

**ANNUAL PLAN OF OPERATIONS  
BOWMAN-SLOPE SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
JANUARY 2019**

The Bowman-Slope Soil Conservation District's mission for 2019 is to educate and assist the public of the Bowman-Slope SCD with natural resources conservation. This conservation effort will be accomplished through:

- Producer technical assistance
- Educational events and materials
- Conservation Programs
- Collaboration with multi-agencies and organizations
- Information campaign and public outreach

The primary resource concerns in our district are:

- Water quality
- Soil Health
- Wildlife Habitat
- Humans: sustainable agriculture operations

**Producer Technical Assistance**

The SCD will work with the NRCS and other agencies to provide sound, science based information to our producers to enable them to make sound conservation decisions. The EPA-319 Little Missouri River Tributaries Project in our SCD will provide an opportunity for SCD Staff to work with producers one-on-one to assess conservation needs in those watersheds. The SCD Technician will help producers plan tree plantings and serve as another local resource for conservation information.

The SCD will lead the process to finalize the Bowman-Slope Local Land Use/Natural Resources Policy Plan. This plan will be a set of preferred policies for the planned use, management and protection of the natural resources on the federal and public within Bowman and Slope Counties. This plan will also apply to future federal decision impacting and/or affecting citizens and private land within Bowman and Slope Counties. The Bowman-Slope Natural Resources Policy Plan will be reviewed annually by the Board at the SCD's reorganization meeting in January each year.

**Educational Events & Materials**

The district will continue to host and/or sponsor many annual educational events in 2019 including:

- Beef Day
- Local Land Use Plan Process and Host Public Input Meetings
- 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Conservation Daze
- 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Education Event at Tree Shed
- Farm & Ranch Resource Night
- Multi county, state & federal agency meetings
- Local County Fair Booths
- SCD Facebook Page
- SCD Website
- Rainfall Simulator Demonstrations

- Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) Grant

Staff will work on developing an elementary school age tree program and Ag in the Classroom event.

Continue to work with producers and other agencies on Sage Grouse related issues.

### **Conservation Programs**

The SCD will promote and help implement all USDA Conservation programs, including but not limited to EQIP, CRP, CSP, and the Agricultural Conservation Easement Program.

The effort to promote reduced tillage operations will continue with the SCD's no-till drill rental program, where producers can rent one of two 1590 John Deere Drills.

The SCD will also continue their tree program by offering:

- Conservation tree stock for sale
- Service: Machine tree plantings
- Service: Weed Barrier Fabric and installation

The EPA-319 Little Missouri Tributary Watersheds Project will be a conservation program in this project area. The goals of this project is to improve water quality through improved soil health and watershed function.

The RCPP program will provide cost-share and technical assistance for tree plantings within the Bowman-Slope Soil Conservation District.

ND Outdoor Heritage Fund, NDASCD tree planting program & Grazing Conservation Program.

Natural Resources Trust Educational Grant to purchase youth conservation educational materials.

ND Department of Energy Solar System Cost-Share Grant & Program.

### **Collaboration with Multi-Agencies and Organizations**

The SCD will continue to collaborate conservation efforts with:

- Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
- NDSU Extension Service
- US Forest Service
- Farm Service Agency
- Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
- Bowman & Slope County Commissions
- Bowman & Slope County Weed Boards
- Little Missouri Grazing Association
- Horse Creek Grazing Association
- Technical Service Providers

- ND State Forest Service
- ND Department of Health
- ND Game & Fish
- US Fish & Wildlife Service
- North Dakota Department of Transportation
- Bowman Chamber of Commerce
- US Corp of Engineers

The established relationship between the SCD and Bowman NRCS Field Office will continue to promote and encourage the conservation of the natural resources in our district through technical assistants and program implementation.

The SCD will continue to work with the US Corp of Engineers in planting and managing trees for wildlife on the US Corp land by the Bowman-Haley Dam.

With the funding from the Soil Conservation District Assistance Program the SCD will promote soil health and provide conservation technical assistance to producers to promote and implement the NRCS programs.

### **Information Campaign and Public Outreach**

The SCD will make a strong effort to promote conservation, technical resources, and conservation programs through a variety of media including:

- Annual report
- Local radio spots
- County Fair Booth displays
- Attendance to other agriculture industry meetings & events
- Bi-Annual Soil Conservation Achievement Winner Program
- Tree Care Award Program
- Graduating High School & Current College Student Scholarships
- Sponsorship of Range Camp Students
- Office displays and pamphlets
- Chamber of Commerce Member
- SCD Facebook Page and Website
- Slope County Fair Trophy Sponsor

### **Finances**

The SCD financial resources to support operations will include but are not limited to:

1. Tree program: the sale and planting of conservation trees and weed barrier fabric
2. No-Till Drill rentals
3. County Mill Levy
4. EPA-319 funds
5. State Soil Conservation District Assistance Program
6. Plantskydd Dear Repellant sales
7. NRCS Grant and Funding Opportunities

The SCD will continue to pursue new grant sources and local sponsorships to support the planned educational activities.

The SCD Board will review the Policy Manual and SCD Policies annually by the Board at the SCD's reorganization meeting in January each year.

The Bowman-Slope SCD is a governmental subdivision of the State of North Dakota. Organized to exercise public powers in the conservation soil and water resources and to carry out the powers conferred upon the District Supervisors under the provision of the enabling act as passed in the Legislature of the State of North Dakota, the supervisors hereby adopt this plan for prevention of soil and water erosion within the district.

2019 FY Plan of Operation will be coordinated, scheduled, and implemented by the Bowman-Slope SCD Supervisors and their staff.

**ADPOTED**

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Chairman

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Date