

*EUREKA CONSERVATION
DISTRICT*

Annual Work Plan and Budget

July 1st, 2012 - June 30th, 2013

**EUREKA CONSERVATION DISTRICT
ANNUAL WORK PLAN & BUDGET
JULY 1st, 2012 – JUNE 30th, 2013**

CONTENTS

<i>INTRODUCTION</i> _____	<i>3</i>
<i>MISSION STATEMENT</i> _____	<i>3</i>
<i>OBJECTIVES</i> _____	<i>3</i>
<i>CONSERVATION ASSISTANCE</i> _____	<i>3</i>
<i>WORKING RELATIONS</i> _____	<i>4</i>
<i>INFORMATION AND EDUCATION</i> _____	<i>4</i>
<i>ADMINISTRATION</i> _____	<i>5</i>
<i>SPECIAL COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS</i> _____	<i>5</i>
<i>CALENDAR OF EVENTS</i> _____	<i>6</i>
<i>AUTHORIZATION</i> _____	<i>6</i>
<i>ANNUAL BUDGET</i> _____	<i>enclosed</i>

INTRODUCTION:

The principal goal of Eureka Conservation District is to protect county soil, water, and related resources from unwise use. We believe the following work plan is realistic and will help the conservation problems facing our country.

In general, conservation assistance is made available free of charge, to district landowners and operators through Mutual and Cooperative working agreements with the United States Department of Agriculture, and Natural Resources Conservation Service in Eureka, Nevada. All programs and services of the U.S. Department of Agriculture are offered on a nondiscriminatory basis, without regard to race, color, creed, national origin, sex, age, marital status, disability or sexual orientation. The District encompasses Eureka County.

MISSION STATEMENT:

The mission of the Eureka Conservation District is to coordinate technical and educational resources to meet the needs of the people within the District for the conservation of natural resources.

OBJECTIVES:

- ❖ Concentrate conservation efforts in critical resources problem areas and important land use areas.
- ❖ Provide conservation assistance to district cooperators, individuals, minorities, limited resource farmers, and units of government.
- ❖ Reinforce work relationships with various agencies and groups, and support programs having a common interest.
- ❖ Carry out information and educational programs.
- ❖ Continue to carry out district administration activities.

I. <u>CONSERVATION ASSISTANCE:</u>	WHO	WHEN
1. Encourage landowners and operators to become cooperators.	Board NRCS	continuous
2. Develop conservation plans and provide technical assistance for cooperators to apply practices.	NRCS Board Cooperator	continuous
3. Work with producers to maintain eligibility under the provisions of the Food Security Act.	NRCS Board	continuous
4. Initiate Fish Creek Project to alleviate erosion and create wildlife and waterfowl habitat.	Board DV Weed District	continuous

5.	Share in the plan to re-establish dry land pasture for Al Hoekenga acreage.	Board	2012-2013
6.	Contribute on plan to enlarge and stabilize pond on David and Terri Clark land.	Board	2012-2013
7.	Pinyon/Juniper thinning	NRCS Board	continuous
8.	Riparian Improvement project	NRCS	continuous
9.	Agrimet Station maintenance fee	Board	2012-2013
10.	Center Pivot Management monitoring (moisture meter in DV)	Board	2012-2013
11.	Tree purchasing	Board	2012-2013

II. WORKING RELATIONS:

		WHO	WHEN
1.	Cooperate with individuals, groups, and local officials in land use planning to advance conservation goals and objectives.	Board NRCS	continuous
2.	Assist the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to carry out conservation programs.	Board NRCS	continuous
3.	Keep up-to-date on public policy issues and other agency proposals affecting Eureka County.	Board NRCS	continuous
4.	Participate in public meetings concerning the District.	Board NRCS	continuous
5.	Be informed on legislative activities and notify legislative representatives on any issue of concern to the Eureka Conservation District.	Board	continuous
6.	Work with local cooperative extension services to develop demonstrations, research trials and conservation plans.	Board NRCS	continuous

III. <u>INFORMATION AND EDUCATION:</u>	WHO	WHEN
1. Publish District's annual report in local newspaper.	Board	Oct/Nov
2. Publish semi-annual newsletter.	Board, UNR Extension, DV Weed, Natural Resources	continuous
3. Sponsor local poster contest.	Board	October
4. Sponsor range camp participants.	Board	June
5. Sponsor scholarship for high school and college students interested in agriculture or natural resource fields.	Board	May
6. Provide financial assistance to local clubs.	Board	continuous
7. Take a leadership role in informing producers of progress being made in weed and pest control activities.	Board	continuous
8. Provide pamphlets or books to the public on weed and pest control.	Board	continuous
9. Sponsor conservation workshops.	Board	continuous

IV. <u>ADMINISTRATION:</u>	WHO	WHEN
1. Develop annual work plan.	Board	April
2. Review Memorandum of Understanding.	Board	continuous
3. Develop annual budget.	Board	February through June
4. Manage District finances.	Board	continuous
5. Hold regular meetings each month. Special meetings to be called as needed.	Board	monthly
6. Plan and direct a conservation project.	Board	continuous
7. Operate and maintain a local conservation office.	Board	continuous

- | | | | |
|-----|--|-------|-----------|
| 8. | Hire employees or acquire the services of professionals. | Board | as needed |
| 9. | Help orient new supervisors on district activities and programs. | Board | as needed |
| 10. | Conduct employee appraisals. | Board | as needed |
| 11. | Hold elections of board officers. | Board | November |

V. SPECIAL COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1. Local Conservation Committee
 Patsy Tomera
 Patti Benson
 Juniece Salas
 Jake Tibbitts
 Kathy Porter</p> | <p>4. Poster Committee
 Patti Benson
 Juniece Salas
 Kathy Porter</p> |
| <p>2. Annual Meeting Committee
 Patsy Tomera
 Patti Benson
 Juniece Salas</p> | <p>5. Scholarship Committee
 Patsy Tomera
 Patti Benson
 Kathy Porter</p> |
| <p>3. Research and Education
 Patsy Tomera
 Patti Benson
 Juniece Salas
 Kathy Porter
 Jake Tibbitts</p> | |

VI. CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

District supervisors will attend local, state, and national meetings, conferences, etc, to keep abreast of changing conservation techniques and resource issues, and to further conservation work plan projects.

MEETINGS	WHO	WHEN
1. Nevada Association of Conservation Districts	Board	October/November
2. Southwest Region Meeting	Board Representative	September
3. Northeast Area Meeting	Board	June

- | | | | |
|----|--|----------------------|------------------|
| 4. | National Association of Conservation Districts | Board | February |
| 5. | Annual Meeting of Eureka Conservation District | Board | October/November |
| 6. | NACD Summer Board Meeting & Legislative Conference | Board Representative | July |

VII. AUTHORIZATION:

Adoption of this work plan was authorized unanimously by motion of the Eureka Conservation District Board of Supervisors.

Approved by:

Patsy Tomera, Chairwoman

Date: _____

Patti Benson, Vice-Chairwoman

Date: _____

EUREKA CONSERVATION DISTRICT
P.O. Box 323, Eureka, Nevada 89316
(775) 237-5251

Annual Budget
JULY 1, 2012 through JUNE 30, 2013

Supervisor's Travel & Training:	\$5,000.00
Office Expenses:	\$7,800.00
Postal Fees (postage, bulk mailings, etc)	\$ 300.00
Office Supplies (including monthly Internet service)...	\$1,500.00
Salary for District Clerk	\$6,000.00
Projects:	\$20,000.00
• Agrimet Station Maintenance Fee	
• Center Pivot Management Monitoring (moisture metering) in Diamond Valley	
• Clark Pond Stabilization	
• Eureka County Conservation Poster Contest	
• Fish Creek Project	
• Hoekenga Pasture Restoration	
• Juvenile Department Duck Stamp Program	
• P-J Thinning	
• Range camp	
• Research and Education	
• Riparian Project	
• Tree Purchasing	
Insurance (worker's compensation and grain drills	\$ 600.00
State and National Meetings and Dues:	\$7,375.00
NvACD dues	\$ 600.00
National Association of Conservation Districts	\$ 775.00
Registration and Travel Expenses for Meetings.....	\$6,000.00
<u>Expense Total</u>	\$40,775.00
<i>Annual Budget Amount.</i>	<i>\$38,775.00</i>
<i>(Grant from Eureka County)</i>	
<i>State Funds Amount</i>	<i>\$2,000.00</i>
<i>Total Budget Amount</i>	<i>\$40,775.00</i>

*EUREKA CONSERVATION DISTRICT
P.O. Box 323, Eureka, Nevada 89316
(775) 237-5251*

**Eureka
Conservation
District**

Annual Report

July 1, 2012 - June 30, 2013

EUREKA CONSERVATION DISTRICT
ANNUAL REPORT
JULY 1, 2012 - JUNE 30, 2013

Eureka Conservation District Background Information:

The Eureka Conservation District (ECD) was founded in 1950. The District land mass at the time of inception covered 1,650 square miles. After four landowner petitions and land transfers from Jiggs and the Humboldt Conservation Districts, the Eureka Conservation District now covers 4,175 square miles.

Meeting Dates:

The Eureka Conservation District meets the second Wednesday of each month in the Eureka County Administrative Building at 701 S. Main Street in Eureka, Nevada.

District Supervisors:

Chairperson	Patsy Tomera	November 2012 through November 2014
Vice – Chairperson	Patti Benson	November 2012 through November 2014
Member	Juniece Salas	November 2014 through November 2016
Member	Gary McCuin	November 2012 through November 2014
Member	Lynn Conley	November 2014 through November 2016
County Representative	Jake Tibbitts, Eureka County Natural Resources Manager	

2012 - 2013 Meetings:

Local & Area -The Eureka Conservation District (ECD) held seven regular meetings

State – Chairwoman Tomera, President of the Nevada Association of Conservation Districts (NvACD) chaired and attended the state conservation meeting. Supervisors Tibbitts and Salas also attended the Winnemucca Nevada conference. *NvACD dues for ECD are current.*

National – Newly elected President Mr. Jake Tibbitts of the NvACD and the Eureka Conservation District County Representative did attend the NACD Conference. *The Eureka Conservation District is also an association member of the NACD with dues to date paid in full.*

Education:

NACD’s Annual Poster Contest -“Soil to Spoon” was the theme for the 2012 NACD poster contest.

The theme was presented in the month of October 2012 to students attending Eureka Elementary School, Carlin Elementary School, and Crescent Valley Elementary School. A yearly topic is handed down from the National Association of Conservation Districts and is geared to educate the youth in conservation efforts. Students are encouraged to artistically depict their concept of each theme. During the Eureka Conservation District annual meeting/dinner cash prizes were presented to the top four winning posters in each age group. The posters then are presented at the state level to be judged.

Sponsorships

ECD approved a \$350.00 sponsorship and donation to assist in the Junior Duck Stamp Program coordinated through the Eureka Juvenile Probation office. The yearly program is presented to elementary students, educating them on water fowl habitat.

Pinyon-Juniper Removal:

The conservation district participated financially in a grant matching program to cut large sections of encroaching Pinyon and Juniper on private land. The plan to remove trees is an ongoing effort to help private land owners to replenish dwindling water tables for livestock use. The project entailed three thousand acres and covered Simpson Creek (Baumann property), Cottonwood Creek, and Roberts Mountain. Another avenue of attention being considered is sage grouse habitat areas. This will be part of the focus in P-J removal in 2013-2014.

The Biochar Project:

Supervisor Jake Tibbitts has been working on this project for two years and recently did get word the Conservation Innovation (CIG) grant was approved. Several groups went together to form an alliance to apply for grant funding to research biochar. The group is looking at alternatives concerning water issues facing Diamond Valley farmers. The Eureka Conservation District has designated funds allocated for this project.

Biochar (100% carbon) has been shown to aid in moisture and nutrient holding capacity and shown to help absorption of fertilizer and pesticides as it has a sponge like aptitude. Biochar is the product of baking, not burning biomass. With the P-J removal projects proceeding, the hope is to develop a secondary use for the material through the biochar plan. A kiln will be purchased. The kiln being looked at is a mobile unit, although there is a process to moving it. The unit would be moved from site to site, but used for weeks at a time where Pinyon and Juniper are being removed.

A trial study will take place first to prove the concept will work. Small exact copy multiple plots will be used. A lead investigator will be heading the trials. The results of the study will determine if the biochar project will be worth using on a large scale. Organic material (manure, etc.) will also be used in the trial plots to test if the biochar is a difference maker. If the results show what is hoped for, then biochar would be applicable everywhere.

Eureka Conservation District participation in local working groups:

A local work group has been formed with the intent to develop, implement and complete projects. The reason is to get away from state initiated projects. A local work group is in a position to know and target conservation needs the individual, city, or county has and advance their own agenda of projects. The intent is to have programs develop and completed by the local work group, and get away from programs coming down from the state level.

Wildlife tank ramps:

It was reported the ramps are made. Tomera Ranch is storing sixteen ramps made by the Carlin welding class. Clerk Self said she would pick up the sixteen made by Jim Worley.

Scholarships:

Fifteen hundred dollars was used to further education for high school and college students. Two scholarships were given out to fund higher schooling for students from local schools.

Cooperative Projects:

Agri-Met Remote Weather Station

The ECD once again provided support to the UNR Cooperative Extension for the AgriMet remote weather station. Climatic information from this station (9th Street) is used by local farmers to help understand what precipitation levels, soil moisture, soil temperature, wind, evapo-transpiration rates, and many other factors affecting the timing and growth of their particular crops. Information from this site is entered onto spreadsheets assisting farmers to develop crop specific water balance sheets. This information then helps the farmer match the plant requirements with actual and estimated soil moisture. Data from this site along with spreadsheet information helps the farmer determine if he/she is getting the amount of water to the crop at the correct time. Irrigation scheduling using this data can potentially decrease costs of irrigation and conserve water. Additionally, data from this site can be useful to determine local growing conditions for non irrigated plants like rangeland grasses. Information from this site can also be used, together with other local weather stations, to determine local area precipitation and growing conditions at times of drought or other extreme weather conditions. Data from this site is useful in determining climatic conditions used to research crops and rangeland. It is especially useful and valuable for reporting local conditions, rather than regional, to determine crop and rangeland disaster payments, and insurance payments.



Photo courtesy of Gary McCuin, UNR Cooperative Extension

Range Camp:

Three students were sponsored and attended Range Camp. It was agreed by the board to send the remaining designated funds of \$1,040.00 to the Range Camp organization to help with expenses needed to organize the Range Camp experience.

Community Outreach:

Publications

Updates on Eureka Conservation District activities appear in the semi-annual newsletter published by the Eureka Natural Resources Department.

Annual Meeting:

The Annual Meeting/Dinner for the Eureka Conservation District was held November 1st, 2012. An outline of the yearly activities, programs, and projects taken on were presented to the public. Eureka Conservation District poster contest winners and their families were invited. An award certificate and money was presented to the first through third place student winners in class categories. Election of officers was held. Elected and serving two year terms are Ms. Juniece Salas and Ms. Lynn Conley.

The following conservation awards were presented:

- 1) Mr. David Fitzwater, Owner – Outstanding Rangeland Improvement Conservation Practices
- 2) Mr. Russell Fitzwater, Owner – Outstanding Rangeland Improvement Conservation Practices

Equipment Rental

Rangeland Drills

The three rangeland drills owned by the Eureka Conservation District continue to be leased and put to good use by local landowners planting seed in fields and farms throughout the spring and into the fall months. Use of these drills has proven beneficial for post-fire rehabilitation, pasture restoration, and noxious weed control.

PROPOSED BUDGET

EUREKA CONSERVATION DISTRICT

For fiscal year ending June 30, 2013

Estimate of Receipts

<u>RECEIPT SOURCE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
State Funds	\$2,659.49
County Funds	\$38,775.00
City Funds	0.00
Other Government Funds (specify)	0.00
Administrative Income (specify)	0.00
Interest – CD, Savings and Checking	\$23.29
Grants for projects (specify)	0.00
Conservation Poster Contest	0.00
Rental Income (equipment, etc.)	\$76.25
Contributions (Annual Mtg/Dinner)	\$502.12
Building/Property Rental Fees	0.00
Other Sources of Income	0.00

TOTAL INCOME **\$42,036.15**

(Income estimate must equal Expense Estimate)

PROPOSED BUDGET

EUREKA CONSERVATION DISTRICT

For fiscal year ending June 30, 2013

Estimate of Expenditures

<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Employee Salary	\$6,000.00
Fringe Benefit Expense	0.00
Supervisor Travel	\$5,000.00
Building Rent	0.00
Telephone	0.00
Insurance(Rangeland drill, Worker's Comp.)	\$1,000.00
Postage	\$300.00
Office Supplies	\$1,500.00
Education & Information Expenses	\$5,000.00
Equipment Purchase (specify)	0.00
Equipment Expense (maintenance, repair)	0.00
Dues – NvACD	\$600.00
Dues – NACD	\$750.00
Dues – Other	0.00
Registration and Travel for Meetings	\$2,199.65
Investments	0.00
Internet	0.00
Bond and Insurance Expense	0.00
Project Costs:	
Grant #1 Agrimet Station	\$1,600.00
Grant #2 P-J Thinning	\$5000.00
Grant #3 Stock tank ramps	\$960.00
Scholarships	\$2,000.00
Wise Fish Creek project	\$2,784.00
Range Camp	\$1,500.00
Duck Stamps Program	\$350.00
Hoekenga Pasture project	\$2192.50
Other Expense (Annual Mtg/Dinner)	\$3,300.00

TOTAL EXPENSES

\$42,036.15 (Income estimate must equal Expense Estimate)

EUREKA CONSERVATION DISTRICT
Final Financial Report
Fiscal year ending June 30th, 2013

Receipts

<u>RECEIPT SOURCE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
State Funds	\$2,659.49
County Funds	38,775.00
City Funds	0.00
Other Government Funds (specify)	0.00
Administrative Income (specify)	0.00
Interest – CD, Savings and Checking	\$23.29
Grants for projects (specify)	0.00
Conservation Poster Contest	0.00
Rental Income (equipment, etc.)	\$76.25
Contributions (Annual Mtg/Dinner)	\$502.12
Building/Property Rental Fees	0.00
Other Sources of Income	0.00

TOTAL INCOME **\$42,036.15** (Income estimate must equal Expense Estimate)

EUREKA CONSERVATION DISTRICT
Final Financial Report
Fiscal year ending June 30th, 2013

Expenditures

<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Employee Salary	\$6,000.00
Fringe Benefit Expense	0.00
Supervisor Travel	\$5,000.00
Building Rent	0.00
Telephone	0.00
Insurance(Rangeland drill, Worker's Comp.)	\$1,000.00
Postage	\$300.00
Office Supplies	\$1,500.00
Education & Information Expenses	\$5,000.00
Equipment Purchase (specify)	0.00
Equipment Expense (maintenance, repair)	0.00
Dues – NvACD	\$600.00
Dues – NACD	750.00
Dues – Other	0.00
Registration and Travel for Meetings	\$2,199.65
Investments	0.00
Internet	0.00
Bond and Insurance Expense	0.00
Project Costs:	
Grant #1 Agrimet Station	\$1,600.00
Grant #2 P-J Thinning	\$5000.00
Grant #3 Stock tank ramps	960.00
Scholarships	\$2,000.00
Wise Fish Creek project	\$2,784.00
Range Camp	\$1,500.00
Duck Stamps Program	\$350.00
Hoekenga Pasture project	2192.50
Other Expense (Annual Mtg/Dinner)	\$3,300.00

TOTAL EXPENSES

\$42,036.15 (Income estimate must equal Expense Estimate)