

## Report to New Mexico Soil and Water Conservation Districts

*New Mexico Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Programs and Resources  
Division*

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<http://www.nmda.nmsu.edu/apr/soil-and-water-conservation-districts/>

### November 2017

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|------------|---|
| October 31 | Water Quality and Conservation Grant 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter report and budget due to the SWCC, NMDA Specialist |
| Nov to Dec | Adopt Open Meetings Act resolution to cover upcoming calendar year (cc: SWCC, NMDA Specialist)                  |
| December 1 | Agreed Upon Procedure (AUP) Report or Certification forms due to the New Mexico State Auditor Office            |

#### 1. NMDA Operations Training

NMDA will be providing a SWCD Operations Training December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017. This event will be hosted by the Edgewood SWCD, as it will be held at their facility. Lunch will be provided (sponsored by the Edgewood SWCD). This fun filled day of training will include presentations from:

- DFA
- Records Retention
- NM State Auditor's Office
- NMDA- WQ&C Grant

Please RSVP to [kmechenbier@nmda.nmsu.edu](mailto:kmechenbier@nmda.nmsu.edu) by **November 27<sup>th</sup>** if you wish to attend. There is no fee to attend. Please contact your specialist with any questions. We hope to see you there!!

An agenda will be sent out as soon as it is finalized.

A big THANK YOU goes out to the Edgewood SWCD for allowing NMDA to use their facility and for providing lunch!!

## 2. SWCD Boundary Description Project

Every district that submitted their final resolution for their updated legal description and map to the SWCC, has been approved. Any district that has not filed their materials with the Secretary of State's Office (SoS) will need to do so.

NMDA will be sending each district, that was approved at the SWCC meeting in October, their packet to file with the SoS's office. This will probably be sent sometime within the next couple of weeks or so. If you have not received the packet by Thanksgiving, please inform Katie Kruthaupt at [kkruthaupt@nmda.nmsu.edu](mailto:kkruthaupt@nmda.nmsu.edu). If you have any other questions, please contact your NMDA Specialist.

For those districts which already received their packets after the SWCC meeting in June, if you have not filed the materials with the Secretary of State's Office, please do so at your earliest convenience. Once it's been filed with their office, please notify the SWCC ([swcc@nmda.nmsu.edu](mailto:swcc@nmda.nmsu.edu)) and your NMDA Specialist when this is done. Once the SoS's office confirms receipt, please forward that email to the SWCC and your NMDA Specialist.

## 3. Meeting and Comments on National Forests in NM

All five of the National Forests in New Mexico are in various stages of completing their Forest Plan Revision. For updates, please visit the National Forests' websites below for meeting times and comment opportunities.

- Cibola National Forest:  
[http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/cibola/landmanagement/planning/?cid=FSBDEV3\\_065627](http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/cibola/landmanagement/planning/?cid=FSBDEV3_065627)
- Carson National Forest:  
<http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/carson/landmanagement/planning/?cid=stelprdb5443166>
- Gila National Forest: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/gila/home/?cid=STELPRD3828671>
- Lincoln National Forest:  
<http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/lincoln/home/?cid=stelprd3814307>
- Santa Fe National Forest:  
<http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/santafe/landmanagement/planning/?cid=stelprd3791442>

NMDA encourages all SWCDs to stay active in the Forest Plan Revision process for all five national forests. We also encourage SWCDs to provide information as requested to make sure that SWCD information is included in the process.

#### **4. Western Alfalfa & Forage Symposium**

Every other year, the Western Alfalfa & Forage symposium is held to bring together researchers, Extension personnel, farmers, and vendors from all around the western US. The Cooperative Extension Services of AZ, CA, CO, ID, MT, NV, NM, OR, UT, WA, and WY sponsor the symposium. This large event includes many educational sessions for the different classes of forages grown in western states. Field tours are included in the program as well. The 2017 symposium will be held in Reno, NV, November 28-30, 2017.

For more information, please visit <http://alfalfa.ucdavis.edu/> .

#### **5. Local Government Budget Management System (LGBMS) Training**

The Local Government Division will hold a training Thursday November 16<sup>th</sup> and Friday November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2017, at the Wyndham Albuquerque Hotel and Conference Center, 2500 Carlisle Blvd NE, Albuquerque NM 87110.

The Budget Conference will include: LGBMS Hands on Computer Training, LGD Chart of Accounts Review, Budgeting Best Practices and more.

For more information visit <http://www.nmdfa.state.nm.us/lgbms.aspx> .

#### **6. 2017 Quivira Coalition**

The Quivira Coalition will hold their 2017 conference November 15th-17th at the Embassy Suites in Albuquerque, NM.

For more information and to view the speakers visit:

<https://quiviracoalition.org/conference/#about> OR by phone 505-820-2544.

To register online visit: <https://quiviracoalition.org/conference-registration/>

#### **7. New Mexico Rural Water Association Fall Conference**

Save the date! The New Mexico Rural Water Association's 7th Annual Fall Conference will be November 13-25, 2017 at the Hotel Encanto in Las Cruces, NM. Click here to download the 2017 Fall Conference Registration form. Online registration will be coming soon. Check back for more details about the Conference and information on testing. Contact the NMRWA Office at 505-884-1031 or [info@nmrwa.org](mailto:info@nmrwa.org) if you have questions. To view more information visit: <https://nmrwa.org/event/save-the-date-7th-annual-southern-fall-conference-november-2017/>

The registration form can be found at: <https://nmrwa.org/wp-content/uploads/2017-Fall-Conference-Registration.pdf>

## 8. Pesticide Safety Education Program

The Pesticide Safety Education Program (PSEP) at New Mexico State University promotes the responsible use of pesticides through educational resources and training. Training covers a broad range of human safety and environmental issues for a statewide target audience of approximately 2,800 private applicators, 2,200 commercial applicators, and 120 pesticide dealers. This is a collaborative effort with the New Mexico Cooperative Extension Service (NMSU—CES), New Mexico Department of Agriculture (NMDA), USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture (USDA—NIFA), and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

### CEU Workshops

NMSU conducts 5 workshops annually in New Mexico to provide certified applicators (private, public, and commercial) with information on new and emerging insect, disease, and weed pests in field crops, greenhouse crops, forage crops, fruit and vegetable crops, turf areas, and shade trees and ornamental plantings. These applicators will receive CEU credits required for license renewal.

### Prelicense Training

Individuals who wish to become certified to apply pesticides can attend the workshop held in conjunction with each CEU workshop to prepare for licensure. These individuals receive training in pesticide safety, pesticide laws and regulations, sprayer calibration, integrated pest management, and basic principles in entomology, plant pathology, weed science.

### For More Information Please Contact:

Jason M. French  
Pesticide Program Manager  
Cooperative Extension Service  
Department of Extension Plant Sciences MSC 3AE, New Mexico State University  
P.O. Box 30003, Las Cruces, NM 88003-8003

### Trainings will be held:

November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2017: Isleta Resort & Casino Golf Course 4001-New Mexico Highway 47  
Albuquerque, NM

December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017: Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum- 4100 Dripping Springs Rd. Las  
Cruces, NM

January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018: NMJC Training & Outreach Bldg- 1 Thunderbird Circle Hobbs, NM

February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018: McGee Park- 41 Road 5568 Farmington, NM

For more information or to view the presenters and agenda for each individual training visit:

<http://pesticide.nmsu.edu/>

To register visit: <http://pesticide.nmsu.edu/documents/registrationform.pdf>

## **9. New Mexico Vegetation Mgmt. Association Annual Conference**

This year's conference is titled "Weed Smack Down 2017." The conference will be hosted at the Route 66 Casino Hotel, 14500 Central Ave., Albuquerque, NM 87121, 866-711-7829. The conference will begin at 12:00 pm on Wednesday, November 15th and conclude on Thursday, November 16th at 3:00 pm. Due to construction issues at Route 66 Hotel Casino this year, the conference will be in the Bingo Hall, on the other side of the casino from the conference rooms.

This year's topics include plant identification, insect control, herbicide resistance, aquatics, integrated pest management, brush control, roadside vegetation, aerial treatments, NMDA pesticide regulation update, and surfactants/adjuvants. For more information or to register online visit: <http://nmvma.com/> and <https://www.nmvma.com/registration> .

## **10. 2017 Joint Stockmen's Convention**

The 2017 Joint Stockmen's Convention (JSC) will be held November 30<sup>th</sup> through December 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Make your reservations early! A block of rooms has been reserved at the Crowne Plaza. To make reservations call 1-866-384-4934. Ask for Joint Stockmen's rate.

A limited amount of meal tickets will be sold at the convention, so please purchase tickets in advance.

For more information call (505) 247-0584 or visit:  
<http://nmagriculture.org/2017-joint-stockmens-convention/>

## **11. 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Forage Growers Workshop**

The NMSU Valencia County Cooperative Extension office co-hosts a forage workshop with the Small Farms and Ranch Task Force and Extension Plant Sciences Department in December of every year. The workshop is open to the public and features experts on topics ranging from alfalfa management, weed and insect control, soil fertility, pasture grazing, and alternative hay crops. Cost of the event is \$20 and includes morning refreshments, lunch, educational materials, and door prizes.

This year's workshop date is December 5, 2017. For more information, contact Newt McCarty at 505-565-3002 or [jnewton3@nmsu.edu](mailto:jnewton3@nmsu.edu), or Mark Marsalis at 505-865-7340 or [marsalis@nmsu.edu](mailto:marsalis@nmsu.edu).

## **12. Innovative Farming Conference**

Valencia SWCD in coordination with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service of New Mexico is offering a regional conference on innovative farming in New Mexico with an

emphasis on soil health and management. Prominent speakers include Lance Gunderson who is a soil biologist with Ward Laboratories, and Dr. Jill Clapperton with Rhizoterra Inc. The conference is intended for all interested across the region near the Valencia Soil & Water Conservation District (primarily Valencia County south of Albuquerque).

The conference is on December 6, 2017 at the Belen Business Center located at 715 South Main Street, Belen, NM. It begins at 8:30 am and goes until 4:00 pm. For conference agenda and more information, please visit [www.valenciaswcd.org](http://www.valenciaswcd.org) or call their office at 505-864-8914.

### **13. NM Rapid Assessment Method Training for Playa Wetlands**

You are invited to sign up for New Mexico Rapid Assessment Method Training for Playa Wetlands.

We are conducting our “*Second Wetlands Across Borders Meeting – Playas of the Southern High Plains*” at the Clovis Community College, in Clovis, New Mexico starting Tuesday, December 12 through Friday, December 15, 2017. The meeting will consist of one and one half days of presentations and panel discussions about playa ecology, conservation, restoration and other important topics about playas. The meeting will be followed by three track options – *New Mexico Rapid Assessment Method Training for Playa Wetlands, a Playas and Roads workshop, or a half-day field trip to look at local playas*. We will be sending out more information, a draft agenda, and an invitation to sign up for the meeting and the track options soon. If you would like to be a presenter or bring a poster to the event, please let Elizabeth Milford ([emilford2@gmail.com](mailto:emilford2@gmail.com)) know as the agenda will fill up fast. There is no cost to attend but for planning purposes and limited seating for the track options, you will have to register on-line through Evite as soon as we have it available. Note that Wetlands Across Borders Meetings are for participants from neighboring states as well as New Mexico. We will be reaching out to Texas, Oklahoma, and Colorado as well. If you know of anyone interested in playas, please pass on this information.

### **14. The New Mexico Sustainable Agriculture Conference**

The NM Sustainable Agriculture Conference is sponsored by the Western Region Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program (WSARE). The goal of this event is to provide professional development opportunities for growers, educators, and agriculture support professionals to advance solutions to challenges related to sustainable agriculture.

The conference will be on December 13, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the UNM Valencia Campus, 280 La Entrada Rd., Los Lunas, NM 87031. For more information, please go to: <http://aces.nmsu.edu/calendar/> .

## **15. 2018 Northern NM Stockman's Association Annual Meeting**

The Northern New Mexico Stockman's Association Annual Meeting will be held in Taos, New Mexico at the Juan I. Gonzales Agricultural Center on January 13, 2018. The agenda will be forthcoming.

## **16. Southwest Hay & Forage Conference**

Each year the New Mexico Association and NMSU Extension Plant Sciences Department sponsor and coordinate the Southwest Hay & Forage Conference. The event is held in Ruidoso, NM. Producers, scientists, and vendors come from all around the Southwest to learn about the latest research advances and to promote the most current technologies in the hay (and other forage) industries. The 2018 conference will be held January 17-19, 2018. Please visit <http://www.nmhay.com/> for more details on the 2018 conference and for online registration.

## **17. Soil and Water Conservation Day at the Legislature**

Soil and Water Conservation Day in Santa Fe at the Legislature will be on January 22, 2018. Ag Fest and the NMACD Board meeting will be on January 23, 2018. We are encouraging all districts to attend.

## **18. NACD 2018 Annual Meeting**

NACD's 2018 Annual Meeting will be held in Nashville, Tennessee, at the Gaylord Opryland Resort and Convention Center January 27<sup>th</sup>-January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018. The Gaylord Opryland Resort and Convention Center is located at 2800 Opryland Drive Nashville, Tennessee 37214

To reserve a room call 659-885-1000 or visit <http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/bnago-gaylord-opryland-resort-and-convention-center/> . Be sure to identify yourself as part of the NACD group rate.

The 2018 Annual Meeting agenda and meeting materials will be posted on the NACD website and in the upcoming monthly reports as more details become available. Visit: <http://www.nacdnet.org/event/2018-annual-meeting/> for more information on the conference.

## **19. Joint Annual NM/AZ Chapters of the Wildlife Society and Fisheries Society Meeting**

The annual meeting will be in Flagstaff, AZ from February 1-3, 2018. For more information, please go to: <https://aztws.com/> or <https://aztws.com/event/2018-joint-annual-meeting-of-the-az-and-nm-chapters-of-tws-afs/> .

## 20. 2018 Healthy Watersheds Consortium Grant Program

The U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities (Endowment) seeks applications for the 2018 Healthy Watersheds Consortium Grant Program. This opportunity closes Thursday, February 1, 2018, at 8:00 p.m. Eastern. Proposals received after this time may not be considered. The Healthy Watersheds Consortium Grant Program is a partnership that includes the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Office of Water's Office of Wetlands, Oceans, and Watersheds, the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), and the Endowment.

Applicants are strongly urged to contact Peter Stangel ([peter@usendowment.org](mailto:peter@usendowment.org); 404-915-2763) or Jeff Lerner ([jalanlerner@gmail.com](mailto:jalanlerner@gmail.com); 202-236-1883) to discuss project ideas before submitting an application.

Funding up to \$3 million is available for the 2018 grant round. Funding is provided by the EPA, NRCS, and the Endowment. Healthy Watersheds Consortium Grant Program awards may be federal or non-federal funds, or a combination of both. Funding at about this level is anticipated on an annual basis around this time through 2020. A review committee makes final project recommendations. Projects funded in this cycle must conclude no later than December 31, 2020.

In 2018 priority will be given to proposals that maximize measureable outcomes for watershed protection (e.g. acres protected, progress toward protection goals, degree of watershed function protected, etc.).

### Eligible Projects

The Healthy Watersheds Consortium Grant Program was conceived by EPA to protect healthy, aquatic ecosystems and their watersheds. Funding will be considered for projects that

- Achieve large-scale, measureable outcomes (acres protected, etc.);
- Mobilize, expand, and strengthen collaborations to achieve watershed protection;
- Tap into new or existing funding sources for highly leveraged outcomes;
- Develop mechanisms for securing financing necessary to implement protection projects;
- Involve multiple watersheds that are adjacent or clustered in a single geography;
- Implement protection-related activities in existing watershed, source water, or similar plans or programs, such as: National Wild and Scenic Rivers; Sentinel Landscapes; USDA Forest Service Community Forests, and others.
- Develop and/or implement large-scale green infrastructure projects;
- Protect drinking water sources and watersheds;
- Create/expand organizational/social infrastructure to accelerate healthy watershed protection;



- Create sustainable landowner incentives for watershed protection;
- Develop sustainable land-use planning that protects healthy watersheds;
- Demonstrate or quantify the economic benefits of healthy watersheds;
- Demonstrate the human health (drinking water, fishable/swimmable water), recreation, and other benefits of healthy watersheds;
- Communicate the value of healthy watersheds to key constituencies to enhance protection;
- Develop watershed protection plans and the funding needed to implement those plans; and
- Develop a community of learning for watershed protection groups to share information

For more information and to view the entire RFP visit:  
<http://www.usendowment.org/healthywatersheds.html>