



Natural Resources Conservation Program Highlights 2010-2014

South Dakota Department of Agriculture
Division of Resource Conservation & Forestry
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Our mission is to conserve, protect, improve, and develop the natural resources of South Dakota. The division accomplishes this by providing advice and assistance to other state agencies and private landowners. This assistance is provided through state and federal programs.

Executive Summary Coordinated Natural Resources Conservation Fund

The Coordinated Natural Resources Conservation Fund was established by the State Legislature in 1992 to implement goals and objectives identified in the South Dakota Coordinated Plan for Natural Resources Conservation. The plan targets reduction of soil erosion, improvement of rangelands, and improvement of water quality and quantity, enhancement of wildlife habitat, increased public awareness of natural resources, funding, and use of renewable energy.

Funding for the Coordinated Natural Resources Conservation Fund is provided by state law SDCL 10-47B-149. This law states \$500,000 will be deposited into the fund on July 1 of each year.

The fund is used to provide cost share grants to South Dakota conservation districts. Grant applications are reviewed, approved, and awarded by the State Conservation Commission. The Division of Resource Conservation and Forestry administers conservation programs on behalf of the State and the Conservation Commission.



Water Quality and Natural Resource Education Projects

FY 2010-2014 Outcomes

Resource Affected

According to final reports from conservation districts and reports from federal, state and local entities

- 1,250,000 acres of cropland with soil erosion improved to tolerable levels
- 500,000 acres of rangeland in poor/fair condition improved one condition class
- Topsoil erosion cut by 16 million tons

Economic Effect

According to South Dakota State University report "Impact of South Dakota Agriculture"

- 1.6% increase in crop industry output
- 707 new full and part time jobs- \$16 M wages
- \$104 M increase in state industrial output
- 0.94% increase in cattle production
- 104 new full and part time jobs- \$0.8 M wages
- \$8 M increase in state industrial output
- Assumed significant based on future sustainable productivity of the land and future availability of clean water for consumption and

The Resource Conservation Program supports the following S&PF National Priorities and Objectives:

- 2.1. Restore fire-adapted lands and reduce risk of wildfire impacts
- 2.2. Identify, manage, and reduce threats to forest and ecosystem health
- 3.1. Protect and enhance water quality and quantity
- 3.2. Improve air quality and conserve energy
- 3.4. Maintain and enhance the economic benefits and values of trees and forests
- 3.5. Protect, conserve, and enhance wildlife and fish habitat
- 3.6. Connect people to trees and forests, and engage them in environmental stewardship activities
- 3.7. Manage trees and forests to mitigate and adapt to global climate change



Projects Funded During Fiscal Years 2010-2014

The Conservation Commission awarded \$4,722,419 for 148 projects to 47 out of the 69 conservation districts in the state during fiscal years 2010-2014. 123 of these projects are completed and 25 are ongoing. To date, \$3,255,034 has been spent with the remainder having either been reverted for use on upcoming grants or still available for the 25 ongoing projects.

FY2010 (July 1, 2009-June 30, 2010)	Percent of Funds Awarded	Percent of Match	Percent of Total Project
9 Shelterbelt projects	50.15%	43.44%	45.61%
4 Tech assistance & Info & Ed pro-	13.44%	6.53%	8.76%
8 Water quality projects	36.42%	50.03%	45.63%
Total Funds	\$809,404	\$1,697,486	\$2,506,889

FY2011 (July 1, 2010-June 30,	Percent of Funds Awarded	Percent of Match	Percent of Total Project
6 Shelterbelt projects	20.90%	17.42%	18.64%
11 TA & I&E projects	43.83%	37.48%	39.70%
7 WQ projects	35.27%	45.10%	41.67%
Total Funds	\$865,868	\$1,611,752	\$2,477,620

FY2012 (July 1, 2011-June 30,	Percent of Funds Awarded	Percent of Match	Percent of Total Project
16 Shelterbelt projects	57.15%	42.77%	46.63%
8 TA & I&E projects	15.36%	29.87%	25.97%
8 WQ projects	27.50%	27.36%	27.40%
Total Funds	\$1,197,303	\$3,263,569	\$4,460,872

FY2013 (July 1, 2012-June 30, 2013)	Percent of Funds Awarded	Percent of Match	Percent of Total Project
5 Shelterbelt projects	21.53%	28.04%	25.53%
12 TA & I&E projects	21.59%	13.15%	16.40%
18 WQ projects	56.88%	58.81%	58.07%
Total Funds	\$1,207,323	\$1,927,110	\$3,134,433

FY2014 (July 1, 2013-June 30, 2014)	Percent of Funds Awarded	Percent of Match	Percent of Total Project
15 Shelterbelt projects	38.02%	23.27%	27.79%
14 TA & I&E projects	33.41%	50.78%	45.46%
7 WQ projects	28.57%	25.95%	26.75%
Total Funds	\$642,521	\$1,454,984	\$2,097,504

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