

Northeast Nebraska Resource Conservation & Development Council Inc.

Plan of Work 2008

<i>S/Bud Knuth</i>	12/19/2007	_____	_____
Council President	Date	State Conservationist	Date

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Vision

To facilitate progress in our communities, improve viability and enhance quality of life

Mission

Provide leadership by seeking technical and financial assistance to create new opportunities in agriculture, employment, area development and protection of the environment

Slogan

“Connecting People to Resources”

Projects & Activities

Land Conservation:

Goal I - Support Farm Bill Initiatives Directed at Soil Erosion and Sedimentation

Project (approved date)	Est. Completion	Cost Estimate	Progress/Comments	Responsibility	NRCS Time
Objective A - Assist partners with erosion control program development					
<i>Strategy 1. - Support EQIP, CSP, WRP, CREP & other priorities by disseminating information on program criteria</i>					
Organic Farming (7/23/07)	9/1/2011	\$331,500	An I&E program to increase the number of organically farmed acres. Submitted NETF grant 9/4/07 for \$331,500 statewide project.	Verlon Barnes	30
NRCS Agreement (potential project)		\$20,000			

Water Conservation:

Goal II - Work to Insure Existing Water Resources are Valued

Objective A - Assist rural communities & others in protecting & maintaining clean & abundant water					
<i>Strategy 1. - Work with partners to provide ongoing assistance to the Wau-Col Regional Water System</i>					
Belden Water (potential)		\$7,000		Angie Oelrich	
Magnet Water (potential)		\$7,000		Jim Cautrell	
McLean Water (potential)		\$7,000		Jim Backhaus	
Wau-Col Water System (5/23/05)	9/30/2009	\$3,200,000	JEO/Bartlett-West engineers; 10/30/07 - 5 towns committed & 27 rural users can be serviced. Financing & redesign in progress.	Art Kuhl	50
<i>Strategy 2. - Utilize existing information to educate rural landowners on water quality protection</i>					
Stream Monitoring (12/3/01)	9/15/2008	\$1,775	Stalled since original member moved; addl. assistance secured 11/07.	Donna Christiansen	8
Missouri River Futures (2/23/04)	10/1/2008	\$98,888	Theresa Smedra started 10/1/06 as Resource Cons.	Cy Pinkelman	12

Community Development:

Goal III - Create & Retain Local Jobs and Businesses that Provide a Living Wage

Objective A - Offer entrepreneurial educational programming					
<i>Strategy 1. - Work with regional service providers to develop 4 entrepreneurial workshops and related opportunities to expand/enhance local business ventures</i>					
E-bay Class (6/26/06)	9/30/2007	\$3,200	Scheduled 5 classes to show entrepreneurs how to set up e-bay & paypal accounts, sell items, price, & bid	Cy Pinkelman	8
Makin' Money Camp 2008 (7/23/07)	8/1/2008	\$6,000	3rd year for camp designed to improve interest in entrepreneurship among youth.	Sandy Preston	30
Endowments & Entrepreneurs (7/24/06)	12/31/2008	\$29,000	BECA grant of \$13,008 awarded to educate/inform people of benefits to charitable giving/capturing money for endowments, assist inventors & entrepreneurs, partners WEDI & Wayne Co.	Dave Simonsen	16

Goal III - Create & Retain Local Jobs and Businesses that Provide a Living Wage (continued)					
Project (approved date)	Est. Completion	Cost Estimate	Progress/Comments	Contact	NRCS Time
Objective B - Pursue business & organizational assistance where gaps exist					
<i>Strategy 1. - Assist other resource providers in offering training on job opportunities, business plans, markets for products/services, affordability of benefits & financing</i>					
Showcase for Nebraska Entrepreneurs (4/23/07)	12/31/2008	\$6,050	Provide space for craftsmen, artisans, entrepreneurs to display their products along with promoting and marketing assistance	Clo Ann Shamblen	12
Experience Works 2007 (1/29/07)	2/1/2008	\$10,706	Providing training for Clo Ann Shamblen in the office in conjunction with the Experience Works Program	Rhonda Kneifl	52
Goal IV - Turn Local Ideas into Reality					
Objective A - Offer appropriate referrals					
<i>Strategy 3. - Direct citizens & others to proper resource providers</i>					
Public Information 2007 (1/29/07)	2/28/2008	\$16,000	Information activities not related to projects as documented outreach.	Bud Knuth	40
Objective B - Support community projects					
<i>Strategy 1. - Assist community groups with identified priority efforts</i>					
Shannon Trail '07(12/18/06)	5/1/2008	\$10,139	Tourism grant of \$7,400 applied for to do '08 Pvt. Shannon Contest	Laurie Larsen	16
Community Club Creation/Plainview (1/29/07)	1/1/2009	\$10,000	Assist this new group with facilitation, meeting room urse, obtaining grants to fund projects. They've identified 3 goals for '07.	Michael Holton, Randy Klooz	6
<i>Strategy 4. - Encourage charitable contributions for enhancing local initiatives</i>					
Coleridge Fire Equipment (potential project)		\$13,000			
Village of Wynot - Playground (12/18/07)	4/1/2008	\$10,000	Assist by receiving Lammers funds for playground equipment loan	Sally Snowe	2
RC&D Endowment (4/25/05)	12/1/2010	\$16,629	Committee drafted plan of action accepted by Council 8/28/06, \$15,000 to be endowed with NE Community Foundation. Council members signed papers 1/29/07, activate fund with \$100 2/26/07.	Cy Pinkelman	16
Objective C - Work regionally to curb the use of illicit drugs					
<i>Strategy 3. - Enhance efforts to educate the public on recognizing a possible abuse situation or meth lab</i>					
Drug Awareness (3/22/04)	12/31/2009	\$1,706	2 trainings held with Prevention Pathways, participated in regional forum, 1 in Invisible Lives conference, 1 on CASCADE Task Force, staff facilitation; stalled out, but Dick brings new interest	Cy Pinkelman, Dick Haskin	24

Goal V - Promote Northeast Nebraska

Project (approved date)	Est. Completion	Cost Estimate	Progress/Comments	Contact	NRCS Time
Objective A - Promote existing & develop new tourism opportunities					
<i>Strategy 1. - Provide technical assistance to initiatives seeking to market the region</i>					
St.Philip & James School Stucco Project (8/27/07)	9/1/2008	\$30,000	Seeking assistance to repair building stucco & other issues; grant to www.myhometownhelper.com denied; \$15,000 gift from Lammers Est. for repairs 11/14/07.	Mary Rose Pinkelman	24
Corps of Discovery Welcome Center 2007 (4/23/07)	12/31/2007	\$1,500	Continued technical assistance needed to maintain operations, attracting volunteers & serving the traveling public	Peggy Year	60
St. Helena Sesquicentennial (12/18/07)	9/1/2008	\$2,500	Assist by receiving Lammers funds for history book	Victor Paltz	2
Cemeteries & Ghost Towns '08 (potential)		\$5,000		Janet Eckmann	
Cedar County Churches Tour '08 (potential)		\$5,000		Mary Rose Pinkelman	
Outlaws Legends & Lore (2/24/03)	9/15/2008	\$821	Marita Placek leading effort, Byway budgeted funds, slow moving! Assisted with Tourism Advantage grant proposal 8/31/07- denied.	Marita Placek	30
Objective B - Increase recreational activities on private and public lands					
<i>Strategy 1. - Assist local farms & ranches with agri-tourism venture development</i>					
Heartland Experience (2/24/03)	12/31/2008	\$30,088	AIM grant, bike tours planned & cancelled, bus tours, revisiting plans 2/07 on direction	Mary Rose Pinkelman	24
<i>Strategy 3. - Partner with others on development of a regional Trails System</i>					
Nebraska Meridian Trail (2/26/07)	9/28/2012	\$213,625	L&CNRD asked RC&D for leadership to promote trail along MO River	Tom Moser	40
Objective C - Encourage preservation of the region's history					
<i>Strategy 2. - Provide technical assistance to at least 3 local museums</i>					
Plainview Historical Museum (1/24/05)	12/31/2008	\$2,012	Provided grant information, fundraising ideas, donated RC&D computer & printer, set up email account, supported open houses	Lois Olson	8
Creighton Historical Museum (8/28/06)	1/1/2009	\$300,000	Assist grants to fund needs, organize small museum association.	John Binger	12
Pierce Historical Society Museum Grant (5/23/05)	7/1/2007	\$677	Committee has brochure idea, but can't get together to work on it! Vicki will contact Pierce Co. on lodging tax funds 1/07. 11/19/07 got \$500 from Pierce Lodging tax & will go ahead with rack card.	Vicki DeJong	

Goal VI - Raise the Awareness of RC&D's					
Project (approved date)	Est. Completion	Cost Estimate	Progress/Comments	Contact	NRCS Time
Objective A - Improve recognition of RC&D both internally and externally					
<i>Strategy 1. - Implement an outreach program to inform citizens of RC&D services</i>					
Council Brochure (11/14/03)	6/1/2008	\$373	Donna created drafts, Council will wait until new Area Plan complete.	Donna Christiansen	4
RC&D Communications/Public Relations Campaign (9/26/06)	2/28/2008	\$1,000	Raise awareness of RC&D, improve negative images, encourage investment in Council, train members & staff, assessment, signed agreement 2/26/07 for newsletter, press releases, mileage; more if secure grant funds.	Rita Brhel	35
Web Page 2006 (3/27/06)	12/31/2007	\$1,000	Major review & updated needed.	Cy Pinkelman, Rhonda Kneifl	16
Land Management:					
Goal VII - Lead Agriculturally-based Economic Development					
Objective A - Offer educational opportunities for beginning farmers/ranchers & others					
<i>Strategy 4. - Help preserve working farms & ranches by using proper management techniques</i>					
Windbreak Renovation (7/23/07)	4/1/2011	\$200,000	Assess windbreak renovation opportunities, research available resources, submitted NETF grant 9/07.	Steve Ramussen, Cory Schmidt	40
Objective B - Support development of direct marketed &/or value added agriculture					
<i>Strategy 1. - Encourage expanded use of alternative fuels including wind, biomass, biodiesel and others</i>					
Bioenergy Crop Trial (4/24/00)	5/15/2008	\$120,178	Project data gathering complete, reports done, waiting journal review.	Ken Vogel	2
Woody Waste Biomass Study (7/23/07)	9/1/2009	\$50,000	Facilitate development of a biomass energy generating project using large volume of wood biomass being wasted, NE VAA grant submitted 10/07 for feasibility study.	Steve Rassmussen, Merlyn Kuhl	24
<i>Strategy 2. - Create opportunities for enhanced sales of locally-grown products</i>					
Farm to Family Connection Initiative (6/27/05)	7/31/2008	\$176,550	Kellogg preproposal drafted 11/05, funded 6/22/06 for \$100,000/2 yrs, Curt Arens & Sandy Patton independent contractors.	Sandy Patton, Curt Arens	16

Goal VIII - Promote Ethical Conservation of Natural Resources

Project (approved date)	Est. Completion	Cost Estimate	Progress/Comments	Contact	NRCS Time
Objective A - Facilitate management of invasive and noxious weeds					
<i>Strategy 1. - Support the efforts of the Northeast Nebraska Weed Management Area to control the spread of weed infestations threatening rivers & grasslands</i>					
Northeast Nebraska WMA PTI #2	9/30/2007	\$100,000	PTI #2 grant \$49,500 awarded 5/8/06 - spray PLS & Saltcedar, Biocontrol	Bruce Ofe	16
Weed Management Area PTI #3/NETF (10/23/06)	5/1/2008	\$172,430	PTI #3 will continue the efforts of the previous projects in controlling noxious & invasive weeds in a 8-county region - grant denied. Prepared NETF proposal 8/31/07 for biological controls in Nebraska Natural Legacy Project areas to continue effort.	Doug Smith	40
Objective B - Expand proper disposal and recycling opportunities					
<i>Strategy 1. - Assist with 2 collection events</i>					
Computer Recycling 2008 (8/27/07)	9/1/2008	\$15,000	Another collection for the remaining 3 counties in NEN (Antelope, Knox, Wayne)	Gary Howey, Jill Heemstra	20
Household Hazardous Waste Collection 2008 (8/27/07)	2/1/2009	\$17,000	Need to apply for grant funds to host 3 additional collections	Donna Christiansen	24
<i>Strategy 2. - Partner with communities to secure funding &/or other resources to start or improve recycling programs</i>					
Laurel Recycling Center (1/29/07)	7/1/2008	\$4,372	Laurel has built a new recycling facility that can accommodate the entire region; need promotion, convey need for citizen ownership & recycling responsibilities for environment & financial mind set. Awarded \$2500	Annette Junck	8
Objective C - Promote habitat management					
<i>Strategy 1. - Attain funding to support conservation efforts</i>					
NE Natural Legacy Project (1/16/06)	12/31/2009	\$174,620	F&WS \$93,000 grant awarded 6/06, agreement signed until 1/29/07, planning for '08.	Lucas Negus, Scott Wessel	20

OTHER ACTIVITIES 2008

Activity	Comments	NRCS
State Association	Participate through membership & attendance at annual meeting.	24
Western RC&D Association	Participate in the association through membership & attendance at annual meeting.	40
Circle of Diamonds	Maintain membership in this National RC&D Association program , a standard by which the Council conducts its business.	10
Council Meetings	Held 4th Monday of the month in various locations throughout the Area except in December: 1/28, 2/25, 3/24, 4/28, 5/26, 6/23, 7/28, 8/25, 9/22, 10/27, 11/24.	55
Council Training	An educational opportunity for Council members to become more aware of the Area, resource providers, programs, etc. Provided at each monthly meeting as well as during a summer tour.	40
Annual meeting	Celebrate accomplishments/increase citizen awareness - October or November	12
Civil Rights Training	Annually provide training to RC&D Council members & staff	4
Enlist Earth Team Volunteers	Project efforts are often led by volunteers & most are official Earth Team Program	6
Partner Organizations	Project efforts are always done in partnership with other agencies, organizations, local governments & others which includes the following: USDA Rural Development, Natural Resource Districts, Fish & Wildlife Service, Corps of Engineers, National Park Service, Shannon Trail Promoters, Cooperative Extension. There are many more too numerous to mention.	40

Total NRCS Time in Hours 1020

The Northeast Nebraska Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D) Council hereby adopts this RC&D Plan of Work and agrees to effectively use the assistance provided by NRCS-USDA to realize the goals and objectives outlined

Revisions/reviews/updates done:

This action authorized at an official meeting of the Northeast Nebraska Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D) Council on _____ and copies were provided to members.

Draft Council Budget 2008

	Income			
		Memberships	\$4,350	
		Contributions to Projects	\$175,135	
		Other Income	\$21,665	
	Total Income		\$201,150	
	Expenses			
		Projects	\$181,804	
		Personnel	\$3,010	
		Occupancy	\$10,890	
		Contributions/dontations/dues	\$1,120	
		Travel, Registrations	\$2,500	
		Miscellaneous	\$1,726	
		Petty Cash	\$100	
	Total Expenses		\$201,150	