

2024-2025  
ANNUAL REPORT

# HIDALGO SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT



Hidalgo Soil & Water Conservation District  
405 Duncan Hwy, Lordsburg, NM 88045  
505-542-9141 x116



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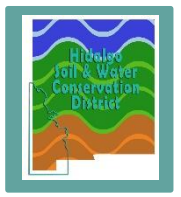
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# INTRODUCTION

## HIDALGO SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

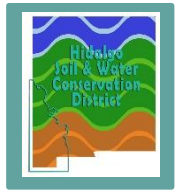
**Organization:** A governmental Special District of the state of New Mexico organized under the New Mexico Soil and Water Conservation District Act (Chapter 73, Article 20 et. Seq. NMSA).

**Function:** To take available technical, financial, and educational resources, whatever their source, and focus or coordinate those resources so that they meet the needs of the local land and water users.

**Serve:** The citizens, land, water, natural resources, and wildlife of the Hidalgo Soil and Water Conservation District.

**Why:** To continually promote, develop, and improve our natural resources within the Hidalgo Soil and Water Conservation District.

**Mission Statement:** The mission of the Hidalgo Soil and Water Conservation District is to protect, restore, enhance, and promote the proper use of soil, water, and other natural resources. This will be achieved by example through development of projects, education to the public, the cooperation of landowners/users, agencies, and other political subdivisions.



# AGRICULTURE

## NMDA HEALTHY SOIL PROGRAM

During FY 2025, Hidalgo SWCD acted as the Eligible Entity for an individual applicant, Lescombes Family Vineyards, while they implemented New Mexico Department of Agriculture' Healthy Soil Program on their winery in Hidalgo County. Between August 2024 through May 2025, Hidalgo SWCD provided administrative support throughout the entirety of the soil crop project. Hidalgo SWCD also provided a letter of support for Lescombes Family Vineyard's FY 2026 NMDA Healthy Soil Application.



## SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE RESEARCH AND EDUCATION

Hidalgo SWCD was please to write a letter of support for Lescombes Family Vineyard for the Farmer/Rancher Grant Program for additional funding, lab task and soil education for soil crop project.



# PUBLIC AWARENESS & EDUCATION

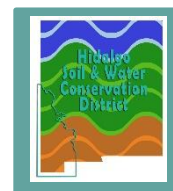
## TREE SEEDLING PROGRAM

The Hidalgo SWCD and NRCS teamed up once again for their annual education activity for youth in the District. On April 3, 2025, we visited 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> grade student in Lordsburg and on April 7, 2025, we visited 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> grade students in Animas.

Logan Klump, NRCS Soil Conservationist, spearheaded educational conservation focused on soil care and health, necessity and benefits of water, chemical reactions pertaining to plants and air, and how they all work together for the growth of the seedling. Each student was given their very own Ponderosa Pine Seedling and brochure depicting how to care for it.

The Hidalgo SWCD and NRCS look forward to this event every year. Both entities are interested in continuing and expanding this educational opportunity in the future.





# PUBLIC AWARENESS & EDUCATION

## HIDALGO COUNTY FAIR

The Hidalgo SWCD set up an informational booth at the 2024 Hidalgo County Fair from August 22 – 25<sup>th</sup> to provide educational information to county residents regarding services and funding opportunities offered by the Hidalgo SWCD, soil and water issues, conservational practices and noxious weeds.



## 2024 AWARD RECOGNITION

The Hidalgo SWCD was very honored to recognize two very influential individuals in the county. The board presented the 2024 Land Stewardship award to Mrs. Tricia Elbrock for her accomplishments and contributions to the stewardship of our land, water and wildlife. The board also presented the 2024 Friend of a Conservationist Award to Mr. Stanfird Jones for his outstanding contributions to the conservation of our state's natural resources. Mr. Jones was a member on the HSWCD for many, many years but still continues to contribute to the conservation efforts in our county.

## 4H Wildlife Individual Scholarship Presentation

The District was very pleased to present Adaleta Haught with a Scholarship for earning 2<sup>nd</sup> Place in the 4H Wildlife Individual Category at the competition organized by the Southwest Quay Soil & Water Conservation District.





# WATER QUALITY & CONSERVATION



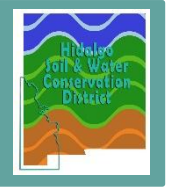
## GRANT APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED IN SUPPORT OF WATER QUALITY & CONSERVATION

- 2025-2026 Water Quality & Conservation Grant – 50/50 Cost Share Program, awarded.
- 2025-2026 NMDA Healthy Soil for Lescombes Family Vineyard.
- 2025-2026 NMDA District Opportunities, updating of the Land Use Plan, awarded.
- 2025-2029 BLM Noxious Weed grant.
- 2025-2029 BLM Rangeland grant.

## A VOICE FOR CONSERVATION

- Comment submitted via letter to The NM Interstate Stream Commission regarding the Draft Pilot Funding Cycle Policy; including recommendations for funding dispersion in our district.
- Comment submitted via letter to Dept. of Interior, Dept of Agriculture, Dept of Gov't Efficiency, EPA, BLM, Forest Service, President Trump, State Reps & Senators highlighting the threats to Private Property.
- SB 5 Opposition Letter submitted to the Governor Michele Lujan Grisham.
- Letter submitted to the NMED opposing the Heat Illness and Injury Prevention Rule and a letter submitted to the Office of Cabinet Secretary asking for the release of all WSA's.





## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Hidalgo SWCD appreciates the opportunity the District has had this fiscal year to increase public awareness, distribute educational material, and apply for funding in order to offer more programs and assistance to landowners, producers, and other constituents residing within the district. Hidalgo SWCD looks forward to continuing to promote conservation practices, improvement, and increase use of resources available to our community.

Hidalgo SWCD acknowledges the important contributions from our partners and funding sources. The board cannot accomplish these things alone and we are grateful for the communities' support of the Hidalgo SWCD, our goals and mission.



STRENGTHENING THOSE WE **SERVE**  
Hidalgo Catron Luna Grant

