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***Dayton Valley Conservation District***

*P.O. Box 3543*

*Carson City, Nevada 89702*

*(775) 883-3525*

*June 1, 2010*

**Dayton Valley Conservation District**

**Annual Work Plan**

**Fiscal Year 2010-2011**

The Annual Work Plan for the Dayton Valley Conservation District (DVCD) was developed and will be approved in June of 2010. The plan identifies the following key components to be addressed by the DVCD in 2010-2011.

1. Carson River stream bank stabilization and restoration projects

2. Clearing, snagging, and channel maintenance

3. Question 1 Round 5 Rolling A. Project – ongoing

4. Question #1 Round 11 Projects

5. Cooperative Weed Management - ongoing

6. Conservation Education - ongoing

7. District Administration - ongoing

**Carson River stream bank stabilization and restoration project**

This project the DVCD will complete includes protection of over 3,000 linear feet of stream bank. Rehabilitation efforts in this stretch of the river will focus on stabilizing the stream bank in its current location. Bioengineering strategies will be used to assist with stability of this stream-bank. Engineering techniques will be used to encourage deposition of sediment, bioengineering will increase riparian habitat within the channel and on the stream bank, and increase geotechnical stability of stream banks. In addition, other strategies may be employed in order to minimize scour and reduce stream bank erosion. Severe aggradations in this area are pushing the channel against the stream bank causing erosion during high flow events. With this project we will stabilize and restore 3,000 linear feet of stream-bank and minimizing against future erosion and encourage sediment deposition. In order to complete this project, we will be putting in requests for additional funding to cover the costs of the projects.

**Stream bank clearing, snagging and channel maintenance**

      Along the Carson River there are several areas that require stream bank stabilization and/or restoration. Within the designated restoration sites, the district will perform channel clearing, snagging, and maintenance to help protect the engineered structures. Willow growth has become heavy on the right bank and is encroaching into the channel. The net effect has been in the reduction of channel capacity by an estimated 25-50% at high flows. Loss of channel capacity along with stream bank instability may threaten nearby structures.  The effect of in-stream vegetation has pushed flood flows into the left bank causing significant stress and erosion.  Failure may occur at high flows and threaten nearby structures and erode away old growth cottonwoods. Those projects will remove in stream vegetation and, if possible, this vegetation may be used for future rehabilitation projects.  These project sites will involve protection of over 3,000 linear feet of stream bank.

**Question 1 Round V Rolling A. Project**

     The DVCD is now nearing completion of the restoration of the Rolling A property, as part of the Question 1 project.  This project site encompasses over 276 acres within the Carson River corridor on the old Rolling A property in Dayton Valley, Lyon County, Nevada.  This project represents a crucial opportunity to both restore and encourage public use of severely degraded lands including the River Corridor, floodplains, and riparian zones.  Overall Restoration efforts may occur over 6 miles of river. The River will be encouraged to actively meander into the flood plain through the use of overflow channels, and backwater areas.  Because of the extent of the project it will occur in phases over the next 4 years.  It was started in 2007 and is projected to be finished in 2011, with the DVCD being responsible for maintenance through the year 2027.  The riparian area river channel has been severely impacted and the floodplain is currently infested with over 100 acres of Tall-White-top.  The area has been heavily grazed and riparian vegetation has been severely impacted.  Hydrologic connectivity and ecological improvements to the riparian area will be implemented.  Designs will encourage wetland areas, native vegetation and river ecology of the Carson River.  Stream banks will be protected using a series of engineering treatments in order to deflect the highest velocity away from the banks. Bioengineering structures will assist in providing physical stability and ecological improvements.  There is a Master Plan for the property with the emphasis being restoration, rehabilitation and returning the property to a natural open space accessible to the public.

**Cooperative Weed Management**

     The DVCD continues to develop a cooperative weed management area in West Central Lyon County.  This year the district received funding from the CWSD, CTWCD, BOR and the WNRC&D to continue the districts weed control program.  The weed control program involves the identification, mapping, and prioritization of specific noxious weeds to control and implement a treatment strategy.  In order to carry this out, the district relies on assistance from local private landowners for help with identification, location and herbicide application in controlling noxious weeds within the district boundary.  Along with controlling invasive weeds, the district has also been utilizing aGPS unit to map the known locations of noxious weeds in the area so that this information can be tracked on annual basis and submitted to NRCS for incorporation into the Nevada State Weed Map.  Last year the Cooperative Weed Management area had assistance from over 20 different private landowners in spraying and mapping approximately 750 acres of noxious weeds.  The district has entered into two separate inter-local agreements with CWSD, WSCD, Storey County, NDSP and the Nevada Division of State Lands. The intent of the agreements is to assist the other agencies to treat a broader range of areas that impact the Carson River Watershed. Treatment of 6 and 7 Mile Canyons, El Dorado Canyon, Gold Canyon, Rolling A, Dayton State Park and multiple areas along the Carson River.

**Conservation Education**

     For the last twelve years the DVCD, WNRC&D, and the River Wranglers have organized the annual Carson River Workday in Lyon County.

     This past year with assistance from Dayton, Fernley, Charter, and Silver Springs High School’s students helped over **750** elementary school children who participated in these annual events.

     These annual events provide the opportunity for elementary school children to visit the Carson River and learn about the watershed they live in.  The local high school students team up with approximately 3 to 6 elementary school children for the day and teach them about the many benefits the Carson River Watershed provides their local community. Students also learn how to conserve the Carson River and to maintain it for future generations.

     As always special thanks goes out to Linda Conlin, River Wranglers Coordinator, and Dan Kaffer of the WNRC&D.   The Dayton, Fernley, Charter and Silver Springs High School students and faculty and the many volunteers that assist each year are much appreciated.

**Nevada Youth Range Camp**

     The DVCD will continue to support local youth in attending the Nevada Range Camp held annually during the month of June.  This year Austin Piper, Domenic Ricci, Josh Koch, Andrew Victor, and Daniel Connet will be attending this year’s annual Range Camp and will present to the DVCD board in July at our annual BBQ.

**District Administration**

     The DVCD is in agreement and understands that in order for the district to have a successful work plan and carry out this work plan in a timely and efficient manner that the administrative component becomes the vital link between the Board of Supervisors, District Stakeholders, and other agencies assisting the DVCD in the completion of its work.

     The DVCD has identified this section as a key component to accomplish of overall work plan for the district. The Administrative component to the work plan consists of (but not limited to) the following:

1. Employee Salaries
2. Employee Benefits
3. District Operating expenses
4. Equipment maintenance and/ or repairs
5. Travel/Training/Workshops/Education
6. Equipment Purchases.
7. Annual Permitting and mitigation expenses.