



**Tierra y Montes Soil & Water Conservation District  
2020-21 Report of Accomplishments**

**Mission of the Tierra y Montes SWCD Conservation District**

*Take available technical, financial, and educational resources, whatever their source, and focus or coordinate them so that they meet the needs of the local land user for conservation of soil, water, and related resources.*

**NRCS Annual Accomplishments**

Fence- 2,342 ft  
Land Smoothing – 12 acres  
Livestock Pipeline – 13,842 ft.  
Pumping Plant – 1 no.  
Watering Facility – 6 no.  
Water Well – 1 no.  
4 Active CSP Contracts

**Basic Funding**

- Public relations and information projects. With various grants and projects the district is working on, we have attended and provided educational materials at County Fairs, SWCD Legislative Day, Ag-Fest, Science Fairs, Health Fairs, School Expos, Arbor Day activities, Earth Day activities and Soil Stewardship Week activities. Throughout the school year we provide presentations to classes utilizing the rolling rivers trailer and exhibit on noxious weeds. We have gone on the air with KFUN, KNMX and KLVF to inform the public on the noxious weed program, cost-share program and the other various projects and programs that the district has to offer. The district provides educational pamphlets and educational materials (pens, pencils, rulers, etc) in which public is always reminded and informed of the district in their area.
- Basic funding is used to assist with in-kind for other grants, cost-share projects and for educational purposes.

**Local Funding**

- Approximately \$480,000 Mill Levy funding for the district was received. This funding is use to leverage and provide landowners with technical assistance on any natural resource conservation issue they may have. It is also used to leverage educational programs provided to the public and all students throughout the area schools.
- District Cost-Share projects have been underway for several years. \$130,000 of Mill Levy funding is provided for landowners, annually, to assist with acequia requests (headgates, etc), riparian restoration, erosion control problems and rainwater harvesting programs. A total of 13 landowners have been assisted with \$18,462.44 spent on this program, to date (this fiscal year).
- Technical advice is provided to landowner and various stakeholders.

**Watershed Conservation/Habitat Restoration**

- We had funding for 2 USFWS landowner grants, 26 other landowners have been assisted and closed out within the past five years. This grant will enable the landowners to complete wildlife habitat development activities such as follows: rock structures, fencing, critical area planting, sealing of existing watering pond, and solar pumped wildlife drinkers.

#### Other Federal Funds

- National Forest Land Thinning Project with two landowners were in effect within the district. A total of over 42,000 acres have been treated with NFL and WUR grants to date. One NFL grant was completed as of December 9, 2020 with a total of 36.5 acres treated between July 1 and December 31, 2020 utilizing \$54,750.00 in funding.

#### Other State Funds

- Assisted 2 landowner in applying for Healthy Soils Pilot Program Grant established in 2020 by the NM Legislature through the Healthy Soils Act.

#### Community Collaboration & Coordination

- TyM continues to work with the Las Vegas Tree Board. The committee, volunteers & TyM also worked on the "Thistle Massacre" on the Gallinas Riverwalk. TyM also assisted volunteers and members of the Tree Board in conducting a tree inventory of City of Las Vegas owned trees. TyM also assisted the members of the Tree Board in small pruning operations.
- Partnership with Hermits Peak Watershed Alliance and the Gallinas River Park Collaborative has been formed to revitalize the Gallinas Riverwalk.
- The Noxious Weed program continues within Mora-San Miguel counties. Our District has a full-time coordinator and work continues on this project assisting landowners with mapping and treatment of noxious weeds. Rehabilitation of treated areas are also being implemented. The communities within San Miguel County and Mora County have united to form a Cooperative Weed Management Area. The District assisted 20 landowners in FY 20-21 with 239.8 acres mapped, 210.8 acres treated and over 10.2 acres reseeded. The CWMA was not able to conduct the usual outreach activities due to pandemic restrictions. The noxious weed committee consists of representatives from: San Miguel and Mora Counties, City of Las Vegas, NM State Highway Dept., San Miguel and Mora County Extension Office, US Fish and Wildlife, USDA Forest Service, NM State Forestry, Mora-Wagon Mound SWCD, Western Mora SWCD, USDA-NRCS, NM State Land Office, NM Highlands University, and NMDA.

#### Information & Education

- Due to COVID-19 Pandemic, NM Public Health Orders and CDC guidance, the District's ability to conduct in-person educational outreach and workshops was severely limited.
- The District was able to participate in an outdoor classroom at Anton Chico Schools on May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2021.
- At all Riparian Restoration and Erosion Control project sites, training is provided to volunteers on installation of structures, rolling dips, purpose of reseeded, fencing out riparian areas, or anything else that project consists of. Landowners and their volunteers are required to assist at all projects implemented.