



San Francisco Soil and Water Conservation District

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Annual Report 2022/2023

The District Provided representation at the 2023 New Mexico legislative session, all of the monthly meetings of the New Mexico CAP Entity seeking additional water for southwestern New Mexico Counties, the regular meetings of the Border Conservation Districts, and the Southwestern New Mexico Council of Governments.

July- Howard worked with NRCS to help landowners Kiehne and Harrald in Apache Creek. He also worked with engineers in Flagstaff on a River Stewardship grant for the landowner section of the Willow Creek restoration project. Carolyn continued communication with the USFS.

August- Presented information on Watershed Restoration through removal of junipers at the Los Olmos. Howard continued to work on the Willow Creek Restoration project with the Water Trust Board and River Stewardship.

September – Howard, Jan and Carolyn attended the Catron County Fair. Howard also attended the NRCS Work meeting in Deming and participated in discussion of the new BLM grazing regulations.

October- Carolyn attended the Sierra County Soil & Water CD meeting discussing Rapid Assessment Monitoring. Howard attended a meeting of the Range Improvement Task Force in Socorro.

November- Bill, Jan, Howard, Carolyn and Annie attended the NMACD Annual Conference in Albuquerque.

December-Howard and Carolyn attended a training on range monitoring with people from Sierra, Grant and San Francisco SWCDs. Howard also attended Public Lands Council on National Level and signed an MOU with the USFS and BLM to help with monitoring and gathering data.

January- Carolyn hand delivered a letter to the USFS objecting to the shooting cattle on the Gila National Forest. Howard wrote comments for the Coalition of Counties regarding removal of livestock from wilderness areas.

February- Bill had a conversation with Randall about fire boxes. Frank and Carolyn worked to set up meetings with permittees and the USFS about the fire boxes. Howard participated in the 2023 legislative session. Also spoke with Dusty Hunt regarding money available for acequias.

March- Carolyn began a podcast and has spoken to Margie McKeen about her participation in Ranch Days. Howard continued participating in legislature and attended Washington, DC and met with House and Senate members and staff.

April- Carolyn, Frank, and Howard participated in Ranch Days at the McKeen Ranch.

May- Howard has been working with Natural Channel Design to work out an agreement with private property owners in Willow Creek. Board approved beginning a project on Tularosa Creek with Natural Channel Design.

June- Frank contacted the Ditch Association to make them aware of money available to fix the ditch. Board updated the Long Range Plan, and reviewed the MOU between SFSWCD and NRCS.