United States Department of Agriculture

NRCS

6200 Jefferson NE
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87109-3734
Phone: (505) 761-4400 Fax: (505) 761-4463
Web site: www.nm.nrcs.usda.gov

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NEW MEXICO BULLETIN 180-9-4

SUBJECT: CPA-DISTRICTS - ANNUAL DISTRICT AGREEMENTS REVIEW

To: Leadership Team
Area Conservationists

New Mexico NRCS and Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCD) work together providing conservation though a Cooperative Working Agreement (CWA) and a Mutual Agreement (MA). These agreements outline how the two organizations operate and coordinate efforts and resources.

All District Conservationists are being directed to review your District's CWA and MA at the next SWCD board of supervisors meeting. DCs are also to insure that the minutes reflect the review. Copies of CWA and MA should be provided to each board member. Attached are both agreements for your use.

Special emphasis should be placed on the Civil Rights section by reviewing the current USDA Non-Discrimination Statement (below). District Conservationists are also to encourage their district(s) to maintain, and/or work towards a diverse membership that reflects the community makeup, and to recruit or appoint minorities, females and persons with disabilities.

**USDA Non-Discrimination Statement**

**"The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or a part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).**

**To file a complaint of discrimination write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer."**

District Conservationists are to report back to their Area Conservationist when the above have been completed. Both the CWA and the MA must be filed as, "District Agreements", file code 180-11-11.

The SWCD and NRCS relationship is a key strength of our agency. The review of our agreement promotes understanding and helps to maintain good working relations. Thank you for all your good work and your efforts in getting conservation on the ground.

DENNIS L. ALEXANDER
State Conservationist