Deming SWCD
Annual Report- FY 2020-2021

Deming Soil and Water Conservation District
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DEMING SOIL & WATER BOARD
Rick Holdridge, Chairman (12/2000-current)
Will Shafer, Vice Chairman (01/2019-current)
Dianna Peterson, Treasurer (2019-current)
Joel Nanez, Supervisor (02/2012-current)
Jim Wood, Supervisor (02/2002-current)
Seth Hyatt, Supervisor (06/2018-current)
Jamie Viramontes, Supervisor (02/2020 – current)

Matt Wiseman, District Conservationist
Katherine Turner, Deming SWCD Administrative Assistant
Jamie Samples, Team Farm Bill
Weed Grant
The Deming SWCD with the Cooperative Extension Service and Luna County received a grant for $40,000 to treat African Rue. The amount of acreage including roadways, ranches, farms and, public use areas such as the Luna County Fairgrounds has greatly increased since the inception of this program in 2016. This increase has been largely due to the use of a professional weed treatment contractor and the efforts of the Luna County Cooperative Extension Service agent. The District distributed chemical to the County, City and local ranchers and farmers. In May–June they treated African Rue and will treat it again in September. There is a high likelihood of receiving funding again for next year.

Community Collaboration & Coordination
- The District continued to be represented as a member of the Council of Border Conservation Districts.
- The District distributed a newsletter periodically in 2019-2020.
- The District continued to take a leadership role in holding Local Work Group meetings to provide input for the local Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) activities and CSP.
- DSWCD in cooperation with the Luna County Cooperative Extension Service and Luna County received money to treat African Rue in Luna County.
- District applied for one Water Quality and Conservation grant in conjunction with the City of Deming but did not receive funding.
- MOU’s between NRCS, DSWCD and NMDA

Information & Education
- Rick Holdridge attended the Luna County Commissioner’s meeting to encourage the continuation and expansion of the FRIF program and inform the commissioners of the conservation projects that have been completed in our district due to the program’s funding.
- Newsletter sent out to many different districts and organizations to promote our programs and introduce our new board members and NRCS staff.
- Board passed a resolution in opposition to the federal government’s 30 x 30 land preservation goal and sent it to Brent Van Dyke to be presented to the appropriate legislative body.
- Board passed a resolution to support the concept of the NM Agriculture and Natural Resources Trust Fund but with the provision that the funds should be administered by local government rather than private organizations and sent it to NM Legislators.
- Local Work Group meeting was held at the La Fonda Restaurant and attended by three supervisors.
- All quarterly and annual tax and budget reports were filed with the appropriate agencies.
- Chemical was purchased and applied on African Rue in our district.
- Open Meetings Act Resolution was passed and signed.
- Board chairman, Rick Holdridge, and administrative assistant, Katherine Turner, attended the 74th annual NMACD meeting via Zoom on November 10th.
Mission of the Deming Soil and Water Conservation District
- To provide leadership in conservation of water and all natural resources to preserve the cultural heritage and tax base for future generations.

General Information for the Deming SWCD
- The Deming SWCD regular meetings are on the third Wednesday of every month at 6:00 pm at the USDA building. During times of restriction due to the COVID pandemic, meetings have been held virtually on Zoom.
- Office hours are Monday thru Friday 8:00 am to 4:30 pm.

Interstate Stream Commission Loan Program
- The District did not receive any additional funds to re-loan for this year.
- Managed loan for one producer.

Tree Seedling Program
- This program provides tree seedlings at a minimal cost to homeowners to plant for erosion control or for windbreaks. The District works with the New Mexico State Forestry Seedling Program.

Local Funding – Federal Range Improvement Funds (FRIF)
This local program provides 50% cost-share for rangeland improvements.
- Completed and funded two projects for a total of $21,615 in improvements and our total cost share amount was $7000.00.
  - Cost-Shared implementation of new well.
    Producer cost - $10,805, FRIIF-$3500.00
  - Cost-Shared implementation of new well.
    Producer cost - $10,810, FRIIF-$3500.00
- Received funding for 2020 of $6,500 dollars.
- Secured funding from Luna County for FY21.
DEMING SWCD AWARDS

NMACD Outstanding Conservationist Award

Don Hartman was selected as the NMACD Outstanding Land Stewardship Award. His dedication to conservation on his farm and teaching others about conservation is undeniable.

Don Hartman (center) training NRCS employees in the use of cover crops.