


MAY 2014

# EDGEWOOD SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT NEWS

## District Awarded Grant!!

By Cody Stropki, Ph.D., Watershed Scientist

What a great start of the year for the Edgewood Soil and Water Conservation District! Together with the Pueblo of Isleta the District was awarded a Collaborative Forest Restoration Program (CFRP) implementation grant for \$360,000. These grant funds will be used to conduct cross jurisdictional watershed restoration within the “Doghead” region of the Manzano Mountains. This 3-year project will treat over 800 acres of piñon-juniper and ponderosa pine woodlands to reduce the potential threat for large wildfires while providing improved ecosystem health to an area used by local community members for cultural traditions, recreational activities—including hiking, camping, and hunting—and economic activities such as fuel wood gathering. The District and their project partners will also be conducting educational outreach with local youth from the Pueblo of Isleta and the Estancia Basin both in the classroom and field setting. This outreach will train the youth in ecological monitoring and the principals of forest restoration with the hope this will provide skill development for future employment opportunities in the field of natural resources. Another underlying goal is to provide youth the opportunity to maintain a traditional connection to the land and value it for the resources that it provides.



Each person has a specific mission in the world, but all human beings serve like cells in a single body, working together in the realization of a common goal.

The CFRP program is a United States Forest Service program that provides appropriations of up to \$5 million per year in cost-share grants for forest restoration projects on public and tribal lands. These grants encourage collaborative partnerships to achieve forest restoration. The collaborative team partners that made this grant possible include the U.S. Forest Service Mountainair and Sandia Ranger Districts, Forest Fitness; LLC, SWCA Environmental Consultants, Estrada Consulting, Claunch-Pinto Soil and Water Conservation District, New Mexico Forest Industries Association, and the Nature Conservancy. Without the participation of this diverse team this funding would have not been possible.

The ability of the District and their partners to attain this funding is great for our local region as it will only help accelerate the goal of having a landscape-scale thinning project within the region. This project looks to build on thinning projects already occurring on Isleta Pueblo, Chilili Land Grant, USFS Mountainair and Sandia Ranger Districts, and private lands. The private land projects are being funded by the Estancia Basin Watershed Health Restoration and Monitoring “CORE” Steering Committee, which the District is a member, and this CFRP funding gives the group more leverage to gain additional funding to continue projects on private lands.

This project is expected to begin in October of 2014 and if you have any questions please feel free to contact the District Office at 832-1111 with any additional questions.





MAY 2014

## Cibola National Forest Districts Began Stage I Fire Restrictions On May 5, 2014

Cibola National Forest and National Grasslands Forest Supervisor, Elaine Kohrman, announced that the Sandia, Mountainair, Mt. Taylor and Magdalena Ranger Districts began Stage I fire restrictions on Monday, May 5 at 8:00 a.m. "Due to ongoing drought conditions and increasing fire danger, these restrictions are necessary to prevent human-caused wildfires and to protect public health and safety on Forest Service lands," Kohrman said.

### Stage I fire restrictions include:

1. Building, maintaining, attending or using a fire, campfire, charcoal, coal, or wood stove, except within a Forest Service developed recreation site or improved site. **Exceptions:** The use of petroleum-fueled stoves, lanterns or heating devices are allowed providing such devices meet the fire underwriter's specifications for safety.
2. Smoking, except within an enclosed vehicle or building, at a developed recreation site, or while stopped in an area at least three feet in diameter that is barren or cleared of all flammable material.
3. Possessing, discharging or using any kind of firework or other pyrotechnic device.

Kohrman stated that district employees regularly analyze conditions to assess the dryness of the vegetation by monitoring temperatures, humidity and precipitation. This information is used to determine whether fire restrictions are enacted, elevated or removed.

Although the districts will be in fire restrictions, there are many activities that can still be enjoyed, such as picnicking, hiking and camping. However, please use extreme caution when you're on the forest, as conditions are very dry and wildfires can start from unattended campfires, smoldering cigarettes or sparks from engines.



**For More Information  
Please Visit:**

<http://www.fs.usda.gov/cibola>





MAY 2014

**In Case You Missed It:**

May 4-10 2014  
Drinking Water Week

Learn More At:  
[http://www.awwa.org/resources  
-tools/public-affairs/public-  
affairs-events/drinking-water-  
week.aspx](http://www.awwa.org/resources-tools/public-affairs/public-affairs-events/drinking-water-week.aspx)

**WATER FACTS**

- ◆ Use the automatic dishwasher only for full loads. Every load uses about 15 gallons of water.
- ◆ Repair leaks in faucets and pipes. A slow, steady drip can waste 15 to 20 gallons per day; a faster drip, 100 gallons or more. Many leaks can be repaired with an inexpensive washer.
- ◆ If you wash dishes by hand, don't leave the water running for rinsing. Remember, a running faucet uses up to 5 gallons of water a minute.
- ◆ Wash only full loads of cloths. Each load uses about 35 gallons of water.

**AVAILABLE FOR  
SALE!**

**Grass Seed**

*Buffalo*  
*Blue Grama*  
*Dryland Blend*  
*Jose Tall Wheat*  
*Native Lawn Mix*  
*Western Wheat*

**Wildflower Seed**

*Rocky Mountain Mix*  
*Native Prairie Mix*

**Weeds of the West Books**

For Pricing Visit our Website at  
[www.eswcd.org](http://www.eswcd.org)

Or Call  
**505-832-1111**

**Cost-Share  
Assistance  
Program  
(Up to 75%)**

**APPLY  
NOW**

**Scholarship  
for  
Moriarty HS  
Seniors**

**MAY 2014**

## **Cibola's Isleta Project Selected for Chief's Joint Landscape Restoration Partnership Funding**

**By Ian Fox and Ruth Sutton**

The Cibola National Forest and National Grasslands, the Isleta Pueblo and the Chilili Land Grant are collaborating on a landscape restoration project along their shared boundaries. The project received funding from the Chiefs' Joint Landscape Restoration Partnership Funding, a multi-year \$30 million venture between the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and the Forest Service. It was one of 13 projects around the country (and the only one in the Southwestern Region) to receive funding.

This multi-jurisdictional project has been in the works since May 2008, involving 11 project partners. The area had several large wildfires over the last decade and continued to be a high fire risk, and the partners recognized the need to reduce the fuel load. In addition to mitigating wildfire threats to the area, the project will protect cultural resources, water quality, improve recreational opportunities and improve wildlife habitat for at-risk species.

Work on the project began in March and will include a variety of treatments including mechanized and thinning restoration, mastication and prescribed burns. The project will provide firewood for subsistence communities that rely on wood for heating and cooking, and development of commercial wood product industries. It will also provide employment opportunities, as the Cibola has contracted with the Isleta Pueblo to provide a crew to complete some of the treatments.



### **EDGEWOOD SWCD**

**Office:** (505) 832-1111

**Fax:** (505) 832-1121

PO Box 1050

Moriarty, NM 87035

**[www.eswcd.org](http://www.eswcd.org)**

### **BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

**David King ~ Chairman**

**Lewis Fisher ~ Vice - Chair**

**Bill King ~ Sec / Treasurer**

**Mark Anaya ~ Member**

**Juan Sanchez ~ Member**

**Art Swenka ~ Member**

**Bill Williams ~ Member**

### **STAFF**

**Brenda Smythe ~ Manager**

**Kelly Smith ~ Technician**

**Jerika Lujan ~ College Intern**

**Karlyn Bates ~ Admin. Assistant**