

2009

PRAIRIE COUNTRY RC&D COUNCIL

ANNUAL PLAN OF WORK

Council President

Date

State Conservationist

Date

Prairie Country RC&D verifies that this FY 2009 Plan addresses the Chief's Priorities

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VISION

An economically stable and environmentally sound area with a good quality of life and opportunities for its youth

The Mission

Working cooperatively to promote economic, human, and natural resource development

**GOAL A: Cooperate with Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCD)
and Watershed Projects to get at least 40,000 acres of natural
resources treated by December 31, 2012**

**ELEMENT
Land Conservation
Reduce Erosion and
Sedimentation**

		Estimated Comp. Date	Staff/Hours/Budget Council Member(s)	Accomplish- ments
OBJECTIVE	A1 Annually assist at least five (5) Watershed Projects with erosion control efforts by providing technical assistance and educational/informational opportunities.			
STRATEGIES				
A1a	Assist the Chippewa River Watershed Committee and Local Work Group carry out the East Branch Continuation, Lower Main Stem Continuation, Upper Main Stem Continuation, Little Chippewa and Dry Weather Creek Project Implementation Grants.	12/09	Nelson - 128 Williams - 112 Anderson/Schuerman	\$0
A1b	Assist the Shakopee Creek Headwaters Watershed Committee and Local Work Group carry out the Greater Shakopee Creek Headwaters Continuation Project.	12/09	Nelson - 80 Williams - 80 D. Peterson/Rasmussen	\$0
A1c	Assist the Hawk Creek Watershed Committee and Local Work Group carry out the "Green Corridors Continuation", "Land of the Lost Continuation", "Beaver Tales Continuation", "Hawk Creek 2006" and "Hawk Creek TMDL", "Beaver Creek TMDL", "Long Lake TMDL" and "Hawk Creek SWAG" Project Implementation Grants.	12/09	Nelson - 128 Williams - 112 Lopez	\$0
A1d	Assist the Lac qui Parle – Yellow Bank Watershed District and Local Work Group carry out the Clean Water Legacy and 319 Continuation Implementation Grants and the TMDL Implementation Plan.	12/09	Nelson - 80 Williams - 80 Patzner/Nordaune	\$0
A1e	Assist the Crow River Watershed Joint Powers Board and the Local Work Group implement the Crow River Watershed Strategic Plan and carry out the Buffalo Creek 319, 319 Crow, South Fork TMDL and North Fork TMDL Implementation Grants.	12/09	Nelson - 128 Williams - 112 D. Peterson	\$0
A1f	Participate in one SWCD water festival to educate students on the importance of conservation, erosion protection and water quality.	9/09	Nelson - 24 Williams - 16 Schuerman	\$800
A1g	Develop and distribute semi-annual <i>Prairie Country Comments</i> newsletter to 400 individuals, groups and organizations in order to educate the public about available conservation programs.	12/09	Nelson - 16 Williams - 80 All	\$1,200
A1h	Promote and provide assistance to enroll at least 500 acres of cropland in non-traditional or biomass energy crops for energy production and soil conservation.	12/09	Nelson - 32 Williams - 8 All	\$50

GOAL B: Assist the six (6) watershed projects enhance water quality by 2012 through identification and reduction of non-point source water pollution.

**ELEMENT
Water Management**

**Water Quality
Improvement and
Management**

		Estimated Comp. Date	Staff/Hours/Budget Council Member(s)	Accomplish- ments
OBJECTIVE	B1 Assist the watershed projects local work groups with implementation of conservation practices that reduce delivery of sediment and nutrients.			
STRATEGIES				
B1a	Reduce phosphorus, nitrate-nitrogen and sedimentation in surface water as outlined in Watershed Project Work Plans.	12/09	Nelson - 80 Williams - 80 All	\$0
B2b	Provide technical assistance to six Watershed Projects and fiscal agent services to four Watershed projects.	12/09	Nelson - 40 Williams - 40 Holien - 1080 All	\$7,200

GOAL C: Cultivate renewable energy opportunities in nine (9) counties to reduce dependence on foreign oil and establish West Central Minnesota as an energy leader by implementing three (3) energy-related projects by 2012.

**ELEMENT
Land Management**

**Energy Conservation
Renewable Energy
and Biofuels**

		Estimated Comp. Date	Staff/Hours/Budget Council Member(s)	Accomplish- ments
OBJECTIVE	C1 Cooperate with University of Minnesota Extension educators, West Central Research and Outreach Center, the West Central Clean Energy Resource Team (CERT), regional economic development, West Central Regional Sustainable Development Partnership and energy specialists and others to explore renewable energy projects resulting in one project annually.			
STRATEGIES				
C1a	Assist the West Central Clean Energy Resource Team implement their energy project grant program and with planning and implementation of at least one meeting/workshop to inform the public and communities about alternative/renewable energy opportunities, incentives and funding sources.	12/09	Nelson - 80 Williams - 48 All	\$100
C1b	Assist one community/landowner develop grant proposals for alternative/renewable energy projects.	12/09	Nelson - 48 Williams - 32 All	\$0
C1c	Promote the Productive Conservation on Working Lands (PCWL) Program and assist at least one landowner apply for the program.	12/09	Nelson - 32 Williams - 8 All	\$0
C1d	Promote the Productive Conservation on Working Lands Program and establish perennial conservation crops on a farm within the Prairie Country service area.	12/09	Nelson - 16 Williams - 8 All	\$0

GOAL D: Help facilitate a regional sense of community throughout the nine county Prairie Country area to retain and attract businesses and families to the area by hosting three (3) job fairs or business-related training workshops by 2012.

**ELEMENT
Community
Development**

**Connect Rural Landscapes
Through The Development
of Resource-Based Industries
and Opportunities**

Expand/Create Businesses and Jobs

		Estimated Comp. Date	Staff/Hours/Budget Council Member(s)	Accomplish- ments
OBJECTIVE	D1 Accelerate economic development in the Prairie Country Area by 2012 by providing assistance to at least ten (10) individuals and four (4) businesses.			
STRATEGIES				
D1a	Work with MN Job Force and community economic development organizations in the Council area by creating at least two (2) new jobs.	12/09	Nelson - 48 Williams - 32 All	\$0
D1b	Work with community economic development organizations to provide organizational support and development assistance to at least one business to get it started or increase profits.	12/09	Nelson - 48 Williams - 32 All	\$0
OBJECTIVE	D2 Assist three (3) communities implement alternative/renewable energy projects and implement three educational events to promote energy conservation			
STRATEGIES				
D2a	Assist at least one community/landowner develop grant proposals for alternative/renewable energy projects.	12/09	Nelson - 56 Williams - 24 All	\$0
D2b	Promote energy conservation through implementation of at least one information/education activity, project or program.	12/09	Nelson - 48 Williams - 32 All	\$100

		Estimated Comp. Date	Staff/Hours/Budget Council Member(s)	Accomplish- ments
OBJECTIVE	D3 Increase rural fire protection and energy conservation in the nine county Prairie Country Area.			
STRATEGIES				
D3a	Assist at least two (2) rural fire departments plan and install a dry hydrant project.	10/09	Nelson - 64 Williams - 48 Holien - 8 All	\$0
OBJECTIVE	D4 Increase environmental/cultural educational opportunities for students and the general public in at least 3 communities.			
STRATEGIES				
D4a	Provide technical, fundseeking and grantwriting assistance to Pezuta Zizi Learning Center, Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center and the Benson Outdoor Classroom Projects.	12/09	Nelson - 64 Williams - 48 Holien - 8 D. Peterson/Rasmussen Remiger/N. Peterson Anderson/Schuerman	\$0
OBJECTIVE	D5 Increase percentage of recycled materials in the Prairie Country Area by 20% by 2012.			
STRATEGIES				
D5a	Implement at least one information/education program/activity to educate the public on the need to increase recycling efforts.	12/09	Nelson - 48 Williams - 32 All	\$100
OBJECTIVE	D6 Increase use of organically and locally grown foods in the Prairie Country area by 25% by 2012.			
STRATEGIES				
D6a	Work with Pride of the Prairie and other local organizations to promote locally grown and organic foods through the implementation of at least one event, project or activity.	12/09	Nelson - 32 Williams - 8 All	\$100
OBJECTIVE	D7 Assist at least six entities to increase tourism and recreational opportunities by 2012.			
STRATEGIES				
D7a	Provide technical and grant writing assistance to the MN River Valley and Glacial Ridge Trail Scenic Byway Committees to increase tourism, economic and other opportunities within the trail corridors.	12/09	Nelson - 72 Williams - 48 Holien - 8 Anderson	\$0
D7b	Provide technical and/or grant writing assistance to at least one community/group for development of recreational/tourism facilities or projects.	12/09	Nelson - 48 Williams - 32 All	\$0

		Estimated Comp. Date	Staff/Hours/Budget Council Member(s)	Accomplish- ments
OBJECTIVE	D8 Increase sustainable grazing management within the region and the utilization of EQIP to install conservation practices to treat 500 acres of grazing land by 2011.			
STRATEGIES				
D8a	Host a Grazing Workshop in partnership with NRCS and the Soil & Water Conservation Districts to educate producers about the EQIP program and the benefits of rotational grazing, improved forage production practices and livestock watering systems.	9/09	Nelson - 16 Williams - 8 Holien - 16 All	\$1,000
OBJECTIVE	D9 Assist the Coteau des Prairies RC&D Steering Committee with implementation of the NRCS Contribution Agreement and further establishment of their area.			
STRATEGIES				
D9a	Provide technical and fiscal agent services to the Coteau des Prairies RC&D Area.	12/09	Nelson - 40 Williams - 40 Holien - 80 All	\$1,000
OBJECTIVE	D10 Assist the MARC&D with information/education efforts to promote the RC&D Program with National and State Legislators and the general public.			
STRATEGIES				
D10a	Assist the MARC&D implement their Training Plan, Marketing Plan and contribution agreements (Grazing Workshops, Marketing).	12/09	Nelson - 24 Williams - 16 Holien - 80 All	\$1,000