savings	43,554.87
Total Current Assets	43,554.87
TOTAL ASSETS	43,554.87
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
Accounts Payable	775.00
Total Accounts Payable	775.00
Other Current Liabilities	
IN-TRUST FUNDS	
CDSN Reserve Funds	6,937.49
RNA Reserve Funds	5,825.85
Pumpkin & Xmas Tree Recycling	2,164.45
Solarbration Funds	6,239.69
Total IN-TRUST FUNDS	21,167.48
Total Other Current Liabilities	21,167.48
Total Current Liabilities	21,942.48
Total Liabilities	21,942.48
Equity	
Retained Earnings	21,612.39
Total Equity	21,612.39
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	43,554.87

See Accountant's Compilation Report-Chavez&Koch, CPA's, Ltd.

Our year in review and plans for the future...

Community Gardens —

The CDSN continues to support community gardens via our web portal with local oriented resources and Master Gardner contributions. Prior to COVID restriction, CDSN distributed grant funding from the MGM Resorts in 2019 that provided an irrigation upgrade for the existing 64 garden beds at Zion Community Garden Park. This upgrade has provided more efficient watering with drip irrigation rather than the spray system that was initially installed and has decreased the overall water usage and consumption for the garden.

In 2020-2021, there is an in-progress plan at Zion garden to build two hoop houses that will expand the growth capacity of fresh food for the food desert area that surrounds the immediate area.

There will also be a fall planting event which will celebrate Zion gardens upgrades and rebuilding of the new church, while continuing to promote natural resource conservation at the community level and enable community members to successfully grow produce. The initial Zion Garden project was funded by the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD).



Garden Portal and Conservation Lecture Series —



The CDSN has partnered with the University of Nevada Cooperative Extension on several additional projects. A Conservation Lecture Series held jointly with the Nevada Naturalists, covered conservation topics throughout the summer of 2019. Events are featured on the CDSN website and look to more in the future.

In addition, the [Garden Portal](#) has been launched by the CDSN for 2020/2021. This resource will provide residents of Southern Nevada an opportunity to learn most everything they need to know about starting, maintaining and other resources regarding a community garden. This website will be hosted on the CDSN website and additional elements on the University of Nevada Cooperative Extension's website, a great back and forth for web traffic.



Resource Needs Assessment —

CDSN continues to support the countywide Conservation District Resource Needs Assessment initiative initiated with financial assistance of NVACD and the University of Nevada Cooperative Extension. The goals of this Needs

Assessment are to create new and maintain previous relationships with stakeholders that address some of the identified resource concerns in Southern Nevada. Local work group meetings were held in Logandale, Nevada and meetings were continued with The Regional Transportation Commission, RTC, of whom are now overseeing the Southern Nevada Strong initiative. CDSN will continue to partner with the SNS initiative and community

partners to address the list of resource concerns within Southern Nevada.

Trees for Tomorrow 2020 —

An Advisory Committee was formed to revisit the 2005 Trees for Tomorrow Guide with necessary updates needed for 2020. The CDSN participated during the original 2005 version and remains an at large contributor for the 2020 update. The Trees for Tomorrow 2020 guide and supplemental information will be housed on the CDSN website for residents and professionals to easily have access to. The TFT 2020 Advisory Committee has representatives from over 20 different municipalities and agencies throughout Southern Nevada.



Grants and Poster Contests —

2019-20 marked the 12th year for the CDSN Poster Contest. Each year, the conservation topic of stormwater pollution is promoted at CCSD elementary schools. In 2019-20, CDSN again received entries among 4th and 5th graders who participated. The CDSN will continue to hold poster contests for the foreseeable future. Water pollution remains to be a vital concern in Southern Nevada, to ensure that we continue to have excellent water quality. Stormwater pollution awareness begins with educating children about conservation practices that can be easily implemented.



Christmas Tree Recycling Program —

Each year various community partners come together to recycle used trees into useful mulch. Last season citizens helped keep thousands of trees out of the local landfill! This effort, led by UNLV Recycling and The Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP), gets better each year.

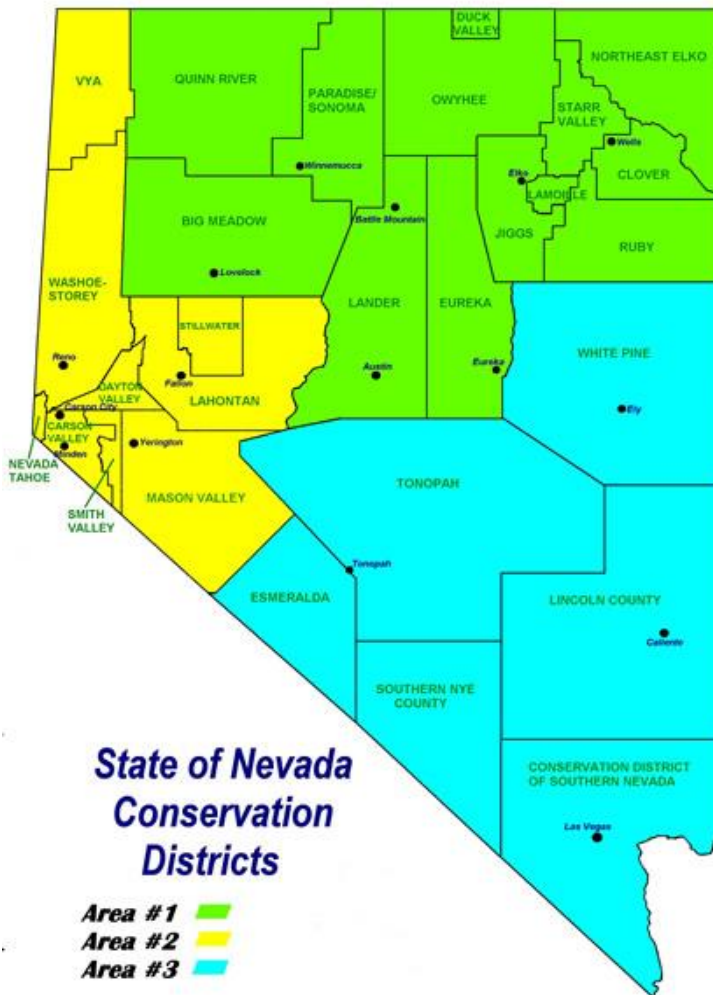


Annual Pitch-A-Pumpkin Event —

CDSN is an integral part of The Southern Nevada Christmas Tree Recycling Committee. The committee encourages the community to be mindful about recycling holiday organics. The Committee has solely focused on recycling Christmas Trees since the 1990's, and in 2016 decided to add recycling pumpkins to the program. The Pumpkin event happens during the first weekend after Halloween and involves launching pumpkins with trebuchets approximately 100 feet into a container donated by Republic Services at the Silverton Hotel and Casino parking lot. Afterwards, the container is hauled to a local composter, to be composted into soil that is used throughout the Las Vegas Valley. In 2018, the committee was able to save 32 tons of pumpkins from entering the landfill and hopes to increase that amount.

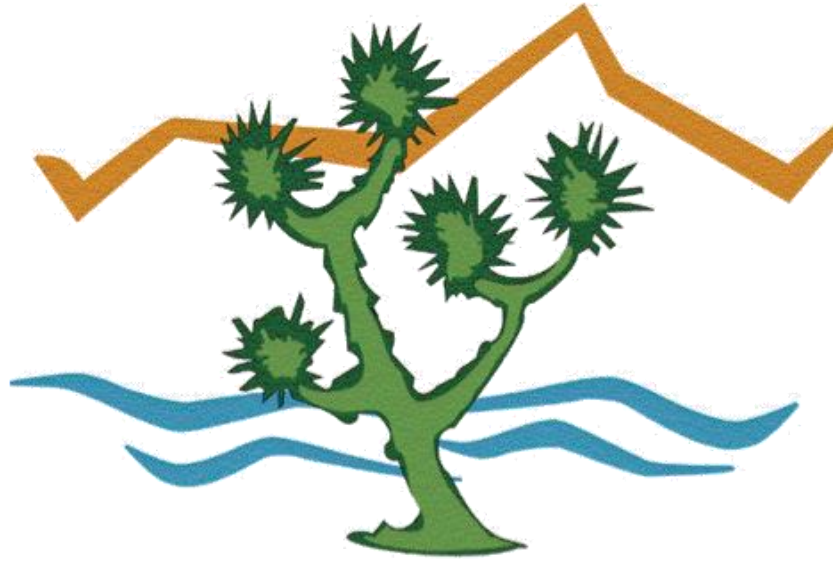


Awards & Recognition — CDSN continues to be recognized via awards and National articles (NACD & USDA). In 2015, we were named NVACD Outstanding Conservation District for our outreach programs and efforts. This has continued as we've earned the following: 2017 Greenfest Transformers award, Green Chips 2017 Sustainable Community Project award.



To the left is a map of the 28 Conservation Districts within the State of Nevada.





**Conservation District
of Southern Nevada**
Serving Clark County

**Get involved in sustainability and improve
your community's quality of life... support
CDSN!**

Follow us on Facebook!

www.cdsn.org



USE OF STATE APPROPRIATED MONEY

SOUTHERN NEVADA CONSERVATION DISTRICT


For the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2021

Amount of State Appropriated Money Recieved: \$ 4,000.00

Money Spent:

Category (specify) NDEP Stormwater Education (\$900),
NVACD (\$600), NACD (\$775),
Website & Hosting (275.90),
Accounting (\$300) \$ 2,850.90

Balance Remaining: \$ 1,149.10



Authorized Signature: 09/22/2021
Date

Katilina Scarano, Bookkeeper, MilKat LLC

Name and Title:

Submit by September 30th to:

Conservation Distrcit Program at

Convprogram@dcnr.nv.gov

or send to

State Conservation Districts Program

201 South Roop Street, Carson City, NV 89701

Phone (775) 684-8600 FAX (775) 684-8604



CONSERVATION DISTRICT of SOUTHERN NEVADA

WORK PLAN AND BUDGET Fiscal Year 2021-2022

INTRODUCTION

This plan will guide the Conservation District of Southern Nevada (CDSN) in meeting its objectives for natural resource management during Fiscal Year 2021-2022. Through cooperation with government agencies, businesses, private organizations, community groups, elected officials, and individuals, the District plans to establish and promote standards of conservation that will ensure an adequate resource base within Clark County. CDSN provides programs and services on a nondiscriminatory basis, without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, marital status, disability, or age.

BACKGROUND

In 1937, the Nevada State Legislature passed an enabling act that instituted conservation districts in Nevada to preserve and protect natural resources. The CDSN was formed in 1974 upon consolidation of the Moapa Valley, Las Vegas Valley, and Virgin Valley Conservation Districts. In the past, District activities were predominantly concentrated in the rural areas of Clark County. However, due to rapid expansion in the urban areas, District efforts have been redirected to include both rural and urban areas.

Seven Board Supervisors administer the CDSN. Five Supervisors are elected to serve four-year terms, one Supervisor is appointed to represent Clark County, and one Supervisor is appointed to represent the Incorporated Cities of Clark County. Supervisors direct natural resource conservation activities while maintaining a close and valued partnership with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service and the University of Nevada Extension. Even though there are not enough funds for staff, CDSN has partnered with Extension to provide part time staffing for CDSN's programs. CDSN does continue its partnership development, community outreach, and program delivery. CDSN values the significant contributions of partnering agencies, organizations, citizens, businesses, and others. Volunteerism on the part of CDSN's Board has been key in maintaining course and developing new opportunities during this period of limited funding.

MISSION STATEMENT

To promote resource conservation, preservation, and sustainability through education, facilitation, and public and private partnerships to benefit the citizens of Clark County Nevada.

BOARD MEMBERS

Chris Magee: Chair, Incorporated Cities Representative

Shane Ammerman: Vice-Chair, Clark County Representative

Rachel Lewison: Treasurer, (interim acting Secretary)

Mark Damron: Supervisor

Vacant: Supervisor

Vacant: Supervisor

Vacant: Supervisor

Jodi Bechtel: Clark County Alternate Representative

GOALS, OBJECTIVES and TASKS

GOAL 1: *Determine natural resource program opportunities. Obtain and maintain adequate finances for District operations.*

Objective 1: Pursue funding from federal, state, and local governments.

Task A: Pursue funds from Clark County, the Incorporated Cities of Clark County, and the Southern Nevada Regional Planning Coalition.

Task B: Renew or discuss the possibility of an MOU agreement with Cooperative Extension for similar projects and programs, including the CDSN Conservation Coordinator liaison.

Task C: Support efforts to pursue funding for Nevada conservation districts from the State of Nevada through NVACD.

Task D: Pursue grants from MGM, NACD along with others that are support the mission of CDSN

Task E: Present and implement NVACD Resource Needs Assessment action plans with local workgroups.

Task F: Continue addressing the resource concern issues outlined in the Conservation Report.

Objective 2: Research and pursue fundraising opportunities for operating expenses.

Task A: Identify and pursue new funding opportunities including fundraising events and membership programs.

Objective 3: Pursue and implement new plans for generating discretionary operating funds.

Task A: Create reoccurring conservation certification/recognition program and events such as golf tournament for the environment.

Task B: Seek fee-based postings on CDSN website.

GOAL 2: *Coordinate and promote education programs which support and further the mission.*

Objective 1: Provide for and participate in community environmental education programs.

Task A: Participate in conservation education programs and events such as *Earth Day, Earth Hour, World Water Day, University of Nevada Extension programming, Urban Agriculture partnerships, Chuck-a-pumpkin event, Christmas tree recycling* and other cities recycling events.

Task B: Maintain and regularly evaluate the *CDSN website* content.

Task C: Work with Vegas PBS to develop community PSA about CDSN efforts and accomplishments.

Task D: Develop water conservation education with additional conservation curriculum with SNWA. Collaboration with Cooperative Extension for primary grade conservation education programming in the classroom and related recognition.

Task E: Continue to promote the Urban Agriculture/garden web portal which provides helpful information including successful installations, lessons learned, contacts, irrigation practices, proper desert planting along with many other relevant topics.

Objective 2: Sponsor environmental education programs.

Task A: Give environmental/recycling presentations to Clark County classrooms upon request.

Task B: Renew and support grant requirements for the previously awarded *Stormwater Pollution Prevention Poster Contest* in cooperation with NDEP, SNWA, and CCSD.

GOAL 3: Provide District administrative and operational activities.

Objective 1: Ensure the District is fulfilling the requirements of NRS 548 through its programs and practices.

Task A: Conduct periodic strategic planning workshops, educational seminars, and information sharing sessions for Board Members and staff.

Objective 2: Funding permitting, employ staff and designate committees to provide services needed to achieve CDSN mission.

Task A: Employ adequate staff for District operations.

Task B: Identify District activities through the Public Relations (PR) Committee.

Objective 3: Participate and assist in State, Regional, and National meetings.

Task A: CDSN representative(s) attend *NVACD Annual Conference*, should funding permit.

Task B: CDSN representative(s) attend *NACD Annual Pacific Region Conference*, should funding permit.

Task C: CDSN representative(s) attend *NACD Annual National Conference*, should funding permit.

GOAL 4: Assist in the development and implementation of conservation plans and programs and promote conservation, preservation and sustainability.

Objective 1: Assist community partners in developing, managing, and promoting environmental plans, programs, and demonstration projects.

Task A: Cooperate with community partners in managing and protecting natural resources through projects such as *Southern Nevada Strong (SNS)*, *Community Gardens*, the *Sustainability Partnership Program*, *Christmas Tree Recycling Pumpkin Recycling*, the *Stormwater Pollution Prevention Poster Contest*, *Southern Nevada Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA)*, *The Nevada Naturalists* and other Extension programs through the CDSN liaison.

Task B: Assist/collaborate the NRCS, Extension, SNRPC, SNS (RTC), SNWA, ImpactNV, DRI, CCSD, USGBCNV and others with outreach and educational activities, public outreach programs, and public information materials.

Objective 2: Support the NRCS in their efforts to assist landowners with conservation needs and with meeting the provisions of the Farm Bill such as the Hoop House program.

Task A: Review and approve NRCS conservation plans as needed.

Task B: Participate in the implementation of the Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) program and the Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP).

Objective 3: Identify and pursue projects that fulfill a unique conservation such as urban community gardens and pig farm.

Task A: Create funding/award mechanism with partners to support new or existing gardens.

Task B: Work with stakeholders to increase food scrap donations to local pig farm.

GOAL 5: Build, promote, and facilitate partnerships among stakeholders.

Objective 1: Maintain and enhance partnerships with federal, state, local and private agencies.

Task A: Coordinate with federal agencies including the US Forest Service, Environmental Protection Agency, National Park Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Reclamation, and Bureau of Land Management.

Task B: Coordinate with state agencies including the Nevada Division of Forestry, University of Nevada Cooperative Extension, Nevada Division of State Parks, Nevada Department of Agriculture, Nevada Division of Wildlife, and the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection.

Task C: Coordinate with local and regional agencies including Clark County, Incorporated Cities, Southern Nevada Regional Planning Coalition, Southern Nevada Water Authority, Regional Flood Control District, University of Nevada Cooperative Extension, and the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

Task D: Collaborate with various private entities committed to items centric to CDSN's mission.

Objective 2: Participate in and assist with the environmental efforts of grassroots organizations, local businesses, and the general public.

Task A: Appoint representatives to serve on committees such as SNS steering committee, the Las Vegas Wash Coordination Committee, Clark County Wetlands Park Interpretive Planning Committee, and the Las Vegas Springs Preserve.

Objective 3: Identify what other organizations do and reorganize current and future District projects according to their viability, relevance, and service to the community.

GOAL 6: Promote Conservation District efforts through public outreach.

Objective 1: Communicate District's efforts to the community.

Task A: Develop and distribute District newsletter, fact sheet, and brochure.

Task B: Promote CDSN through media outlets, spokespersons, CDSN webpage and other social media platforms.

Task C: Utilize media and the web to inform public of natural resource issues.

Task D: Continue to create and distribute conservation education materials.

Task E: Promote CDSN Volunteer Program opportunities and other partner efforts.

**Conservation District of Southern Nevada
Budget --- FY 2021/2022**

Income	
Source:	Amount:
NV Conservation District	\$3,500.00
Donations	\$1,000.00
Interest from bank account	\$5.00
Anticipated Total	\$4,505.00
Expenditures	
Category:	Expenses
Accounting Services	\$600.00
Advertising Marketing	\$200.00
Insurance Dues	\$500.00
NvACD/NACD Membership Dues	\$1,500.00
Office Supplies	\$50.00
Other (Program wards, dues, etc.)	\$1000.00
Web Site/ Social Media	\$220.00
Travel/Conferences	\$2,000.00
Events:	
Christmas Tree/Pumpkin Recycling	\$500.00
Resource Needs Assessment Outreach	\$1,000.00
Community Garden Program	\$3,000.00
Anticipated Expenditure Total:	\$10,570.00