

Cocopai Resource Conservation & Development Council

Annual Plan

2010

Cocopai Resource Conservation & Development Area

Annual Plan of Work

2010

This Plan was approved and adopted at an official meeting of the Executive Committee of the Cocopai Resource Conservation and Development Area, Inc. on November 16, 2009

Approval

By: _____ Date: _____

Robert Luzius, President
Cocopai RC&D Council

U. S. Department of Agriculture – Natural Resources Conservation Service

Agreed to: _____ Date: _____

David Mckay
State Conservationist
Natural Resources Conservation Service

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Organization Overview

A. Mission

The mission of the Cocopai Resource Conservation and Development Council is: Provide local leadership to address natural resource conservation issues through cooperative efforts.

B. Vision

Create partnerships to meet the challenges of economic and natural resource development that is environmentally sensitive.

C. Background

The Cocopai RC&D was established in March 1973 to carry out an area plan that would address needs identified in an annual plan of work.

The Name “COCOPAI” comes from a combination of Coconino and Yavapai Counties. Cocopai RC&D Area is located in north central Arizona. It includes the counties of Coconino and Yavapai and also serves part of Mohave County north of the Colorado River through an informal arrangement with the Lower Colorado River RC&D, an area encompassing approximately 17 million acres.

There are 13 incorporated cities and towns in the area, 6 natural resource conservation districts, all or part of five American Indian reservations, and a number of local organizations that take on active interest in resource conservation and community development. Many of these sponsors are RC&D sponsors and supporters.

To achieve this mission, the RC&D Sponsors, with assistance from local citizens and state and federal agencies, have prepared this 2010 Annual Plan of Work. This document is designed to be a flexible management tool the Council uses to guide its activities throughout the year. Benefits of the Plan of Work include:

- Continuity of action from one year to the next.
- Focus the Council on the same goal.
- Inform the Sponsors of the Cocopai Council activities.
- Serves as an agreement between the Cocopai RC&D and the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) State Conservationist to justify providing assistance to the Cocopai RC&D.

The Annual Plan of Work is the operational tool for the Area Plan. This plan directs the annual schedule of work toward projects that address objectives outlined in the Area Plan. Every organization has limited resources. The Annual Plan focuses the resources of the Council to meet the primary objectives and keep the organization strong.

Thus the RC&D Council must prioritize projects and actively participate in the development and updating of the plan, with input from the appropriate project sponsors, committees, agencies and individuals. Every Council member should feel ownership in this plan.

Some of the benefits of planning:

- Improved performance by organizations
- Solve problems
- Use available resources wisely
- Build teamwork and expertise
- Define the future
- Conflict resolution

Action Teams

The primary method of assistance is provided to sponsors through Action Teams. Community leaders and stakeholders organize an Action Team to actively address community issues. Leaders with diverse backgrounds join together to collaborate, at least one common issue binds the Action Team together. The Action Team defines the issues and establishes its operating guidelines. Once organized, the Action Team develops some basic operating sideboards and a strategic plan to guide its future. The Action Team is responsible for implementing activities to the address the problem.

New Projects

Throughout the year new projects are added to the Annual Plan of Work. The Annual Plan of Work is a dynamic document with frequent modifications made as needed throughout the year. A sponsor can submit a project proposal or concept paper to the Council or Executive Committee. A project concept paper outline provides guidance. Project sponsors are encouraged to seek assistance from the Coordinator for preparation of the project application. To adopt new projects, two criteria need to be met. First, the project must be compatible with the Cocopai RC&D Area Plan and current priorities. Second, the project needs to have a project leader and other citizens ready to form an Action Team.

New projects are initiated from various sources:

- Sponsors of the Cocopai RC&D
- The Executive Committee of the Cocopai RC&D Council
- Other organizations with similar missions to the Cocopai RC&D

Goals Objectives and Strategies – Land Conservation

A. Facilitate opportunity to develop sustained watershed improvement in the Verde Valley through the Stewards of Public Lands. Create 5 watershed plans to improve water quality and reduce sedimentation from 2010 – 2013.

1. Recruit 150 volunteers to work on watershed projects in the Valley.

1a. Develop plans for 5 watershed projects each year.

Responsibility	Activity	Timeline	Budget	Status	Coordinator time
Miller	Grant	Nov			
Williams	Partnerships	December			
Tyler	Planning	January			
Tyler	Implementation	January	\$7,801		
Arambula					200 hrs

B Support weeds removal in the Verde Valley sponsored by the Verde NRCD.

1. Assist publicizing events to reduce invasive species during '10-'13.

1b Support 5 weeds removal events by 2013.

Responsibility	Activity	Timeline	Budget	Status	Coordinator time
Allen	Partnerships	February '10	\$500		
Panel	Education	2010			
Allen	Projects	'10-'13			
Arambula					80 hrs

C. Facilitate “Ranch Workshops for individuals in the area.

1. Utilize the Arizona Grazing Lands Initiative and determine what areas of ranch workshops to participate with Cooperative Extension.

1c. Conduct outreach meetings to plan future meetings with ranchers 2010

Responsibility	Activity	Timeline	Budget	Status	Coordinator time
Towler	Outreach	‘10 - 2013	\$300		
Partner	Workshop	‘10 -2013			
Arambula					100 hrs

D. Facilitate developmental planning for the entities interested in the Big Chino Water Ranch conservation.

1. Determine level of interest of municipalities and groups to conduct conservation planning.

1d. Conduct organizational meeting prior to planning.

Responsibility	Activity	Timeline	Budget	Status	Coordinator time
Luzius	ID partners	March ‘10	\$200		
Holt	Facilitator	August ‘10			
Arambula					120 hrs

E. Facilitate planning with Navajo Nation and NRCS Flagstaff Field Office to assess needs of the Big Boquillas Ranch to develop a land use plan.

1. Meet with the Big Boquillas Ranch committee and establish parameters such as land use, community development, hunting & tourism.

1e. Facilitate meetings with Flagstaff Field Office DC.

Responsibility	Activity	Timeline	Budget	Status	Coordinator time
Cmte person			0		
Faaborg	Facilitate	11/09-6/10	0		
Arambula	Facilitate	11/09-6/10	0		

Goals, Objectives and Strategies – Community Development

A. Assist Chino Valley find a sponsor for the Farmers Market.

1. Provide administrative assistance with planning and funding

1a. Conduct partnership meetings and funding searches

Responsibility	Activity	Timeline	Budget	Status	Coordinator time
Schmidt	Grant	June '10	\$200		
Farm Board	Partnership	June '10			
Arambula	Facilitate	June '10	0		160 hrs

B. Clarkdale Sustainability Park Demonstration & Partnership

1. Meet with Town representatives for information funding needs

1b. Conduct funding searches gather resource information

Responsibility	Activity	Timeline	Budget	Status	Coordinator time
Williams	Partnership	March '10	0		8 hrs
Mabery	Facilitate	June '10	0		8 hrs
Arambula	Funds search	July '10	0		80 hrs

C. Horse Care & Feeding Workshop Yavapai Apache Tribe

1. Provide financial and planning assistance for presenters

1c. Conduct the workshop

Responsibility	Activity	Timeline	Budget	Status	Coordinator time
Williams	Partnership	3/10	700		
Arambula	Planning	7/10	0		

D. Sustainable Economic Development Initiative Partnership Development

1. Invite SEDI to provide information on program activity

- 1d. Attend SEDI committee meetings to arrange a partnership project

Responsibility	Activity	Timeline	Budget	Status	Coordinator time
Towler	Partnership	4/10	0		
Arambula	Meetings	5/10	0		80 hrs

Goals, Objectives and Strategies – Water Quality

A. Well water quality testing program

1. Select a location of primarily domestic wells in Coconino Co. and determine what the County requires for testing.

- 1a. Raise funds for test equipment, train two technicians for testing.

Responsibility	Activity	Timeline	Budget	Status	Coordinator time
Taylor	Test kits	7/10	1,200		
Arambula	Technical info	7/10			80 hrs
NACOG	Training	8/10	6,000		

Goal, Objectives and Strategies – Land Conservation

A. Riparian Habitat Improvement

1. Select a section of Lynx Creek to remove invasive species and replace with species of cultural significance to the Yavapai Prescott Apache Tribe.

- 1a. Conduct a training on selecting, cutting and storing. Conduct a planting session with volunteers from Prescott Valley.

Responsibility	Activity	Timeline	Budget	Status	Coordinator time
Witty	Site selection	11/'10	0		
Witty	Recruit vol	11/'10	0		
Arambula	Coord tech assist	11/'10	0		120

COCOPAI RC& D

2010 BUDGET

Beginning balance (January 1, 2010)	19,275.58	
	<u>Budget</u>	
Revenues		
Sponsor dues	2,000	
Stewards (received in 2008)	7,801	
TOTAL	9,801	
Expenses		
National Association of RC&D Councils	450	
Western RC&D Association	200	
Arizona Corporation Commission	10	
Conferences—Travel for Board Members	2,000	(2763.86 so far
in 2010)		
Insurance—Liability for Council Members	500	
Stewards of Public Lands	16,901	(3730.49 so far
in 2010)		
SUBTOTAL, COUNCIL EXPENSES	3,160	
Projects	16,901	
TOTAL	20,061	