

**Edgewood
Soil & Water
Conservation District**

Established September 27, 1941

2017-2018 Annual Report

Edgewood Soil & Water Conservation District

Established ~ September 27, 1941

A referendum for the formation of the District was carried by popular vote of landowners, as provided in the New Mexico Soil & Water Conservation District Law.

The Edgewood Soil & Water Conservation District covers 513,860 acres in portions of southern Santa Fe, eastern Bernalillo, northern Torrance counties, and 26,325 acres of the Pueblo of Isleta.

Mission

The Mission of the Edgewood Soil & Water Conservation District is to protect, restore, enhance, and promote the wise use of natural resources. This will be achieved through the development of projects, education of the public, and the cooperation of landowners, agencies and other political subdivisions of the state.

Board Members & Staff

David King ~ Chairman

Lewis Fisher ~ Vice-Chair

Bill King ~ Secretary / Treasurer

Mark Anaya ~ Member

Juan Sanchez ~ Member

Bill Williams ~ Member

Art Swenka ~ Member

Christina Allday-Bondy ~ Associate Member

Mark Dixon ~ Associate Member

Brenda Smythe ~ District Manager

Kelly Smith ~ Technician

Karlyn Bates ~ Admin. Assistant

The Board of Supervisors meet the first Thursday of each month at 10:00 AM.

**Edgewood
Soil & Water
Conservation District
Programs**

Edgewood SWCD Cost-Share

During the 2017-2018 fiscal year, 16 Conservation Projects were funded through the District's Cost-Share Program totaling \$66,345.25

Reimbursements are made at 75% of the total project, with a maximum of \$4500 paid per landowner per fiscal year.



500 Gallon Tank



1200 Gallon tank



1200 Gallon Tank



1600 Gallon tank with underground piping to indoor filtration system

Forest Health Program (Forest Thinning)

The forest thinning program provides financial and technical assistance for watershed management focusing on restoration projects on private and state land.

These projects include:

- Forest Stand Improvement
- Defensible Space
- Brush Management
- Fire Breaks

The following slides are before and after photo documentation



08/05/2017
Before Thinning
Courtesy Edgewood SWCD



After Thinning
Courtesy Edgewood SWCD



Before Thinning
Courtesy Edgewood SWCD



After Thinning
Courtesy Edgewood SWCD

Dog Head Fire Restoration Project

Fire began in June of 2016, with a total of 17,912 acres burned in this fire.

10,773 acres – Chilili Land Grant

6,600 acres – US Forest Service

436 acres – Private Lands

BLM, State of NM, and the Pueblo of Isleta each had burn areas of less than 100 acres

56 Homes/structures lost

Post-fire rehabilitation is necessary to re-establish structure and function, and protect and restore critical habitat, riparian areas and watersheds.

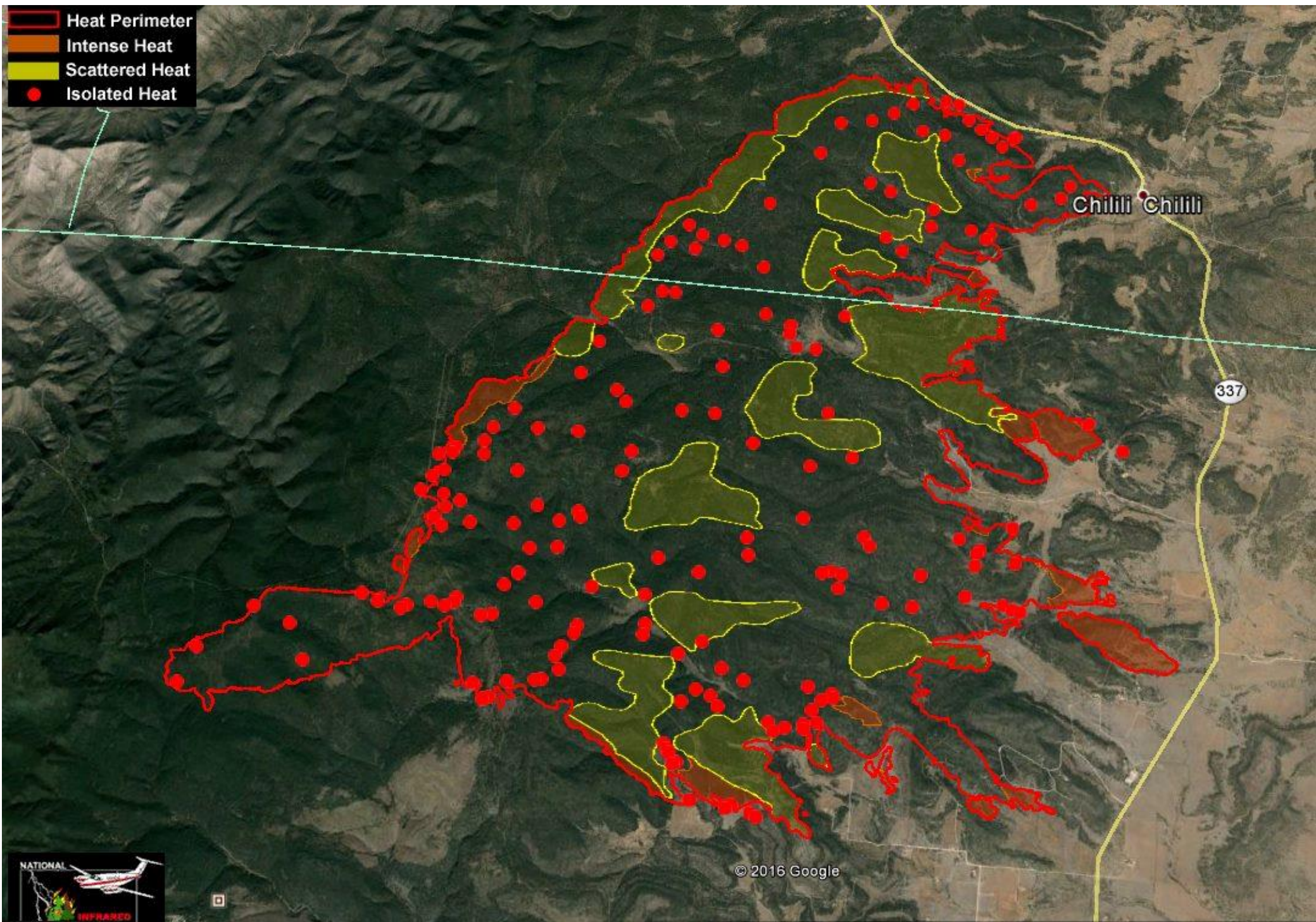
Some practices include:

Erosion Control Structures

Tree Felling

Mastication

Reseeding





**Defensible Space Treatment by ESWCD
HOME WAS SAVED!**

The Edgewood SWCD Staff and partners began the Dog Head Fire Rehabilitation Coordinated Group within 1 week of the fire. Along with the Edgewood District, members included:

- Congressional Staff
- Federal Agencies
- State Agencies
- County Agencies
- Private Companies
- Community Members

Staff secured funding through the Emergency Watershed Protection Program (EWP) through NRCS for post fire restoration in the amount of \$270,952.50

Edgewood SWCD was responsible for a 25% match of \$90,317.50.

This provided funding for projects along Aceves Road and within the Chilili Land Grant.

A total of \$39,962.55 was allocated to the Dog Head Fire Rehabilitation through the Edgewood SWCD from Private, Local, and State Funding during this fiscal year.

- Projects which were completed in 2017-2018 include:

- Mastication
- Tree Felling
- Erosion Control Structures
- Re-seeding
- Re-building of burned fence
- Chipping of downed wood cut by fire-fighters



Mastication of Burned Trees



Staff is working to secure funds for future erosion issues.

Additional Edgewood SWCD Programs:

- Tree & Shrub Sales
- Noxious Weed Management
- Native Grass & Wildflower Sales
- Dog Head (CFRP) Collaborative Forest Restoration Project
- Assisting USFS with the Cibola 1985 Forest Plan Revision

Staff trainings this fiscal year include:

- Governmental Budgeting
- Forest Restoration
- NM Organic Farming
- Grant Writing
- Supervisor Election
- Wildfire Preparedness
- Public Pesticide Certification
- Certified Procurement Officer Certification
- Rainwater Harvesting

Edgewood SWCD is committed to our partners.

We have hosted several trainings and meetings that benefit our landowners in cooperation with neighboring Districts, state and federal partners, along with local organizations. They include the following:

- Grant Writing Training
- New Mexico Coalition of Conservation District's Meeting
- Post Dog Head Fire Restoration Meeting
- Food Preserving Workshop
- NM Department of Agriculture – Election Training
- Cooperative Weed Management Training
- Estancia Basin Watershed Health & Monitoring Meetings
- Mountainair Collaborative Meetings
- Sandia Collaborative Meeting
- 3rd Annual Beekeeping Workshop
- Estancia Basin Water Planning Meetings
- Native Seed Exchange Workshops

Certified Procurement Officer

As mandated by New Mexico Governor, Susana Martinez, the Edgewood Soil & Water Conservation District's Manager became a Certified Procurement Officer (CPO) as of July 2016.

This insures state procurement laws are being followed.



Licensure

Kelly Smith & Brenda Smythe hold Public Pesticide Applicators Licensure.

The District also has a secure pesticide storage facility that is certified by the NM Department of Ag.



The Edgewood SWCD receives funding from the following sources:

- State of NM Base Funding
- State Land Office Rental
- Tree & Seed Sales
- Mill Levy Collection

Through a resolution, the Edgewood District held a referendum to vote for a mil levy for the property owners with the district boundaries.

A mil levy is one mil of $\frac{1}{3}$ of the property's net taxable value.

Example:

A \$30,900.00 property is assessed at 10,299 ($\frac{1}{3}$ of property value)

The Mill Levy Tax is \$10.30 per year.

The mil levy is assessed at the county tax assessor's office.

2017-2018 Funding

\$13,641.31

State Appropriations – NM Department of Agriculture

\$391,164.70

Mill Levy Collections – Bernalillo, Torrance & Santa Fe Counties

\$7,763.00

Conservation Sales Items

\$8,520.00

Rental Income

\$119,000.00

Forest Thinning - State Forestry Funding

\$40,000.00

Cienega Thinning Project – US Forest Service

\$43,552.62

USFS Collaborative Forest Restoration Program Funding (Year 3)

Partnerships

Edgewood SWCD continues to work with the US Forest Service through a signed Cooperative Agreement.

Partnership with San Antonito Elementary School – Gifted Education Class and SWCA Environmental Consultants for post-fire restoration work within the Chilili Land Grant.

New partnership with Santa Fe County Fire Department and Santa Fe-Pojoaque SWCD for additional projects within Santa Fe County.