

2020-2021 Report of Accomplishments

Santa Fe - Pojoaque Soil & Water Conservation District



Santa Cruz Flood Control Structures

Natural Resource Improvements in 2020 –2021 Summary

- The district sponsors and maintains seven flood control dams that provide protection for agricultural lands and residential areas near the villages of La Puebla, Chimayo, and Cuarteles along the Rio Arriba-Santa Fe County Boundary.
- The district continued working with Natural Resource Conservation Service to plan and design the structure that will replace Santa Cruz Dam Site #1 to provide protection from flooding during a 100 year storm event. Capital outlay monies from the state legislature have assisted in accelerating this process which is likely to take more than 5 years and \$17,000,000 to complete.
- The supervisors worked with NM State Engineer's Office, County Emergency Managers, etc. to Prepare Dam Site Emergency Action Plans.
- Continuing yearly inspections of Dam Sites promote better planning by all involved agencies.

Mission of the Santa Fe – Pojoaque Soil and Water Conservation District

Provide leadership in a partnership effort to help people conserve, maintain, and improve natural resources within the district.

Basic Funding

- The district's basic funding is used for administrative support for district programs including the information/education programs and promoting community collaboration.
- Provided technical assistance to cooperators (farmer and ranchers) within the County to develop, coordinate and implement soil and water conservation programs, practices and demonstrations.
- Partner with Natural Resources Conservation Service and New Mexico Department of Agriculture to provide additional services.

Local Funding

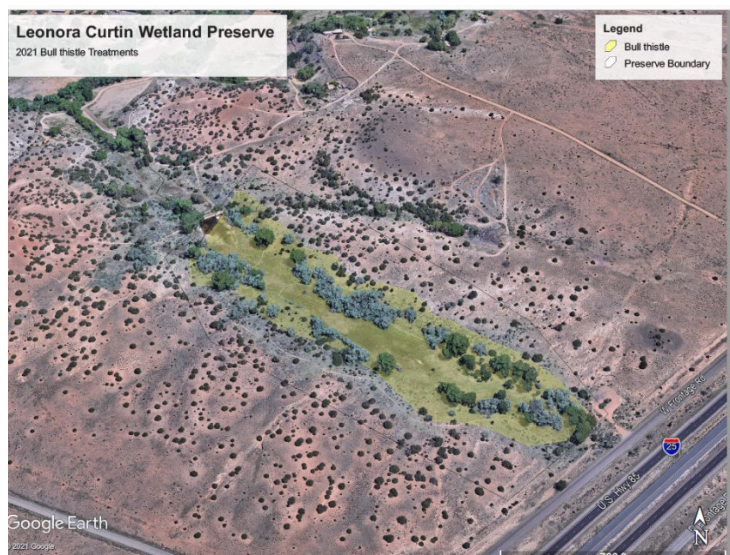
- The district entered into a funding agreement with Santa Fe County for \$8,000 to be used for operation and maintenance of the Santa Cruz Watershed Flood Control Dams.

Phreatophyte Funding

- The Santa Fe-Pojoaque SWCD continued to actively work with other SWCDs in the Greater Rio Grande Watershed Alliance to obtain additional funding for phreatophyte control and restoration activities.
- District Supervisors continued mapping and planning for future planning projects.
- Completed Restoration Projects in 2021.

Watershed Conservation/Habitat Restoration

- Continued work on a \$300,000 State Forestry Grant for defensible space thinning.
- Santa Fe-Pojoaque SWCD cooperates with numerous agencies (both public and private), local, state and federal, toward the improvement of our watersheds in an attempt to provide more sustainable water supplies for both human and non-human users.
- The district provided assistance to applicants seeking state and federal funding for projects.
- Continued the Invasive Plants Grant for the Leonora Curtin Wetland Preserve Restoration Project.



Community Collaboration & Coordination

- The SWCD worked with the New Mexico Coalition of Conservation Districts to promote and support SWCDs throughout the state, to assist and encourage capacity building.
- Worked with the district's Federal and State partners to promote forest thinning and restoration projects in Santa Fe County.
- Coordinated with Santa Fe County Public Works Department to promote environmentally efficient soil and water conservation practices through the planning process.
- District Supervisors worked with the New Mexico Watershed & Dam Owners Coalition to seek more information on dam maintenance, future funding, and emergency action plans.
- Board members participated in the Santa Fe County Water Policy Advisory Committee, and sponsored community educational events and projects.

Information & Education

- The district worked with NMDA to administer a Healthy Soils Education & Outreach Program Grant
- Actively maintained the District Website
- Sponsored one individual for the Youth Ranch Management Camp.



New Mexico Conservation Districts, assisting land managers with their conservation choices.