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<u>Supervisors:</u> David Cox, Chairman Jason Price, Vice-Chairman Jackie Powell, Secretary /Treasurer <u>Staff:</u> Judy Bock, District Manager - <u>upperhondo@uhswcd.</u> Wanda Schmidt, Conservation Assistant - <u>wanda@uhswcd.com</u>

Stacey Mills, Member Richard Montoya, Member Robert Barber, Member Beth Keenan, Member Lindsey Chavez Meairs, Project Manager – <u>lindsey@uhswcd.com</u>

# ANNUAL REPORT – FISCAL YEAR -2023 July 1, 2022 –June 30, 2023

The Upper Hondo Soil and Water Conservation District (UHSWCD) abides by the Soil and Water Conservation District Act and the Open Meetings Act. Programs and assistance are available to all people, without regard to race, color, sex, or national origin, disability, political beliefs, and marital or familial status. Meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month at 1:00 p.m. at the Upper Hondo District Office, 267 Main Road, Capitan, New Mexico. The Public is encouraged to attend meetings.

#### **CONSERVATION**

#### FEDERAL FUNDING

- BLM: Noxious weed treatments on Tracts 1-4 and local campgrounds (233 acres); archaeological clearances (2,806 acres); wind energy research (347 hours); and fuel reductions/brush removal (3,832 acres) projects totaling \$273,178.77.
- Wildland Urban Interface (2 grants): Rio Bonito brush removal projects on 63.88 acres totaling \$69,542.02. and Nogal brush removal projects on 11 acres totaling \$15,529.41.
- NRCS-Emergency Watershed Protection program (2 programs): Nogal Canyon-coordinated with NRCS for mastication and woody debris removal (26.87 acres); wattle installation (11.25 acres); and critical area planting (27 acres) totaling \$71,505.33; Hondo Valley-coordinated with NRCS and Lincoln County for revetment fencing (285 feet), woody debris removal (15,051 cubic yards); and drainage stabilization (165 cubic yards) totaling \$565,544.39.

# STATE FUNDING

• New Mexico Soil and Water Conservation Commission Grant: Upper Hondo Main Road Thinning Project (9.5 acres) totaling \$15,000.00

# **COUNTY FUNDING**

- Noxious, invasive weed program for Lincoln County thru the Lincoln County Cooperative Weed Management Area (LCCWMA) totaling \$40,000.00
- Treatment of 228 acres and 124.5 miles of public areas through Lincoln County.

#### **DISRICT FUNDING**

- Conservation cost share projects totaling \$59,565.15 namely brush management, livestock watering facilities, and rainwater harvesting.
- Native grass seed (5,852 pounds) mixes sold to local landowners
- A 50/50 cost share is available, to qualifying applicants for chemical purchase when treating noxious weeds

# **EDUCATION**

- Website and Facebook page were maintained
- Flyers were made and distributed for the WUI program
- 200 noxious weed calendars distributed