



**Washoe-Storey Conservation District**  
1365 Corporate Blvd., Reno, NV 89502, (775) – 857-8500 extension 131

# **FY-2014 Annual Work Plan**

## **MISSION**

The Washoe-Storey Conservation District (WSCD) creates an understanding of the interrelationships between people and our environment through educating our citizens and building opportunities and partnerships so as to foster conservation and restoration efforts on all lands and to aid urban growth in an environmentally responsible manner.

## **VISION**

The Washoe-Storey Conservation District works with the public, government agencies, community organizations, and other stakeholders to foster environmental stewardship and management of natural resources, to educate the community on environmental issues, and to restore and enhance our natural resources.

## **DISTRICT GOALS**

- Maintain a healthy, viable conservation district organization
- Restore and enhance natural resources
- Implement conservation practices emphasizing water quantity and quality, fish and wildlife habitat, stream and wetland restoration, rangeland management, flood control and others
- Identify, map and control noxious weeds
- Encourage and assist in environmentally responsible urban land use
- Assist in the development of recreation opportunities
- Emphasize fire fuel reduction in urban-rural interface lands
- Work with elected officials and others to attain our goals

## **THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

The Washoe-Storey Conservation District is governed by a seven member Board of Supervisors. The board is a combination of elected and appointed citizens who make District policy and oversee the decisions and activities of the District. Current District Supervisors include:

Bret Tyler, Chairman

Jim Shaffer, Secretary – Washoe County Appointee

Kevin Roukey, Treasurer

Tory Friedman, Supervisor

Vacant – Elected

Vacant - Elected

Vacant – City of Reno & Sparks Appointee

## **ABOUT THE WASHOE-STOREY CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

The Washoe-Storey Conservation District is a legal subdivision of the state government of Nevada. The District works to protect, restore, and improve the natural and cultural resources of this unique part of the state, and provides natural resource conservation assistance to the urban population, ranchers, Tribes, small land holdings and government agencies. The district offers to assist with the identification of land use problems, offer guided solutions, plans and seeks grants for implementation and coordinates volunteer participation in its conservation projects.

The Cities of Reno and Sparks, Washoe and Storey Counties, Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, Washoe County Health District, Nevada Division of Environmental Protection, Environmental Protection Agency, The United States Army Corps of Engineers, Bureau of Reclamation, and the Natural Resources Conservation Service, Nevada Land Conservancy, University of Nevada-Reno, environmental and community groups and other units of government are a few of our partners.

## **WASHOE-STOREY CONSERVATION DISTRICT PROGRAMS**

The Washoe-Storey Conservation District focuses much of our efforts on restoration and enhancement, education, and internal and public policy. Through each of these programs, the District hopes to accomplish their goals and encourages environmental stewardship and responsibility.

### **RESTORATION and ENHANCEMENT**

The Washoe-Storey Conservation District plans and restores stream, wetland and riparian habitat to a proper functioning status.

In an urban setting that is becoming more and more heavily developed, the riparian habitat is essential in maintaining a natural stream function. Riparian zones provide canopy cover, stabilize slopes, provide habitat for native species, reduce nutrient loads, minimize public health vector impacts, and help to filter stormwater runoff. These environmental benefits can also lead to economic advantages in drinking water treatment, wastewater treatment, recreation and tourism. The Washoe-Storey Conservation District recognizes that the preservation and restoration of these riparian areas can contribute immeasurably to our quality of life, is diligently working on some current restoration projects.

**Hidden Meadows Ponds:** Hidden Meadows is a development adjacent to Steamboat Creek. During development activities, ground water was encountered which resulted in the construction of a large pond. Washoe-Storey Conservation District is working with the Hidden Meadows Home Owners Association and RTC to address potential alternatives to the standing water and vector problems. Washoe-Storey Conservation District saw an opportunity to potentially improve water quality, wildlife habitat and create a more pleasing situation for the homeowners in the area. The scope of this project is to assess the potential for developing a passive park setting with the cooperation of RTC and the Hidden Meadows Home Owners Association.

**Wetlands 5 & 6:** The Washoe-Storey Conservation District Board of Supervisors are donating their time to work with the Double Diamond Ranch Master's Association and the US Army Corps of Engineers to help facilitate the restoration of the wetlands and help the Double Diamond Ranch Master's Association bring the wetland into compliance with US Army Corps of Engineers.

### **EDUCATION**

The Washoe-Storey Conservation District encourages and assists with the development of public policy that benefits the health of the watershed.

The District views education and outreach as a primary way to get volunteers involved in conservation projects and to create community support for conservation efforts. During the upcoming fiscal year, the District will put together an education and outreach program to bring conservation education to local volunteer and community service groups. The education component of the program will focus on Truckee Meadows, Storey County and surrounding areas. In this manner, the District hopes to bring education and outreach programs to the Truckee Meadows communities and Cooperative Weed Management Areas. At the same time, the District

recognizes the need for other outreach programs in the community. Volunteer workdays, public workshops and presentation, and community events provide the District with the opportunity to work with the public towards conservation goals. The District will work toward these ends through the following:

- Maintain and expand the District's Web page, with considerations made to our target audience.
- Develop new conservation brochures & pamphlets.
- Make presentations as part of our education and public outreach program.
- Participate in local conservation events to provide public education and participation.

Through these events, the Washoe-Storey Conservation District will bring environmental education and outreach into the Northern Nevada Community.

## **INTERNAL POLICY**

The Washoe-Storey Conservation District will develop and retain a healthy Conservation District organization. As a grant-funded organization, the District must secure program funding and carefully track expenditures and budgets in order to continue to provide our services to the community. Strategic planning, funding planning and regular budget reviews all contribute to the sustainability of the District.

## **PUBLIC POLICY**

The Washoe-Storey Conservation District encourages and assists with the development of public policy that benefits the health of the watershed and improves public recreation.

The District recognizes the role of public policy in conservation efforts. In order to encourage public funding and community support, the District works with local governments, as well as state and federal agencies, to advocate environmentally responsible growth and development policies. The two main focuses of the District's Public Policy program to date have been noxious weeds, stormwater runoff, and development plan reviews. During the coming fiscal year, the District plans to continue this work, as well as soliciting grant funding from public organizations and private foundations in order to encourage the preservation of private and public lands and to maintain and expand the areas recreational opportunities.

### **Interlocal Stormwater Committee**

- Continue participating with the Interlocal Stormwater Committee in cooperation with Reno, Sparks and Washoe County.
- Seek opportunities to encourage new stormwater control alternatives, such as Low Impact Development which will keep, maintain, and treat stormwater on-site.
- Work with Reno, Sparks, Washoe County and local consulting firms to assist in the NPDES Phase II permit requirement development and conversion of responsibility for the State of Nevada to the three jurisdictional entities.

**Land Use Planning**

- Provide input into land use planning.

**Water Quality**

- Align district projects efforts with Nevada's Department of Environmental Protection 208 Water Quality Plan.

**Development Plan Reviews**

- Continue to review Washoe County and Storey County development plans for revegetation mixtures that will help with soil suitability and water conservation, as well as make recommendations including Low Impact Development (LID) designs that will ultimately reduce construction phase erosion, aid in sediment control and the improvement of water quality.

**Preservation of Agricultural Land**

- Encourage the preservation of traditional agriculture in Washoe and Storey Counties, including the preservation of water rights on cultivated land.
- Work with the Natural Resources Conservation Service and other sources to provide technical and financial assistance to agricultural producers for conservation efforts.

**Recreation**

- Work with our partners to expand local neighborhood compatible trails and other recreational opportunities.

## Washoe-Storey Conservation District Projected Budget

### *Projected Revenue FY 20 13-2014*

Unencumbered Revenue from Previous Years	\$0.00
State Grant Funding	\$853.26
Washoe County	\$0.00
Storey County	\$0.00
Weed Mapping	\$1,000.00
Fundraising*	<b>\$40,000.00</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$41,853.26</b>
*WSCD is actively seeking grant opportunities	

### *Estimated Expenditures FY 2013-2014*

Supervisors' Liability and Workman's Comp. Insurance	<b>\$800.00</b>
Professional Services	<b>\$30,500.00</b>
Office Supplies	<b>\$250.00</b>
NVDoIT Web Hosting	<b>\$200.00</b>
Advertising/Marketing	<b>\$100.00</b>
Travel/Meetings	<b>\$500.00</b>
<b>TOTAL ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$32,350.00</b>

**Fiscal Year 2013-2014 Annual Report  
Washoe-Storey Conservation District  
September 30, 2014**

Major activities undertaken and performed in this fiscal year are:

1. Weed Mapping and Monitoring in Washoe and Storey Counties
2. Assisting Double Diamond Ranch Master's Association with Wetlands 5 and 6
3. Standard Fee for Washoe County Review Site Visits
4. New Board member Spencer Scott
5. Funding
6. Sage-Grouse Habitat

**Noxious Weed Mapping and Monitoring:**

In Washoe County, as stated by the Nevada Land Conservancy, the primary objective of this plan is to assist the Nevada Land Conservancy in the implementation of programs and projects related to its missions and goals. More specifically, Washoe-Storey Conservation District is responsible for conducting invasive plant management activities including mapping and monitoring of noxious weeds that were treated by Great Basin Institute crews in the Spring of 2010, as well as taking pictures for documentation, keeping track of the number of hours worked and other duties assigned by the Nevada Land Conservancy.

In Storey County, and with cooperation from the Carson Water Sub-conservancy District, Storey County, Dayton Valley Conservation District and Washoe-Storey Conservation District, a comprehensive program was implemented to eradicate invasive plant species throughout Six-Mile and Seven-Mile Canyons and American Flats. The objective of this program is to improve water quality and riparian habitats within the Carson River watershed management area. Focus of this program will be directed to mapping and treating the three most invasive noxious weed species found in the area: 1) Perennial pepperweed (Tall whitetop); 2) Hoary cress; and 3) Russian knapweed. Methods of treatment will include precise application of herbicides specifically engineered to target these species. Commencement of this project took place in May of 2011 and continued through the remainder of the month. A second phase of the program, in which weed spraying and some manual removal of vegetation is expected took place in June and July 2011.



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### **Assisting Double Diamond Ranch Master's Association with Wetlands 5 and 6:**

The Washoe- Storey Conservation District assisted DDRMA with the development of a new maintenance plan that was submitted for approval to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. DDRMA was responsible for writing the plan with input and editing from WSCD. Once DDRMA has engaged an Engineer for the creation of a restoration project, WSCD will assist them in creating a new mitigation plan to help bring them into compliance. Since Wetlands 5 and 6 are always wet, one possible plan might be to create a series of small ponds throughout the area; the need for a small service road has been discussed; the need for current surveying and hydrology studies have been discussed; the need to commence work in Wetlands 5 and 6 first (and then continue up the Central Channel) have been discussed; and the desire for walking trails and an educational component were reiterated.

### **Standard Fee for Washoe County Review Site Visits:**

The WSCD has been in discussions with Washoe County Community Development to determine a standard fee for site visits for projects in Washoe County as a way to generate funds. This fee will include a re-vegetation maintenance and monitoring plan as well as include the mileage to travel to each site. It was proposed that WSCD will perform on-site visits that will be part of the Washoe County Community Development building permit process.

### **New Board Member**

In February 2014, Spencer Scott was appointed by the board to fill in the elected vacancy until the next election in December 2014. He is an agricultural producer and landowner in Storey County.

### **Funding**

The district has actively pursued grant funding for administrative and conservation project needs with:

- Washoe County Commissioners
- Storey County Commissioners
- Invasive Plant Management Funding
- Sage-Grouse Grant
- Truckee River Fund

### **Sage-Grouse Habitat Grant Awarded**

The Washoe-Storey Conservation District has received a grant to establish a sage-grouse habitat in our district. This \$4,000 grant will enable the district to mark fences in the area around known leks to prevent sage-grouse collision and mortality. It will utilize volunteer labor through the Boy Scouts of America in Storey County who will be making the fence markers.

This project will focus on cooperation with existing efforts in the Buffalo/Skedaddle WAWG. It will contribute to the overall effort and establish the CD as an important player in what is largely a federal effort to this point. It will provide funding to leverage other grants with and encourage public awareness of the issue.



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**Washoe-Storey Conservation District**

**1365 Corporate Blvd. – Reno, NV 89502 – Business (775) 857-8500 ext. 131 - Fax (775) 857-8525**

**[www.wscd.nv.gov](http://www.wscd.nv.gov)**

**CONSERVATION – DEVELOPMENT – SELF-GOVERNMENT**

**YEAR-END FINANCIAL REPORT**

*Washoe-Storey* CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
**SUMMARY OF RECEIPTS**

For the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 20 14

**RECEIPT SOURCE** **AMOUNT**

State Funds	3,629.62
County Funds	0
City Funds	0
Other Government Funds (specify)	0
Administrative Income (specify)	0
Interest – CD, Savings and Checking	0
Grants for projects (specify)	0
Rental Income (equipment, etc.)	0
Contributions	0
Building/Property Rental Fees	0
Other Sources of Income	0
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>3,629.62</b>

**YEAR-END FINANCIAL REPORT**

**DRAFT REPORT DUE JULY 15 – FINAL REPORT DUE SEPTEMBER 30.**

**TO: STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
DCNR – CONSERVATION DISTRICT PROGRAM**

**[BRE@DCNR.NV.GOV](mailto:BRE@DCNR.NV.GOV)**

**Fax# 775-684-2715**

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Washoe - Storey CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
 SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURES

For the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 20 14

<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Employee Salary	900.00
Fringe Benefit Expense	0
Travel	318.00
Building Rent	0
Telephone	0
Insurance	0
Postage	53.20
Copying Expense	0
Office Supplies	59.93
Education & Information Expenses	0
Equipment Purchase (specify)	0
Equipment Expenses (maintenance, repair, operation)	0
Dues - NvACD	600.00
Dues - NACD	0
Dues - Other	0
Mileage	0
Investments (specify)	0
Internet	0
Bond and Insurance Expenses	0
Project Costs:	0
Grant #1	0
Grant #2	0
Grant #3	0
Other Expenses (specify) Website	410.00
Fence Markers	1179.63
Bank Costs	159.76
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>3,680.52</b>

DRAFT REPORT DUE JULY 15 - FINAL REPORT DUE SEPTEMBER 30.

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Washoe-Storey CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
FINANCIAL SUMMARY

For the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 20 14

1. BEGINNING OF YEAR FUND BALANCE:

(Must Equal Funds Reported From End of Previous Fiscal Year)

a. List all bank accounts:

Certificate of Deposit <u>Mitigation</u> .....	\$28,829.00
Checking Account .....	\$ 1,484.55
Savings Account .....	\$ .36

b. Cash on hand .....

\$	<u>0</u>
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c. Total fund balance.....

\$	<u>30,313.91</u>
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d. Accounts receivable grants.....

\$	<u>0</u>
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e. Accounts payable.....

\$	<u>0</u>
----	----------

f. Total funds available.....

\$	<u>30,313.91</u>
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2. END OF YEAR FUND BALANCE:

a. List all bank accounts:

Checking Account	\$2,433.65
<del>Checking Account</del> <u>Mitigation Account</u> .....	\$27,829.00
Savings Account .....	\$Closed

b. Cash on hand .....

\$	<u>.36</u>
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c. Total fund balance.....

\$	<u>30,263.01</u>
----	------------------

d. Accounts receivable grants.....

\$	<u>0</u>
----	----------

1. Grant #1 \_\_\_\_\_ - \$ \_\_\_\_\_

2. Grant #2 \_\_\_\_\_ - \$ \_\_\_\_\_

e. Accounts payable.....

\$	<u>0</u>
----	----------

1. Item #1 \_\_\_\_\_ - \$ \_\_\_\_\_

2. Item #2 \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

f. Total funds available.....

\$	<u>30,263.01</u>
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3. SUMMARY:

a. Beginning of year fund balance (1.c. above).....	\$30,313.91
b. Plus total receipts (from Receipt Summary) .....	\$ 3,629.62
c. Less total expenditures (from Expense Summary)....	\$ 3,680.52
d. Must equal end-of-year fund balance (2.c. above).....	\$30,263.01

4. ASSETS: List all assets (equipment, land, buildings, etc.) and estimate their value:

a. <u>File Cabinets</u> .....	\$ 50.00
b. <u>Digital Projector</u> .....	\$ 750.00
c. ....	\$

DRAFT REPORT DUE JULY 15 - FINAL REPORT DUE SEPTEMBER 30.

TO: STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
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Washoe-Storey CONSERVATION DISTRICT

For the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 20 14

USE OF STATE APPROPRIATED MONEY

Amount of State Appropriated Money: \$ 3,629.<sup>62</sup>~~00~~

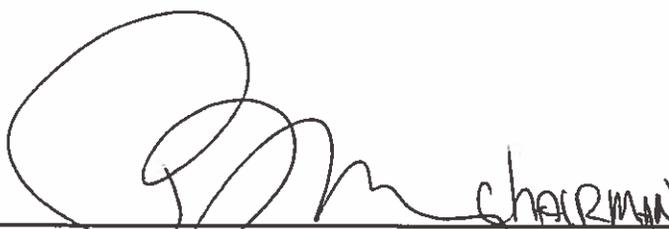
Money Spent:

Category (specify) \$ 3,680.<sup>52</sup>~~00~~

Matching Funds Spent:

Category (specify) \$ 50.<sup>90</sup>~~00~~

Balance Remaining: \$ 0.00

 Chairman Sept 8 2014  
Authorized Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date

Washoe-Storey  
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

**DRAFT REPORT DUE JULY 15 – FINAL REPORT DUE SEPTEMBER 30.**

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