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Agenda – Little Colorado River Plateau RC&D

2011 Annual Meeting

Licano’s Steakhouse and Conference Center

Show Low, Arizona

6:00 PM, Thursday, January 27, 2011

1. **Welcome and Opening Remarks – Vice-Chair JR DeSpain**
2. **Recognition of RC&D Council members, Staff and Guests**
3. **Recognition of RC&D Special Guest(s)**
4. **Dinner**
5. **Remarks: Outgoing Vice-Chair JR DeSpain**
6. **Recognition of Voting Members**
7. **Proposed By-Laws Revisions**
8. **Nomination and Election of New Board Members**
9. **Remarks Incoming President**
10. **Honoree: TBA**
11. **2010 Annual Report: Dennis Chandler**
12. **2010 Treasurer’s Report: Curtis Winder**
13. **Briefing on 2011 Annual Plan: Dennis Chandler**
14. **Briefing on 2011 Budget: Curtis Winder**
15. **Comments/Questions from Council members**

Adjourn

Special points of interest:

- Winter Watershed Conference Jan. 26-28
- Little Colorado River Plateau RC&D Annual Meeting Evening of January 28th
- Western RC&D Conference—Lewiston, Idaho—March 13-16.

RC&D Forestry Projects

The RC&D staff was recently successful in extending the deadline and modifying the scope of work for a grant with the U.S. Forest Service Forest Products Laboratory (FPL). Entitled grant 07-DG-1111169-106, it has an available balance of \$43,281.08. The new termination date is July 20, 2012. The scope of work reads: "Southwest Sustainable Forests Partnership (SWSFP) purpose is to help communities and businesses shift to using a different resource off National Forest Systems, particularly the White Mountain Stewardship project in Arizona. To aid these businesses in developing new and innovative uses for this non-traditional material, SWSFP needs to provide technical assistance. **The purpose of this grant is to provide technical assistance so that these businesses can help the FS reduce costs of hazardous fuel treatments on NFS lands.**" The deliverable tasks include:

1. **\$4,800** budgeted. Provide travel assistance funding for selected forest and wood product entrepreneurs from Region 3 to attend the 5th Small Log Conference in Coeur d'Alene Resort, Idaho, March 23-25, 2011. The SWSFP will advertize the opportunity through an RFP. No more than \$800 per person will be authorized. The SWSFP anticipates a typical trip will cost over \$1200, so the balance would act as a strong match from those selected to receive financing.
2. **\$20,000** budgeted. In close partnership with the SWSFP, the Little Colorado River Plateau RC&D proposes to conduct two separate, but similar, "Woody Biomass to Energy" two-day conferences in November 2011. One conference will be held in or around Show Low, Arizona; the second conference, conducted about two weeks later, will be held in or around Ruidoso, NM. The target audience for these conferences are forest and wood product entrepreneurs, economic developers, local community leaders, academia and USDA officials. These conferences will seek to encompass wider biomass utilization to create not just bio-fuels but bi-power and bio-materials as well. In addition, these conferences offer superb opportunities for the two new State Foresters. Both Arizona and New Mexico are scheduled to select new state foresters early in 2011.
3. **\$10,000** budgeted. In close partnership with FPL, the SWSFP proposes to directly support Smallwoods 2012, to be conducted in Flagstaff, Arizona, in May 2012. The RC&D can use these funds to augment FPL funds and to support the agenda and provide additional professional services to ensure Smallwoods 2012 is a major event. For example, these funds could be used to finance tour buses or provide travel assistance.
4. **\$3,000** budgeted. In close partnership with the Northern Arizona Wood Products Association (NAWPA), the Little Colorado River Plateau RC&D would provide \$3,000 to the Flagstaff, Arizona-based project called, "Willow Bend Environmental Center Ramada." Under the direction of Silas Page of AP Lumber & Mill Service LLC, a Ramada utilizing the approved building techniques of Bodette Engineering (of Montana) will be the centerpiece of the Willow Bend Park in downtown Flagstaff. Total project value, including donated materials, exceeds \$70,000. Once completed, this park could be featured on a tour during Smallwoods 2012.
5. **\$5,481.08** budgeted. For internal admin and travel to support executing the tasks described above. While no additional match is required, the RC&D volunteered to donate another \$5,000 in matching funds toward total project value.

Little Colorado River Weed Management Area

Susan Chandler of the Navajo Natural County Resource Conservation District asked if the Little Colorado River Weed Management Area (WMA) would be able to include the Natural Resource Conservation District in a series of information on weeds of concern.

The NRCD newsletter will be helpful with one of the important facets of the WMA, which is to help educate the public in the awareness of weeds and of the weed problem. With that, we hope the following information will be of benefit to each of the readers.

Scientific Name: *Onopordum acanthium* (L.)

Common Name: *Scotch Thistle*

Family: Asteraceae (Sunflower)

Origin: Europe and the Mediterranean Region.

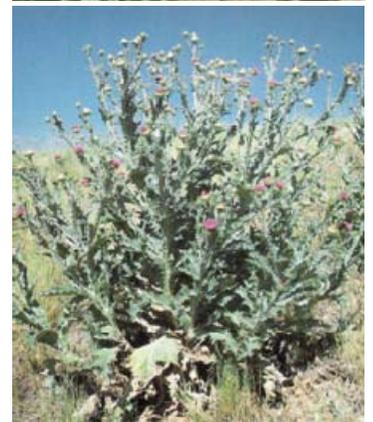
Description: Scotch Thistle is an aggressive biennial forb 6 inches to 3 feet in height. Tap roots are very stout. Plants typically germinate in the fall and exist as prostrate rosettes throughout the first year. The second year will see a flowering stem develop in the second spring/summer. Flowers develop June-September with heads spheric to hemispheric usually solitary. Heads consist of spiny tips with numerous disk flowers. Flowers are white or purple. Stems have broad, spiny wings formed by each leaf base. The first year has prostrate rosettes which are very large and are commonly 12 inches and bigger. The leaves are alternate and irregularly spiny toothed with white woolly hairs, with the lower surface more densely covered than the upper surface.

Habitat: Usually disturbed sites, roadsides, fields and also natural areas.

Propagation: Reproduce by seed only. Seeds can remain dormant 7 to 20 years underground and still germinate. One plant can produce an average of 30,000 seeds.

Control: Chemical: 2,4-D, Chlorsulfuron, Clopyralid, Dicamba, Fluroxypyr, Metsulfurn methyl. Mechanical: Repeated hand pulling or grubbing. Also cut and dig out roots and also cut off heads to eliminate seed production.

Comments: Highly impacts livestock and wildlife grazing. Also, impacts recreational areas and wildlife habitat and forage production. Is aggressive and formidable in size and due to the spines.





Annual RC&D Council Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Little Colorado River Plateau RC&D Council will be held in conjunction with the 4th Winter Watershed Conference on Thursday evening, January 27, 2011 as follows:

- 6:00 PM (no host reception)etion)
- 7:00 PM dinner

Speaker – David A. Brown, Brown and Brown, Attorneys at Law, St. Johns

“The Current Status of Arizona Tribal Water Settlements”

Annual Meeting – following dinner and presentation (agenda available upon request)

The public is invited. Please make your reservations electronically by logging onto the conference website – www.winterwatershedconference.org

Please note that the Annual Meeting and Dinner is *separate* from the Winter Watershed Conference and you must register separately. The cost is \$30. .

Hard copies of registration forms will be mailed on request. Questions may be directed to the RC&D at 928.524.6063 x. 123 or at info@littlecolorado.net

Website Updates and Information

The Little Colorado River Plateau RC&D continues to work on improvements on their websites.

Earlier in the fall, work began to separate the Southwest Forests Sustainable Partnership Website and put it out on the internet on its own. This was completed in October. The SWSFP website contains important forestry information for the many Arizona and New Mexico partners of the community-based, small-diameter timber industry.

You are invited to view this information at www.swsfp.org. Input, comments and suggestions for improvements are *always* welcome.

In addition, work is underway to improve the main website, www.littlecolorado.net. Again, your suggestions or comments for improvements are solicited.

E-Mail Lists

Mailing lists and other information are rapidly changing from regular mail distribution mail to electronic newsletter formats. The RC&D is working towards this transition as well. If you would like to be added to our e-mail distribution list (or check to see if you are already on it), please contact us at 928.524.6063 x. 123 or at info@littlecolorado.net. As always, should you wish to continue receiving information by regular mail, the RC&D will accommodate your wishes.



Facebook

The RC&D is now on Facebook. We welcome you to find us on your Facebook page by typing in “Little Colorado” and then add the RC&D as a “friend”. Please note that the RC&D is committed to outreach with information sharing only. In other words, the RC&D Facebook page will only address weeds, water and forest and pertinent RC&D issues.



Fourth Annual Winter Watershed Conference

The Fourth Winter Watershed Conference is rapidly moving forward. The dates are Wednesday evening, January 26 through Friday Noon, January 28, 2011. The location is Licano’s Steakhouse and Conference Center in Show Low, Arizona.

All information and electronic registration forms are available at the Conference website, www.winterwatershedconference.org.

This year’s Conference is focused on the two major water managers in Arizona – the Salt River Project (SRP) and Central Arizona Project (CAP). They are major sponsors of the conference and will be discussing their background, history, operations and plans for water management in Arizona.

In addition, tours and a Bureau of Reclamation Grants Workshop will be offered.

Finally, ADEQ has granted Continuing Education Credits (CEU) for all Water and Wastewater licensed staff and personnel. This is an excellent opportunity to obtain CEU’s close to home and at a reasonable cost.

The cost of the Conference is the same as the last four years - \$125. This includes Wednesday dinner and Thursday and Friday luncheons.

For more information, please check the website, call the RC&D at 928.524.6063 x. 123 or e-mail at info@littlecolorado.net.

Coyote Creek Watershed Improvement Grant

Work moves forward on the meetings and efforts in the Coyote Creek Watershed Project. The objective of this project is to bring together all data on erosion and associated issues from this area, obtain ADEQ approval for BMP’s (Best Management Practices) and move forward with additional grant programs for on-the-ground efforts to assist private owners and State Land Department lessees in their efforts to improve water quality and land management.

If you are interested in this project, please contact the RC&D for more details at 928.524.6063 x. 123 or e-mail at info@littlecolorado.net



RC&D Mission:

The mission of the RC&D program is to make available financial, administrative, educational and technical resources of the USDA and other public and private partnerships to increase the ability of communities to meet their regionally identified resources, conservation and economic development needs.

4th Annual Winter Watershed Conference

Agenda and Information

Licano's Conference Center, Show Low, AZ; Wednesday evening – Friday Noon, January, 26-28 2011

Wednesday Evening, January 26, 2011:

5:00 PM – Registration Opens

6:00 PM – No-host Bar, Networking and Opening Reception

7:00 PM – Opening Dinner

7:30 PM – Keynote Speaker:

David Modeer, General Manager, Central Arizona Water Conservation District

Thursday (all day), January 27, 2011:

8:00 AM - Registration Opens

8:15 AM – Welcome and Opening Remarks

8:30 AM – Presentation:

“Background, History and Structure of the Central Arizona Project”, Tom McCann, Assistant General Manager, Operations, Planning and Engineering, CAP

9:30 AM – Presentation:

“CAP’s Role in Water Management”, Cliff Neal, Manager of Planning and Replenishment, CAP

10:30 AM – Presentation:

“CAP Planning and Projects” Terri Sue Rossi, Senior Policy Analyst, CAP

11:45 AM – Wrap up of morning session, Questions and Answers

12:15 PM – Luncheon and Keynote Speaker:

“Weather Modification: The Colorado Experience and Application in the White Mountain of Arizona”, Joe Busto, Colorado Water Conservation Board Scientist/Researcher

Thursday Afternoon, January 27, 2011

2:00 PM – Concurrent Workshops:

Tour: “Rainbow Lake and Environs; Control of the Eurasian Milfoil” under the direction of the Friends of the Show Low Creek Watershed and Rainbow Lake Coalition

TOUR: “Show Low Lake and Environs; Surface Water Supply in the Show Low Creek Waters” under the direction of Ken Wilcock, Water and Sewer Operations Manager, City of Show Low

ROUNDTABLE: “Bureau of Reclamation Rural Programs for Arizona” under the direction of Bob Michaels, Chief, Program Development Division, Phoenix Area Office, US Bureau of Reclamation

4:00 PM – Adjourn from afternoon sessions and break

4th Annual Winter Watershed Conference Cont.

Friday, January 28, 2011:

8:00 AM – Registration Opens and Welcoming Remarks

8:30 AM – Presentation:

“Background, History and Structure of the Salt River Project”, James Labar, Senior Historical Analyst, Research Archives, SRP

9:15 AM – Presentation:

“SRP Operations”, Charles Ester, Water Resource Operations Manager, SRP

10:30 AM – Presentation:

“SRP Projects and Future Planning”, Bruce Hallin, Manager, Water Rights and Contracts, SRP

11:15 AM – Presentation:

“The White Mountain Apache Tribal Water Settlement”, David Roberts, Manager of Water Resources Management, SRP

12:15 PM – Luncheon and Keynote Speaker:

Keynote Speaker; John Sullivan, Associate General Manager, Water Group, Salt River Project

1:30 PM – Conference Adjournment and travel to homes or winter activities

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Questions, comments, concerns may be addressed to David M. Newlin, Little Colorado River Plateau RC&D Business Manager; e-mail, david@littlecolorado.net; phone, 928.524.6063 x. 123; cell, 928.322.6146; fax 928.524.2910

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Grass Roots Organization



Dennis Chandler
RC&D Coordinator

A little knowledge that acts is worth infinitely more than much knowledge that is idle.

Kahlil Gibran

Over the Fence

As we close out 2010, it has been a very good year despite the bumps in the road. At the end of September when I have to have all my reports and data entries into the National Office, the Little Colorado River Plateau RC&D had a 5 to 1 leverage. For each dollar invested, we created five more dollars. This is an awesome accomplishment. The economy is poor and very sluggish. There is not a lot of wealth floating around but there is a lot of need to be addressed. For an investment of \$134,000, we nearly reached a \$700,000 return.

You may have concluded that RC&D's in the state of Arizona as well as across this nation have really not done much

for communities. And for some communities that is a factual statement. But for the area as a whole the RC&D has made a difference for some employers and their employees. We are addressing issues of natural resources as well as community development.

We have some intelligent and energetic people who live among us. These type of people are really needed on RC&D boards and councils. They are the risk takers. They are the people who look forward, seek opportunities, find solutions. As we look forward to our Annual Meeting on January 27th, lets look for some of these folks to sit on our council and Board of Directors.

This RC&D will play a vital role in helping economic development opportunities come to this part of Arizona as well as on the Hopi and Navajo Reservations. It is a fact that these are trying times. But it is also a fact that solutions lies within us. It is getting those ideas out in the open and let people chew on them for a bit, then come together, develop a plan, develop a well oiled action team and the money will be out there. The next three or four years will be exciting. This RC&D knows how to take on projects and make every project successful. Are we ready for the challenge?