November 16, 2017

9-12 pm Coronado SWCD Office

NRCS Staffing Update:

NRCS New Mexico currently has 39 vacant positions statewide as follows:

- State Office 6
- North Area Office 2
- Team 1 − 4
- Team 2 3
- Team 3 − 1
- Team 5 4
- Team 6 1
- South Area Office 5
- Team 7 1
- Team 8 − 2
- Team 9 − 2
- Team 10 6
- Team 11 2

Due to the hiring freeze and staffing cap, the filling of positions is limited at this time. Four positions were approved and filled as follows:

- Assistant State Conservation Engineer Ayana Brown, effective 07/09/17
- Soil Conservationist, Team 4, Mora Ray Romero, effective 09/03/17
- Soil Conservationist, Team 11, Clovis Selection pending
- Rangeland Management Specialist, Team 7, Deming Jessica Yates, effective 10/29/17

NRCS New Mexico is also utilizing our partnership agreement to fill some Farm Bill Specialist positions in the field as follows:

- Soil Conservation Technician, Team 1, Gallup Selection Pending
- Administrative Specialist, Team 2, Los Lunas Luz Lanstall, effective 08/21/17
- Soil Conservation Technician, Team 5, Estancia Selection Pending
- Soil Conservation Technician, Team 9, Alamogordo, Morgan Dee Smith, effective 10/16/17
- Rangeland Management Specialist, Team 10, Roswell Joel Alderete, effective 08/21/17
- Soil Conservationist, Team 11, Clovis Pending

New Address:

- NRCS State Office
 100 Sun Avenue, NE, Suite 602
 Albuquerque, NM 87109
- NRCS North Area and Field Office100 Sun Avenue, NE (North Area Office Suite 170 and Field Office Suite 16Albuquerque, NM 87109

Visitor Parking: If you are going to visit the office for less than 2 hours visitors can park in the visitor parking lot in front. Otherwise NRCS will have to provide parking passes.

Programs

State Technical Committee (STC) Meeting. The STC meeting occurred on August 30, 2017. The minutes and attachments listed below were distributed to all offices and are posted on our website at: https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/nm/technical/stc/

- 1. Minutes
- Power Point Presentation- STC, LWG and RCPP
- 3. Power Point Presentation EQIP and EWP
- 4. Power Point Presentation CSP and ACWP
- 5. FSA Report
- 6. Wildlife Subcommittee Minutes

Resource Technical Services

Conservation Planner Certification for SWCDs and Affiliates. NRCS has begun a new process for conservation planner certification. This is a robust process that insures that all NRCS planners receive basic and advanced conservation training and experience. All current NRCS planners are to complete requirements by January 1, 2020. SWCD employees and affiliates who serve as conservation planners are eligible to become certified planners. Talk with your District Conservationist if you have questions.

NRCS/State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) Agreement. NRCS-NM and the SHPO have completed the new Cultural Resources Programmatic Agreement. The agreement outlines how NRCS and SHPO work together to adhere to the laws that govern preservation of cultural resources. The agreement is now open to public comment and can be found on the NRCS-NM website at: https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/nm/newsroom/pnotice

Soil Health Conference Assistance. Does your SWCD want to promote local Soil Health on Range, Cropland or Forestland and, get the word out in a big way? Let us help. RTS can help you with a program, speakers, and support. We will work closely with you and your NRCS office. If you are interested please contact your District Conservationist.

Upcoming Activities/Events

Title 2017 Quivira Conference
Location Embassy Suites, ABQ, NM
Start Time 11/15/2017 7:00 AM
End Time 11/17/2017 4:00 PM

Title Location Start Time End Time NM Farm Bureau Conference -

NMSU - Las Cruces Hotel Encanto 11/16/2017 12:00 PM 11/17/2017 11:59 PM

Joint Stockmen's Convention (sponsored by NM Cattle Growers' Association) Crowne Plaza Albuquerque Hotel - 1909 University Blvd., ABQ, NM 11/30/2017 12:00 AM 12/3/2017 11:59 PM

NMACD Board Meeting

Santa Fe - Place and Time TBD 1/22/2018 12:00 AM 1/22/2018 11:59 PM

AgFest Santa Fe

Santa Fe Convention and Visitors Bureau 1/23/2018 6:00 PM 1/23/2018 9:00 PM Santa Fe Convention and Visitors Bureau 201 West Marcy Street Santa Fe, NM 87501

NMACD at the Legislator

Santa Fe Round House 1/22/2018 8:00 AM 1/22/2018 5:00 PM Information is forthcoming

NM Organic Farming Conference

ABQ Marriott Pyramid North - 5151 San Francisco Rd. NE 87109 2/16/2018 12:00 AM 2/17/2018 11:59 PM POC: Steve Kadas or Kelley Mullen

Wildland Urban Interface Summit

ABQ Sheraton- Airport 3/28/2018 11:00 PM 3/29/2018 10:59 PM

Title NM Innovative Farming Conference Location Curry County Fairgrounds, Clovis, NM

Start Time and End 12/7/2017 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM

POC: Steve Kadas

Title Soil and Water Conservation Society (SWCS) International Annual Conference

Location Albuquerque - Place TBD Start Time 7/29/2018 12:00 AM End Time 8/1/2018 11:59 PM

Description

Pearl Armijo, DC (Team 2-Cuba, Albuquerque, Los Lunas)