



## 2023-2024 Annual Report Mesa Soil & Water Conservation District

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### **Mission of the Mesa Soil & Water Conservation District**

Provide leadership in a partnership effort to educate people to conserve, maintain and improve our natural resources and environment.

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### **Farm Bill Implementation:**

- Mesa SWCD has 3 existing EQIP contracts totaling over \$650,000.00.



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### **Basic Funding:**

- Received \$78,372.42 from NMSU for annual funding.
  - Received \$2,000.00 from the Harding County Board of Commissioners.
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### **Watershed Conservation/Habitat Restoration:**

- Ongoing participation with the Canadian River Riparian Restoration Project.



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### **Collaboration and Coordination:**

- Mesa Soil & Water Conservation District co-sponsored a Zoom EQIP Local Workgroup meeting along with the Ute Creek SWCD.
  - Mesa and Ute Creek districts also share an administrative assistant, which reduces the cost of many workshops, mileage and other items for both districts.
  - Ongoing collaboration with the Canadian River Riparian Restoration Project on the spraying of salt cedar along the Canadian River.
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**Information and Education:**

- The district set up an educational booth and had a float in the parade at the Harding County Fair in August 2023.
  - The district co-hosted a Soil and Water Conservation Dinner Celebration with Ute Creek SWCD and had New Mexico State Representative Jack Chatfield as a keynote speaker for those in attendance.
  - The district set up an educational booth at the Soil and Water Conservation Day at the Legislative Session.
  - The district donated towards the New Mexico Envirothon.
  - The district went into the Roy School on Earth Day and gave a Soils presentation to Kindergarten through 6<sup>th</sup> grade students where they learned about different layers of soil.
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**Conservation Projects:**

- Mesa SWCD has an ongoing tree planting conservation project in conjunction with the Harding County Little League. Trees and drip system supplies were installed several years ago and the district helps to maintain the trees and the drip system. Trees have grown to nearly 15 feet tall and will soon start providing shade at the baseball field.