

Revised Agenda

State Conservation Commission

Monday, November 17, 2025

8:15 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. CDT (approximate)

Matthew Training Center

Joe Foss Building

523 E Capitol Ave,

Pierre, SD 57501

605.773.3623

<u>Conflict of Interest Disclosure</u>	<u>Commission</u>
• Introductions • Approval of September 22 minutes • Request for New Business to be Placed on the Agenda • Corrections/Approval of Past and Upcoming Travel • Correspondence	Division of Resource Conservation & Forestry Staff/Chair Commission
• Grant Program/Updates/Amendments/Status Reports/Reversions	Alex Roeber
• 2025 Fall Grant Application Review	Commission
• 2025 Fall Grant Funding Selection	Commission
• Revolving Loan Report • Emergency Revolving Loan Applications (if any are requested)	Jordan Turgeon
• 2026 Docket	Alex Roeber
• 2026 Guidelines (Commission, shelterbelt grants, and I&E guidelines) and Priorities	Commission
• Commission Member & Division Reports (if time permits)	Commission & RCF
• Advisory Board Member Reports: (SD School & Public Lands, GFP, NRCS, SDSU Extension Service, SDSU Experiment Station) **Other Partners (if time permits)	Advisory Board Members
• <u>Open Forum and Public Comment</u>	<u>All</u>
• New Business	Commission
• Location of Next Meeting • Ending Remarks & Adjourn	Chair

Additional Instructions:

**Advisory Board and other partners are requested to submit a written report due to the time restrictions we will be under with Grant Review/Selection and 2026 Docket discussion. Please send those to alex.roeber@state.sd.us by November 3.

Please let Jordan Turgeon know if you are planning to attend in person. This helps speed getting through security the morning of the meeting. Jordan's number is 773.6718. Jordan's email is Jordan.Turgeon@state.sd.us.

To be included in the public record, written comments must include a full name and city of residence and meeting the submission deadline of seventy-two hours before the public meeting. All commenters are required to state their name and address (city) BEFORE being allowed to speak.

To access the meeting via Microsoft Teams, please click the following link: [Join the meeting now](#). To access it via telephone, please dial [1-605-679-7263](tel:1-605-679-7263), then enter the conference code [937327129](tel:937327129) followed by #. We ask that participants mute their phones or computer microphones when not speaking.

This meeting is being held in a physically accessible place. Individuals needing assistance, pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, should contact the Division of Resource Conservation and Forestry (605.773.3623) at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting to make any necessary arrangements.

Because of the number of grant applications under consideration, agenda items may be moved up or down on the agenda as to make efficient use of time.

Individuals requiring assistive technology or other services in order to participate in the meeting or materials in an alternate format should contact Brian Walsh, Nondiscrimination Coordinator, by calling (605) 773-5559 or by email at Brian.Walsh@state.sd.us as soon as possible but no later than two business days prior to the meeting in order to ensure accommodations are available

State Conservation Commission Minutes
September 22, 2025
Huron Event Center & Teams

Call to Order: Chairman Doug Hansen, the meeting to order at 8:00 AM CT.

Roll Call of Members: Gene Williams (Teams), Tom Glover (Teams), Dusty Rodiek, Dean Odden, Doug Hansen, Bruce Haines, Charlie Moe, and Duane Schneider.

Members Absent: Bill Coburn.

Others present: Bill Smith (DANR), Alex Roeber (DANR), Paul Lorenzen (DANR), Angela Ehlers (SDACD), Tami Moore (Miner Conservation District), Yvette Kirkman (Lawrence and Butte conservation districts), Colette Kessler (NRCS), Tony Sunseri (NRCS), Keith Fricke (Moody Conservation District), Laura Kahler (South Dakota Grasslands Initiative), Travis Entenman (Minnehaha Conservation District), Trevor Williams (Jackson Conservation District), Kyle Reeves (Clark Conservation District), Tim Gleason (Roberts Conservation District), Gavin Brucklacher (Haakon Conservation District), Ken Steele (Gregory Conservation District), Bryan Kludt (Hutchinson Conservation District), Katie Schulte (Haakon Conservation District), Valerie Feddersen (Jones Conservation District), Deanna Kinkel (Codington Conservation District), Amy Sis (Grant Conservation District), Mike Baldwin (Custer Conservation District), Mike Larson (NRCS), Jake Stewart (Hand Conservation District), Tate Lantz (NRCS), Ryan Wendinger (GFP), Bonnie Schmidt (Harding Conservation District), Elyssa Barkman (Perkins Conservation District), Arthur Beringer (Potter Conservation District), Robert Rausch (Potter Conservation District), Larry Wagner (Brule-Buffalo Conservation District), Karl Jensen (Lawrence Conservation District), Calvin Thompson (Roberts Conservation District), Yvette Kirkman (Butte, Lawrence, and Elk Creek conservation districts), Maggie Hanson (Roberts Conservation Districts), Tim Reich (Butte Conservation Districts), Cliff Conroy (Butte Conservation District), Meshele Townsend (Edmunds Conservation District), Karen Yost (McPherson Conservation District), Kimberly Schweiss (Potter Conservation District), Fred Butzke (McCook Conservation District), Ashley Mussetter (Roberts Conservation District), Jeff Meadows (Lake Conservation District), Lori Stevens (Brown County Conservation District), Tami Moore (Miner Conservation District), and Chuck Anderson (Perkins Conservation District).

Others present (Teams): Jordan Turgeon (DANR) and April Reiter (DANR).

Conflict of Interest Disclosure: None.

Review of the July 24 Meeting Minutes: A motion was made by Dean Odden and seconded to approve the July 24 meeting minutes as submitted. Roll call vote: Tom Glover-aye, Dusty Rodiek-aye, Dean Odden-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Duane Schneider-aye, Bill Coburn-absent, Charlie Moe-aye, Gene Williams-aye, and Doug Hansen-aye. **Motion carried.**

Upcoming travel: Bill Smith gave an update for upcoming travel.

Request for new business to be placed on the agenda: None.

Correspondence: None.

Revolving Loan Report: Alex Roeber gave the revolving loan status report.

Emergency Revolving Loan Applications: Alex Roeber presented the Minnehaha Conservation District's revolving loan application for a Bobcat skid steer. The grant was originally submitted in January after the deadline to be considered for the January meeting and DANR forgot to bring it forth for consideration in July.

A motion was made by Charlie Moe and seconded to approve the Minnehaha Conservation District's request to purchase a Bobcat skid steer in the amount of \$36,400. Roll call vote: Tom Glover-aye, Dusty Rodiek-aye, Dean Odden-aye, Bruce Haines-aye, Duane Schneider-aye, Bill Coburn-absent, Charlie Moe-aye, Gene William-aye, and Doug Hansen-aye. **Motion carried.**

Grant Extension/Amendment requests: None.

Grant Report: Alex Roeber provided the commission with a status report on the grant program. As of right now, there is \$885,176.74 in grant funds available.

Division Report: Paul Lorenzen updated the Commission on division activities. The Riparian Buffer Initiative (RBI) continues to general interest. DANR has enough landowner interest to fully enroll all the ARAP funds between buffers and

animal waste systems. We are expecting our FY25 319 funds soon, so we will be able to award funds for projects.

Advisory Board Members Reports: Angela Ehlers gave the SDACD report. Tony Sunseri provided updates on USDA and NRCS. Ryan Wendinger provided an update of GPF activities. Chuck Pyle also provided an update on the US Fish and Wildlife Service Partners for Fish and Wildlife programs.

Open Forum and Public Comment: Tim Reich addressed the Commission regarding Envirothon. Tim relayed the importance of the program to provide youth with environmental education. Tim said that the program has helped thousands of youths.

Next Meeting location and place: The next commission will be held in Pierre in November. Date and time to be determined.

Ending Remarks: Chairman Hansen asked the audience to raise their hand if they this was their first commission meeting. He thanked the audience for the attendance and for speakers keeping their comments brief.

The Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 9:05 AM CT.

Upcoming Travel & Meetings

November 2025

- State Conservation Commission Meeting – TBA
- Game, Fish and Parks Commission Meeting – November 6 – 7 – Pierre/Zoom.
- _____

December 2025

- SDACD Board meeting – December 1 – Pierre
- Game, Fish and Parks Commission Meeting – December 4 – 5 – Pierre/Zoom.
- NRCS Local Working Group Training with Ray Ledgerwood – December 8 & 9 – TBD.
- Nonpoint Task Force Meeting – December 9 – Pierre.
- NRCS State Technical Committee Meeting – December 10 – Pierre/Teams.

January 2026

- State Conservation Commission Meeting (Loan Round) – TBA.
- Game, Fish and Parks Commission Meeting – TBA.
- _____
- _____

February 2026

- Ag Fest – February 2 – Ramkota, Pierre.
- Game, Fish and Parks Commission Meeting – TBA.
- NACD Annual Meeting – February 15 – 19 – San Antonio, Texas.
- _____
- _____



109 W 16th Ave
PO Box 45
Tyndall, SD 57066

Phone 605-589-3232 Ext.3
Fax 605-589-3937
bonhommeccd@sdconservation.net

September 17th, 2025

RE: Grant #2024-CSW-001 BH Conservation Enhancement Grant

South Dakota Conservation Commission
523 East Capital
Pierre, SD 57501

South Dakota Conservation Commission,

The Bon Homme Conservation District Board respectfully requests approval to utilize the 2025 Conservation Commission Docket for our current project. This grant was originally written for the Fall 2023 funding round, and as such, references the 2023 docket rates. Due to the rising costs of trees, supplies, and labor, the use of the updated 2025 Docket would greatly benefit to the producers of Bon Homme County.

We kindly ask for your consideration of our request to use the updated docket in order to complete this grant. Thank you for your time and continued support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "David Walloch". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "D" and "W".

David Walloch
Chairman



CHARLES MIX CONSERVATION DISTRICT

PO BOX 249

LAKE ANDES, SD 57356

PHONE (605) 487-7577

charlesmixconservationdistrict@gmail.com

September 15, 2025

RE: Grant #2025-CSW-008

South Dakota Conservation Commission
523 East Capital
Pierre, SD 57501

South Dakota Conservation Commission:

The Charles Mix Conservation District would like to request the use of the 2025 Conservation Commission Docket. These grants were written for the fall round in 2024, so the 2024 Conservation Commission Docket was used. With the increase of tree prices and the additional cost of labor – the new rates will be a definite benefit to our producers.

Please consider our request for the use of the current Conservation Commission Docket. It would be truly appreciated. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Dawn Schulte
District Manager
Charles Mix Conservation District



Pennington Conservation District
414 E Stumer Rd STE 300
Rapid City, SD 57701
PenningtonCD@SDConservation.net
605-503-5299

October 15, 2025

South Dakota Department of Agriculture & Natural Resources
523 E Capitol Ave
Pierre, SD 57501

Subject: Request for Modification to Grant 2025-CSW-032

Dear Department of Agriculture & Natural Resources,

The Pennington Conservation District is requesting a modification to grant **2025-CSW-032**. We would like to amend the grant to **include Fall River County** in the project scope.

Please let us know if any additional documentation or steps are required to complete this modification.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Eva Chase
District Manager
Pennington Conservation District



PO Box 189 – Bison, South Dakota 57620-0189 – Phone (605) 244-7160

September 8, 2025

RE: Perkins County Tree Planting Grant 2025-CSW-024 Extension Request

South Dakota Conservation Commission
523 East Capitol
Pierre, SD 57501-3182

Dear South Dakota Conservation Commission:

The Perkins County Conservation District would like to request a one-year extension for the Tree Planting Grant 2025-CSW-024. The grant is scheduled to expire on December 31, 2025, and we would like to extend it to December 31, 2026.

We anticipate using all the funds where they were obligated but are waiting for producers to finish projects. The extra time will guarantee that the producers have time to get their projects completed and all the money on the grant utilized.

This grant has been very successful in helping with solving tree problems and promoting tree plantings in northwest South Dakota. With this grant, we can promote and implement more conservation programs that are able to serve the conservation needs of the area. The Perkins County Tree Planting 2025-CSW-024 grant assisted 7 producers in planting over 38,822 feet of trees and fabric in Perkins Conservation Districts so far.

Thank you for your assistance and consideration in extending this grant. If you have any questions or concerns, please call the Perkins County Conservation District manager at 605-244-7160.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lyndel Johnson".

Lyndel Johnson
Chairman
Perkins County Conservation District

Commission Reversions	\$133,195.63
SB170 Reversions	
Total Funds Available:	\$910,618.79

Grant Summary & Milestones Ending June 30, 2025								
District	Grant Title	Funds Awarded	Cost-Share	Match	Fabric (LF)	Windbreaks (Acres)	Dugouts	Forest Thinning (Acres)
Custer	Thinning for Resilient Forest	\$90,000.00	\$48,221.75	\$55,464.01				180
Davison	Awareness & Outreach	\$1,500.00	\$1,245.81	\$1,245.81				
Hughes	2023/25 Tree Initiative	\$35,000.00	\$11,557.60	\$44,606.11	18,662	9.5		
Jerauld	Windbreak Tree Planting	\$40,000.00	\$11,097.81	\$20,655.31	18,117	7.0		
Marshall	Multi-purpose & Multi-practice	\$50,000.00	\$49,745.41	\$115,140.05	39,419	17.8	24	
Miner	State Wide Career Dev. Plan	\$3,630.00	\$3,630.00	\$11,045.59				
Minnehaha	SHELTERBELT RENOVATION	\$11,000.00	\$1,611.29	\$11,605.29		0.8		
Total		\$231,130.00	\$127,109.67	\$259,762.17	76198	35.1	24	180

<u>Applic #</u>	<u>District</u>	<u>Project Title</u>	<u>Project Start</u>	<u>Project End</u>	<u>Approved Amt</u>	<u>Total Project</u>	<u>Payment Amount</u>	<u>Total Match</u>	<u>Leverage</u>	<u>Reverted \$</u>
<u>Grand Total:</u>										
					\$25,901,032.10	\$107,954,186.60	\$19,152,699.35	\$56,500,089.71	\$2.95	\$5,829,245.93

Leverage is \$3.60 (NOT including Big Sioux Nursery Grants of \$1,097,350.18)

ALL CAPS indicates project is complete

Number in (1) indicates how many districts are active co-sponsors

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202322	Minnehaha	Wildlife Habitat Project	01/01/2023	12/31/2025	\$10,000.00	\$43,750.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	#Num!	\$10,000.00
202323	MOODY	Shelterbelt Grant	01/01/2023	12/31/2025	\$35,860.00	\$77,179.00	\$21,351.69	\$28,634.39	\$1.34	
202324	Perkins	NW Area Tree Planting	01/01/2023	12/31/2024	\$23,460.00	\$75,736.00	\$23,236.17	\$26,869.12	\$1.16	\$223.93
202325	Brule-Buffalo	Renovation and Tree Planting	07/01/2023	06/30/2024	\$36,000.00	\$76,000.00	\$23,795.77	\$32,195.73	\$1.35	\$12,204.23
202326	Davison	Cover Crop/Grazing	07/01/2023	12/31/2023	\$10,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$681.95	\$835.05	\$1.22	\$9,318.05
202327	Davison	Awareness & Outreach Activitie	07/01/2023	12/31/2023	\$1,500.00	\$3,000.00	\$913.50	\$913.50	\$1.00	\$586.50
202328	Fall River	Forest Resiliency Health	07/01/2023	06/30/2024	\$15,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	#Num!	\$15,000.00
202329	Haakon	Haakon Multi-Purpose Grant	07/01/2023	12/31/2024	\$38,176.00	\$91,534.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	#Num!	\$38,176.00
202330	McPherson	Shelterbelt Renovation & Estab	07/01/2023	12/31/2026	\$62,000.00	\$128,540.00	\$32,448.96	\$47,989.85	\$1.48	
202331	Miner	State Wide Career Dev. Plan	07/01/2023	06/30/2025	\$3,630.00	\$8,380.00	\$3,630.00	\$11,045.59	\$3.04	\$0.00
202332	Miner	Pollinator Planting MC	07/01/2023	06/30/2024	\$1,475.00	\$3,070.00	\$1,475.00	\$2,057.50	\$1.39	\$0.00
202333	Pennington	Thinning for Forest Health	07/01/2023	06/30/2024	\$33,000.00	\$66,000.00	\$26,707.50	\$27,589.42	\$1.03	\$6,292.50
202334	Roberts	Community Outreach	07/01/2023	06/30/2024	\$6,150.00	\$12,300.00	\$5,351.36	\$7,188.90	\$1.34	\$726.64
202335	Spink	2023/2024 Edu. & Promotion	07/01/2023	12/31/2024	\$6,000.00	\$12,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$8,260.54	\$1.38	\$0.00
202336	TURNER	Shelterbelt Renovation	07/01/2023	12/31/2025	\$9,067.00	\$18,134.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	#Num!	
202401	BON HOMME	BHCD Conservation Enhancement	01/01/2024	06/30/2026	\$22,160.00	\$62,125.00	\$11,061.48	\$22,888.61	\$2.07	
202402	Butte	Multi-County Ditch & Pipe	01/01/2024	12/31/2024	\$30,000.00	\$60,000.00	\$27,158.00	\$32,509.77	\$1.20	\$2,842.00
202403	Charles Mix	Brush Management	01/01/2024	12/31/2025	\$15,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$24,375.00	\$1.63	\$0.00
202404	Charles Mix	Shelterbelts	01/01/2024	12/31/2025	\$10,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$9,457.70	\$16,841.30	\$1.78	\$542.30
202405	Codington	Soil Health Improvement	01/01/2024	12/31/2024	\$19,108.14	\$41,306.80				\$19,108.40
202406	Codington	Public Awareness	01/01/2024	12/31/2024	\$2,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$1,659.23	\$1,679.23	\$1.01	\$340.77
202407	Davison	Microirrigation	01/01/2024	12/31/2024	\$4,000.00	\$8,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$4,530.00	\$1.13	\$0.00
202408	Davison	DCD Tree Planting	01/01/2024	12/31/2024	\$7,500.00	\$15,000.00	\$5,358.06	\$11,202.85	\$2.09	\$2,141.94
202409	Edmunds	Conservation Education	01/01/2024	12/31/2024	\$700.00	\$1,800.00	\$700.00	\$1,275.90	\$1.82	\$0.00
202410	Jerauld	Windbreak Tree Planting	01/01/2024	06/30/2025	\$40,000.00	\$80,000.00	\$11,097.81	\$20,655.31	\$1.86	\$28,902.19
202411	Jones	Shelterbelt Fire Recovery	01/01/2024	12/31/2024	\$1,417.50	\$3,921.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	#Num!	\$1,417.50
202412	Lawrence	Thinning for Forest Health	01/01/2024	12/31/2025	\$31,500.00	\$63,000.00	\$18,000.00	\$26,200.00	\$1.46	

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202413	Mellette	2024 MC Multi-Practice Grant	01/01/2024	06/30/2026	\$60,000.00	\$140,000.00	\$9,893.03	\$11,453.82	\$1.16	
202414	Miner	Conservation Edu & Awareness	01/01/2024	12/31/2024	\$2,500.00	\$5,000.00	\$2,500.00	\$7,300.22	\$2.92	\$0.00
202415	Miner	SDACDE 2024 Promoting Conserva	01/01/2024	12/31/2024	\$7,900.00	\$15,800.00	\$7,900.00	\$7,756.57	\$0.98	\$0.00
202416	Miner	Soil Health Improvement	01/01/2024	12/31/2025	\$21,840.00	\$50,142.00	\$7,913.72	\$30,079.97	\$3.80	
202417	Perkins	2024 Fencing Pipeline	01/01/2024	12/31/2025	\$12,488.52	\$71,187.40	\$5,421.38	\$21,612.23	\$3.99	
202418	Perkins	Community Outreach	01/01/2024	12/31/2024	\$5,150.00	\$20,465.00	\$5,150.00	\$10,358.05	\$2.01	\$0.00
202419	Perkins	Perkins County Tree Planting	01/01/2024	12/31/2025	\$23,722.11	\$78,928.66	\$14,375.83	\$17,015.79	\$1.18	
202420	AURORA	Conservation Education & Aware	07/01/2024	12/31/2026	\$1,500.00	\$3,000.00				
202421	Brule-Buffalo	Multi-County Brush MGMT	07/01/2024	12/31/2025	\$18,250.00	\$36,500.00	\$12,975.00	\$16,855.00	\$1.30	
202422	Davison	Multi-County Brush MGMT	07/01/2024	12/31/2025	\$40,000.00	\$80,000.00	\$36,596.87	\$38,681.37	\$1.06	
202423	Davison	Awareness & Outreach	07/01/2024	06/30/2025	\$1,500.00	\$3,000.00	\$1,245.81	\$1,245.81	\$1.00	\$254.19
202424	Day	Prairie Coteau Watershed Proje	07/01/2024	06/30/2026	\$10,000.00	\$423,940.00	\$8,659.00	\$30,924.03	\$3.57	
202425	Douglas	Tree & Fabric Project	01/01/2024	06/30/2026	\$17,000.00	\$34,000.00	\$5,374.38	\$9,868.74	\$1.84	
202426	Hamlin	2025 Tree Plantings	07/01/2024	12/31/2025	\$8,975.00	\$21,555.00	\$8,541.35	\$12,588.55	\$1.47	
202427	Hyde	Hyde/Faulk Enhancements Proj 3	07/01/2024	06/30/2026	\$28,273.50	\$58,473.50	\$11,263.59	\$12,590.41	\$1.12	
202428	Pennington	Thinning for Forest Health	07/01/2024	06/30/2026	\$46,000.00	\$92,000.00	\$1,792.00	\$3,052.00	\$1.70	
202501	Beadle	Livestock Water	01/01/2025	12/31/2025	\$28,290.00	\$93,310.00	\$7,248.35	\$26,373.14	\$3.64	
202502	Beadle	Shelterbelt	01/01/2025	12/31/2025	\$8,256.00	\$21,190.00	\$6,403.12	\$11,398.75	\$1.78	\$1,852.88
202503	Bennett	Tree Plantings 2025	01/01/2025	12/31/2025	\$10,444.00	\$23,351.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	#Num!	\$10,444.00
202504	Brule-Buffalo	Renovation and Tree Planting	01/01/2025	06/30/2026	\$25,200.00	\$54,400.00	\$24,284.26	\$32,082.29	\$1.32	
202505	Butte	Multi-County Ditch & Pipe	01/01/2025	12/31/2025	\$30,000.00	\$60,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	#Num!	
202506	Butte	SD Envirothon	01/01/2025	12/31/2025	\$15,500.00	\$62,000.00	\$15,500.00	\$9,247.01	\$0.60	\$0.00
202507	Charles Mix	Brush Management	01/01/2025	12/31/2026	\$15,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$25,950.12	\$1.73	\$0.00
202508	Charles Mix	Shelterbelts	01/01/2025	12/31/2026	\$10,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$2,903.50	\$5,145.61	\$1.77	
202509	Clark	Tree Shelterbelt	01/01/2025	06/30/2026	\$11,825.50	\$34,519.50	\$6,449.97	\$7,512.38	\$1.16	
202510	Codington	Public Awareness	01/01/2025	12/31/2025	\$2,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$1,103.62	\$1,103.62	\$1.00	
202511	Corson	Tree Planting Grant	01/01/2025	12/31/2025	\$1,265.75	\$2,531.50	\$1,118.98	\$1,163.00	\$1.04	\$146.77

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202512	Custer	Thinning for Resilient Forest	01/01/2025	12/31/2027	\$61,200.00	\$122,400.00	\$11,410.00	\$11,410.00	\$1.00	
202513	Davison	Microirrigation	01/01/2025	12/31/2025	\$2,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$5,430.00	\$2.72	\$1,255.00
202514	Davison	DCD Tree Planting	01/01/2025	12/31/2025	\$10,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$12,423.27	\$1.24	
202515	DEWEY	Dewey County Tree Grant	01/01/2025	12/31/2025	\$11,201.89	\$23,010.72	\$0.00	\$0.00	#Num!	
202516	Edmunds	Conservation Education	01/01/2025	12/31/2025	\$1,500.00	\$3,000.00	\$741.43	\$884.82	\$1.19	
202517	Fall River	Forest Resiliency Health	01/01/2025	12/31/2027	\$15,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	#Num!	
202518	Kingsbury	Conservation For Everyone	01/01/2025	06/30/2026	\$49,000.00	\$179,000.00	\$21,647.59	\$34,753.72	\$1.61	
202519	LAKE	Improve Soil Health by Conserv	01/01/2025	12/31/2025	\$15,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	#Num!	
202520	Lawrence	Thinning for Forest Health	01/01/2025	12/31/2027	\$167,000.00	\$334,000.00	\$7,290.00	\$9,590.40	\$1.32	
202521	Miner	Conservation Edu & Awareness	01/01/2025	12/31/2025	\$2,550.00	\$5,100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	#Num!	
202522	Miner	Pollinator Planting	01/01/2025	12/31/2025	\$1,650.00	\$3,300.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	#Num!	
202523	Miner	SDACDE 2025 Promoting Conserva	01/01/2025	12/31/2025	\$8,000.00	\$16,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	#Num!	
202524	Perkins	NWA Tree Planting	01/01/2025	12/31/2025	\$19,389.55	\$66,362.86	\$0.00	\$0.00	#Num!	
202525	Clark	Tree Shelterbelt	07/01/2025	06/30/2027	\$26,874.13	\$75,135.28	\$0.00	\$0.00	#Num!	
202526	Davison	Awareness & Outreach Activity	07/01/2025	06/30/2026	\$3,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	#Num!	
202527	Davison	Multi-County Brush MGMT	07/01/2025	12/31/2026	\$15,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	#Num!	
202528	Gregory	County Projects 9	07/01/2025	12/31/2026	\$100,000.00	\$200,000.00	\$5,319.00	\$8,855.90	\$1.66	
202529	Jackson	Cover Crop Initiative	07/01/2025	12/31/2026	\$20,000.00	\$40,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	#Num!	
202530	Lawrence	Walk in the Forest	07/01/2025	06/30/2026	\$1,150.00	\$2,300.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	#Num!	
202531	Marshall	Multi-purpose & Multi-practice	05/01/2025	06/30/2027	\$42,000.00	\$190,445.00	\$11,213.37	\$15,423.83	\$1.38	
202532	Pennington	Black Hills Forest Stewardship	07/01/2025	06/30/2026	\$9,500.00	\$19,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	#Num!	
202533	Spink	Education & Promotion	07/01/2025	06/30/2026	\$6,000.00	\$12,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	#Num!	
202534	Stanley	Stanley County Tree Planting	07/01/2025	06/30/2026	\$26,333.00	\$76,532.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	#Num!	



1386 Lincoln Ave SW, Suite B · Huron, SD 57350-3080 · Phone (605) 352-2998, Ext.3
Email: beadlecd@sdconservation.net · website: www.beadleconservationdistrict.com

Beadle Conservation District Shelterbelt Program Grant

2025-CSW-002 Final Report

The Beadle Conservation District has completed a 1 year Shelterbelt Grant with success.

We were able to assist 3 producers with trees/shrubs and fabric who otherwise would not have been able to do so. Thank you for your assistance with this project.

Grant Summary

- 6 acres
- 1 - wildlife planting
- 2 - renovations

"Protecting our Natural Resources"

Bennett County Conservation District

Bennett/Badlands Tree Plantings 2025

Grant #2025-CSW-003

January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025

Final Report: Bennett/Badlands Tree Plantings 2025

Grant #: 2025-CSW-003

Summary of Accomplishments for Grant

This is the final report for the Bennett/Badlands Tree Plantings Grant #2025-CSW-003.

The Bennett and Badlands Conservation Districts did not approve any applications for tree plantings for 2025 due to the drought.

The Districts provided news articles with information about the grant program to the local newspapers for publication. Information was included in the Districts' newsletters and annual report.

We are also sending a letter to turn back the funds under this grant.

Thank you.



Bennett County Conservation District
706 W. Bennett Ave., Suite 2
Martin, SD 57551
Phone/Fax (605)685-1243

June 10, 2025

State Conservation Commission
Division of Resource Conservation & Forestry
523 East Capitol Ave.
Pierre, SD 57501-3182

The Bennett County Conservation District wish to turn back all funds under the grant, Bennett/Badlands Tree Plantings 2025, # 2025-CSW-003. Due to the continuing drought, we did not fund any tree planting plans under the districts' grant.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kenneth Bolzer". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Kenneth Bolzer
Chairman of the Board



CLEAN. CLEAR. CONSERVATION.

1837 5TH AVENUE
BELLE FOURCHE, SD 57717
605-892-3368 EXT. 3 PH.
855-254-6028 FX.

August 11, 2025

RE: SD Envirothon Final Report

Alex Roeber
Resource Conservation & Forestry
523 E Capitol
Pierre, SD 57501

Mr. Roeber:

This letter is to serve as the final report for our Coordinated Soil and Water Conservation Grant, South Dakota Envirothon #2025-CSW-006. We matched \$15,500 in grant funds with \$30,000 in other funds (SDACD/NRCS) and \$2500 in support from SDACD Auxiliary, Smithfield Foods, and Neiman Forestry. In addition, \$2000 was invested with funds held for uncovered expenses. No funds will be reverted.

The SD Envirothon State Competition was held on April 14, 2025, at Outdoor Campus West in Rapid City. We had seven schools represented and nine teams. Teams were judged on Soil/Land Use, Wildlife, Aquatic Ecology, Forestry and a current issue. Brookings High School was the top team and traveled to Calgary, Alberta, Canada, July 20-26. The coordinator, two advisors, and five students traveled to Canada. The South Dakota Envirothon team ranked 34 out of 50 teams.

Thank You for your support of this program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Yvette M. Kirkman".

Yvette Kirkman, District Manager
Butte Conservation District

CHARLES MIX CONSERVATION DISTRICT

FINAL REPORT

COST SHARE GRANT #2024-CSW-003

BRUSH MANAGEMENT

The Charles Mix Conservation District would like to submit the final report on Brush Management Cost Share Grant#2024-CSW-003 This grant was provided for our producers for assistance with control of invasive plant species (mainly cedar). The control of invasive plant species in pastures gave more grazing land for cattle and wildlife.

We provided service to 9 producers we have over 174.71 hours of shredding we provided to Charles Mix, Bon Homme, and Gregory county producers. Many producers were very overwhelmed as how much shredding we were able to do in a short time and how big of a difference it made for grazing. Several producers wished they could have us do more hours with funding. Some did have us do more shredding because it did such a big impact on their ground. This grant we shredded though out the whole county of Charles Mix and did some in Gregory county. When we started with one producer the neighbors seen what a big difference it was and had us shred for them.

Charles Mix Conservation District considers this project very beneficial to our producers, since we have so much invasive plant species (mainly cedars) due to the river hills in our area. We want to Thank the Commission for this grant and our producers appreciate the assistance.

Sincerely,

Dawn Schulte, District Manager

Charles Mix Conservation District

CHARLES MIX CONSERVATION DISTRICT

FINAL REPORT

COST SHARE GRANT #2025-CSW-007

BRUSH MANAGEMENT

The Charles Mix Conservation District would like to submit the final report on Brush Management Cost Share Grant#2025-CSW-007. This grant was provided for our producers for assistance with control of invasive plant species (mainly cedar). The control of invasive plant species in pastures gave more grazing land for cattle and wildlife.

We provided service to 6 producers we have over 171 hours of shredding we provided Charles Mix, Bon Homme, and Gregory County producers. Many producers were very overwhelmed as how much shredding we were able to do in a short time and how big of a difference it made for grazing. Several producers wished they could have us do more hours with funding. Some did have us do more shredding because it did such a big impact on their ground. This grant we shredded though out the whole county of Charles Mix. When we started with one producer the neighbors seen what a big difference it was and had us shred for them.

Charles Mix Conservation District considers this project very beneficial to our producers, since we have so much invasive plant species (mainly cedars) due to the river hills in our area. We want to Thank the Commission for this grant and our producers appreciate the assistance.

Sincerely,

Dawn Schulte, District Manager

Charles Mix Conservation District



Clark County Conservation District
Clark, South Dakota
605-532-3686 ex 3
clarkcd@sdconservation.net

75 years of conservation. Esblished 1947

Grant Report: Clark County Conservation District

The Clark County Conservation District had requested a grant to begin Jan 1, 2025 to address the establishment and care of shelterbelts/windbreaks in Clark County to improve and protect our natural resources and farm/ranch sustainability. The grant has an end date of June 30, 2026. The grant number is 2025-CSW-009

Producers included in this grant round include:

-Dan Poppen. The Conservation District planted 1,116 ft. of trees on May 6th, 2025. 4,464 ft. of fabric on May 30th, 2025. 55 tree tubes were installed on June 16th, 2025. The site was a total of 2.31 acres.

-Ray Hanson Section 15. The Conservation District planted 1,045 ft. of trees on May 9th, 2025. 4,181 ft. of fabric was installed on June 11th, 2025. The site was a total of 1.68 acres.

-Ray Hanson Section 26. The Conservation District planted 815 ft. of trees on May 9th, 2025. 3,260 ft. of fabric was installed on June 11th, 2025. The site was a total of 1.31 acres.

These projects will continue to address sites not covered by current Federal or State programs. These sites will reduce erosion, downstream flooding, and farmstead/feedlot energy costs, protect/improve water quality, livestock gains, and upland game cover and food sources, control snow distribution, aid in carbon sequestration, and improve aesthetics across Clark County.

Kyle Reeves

District Manager

Clark County Conservation District

Clean. Clear. Conservation.

101 Warren Road, Clark, SD 57225 605.532.3686 ext. 3



PO Box 47
McIntosh, SD 57641
605-273-4506 ext. 3

September 17, 2025

Corson Conservation District Final Report
Tree Grant 2025-CSW-011

We are happy to submit our final report for our tree grant. This grant helped a producer extend a shelterbelt planted in 2015 that was also cost-shared through the Conservation Commission. We were successfully able to install

- 1855 ft of fabric
- 1484 ft of trees
- 371 ft of shrubs

This grant has allowed us to twice help this producer, who is also a Standing Rock Sioux Tribe Councilman. The work we did for him was mentioned at a tribal council meeting. It is important to us that our customers can positively tell others about their projects with us and even better when that message is being broadcast over the radio. You cannot place a dollar amount on the ability of a Conservation District to make positive working connections within the community it serves.

Thank you for your support of 2025-CSW-011. We hope to work with the Conservation Commission again soon.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Annie Walker".

Annie Walker, Business Manager
Corson Conservation District



CUSTER COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

25363 US Hwy 385

Custer, SD 57730

Phone: 605-673-5680

custercd@sdconservation.net

July 2, 2025

Re: Grant #2023-CSW-008 "Thinning for a Resilient Forest"

South Dakota Conservation Commission
Attn: Alex Roeber or Jordan Turgeon
SD Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources
Resource Conservation and Forestry Division
523 East Capitol Ave.
Pierre, SD 57501

Dear Conservation Commissioners,

The Custer County Conservation District would like to present the final report for our grant "Thinning for a Resilient Forest" (Grant #2023-CSW-008). The grant was approved for \$90,000.00 allowing for forest stand improvement (thinning and brush removal) on private forestland.

The grant was advertised in our District newsletter and in the local paper - the Custer Chronicle. The Board received requests from private landowners for 455 acres of cost-share funding – more than could be funded. The Board approved 264 acres of thinning projects for 9 landowners. Unfortunately, we had a few landowners back out of their projects near the end of the grant cycle period due to financial reasons and we were unable to re-obligate all of the funds due to proximity to grant end date. These unfinished/not-started projects totaled 121 acres. Projects that were completed totaled 142.7 acres.

Landowners receiving assistance from this grant were: Jacks Ranch, 50 acres; Wood Ranch, 31.8 acres; Andrew Webster, 2 projects totaling 54.7 acres (37.7 ac & 17 ac); and Adrian Ranch, 6.2 acres. All work was certified as complete by DANR Staff Forester Micheal Bordelon. Total costs paid by the landowners was \$95,443.50 and they were reimbursed \$47,721.75. Reimbursements for all completed projects have been submitted.

Board of Supervisors: Dave Thom, Custer (Chair); Oonagh Wood, Pringle (Treasurer); Tamarah Caster, Elk Mountain; Paul Nettinga, Pleasant Valley (Vice Chair); Greg Neugebauer, Hermosa. **Advisors:** Stuart Adrian, Hayward; Gladwin Paulsen, rural Custer; Stephanie Rittberger, Hermosa.

Any land that is thinned helps in the prevention and fighting wildland fires by reducing fuel loads and improving the accessibility for firefighters to protect lives. Additionally, thinning supports conservation of valuable forest lands, conserving wildlife, open areas for grass to grow allowing grazing, protection of streams and watersheds, and in general, adds to the aesthetic value of the land and to protecting private property.

The Custer County Conservation District would like to thank the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources and the Conservation Commission for the opportunity to offer landowners a cost share program for thinning. We would like to extend a special thanks to Micheal Bordelon, Patricia Weyrich, Alex Roeber, and Jordan Turgeon for all their help and support with this grant.

Sincerely,

Mike Baldwin,
District Manager, Custer County Conservation District

Board of Supervisors: Dave Thom, Custer (Chair); Oonagh Wood, Pringle (Treasurer); Tamarah Caster, Elk Mountain; Paul Nettinga, Pleasant Valley (Vice Chair); Greg Neugebauer, Hermosa. **Advisors:** Stuart Adrian, Hayward; Gladwin Paulsen, rural Custer; Stephanie Rittberger, Hermosa.



Davison Conservation District
1820 N. Kimball St., Suite B
Mitchell, SD 57301
605-996-1564 Ext. 3

August 21, 2025

South Dakota Conservation Commission
c/o Alex Roeber
Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources
523 E. Capitol Ave.
Pierre, SD 57501

Dear South Dakota Conservation Commission:

The Davison Conservation District would like to present the final report for Grant number 2024-CSW-023 that was for awareness and outreach. The following items are what have been accomplished with the funds that the district received from the commission grant.

- Printing and mailing of annual newsletter
- Soil Health meeting in Mitchell
- "Beef on Betts" Ag Tour

If there are any further questions you may have concerning this grant, please feel free to contact our office.

Sincerely,

Debbie Bartscher
Asst. District Manager



Davison Conservation District
1820 N. Kimball St., Suite B
Mitchell, SD 57301
605-996-1564 Ext. 3

August 6, 2025

South Dakota Conservation Commission
c/o Alex Roeber
Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources
523 E Capitol Ave
Pierre, SD 57501

Dear South Dakota Conservation Commission:

The Davison Conservation District would like to present the final report for Grant number 2025-CSW-013 that was for the Microirrigation Project.

2 irrigation systems were installed for a 1-acre tree planting and a 3-acre tree planting in Davison County. Over 8,900 feet of pipe was laid with 743 irrigation water emitters which were installed on the pipes. With fabric and tree tubes also installed, every effort has been made for successful tree establishment.

We will be checking on these 2 tree plantings this fall to see what the mortality rate is.

If there are any further questions you may have concerning this grant, please feel free to contact our office.

Sincerely,

Debbie Bartscher
Asst. District Manager



Davison Conservation District
1820 N. Kimball St., Suite B
Mitchell, SD 57301
605-996-1564 Ext. 3

May 14, 2025

South Dakota Conservation Commission
c/o Alex Roeber
Department of Agriculture and Natural Resource
523 E. Capitol Ave.
Pierre, SD 57501

Dear South Dakota Conservation Commission:

The Davison Conservation District would like to present the final report for Grant number 2025-CSW-014 that was for tree and shrub planting and fabric. The following items are what have been accomplished with the funds that the district received from the commission grant.

8 acres of trees planted

16,273 LF of fabric laid in these shelterbelts

3 acres of field windbreaks

5 acres of wildlife plantings

192 Tree Tubes were installed

A total of 5 landowners utilized the funds from this grant. If there are any further questions you may have concerning this grant, please feel free to contact our office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Debbie Bartscher".

Debbie Bartscher
Asst. District Manager



Hamlin County Conservation District
PO Box 165
Hayti, SD 57241
Phone (605)783-3642 x4

August 28, 2025

SD Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources
Division of Resource Conservation and Forestry
Attn: Jordan Turgeon
523 E Capitol Ave
Pierre, SD 57501

Final Report Grant 2024-CSW-026

Dear Jordan Turgeon:

With the Hamlin Conservation 2025 Tree Planting Grant, our district was able to provide funding for five area producers. We planted trees and shrubs on five sites and applied fabric to each one. Due to the volume of precipitation, we had received, one producer was forced to cancel his project.

A total of 1,256 trees and shrubs were planted. Totaling 6.8 acres, which exceeded our estimate of 5 acres to be planted.

The total cost share paid out on the five projects was \$8,271. The producers were responsible for at least 60% of the total cost, which totaled \$12,588.

The Hamlin District appreciates this funding resource, and we hope to continue to receive these awards in the future. We are all benefitting from the reduced soil erosion, improved air and water quality, increased wildlife habitat and county aesthetics.

Thank you,

Peggy Loomis, District Manager
Hamlin County Conservation District
Box 165
Hayti, SD 57241
(605)783-3642 x4
hamlincd@sdconservation.net

Windbreak Establishment Grant for Jerauld Conservation District

FINAL REPORT

PROJECT BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2024, THROUGH JUNE 1, 2025

The Jerauld Conservation District Windbreak Tree Planting Grant (Grant #2024-CSW-010) is now complete. Jerauld Conservation District (JCD) worked with several producers and was able to aid six producers at 6 sites. JCD worked with N.R.C.S. along with SD Department of Agriculture, Pheasants Forever and the SD Game Fish & Parks to help provide these producers with site preparation techniques and applicable species selection to ensure a healthy and long-lasting shelterbelt.

The Jerauld Conservation District wishes to thank the Conservation Commission for their support of this project. The opportunity to plant more trees in our district is beneficial to not only the producers but all of us affected by agriculture and nature. The availability of cost-share funds is inevitably always the deciding factor for producers to plant trees. We are grateful for this grant and will continue to promote trees and other conservation practices to ensure sustainability.

Sincerely,

Jerauld Conservation District

Lynn Horsley, Chairman

Dennis Scheel, Vice-Chairman

Richard Kolousek, Supervisor

Fred Krohmer, Supervisor

Jason Weber, Supervisor



MARSHALL COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

PO Box 8 505 Vander Horck Ave Britton SD 57430

605-448-2442 #3 Fax: 855-256-2568

marshallcd@sdconservation.net jean.fagerland@sd.nacdnet.net

June 30, 2025

FINAL REPORT---MULTI-PURPOSE, MULTI-COUNTY GRANT
2022-CSW-019a

The Multi-County, Multi-Purpose grant has been very successful. We have been working hard to meet the conservation needs of the county producers' projects which did not qualify with other NRCS federally funded programs, such as EQIP, CRP, or CSP. The grant funds were very successful by completing the following projects:

- 12 Tree establishments, fabric applications and renovations
- 25 Dugout cleanouts
- 2 Soil Health Clinics and technical services

TOTAL= 37 projects completed

The four counties involved each benefited from this grant. Day County had 13 projects, Brown County completed 8, Roberts County 2 projects and Marshall County completed 14 projects. Multiple applications for the need to clean out existing dugouts to provide livestock water were in high demand due to the drought conditions in 2023-24. Solar systems with tanks were encouraged to be installed to protect the soil banks of their recently cleaned out dugouts, for better water quality/quantity issues in the future.

The commission grant funds were a great resource for our county producers at a time when cuts and pauses to funding with the federal government programs were happening.

We appreciate your willingness and support to help us meet our producer's conservation needs. Good quality water for livestock always remains a need, as we also strive to help protect our wetlands. The daunting task of shelterbelt renovations, with the EAB and 75-year-old belts, will be a huge funding need in the future.

Thank you for your financial assistance with projects in Day, Brown, Roberts and Marshall County. The projects you have helped to fund will have lasting conservation impact for years to come.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jean Fagerland".

Jean Fagerland, Marshall County Conservation District Manager

Josh Wagner, Day County District Manager

Lori Stevens, Brown Co. District Manager

Maggie Steiner, Roberts Co. District Manager

County	Amount	C/S Reimbursed	Date submitted	Checks Issued	Project
Day					
Heupel	1,420.00	1,615.30	7/23/2023	8/14/2023	tree pltg
Rucktaeschel	840.00	838.00	"	8/14/2023	tree pltg
Jaskulka	1,073.13	536.56	"	8/14/2023	tree pltg
Sepaniak	1,000.00	618.80	"	8/14/2023	tree pltg
Wagner	2,266.00	790.98	"	8/14/2023	tree pltg
Okroi	5,600.00	4,569.90	"	8/14/2023	tree pltg
Johnson	1,835.00	1,389.75	"	8/14/2023	tree pltg
Kurkowski	1,791.12	1,791.12	9/8/2023	10/2/2023	2 dugout cleanouts
Peckham	1,743.27	1,743.27	6/22/2025		tree pltg
Kueker Seeds	6,012.12	6,012.12	6/22/2025		2 tree pltg
Elsacker, Nic	3,108.44	3,108.44	6/22/2025		tree pltg
Marshall					
Wayne Johnson	1,981.24	1,981.24	5/25/2022	6/10/2022	2 dugout cleanouts
Herb Jensen	1,050.00	1,050.00	10/4/2022	10/24/2022	dugout cleanout
Tyler, Dwight	3,150.00	2,998.80	11/3/2022	11/25/2022	4 dugout cleanouts
Hillcrest Farms	1,050.00	1,050.00	10/18/2023	11/6/2023	dugout cleanout
Neil Foote	1,050.00	1,050.00	10/18/2023	11/6/2023	dugout cleanout
Jim Janisch	3,976.60	3,976.60	6/12/2025		tree pltg
Jay Hagen	1,050.00	1,050.00	10/18/2023	11/6/2023	dugout cleanout
Emit Valnes	649.43	649.43	2/1/2025	3/21/2025	2 dugout cleanout
Pallansch	2,100.00	1,822.04	4/10/2024	4/24/2024	2 dugout cleanout
Brown					
Wiedebush farms	1,050.00	1,050.00	1/10/2024	2/24/2024	dugout
Meyers, Gary	1,050.00	1,050.00	4/3/2025	5/1/2025	dugout
Roy wilkins	1,050.00	1,050.00	10/30/2024	1/8/2025	dugout
Ellwein West 10 Ranch	4,200.00	4,200.00	10/30/2024	1/8/2025	4 dugout cleanouts
Gary Holt	1,050.00	1,050.00	10/21/2024	1/8/2025	dugout cleanout
Roberts					
Ammann	1,050.00	1,050.00	9/8/2023	10/2/2023	dugout cleanout
Krandhold	1,200.00	467.42	11/12/2024	11/22/2024	tree planting
Soil Health Workshop	450.00	1,026.90	12/2/2023	1/17/2024	Ferney 9/14/23
	1,000.00	961.42	9/23/2024	10/4/2024	Day County Tour
Technical Assistance	349.00	93.66	10/13/2023	11/6/2023	Eco Ed Day
	182.20	182.20	9/23/2024	10/4/2024	Eco Ed Day
5% Reserve	2,500.00				
TOTALS	57,877.55	50,823.95			

Vouchers are on green paper with the exception of the first ones in 2018



Soil Health workshops, Eco Ed Days



Tree Renovations
Tree Plantings with Fabric



Dugout Cleanouts



SOUTH DAKOTA CONSERVATION DISTRICT EMPLOYEES

601 West Farmer Avenue, Suite A

Howard, South Dakota 57349

Phone: (605) 772-5642 ext. 3 Cell: (605) 480-2401

tami.moore@sd.nacdnet.net

Josh Wagner, President	Yvette Kirkman, Vice-Chairman	Tami Moore, Secretary/Treasurer
Jean Fagerland – Coteau Director	Val Feddersen – Prairie Director	Mike Baldwin – Hills Director
Dawn Schulte - South James – Missouri Director		Bonnie Schmit – North West Director
Meschele Townsend – North Missouri Director		John Parker – Vermillion – Big Sioux Director

FINAL REPORT FOR GRANT #2023-CSW-031 SDACDE STATE WIDE CAREER DEVELOPMENT

SDACDE would like to thank the South Dakota Conservation Commission for this grant. This is the start of great things happening with South Dakota Conservation Districts.

The SDACDE Executive Board met from morning until night – with very few distractions – to only discuss how to train all Conservation District Employees to do the very best job possible in their position of District Manager or District Secretary. We wanted to build capacity and to find a way to increase employee retention. We realized that the largest obstacle for employee retention was the lack of health insurance. We have tried over and over again to come up with a solution to that issue, but we have failed. We needed to attack the 2nd most important issue to help with Employee Retention. We determined that there was a need to train employees better than we had prior. Many boards have just given their new employee a key and a desk and assumed they would become great employees. New employees, and even seasoned ones, become frustrated with their job and inability to do it successfully because of a lack of training. A Conservation District Employees wears many hats: accountant, secretary, grass drill operator, tree planter, conservation educator, grant writer, Microsoft specialist – to just name a few.

We went through the various things and ways to accomplish making Conservation Districts successful with happy employees, as well as board members. We hired North Dakota's Training Specialist to come to our meeting to assist with the coordination and advice.

After a couple of hours of going through SDACDE's Strategic Plan and Communications Plan, it was determined by the Executive Board that we need to have a Professional Development Coordinator. This was a huge step for us. The first things we discussed were Goals for this project – what did we want to accomplish. We worked on drafting a Job Description with key responsibilities and qualifications. The Action Plan was then drafted. We have had Teams Meetings to discuss and finalize the Job Description and Action Plan. We have either met with or lined up meetings with NACD, NRCS, SDACD, & DANR to discuss our plan.

Ideas are sometimes the hardest part of a project. We have that accomplished through this grant. Our next obstacles are finances and hiring the 'right' person for the job!

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tami Moore".



MINNEHAHA CONSERVATION DISTRICT

2408 East Benson Road
Sioux Falls, SD 57104-7018
(605) 330-4515 ext. 3

Email – john.d.parker@sd.nacdnet.net

To Grant Commission,

Minnehaha Conservation District is reverting the remaining funds back to the grant pool.
This is for our shelterbelt renovation Grant #2023-CSW-021.

We did not have the participation in the county as we had planned.

Therefore, we did not use all the funds.

I would like to thank the commission for allowing the district the opportunity to pursue the objective.

Minnehaha Conservation District

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Parker".

John Parker
District Manager

7/30/2025



MINNEHAHA CONSERVATION DISTRICT

2408 East Benson Road
Sioux Falls, SD 57104-7018
(605) 330-4515 ext. 3

Email – john.d.parker@sd.nacdnet.net

To Grant Commission,

Minnehaha Conservation District is reverting the remaining funds back to the grant pool.

This is for our Minnehaha Wildlife Habitat Project

We had plenty of participating landowner/Producers, the interesting fact was we had partners with cost share that covered seeding and seed amounts. So, we didn't use any funds from the grant.

Therefore, we did not use any of the funds.

I would like to thank the commission for allowing the district the opportunity to pursue the objective.

Minnehaha Conservation District

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Parker', is written over the printed name.

John Parker
District Manager

7/30/2025

State Conservation Commission

November 2025

Conservation District

Aurora

Project Name:

Shelterbelts

Start Date

01/01/2026

End Date

12/31/2027

Total Project Amount:

\$ 25,000.00

Commission Funds:

\$ 12,500.00

District Funds:

Landowner Cash:

\$ 12,500.00

Local In-kind:

Other Funds:

\$ -

Other funds:

Cash

In-kind

Total:

\$ -

\$ -

RC&F:

DANR:

GF&P:

USFWS:

NRCS:

OTHER:

Description of Grant Application:

This grant would be for landowners that do not qualify for any other cost sharing methods to help renovate and plant new windbreaks. Currently there are several landowners in our area that don't have the means to fully pay for the shelterbelts that would benefit their land, livestock, wildlife, and farmsteads.

If selected for funding, RC&F suggests that:

- The Conservation Commission will not reimburse any costs that exceed the 2025 Conservation Commission Cost-share Docket. Please note other restrictions as listed there.
- All tree and shrub planting plans be reviewed and approved by one of the SDDANR RCF foresters prior to planting.
- Stand alone farmstead/homestead windbreaks do not qualify for cost-share from the Commission.
- District must secure a landowner application to determine eligibility for cost-share funds, copy to be provided with reimbursement request.
- District must provide the landowner with notification letter indicating whether or not they have been approved for cost-share, copy to be provided with reimbursement request.
- Project reimbursement will be based on actual bill/receipts submitted for completed work. Cost-share will be based on legitimate costs up to the specified maximum.
- The district provide a copy of the Joint Powers Agreement with all the conservation districts involved.
- The district provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant.
- Final report must be submitted before final reimbursement will be processed. This report must be submitted no more than 30 days after the end of the grant.

DANR:

GF&P:

Other current grants:

Conservation Education & Awareness

Project

Start date

End Date

Original Award

Balance

Extensions

2024-CSW-020 07/01/2024

12/31/2026

\$ 1,500.00 \$ 1,500.00

Approved:

Denied:

Reason for denial:



SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY DIVISION

523 East Capitol Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501
Phone: 605.773.3623
danr.sd.gov

GRANT APPLICATION FORM

Applicant Information

Organization: Aurora County Conservation District Mailing Address: Po Box 277
Telephone: (605) 942-7719 City: Plankinton State: SD Zip: 57368
Tax Status: Government

Project Contact

Project Officer: Jody Hauge Telephone: (605) 682-9668
Fax: _____ Email: AURORACOUNTYCONSERVATION@GMAIL.COM

Project Information

Project Name: shelterbelts
Start Date: 01/01/2026 End Date: 12/31/2027
Legal description: County: Aurora
Township: _____ Range: _____
Section: _____ Qtr: _____

Type of Grant

- ☒ Conservation Grant ☐ Community Forestry
☐ Insect/Disease ☐ Invasive Species
☐ Forest Stewardship ☐ Mountain Pine Beetle
☐ Other (specify): _____

Financial Information

Grant funds requested: \$ 12,500.00 Partner contributions (total): \$ 12,500.00 Total project cost: \$25,000.00
Please provide a brief, descriptive summary of the project:

This grant would be for landowners that do not qualify for any other cost sharing methods to help renovate and plant new windbreaks. Currently there are several landowners in our area that dont have the means to fully pay for the shelterbelts that would benefit their land, livestock, wildlife and farmsteads.

I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief, this application is true and correct. I further agree to comply with the provisions of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and regulations issued thereunder relating to nondiscrimination in federally assisted programs.

Applicant Signature Jody Hauge Title District Manager Date 9-19-25

A copy of the state required [W-9 form](#) must be attached to this application.

SD EForm - 0549 V5

OFFICE USE ONLY

Signature of Reviewer _____ Title _____ Date _____
Signature of Approval _____ Title _____ Date _____

BUDGET SHEET

The total for each of these three sections should equal the "Total Project Cost" on page 1.

A. Operating Budget

1. Salary/Benefits	_____	
2. Travel	_____	
3. Contractual Services	\$ 25,000.00	
4. Supplies	_____	
5. Equipment (list major equipment)	_____	
6. Consultation Services	_____	
Total Project Costs	\$25,000.00	This total must equal \$91,275.00

B. Activity Budget

Activity	Grant Funds	Local Funds	Local In-Kind	Other Funds	Total
1. tree removal	3,000.00	_____	_____	_____	\$3,000.00
2. trees	3,000.00	_____	_____	_____	\$3,000.00
3. fabric & installation	6,500.00	_____	_____	_____	\$6,500.00
4. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
5. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
6. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
7. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
8. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Totals	\$12,500.00	_____	_____	_____	\$12,500.00
This total must equal					\$91,275.00

C. Project Partners

Partners	Amount Cash	Amount In-Kind	Total
1. DANR	12,500.00	_____	\$12,500.00
2. landowner	12,500.00	_____	\$12,500.00
3. _____	_____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____	_____
5. _____	_____	_____	_____
6. _____	_____	_____	_____
7. _____	_____	_____	_____
8. _____	_____	_____	_____
Totals	\$25,000.00	_____	\$25,000.00
This total must equal			\$91,275.00

Please send application and attachments to the South Dakota Department of Agriculture & Natural Resources.

Shelterbelt Cost-Share

Project Descriptions and Need

Primary Beneficiaries--- will be landowners in Aurora County that have not been able to put in shelterbelts or update the shelterbelts because they are or will not be eligible for any federal or local cost share programs that are currently available.

Implementation, maintenance, and follow-up---The Aurora County Conservation District will design a tree plan and have it approved by the SD Dept of Ag Area Forester and then the district will plant and lay fabric on the shelterbelts after the landowner has prepped the ground as recommended in our tech guide. Landowners will be responsible for the care and upkeep of the shelterbelts, with the district monitoring them to make sure they are maintained.

Project location---All projects will be completed in the boundaries of the Aurora County Conservation district.

Special needs---Landowners that do not qualify for any other cost sharing program is the most need. Shelterbelts are not cheap and with some landowners not being able to get cost share they feel there is no way they can afford to be able to restore or get new windbreaks. Windbreaks are vital for the wind and snow protection. With the winds and snow that we have in our area and no shelterbelts, this can be devastating on the animals, crops and farmsteads. Wind as we know it causes erosion of fields and blowing the good top soil. Wind has damaging crop loss when there is no protection. Snow with or without wind is so harsh on animals, whether they are livestock or wildlife. It causes animals to suffer stress, takes energy from them, which takes away from their overall health. Our wildlife has more casualties without the protection of their habitat.

On the ground site activities---Site preparation will be done by checking the soils, chemical history and drawing up a tree plan that will be the most beneficial for the producer, livestock, wildlife and land. All requirements that are needed for any federal cost share will be done to make sure this is safe for the producer and animals, including cultural

resources, utility lines, and ensuring no endangered species. The producer will make sure the site is ready to go by weed control, removal of trees and making sure the ground is properly prepared for the planting will start.

Project part of another effort---These projects will not be part of any other regional or watershed projects.

Project management and protection---Producers receiving cost share will manage and protect their shelterbelts at their cost, with the Conservation district monitoring them to make sure they get established and are not destroyed. This will be done by spot checking to make sure tree are replaced and well maintained.

Required permits—no federal, state or local permits will be required prior to the establishments of these projects in Aurora County.

Final products---Any shelterbelt weather it's one row to 10 rows will help everyone in the long run. From helping the wildlife to have better habitat for survival rate, to helping the landowner cut the harsh winds if planted to by the crops, and especially helping the livestock in all weather conditions. This will help with the overall health of the livestock, and have less farming costs for the producer. A renovated tree belt will be able to put the shelterbelt back to its original state where it was first planted many years ago, and knowing that it's a good location for the environment.

Partner justification—The South Dakota department of Agriculture Resource Conservation and Forestry division will provide funds through the conservation commission grant help the landowners and the Aurora County Conservation district. The district will provide assistance where it is needed from the application process in the tree planning, to planting, and all report and recording keeping. The landowner will provide the costs that the commission grant does not cover and be responsible of all upkeep of the windbreak. With the DANR, the Aurora County Conservation District and the help of the landowner we will be able to establish and maintain new windbreaks for years to come.

AURORA COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT
Po Box 277
Plankinton SD 57368
(605- 682-9668)
AGENDA FOR Monday August 4th 2025

unapproved



PLACE OF MEETING: USDA Ag Service Center Bldg

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mike Konechne, Jeremy Johnson, Dale Steffen, Sherry Schumacher advisor

MEMBERS ABSENT: Bob Bruns, Dan Hargreaves

GUESTS: District Manager, Jody Hauge; District Conservationist, Shaun Holcomb, RUC, Heidi Reintz

CALL TO ORDER: 5:03 P.M. on Monday, August 4th, 2025

SECRETARY'S MINUTES: Included. Motion to approve Dale Steffen 2nd Jeremy Johnson, Motion carried

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Treasure report was reviewed Motion to accept Dale Steffen 2nd Jeremy Johnson Motion carried

AGENDA:

Area meeting July 30th—discussed fair, Dakota Fest, reports that need to go to the state

Convention Sept 21-23—In Huron

Endowment fund—Vince Assmus—it was our year to do the endowment fund, and I nominated Vince, since he helps so much with the conservation district and was a past board member.

Was asked what is the endowment fund and where does the money go, and does it have to be \$1000 per nominee

Loss control survey—tomorrow at 8:30

Commission grant—discussion was held on the commission grant to apply for \$12500 to help with tree planting and a renovation. I have 4 producers that I hope will qualify for this for 2026-2027.

Motion to accept Dale Steffen 2nd by Jeremy Johnson. Motion carried

Machinery fixed---**enclosed trailer** at Kieffer's Repair needs new axels—wore down new tires to go to MN—talked to Ross Kieffer and will put a 5000 pound axle

Drill—middle box shaft broke at fixed at WL welding \$624.18

fabric and tree planting machines Mark Hanten is going to revamp them this winter with the help of Doug Thiry

New drill—waiting on quotes on trading in drill Jim Pfiefer Sioux Falls Keith VanDenHoek Corsica, John Deere-Corsica, David Scheetz in Parkston

Brule county coming in and planting trees—we discussed Brule County coming into our county to plant trees for 2 producers I had reached out to Zach and asked him why he had done this, and he stated that he was asked by the producer to do this as he said he had done it several years ago. I told him we didn't appreciate it, and he should have notified us that he was going to do this.

Acres- 49.32 acres trees -15 producers, drilled 140 acres 9 producers and spread fertilizer on 40.67 acres for 1 producer. We also hand planted 1000 trees for 5 producers

paperwork to review

open law-must be done annually—we reviewed the handout on the open-law meeting requirements and will review them annually.

Field Office Emergency Operations plan review-reviewed the emergency operation plan

Safety Manual-updated the safety manual

SDPAA insurance-reviewed the insurance plan, and updated where the tree stock and fabric is listed
Handouts-profit and loss , a/r—went over our recent statements to see where we are financially sitting at this time

Motion to approve all reports Jeremy Johnson, 2nd Dale Steffen. Motion carried

NRCS REPORT: Shaun talked about hiring freeze, there are 19 CRP renewals and new contracts. 5 new CSP contracts, 0 EQIP were funded—not ranked high enough. Motion to approve Jeremy Johnson, 2nd Dale Steffen Motion carried

MANAGER’S REPORT: Included—motion approved Dale Steffen 2nd Jeremy Johnson Motion carried

OTHER:

PUBLIC INPUT:

- Executive Session- (Optional)-

ADJOURN:5:00 Pm

NEXT MEETING: Sept 2025

State Conservation Commission

November 2025

Conservation District

Beadle

Project Name:

Livestock Water

Start Date

01/01/2026

End Date

12/31/2026

Total Project Amount:

\$ 159,025.00

Commission Funds:

\$ 51,325.00

District Funds:

Landowner Cash:

\$ 107,700.00

Local In-kind:

Other Funds:

\$ -

Other funds:

Total:

RC&F:

DANR:

GF&P:

USFWS:

NRCS:

OTHER:

Cash

In-kind

\$ - \$ -

Description of Grant Application:

This project will provide cost share to local livestock owners/landowners for installing grazing and water practices on their property.

If selected for funding, RC&F suggests that:

- The Conservation Commission will not reimburse any costs that exceed the 2025 Conservation Commission Cost-share Docket. Please note other restrictions as listed there.
- All tree and shrub planting plans be reviewed and approved by one of the SDDANR RCF foresters prior to planting.
- Stand alone farmstead/homestead windbreaks do not qualify for cost-share from the Commission.
- District must secure a landowner application to determine eligibility for cost-share funds, copy to be provided with reimbursement request.
- District must provide the landowner with notification letter indicating whether or not they have been approved for cost-share, copy to be provided with reimbursement request.
- Project reimbursement will be based on actual bill/receipts submitted for completed work. Cost-share will be based on legitimate costs up to the specified maximum.
- The district provide a copy of the Joint Powers Agreement with all the conservation districts involved.
- The district provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant.
- Final report must be submitted before final reimbursement will be processed. This report must be submitted no more than 30 days after the end of the grant.

DANR:

GF&P:

Other current grants:

Project

Start date

End Date

Original Award

Balance

Extensions

Livestock Water

2025-CSW-001

01/01/2025

12/31/2025

\$ 28,290.00

\$ 22,696.13

Approved:

Denied:

Reason for denial:



SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY DIVISION

523 East Capitol Avenue

Pierre, SD 57501

Phone: 605.773.3623 Fax: 605.773.3481

sdda.sd.gov

GRANT APPLICATION FORM

Applicant Information

Organization: Beadle Conservation District Mailing Address: 1386 Lincoln Ave SW Ste B

Telephone: _____ City: Huron State: SD Zip: 57350

Tax Status: _____

Project Contact

Project Officer: _____ Telephone: _____

Fax: _____ Email: _____

Project Information

Project Name: LIVESTOCK WATER

Start Date: 01/01/2026 End Date: 12/31/2026

Legal description: County Beadle

Township: _____ Range: _____

Section: _____ Qtr: _____

Type of Grant

☒ Conservation Grant ☐ Community Forestry

☐ Insect/Disease ☐ Invasive Species

☐ Forest Stewardship ☐ Mountain Pine Beetle

☐ Other (specify): _____

Financial Information

Grant funds requested: 51325.00 Partner contributions (total): 107700.00 Total project cost: 159025

Please provide a brief, descriptive summary of the project:

This project will provide cost share to local livestock owners/landowners for installing grazing and water practices on their property.

I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief, this application is true and correct. I further agree to comply with the provisions of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and regulations issued thereunder relating to nondiscrimination in federally assisted programs.

Applicant Signature [Signature] Title Chairman Date 9/11/25

A copy of the state required W-9 form must be attached to this application.

SD EForm - 0549 V4

OFFICE USE ONLY

Signature of Reviewer _____ Title _____ Date _____

Signature of Approval _____ Title _____ Date _____

BUDGET SHEET

The total for each of these three sections should equal the "Total Project Cost" on page 1.

A. Operating Budget

1. Salary/Benefits	_____	
2. Travel	_____	
3. Contractual Services	_____	159025
4. Supplies	_____	
5. Equipment (list major equipment)	_____	
6. Consultation Services	_____	
Total Project Costs	_____	159025
		This total must equal <u>159025</u>

B. Activity Budget

Activity	Grant Funds	Local Funds	Local In-Kind	Other Funds	Total
1. WATER DEVELOPMENT	42750	_____	99750	_____	142500
2. GRAZING MANAGEMENT	7950	_____	7950	_____	15900
3. T/A	375	_____	_____	_____	375
4. ADMIN	250	_____	_____	_____	250
5. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	0
6. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	0
7. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	0
8. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	0
Totals	51325	0	107700	0	159025
					This total must equal <u>159025</u>

C. Project Partners

Partners	Amount Cash	Amount In-Kind	Total
1. RC&F	51325	_____	51325
2. PRODUCERS	_____	107700	107700
3. _____	_____	_____	0
4. _____	_____	_____	0
5. _____	_____	_____	0
6. _____	_____	_____	0
7. _____	_____	_____	0
8. _____	_____	_____	0
Totals	51325	107700	159025
			This total must equal <u>159025</u>

Please send application and attachments to the South Dakota Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

D. PROJECT DESCRIPTION & NEED

Primary Beneficiaries

- The project's primary goal is grassland management and protection. Developing a reliable watering source is the key factor within a successful managed grazing system.
- This project will provide 30% cost share for producers within Beadle County for water development. 50% cost share will be provided for grazing management in an effort to protect and improve water quality and grazing lands.
- Most ranchers want to maximize the return of their livestock enterprise while sustaining the resources through economic and environmental aspects.

Responsible for Implementation, Maintenance & Follow-up

- Beadle Conservation District will be responsible for implementing this project. Applications will be taken and grazing systems will be established following the NRCS Tech Guide specifications. After each potential project is mutually agreed upon, the landowner will sign an agreement with the Conservation District. The agreement will outline the total project, partner contributions and landowner costs. This agreement will also provide a grazing management plan which determines the amount and grazing time of livestock while maintaining a viable grassland community.

Location of Project

- The project area is Beadle County, within the James River Watershed

Environmental, Natural Resource, Ecological, Education, and/or Social Impacts

- Environmental & Natural Resource – Livestock watering facilities are a critical component to maintaining livestock grazing areas. Grazing areas and livestock will be improved through increased water quality provided by the addition of a rural water supply for watering of livestock.

Federal, State or Local Permits Required

- Any permitting requirements will be met on a site specific basis. Consideration for cultural resources and environmental impacts will be considered when in the planning phase of this project.

E. FINAL PRODUCTS

- The project funding will enable producers/landowners to develop water needed to improve grazing systems in the project area. By promoting this project, better water quality will be provided to the livestock, which in turn will provide healthier livestock, thus resulting in an improved economic community.

F. PARTNER JUSTIFICATION

- Beadle Conservation District – The conservation district will be responsible for all aspects of the grant project. The 2025 Conservation Commission Approved Practices Costs and 2025 Conservation Commission Approved Cost-Share Percentages will be followed. The district will conform to the goals and objectives of this plan. The district will be responsible for the project management, marketing, grazing systems, technical assistance and evaluation of the project. Through in-kind services, the district will provide 50% of the technical service.
- Conservation Commission Grant – The grant will provide 30% cost-share for water development, 50% cost-share for grazing management and all of the technical assistance and administrative costs.
- Natural Resource Conservation Service - The NRCS Tech Guide will be followed when developing grazing systems.
- Landowner – The landowner will have the most to gain from this project. He will provide at least 30% of the total cost of any water development, and 50% of the total cost of any grazing management or cover crops. Even if other funding is found by the producer, he must provide 30% of the total cost of the project.

G. SUCCESS OF PROJECT

- Success of this project will be measured by the number of livestock producers educated on the importance of water quality for livestock. With this grant, we hope to provide cost-share to producers/landowners interested in improving their grazing management within the Beadle County area.
- The improvement of water quality, reduction of soil erosion, protection of ground water, and the protection of range and pastureland will be the true measures of this projects success.

WATER QUALITY FOR LIVESTOCK

WATER DEVELOPMENT

practice	qty	cost	each	est contracts	total	GRANT
pipeline (2"PVC below ground)	5000	\$3.60/ft	\$12,600		\$18,000.00	
tanks	1500	\$1.60/gal	\$2,400	5	\$12,000.00	
rural hook-up		\$3,500		3	\$10,500.00	
new wells (steel/copper/plastic)			\$45,000	2	\$90,000.00	
pumps		4000	\$4,000	3	\$12,000.00	
				total:	\$142,500	\$42,750.00

GRAZING MANAGEMENT

electric/Fencing (4-strand barbed wire)	15000	\$1.06/ft	\$15,900		\$15,900.00	\$7,950.00
Administration	10hr	25/hr			\$250	\$250.00
T/A	15 hr	25/hr			375	\$375.00
					\$159,025.00	\$51,325.00

BEADLE CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
September 11, 2025 @ 7:00 pm with Scott Hamilton presiding.

Board of Supervisors Present:

Scott Hamilton, Chairman
John Wellnitz, Vice Chairman
Mark Goldammer, Treasurer
John R Boomsma, Supervisor
Lee Klocke, Advisor

Others Present:

Robin Viestenz, District Manager
Jenna Langum, SDSU Mesonet

Absent:

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY: Scott Hamilton @ 7:10 pm

REQUEST FOR NEW BUSINESS TO BE PLACED ON AGENDA (discussion only): Mesonet possible locations. Jenna gave a presentation on locations for expanding the Mesonet system.

AGENDA FOR APPROVAL: John R Boomsma moved to approve agenda. John Wellnitz seconded the motion. Motion carried.

MINUTES OF REGULAR July BOARD MEETING: Mark Goldammer moved to approve minutes. John Wellnitz seconded the motion. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE: Mark Goldammer moved to approve accounts payable. John R Boomsma seconded the motion. Motion carried.

SUPERVISORS REPORT:

DALE FARM REPORT:

CAIN CREEK REPORT: Scott stated he talked with a lawyer about not putting the lease up for public bid and offering to current leasee. Lawyer stated we could offer to current leasee if he was willing to continue.

BEADLE CD FARM REPORT:

MANAGERS REPORT:

FIELD REPORTS:

NRCS REPORT/NEW CONTRACTS:

COMMISSION GRANTS: John Wellnitz moved to approve applying for a livestock water grant for 2026. Mark Goldammer seconded the motion. Motion carried. John R Boomsma moved to approve applying for a shelterbelt grant for 2026. John Wellnitz seconded the motion. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

ADJOURNMENT: Scott Hamilton adjourned the meeting at 8:45 pm. The next regular board meeting will be held October 9, 2025 at 7:00 pm

Robin Viestenz
Recorder

State Conservation Commission

November 2025

Conservation District

Beadle

Project Name:

Shelterbelt Program

Start Date

01/01/2026

End Date

12/31/2026

Total Project Amount:

\$ 21,750.00

Commission Funds:

\$ 9,300.00

District Funds:

Landowner Cash:

\$ 12,450.00

Local In-kind:

Other Funds:

Other funds:

Total:

Cash

In-kind

\$ -

RC&F:

DANR:

GF&P:

USFWS:

NRCS:

OTHER:

Description of Grant Application:

The shelterbelt program provides resource benefits for livestock protection, increased wildlife habitat, soil health and other undetermined benefits.

If selected for funding, RC&F suggests that:

- The Conservation Commission will not reimburse any costs that exceed the 2025 Conservation Commission Cost-share Docket. Please note other restrictions as listed there.
- All tree and shrub planting plans be reviewed and approved by one of the SDDANR RCF foresters prior to planting.
- Stand alone farmstead/homestead windbreaks do not qualify for cost-share from the Commission.
- District must secure a landowner application to determine eligibility for cost-share funds, copy to be provided with reimbursement request.
- District must provide the landowner with notification letter indicating whether or not they have been approved for cost-share, copy to be provided with reimbursement request.
- Project reimbursement will be based on actual bill/receipts submitted for completed work. Cost-share will be based on legitimate costs up to the specified maximum.
- The district provide a copy of the Joint Powers Agreement with all the conservation districts involved.
- The district provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant.
- Final report must be submitted before final reimbursement will be processed. This report must be submitted no more than 30 days after the end of the grant.

DANR:

GF&P:

Other current grants:

Livestock Water

Project

Start date

End Date

Original Award

Balance

Extensions

2025-CSW-001

01/01/2025

12/31/2025

\$28,290.00

\$22,696.13

Approved:

Denied:

Reason for denial:



SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY DIVISION

523 East Capitol Avenue

Pierre, SD 57501

Phone: 605.773.3623 Fax: 605.773.3481

sdda.sd.gov

GRANT APPLICATION FORM

Applicant Information

Organization: Beadle Conservation District Mailing Address: 1386 Lincoln Ave SW Ste B
Telephone: _____ City: Huron State: SD Zip: 57350
Tax Status: _____

Project Contact

Project Officer: _____ Telephone: _____
Fax: _____ Email: _____

Project Information

Project Name: Shelterbelt Program
Start Date: 01/01/2026 End Date: 12/31/2026
Legal description: County Beadle
Township: _____ Range: _____
Section: _____ Qtr: _____

Type of Grant

- ☒ Conservation Grant ☐ Community Forestry
☐ Insect/Disease ☐ Invasive Species
☐ Forest Stewardship ☐ Mountain Pine Beetle
☐ Other (specify): _____

Financial Information

Grant funds requested: 9300 Partner contributions (total): 12450 Total project cost: 21750
Please provide a brief, descriptive summary of the project:

The shelterbelt program provides resource benefits for livestock protection, increased wildlife habitat, soil health and other undetermined benefits.

I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief, this application is true and correct. I further agree to comply with the provisions of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and regulations issued thereunder relating to nondiscrimination in federally assisted programs.

Applicant Signature [Signature] Title chairman Date 9/11/25

A copy of the state required W-9 form must be attached to this application.

SD EForm - 0549 V4

OFFICE USE ONLY

Signature of Reviewer _____ Title _____ Date _____

Signature of Approval _____ Title _____ Date _____

BUDGET SHEET

The total for each of these three sections should equal the "Total Project Cost" on page 1.

A. Operating Budget

1. Salary/Benefits	_____	
2. Travel	_____	
3. Contractual Services	_____	21750
4. Supplies	_____	
5. Equipment (list major equipment)	_____	
6. Consultation Services	_____	
Total Project Costs	_____	21750
		This total must equal _____ 21750

B. Activity Budget

Activity	Grant Funds	Local Funds	Local In-Kind	Other Funds	Total
1. tree planting	1762.5	_____	3862.5	_____	5625
2. shrub planting	1350	_____	2400	_____	3750
3. weed barrier	5312.50	_____	5937.50	_____	11250
4. T/A	375	_____	_____	_____	375
5. Admin	250	_____	_____	_____	250
6. site prep	250	_____	250	_____	500
7. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	0
8. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	0
Totals	9300	0	12450	0	21750
					This total must equal _____ 21750

C. Project Partners

Partners	Amount Cash	Amount In-Kind	Total
1. RC&F	9300	_____	9300
2. landowners	_____	12450	12450
3. _____	_____	_____	0
4. _____	_____	_____	0
5. _____	_____	_____	0
6. _____	_____	_____	0
7. _____	_____	_____	0
8. _____	_____	_____	0
Totals	9300	12450	21750
			This total must equal _____ 21750

Please send application and attachments to the South Dakota Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

D. PROJECT DESCRIPTION & NEED

Primary beneficiaries

The project is designed to enhance and protect our natural resources. By installing shelterbelts we provide protection to livestock and wildlife, reduce soil erosion, and lower road maintenance issues throughout Beadle County.

Responsible for Implementation, Maintenance & Follow-up

Applications will be taken and tree plans will be established following NRCS Tech Guide specifications. After each potential project is mutually agreed upon, the land owner will sign an agreement with the Conservation District.

Beadle Conservation District will be responsible for contacting clients for installation and will follow-up with the clients on proper maintenance throughout the contract.

Location of Project

The project area is Beadle County

Environmental, Natural Resource, Ecological, Education, and/or Social Impacts

Environmental & Natural Resource – Shelterbelts provide wildlife habitat, livestock protection, grassland enhancement and aid in protecting our soils from erosion. Planting shelterbelts in grasslands addresses some of our Natural Resource concerns.

Social Impact – Adds to the value of land by increasing its productivity due to healthier soil and better water retention.

Federal, State or Local Permits Required

No permits are required at this time. Consideration for cultural resources and environmental impacts will be considered when in the planning phase of this project.

E. FINAL PRODUCTS

It is anticipated that approximately 15 acres of trees will be planted in grass. This will enhance grass maintenance, wildlife and livestock protection, and soil maintenance.

F. PARTNER JUSTIFICATION

Beadle Conservation District has the equipment and knowledge to complete this project.

The NRCS Tech Guide is followed when designing shelterbelts.

G. SUCCESS OF PROJECT

By achieving our 15 acre goal.

SHELTERBELT

TREE PLANTING - MACHINE

	qty	docket	TOTAL	GRANT	actual
shrubs (ft)	5000	\$0.54	\$2,700.00	50%	\$0.75
trees (ft)	7500	\$0.52	\$3,900.00	50%	\$0.75
fabric (FT)	12500	\$0.85	\$10,625.00	50%	\$0.90
site prep (ac)	10	\$50.00	\$500.00	50%	250
					\$20,875.00
Administrative costs (hr)	10	\$25.00	\$250.00	100%	\$250.00
Technical assistance (hr)	15	\$25.00	\$375.00	100%	\$375.00
			\$18,350.00		\$9,300.00

BEADLE CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
September 11, 2025 @ 7:00 pm with Scott Hamilton presiding.

Board of Supervisors Present:

Scott Hamilton, Chairman
John Wellnitz, Vice Chairman
Mark Goldammer, Treasurer
John R Boomsma, Supervisor
Lee Klocke, Advisor

Others Present:

Robin Viestenz, District Manager
Jenna Langum, SDSU Mesonet

Absent:

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY: Scott Hamilton @ 7:10 pm

REQUEST FOR NEW BUSINESS TO BE PLACED ON AGENDA (discussion only): Mesonet possible locations. Jenna gave a presentation on locations for expanding the Mesonet system.

AGENDA FOR APPROVAL: John R Boomsma moved to approve agenda. John Wellnitz seconded the motion. Motion carried.

MINUTES OF REGULAR July BOARD MEETING: Mark Goldammer moved to approve minutes. John Wellnitz seconded the motion. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE: Mark Goldammer moved to approve accounts payable. John R Boomsma seconded the motion. Motion carried.

SUPERVISORS REPORT:

DALE FARM REPORT:

CAIN CREEK REPORT: Scott stated he talked with a lawyer about not putting the lease up for public bid and offering to current leasee. Lawyer stated we could offer to current leasee if he was willing to continue.

BEADLE CD FARM REPORT:

MANAGERS REPORT:

FIELD REPORTS:

NRCS REPORT/NEW CONTRACTS:

COMMISSION GRANTS: John Wellnitz moved to approve applying for a livestock water grant for 2026. Mark Goldammer seconded the motion. Motion carried. John R Boomsma moved to approve applying for a shelterbelt grant for 2026. John Wellnitz seconded the motion. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

ADJOURNMENT: Scott Hamilton adjourned the meeting at 8:45 pm. The next regular board meeting will be held October 9, 2025 at 7:00 pm

Robin Viestenz
Recorder

State Conservation Commission

November 2025

Conservation District

Bennett/ Badlands

Project Name:

Tree Plantings 2026

Start Date

01/01/2026

End Date

12/31/2026

Total Project Amount:

\$ 26,103.00

Commisson Funds:

\$ 11,914.00

District Funds:

\$ 1,875.00

Landowner Cash:

\$ 12,314.00

Local In-kind:

Other Funds:

Other funds:

Cash In-kind

Total:

\$ - \$ -

RC&F:

DANR:

GF&P:

USFWS:

NRCS:

OTHER:

Description of Grant Application:

The Bennett and Badlands Conservation Districts are applying for a grant under the regular grant fund. This grant will be used to complete 6 acres of tree and shrub planting, with fabric. We have producers interested in planting windbreaks but are limited due to finances. No funds will be used for tree removal. Forester Approval will be done prior to planting

If selected for funding, RC&F suggests that:

- The Conservation Commission will not reimburse any costs that exceed the 2025 Conservation Commission Cost-share Docket. Please note other restrictions as listed there.
- All tree and shrub planting plans be reviewed and approved by one of the SDDANR RCF foresters prior to planting.
- Stand alone farmstead/homestead windbreaks do not qualify for cost-share from the Commission.
- District must secure a landowner application to determine eligibility for cost-share funds, copy to be provided with reimbursement request.
- District must provide the landowner with notification letter indicating whether or not they have been approved for cost-share, copy to be provided with reimbursement request.
- Project reimbursement will be based on actual bill/receipts submitted for completed work. Cost-share will be based on legitimate costs up to the specified maximum.
- The district provide a copy of the Joint Powers Agreement with all the conservation districts involved.
- The district provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant.
- Final report must be submitted before final reimbursement will be processed. This report must be submitted no more than 30 days after the end of the grant.

DANR:

GF&P:

Other current grants:

N/A

Project Start date

End Date

Original Award

Balance

Extensions

N/A

N/A

N/A

N/A

N/A

N/A

Approved:

Denied:

Reason for denial:



SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY DIVISION

523 East Capitol Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501
Phone: 605.773.3623
danr.sd.gov

GRANT APPLICATION FORM

Applicant Information

Organization: Bennett County Conservation District Mailing Address: 706 W Bennett Ave. Suite 2
Telephone: (605) 685-1243 City: Martin State: SD Zip: 57551
Tax Status: government

Project Contact

Project Officer: Patty Beck, Dist. Manager Telephone: (605) 685-1243
Fax: (605) 685-1243 Email: patricia.beck@sd.nacdnet.net

Project Information

Project Name: Bennett/Badlands Tree Plantings 2026
Start Date: 01/01/2026 End Date: 12/31/2026
Legal description: County: Bennett & Oglala Lakota
Township: _____ Range: _____
Section: _____ Qtr: _____

Type of Grant

- ☒ Conservation Grant ☐ Community Forestry
☐ Insect/Disease ☐ Invasive Species
☐ Forest Stewardship ☐ Mountain Pine Beetle
☐ Other (specify): _____

Financial Information

Grant funds requested: \$ 11,914.00 Partner contributions (total): \$ 14,189.00 Total project cost: \$26,103.00
Please provide a brief, descriptive summary of the project:

The Bennett and Badlands Conservation Districts are applying for a grant under the regular grant fund. This grant will be used to complete approximately 6 acres of tree and shrub plantings with the weed barrier fabric within the two Districts. We have producers interested in planting windbreaks but they are limited due to finances. By providing financial assistance, these windbreaks will be completed and will provide benefits to both livestock and wildlife. They will also provide protection from wind erosion and benefit soil health. No funds will be used for tree removal. All planting plans will be reviewed and approved by the State Forester prior to the District Board approving them. Site preparation will be completed by the producer at their own cost. The Bennett County Conservation District will be the lead on this project. A joint powers agreement is currently in place between Bennett and Badlands Conservation District.

I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief, this application is true and correct. I further agree to comply with the provisions of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and regulations issued thereunder relating to nondiscrimination in federally assisted programs.

Applicant Signature *Bennett C. Boyle* Title Chairman Date 09/16/2025

A copy of the state required [W-9 form](#) must be attached to this application.

SD EForm - 0549 V5

OFFICE USE ONLY

Signature of Reviewer _____ Title _____ Date _____
Signature of Approval _____ Title _____ Date _____

BUDGET SHEET

The total for each of these three sections should equal the "Total Project Cost" on page 1.

A. Operating Budget

1. Salary/Benefits	\$ 2,350.00	
2. Travel	\$ 50.00	
3. Contractual Services	\$ 21,828.00	
4. Supplies	\$ 100.00	
5. Equipment (list major equipment)	\$ 1,400.00	
6. Consultation Services	\$ 375.00	
Total Project Costs	\$26,103.00	This total must equal <u>\$26,103.00</u>

B. Activity Budget

Activity	Grant Funds	Local Funds	Local In-Kind	Other Funds	Total
1. Shrubs & Planting	1,711.00	1,711.00			\$3,422.00
2. Trees & Planting	2,471.00	2,471.00			\$4,942.00
3. Fabric & Installation	6,732.00	6,732.00			\$13,464.00
4. Administration	1,000.00	1,350.00			\$2,350.00
5. Equipment			1,400.00		\$1,400.00
6. Info. & Education		375.00			\$375.00
7. Travel & Supplies			150.00		\$150.00
8. _____					
Totals	\$11,914.00	\$12,639.00	\$1,550.00		\$26,103.00
				This total must equal	<u>\$26,103.00</u>

C. Project Partners

Partners	Amount Cash	Amount In-Kind	Total
1. SD DANR/RCF	11,914.00		\$11,914.00
2. Local Producers	10,914.00	1,400.00	\$12,314.00
3. Bennett & Badlands	1,725.00	150.00	\$1,875.00
4. _____			
5. _____			
6. _____			
7. _____			
8. _____			
Totals	\$24,553.00	\$1,550.00	\$26,103.00
			This total must equal <u>\$26,103.00</u>

Please send application and attachments to the South Dakota Department of Agriculture & Natural Resources.

Bennett and Badlands Tree Plantings 2026 grant application

01/01/2026 – 12/31/2026

B. Activity Budget (Additional information):

Local in-kind Funds –

1. Trees & Planting.....	\$	.00
2. Shrubs & Planting.....	\$	.00
3. Fabric & Installation.....	\$	.00
4. Administration.....	\$	.00
5. Salary & Benefits.....	\$	.00
6. Equipment.....	\$	1,400.00
Tractor supplied by producer –		
Site preparation by producer		
6 acres x \$25.00/acre = \$ 150.00		
Tree planting and Fabric Installation		
5 hrs/site x 5 sites = 25 hours		
\$50/hr. x 25 hours = \$ 1,250.00		
7. Information & Education.....	\$	.00
8. Travel & Supplies.....	\$	150.00
Travel	\$ 50.00	
Supplies	\$ 100.00	

Bennett and Badlands Tree Plantings 2026

01/01/2026 – 12/31/2026

D. Project Description and Need:

There are numerous new sites in Bennett and Oglala Lakota Counties in need of new tree plantings. There are also many shelterbelts in the two Counties which have passed their prime and are no longer effective. They did the job for which they were designed but it is time now to renovate them either by underplanting or by starting over. There have been several people in the office requesting assistance to do tree plantings, but without some form of cost-share, they are unable to handle the costs involved. There is a definite need for this type of cost-share for tree plantings. The Districts have had several Conservation Commission Grants in the past which were used to assist with tree plantings in the Counties. We have had much interest from the producers to continue with this form of assistance for planting trees. A 50% cost-share will be provided to the cooperators through this grant. No cost-share will be used for the removal of existing trees. Site preparation will be completed by the cooperator with no cost-share. The project will cover the entire area of the 2 Conservation Districts which is all of Bennett and Oglala Lakota Counties.

The Conservation District personnel will be responsible for the implementation, maintenance and follow-up of the project. An application will be required by those applying for cost-share. It will include the requirements the cooperator will follow for receiving the cost-share and also the long-term requirement, which will include protecting the plantings from destruction and controlling noxious weeds. The cooperator will also permit access to the site by District personnel for periodic inspections. The planting plans will be reviewed and approved prior to approval for cost-share by the Area Resource Conservation and Forestry Forester. The Conservation District Supervisors will review all the applications submitted for cost-share and will determine those eligible or ineligible.

E. Final Products:

Below is a table with the goals the Districts wish to achieve from this grant. In addition to these items, the District will include pictures from this program in our local newsletters.

GOAL	AMOUNT
Linear Feet of Shrubs	6,336 linear feet
Linear Feet of Trees	9,504 linear feet
Linear Feet of Weed Barrier Fabric	15,840 linear feet
Approximate Number of Producers	5 Producers
Administrative Hours	40 hours

The Districts have determined an average of 15,840 linear feet in 6 acres of shrubs and trees. Most of the plantings will consist of 5 rows, typically 1 row of shrubs and 4 rows of trees. The Weed Barrier Fabric will be installed on all the rows for a total of 15,840 lf of fabric. We have figured an average of 5 producers, planting windbreaks approximately 1.2 acres in size. We understand that all windbreaks will not be this size but are using this as an average only.

Partner Justification:

- 1) South Dakota Department of Agriculture – Division of Resource Conservation & Forestry – the RC&F will provide, through the SD Conservation Commission, the funds that will match the producer funds. The RC&F Area Forester will review and approve all of the tree planting plans and assist the District personnel, when necessary, with the designing of the planting plans.
- 2) Participating Producers – the producer will be present during the planning and planting of the windbreak. The producer will be responsible for preparing the site and will also provide a tractor and driver for planting the trees and shrubs. They will also be responsible for purchasing the weed barrier fabric and having the weed barrier fabric installed to specifications on the site. After the planting of the trees and shrubs and the application of the fabric, the producer will be responsible for the necessary upkeep and maintenance of the planting. This includes replacing dead or missing stock and ensuring the fabric does not injure the young seedlings. Missing stock will be replaced to maintain a minimum of 85% survival with no gaps of two or more trees. Any and all noxious weeds will be controlled.
- 3) Bennett County Conservation District (BCCD) and Badlands Conservation District (BCD) – the BCCD personnel will be responsible for the grant. The District Manager has over 40 years of experience with designing and writing tree plantings plans and will act as project coordinator. All planting plans will be forwarded to the Division of Resource Conservation and Forestry Forester for approval. The plantings will be checked out by District personnel. The District will also oversee making the reimbursements to the producers, preparing and sending out the necessary reports to the proper agencies, making sure the grant stays on schedule, and keeping records of the grant from start to finish that will be on file in the district office. A joint powers agreement is currently in place between the Bennett and Badlands Conservation Districts and is effective for the duration of this grant period.

G. Identify How You Will Measure the Success of the Project:

The Bennett County and Badlands Conservation Districts will measure the success of the project by the planting of 6 acres of windbreaks to benefit the resources of the Counties. These will be plantings that otherwise would not have been planted since they would not qualify for any other type of available cost-share assistance. The success will also be measured by listening to the feedback from the producers and by comparing the estimated numbers of acres of plantings to the final numbers at the end of the grant.



**BENNETT COUNTY
CONSERVATION DISTRICT
706 W. BENNETT AVE; SUITE 2
MARTIN, SD 57551
(605)685-1243**

MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Bennett County Conservation District was held Tuesday, September 9, 2025, in the conference room of the Martin Ag Service Center. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Bolzer. Motion made by Good to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Rayhill, motion carried. The minutes of the August 12, 2025, meeting were read. Motion made by Rayhill to approve the minutes with the correction to the September meeting date. Seconded by Novotny, motion carried.

SUPERVISORS PRESENT: Rayhill, Bolzer, Good, Claussen, Novotny

SUPERVISORS ABSENT: --

DISTRICT ADVISORS PRESENT: --

OTHERS PRESENT: Beck, District

TREASURERS REPORT

Checking Account.....\$ 31,595.72

INCOME

Total.....\$ 400.00

EXPENSES

American Legion Post 240 Baseball.....	\$ 200.00	donation
Golden West.....	\$ 22.46	phone bill
Martin Auto Parts.....	\$ 32.13	JD hydraulic hose
Louis Novotny.....	\$ 50.00	greasing drill
Patricia Beck.....	\$ 1,082.52	August wages
Total	\$ 1,357.11	

Motion made by Claussen to pay the bills. Seconded by Rayhill, motion carried.

BUSINESS

The written USDA-NRCS report was reviewed by the Board.

Public Comment – No public comments

Status of District Drills: The acre meter on the John Deere drill was discussed. One of the numbers is not readable. Motion made by Rayhill to pay Louis Novotny and Chevy Novotny to grease the drills on an as needed basis. Seconded by Bolzer, motion carried.

Status of District's 2025 Tree Planting Grant – Final report and letter cancelling the grant was sent to the State Conservation Commission.

The 2026 Tree Planting grant application was reviewed. Motion made by Rayhill to approve the application and submit it. Seconded by Novotny, motion carried. We are requesting \$11,914.00, with a partner/CD match of \$14,189.00, to plant approximately 6 acres of trees and shrubs.

The District's safe deposit box was discussed. Motion made by Rayhill to remove Earl Simmons from the signature card for the safe deposit box and add Gloria Claussen at Security First Bank. Seconded by Good, motion carried.

Tree Gift Certificates – Mary Jo Fairhead purchased both of the tree certificates for \$25 each.

The 2025 SDACD Convention will be held September 21-23, 2025, at the Huron Event Center in Huron, SD

The next State Conservation Commission meeting will be held Sept. 22, 2025, at the Huron Event Convention Center in Huron and via teleconference.

SD Conservation Districts Challenge – In recognition of America's 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, SD's conservation districts have taken on the challenge of recognizing, by July 4, 2026, 250 farm/ranch families through the Natural Resources Conservation Award Program. Decision to discuss further at the next meeting.

The Board reviewed the NACD update on recent Congressional and Executive actions.

Dakota Lakes Research Farm's Field Day will be held Wednesday, Sept. 10, 2025, near Hoven, SD. The event will start at 9 a.m. No registration is necessary.

The Fall River Conservation District will be hosting a Soil Health workshop, Oct. 3, 2025, at the Oelrichs Community Center, in Oelrichs, SD. The workshop will begin at 8:30 a.m.

The next meeting date was set as Wednesday, October 8, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. in the conference room of the Martin Ag Service Center.

There being no further business, motion made by Novotny to adjourn. Seconded by Rayhill, the meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by: Patty Beck, District Manager

State Conservation Commission

November 2025

Conservation District

Brule-Buffalo

Project Name:

Brush Management

Start Date

01/01/2026

End Date

06/30/2027

Total Project Amount:

\$ 36,500.00

Commisson Funds:

\$ 18,250.00

District Funds:

Landowner Cash:

\$ 18,250.00

Local In-kind:

Other Funds:

Other funds:

Cash

In-kind

Total:

\$ -

\$ -

RC&F:

DANR:

GF&P:

USFWS:

NRCS:

OTHER:

Description of Grant Application:

Invasive plants have become a major problem for most of the landowners along the Missouri River in Brule, Buffalo and Lyman Counties. The CD would eradicate the invasive plant species (cedars) and resorte grasslands. Upon returning to many of these sites to check for grass establishment, we found that there is good grass regrowth. Landowners in these counties will benefit.

If selected for funding, RC&F suggests that:

- The Conservation Commission will not reimburse any costs that exceed the 2025 Conservation Commission Cost-share Docket. Please note other restrictions as listed there.
- All tree and shrub planting plans be reviewed and approved by one of the SDDANR RCF foresters prior to planting.
- Stand alone farmstead/homestead windbreaks do not qualify for cost-share from the Commission.
- District must secure a landowner application to determine eligibility for cost-share funds, copy to be provided with reimbursement request.
- District must provide the landowner with notification letter indicating whether or not they have been approved for cost-share, copy to be provided with reimbursement request.
- Project reimbursement will be based on actual bill/receipts submitted for completed work. Cost-share will be based on legitimate costs up to the specified maximum.
- The district provide a copy of the Joint Powers Agreement with all the conservation districts involved.
- The district provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant.
- Final report must be submitted before final reimbursement will be processed. This report must be submitted no more than 30 days after the end of the grant.

DANR:

GF&P:

Other current grants:

Multi-County Brush MGMT

2024-CSW-021 07/01/2024

12/31/2025

\$ 18,250.00

\$5,275.00

Renovation and Tree Planting

2025-CSW-004 01/01/2025

06/30/2026

\$ 25,200.00

\$ 915.74

Approved:

Denied:

Reason for denial:



SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY DIVISION

523 East Capitol Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501
Phone: 605.773.3623
danr.sd.gov

GRANT APPLICATION FORM

Applicant Information

Organization: Brule-Buffalo Conservation District Mailing Address: 200 Paul Gust Rd Ste 111
Telephone: 6052546099 City: CHAMBERLAIN State: SD Zip: 57325
Tax Status: Government

Project Contact

Project Officer: Zach Zimprich Telephone: 6052546099
Fax: _____ Email: brulebuffalo@midstatesd.net

Project Information

Project Name: Brush Management
Start Date: 01/01/2026 End Date: 06/30/2027
Legal description: County: Brule, Buffalo, Lyman
Township: _____ Range: _____
Section: _____ Qtr: _____

Type of Grant

- ☒ Conservation Grant ☐ Community Forestry
☐ Insect/Disease ☐ Invasive Species
☐ Forest Stewardship ☐ Mountain Pine Beetle
☐ Other (specify): _____

Financial Information

Grant funds requested: \$18,250 Partner contributions (total): \$18,250 Total project cost: \$36,500.00
Please provide a brief, descriptive summary of the project:

Invasive plants have become a major problem for most of the landowners along the Missouri River in Brule, Buffalo, and Lyman counties. Brule-Buffalo Conservation District would eradicate the invasive plant species (cedars being of primary concern) and restore grasslands. Upon returning to many of these sites to check for grass establishment, we found that there is excellent grass re-growth. Landowners in the named counties will be able to increase their livestock numbers and acquire more acres in their grazing systems.

This grant will assist landowners to remove invasive species so they can control any smaller invasives that might establish in the future.

I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief, this application is true and correct. I further agree to comply with the provisions of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and regulations issued thereunder relating to nondiscrimination in federally assisted programs.

Applicant Signature Zach Zimprich Title District Manager Date 09/10/2025
Zach Zimprich (Sep 10, 2025 14:57:09 CDT)

A copy of the state required [W-9 form](#) must be attached to this application.

OFFICE USE ONLY

Signature of Reviewer _____ Title _____ Date _____
Signature of Approval _____ Title _____ Date _____

BUDGET SHEET

The total for each of these three sections should equal the "Total Project Cost" on page 1.

A. Operating Budget

1. Salary/Benefits	_____
2. Travel	_____
3. Contractual Services	<u>\$36,500</u>
4. Supplies	_____
5. Equipment (list major equipment)	_____
6. Consultation Services	_____

Total Project Costs \$36,500.00 This total must equal \$36,500.00

B. Activity Budget

Activity	Grant Funds	Local Funds	Local In-Kind	Other Funds	Total
1. <u>Brush Management</u>	<u>\$18,250</u>	<u>\$18,250</u>	_____	_____	<u>\$36,500.00</u>
2. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	<u>\$0.00</u>
3. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	<u>\$0.00</u>
4. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	<u>\$0.00</u>
5. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	<u>\$0.00</u>
6. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	<u>\$0.00</u>
7. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	<u>\$0.00</u>
8. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	<u>\$0.00</u>
Totals	<u>\$18,250.00</u>	<u>\$18,250.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$36,500.00</u>

This total must equal \$36,500.00

C. Project Partners

Partners	Amount Cash	Amount In-Kind	Total
1. <u>RC&F</u>	<u>\$18,250</u>	_____	<u>\$18,250.00</u>
2. <u>Landowners</u>	<u>\$18,250</u>	_____	<u>\$18,250.00</u>
3. _____	_____	_____	<u>\$0.00</u>
4. _____	_____	_____	<u>\$0.00</u>
5. _____	_____	_____	<u>\$0.00</u>
6. _____	_____	_____	<u>\$0.00</u>
7. _____	_____	_____	<u>\$0.00</u>
8. _____	_____	_____	<u>\$0.00</u>
Totals	<u>\$36,500.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$36,500.00</u>

This total must equal \$36,500.00

Please send application and attachments to the South Dakota Department of Agriculture & Natural Resources.

D. Project Description and Need

The primary beneficiaries will be the landowners on which property the brush management will take place. However, the project goals are to restore and improve grasslands that have been invaded by unwanted plant species (cedars being the primary species), improve soil health by increasing water infiltration into the soil profile and reducing soil erosion, and improve habitat for wildlife. The goals of the project will take place within the Brule-Buffalo, and American Creek Conservation Districts. Joint Powers agreement in place for this practice with stated Conservation Districts.

The Brule-Buffalo Conservation District and Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) will jointly implement the project. NRCS will develop Wildlife Habitat Appraisal Guide (WHAG), Prescribe Grazing Plan, and assist in what is the most beneficial area for removal of invasive species for each grazing unit. The prescribed grazing plan will state the rotation and deferred (rest) if needed for the grasslands.

Individual project locations will be located throughout the Brule-Buffalo and American Creek Conservation Districts.

With traditional livestock production remaining a primary landuse throughout the project area, our grassland restoration brush management project has been beneficial for Brule-Buffalo and American Creek landowners. We have removed invasive plant species from cedars to suckering shrubs. With the increase in invasive species removal, Brule-Buffalo CD has purchased a saw which makes more bang for your buck.

With the landowners that we have completed work for, we feel that we could double the amount of restored grasslands with some financial assistance. Landowner would be limited to 30 hours in which 15 hours are cost-sharable.

The area in which we would be covering has large amounts of native grasslands. These grasslands are not only for livestock but wildlife habitat. By controlling the invasive plant species, we will open more grasslands for grazing and wildlife food and cover.

E. Final Products

The project funding will allow a minimum of 15 landowners to develop more area for grazing and wildlife habitat.

F. Justification

Invasive plants have become a problem for most of the landowners in the project area. Brule-Buffalo would eradicate the invasive plant species (cedars being primary species) and restore grasslands. Upon returning to many of the sites to check for grass establishment in the litter area from the grinding process and found that there is excellent grass re-growth in these areas.

G. Identify how you will measure the success of the project

The success will be measured by the restoration of grassland acres in the project area for landowner's livestock herds and wildlife habitat.

Brule Buffalo Conservation District August board meeting

September 24, Charly's 7:00 PM

Members present, Larry Wagner, Ryan Urban, Ethan Adamson, James Lindley, Lee Ness, Tate Glaus, Abbey Randall, Jack Friedel, Lindsey Buntrock (NRCS), Zach Zimprich (BBCD employee)

Larry called meeting to order at 6:59 pm.

Ryan made a motion to approve the agenda, Abbey seconded the motion

Lee made a motion to approve June minutes, Ryan seconded the motion

Lee read the treasures report, Lee motioned to approve treasurer's report, Abbey seconded the motion.

Ryan made a motion to approve the accounts payable at \$40,304.43, Lee seconded the motion

The Board voted to pursue a collection agency to collect the outstanding balance held by Wesley Wulff. Lee made a motion and Ryan seconded the motion.

Lindsey Buntrock gave a printed NRCS report. The report highlighted one more EQIP that was obligated to the FY25 general fund pool. Continuous CRP offers can still be submitted, but no word on whether they will accept another batch because of the fiscal year rollover. Lindsey informed the Board that Kendal Hettick was hired as the PF prescribed fire biologist and will still be stationed out of the Chamberlain office. The hiring freeze is still in effect but is scheduled to expire on October 15th. Lindsey presented the Board with a number of CRP contracts for the Board to review and sign.

Abbey made a motion to approve and sign the CRP and EQIP contracts and Tate seconded the motion.

Zach Zimprich presented the district manager's report. He reported that Heath is currently finishing up a large cedar removal project. They are in the full swing of cedar removal currently and have lots of work lined up between grant projects and EQIP projects. The delivery date for the new track loader is set for Oct. 22. Zach informed the Board that presently has 40,000 ft trees lined up to plant in the spring under the Conservation Commission Grant. He also has several producers interested in doing shelterbelt renovation projects next year. Zach stated that both the brush management grant and the shelterbelt/tree planting grant will either expire or be exhausted of funds shortly, so he is reapplying for both grants in the fall grant round.

Tate made the motion and Abbey seconded the motion for the acceptance of both the brush management and shelterbelt/tree planting projects and grant applications.

Larry reported that he attended the SDACD convention and that his main takeaway was the IRA money will now be less and spread out over a longer time period. He also informed the Board of the passing of Ron Hendricks.

Ryan made a motion and Tate seconded the motion to donate \$250 to the Grassland Coalition in remembrance of Ron.

No public comment

No executive session

Meeting was adjourned at 7:25 PM by Larry

Recorded by Zach Zimprich

State Conservation Commission

November 2025

Conservation District

Brule-Buffero

Project Name:

Renovation & Tree Planting

Start Date

01/01/2026

End Date

06/30/2027

Total Project Amount:

\$ 103,200.00

Commisson Funds:

\$ 50,000.00

District Funds:

Landowner Cash:

\$ 53,200.00

Local In-kind:

Other Funds:

Other funds:

Cash

In-kind

Total:

\$ -

\$ -

RC&F:

DANR:

GF&P:

USFWS:

NRCS:

OTHER:

Description of Grant Application:

Brule-Buffero Conservation District is working with area producers to re-establish deteriorating shelterbelts on order to protect soils from wind and water erosion while also improving winter protection for livestock and wildlife. Technical assistance will be provided to the landowners by BBCD, NRCS, and the area forester. BBCD will be the administer of this project.

If selected for funding, RC&F suggests that:

- The Conservation Commission will not reimburse any costs that exceed the 2025 Conservation Commission Cost-share Docket. Please note other restrictions as listed there.
- All tree and shrub planting plans be reviewed and approved by one of the SDDANR RCF foresters prior to planting.
- Stand alone farmstead/homestead windbreaks do not qualify for cost-share from the Commission.
- District must secure a landowner application to determine eligibility for cost-share funds, copy to be provided with reimbursement request.
- District must provide the landowner with notification letter indicating whether or not they have been approved for cost-share, copy to be provided with reimbursement request.
- Project reimbursement will be based on actual bill/receipts submitted for completed work. Cost-share will be based on legitimate costs up to the specified maximum.
- The district provide a copy of the Joint Powers Agreement with all the conservation districts involved.
- The district provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant.
- Final report must be submitted before final reimbursement will be processed. This report must be submitted no more than 30 days after the end of the grant.

DANR:

GF&P:

	Project	Start date	End Date	Original Award	Balance	Extensions
Other current grants:						
Multi-County Brush MGMT	2024-CSW-021	07/01/2024	12/31/2025	\$ 18,250.00	\$ 5,275.00	
Renovation and Tree Planting	2025-CSW-004	01/01/2025	06/30/2026	\$ 25,200.00	\$ 915.74	
Approved:			Denied:			

Reason for denial:



SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY DIVISION

523 East Capitol Avenue

Pierre, SD 57501

Phone: 605.773.3623

danr.sd.gov

GRANT APPLICATION FORM

Applicant Information

Organization: Brule-Buffalo Conservation District Mailing Address: 200 Paul Gust Rd Ste 111
Telephone: 6052546099 City: CHAMBERLAIN State: SD Zip: 57325
Tax Status: Government

Project Contact

Project Officer: Zach Zimprich Telephone: 6052546099
Fax: _____ Email: brulebuffalo@midstatesd.net

Project Information

Project Name: Renovation and Tree Planting
Start Date: 01/01/2026 End Date: 06/30/2027
Legal description: County: Brule, Buffalo, Lyman
Township: _____ Range: _____
Section: _____ Qtr: _____

Type of Grant

- ☒ Conservation Grant ☐ Community Forestry
☐ Insect/Disease ☐ Invasive Species
☐ Forest Stewardship ☐ Mountain Pine Beetle
☐ Other (specify): _____

Financial Information

Grant funds requested: \$50,000 Partner contributions (total): \$53,200 Total project cost: \$103,200.00
Please provide a brief, descriptive summary of the project:

Brule-Buffalo Conservation District is working with area producers to re-establish deteriorating shelterbelts in order to protect soils from wind and water erosion while also improving winter protection for livestock and wildlife. Technical assistance will be provided to the landowner by BBCD, NRCS, and the area forester. BBCD will be the administer of this project.

I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief, this application is true and correct. I further agree to comply with the provisions of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and regulations issued thereunder relating to nondiscrimination in federally assisted programs.

Applicant Signature Zach Zimprich Title District Manager Date 09/09/2025
Zach Zimprich (Sep 9, 2025 15:22:58 CDT)

A copy of the state required [W-9 form](#) must be attached to this application.

OFFICE USE ONLY

Signature of Reviewer _____ Title _____ Date _____
Signature of Approval _____ Title _____ Date _____

BUDGET SHEET

The total for each of these three sections should equal the "Total Project Cost" on page 1.

A. Operating Budget

1. Salary/Benefits	_____
2. Travel	_____
3. Contractual Services	<u>\$103,200</u>
4. Supplies	_____
5. Equipment (list major equipment)	_____
6. Consultation Services	_____

Total Project Costs \$103,200.00 This total must equal \$103,200.00

B. Activity Budget

Activity	Grant Funds	Local Funds	Local In-Kind	Other Funds	Total
1. Renovation	\$6,400	\$9,600	_____	_____	\$16,000.00
2. Woody Habitat	\$15,260	\$15,260	_____	_____	\$30,520.00
3. Fabric	\$28,340	\$28,340	_____	_____	\$30,520.00
4. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	\$56,680.00
5. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	\$0.00
6. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	\$0.00
7. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	\$0.00
8. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	\$0.00
Totals	<u>\$50,000.00</u>	<u>\$53,200.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$103,200.00</u>

This total must equal \$103,200.00

C. Project Partners

Partners	Amount Cash	Amount In-Kind	Total
1. RC&F	\$50,000	_____	\$50,000.00
2. Landowners	\$53,200	_____	\$53,200.00
3. _____	_____	_____	\$0.00
4. _____	_____	_____	\$0.00
5. _____	_____	_____	\$0.00
6. _____	_____	_____	\$0.00
7. _____	_____	_____	\$0.00
8. _____	_____	_____	\$0.00
Totals	<u>\$103,200.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$103,200.00</u>

This total must equal \$103,200.00

Please send application and attachments to the South Dakota Department of Agriculture & Natural Resources.

Brule-Buffalo Conservation District Renovation and Tree Planting Project:

This proposed Multi-Purpose Shelterbelt project will complete 66,00 feet of shelterbelt planting that will benefit the natural resource management for 20 producers/landowners and benefit the economy of Lyman, Brule and Buffalo Counties. These benefits include improvement of surface water quality, erosion control on cropland, livestock protection to support proper grassland management, and wildlife habitat creation. Shelterbelt plantings supported by this projects cost-share will be for plantings that serve critical farm natural resource management needs.

The Brule-Buffalo Conservation District will be responsible for all phases of project: implementation, follow-up, and administration. Shelterbelt plantings will be designed by existing technical assistance providers to include Brule-Buffalo and American Creek Conservation District. All shelterbelt designs will be reviewed and approved by the SD Dept of Ag Area Forester prior to the District's approval of practice. Shelterbelt planning and maintenance requirements will be based of the NRCS Tech Guide for tree plantings. Landowners receiving financial assistance will be monitored and BBCD will identify maintenance requirements. BBCD will be responsible for completing annual follow-up shelterbelts planted under this project, by spot checking each site planted.

Many Landowners, farmer, and rancher in Lyman, Brule and Buffalo Counties do not qualify for financial assistance for shelterbelt plantings from federal and state cost-share programs, because their needed shelterbelts are:

- 1 Shelter belt Renovation for deteriorated shelterbelts is included in the project
- 2 Located on cropland (not eligible for cropland)
- 3 Their planned shelterbelt has natural resource benefits such as erosion control, wildlife habitat, and water quality improvement; however, it does not meet the size, location, requirements or ranking needed for cost-share.

This proposed project is a demand for shelterbelts and assistance for landowner/producers. We have a list of producers that are seeking these practices at this time. Producers/landowners who participate in the proposed project will be required to prepare their sites before tree planting and seek approval for cost-share prior to site preparation. This needed lead time for site preparation is the reason this project is proposed for 1 ½ years.

The shelterbelts to be planted are needed to conserve the counties natural resources as they are an important conservation practice used by landowners/producers to:

- 1 Protect and/or improve the waters to provide needed water quality and quantity, Shelterbelt plantings support clean water for people, fish, and wildlife by filtering out and/or absorbing sediment, nutrients, and chemical or bacterial contaminants.
- 2 protect or improve soil productivity and quality. Shelterbelts protect soils from wind and water erosion.
- 3 Improve wildlife habitat for game and non-game species. Shelterbelts are significant area for resident as well as migratory bird for food, nesting and cover, and provide important habitat for game species – such as deer and upland game birds.

4 Improve qualities of old shelterbelts by renovation with planting trees where they have died out.

The shelterbelts to be planted under this proposed project are also very significant from an economic and social aspect to Lyman, Brule and Buffalo Counties, as they are important to the overall economic success of the counties crop and livestock producers. The sustainability of livestock producers and the grasslands they manage are significantly impacted by the use of shelterbelts to reduce feed costs and calf death losses improved overall herd health and implement planned grazing systems on grasslands. Shelterbelts also provided landowners/producers economic opportunities through diversification of their operations for recreation uses (aesthetics and wildlife habitat) and through reduced energy use and increased land values.

Project Goal: The project's goal is to provide technical and financial assistance to landowners in Brule and Buffalo Counties to plant 20 acres of shelterbelts on private land. Completion of this project will improve the counties natural resources and the sustainability of farm and ranch operations.

Project Objective: Reduce erosion, improve water quality, increase wildlife habitat, and increase the profitability of farm and ranch operations in Brule and Buffalo Counties by providing technical and financial assistance of at least 15 producers/landowners. This would establish 20 acres of new shelterbelts by June 30, 2024. Cost-share will be provided thru the Coordinated Natural Resources Conservation Grant and other costs will be provided as cash or in-kind by the landowner, Brule-Buffalo Conservation District, and/or state or federal providers, which include: site preparation, producer labor and equipment, site design, replacement trees for death loss, follow-up, and fencing as needed. Shelterbelts where assistance is provided will include field windbreaks, livestock windbreaks, wildlife windbreaks, riparian area plantings, and farmstead/livestock windbreaks. BBCD will set natural resource priorities and policy for this proposed project to assist in shelterbelt establishment. The District will make final decision on shelterbelts based on the resource priorities.

The completion of this project's goals and objective will provide the following products:

- Reduce sediment, nutrient, and bacterial pollution within drainage ways, streams, and shorelines
- Reduced wind or water erosion
- New and improved wildlife habitat
- Grassland and livestock management benefits to landowners
- Shelterbelt Renovation

The Brule-Buffalo Conservation District will be the lead project sponsor, and provide project management, and shelterbelt design and maintenance.

The Landowners will provide in-kind and cash matching for this project.

The Grant will provide cost-share on practices.

Other agencies: NRCS, State Forester will provide technical assistance

Success will be measured by:

- Natural resource benefits such as bodies of water with improved water quality
- Natural resource benefits by acres of cropland, grassland, and wildlife habitat
- Landowners by the acres of shelterbelts planted

Brule Buffalo Conservation District August board meeting

September 24, Charly's 7:00 PM

Members present, Larry Wagner, Ryan Urban, Ethan Adamson, James Lindley, Lee Ness, Tate Glaus, Abbey Randall, Jack Friedel, Lindsey Buntrock (NRCS), Zach Zimprich (BBCD employee)

Larry called meeting to order at 6:59 pm.

Ryan made a motion to approve the agenda, Abbey seconded the motion

Lee made a motion to approve June minutes, Ryan seconded the motion

Lee read the treasures report, Lee motioned to approve treasurer's report, Abbey seconded the motion.

Ryan made a motion to approve the accounts payable at \$40,304.43, Lee seconded the motion

The Board voted to pursue a collection agency to collect the outstanding balance held by Wesley Wulff. Lee made a motion and Ryan seconded the motion.

Lindsey Buntrock gave a printed NRCS report. The report highlighted one more EQIP that was obligated to the FY25 general fund pool. Continuous CRP offers can still be submitted, but no word on whether they will accept another batch because of the fiscal year rollover. Lindsey informed the Board that Kendal Hettick was hired as the PF prescribed fire biologist and will still be stationed out of the Chamberlain office. The hiring freeze is still in effect but is scheduled to expire on October 15th. Lindsey presented the Board with a number of CRP contracts for the Board to review and sign.

Abbey made a motion to approve and sign the CRP and EQIP contracts and Tate seconded the motion.

Zach Zimprich presented the district manager's report. He reported that Heath is currently finishing up a large cedar removal project. They are in the full swing of cedar removal currently and have lots of work lined up between grant projects and EQIP projects. The delivery date for the new track loader is set for Oct. 22. Zach informed the Board that presently has 40,000 ft trees lined up to plant in the spring under the Conservation Commission Grant. He also has several producers interested in doing shelterbelt renovation projects next year. Zach stated that both the brush management grant and the shelterbelt/tree planting grant will either expire or be exhausted of funds shortly, so he is reapplying for both grants in the fall grant round.

Tate made the motion and Abbey seconded the motion for the acceptance of both the brush management and shelterbelt/tree planting projects and grant applications.

Larry reported that he attended the SDACD convention and that his main takeaway was the IRA money will now be less and spread out over a longer time period. He also informed the Board of the passing of Ron Hendricks.

Ryan made a motion and Tate seconded the motion to donate \$250 to the Grassland Coalition in remembrance of Ron.

No public comment

No executive session

Meeting was adjourned at 7:25 PM by Larry

Recorded by Zach Zimprich

State Conservation Commission

November 2025

Conservation District

Butte

Project Name:

Multi-County Ditch to Pipe Conversion

Start Date

01/01/2026

End Date

12/31/2026

Total Project Amount:

\$ 60,000.00

Commisson Funds:

\$ 30,000.00

District Funds:

Landowner Cash:

\$ 30,000.00

Local In-kind:

Other Funds:

Other funds:

Cash

In-kind

Total:

\$ - \$ -

RC&F:

DANR:

GF&P:

USFWS:

NRCS:

OTHER:

Description of Grant Application:

This grant request is intended to continue a cost share program on conservation of on farm irrigation to ditches in Butte, Lawrence and Meade Counties. This practice promotes water savings and soil conservation by: 1. Reducing water loss through seepage and evaporation 2. Reducing waste water at end of fields 3. reducing erosion on croplands 4. reducing suspended solid load in the Belle Fourche River. Serve 4 farmers on 100 acres.

If selected for funding, RC&F suggests that:

- The district provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant.
- Project reimbursement will be based on actual bill/receipts submitted for completed work. Cost-share will be based on legitimate costs up to the specified maximum.

DANR:

GF&P:

Other current grants:

	Project	Start date	End Date	Original Award	Balance	Extensions
Multi-County Ditch & Pipe	2025-CSW-005			\$ 30,000.00	\$ 30,000.00	

Approved:

Denied:

Reason for denial:



SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY DIVISION

523 East Capitol Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501
Phone: 605.773.3623
danr.sd.gov

GRANT APPLICATION FORM

Applicant Information

Organization: Butte Conservation District Mailing Address: 1837 5th Ave
Telephone: (605) 892-3368 City: Belle Fourche State: SD Zip: 57717
Tax Status: _____

Project Contact

Project Officer: Tim Reich Telephone: (605) 892-3368
Fax: _____ Email: timreich@rushmore.com

Project Information

Project Name: Multi-County Ditch to Pipe Conversion Projects
Start Date: 01/01/2026 End Date: 12/31/2026
Legal description: County: Butte Lawrence Meade
Township: _____ Range: _____
Section: _____ Qtr: _____

Type of Grant

- ☒ Conservation Grant ☐ Community Forestry
☐ Insect/Disease ☐ Invasive Species
☐ Forest Stewardship ☐ Mountain Pine Beetle
☐ Other (specify): _____

Financial Information

Grant funds requested: \$ 30,000.00 Partner contributions (total): \$ 30,000.00 Total project cost: \$60,000.00
Please provide a brief, descriptive summary of the project:

This grant request is intended to continue a cost share program on conservation of on farm irrigation ditches in Butte, Lawrence, and Meade Counties. This practice promotes water savings and soil conservation by:

1. Reducing water loss through seepage and evaporation
2. Reducing waste water at end of fields
3. Reducing erosion on croplands
4. Reducing suspended solid load in the Belle Fourche River

It is estimated this project would service approximately 4 farmers converting approximately 2,000 to 4,000 feet of open ditch to buried pipe on 100 acres. Water savings is estimated at 30 acre-feet per year. Socio-economic benefits will be recognized from both the agriculture community and general public by increasing livestock feed and forage production, reducing erosion, and increasing clean water for agriculture and recreational use.

I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief, this application is true and correct. I further agree to comply with the provisions of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and regulations issued thereunder relating to nondiscrimination in federally assisted programs.

Applicant Signature [Signature] Title Chairman Date 09/29/2025

A copy of the state required W-9 form must be attached to this application.

OFFICE USE ONLY

Signature of Reviewer _____ Title _____ Date _____
Signature of Approval _____ Title _____ Date _____

BUDGET SHEET

The total for each of these three sections should equal the "Total Project Cost" on page 1.

A. Operating Budget

1. Salary/Benefits _____
2. Travel _____
3. Contractual Services _____
4. Supplies _____
5. Equipment (list major equipment) _____
6. Consultation Services _____

Total Project Costs _____ This total must equal \$60,000.00

B. Activity Budget

Activity	Grant Funds	Local Funds	Local In-Kind	Other Funds	Total
1. Pipeline Installations	30,000.00	30,000.00	_____	_____	\$60,000.00
2. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
5. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
6. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
7. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
8. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Totals	30,000.00	30,000.00	_____	_____	\$60,000.00
This total must equal					\$60,000.00

C. Project Partners

Partners	Amount Cash	Amount In-Kind	Total
1. RC&F Conservation	30,000.00	_____	\$30,000.00
2. Producer's Match	30,000.00	_____	\$30,000.00
3. _____	_____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____	_____
5. _____	_____	_____	_____
6. _____	_____	_____	_____
7. _____	_____	_____	_____
8. _____	_____	_____	_____
Totals	60,000.00	_____	\$60,000.00
This total must equal			\$60,000.00

Please send application and attachments to the South Dakota Department of Agriculture & Natural Resources.

MULTI-COUNTY DITCH TO PIPE CONVERSION PROJECTS PROJECT SUMMARY

PROJECT PARTNERS

This grant request would provide cost share to agricultural producers for conversion of on-farm irrigation ditches to buried pipe within the Butte, Lawrence, and Elk Creek Conservation Districts. The Districts have been active in promoting on-farm irrigation practices that increase water efficiency, reduce field erosion, and improve soil health. The Butte, Lawrence, and Elk Creek Conservation Districts, Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), and the Belle Fourche River Watershed Partnership (BFRWP) are partnering for this project, and all agree that conversion from open ditch to buried pipe is an important conservation practice. The grant project would be for one year from January 1, 2026, and end December 31, 2026. This project will result in water and soil savings that achieves agricultural, social, economic, and recreational benefits for farmers, ranchers, residents, and the public who value the Redwater River, Spearfish Creek, Bear Butte Creek, Belle Fourche Reservoir, and the Belle Fourche River.

This proposed project helps to achieve the SDDANR's Goal 1 – Fifty percent of South Dakota waters will meet their beneficial uses and SDDANR's Goal 2 – South Dakota waters will provide sufficient quantities of quality water as outlined in the South Dakota Coordinated Plan for Natural Resources Conservation. Specifically, the proposed project helps to address Objective 1.6 – Reduce sediment delivery to waterbodies by 70,000 tons/year and Objective 2.6 – Convert 3,600 acres of flood irrigated lands to 60 pivot systems to increase irrigation efficiency from 40 percent to 95 percent, thus saving volumes of water for other beneficial uses.

Implementation of this project will be a cooperative effort involving Butte, Lawrence, and Elk Creek Conservation Districts, NRCS, Belle Fourche Irrigation District (BFID), and the BFRWP. The NRCS and BFRWP staff will work with the interested producers and facilitate the project planning. This technical assistance includes project planning, engineering design, obtaining permits, developing contracts and O&M requirements, inspecting practices, and preparing payment applications. If necessary, the BFID assists producers, NRCS, and BFRWP with project clearance approvals from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR). The Butte CD will oversee the project, administer the grant and coordinate with Lawrence CD and Elk Creek CD regularly. These entities have a long history of successfully running conservation programs in the area. This project will serve 4 irrigators within Butte, Lawrence, and Meade counties. This practice promotes water savings and soil conservation by:

- Reducing water lost through seepage and evaporation
- Reducing runoff water at end of fields
- Reduce erosion on croplands
- Reduce suspended solid load in the Belle Fourche River

Funding has been provided to the Butte CD by the South Dakota Conservation Commission from 2017 until December 2025. Limited funding is available from the SDDANR Nonpoint Source Section 319, NRCS EQIP conservation programs. Butte CD administered these grant projects from 2017 until 2025 to replace open ditches with buried pipe and converted about 24,000 feet of open ditch to buried pipe benefiting approximately 50 agricultural producers.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND NEED

The primary beneficiaries of this project will be the agricultural community and the general public in Butte, Lawrence, and Meade counties. The agricultural community will benefit from increased water efficiencies and decreased soil erosion at the field level. The general public will benefit from this practice in two ways. The Belle Fourche Reservoir is a major recreation area for western South Dakota. Any increase in water efficiency within the Belle Fourche Irrigation District (BFID), along with irrigators and irrigation ditch companies along the Redwater River and Spearfish Creek directly correlates with increased water levels in the Belle Fourche Reservoir. Also, water savings in Ninemile Creek and Bear Butte Creek improve water flows downstream in the Belle Fourche River. Reduced erosion would result in cleaner rivers and creeks.

On-farm irrigation ditches are an inefficient method of delivering water to crop fields. Much water is lost through seepage and evaporation causing more water to be delivered than is used by the crop. Seepage areas also waterlog soils and inhibit crop growth. These ditches can create excess erosion and sediment transport that ends up in the Redwater River, Spearfish Creek, Bear Butte Creek, Belle Fourche Reservoir, and the Belle Fourche River. Conversion to buried pipe alleviates much of this problem. The open ditches are replaced by buried pipes that have above ground risers that can be used to deliver the water to the crop. An increase in on-farm water efficiencies results in water savings that benefits farmers, ranchers, and the public because crops grown in these counties are used as feed and forage regionally by livestock producers.

Past conservation practice implementation has included conversion from flood to sprinkler irrigation, irrigation scheduling, land leveling, and conversion from ditch to buried pipe. With the increased demand for conversion from flood irrigation to sprinklers, limited funding is available for conversion from ditch to buried pipe. The BFRWP and NRCS received more than 50 flood to sprinkler project applications for SDDANR Section 319 and NRCS EQIP and RCPP funding. In addition to the SDDANR RC&F and Section 319 funding, and the NRCS EQIP and RCPP funding, the BFID has obtained USBR funding for larger irrigation lateral pipeline projects, however; the USBR funding available to individual irrigators for on-farm projects is extremely limited. Currently, we have a backlog of about 2 irrigators with a potential of 2,000 feet of ditches that could be converted to buried pipelines.

This project is part of a greater conservation effort in the local area. The Districts, NRCS, BFRWP, and BFID have been involved in water efficiency and sediment reduction programs for several years. It is estimated that these efforts have conserved over 23,000 acre-feet per year over the past 18 years. This practice would continue to serve the needs of farmers that do not have the

opportunity to utilize some of the other practices available to them. Some fields are not shaped appropriately for conversion to sprinklers. This practice addresses water efficiency issues on those irrigated acres that cannot be irrigated with sprinkler irrigation.

NRCS has a long track record of running conservation programs nationwide. Their involvement helps ensure long term management and success of the project. The BFRWP is a local nonprofit group addressing resource concerns along the Belle Fourche River. BFRWP has been involved in the watershed and has assisted in administering over \$30 million in conservation program efforts.

The proposed cost share rate for the Multi-County Ditch to Pipe Conversion Project provides a cost share of \$11.19/ft on 8-inch pipe, \$17.39/ft on 10-inch pipe, and \$25.67/ft on 12-inch pipe not to exceed 50% of the total cost.

FINAL PRODUCTS

This project would serve at least 4 irrigators converting an estimated 2,000 feet of ditch into buried pipe on approximately 100 irrigated acres. Water savings are estimated at 30 acre-feet per year. Socio-economic benefits to the community and the general public include increased feed and forage, reduced erosion, and improved water quality for agriculture and recreation.

PARTNER JUSTIFICATION

NRCS, BFRWP, BFID, and Butte, Lawrence, and Elk Creek Conservation Districts have a long record of successful projects involving conservation efforts. These groups have been working together for the past 18 years and have successfully implemented over \$31 million dollars in conservation efforts. Funding sources for these practices have come from state and federal agencies along with the agricultural producers involved in the projects. The collaborative effort of these three groups will greatly enhance the chances for a successful project outcome.

MEASURE OF SUCCESS

The measure of success will be implementing this practice on approximately 100 acres in Butte, Lawrence, and Meade counties creating water savings of approximately 30 acre-feet per year. Ultimately, this project will conserve water, increase soil health, and improve water quality in the watershed. Water loss through seepage will be reduced creating a water savings that results in agricultural, environmental, and recreational benefits to farmers, ranchers, landowners, and the public who rely on the Redwater River, Spearfish Creek, the Belle Fourche Reservoir, and the Belle Fourche River within the watershed.

BUTTE CONSERVATION DISTRICT
OCTOBER 7, 2026 @ 6PM
MINUTES

Call meeting to order: Tim Reich @ 6pm

Present: Tim Reich, Paul Winkler, Cliff Conry, Will Lindsey and Yvette Kirkman

Absent: Melanie Williamson and Tyler Swan

Approval of Agenda: Paul moved to approve the agenda, Will second, all in favor, motion carried

Approval of Minutes: Cliff moved to approve the September minutes, Paul second, all in favor, motion carried

Treasurer's Report: Paul moved to approve the report and pay bills as presented, Will second, all in favor, motion carried

Old Business

Building – CBH Coop would like to continue to rent the warehouse adjacent to the cooler, there is a need to determine a new rental rate and draw up a new lease agreement, follow discussion and information Yvette gathered on warehouse rental rates, the board proposed \$1000/mo for the warehouse and an additional \$50 per month for the Chemical Containment Area, Yvette will modify the lease for signature if approved by Todd Reif

Yvette was approached by a local business about renting the remaining space or portion of the remaining space, based on realtor numbers and board discussion, the board agreed on \$.25/sqft for warehouse space and \$1.00/sqft for office space. Yvette will relay the info to the potential lessee.

New Business

Partner Reports – none available due to govt shutdown

NRCS Report – none available

Tree/Drill Report – Yvette proposed an increase in tree planting and fabric service due to the increase in materials and cost of hiring a crew, Paul moved to approve the proposed rates, Will second, all in favor, motion carried – Drill rates were discussed in light of the repairs and damage the past season, Paul made the motion to increase the day charge to \$50/day and increase the per acre charge to \$15, Will second, all in favor, motion carried

November Meeting – the next regularly scheduled board meeting falls on a holiday, board agreed to move the November meeting to the 18th

Grant Review – Cliff moved approve the submission of an open ditch to buried pipe grant application, Paul second, all in favor, motion carried

BFRWP – next meeting scheduled for Jan. 13, 2026 @ 1pm, First Interstate Bank, BF

Adjourned: 7:30pm

Next Meeting: Nov 18 @ 6pm

State Conservation Commission

November 2025

Conservation District

Charles Mix

Project Name:

Brush Management

Start Date

01/01/2026

End Date

12/31/2027

Total Project Amount:

\$ 43,750.00

Commisson Funds:

\$ 21,875.00

District Funds:

Landowner Cash:

\$ 21,875.00

Local In-kind:

Other Funds:

Other funds:

Cash

In-kind

Total:

\$ -

\$ -

RC&F:

DANR:

GF&P:

USFWS:

NRCS:

OTHER:

Description of Grant Application:

The brush management project will be conducted in Bon Homme, Gregory and Charles mix Counties. This project will educate landowners, on the importance of early control on invasive plant species (mainly cedars). The goal of this project is to show landowners that early control is affordable and very effective.

If selected for funding, RC&F suggests that:

- The Conservation Commission will not reimburse any costs that exceed the 2025 Conservation Commission Cost-share Docket. Please note other restrictions as listed there.
- All tree and shrub planting plans be reviewed and approved by one of the SDDANR RCF foresters prior to planting.
- Stand alone farmstead/homestead windbreaks do not qualify for cost-share from the Commission.
- District must secure a landowner application to determine eligibility for cost-share funds, copy to be provided with reimbursement request.
- District must provide the landowner with notification letter indicating whether or not they have been approved for cost-share, copy to be provided with reimbursement request.
- Project reimbursement will be based on actual bill/receipts submitted for completed work. Cost-share will be based on legitimate costs up to the specified maximum.
- The district provide a copy of the Joint Powers Agreement with all the conservation districts involved.
- The district provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant.
- Final report must be submitted before final reimbursement will be processed. This report must be submitted no more than 30 days after the end of the grant.

DANR:

GF&P:

Other current grants:

Shelterbelts

Project

Start date

End Date

Original Award

Balance

Extensions

2025-CSW-008

01/01/2025

12/31/2026

\$ 10,000.00

\$ 7,096.50

Approved:

Denied:

Reason for denial:



SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY DIVISION

523 East Capitol Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501
Phone: 605.773.3623
danr.sd.gov

GRANT APPLICATION FORM

Applicant Information

Organization: CHARLES MIX CONSERVATION DISTRICT Mailing Address: PO BOX 249
Telephone: (605) 487-7577 City: LAKE ANDES State: SD Zip: 57356
Tax Status: GOVERNMENT

Project Contact

Project Officer: DAWN SCHULTE Telephone: (605) 487-7577
Fax: _____ Email: charlesmixconservationdistrict@gmail.com

Project Information

Project Name: BRUSH MANAGEMENT
Start Date: 01/01/2026 End Date: 12/31/2027
Legal description: County: CHARLES MIX
Township: _____ Range: _____
Section: _____ Qtr: _____

Type of Grant

- ☒ Conservation Grant ☐ Community Forestry
☐ Insect/Disease ☐ Invasive Species
☐ Forest Stewardship ☐ Mountain Pine Beetle
☐ Other (specify): _____

Financial Information

Grant funds requested: \$ 21,875.00 Partner contributions (total): \$ 21,875.00 Total project cost: \$43,750.00
Please provide a brief, descriptive summary of the project:

The brush management project will be conducted in Bon Homme, Gregory, and Charles Mix counties in South Dakota. The brush management project will educate landowners/operators of the importance of early control of invasive plant species (mainly cedars) before the plant population and size of the plants reaches a detrimental level that affects the productivity of the grassland and the beneficial use for wildlife. The goal of this project is to show landowners/operators that early control is affordable and very effective.

I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief, this application is true and correct. I further agree to comply with the provisions of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and regulations issued thereunder relating to nondiscrimination in federally assisted programs.

Applicant Signature Dawn M. Schulte Title District Manager Date 09/26/2025

A copy of the state required W-9 form must be attached to this application.

SD EForm - 0549 V5

OFFICE USE ONLY

Signature of Reviewer _____ Title _____ Date _____
Signature of Approval _____ Title _____ Date _____

BUDGET SHEET

The total for each of these three sections should equal the "Total Project Cost" on page 1.

A. Operating Budget

1. Salary/Benefits	_____	
2. Travel	_____	
3. Contractual Services	\$ 43,750.00	
4. Supplies	_____	
5. Equipment (list major equipment)	_____	
6. Consultation Services	_____	
Total Project Costs	\$43,750.00	This total must equal \$43,750.00

B. Activity Budget

Activity	Grant Funds	Local Funds	Local In-Kind	Other Funds	Total
1. brush management	21,875.00	21,875.00	_____	_____	\$43,750.00
2. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
5. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
6. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
7. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
8. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Totals	\$21,875.00	\$21,875.00	_____	_____	\$43,750.00
This total must equal					\$43,750.00

C. Project Partners

Partners	Amount Cash	Amount In-Kind	Total
1. DANR	21,875.00	_____	\$21,875.00
2. LANDOWNER/OPERATOR	21,875.00	_____	\$21,875.00
3. _____	_____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____	_____
5. _____	_____	_____	_____
6. _____	_____	_____	_____
7. _____	_____	_____	_____
8. _____	_____	_____	_____
Totals	\$43,750.00	_____	\$43,750.00
This total must equal			\$43,750.00

Please send application and attachments to the South Dakota Department of Agriculture & Natural Resources.

Brush Management Project

Project Description and Need

Primary beneficiaries of the project will be the landowners/operators that participate and enroll their affected land into this project. Brush control on grasslands that are showing invasive plant species such as volunteer cedar will maintain and improve a usable feed source for not only domestic livestock but also for wildlife as well. Current programs available to assist landowner/operators only address situations where the brush has essentially taken over the grassland greatly reducing the production of feed and destroying the natural wildlife habitat. The goal of this project will address the importance of earlier, less costly control measures and show landowners how effective these control measures can be before the invasive species are producing an additional seed supply to add to the problem.

The Charles Mix Conservation District and the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) will be responsible for the implementation for this project. Landowners will be provided with technical assistance information that will inform them of the most effective method to restore their grasslands productivity. Prescribed grazing plans will be made available to the landowner/operators that explains the benefits derived from practicing rotational and/or deferred grazing to not only increase productivity but also defer the invasion of unwanted species onto the grassland receiving treatment.

This project will be located in Charles Mix, Gregory, and Bon Homme Conservation Districts and only available to private landowners that are already experiencing and/or concerned about the future impact of existing invasive species (mainly cedar). A joint powers agreement currently exists between the cooperating Conservation Districts.

This project will address the need to restore productivity to grasslands primarily used for livestock production. Invasive species (mainly cedar) can suppress the production of feed available to livestock and wildlife. This causes increased pressure to the remaining productive areas which makes these areas more susceptible to being invaded by non-desirable species and/or erosion. The removal of the invasive species will keep all areas of the existing grasslands more productive will improve the wildlife habitat and the production of feed for livestock. This in turn will improve the soil health and reduce the previous costs to the landowner/operator for weed control in the grasslands.

The Charles Mix Conservation District have treated several acres of native grasslands for brush management in Charles Mix, Gregory, and Bon Homme counties in the last several years. We have returned to many of the sites to check on the status of the grazing production and have found that the grasses recover quickly even with the mulch that this operation leaves on the soil surface. We have not seen any increase in weed infestations at the site of treatment nor have we observed any increase of cedar encroachment to the treated areas.

Early control measures applied to invasive species (mainly cedar) will show landowners/operators that this practice will increase and/or maintain the productivity and long-term production and usefulness of the grasslands treated. Prescribed grazing plans made available to landowner/operators will guide them with methods to ensure the long-term production and protection of their grazing lands.

Final Products

Grant funds combine with the landowner match at the limit of 30 hours per landowner/operator will allow treatment for a minimum of eight landowner/operators. This will increase the grasslands productivity in the treated areas and show the landowners/operators the benefit to grazing livestock and wildlife habitat on the acres treated.

The success of the project will be measured from feedback of the landowner/operators about their satisfaction of the results and their observation as well as the Conservation District and NRCS observation on the benefit vs. the cost of treatment to the project areas. Project areas treated will show the landowner/operators the benefit to the grassland's productivity.

Justification

Invasive plant species (mainly cedar) have increased dramatically in the last 20 years. The primary invasion of these species originated along the Missouri River bluffs and steeper areas in the beginning but has since evolved to the invasion of flatter more prime grazing areas. Some landowner/operators estimate their grazing capacity has been reduced by as much as 30% in the areas where no control measures have been implemented. The eradication of the invasive species will restore grassland productivity for the benefit of domestic livestock and wildlife habitat.

CHARLES MIX CONSERVATION DISTRICT
SUPERVISOR'S MEETING
OCTOBER 2, 2025

The regular meeting of the Charles Mix Conservation District Supervisors was held as a Zoom call on October 2, 2025 at 8am. The meeting was called to order by Jerrod Rolston at 8:02 am with the following in attendance: Tom Varilek and Alex Petrik – Supervisors, Dawn Schulte – District Manager

MINUTES: A motion by Petrik and second by Varilek to approve the September meeting minutes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC INPUT: No public input

NEW BUSINESS: Discussed applying for 2 Commission Grants. Motion by Varilek and seconded by Petrik to apply for \$18,000 for Shelterbelts and \$21,875 for Brush Management through the Commission Grant. Motion carried

EXECUTIVE SESSION: No executive session

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting of the Charles Mix Conservation District Supervisors will be held on Thursday November 6, 2025 at Noon at the Charles Mix Conservation District Shop in Lake Andes, SD.

OTHER BUSINESS: None

As there was no further business at this time a motion was made Petrik and second by Varilek to adjourn at 8:11 am. Motion carried.

-----Dawn Schulte, District Manager

State Conservation Commission

November 2025

Conservation District

Charles Mix

Project Name:

Shelterbelts

Start Date

01/01/2026

End Date

12/31/2027

Total Project Amount:

\$ 36,000.00

Commisson Funds:

\$ 18,000.00

District Funds:

Landowner Cash:

\$ 18,000.00

Local In-kind:

Other Funds:

Other funds:

Cash

In-kind

Total:

\$ - \$ -

RC&F:

DANR:

GF&P:

USFWS:

NRCS:

OTHER:

Description of Grant Application:

The proposed grant project through Charles Mix Conservation District will make funds available to farmers and ranchers in Charles Mix county to plant trees on sites that are not eligible for cost-share through other programs. Many livestock producers do not have eligible areas to plant trees under the present federal cost-sharing cropping guidelines. the shelterbelts will provide erosion control, protection for livestock, farmstead protection, improve water qualify and wildlife habitat.

If selected for funding, RC&F suggests that:

- The Conservation Commission will not reimburse any costs that exceed the 2025 Conservation Commission Cost-share Docket. Please note other restrictions as listed there.
- All tree and shrub planting plans be reviewed and approved by one of the SDDANR RCF foresters prior to planting.
- Stand alone farmstead/homestead windbreaks do not qualify for cost-share from the Commission.
- District must secure a landowner application to determine eligibility for cost-share funds, copy to be provided with reimbursement request.
- District must provide the landowner with notification letter indicating whether or not they have been approved for cost-share, copy to be provided with reimbursement request.
- Project reimbursement will be based on actual bill/receipts submitted for completed work. Cost-share will be based on legitimate costs up to the specified maximum.
- The district provide a copy of the Joint Powers Agreement with all the conservation districts involved.
- The district provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant.
- Final report must be submitted before final reimbursement will be processed. This report must be submitted no more than 30 days after the end of the grant.

DANR:

GF&P:

Other current grants:

Shelterbelts

Project

Start date

End Date

Original Award

Balance

Extensions

2025-CSW-008 01/01/2025

12/31/2026 \$ 10,000.00 \$ 7,096.50

Approved:

Denied:

Reason for denial:



SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY DIVISION

523 East Capitol Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501
Phone: 605.773.3623
danr.sd.gov

GRANT APPLICATION FORM

Applicant Information

Organization: CHARLES MIX CONSERVATION DISTRICT Mailing Address: PO BOX 249
Telephone: (605) 487-7577 City: LAKE ANDES State: SD Zip: 57356
Tax Status: GOVERNMENT

Project Contact

Project Officer: DAWN SCHULTE Telephone: (605) 487-7577
Fax: _____ Email: charlesmixconservationdistrict@gmail.com

Project Information

Project Name: SHELTERBELTS
Start Date: 01/01/2026 End Date: 12/31/2027
Legal description: County: CHARLES MIX
Township: _____ Range: _____
Section: _____ Qtr: _____

Type of Grant

- ☒ Conservation Grant ☐ Community Forestry
☐ Insect/Disease ☐ Invasive Species
☐ Forest Stewardship ☐ Mountain Pine Beetle
☐ Other (specify): _____

Financial Information

Grant funds requested: \$ 18,000.00 Partner contributions (total): \$ 18,000.00 Total project cost: \$36,000.00
Please provide a brief, descriptive summary of the project:

The proposed grant project through Charles Mix Conservation District will make funds available to farmers and ranchers in Charles Mix County to plant trees on sites that are not eligible for cost-share through other programs. Many livestock producers do not have eligible areas to plant trees under the present Federal cost-sharing cropping guidelines. The shelterbelts will provide erosion control, protection for livestock, farmstead protection, improve water quality and wildlife habitat.

I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief, this application is true and correct. I further agree to comply with the provisions of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and regulations issued thereunder relating to nondiscrimination in federally assisted programs.

Applicant Signature Dawn M. Schulte Title DISTRICT MANAGER Date 09/26/2025

A copy of the state required W-9 form must be attached to this application.

OFFICE USE ONLY

Signature of Reviewer _____ Title _____ Date _____
Signature of Approval _____ Title _____ Date _____

BUDGET SHEET

The total for each of these three sections should equal the "Total Project Cost" on page 1.

A. Operating Budget

1. Salary/Benefits	_____	
2. Travel	_____	
3. Contractual Services	_____	\$ 36,000.00
4. Supplies	_____	
5. Equipment (list major equipment)	_____	
6. Consultation Services	_____	
Total Project Costs	_____	\$36,000.00
		This total must equal <u>\$36,000.00</u>

B. Activity Budget

Activity	Grant Funds	Local Funds	Local In-Kind	Other Funds	Total
1. TREE PLANTING	5,000.00	5,000.00	_____	_____	\$10,000.00
2. FABRIC & INSTALLING	10,000.00	10,000.00	_____	_____	\$20,000.00
3. TREE TUBES	3,000.00	3,000.00	_____	_____	\$6,000.00
4. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
5. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
6. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
7. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
8. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Totals	\$18,000.00	\$18,000.00	_____	_____	\$36,000.00
					This total must equal <u>\$36,000.00</u>

C. Project Partners

Partners	Amount Cash	Amount In-Kind	Total
1. DANR	18,000.00	_____	\$18,000.00
2. LANDOWNER/OPERATOR	18,000.00	_____	\$18,000.00
3. _____	_____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____	_____
5. _____	_____	_____	_____
6. _____	_____	_____	_____
7. _____	_____	_____	_____
8. _____	_____	_____	_____
Totals	\$36,000.00	_____	\$36,000.00
			This total must equal <u>\$36,000.00</u>

Please send application and attachments to the South Dakota Department of Agriculture & Natural Resources.

SHELTERBELT COST-SHARE NARRATIVE

Project description and need

Primary Beneficiaries

This project is designed to make funds available to landowners to plant trees on sites not eligible for other cost-share programs. Landowners and operators who establish new shelterbelts will see many benefits. The new shelterbelts will provide protection for livestock of all ages reducing health costs and death loss to producers. The new shelterbelts will reduce energy needs by sheltering buildings and livestock from harsh weather conditions. Livestock feed costs will be reduced by providing more comfortable areas for livestock.

Other benefits of the newly established shelterbelts include increased wildlife habitat and increased hunting areas for hunters. The general public will benefit by the improved aesthetics a properly designed shelterbelt can provide.

Implementation, maintenance and follow-up

The Charles Mix Conservation District will be responsible for the implementation of this project. Maintenance of the project areas will be monitored by Charles Mix Conservation District and provided by either the Conservation District or the producers. Follow-up activities will be done by the Conservation District through personal interviews with the producers to closely monitor savings and benefits of the projects.

Project location

The project will be required to be located anywhere within the boundaries of the Charles Mix Conservation District.

Special needs addressed

Current cost-share programs are directed to cropland acres and cropping history to become eligible for assistance. This project is designed to assist in the establishment of new shelterbelts in those areas that do not qualify for another program assistance. The absence of adequate shelter that trees can provide increases energy needs to everyone. Snow storage is an important part of every operation to reduce the time, labor, equipment and fuel cost to remove unwanted snow. Adequate shelter can significantly reduce the death loss of livestock operations and provide other benefits such as energy and feed saving. Many producers without adequate shelter for livestock are utilizing wooded creeks and stream areas for shelter. This has an extreme negative impact on the conditions of the riparian areas allowing pollutants including the waste from the livestock to wash downstream and adversely affect other private and public areas. Providing a means of adequate shelter to keep livestock out of these areas will greatly improve the ease and safety of caring for livestock in harsh conditions. It will also protect water quality by giving livestock producers a way to preserve fragile riparian areas and

floodplains. Many of these areas have a direct effect on the Missouri River (50% of Charles Mix County borders the Missouri River) which is an important source of public recreation and drinking water.

Site Specific activities

Soils, data, proper site preparation principals and prior chemical use will be monitored carefully to ensure that the tree planting is successful, and the newly established plants have the best possible chance to survive. Cultural resource data and utility line location will also be part of the project to help protect the producers' project from harming others. Plans will be designed to provide the maximum benefit for the producer, the type of livestock, wildlife and erosion needs in each specific area.

Project management and protection

Producers receiving financial assistance for these projects will be required to enter into a contract with the Charles Mix Conservation District to maintain and protect the practice for a minimum of ten years in consideration for cost-share.

Required permits

No federal, state or local permits will be required prior to the establishment of these projects in Charles Mix County.

Final products

Shelterbelts greatly diminish the effect of cold temperatures on livestock. This significantly lowers stress on animals and consequently reduces feed energy requirements. Livestock producers and ranchers will see better animal health and greater financial gain.

In a little as two years shelterbelts can effectively protect buildings and roadways from drifting snow. These projects will add diversity to the landscape and beautify farmsteads, cost effectively increasing property values. Trees also provide diversity of habitat and cover for many species of wildlife. Fish and other aquatic animals benefit from the role of trees in reducing erosion and filtering pollutants and agricultural runoff. In an agricultural setting, trees provide great plant diversity, creating a healthier ecosystem.

Partner justification

The South Dakota department of Agriculture Resource Conservation and Forestry Division will be providing funds through the Conservation Commission to supplement landowner and Charles Mix Conservation District funds. The division's filed foresters will also be utilized to approve of the planning and follow up procedures of the grant.

The Yankton Sioux Tribe will be involved in all sites that are located on Tribal lands assisting in the cultural resources and technical assistance and possibly providing financial assistance to appropriately located Tribal sites.

The Charles Mix Conservation District will provide technical assistance, inspection, application, follow up and reimbursement costs to the grant projects. All scheduling, reporting and record keeping will also be provided by the Conservation District.

Landowners will provide the balance of costs associated with the tree planting projects. They will also assume the responsibility for all replacement trees and all the tree maintenance costs after trees are planted.

Measuring the success

The Charles Mix Conservation District will monitor the shelterbelts for survival and maintenance. Landowners will be interviewed to determine how the shelterbelt complimented the overall operation of the farm or ranch. Livestock health, feed savings and energy savings as well as wildlife use and erosion reduction will be monitored by the landowner. Projects will be displayed to the general public through Facebook posting, and direct mailing. Projects funded by this grant will also be incorporated into other local conservation.



PO Box 47
McIntosh, SD 57641
605-273-4506 x3

September 30, 2025

South Dakota Conservation Commission
C/O Bill Smith: Department of Agriculture
523 E Capitol Ave
Pierre, SD 57501

Dear South Dakota Conservation Commission,

The Corson Conservation District in McIntosh, SD is submitting a grant application to the 2025 Fall Grant Round for four shelterbelt projects in our county, which will affect one producer.

Attached you will find our narrative, minutes from our board meeting approving the grant application, and supporting documents.

Thank you for your time reviewing these documents and if you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Annie Walker". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Annie Walker
Business Manager

State Conservation Commission

November 2025

Conservation District

Corson

Project Name:

Corson Tree Grant

Start Date

01/01/2026

End Date

12/31/2026

Total Project Amount:

\$ 42,400.00

Commisson Funds:

\$ 20,400.00

District Funds:

Landowner Cash:

\$ 22,000.00

Local In-kind:

Other Funds:

Other funds:

Cash

In-kind

Total:

\$ - \$ -

RC&F:

DANR:

GF&P:

USFWS:

NRCS:

OTHER:

Description of Grant Application:

This grant will help one producer fund four different tree belts, equal to 16 acres of tree rows with fabric. Each plot is placed to serve was a windbreak for cattle. Fence has been installed.

If selected for funding, RC&F suggests that:

- The Conservation Commission will not reimburse any costs that exceed the 2025 Conservation Commission Cost-share Docket. Please note other restrictions as listed there.
- All tree and shrub planting plans be reviewed and approved by one of the SDDANR RCF foresters prior to planting.
- Stand alone farmstead/homestead windbreaks do not qualify for cost-share from the Commission.
- District must secure a landowner application to determine eligibility for cost-share funds, copy to be provided with reimbursement request.
- District must provide the landowner with notification letter indicating whether or not they have been approved for cost-share, copy to be provided with reimbursement request.
- Project reimbursement will be based on actual bill/receipts submitted for completed work. Cost-share will be based on legitimate costs up to the specified maximum.
- The district provide a copy of the Joint Powers Agreement with all the conservation districts involved.
- The district provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant.
- Final report must be submitted before final reimbursement will be processed. This report must be submitted no more than 30 days after the end of the grant.

DANR:

GF&P:

	Project	Start date	End Date	Original Award	Balance	Extensions
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Other current grants:

N/A

N/A

N/A

N/A

N/A

N/A

N/A

N/A

Approved:

Denied:

Reason for denial:



SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY DIVISION

523 East Capitol Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501
Phone: 605.773.3623
danr.sd.gov

GRANT APPLICATION FORM

Applicant Information

Organization: Corson Conservation District Mailing Address: Po Box 47
Telephone: 605-273-4506 x3 City: McIntosh State: SD Zip: 57641
Tax Status: exempt

Project Contact

Project Officer: Annie Walker Telephone: 605-848-1092 or 605-273-4500
Fax: N/A Email: Corsoncd@gmail.com

Project Information

Project Name: Corson Tree Grant
Start Date: 1-1-26 End Date: 12-31-26
Legal description: County: Corson
Township: 21 & 22 Range: 18
Section: 3 & 34 Qtr: _____

Type of Grant

- ☒ Conservation Grant ☐ Community Forestry
☐ Insect/Disease ☐ Invasive Species
☐ Forest Stewardship ☐ Mountain Pine Beetle
☐ Other (specify): _____

Financial Information

Grant funds requested: \$20,400 Partner contributions (total): \$22,000 Total project cost: \$42,400
Please provide a brief, descriptive summary of the project:

This grant will help one producer fund four different tree belts, equaling over 16 acres of tree rows with fabric. Each plot is strategically located to serve as a windbreak for cattle. Fences have been installed or are being installed currently without cost-share assistance and the rows have been tilled since 2023.

I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief, this application is true and correct. I further agree to comply with the provisions of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and regulations issued thereunder relating to nondiscrimination in federally assisted programs.

Applicant Signature Annie Walker Title Business Manager Date 9-30-25

A copy of the state required W-9 form must be attached to this application.

OFFICE USE ONLY

Signature of Reviewer _____ Title _____ Date _____
Signature of Approval _____ Title _____ Date _____

BUDGET SHEET

The total for each of these three sections should equal the "Total Project Cost" on page 1.

A. Operating Budget

1. Salary/Benefits	_____	
2. Travel	_____	
3. Contractual Services	<u>\$42,400</u>	
4. Supplies	_____	
5. Equipment (list major equipment)	_____	
6. Consultation Services	_____	
Total Project Costs	<u>\$42,400</u>	This total must equal <u>\$42,400</u>

B. Activity Budget

Activity	Grant Funds	Local Funds	Local In-Kind	Other Funds	Total
1. Trees	<u>\$5,400</u>	<u>\$5,400</u>	_____	_____	_____
2. Shrubs	<u>\$1,300</u>	<u>\$1,300</u>	_____	_____	_____
3. Fabric	<u>\$13,400</u>	<u>\$15,300</u>	_____	_____	_____
4. Admin	<u>\$300</u>	_____	_____	_____	_____
5. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
6. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
7. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
8. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Totals	<u>\$20,400</u>	<u>\$22,000</u>	_____	_____	<u>\$42,400</u>
					This total must equal <u>\$42,400</u>

C. Project Partners

Partners	Amount Cash	Amount In-Kind	Total
1. Commission	<u>\$20,400</u>	_____	<u>\$20,400</u>
2. Land Owner	<u>\$22,000</u>	_____	<u>\$22,000</u>
3. _____	_____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____	_____
5. _____	_____	_____	_____
6. _____	_____	_____	_____
7. _____	_____	_____	_____
8. _____	_____	_____	_____
Totals	<u>\$42,400</u>	_____	<u>\$42,400</u>
			This total must equal <u>\$42,400</u>

Please send application and attachments to the South Dakota Department of Agriculture & Natural Resources.

Corson Conservation District Project Narrative

In 2022, I was contacted by producer [REDACTED] regarding the installation of new shelterbelts to enhance protection for his cattle operation. During my initial site visit, I observed that the existing shelterbelts—originally planted in the mid-1900s—were in significant decline due to age and the use of a single species. However, more recent plantings from the early 2000s have now reached maturity and demonstrate both the land's potential for tree growth and the producer's commitment to stewardship and maintenance.

With support from the South Dakota Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources (SD DANR) Resource Conservation & Forestry (RC&F) forester, we developed multiple shelterbelt designs. [REDACTED] chose to implement a portion of these designs without cost-share assistance in 2024. The plots he planted are performing exceptionally well and are among the best-maintained plantings I've seen in my ten years in this position. His commitment is evident in the considerable time and resources he has invested, including installing fencing with gated access for equipment at the end of each row (eight gates, per side, per plot!), purchasing a skid-steer tiller attachment for proper ground preparation, addressing rodent issues, removing rocks, and routinely mowing between rows—even in areas awaiting future planting.

Now, with extensive planning and successful early results, [REDACTED] is prepared to complete the remaining shelterbelt plantings in 2026 and is seeking cost-share assistance.

The projects outlined in this application are the result of over three years of collaborative effort among [REDACTED], SD DANR foresters, Soil Scientist Kent Cooley, and myself. This has involved extensive time and coordination—site visits, planning, communications, species selection, soil assessments, and research into best practices for tree establishment and maintenance.

The four proposed plots—labeled #1 through #4 on the accompanying map—are strategically designed to provide critical protection for various areas of the property. These include calving and cow/calf pair zones, a water tank, and feeding areas. All four plots are positioned to serve as a windbreak from prevailing north and northwest winds. In addition, each planting offers valuable wildlife habitat, with up to eight rows providing shelter, nesting opportunities, and food sources. Based on the exceptional maintenance observed in the 2024 belts, it is expected that these new plantings will receive similar ongoing care.

After such comprehensive preparation and collaboration, I look forward to seeing these shelterbelts fully established—especially knowing that the cost-share assistance pursued by our office will help the producer save approximately \$20,000. I appreciate the opportunity I've had to work with [REDACTED] and the RC&F forester and staff and look forward to implementing the practices this upcoming spring.

Written by: Annie Walker, Business Manager, Corson Conservation District Business Manager

Corson Conservation District, Regular Meeting Minutes
September 9, 2025

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mike Beer, Brenda Schneider, Colt Nehl, Clint Kvale **MEMBERS ABSENT:** Barb Campbell, Robert Nehl **OFFICE PERSONNEL:** Annie Walker, Business Manager **NRCS:** Absent **SDG&F:** Absent

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Mike Beer at 5:20 PM

Motion by Colt Nehl, seconded by Brenda Schneider to appoint Clint Kvale as a board advisor. Motion carried.

Motion by Colt Nehl, second by Brenda Schneider to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Motion by Brenda Schneider, seconded by Mike Beer to approve the minutes from the July 7, 2025 meeting. Motion carried.

Motion by Colt Nehl, second by Brenda Schneider to approve the Treasurer's Report including payment of bills. Motion carried.

No NRCS or SDGFP report.

Business Manager report given by Annie Walker.

Old Business: At the July 7th meeting, board members Mike Beer, Robert Nehl and Brenda Schneider were presented with the new open meeting law brochure. At that time a review of the brochure was completed. At the time of today's meeting Colt Nehl and Clint Kvale were given the brochure and reviewed it. Barbera Campbell has yet to review it.

New Business:

Discussion on a possible skid steer purchase was held. No motion was made.

Motion by Brenda Schneider, seconded by Colt Nehl, to pay half of Business Manager Annie Walker's tuition for South Dakota Ag & Rural Leadership program which begins in December and will run until early 2027. The total will be close to \$2500. Motion carried.

Motion by Colt Nehl, seconded by Brenda Schneider to apply for a Tree Grant from the Conservation Commission Grant Round held in November, with submission due October 1. Motion carried.

Next meeting date November 3, 2025 at 5:00 PM.

Chairman Mike Beer declared the meeting adjourned at 7:00 PM.

Minutes submitted by: Annie Walker, Business Manager

Annie Walker

Tree Planting Plan Approval
SD Division of Resource Conservation and Forestry



I have reviewed and approve of the tree planting plan for the following
landowner [REDACTED] _____,

which will be cost-shared under the following grant or program:

Commission Grant _____.

Signature: _____

Lokesh Bhattarai, Urban and Community Forester, SD DANR RC&F

Date: 18/09/2025



0 330 660 1,320
US Feet

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender

TREE PLANTING SPECIFICATION SHEET

Producer: _____ Year to be Planted: 2026

County _____ Farm _____ Tract _____ Field _____ Windbreak Type Livestock Windbreak

Program _____ CIN or referral # _____ Practice _____ Practice # _____

Soil Map Unit: _____ Legal Desc. Sec 3 TWP 21 RGE 18

Resource Concern (CPPE Impact) _____ Purpose: _____

Present Ground Cover:

List the herbicides applied	<u>2025</u>	
List the herbicides applied	<u>2024</u>	
List the herbicides applied	<u>2023</u>	

Fallow Needed? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Are Utilities Present? (Overhead or Underground) ☐ Yes ☒ No
(Call Before You Dig 1-800-781-7474)

Are Cultural Resource Concerns Addressed? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Site Preparation Needed Prior To Planting:

☐ None ☐ Herbicide ☐ Chisel Plow ☒ Disk ☐ Roto Tiller ☐ Windbreak Renovation ☐ Other

Describe Other: _____

Planting Method:

☒ Machine ☐ Scalp ☐ Hand Plant

Planned Weed Control:

Within Row ☐ Mechanical ☐ Herbicide ☒ Tree Fabric 18,400 Feet of Fabric

In Between Row ☒ Mechanical ☐ Herbicide ☐ Grass Seeding 0.0 TreeTubes

Estimated Fencing Needed to Exclude Livestock (feet): _____ Feet of Fence

Planning Assistance By: _____ (Name) _____ (Date)

PRACTICE CERTIFICATION

Date Planted: _____ **Planted By:** _____

Practice Meets SD Standards and Specifications: Yes ☐ No ☐ (If "No" is checked, state reasons in the comments on performance section)

Certified By: _____ (Name) _____ (Title) _____ (Date)

How Measured? ☐ Wheel ☐ Photo ☐ GPS ☐ Other Describe other _____

9.50 Acres Planned _____ Acres Applied _____ Feet of Windbreak Applied

_____ Feet Fabric Applied _____ Tree Tubes Applied

Comments on Performance: _____

Section	34
Township	22
Range	18

Comments:

Producer Name [REDACTED]

Address

Site Address

Phone	Home	Work	Cell
-------	------	------	------

Type of Planting	Livestock Windbreak	Program
------------------	---------------------	---------

Site Prep Disk Practice #

Applied	Date Completed	Completed by
----------------	----------------	--------------

Windbreak

N ↑

LOCATION MAP

Section 34

Site 1

TREE PLANTING SPECIFICATION SHEET

Producer: _____ Year to be Planted: 2026

County _____ Farm _____ Tract _____ Field _____ Windbreak Type Livestock Windbreak

Program _____ CIN or referral # _____ Practice _____ Practice # _____

Soil Map Unit: _____ Legal Desc. Sec 3 TWP 21 RGE 18

Resource Concern (CPPE Impact) _____ Purpose: _____

Present Ground Cover:

List the herbicides applied

2025

List the herbicides applied

2024

List the herbicides applied

2023

Fallow Needed?

☐ Yes

☒ No

Are Utilities Present?

(Overhead or Underground)

(Call Before You Dig 1-800-781-7474)

☐ Yes

☒ No

Are Cultural Resource Concerns Addressed?

☒ Yes

☐ No

Site Preparation Needed Prior To Planting:

☐ None

☐ Herbicide

☐ Chisel Plow

☒ Disk

☐ Roto Tiller

☐ Windbreak
Renovation

☐ Other

Describe Other:

Planting Method:

☒ Machine

☐ Scalp

☐ Hand Plant

Planned Weed Control:

Within Row

☐ Mechanical

☐ Herbicide

☒ Tree Fabric

3,250 Feet of Fabric

In Between Row

☒ Mechanical

☐ Herbicide

☐ Grass Seeding

0.0 TreeTubes

Estimated Fencing Needed to Exclude Livestock (feet):

_____ Feet of Fence

Planning Assistance By:

(Name)

(Date)

PRACTICE CERTIFICATION

Date Planted:

Planted By:

Practice Meets SD Standards and Specifications:

Yes ☐

No ☐

(If "No" is checked, state reasons in the
comments on performance section)

Certified By:

(Name)

(Title)

(Date)

How Measured?

☐ Wheel

☐ Photo

☐ GPS

☐ Other

Describe other _____

1.79 Acres Planned

_____ Acres Applied

_____ Feet of Windbreak Applied

_____ Feet Fabric Applied

_____ Tree Tubes Applied

Comments on Performance:

Establishment

SD-CPA-6a

PLANTING INFORMATION -										APPLIED				Check if installed	Check if installed	Calculate					
Site No	WSS	Spacing (feet)	Row No.	Species from North or West	Alternate With	(Feet) Spacing in Row	Approx Length of rows		Approx No. of Plants	Fabric (Feet)	Tree Tubes	Seeding Source	Width (feet)		Spacing (ft)	Approximate In the Row	Length (Feet)	Length (Rods)	Fabric (Feet)	Tree Tubes	No. of Plants
							Feet	Rods					Isolation	Between Rows							
2	6D	20	1	Rocky Mountain juniper		8	650	39.4	81	Yes											
	6D	20	2	Ponderosa pine		12	650	39.4	54	Yes											
	6D	20	3	Siberian elm		12	650	39.4	54	Yes											
	6D	20	4	Silver buffaloberryPM		6	650	39.4	108	Yes											
	6D	20	5	Caragana (Siberian peashr		6	650	39.4	108	Yes											
Totals							3,250	197.0	405	3,250											
							1.79 acres planned				_____ acres applied										

Section _____
Township _____
Range _____

Comments: _____

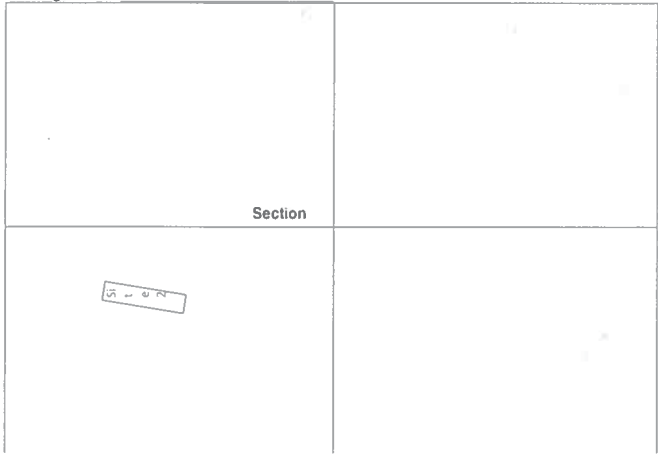
Producer Name _____
Address _____
Site Address _____
Phone Home _____ Work _____ Cell _____

Type of Planting Livestock Windbreak Program _____
Site Prep Disk Practice # _____

Applied _____ Date Completed _____ Completed by _____
Windbreak _____
Fabric _____

LOCATION MAP

N



TREE PLANTING SPECIFICATION SHEET

Producer: _____ Year to be Planted: 2026

County _____ Farm _____ Tract _____ Field _____ Windbreak Type Livestock Windbreak

Program _____ CIN or referral # _____ Practice _____ Practice # _____

Soil Map Unit: _____ Legal Desc. Sec 3 TWP 21 RGE 18

Resource Concern (CPPE Impact) _____ Purpose: _____

Present Ground Cover:

List the herbicides applied
List the herbicides applied
List the herbicides applied

2025	
2024	
2023	

Fallow Needed?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Are Utilities Present?
(Overhead or Underground)

(Call Before You Dig 1-800-781-7474)

☐ Yes ☒ No

Are Cultural Resource Concerns Addressed?

☒ Yes ☐ No

**Site Preparation Needed
Prior To Planting:**

☐ None ☐ Herbicide ☐ Chisel Plow ☒ Disk ☐ Roto Tiller ☐ Windbreak Renovation ☐ Other

Describe Other:

Planting Method:

☒ Machine ☐ Scalp ☐ Hand Plant

Planned Weed Control:

Within Row

☐ Mechanical ☐ Herbicide ☒ Tree Fabric

5,440 Feet of Fabric

In Between Row

☒ Mechanical ☐ Herbicide ☐ Grass Seeding

0.0 TreeTubes

Estimated Fencing Needed to Exclude Livestock (feet):

_____ Feet of Fence

Planning Assistance By:

(Name)

(Date)

PRACTICE CERTIFICATION

Date Planted:

Planted By:

Practice Meets SD Standards and Specifications:

Yes ☐

No ☐

(If "No" is checked, state reasons in the
comments on performance section)

Certified By:

(Name)

(Title)

(Date)

How Measured?

☐ Wheel ☐ Photo ☐ GPS ☐ Other

Describe other _____

2.81 Acres Planned

_____ Acres Applied

_____ Feet of Windbreak Applied

_____ Feet Fabric Applied

_____ Tree Tubes Applied

Comments on Performance:

Section	3
Township	21
Range	18

Comments: _____



LOCATION MAP

[illegible]

Producer Name			
Address			
Site Address			
Phone	Home	Work	Cell
Type of Planting	Livestock Windbreak		Program
Site Prep	Disk		Practice #
Applied	Date Completed	Completed by:	
Windbreak			
Fabric			

TREE PLANTING SPECIFICATION SHEET

Producer: _____ Year to be Planted: 2026

County _____ Farm _____ Tract _____ Field _____ Windbreak Type Livestock Windbreak

Program _____ CIN or referral # _____ Practice _____ Practice # _____

Soil Map Unit: _____ Legal Desc. Sec 34 TWP 22 RGE 18

Resource Concern (CPPE Impact) _____ Purpose: _____

Present Ground Cover:

List the herbicides applied
List the herbicides applied
List the herbicides applied

2025	
2024	
2023	

Fallow Needed?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Are Utilities Present?
(Overhead or Underground)

(Call Before You Dig 1-800-781-7474)

☐ Yes ☒ No

Are Cultural Resource Concerns Addressed?

☒ Yes ☐ No

**Site Preparation Needed
Prior To Planting:**

☐ None ☐ Herbicide ☐ Chisel Plow ☒ Disk ☐ Roto Tiller ☐ Windbreak Renovation ☐ Other

Describe Other:

Planting Method:

☒ Machine ☐ Scalp ☐ Hand Plant

Planned Weed Control:

Within Row

☐ Mechanical ☐ Herbicide ☒ Tree Fabric

4,070 Feet of Fabric

In Between Row

☒ Mechanical ☐ Herbicide ☐ Grass Seeding

0.0 TreeTubes

Estimated Fencing Needed to Exclude Livestock (feet):

____ Feet of Fence

Planning Assistance By:

(Name)

(Date)

PRACTICE CERTIFICATION

Date Planted:

Planted By:

Practice Meets SD Standards and Specifications:

Yes ☐

No ☐

(If "No" is checked, state reasons in the
comments on performance section)

Certified By:

(Name)

(Title)

(Date)

How Measured?

☐ Wheel ☐ Photo ☐ GPS ☐ Other

Describe other _____

2.12 Acres Planned

____ Acres Applied

____ Feet of Windbreak Applied

____ Feet Fabric Applied

____ Tree Tubes Applied

Comments on Performance:

Section	34
Township	22
Range	18

Comments:



LOCATION MAP

Range	16	
		
	Section	34

Producer Name _____	
Address _____	
Site Address _____	
Phone _____	Home _____
Work _____	Cell _____
Type of Planting Livestock Windbreak	Program _____
Site Prep Disk	Practice # _____
Applied Windbreak	Date Completed: _____
Fabric _____	Completed by _____

Matt Hayes
Davison Conservation District
District Manager
1820 N Kimball St, Suite B
Mitchell, SD 57301
September 18, 2025

South Dakota Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources
Division of Resource Conservation and Forestry
Attn: Bill Smith
523 E Capitol Ave
Pierre, SD 57501

South Dakota Conservation Commission:

The Davison Conservation District is submitting a grant application for the 2025 fall grant round. The following application is for our microirrigation projects that will start January 1, 2026 and end December 31, 2026.

Along with the application, you will find a copy of the minutes from our board meeting, the district's W-9, and the narrative that goes with our application.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration of our grant application. If you have any questions or concerns, please call our office at (605) 996-1564 Ext 3.

Sincerely,



Matt Hayes
Davison Conservation District
District Manager

State Conservation Commission

November 2025

Conservation District **Davison**

Project Name: **Microirrigation Grant**

Start Date **01/01/2026**

End Date **12/31/2026**

Total Project Amount:	\$ 10,000.00
Commisson Funds:	\$ 5,000.00
District Funds:	
Landowner Cash:	
Local In-kind:	\$ 5,000.00
Other Funds:	

Other funds:	Cash	In-kind
Total:	\$ -	\$ -
RC&F:		
DANR:		
GF&P:		
USFWS:		
NRCS:		
OTHER:		

Description of Grant Application:

The Davison Conservaion District is applying for this grant to irrigate two tree planting projects in Davison County. One is proposd 2.5 acre tree planting and the other is a 3 acre tree planting. Both producers have water access on site, making them good canidates for microirrigation. Filters, pipes, emitters,and valves would be installed throughout the site to provide consistent watering. This, in turn, will increase survivability of tree and increase their growth rate.

If selected for funding, RC&F suggests that:

- The district provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant.
- Project reimbursement will be based on actual bill/receipts submitted for completed work. Cost-share will be based on legitimate costs up to the specified maximum.

DANR:

GF&P:

	Project	Start date	End Date	Original Award	Balance	Extensions
Other current grants:						
Multi-County Brush MGMT	2024-CSW-022	07/01/2024	12/31/2025	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 3,403.13	
D CD Tree Planting	2025-CSW-014	01/01/2025	12/31/2025	\$ 10,000.00	\$12,357.90	
Awareness & Outreach Activity	2025-CSW-026	07/01/2025	06/30/2026	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	
Multi-County Brush MGMT	2025-CSW-027	07/01/2025	12/31/2026	\$ 15,000.00	\$15,000.00	

Approved:

Denied:

Reason for denial:



SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY DIVISION

523 East Capitol Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501
Phone: 605.773.3623
danr.sd.gov

GRANT APPLICATION FORM

Applicant Information

Organization: Davison Conservation District Mailing Address: 1820 N Kimball St Suite B
Telephone: (605) 996-1564 City: Mitchell State: SD Zip: 57301
Tax Status: Exempt

Project Contact

Project Officer: Matthew Hayes Telephone: (605) 770-5250
Fax: _____ Email: matthew.hayes2@sd.nacdnet.net

Project Information

Project Name: Microirrigation Grant
Start Date: 01/01/2026 End Date: 12/01/2026
Legal description: County: Davison
Township: _____ Range: _____
Section: _____ Qtr: _____

Type of Grant

- ☒ Conservation Grant ☐ Community Forestry
☐ Insect/Disease ☐ Invasive Species
☐ Forest Stewardship ☐ Mountain Pine Beetle
☐ Other (specify): _____

Financial Information

Grant funds requested: \$5,000 Partner contributions (total): \$5,000 Total project cost: \$10,000.00
Please provide a brief, descriptive summary of the project:

The Davison Conservation District is applying for this grant to irrigate two tree planting projects in Davison County. One is a proposed 2.5 acre tree planting and the other is a proposed 3 acre tree planting. Both producers have water access on site, making them good candidates for microirrigation. Filters, pipe, emitters, and valves would be installed throughout the site to provide consistent watering. This, in turn, will increase survivability of tree and increase their growth rate.

I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief, this application is true and correct. I further agree to comply with the provisions of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and regulations issued thereunder relating to nondiscrimination in federally assisted programs.

Applicant Signature Matthew Hayes Title District Manager Date 09/09/2025
Matthew Hayes | Sep 9, 2025 1:27:42 CDT

A copy of the state required [W-9 form](#) must be attached to this application.

OFFICE USE ONLY

Signature of Reviewer _____ Title _____ Date _____
Signature of Approval _____ Title _____ Date _____

BUDGET SHEET

The total for each of these three sections should equal the "Total Project Cost" on page 1.

A. Operating Budget

1. Salary/Benefits	_____	
2. Travel	_____	
3. Contractual Services	<u>\$10,000</u>	
4. Supplies	_____	
5. Equipment (list major equipment)	_____	
6. Consultation Services	_____	
Total Project Costs	<u>\$10,000.00</u>	This total must equal <u>\$10,000.00</u>

B. Activity Budget

Activity	Grant Funds	Local Funds	Local In-Kind	Other Funds	Total
1. Microirrigation	\$5,000	\$5,000	_____	_____	\$10,000.00
2. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	\$0.00
3. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	\$0.00
4. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	\$0.00
5. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	\$0.00
6. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	\$0.00
7. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	\$0.00
8. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	\$0.00
Totals	<u>\$5,000.00</u>	<u>\$5,000.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$10,000.00</u>
This total must equal					<u>\$10,000.00</u>

C. Project Partners

Partners	Amount Cash	Amount In-Kind	Total
1. RC&F	\$5,000	_____	\$5,000.00
2. Local Partners	\$5,000	_____	\$5,000.00
3. _____	_____	_____	\$0.00
4. _____	_____	_____	\$0.00
5. _____	_____	_____	\$0.00
6. _____	_____	_____	\$0.00
7. _____	_____	_____	\$0.00
8. _____	_____	_____	\$0.00
Totals	<u>\$10,000.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$10,000.00</u>
This total must equal			<u>\$10,000.00</u>

Please send application and attachments to the South Dakota Department of Agriculture & Natural Resources.

Davison Conservation District

Microirrigation Program

Project Narrative

Project Description and Need

The Davison Conservation District microirrigation program assists producers in shelterbelt establishment in the critical first years of growth. Above ground microirrigation for shelterbelts provides adequate moisture for tree and shrub growth, while lowering attrition rates and the need for re-planting.

Identify How You Will Measure the Success of the Project

The Davison Conservation District will be responsible for this project's implementation and follow up with landowners to ensure maintenance and practice effectiveness, documentation of benefits and outcomes, and for administration.

A three-year average of Davison County shelterbelt attrition rates reveals a 27% loss of trees in the first year of planting. In shelterbelts where microirrigation has been installed in Davison County over a three-year period the rate of loss has been lowered to 3%. Microirrigation combined with weed barrier fabric and protective tree tubes (where necessary) increases overall survivability of newly planted shelterbelts.

The Davison Conservation District will provide technical assistance to landowners for planning, implementation, and maintenance of these irrigation projects as an in-kind contribution from existing staff.

Partner Justification

Landowners implementing conservation practices under this proposed project will comply with the practice installation and maintenance requirements utilized by the USDA – Natural Resource Conservation Service.

Matt Hayes
Davison Conservation District
District Manager
1820 N Kimball St, Suite B
Mitchell, SD 57301
September 4, 2025

South Dakota Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources
Division of Resource Conservation and Forestry
Attn: Bill Smith
523 E Capitol Ave
Pierre, SD 57501

South Dakota Conservation Commission:

The Davison Conservation District is submitting a grant application for the 2025 fall grant round. The following application is for our shelterbelt planting projects that will start January 1, 2026 and end December 31, 2026.

Along with the application, you will find a copy of the minutes from our board meeting, the district's W-9, and the narrative that goes with our application.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration of our grant application. If you have any questions or concerns, please call our office at (605) 996-1564 Ext 3.

Sincerely,



Matt Hayes
Davison Conservation District
District Manager

State Conservation Commission

November 2025

Conservation District

Davison

Project Name:

Davison/Hanson Tree Planting

Start Date

01/01/2026

End Date

12/31/2026

Total Project Amount:

\$ 40,000.00

Commisson Funds:

\$ 20,000.00

District Funds:

Landowner Cash:

\$ 20,000.00

Local In-kind:

Other Funds:

Other funds:

Cash

In-kind

Total:

\$ - \$ -

RC&F:

DANR:

GF&P:

USFWS:

NRCS:

OTHER:

Description of Grant Application:

This one-year project proposes to continue the Districts program of cost-share to landowners for establishment of multi-purpose shelterbelts. These shelterbelts will be used to restore/maintain water quality, improve/maintain soil productivity, create wildlife habitat, conserve energy, and provide snow protection for producers in Davison and Hanson counties.

If selected for funding, RC&F suggests that:

- The Conservation Commission will not reimburse any costs that exceed the 2025 Conservation Commission Cost-share Docket. Please note other restrictions as listed there.
- All tree and shrub planting plans be reviewed and approved by one of the SDDANR RCF foresters prior to planting.
- Stand alone farmstead/homestead windbreaks do not qualify for cost-share from the Commission.
- District must secure a landowner application to determine eligibility for cost-share funds, copy to be provided with reimbursement request.
- District must provide the landowner with notification letter indicating whether or not they have been approved for cost-share, copy to be provided with reimbursement request.
- Project reimbursement will be based on actual bill/receipts submitted for completed work. Cost-share will be based on legitimate costs up to the specified maximum.
- The district provide a copy of the Joint Powers Agreement with all the conservation districts involved.
- The district provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant.
- Final report must be submitted before final reimbursement will be processed. This report must be submitted no more than 30 days after the end of the grant.

DANR:

GF&P:

	Project	Start date	End Date	Original Award	Balance	Extensions
Other current grants:						
Multi-County Brush MGMT	2024-CSW-022	07/01/2024	12/31/2025	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 3,403.13	
DCD Tree Planting	2025-CSW-014	01/01/2025	12/31/2025	\$ 10,000.00	\$12,357.90	
Awareness & Outreach Activity	2025-CSW-026	07/01/2025	06/30/2026	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	
Multi-County Brush MGMT	2025-CSW-027	07/01/2025	12/31/2026	\$ 15,000.00	\$15,000.00	

Approved:

Denied:

Reason for denial:



SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY DIVISION

523 East Capitol Avenue

Pierre, SD 57501

Phone: 605.773.3623

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GRANT APPLICATION FORM

Applicant Information

Organization: Davison Conservation District Mailing Address: 1820 N Kimball St Suite B
Telephone: (605) 996-1564 City: Mitchell State: SD Zip: 57301
Tax Status: Exempt

Project Contact

Project Officer: Matt Hayes Telephone: (605) 996-1564
Fax: (855) 256-2557 Email: matthew.hayes2@sd.nacdnet.net

Project Information

Project Name: Davison/Hanson Tree Planting
Start Date: 01/01/2026 End Date: 12/31/2026
Legal description: County: Davison/Hanson
Township: _____ Range: _____
Section: _____ Qtr: _____

Type of Grant

- ☒ Conservation Grant ☐ Community Forestry
☐ Insect/Disease ☐ Invasive Species
☐ Forest Stewardship ☐ Mountain Pine Beetle
☐ Other (specify): _____

Financial Information

Grant funds requested: \$20,000 Partner contributions (total): \$20,000 Total project cost: \$40,000.00
Please provide a brief, descriptive summary of the project:

This one-year project proposes to continue the District's program of cost-share to landowner for establishment of multi-purpose shelterbelts. These shelterbelts are multi-purpose plantings needed by landowners in Davison and Hanson counties to restore/maintain water quality, improve/maintain soil productivity, create wildlife habitat, conserve energy, and provide snow protection.

I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief, this application is true and correct. I further agree to comply with the provisions of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and regulations issued thereunder relating to nondiscrimination in federally assisted programs.

Applicant Signature Matthew Hayes Title District Manager Date 09/04/2025
Matthew Hayes | Sep 4, 2025 11:45:04 CDT

A copy of the state required [W-9 form](#) must be attached to this application.

SD EForm - 0549 V5

OFFICE USE ONLY

Signature of Reviewer _____ Title _____ Date _____
Signature of Approval _____ Title _____ Date _____

BUDGET SHEET

The total for each of these three sections should equal the "Total Project Cost" on page 1.

A. Operating Budget

1. Salary/Benefits	_____	
2. Travel	_____	
3. Contractual Services	_____	\$40,000
4. Supplies	_____	
5. Equipment (list major equipment)	_____	
6. Consultation Services	_____	
Total Project Costs	_____	\$40,000.00

This total must equal \$40,000.00

B. Activity Budget

Activity	Grant Funds	Local Funds	Local In-Kind	Other Funds	Total
1. Trees & Shrubs	\$6,000	\$6,000			\$12,000.00
2. Fabric	\$10,000	\$10,000			\$20,000.00
3. Tree Tubes	\$4,000	\$4,000			\$20,000.00
4. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	\$8,000.00
5. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	\$0.00
6. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	\$0.00
7. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	\$0.00
8. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	\$0.00
Totals	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$40,000.00

This total must equal \$40,000.00

C. Project Partners

Partners	Amount Cash	Amount In-Kind	Total
1. RC&F	\$20,000		\$20,000.00
2. Landowners	\$20,000		\$20,000.00
3. _____	_____	_____	\$0.00
4. _____	_____	_____	\$0.00
5. _____	_____	_____	\$0.00
6. _____	_____	_____	\$0.00
7. _____	_____	_____	\$0.00
8. _____	_____	_____	\$0.00
Totals	\$40,000.00	\$0.00	\$40,000.00

This total must equal \$40,000.00

Please send application and attachments to the South Dakota Department of Agriculture & Natural Resources.

Davison Conservation District

Shelterbelt Program

Project Narrative

Project Description and Need

The Davison Conservation District shelterbelt program will be used by 8 landowners in Davison and Hanson Counties and benefits all citizens living in those counties. This one-year project proposes to continue the District's program of cost share to landowners for establishment of multi-purpose planting needed by landowners in Davison and Hanson Counties to restore or maintain water quality, improve or maintain soil productivity, create wildlife habitat, conserve energy, and provide snow protection.

Identify How You Will Measure the Success of the Project

The Davison Conservation District will be responsible for this project's implementation and follow up with landowners to ensure maintenance and practice effectiveness, documentation of benefits and outcomes, and for administration.

The Davison Conservation District will provide technical assistance to landowners for planning, planting, and maintenance of these shelterbelts as an in-kind contribution from existing staff.

Partner Justification

Landowners implementing conservation practices under this proposed project will comply with the practice installation and maintenance requirements utilized by the USDA – Natural Resource Conservation Service.

Hanson Conservation District
Regular Board Meeting
July 8, 2025

Meeting called to order: J. Schoenrock called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

Attendance: Justin Schoenrock, Rod Huber, Don Wenande, Nathan Schulz, Ryan Alley, DC, Matt Hayes, Davison CD Manager and Debbie Bartscher, Administrative Secretary. Others present were Dave Klingberg, CED, FSA.

Corrections and Approval of Agenda: Motion made by R. Huber and seconded to approve the agenda; motion carried.

Review and Approval of Minutes: Motion made by R. Huber and seconded to approve the February minutes; motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: A motion was made by N. Schulz and seconded to approve the treasurer's report; motion carried.

FSA Report: Dave Klingberg gave an update on CRP and SDRP (Supplemental Disaster Relief Program). FSA is taking nominations for the county committee board which are due by August 1, 2025.

Manager's Report: Matt reported to the board that he has been working on tree plantings for next year. Right now he has about 10 producers and approximately 13.6 acres for Hanson County. Most of these will be eligible for James River Water Development District cost-share.

District Conservationist's Report: Ryan reported to the board that 5 CSP contracts were funded and 3 Ag Waste Systems were funded through EQIP.

Debbie handed out a grass drill report which was reviewed by the board.

Other Business before the Board: The board discussed including Hanson CD in the Tree Planting Commission Grant that Davison CD is applying for this fall. A motion was made by D. Wenande and seconded by N. Schulz to include Hanson CD in this grant; motion carried.

The Hanson County board reviewed and discussed the Open Meeting Laws.

The board decided not to ask for any county funds in 2026.

Adjourn: Meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Debbie Bartscher
Administrative Secretary

UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF MEETING
DAVISON CONSERVATION DISTRICT

September 4, 2025

The meeting was called to order by Wade Strand, Chairman at 1:25 p.m. at the USDA Service Center in Mitchell, SD.

Supervisors present were Wade Strand, Bruce Haines, Paul Hetland and Lewis Bainbridge. Others present were Ryan Alley, DC, Matt Hayes, District Manager and Debbie Bartscher, District Secretary-Treasurer.

The agenda for the September meeting was approved in a motion by L. Bainbridge and seconded; motion carried.

The minutes from the August board meeting were approved in a motion by B. Haines and seconded; motion carried.

The treasurer's report was given for the month of August showing a beginning balance of \$73,205.00 disbursements of \$21,782.29, receipts of \$57,336.36 leaving cash available on August 31, 2025, of \$108,759.07. A motion was made by P. Hetland and seconded to pay the pending bills. Motion carried.

The Accounts Receivable Report was discussed. The Board of Supervisors discussed cost-share for anyone who has not paid their invoice if they have applied for a grant. A motion was made by B. Haines and seconded by L. Bainbridge that the board will forfeit cost-share after 60 days if an invoice is not paid for those who have applied for a grant; motion carried.

REPORT: Matt Hayes

Matt reported that the forestry cutter has been out. He has been receiving bids for a new skid steer. He has been busy working on tree plantings for 2026. He will be checking tree plantings for dead trees next week.

REPORT: Ryan Alley

Ryan reported on EQIP and CSP. He mentioned that 66 offers have been accepted for CRP for new and re-enrolls. 5 Grassland CRP offers were accepted.

The district will be applying for a Tree Planting Grant in the fall grant round. A motion was made by P. Hetland and seconded by L. Bainbridge to apply for this grant; motion carried.

The board discussed including Hanson County in the Tree Planting Grant being applied for this fall. A motion was made by P. Hetland and seconded by B. Haines to include Hanson County in the Tree Planting Grant; motion carried.

The board discussed the October meeting. They decided not to have an October meeting due to harvest.

There being no further business to come before the board at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

Debbie Bartscher
District Secretary-Treasurer

State Conservation Commission

November 2025

Conservation District

Dewey

Project Name:

Windbreak/Shelterbelt

Start Date

01/01/2026

End Date

12/31/2026

Total Project Amount:

\$ 14,758.00

Commisson Funds:

\$ 4,878.00

District Funds:

\$ 800.00

Landowner Cash:

\$ 9,080.00

Local In-kind:

Other Funds:

Other funds:

Cash

In-kind

Total:

\$ -

\$ -

RC&F:

DANR:

GF&P:

USFWS:

NRCS:

OTHER:

Description of Grant Application:

The proposed project will install 5 rows of trees and shrubs as shelterbelt and windbreak for livestock and wildlife, with an upland exclusion fence. This project meets the goals fo the coordinated plan for the natural resources conservation by improving animal welfare, habitat availability, species diversity and soil health. it also reduces soil erosion from wind and water as welll as acts as a living snow fence for the animals in an area where no such protection is currently unavailable. Plot suits the further purpose of encouraging neighboring conservation efforts due to its high visibilty position along the highway.

If selected for funding, RC&F suggests that:

- The Conservation Commission will not reimburse any costs that exceed the 2025 Conservation Commission Cost-share Docket. Please note other restrictions as listed there.
- All tree and shrub planting plans be reviewed and approved by one of the SDDANR RCF foresters prior to planting.
- Stand alone farmstead/homestead windbreaks do not qualify for cost-share from the Commission.
- District must secure a landowner application to determine eligibility for cost-share funds, copy to be provided with reimbursement request.
- District must provide the landowner with notification letter indicating whether or not they have been approved for cost-share, copy to be provided with reimbursement request.
- Project reimbursement will be based on actual bill/receipts submitted for completed work. Cost-share will be based on legitimate costs up to the specified maximum.
- The district provide a copy of the Joint Powers Agreement with all the conservation districts involved.
- The district provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant.
- Final report must be submitted before final reimbursement will be processed. This report must be submitted no more than 30 days after the end of the grant.

DANR:

GF&P:

Other current grants:

Dewey County Tree Grant

Approved:

2025-CSW-015 01/01/2025

Denied:

Reason for denial:

Project	Start date	End Date	Original Award	Balance	Extensions
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12/31/2025	\$ 11,201.89	\$ 11,201.89			
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SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY DIVISION

523 East Capitol Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501
Phone: 605.773.3623
danr.sd.gov

GRANT APPLICATION FORM

Applicant Information

Organization: Dewey County Conservation District Mailing Address: PO Box 66
Telephone: 605-865-3552 x 3 City: Timber Lake State: SD Zip: 57656
Tax Status: exempt - local government

Project Contact

Project Officer: Angie Jones Telephone: 605-230-0968
Fax: _____ Email: deweycountycd@gmail.com

Project Information

Project Name: Windbreak/Shelterbelt
Start Date: 01/01/2026 End Date: 12/31/2026
Legal description: County: Dewey
Township: 13N Range: 31E
Section: 19 Qtr: Middle

Type of Grant

☒ Conservation Grant ☐ Community Forestry
☐ Insect/Disease ☐ Invasive Species
☐ Forest Stewardship ☐ Mountain Pine Beetle
☐ Other (specify): _____

Financial Information

Grant funds requested: 4878 Partner contributions (total): 9880 Total project cost: 14758
Please provide a brief, descriptive summary of the project:

Prb w/form see attached

I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief, this application is true and correct. I further agree to comply with the provisions of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and regulations issued thereunder relating to nondiscrimination in federally assisted programs.

Applicant Signature Angie Jones Title District manager Date 09/30/2025

A copy of the state required [W-9 form](#) must be attached to this application.

OFFICE USE ONLY

Signature of Reviewer _____ Title _____ Date _____
Signature of Approval _____ Title _____ Date _____

BUDGET SHEET

The total for each of these three sections should equal the "Total Project Cost" on page 1.

A. Operating Budget

1. Salary/Benefits	<u>1450</u>
2. Travel	<u> </u>
3. Contractual Services	<u>14758</u>
4. Supplies	<u> </u>
5. Equipment (list major equipment)	<u> </u>
6. Consultation Services	<u> </u>

Total Project Costs	<u>14758</u>	This total must equal <u>14758</u>
--------------------------------------	--------------	------------------------------------

B. Activity Budget

Activity	Grant Funds	Local Funds	Local In-Kind	Other Funds	Total
1. Site Prep	<u>203</u>	<u>305</u>	<u>3248</u>	<u> </u>	<u>3756</u>
2. Tree Planting	<u>807</u>	<u>1137</u>	<u>812</u>	<u> </u>	<u>2756</u>
3. Shrub Planting	<u>413</u>	<u>1123</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u>1536</u>
4. Exclusion fencing	<u>2205</u>	<u>2205</u>	<u>250</u>	<u> </u>	<u>4660</u>
5. Technical Assistance	<u>500</u>	<u>250</u>	<u>250</u>	<u> </u>	<u>1000</u>
6. Info & Education	<u>300</u>	<u> </u>	<u>300</u>	<u> </u>	<u>600</u>
7. Administration	<u>450</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u>450</u>
8. <u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Totals	<u>4878</u>	<u>5020</u>	<u>4860</u>	<u>14758</u>	<u> </u>

This total must equal 14758

C. Project Partners

Partners	Amount Cash	Amount In-Kind	Total
1. Commission Grant	<u>4878</u>	<u> </u>	<u>4878</u>
2. Landowner	<u>4770</u>	<u>4310</u>	<u>9080</u>
3. Conservation District	<u>300</u>	<u>500</u>	<u>800</u>
4. <u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
5. <u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
6. <u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
7. <u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
8. <u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Totals	<u>9948</u>	<u>4810</u>	<u>14758</u>

This total must equal 14758

Please send application and attachments to the South Dakota Department of Agriculture & Natural Resources.



605-865-3552 x3 - office
605-230-0968 - work cell
PO Box 66
Timber Lake, SD 57656
deweycountycd@gmail.com

9/24/25

Dear SD Conservation Commission,

The Dewey County Conservation District is pleased to submit a grant application for the 2025 fall grant round. The following application is for a five-row shelterbelt and exclusion fencing project which will start January 1st, 2026 and complete December 31st, 2026.

Along with our application, please find a copy of the minutes from our board meeting, the district's W-9, our project narrative and supporting documentation.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration of our grant application. If you have any questions or concerns, please call the Dewey County Conservation District manager, Angie Jones, at 605-230-0968.

Sincerely,

Angie Jones

Angie Jones
District Manager
Dewey County Conservation District
605-230-0968



605-865-3552 x3 - office
605-230-0968 - work cell
PO Box 66
Timber Lake, SD 57656
deweycountycd@gmail.com

9/24/25

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Along with our application, please find a copy of the minutes from our board meeting, the district's W-9, our project narrative and supporting documentation.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration of our grant application. If you have any questions or concerns, please call the Dewey County Conservation District manager, Angie Jones, at 605-230-0968.

Sincerely,

Angie Jones

Angie Jones
District Manager
Dewey County Conservation District
605-230-0968

Dewey County Conservation District Board Minutes
Special Meeting via tele-communication 9/24/25

Board members present: Jerimiah Garon, Ed Ducheneaux, Jay Jones Not present: Arden Petersen, Jim Petersen
Personnel: Angie Jones; NRCS Personnel: None

New Business

Special meeting called to order by Jerimiah Garon at 1:45 PM.

Motion made by Ed Ducheneaux to apply for the 2025 SD-DANR Commissioner's fall grant round and approve related projects and work. Seconded by Jay Jones, motion carried.

Motion made by Jerimiah Garon to apply for the NACD/NRCS TA 2025 fall grant round and approve related projects and work. Seconded by Ed Ducheneaux, motion carried

Motion made by Jerimiah Garon to apply for the 2025 Community Forestry grant and approve related projects and work, seconded by Jay Jones, motion carried.

Renewed general motion to apply for any grant funding opportunity which arises made by Jerimiah Garon, seconded by Ed Ducheneaux. Motion carried.

Next meeting set for October 1st, 2025 at 1:00 p.m.

Meeting declared adjourned by Jerimiah Garon at 1:55 PM

Minutes submitted by: Angie Jones, Business Manager

Dewey County Conservation District (DCCD)
Windbreak/Shelterbelt Project Summary

Project Brief description and summary (application form wasn't working):

The proposed project will install five rows (9,830 ft) of trees and shrubs as a shelterbelt and windbreak for livestock and wildlife, with an upland exclusion fence. This project meets the goals of the Coordinated Plan for the Natural Resources Conservation by improving animal welfare, habitat availability, species diversity and soil health. It also reduces soil erosion from wind and water, as well as acts as a living snow fence for the animals in an area where no such protection is currently available. Plot suits the further purpose of encouraging neighboring conservation efforts due to its high visibility position along the highway.

Dewey County Conservation District

Profit & Loss

January 1 through August 6, 2025

	Jan 1 - Aug 6, 25
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
4100 · Tree Planting Income (Machine)	14,361.04
4110 · Hand Plant Income	20,929.86
4120 · Fabric Income	596.00
4121 · Fabric Machine Income	24,338.09
4122 · Staples - any size	240.88
4130 · Tree Tube Installation	2,463.75
4210 · Drill Rent	3,847.00
4500 · Miscellaneous Income	22,684.18
4510 · Interest Income	62.84
4541 · Storage Unit Income	350.00
4900 · Skid Steer Income	200.00
Total Income	90,073.64
Expense	
6000 · Rent	75.00
6001 · Utilities	1,847.12
6002 · Postage	73.00
6005 · Insurance Expense	743.00
6013 · Supervisor Meals	228.62
6015 · Supervisor General Expenses	17.76
6020 · Employee Wages	13,837.50
6030 · Employer Payroll Tax	200.65
6037 · Employee Lodging	304.24
6050 · Memberships & Dues	375.00
6055 · Administrative Expense	1,060.94
6056 · Miscellaneous expense	540.24
6075 · Advertising Expense	825.78
6110 · Tree Stock	24,303.30
6111 · Tree Planting Wages	8,467.81
6113 · Tree planter repair	1,931.11
6120 · Fabric Stock	9,570.00
6134 · Fabric Machine Repair	50.00
6190 · Specialty Plant Sales Stock	82.32
6213 · Drill Repairs	21,811.58
630 · Misc Equipment Expenses	1,254.26
6302 · Misc Equipment Gas/Mileage	395.27
6520 · Interest Expense	2,393.69
6570 · Discount	376.00
66000 · Payroll Expenses	1,971.26
Total Expense	92,735.45
Net Ordinary Income	-2,661.81
Other Income/Expense	
Other Income	
1110 · Reimbursements	580.00
7300 · Other Govrnmental Grants Income	5,500.00
Total Other Income	6,080.00
Net Other Income	6,080.00
Net Income	3,418.19

Dewey County Conservation District (DCCD)
Windbreak/Shelterbelt Project Narrative

Project Description and Need:

The proposed project will install five rows of trees and shrubs as a shelterbelt and windbreak for livestock and wildlife. This project meets the goals of the Coordinated Plan for the Natural Resources Conservation by improving animal welfare, habitat availability, species diversity and soil health. It also reduces soil erosion from wind and water, as well as acts as a living snow fence for the animals.

Beyond the local benefits to the animals and land, this project also benefits everyone who travels through the southern portion of Dewey County. This is a very rural and underserved portion of our county. This project is located along the highway and is highly visible to travelers. There are not many landowners taking the initiative to plant trees in this area, so the establishment of a successful shelterbelt will inspire other locals to follow suit.

DCCD will be responsible for the implementation, maintenance and follow-up stages of this project. State forester approval has been obtained to ensure proper species selection and distance of the plot from the highway and structures. Cost share does not include the southern three tree rows of the north row, nor the portion on the west rows which curves in, due to too close of proximity to the structures. After the trees are planted and the exclusion fencing installed, DCCD will perform a final review to ensure project completeness before closing the project. At that time, the landowner will assume full responsibility for the applied practice. No additional permits or authorizations are required to complete this project.

\$300 of additional funding is requested in the category of information and education, to assist the district in placing advertisements which notify our county residents of the availability of upcoming conservation programs and suggested practices during the 2026 season.

Final Products:

Benefits of this project include establishing four acres of shelterbelt/windbreak to improve issues with soil erosion and nutrient loss, and for the protection of livestock and wildlife from wind and snow. The project provides general improvements to the surrounding animal habitat, ecosystem diversity, soil health and air quality, as well as reductions in damage from wind, snow and soil erosion. Wider benefits include community education and awareness about the use of this practice in their area.

Partner Justification:

DCCD takes pride in proactively working together to implement federal, state, tribal and local conservation programs which enhance and protect our county's natural resources. Most of Dewey county land is privately owned and operated, making efforts to work together with the landowner a vital aspect of getting conservation on the ground in Dewey county. This particular landowner is in a highly visible location along the highway, and establishment of a shelterbelt there will encourage the rest of the community to similarly invest.

How project success will be measured:

Project will be considered successful when the trees are planted and the exclusion fencing is up. Follow-up will be performed to survey species survival rate and exclusion effectiveness annually for the first three years.

Dewey County Windbreak/Shelterbelt Project detailed breakdown and estimates								
Tree Plots	info	cost	Cost-share %	Grant cost-share amount	Cash match at least 25%	In-Kind	Project Total Grant + Match	Notes
██████ 4.06 acres	5 rows, horeshoe windbreak, donating his equipment use at \$200/ac							
Site-prep	\$25/hr/ac tilled \$50/hr/ac non tilled, equipment use can also be match		40%					
--sod-breaking	\$50/acre x 4.06 acres=	\$203	40%	\$81	\$122	\$812	\$1,015	donating his equipment use at \$200/ac
--3 additional passes	\$25/acre x 4.06 acres x 3=	\$305	40%	\$122	\$183	\$2,436	\$2,741	donating his equipment use
Shrubs & planting	3940 ft of shrubs x \$0.39/ft, -1820ft not cost shared = 2120 ft	\$1,537	50%	\$413	\$1,123		\$1,537	donating his equipment use
Trees & planting	5890 ft of trees x \$0.33/ft, -1000 ft not cost shared = 4890ft	\$1,944	50%	\$807	\$1,137	\$812	\$2,756	
Exclusion fencing	4160 ft of 3 wire fence installed x \$1.06/ft =	\$4,410	50%	\$2,205	\$2,205	\$250	\$4,660	
Technical assistance	40 hr @ \$25/hr	\$1,000	50%	\$500	\$250	\$250	\$1,000	
Required Information & Education activities	Required as per administrative rule 12:03:05:11	\$600	50%	\$300		\$300	\$600	Will run 4-5 advertisements in the local papers to spread awareness of conservation opportunities, will also attend at least one local vendor fair to share program info
Administration	18 hr @ \$25/hr	\$450	<15% of grant total	\$450			\$450	
Total		\$10,447		\$4,878	\$5,019	\$4,860	\$14,757	
ESTIMATES								
Fencing footage estimate	1000+900(North) +560+540+90(East) +500+480+90(West) =	4160						
Technical Assistance Estimate	Hrs	Cost @\$25/hr	Notes					
	8/11/25	5	\$125 first in-person planning trip, 120 mile roundtrip from office, 2.5 hrs, 2.5 hrs planning design					
	8/15/25	4	\$100 Soil and species research, plan design					
	8/26/25	3	\$75 reviewing plan with state forester and landowner					
	9/2/25	2	\$50 final adjustments to plan with state forester					
	9/17/25	2	\$50 additional review with state forester					
	9/18/25	2	\$50 finalization with state forester and landowner with plan, ready for till check					
	9/19/25	2	\$50 followup with state forester and land owner over site check					
Fall check on 2nd tillage, re-check GPS points		4	\$100 in-person site check, 120 mile round trip, re-check GPS points to ensure accurate planning					
Spring check to ensure complete site prep		3	\$75 in-person site check, 120 mile round trip					
Flag site for planting		6	\$150 in-person site check, 120 mile round trip, estimate 3.5 hrs to accurately flag 4 acre horseshoe					

Provide on-site technical assistance to address issues and followup check to ensure plot is planted to spec	3	\$75	in-person site check, 120 mile round trip				
Take followup coordinates on fence and examine plot to close project	4	\$100	in-person site check, 120 mile round trip, take final GPS points to close project				
Total Estimate	40	\$1,000					
Administration estimate							
8/4/25	1	\$25	Initial contact, explore conservation needs and make plan				
8/11-9/24/25	5	\$125	preparing application				
creating and sending landowner application	1	\$25					
Reimbursement requests	5	\$125					
Inter-project communication	2	\$50					
Follow-up documentation	3	\$75					
creation of advertising and educational info	1	\$25					
Total	18	\$450					

An illustration showing two people engaged in planting a tree. One person, wearing a yellow shirt and brown pants, is standing next to a large, dark green evergreen tree. The other person, wearing a yellow shirt, brown pants, and a red cap, is using a shovel to dig a hole in the ground. The background features a grassy field, several other evergreen trees, and a blue sky with white clouds.

Commission Grant

~~Adi~~

Date: 22/09/2025

TREE PLANTING SPECIFICATION SHEET

Producer: _____ Year to be Planted: 2026

County Dewey Farm _____ Tract _____ Field _____ Windbreak Type _____ Livestock Windbreak _____

Program _____ CIN or referral # _____ Practice _____ Practice # _____

Soil Map Unit: _____ Legal Desc. Sec 19 TWP 13N RGE 31E

Resource Concern _____ Livestock Production Limitation _____ Purpose: 380 - Provide shelter for structures, animals, and people.
(CPPE Impact) _____ Inadequate Shelter (5) _____

Present Ground Cover:

List the herbicides applied
List the herbicides applied
List the herbicides applied

2025	
2024	
2023	

Fallow Needed?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Are Utilities Present?

(Overhead or Underground)

(Call Before You Dig 1-800-781-7474)

☒ Yes ☐ No

Are Cultural Resource Concerns Addressed?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Site Preparation Needed Prior To Planting:

☐ None ☐ Herbicide ☐ Chisel Plow ☒ Disk ☐ Roto Tiller ☐ Windbreak Renovation ☐ Other

Describe Other:

Planting Method:

☒ Machine ☐ Scalp ☐ Hand Plant

Planned Weed Control:

Within Row

☒ Mechanical ☐ Herbicide ☐ Tree Fabric

_____ Feet of Fabric

In Between Row

☒ Mechanical ☐ Herbicide ☐ Grass Seeding

_____ Tree Tubes

Estimated Fencing Needed to Exclude Livestock (feet):

_____ Feet of Fence

Planning Assistance By:

Angie Jones

8/14/2025

(Name)

(Date)

PRACTICE CERTIFICATION

Date Planted:

Planted By:

Practice Meets SD Standards and Specifications:

Yes ☐

No ☐

(If "No" is checked, state reasons in the comments on performance section)

Certified By:

(Name)

(Title)

(Date)

How Measured?

☐ Wheel ☐ Photo ☒ GPS ☐ Other

Describe other _____

4.06

Acres Planned

_____ Acres Applied

_____ Feet of Windbreak Applied

_____ Feet Fabric Applied

_____ Tree Tubes Applied

Comments on Performance:

Establishment

SD-CPA-6e

MLRA		PLANTING INFORMATION --										APPLIED				Check if Installed	Check if Installed	Calc-ulate								
Site No.	WSS	Spacing (feet)		Row No.	Species from North or West	Alternate With	(Feet) Spacing in Row	Approx. Length of rows		Approx. No. of Plants	Fabric (Feet)	Tree Tubes	Seedling Source	Width (feet)	Spacing (ft.)	Approximate In the Row	Length (Feet) (Rods)		Fabric (Feet)	Tree Tubes	No. of Plants					
		Isolation	Between Row					Feet	Rods								Feet	Rods								
1	4C	15		1	Eastern Red Cedar		8	970	58.8	121																
			15	2	Rocky Mountain juniper		10	970	58.8	97																
	4C		15	3	Bur Oak		16	960	58.2	60																
	4C		15	4	Silver buffaloberryPM		6	970	58.8	162																
	4C		15	5	Hanson hedge rose	Goldan currants	4	960	58.2	240																
2	4C	15		1	Hanson hedge rose	Goldan currants	4	530	32.1	133																
			15	2	Silver buffaloberryPM		6	530	32.1	88																
	4C		15	3	Bur Oak		18	530	32.1	29																
	4C		15	4	Rocky Mountain juniper		10	530	32.1	53																
	4C		15	5	Eastern Red Cedar		10	530	32.1	53																
3	4C	15		1	Eastern Red Cedar		8	470	28.5	59																
			15	2	Rocky Mountain juniper		10	470	28.5	47																
	4C		15	3	Bur Oak		18	470	28.5	26																
	4C		15	4	Silver buffaloberryPM		6	470	28.5	78																
	4C		15	5	Hanson hedge rose	Golden Currants	4	470	28.5	118																
							Totals	9,830	595.8	1,364																
							4.06	acres planned															acres applied			

Section		Comments:	Site 1 - North rows, parallel to the road. Only rows 1 & 2 will be cost-shared due to road/house spacing requirements		
			Site 2 - East side by the buffalo fence		
Township		Site 3 - West side along driveway. Cost-share only extends to where the driveway curves on the south end.			
Range					
MAP	N	Producer Name			
		Address			
LOCATION		Site Address			
		Phone	Home Work Cell		
		Type of Planting	Livestock Windbreak	Program	
		Site Prep	Disk	Practice #	
		Applied	Date Completed:	Completed by:	
		Windbreak			
		Fabric			

Tree Plot outline, near Swift Bird, SD just south of Hwy 212



State Conservation Commission

November 2025

Conservation District

Fall River

Project Name:

Forest Resiliency Project

Start Date

01/01/2026

End Date

12/31/2028

Total Project Amount:

\$ 30,000.00

Commisson Funds:

\$ 15,000.00

District Funds:

\$ 1,000.00

Landowner Cash:

\$ 14,000.00

Local In-kind:

Other Funds:

Other funds:

Cash

In-kind

Total:

\$ - \$ -

RC&F:

DANR:

GF&P:

USFWS:

NRCS:

OTHER:

Description of Grant Application:

The purpose of this grant is to provide cost-share funds and opportunities to empower private landowners to manage their forested property. Goal of this project is to improve the overall forest health in Fall River County, reduce the potential for high severity fires, and assist with other landowners goals such as increase timber production and increased forage production on their property. this project will include thinning by removal of trees, disposal of timber waste piles, encouragement of practices to encourage health of all tree species, assist with fencing projects to promote hardwood regeneration and water quality protection, as well as the enchancemnt of natural meadow areas.

If selected for funding, RC&F suggests that:

- The district provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant.
- Project reimbursement will be based on actual bill/receipts submitted for completed work. Cost-share will be based on legitimate costs up to the specified maximum.

DANR:

GF&P:

Other current grants:

Forest Resiliency Health

Project

Start date

End Date

Original Award

Balance

Extensions

2025-CSW-017 01/01/2025

12/31/2027

\$ 15,000.00

\$15,000.00

Approved:

Denied:

Reason for denial:



SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY DIVISION

523 East Capitol Avenue

Pierre, SD 57501

Phone: 605.773.3623 Fax: 605.773.3481

sdda.sd.gov

GRANT APPLICATION FORM

Applicant Information

Organization: Fall River Conservation District Mailing Address: 341 S Chicago St
Telephone: 605-745-5716 City: Hot Springs State: SD Zip: 57747
Tax Status: Government

Project Contact

Project Officer: Hayley Hamilton Telephone: 605-745-5716
Fax: _____ Email: fallrivercd@sdconservation.net

Project Information

Project Name: Forest Resiliency Project
Start Date: 01/01/2026 End Date: 12/31/2028
Legal description: County Fall River
Township: _____ Range: _____
Section: _____ Qtr: _____

Type of Grant

- ☒ Conservation Grant ☐ Community Forestry
☐ Insect/Disease ☐ Invasive Species
☐ Forest Stewardship ☐ Mountain Pine Beetle
☐ Other (specify): _____

Financial Information

Grant funds requested: 15000 Partner contributions (total): 15000 Total project cost: 30000
Please provide a brief, descriptive summary of the project:

*1.14The purpose of this grant is to provide cost-share funds and opportunities to empower private landowners to manage their forested property. Goals of this project is to improve the overall forest health in Fall River County, reduce the potential for high severity fires, and assist with other landowner goals such as increase timber production and increased forage production on their property. This project will include thinning by removal of trees, disposal of timber waste piles (slash piles), encouragement of practices to encourage health of all tree species, assist with fencing projects to promote hardwood regeneration and water quality protection, as well as the enhancement of natural meadow areas.

This grant will be to assist landowners in treating 16 acres for forest stand improvement practices in Fall River County, SD.

I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief, this application is true and correct. I further agree to comply with the provisions of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and regulations issued thereunder relating to nondiscrimination in federally assisted programs.

Applicant Signature Hayley Hamilton Title District Manager Date 9/18/25
A copy of the state required W-9 form must be attached to this application.

OFFICE USE ONLY

Signature of Reviewer _____ Title _____ Date _____
Signature of Approval _____ Title _____ Date _____

BUDGET SHEET

The total for each of these three sections should equal the "Total Project Cost" on page 1.

A. Operating Budget

1. Salary/Benefits	2000	
2. Travel		
3. Contractual Services	28000	
4. Supplies		
5. Equipment (list major equipment)		
6. Consultation Services		
Total Project Costs	30000	This total must equal 30000

B. Activity Budget

Activity	Grant Funds	Local Funds	Local In-Kind	Other Funds	Total
1. Forest Stand Improvement	14000	14000			28000
2. Administration	1000	1000			2000
3. _____					0
4. _____					0
5. _____					0
6. _____					0
7. _____					0
8. _____					0
Totals	15000	15000	0	0	30000
This total must equal					30000

C. Project Partners

Partners	Amount Cash	Amount In-Kind	Total
1. DANR RC&F	15000		15000
2. Landowners	14000		14000
3. Conservation	1000		1000
4. _____			0
5. _____			0
6. _____			0
7. _____			0
8. _____			0
Totals	30000		30000
This total must equal			30000

Please send application and attachments to the South Dakota Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

Resource Conservation and Forestry

Grant Application Guidelines

In addition to a completed application, please provide a project narrative. The narrative should not exceed three pages of single-spaced text. Please attach any maps, figures, and photographs that you feel are valuable in explaining the project. The project narrative must include:

Project Partners

- Please list any project partners and quantify their contribution to the project.
- Any practice funded by the Coordinated Natural Resources Conservation Grant funds must meet one or more goals of the Coordinated Plan for the Natural Resources Conservation.

Project Descriptions and Need

- Explain who will be the primary beneficiaries of this project.
- Define who will be responsible for the implementation, maintenance, and follow-up stages of the project.
- Indicate where this project will be located (district, watershed, community, etc.). Attach maps as relevant.
- Describe the specific environmental, natural resource, ecological, educational, and/or socio-economic need(s) that the project will address.
- Briefly describe the specific on-the-ground restoration activities to be undertaken on-site to achieve the project objectives and why it is needed.
- Explain if this project is part of a larger regional and/or local watershed effort.
- Describe provisions to ensure long-term management and protection of the project (e.g., conservation easements on private land, long-term monitoring program).
- Please indicate if any federal, state, or local permits are required to complete the project and the status of efforts to secure necessary authorization.

Final Products

- Describe the anticipated benefits of the project from an ecological, educational, and/or socio-economic perspective (e.g., number of acres of wetlands or stream miles restored, target audience and how they will benefit).
- Identify how you will measure the success of the project.

Partner Justification

- Describe the strengths, qualifications, and nature of the contribution of your organization and other collaborating organizations.

In addition to the application and project narrative, applications for Conservation Commission Grants also must include:

- A copy of the motion of official action by the board of the sponsoring district to approve the project and the grant application.

Applicants also should review Chapter 12:03:05 of Administrative Rules, especially regarding format of application, project costs, length of grant periods, ineligible grant purposes, and required prior reports (including annual financial and progress reports for the prior fiscal year).

In addition to the application and project narrative, applications for Urban and Community Forestry Challenge Grants must also include:

- Completed sub-grant questionnaire.
- Submit a work plan outlining the activities you wish to accomplish through this grant.

Tree species selected must be at least 1¼ inch caliper and at least 10 feet tall in accordance with the American Standard for Nursery Stock (ANSI Z60.1 – 2006).

**MINUTES FOR THE
FALL RIVER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
SUPERVISOR'S MEETING
August 14th, 2025
USDA Conference Room**

CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER: John Sides 11:02 am

MEMBERS PRESENT: Gordon Brooks, Jerry Wyatt, Bob Novotny, John Sides, Russ Christensen

MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT: Hayley Hamilton, Brad Humbracht, Michael, Bordelon

Revise or Approved Agenda: 1st Gordon 2nd Russ, all aye

Read & Approved Minutes from last meeting: 1st Bob 2nd Gordon, all aye

Read & Approved Financial Report: 1st Russ 2nd John, all aye

Read & Approved Pay Bills: 1ST Gordon 2ND Bob, all aye

PARTNERSHIP REPORTS:

NRCS Report: Brad gave the report

Weed & Pest: John and Bob gave the report

Game Fish & Parks: No report

Forestry: Michael gave a report

Motions

- A motion to approve Soil Health Coalition and Ag Banquet Sponsorship 1st Bob 2nd Russ, all aye
- Motion to approve work plan for future tree thinning applications and applications in Queue 1st Gordon 2nd Bob all aye
- Board made a motion to approve to apply for another tree thinning grant 1st Jerry 2nd Gordon, all aye
- Motion made to have Fall River Conservation District participate in the Stewardship Grant with Pennington Conservation District 1st Russ 2nd Jerry, all aye
- Motion made to update Districts Big Sioux voting member from Ann Abbott to Hayley Hamilton 1st Gordon 2nd Jerry all aye

Discussions

•

Motion to adjourn the meeting: 1st Gordon, 2nd Russ, All aye.

Time of Adjournment: 11:54 AM

State Conservation Commission

November 2025

Conservation District

Hamlin

Project Name:

2026 Tree Plantings

Start Date

01/01/2026

End Date

12/31/2027

Total Project Amount:

\$ 35,243.00

Commission Funds:

\$ 11,033.00

District Funds:

\$ 100.00

Landowner Cash:

\$ 24,110.00

Local In-kind:

Other Funds:

Other funds:

Cash In-kind

Total:

\$ - \$ -

RC&F:

DANR:

GF&P:

USFWS:

NRCS:

OTHER:

Description of Grant Application:

This application is funding to landowners, who administer their land in hamlin co and wish to plant trees, install fabric, and renovate existing shelterbelts. The plantings could include livestock shelterbelts, field windbreaks, riparian buffers, wildlife habitat, and partial of full shelterbelt renovations;which include adding to an existing windbreak. the goal of this project is to help cost share up to five acres of tree and fabric. the cost share is 55% producer and 45% Commission Grant.

If selected for funding, RC&F suggests that:

- The Conservation Commission will not reimburse any costs that exceed the 2025 Conservation Commission Cost-share Docket. Please note other restrictions as listed there.
- All tree and shrub planting plans be reviewed and approved by one of the SDDANR RCF foresters prior to planting.
- Stand alone farmstead/homestead windbreaks do not qualify for cost-share from the Commission.
- District must secure a landowner application to determine eligibility for cost-share funds, copy to be provided with reimbursement request.
- District must provide the landowner with notification letter indicating whether or not they have been approved for cost-share, copy to be provided with reimbursement request.
- Project reimbursement will be based on actual bill/receipts submitted for completed work. Cost-share will be based on legitimate costs up to the specified maximum.
- The district provide a copy of the Joint Powers Agreement with all the conservation districts involved.
- The district provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant.
- Final report must be submitted before final reimbursement will be processed. This report must be submitted no more than 30 days after the end of the grant.

DANR:

GF&P:

	Project	Start date	End Date	Original Award	Balance	Extensions
--	---------	------------	----------	----------------	---------	------------

Other current grants:

N/A

N/A

N/A

N/A

N/A

N/A

N/A

Approved:

Denied:

Reason for denial:



SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY DIVISION

523 East Capitol Avenue

Pierre, SD 57501

Phone: 605.773.3623

danr.sd.gov

GRANT APPLICATION FORM

Applicant Information

Organization: Hamlin Conservation District

Mailing Address: PO Box 165

Telephone: (605) 753-3642

City: Hayti State: SD Zip: 57241

Tax Status: Exempt-Government

Project Contact

Project Officer: Peggy Loomis

Telephone: (605) 783-3642

Fax: _____

Email: hamlincd@sdconservation.net

Project Information

Project Name: 2026 Tree Plantings

Start Date: 01/01/2026 End Date: 12/31/2027

Legal description: County: Hamlin

Township: _____ Range: _____

Section: _____ Qtr: _____

Type of Grant

☒ Conservation Grant ☐ Community Forestry

☐ Insect/Disease ☐ Invasive Species

☐ Forest Stewardship ☐ Mountain Pine Beetle

☐ Other (specify): _____

Financial Information

Grant funds requested: \$11033.00 Partner contributions (total): \$24,210.00 Total project cost: 35,243.00

Please provide a brief, descriptive summary of the project:

This application is for funding to landowners, who administer their land in Hamlin County and wish to plant trees, install fabric, and renovate existing shelterbelts. The plantings could include livestock shelterbelts, field windbreaks, riparian buffers, wildlife habitat, and partial or full shelterbelt renovations; which include adding to an existing windbreak. All plantings will provide benefits by reducing the wind, thus reducing soil erosion, protecting livestock from adverse weather conditions, improving water quality through planting riparian buffers, and increasing wildlife habitat. The project will not only include the planting but also the installation of fabric. There continues to be a need for financial assistance; as costs continue to rise. These projects cannot be eligible for cost share assistance through any other program. All tree plans will be approved by the Area Forester prior to planting. The most current Docket will be followed for all cost share percentages and guidelines. The goal of this project is to help cost share up to five acres of trees and fabric. The cost share is 55% Producer and 45% Commission Grant. This is a two year grant application, which follows the rules for land prep at least eight months prior to planting.

I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief, this application is true and correct. I further agree to comply with the provisions of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and regulations issued thereunder relating to nondiscrimination in federally assisted programs.

Applicant Signature

Peggy Loomis

Title District Manager

Date 08/14/2025

A copy of the state required [B-4 form](#) must be attached to this application.

SD EForm - 0540 v03

OFFICE USE ONLY

Signature of Reviewer _____

Title _____

Date _____

Signature of Approval _____

Title _____

Date _____

BUDGET SHEET

The total for each of these three sections should equal the "Total Project Cost" on page 1.

A. Operating Budget

1. Salary/Benefits	\$ 400.00
2. Travel	
3. Contractual Services	\$ 34,843.00
4. Supplies	
5. Equipment (list major equipment)	
6. Consultation Services	

Total Project Costs 35,243.00 This total must equal 35,243.00

B. Activity Budget

Activity	Grant Funds	Local Funds	Local In-Kind	Other Funds	Total
1. Contractual Services	10,733.00	24,110.00			34,843.00
2. Administration	300.00		100.00		400.00
3. _____					
4. _____					
5. _____					
6. _____					
7. _____					
8. _____					
Totals	<u>11,033.00</u>	<u>24,110.00</u>	<u>100.00</u>		<u>35,243.00</u>

This total must equal 35,243.00

C. Project Partners

Partners	Amount Cash	Amount In-Kind	Total
1. SD DANR	11,033.00		11,033.00
2. Hamlin District		100.00	100.00
3. Hamlin Producers	24,110.00		24,110.00
4. _____			
5. _____			
6. _____			
7. _____			
8. _____			
Totals			<u>35,243.00</u>

This total must equal 35,243.00

Please send application and attachments to the South Dakota Department of Agriculture & Natural Resources.

This project will provide cost share to Hamlin County Producers and land administered in the Hamlin County offices to plant trees, install fabric, as well as adding new seedlings to existing aging shelterbelts.

Anyone living in the Hamlin County area will benefit from these plantings through reduced soil erosion, protection to crops, livestock and farmyard. These shelterbelts keep the cold winter winds at bay, as well as the hot summer winds. They give protection from deep snow piles to soil erosion. As well as reduce farmstead/feedlot energy costs, increased wildlife habitat and country aesthetics. The economic benefits through improved efficiency for livestock, reduction of energy costs, and improved value of land are additional benefits of tree plantings.

The Hamlin Conservation District will evaluate the prepped tree plantings and renovation sites to determine if the site is in need of additional coverage, along with the Area Forester. If it is determined feasible, a plan of action will be drawn up with the producer. Year 1 will include the plan of action, planting and installation of fabric, if requested. Year 2 will include the replacement tree seedlings, survival and monitoring of the site. Trees will be planted following approval from the Forester.

This project will be generally located within the Hamlin County boundaries, however, if a producer is outside the county line, yet administers their land in Hamlin County; they too shall receive funding for their project. The Hamlin Conservation District maintains Joint Powers of Agreement with adjoining Conservation Districts.

These tree plantings will reduce soil erosion, improve and protect water quality, improve air quality, increase wildlife habitat, and use of more efficient energy. This funding will help to beautify the community. Trees truly add to the beauty of the land. The decaying shelterbelts will be enhanced with new seedlings. More efficient use of our energy saves money which is a social benefit to the County.

Zoning regulations will be followed as per Hamlin County Ordinances.

Expected benefits of the project include the conservation of the natural resources in Hamlin County through the planting of new and restoration of older shelterbelts. The goal is to improve such belts by adding new trees or replacing trees into the existing shelterbelts. Socio-economic benefits of the Hamlin Tree Plantings will come as a result of increased aesthetics in rural areas and increased efficiency for homeowners. In addition, by improving the existing shelterbelts, there is an increased awareness of resource conservation.

The Hamlin County Conservation District will be responsible for the administration of the project. The most current Conservation Commission Approved Practices Costs and the Approved Cost-Share Percentages will be followed. The South Dakota Coordinated Soil and Water Conservation Plan will be followed. The district will conform to the goals and objectives of this plan. The district has an excellent tree planting program, and will be responsible for the planting of the trees/shrubs. The district will be responsible for the project management, marketing, shelterbelt design, technical assistance, and evaluation of the project.

The Conservation Commission Grant will be responsible for approximately 45% of the entire project. The project will use the Area Forester for his resources for adaptable trees in the area, disease concerns, and general knowledge of trees. The tree plantings will follow the guidelines and specifications approved by the area forester. The Landowner will have the most to gain from this project. They will provide at least 55% of the cost of the total project.

Project success will be measured by the number of acres of new trees planted, along with the number of landowners assisted. Tree survival will be evaluated on all plantings in August and September of each year. The improvement of water quality, reduction of soil erosion, the protection of ground water, and the improvement of range and pastureland will be the true measures of success.

Success rates in projects of this variety are very hard to measure. At the rate that trees are being removed and not replaced, any new plantings should be considered a success! The value of these tree sites are incalculable.

2026 Tree Plantings for Hamlin CD
Approved Practices and Cost-Share Percentages

<i>Practice</i>	<i>Maximum Cost</i>	<i>Estimated Units</i>	<i>Cost Share %</i>	<i>Total Cost \$</i>	<i>CC Grant \$</i>	<i>Producer Costs \$</i>	<i>CD Costs \$</i>
Administrative	\$30.00/hr	13		\$400	\$300	\$0	\$100
Contractual Services:							
Trees/Shrubs		approx 5 acres	50%	\$34,843	\$10,733	\$24,110	\$0
Fabric							
Renovations							
Totals				\$35,243	\$11,033	\$24,110	\$100
Total Cost of Project	\$35,243				45%	55%	

Calculations for cost share

1 acre = 3111'

	District	Grant C/S	50% C/S		Dist Chg	C/S	Producer	
Trees	\$0.65	\$0.52	\$0.26		\$2,022.15	\$824.42	\$1,197.73	59.20%
Shrubs	\$0.65	\$0.54	\$0.27					
Fabric	\$0.90	\$0.85	\$0.43		\$2,799.90	\$1,322.18	\$1,477.72	52.78%
					Dist. Invoice	Less C/S	Producer Responsibility	
Totals					\$4,822.05	\$2,146.60	\$2,675.45	55.50%

This Grant will cost share approximately 45% of the producer costs.

	<i>Dist Chg</i>	<i>Grant c/s</i>
3 acres	\$14,466.00	\$6,439.80
	\$20,905.80	
5 acres	\$24,110.25	\$10,733.00
	\$34,843.25	



Hutchinson Conservation District
459 E Hwy 18
Menno, SD 57045

(605) 387-5539
hutchcd@gwtc.net

September 25, 2025

South Dakota DNR
Division of Resource Conservation & Forestry
Attn: Alex Roeber
523 East Capital Ave
Pierre, SD 57501

Dear South Dakota Conservation Commission:

The Hutchinson Conservation District is pleased to submit our grant application for consideration in the 2025 Fall Grant Round. This application is for the HCD Shelterbelt Grant, which will begin on January 1, 2026 and conclude on December 31, 2026.

Enclosed with the application, you will find a copy of the minutes from our most recent board meeting, the districts W-9 form, spreadsheets outlining our budget figures, and a narrative describing the project in detail.

We appreciate your time and consideration of our request. Should you have any questions or require additional information, please feel free to contact our District Manager, Bryan, at 605-387-5539.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gerald Nusz".

Gerald Nusz
Hutchinson Conservation Chairman

State Conservation Commission

November 2025

Conservation District

Hutchinson

Project Name:

HCD Shelterbelt Grant

Start Date

01/01/2026

End Date

12/31/2026

Total Project Amount:

\$ 22,000.00

Commisson Funds:

\$ 11,000.00

District Funds:

Landowner Cash:

\$ 11,000.00

Local In-kind:

Other Funds:

Other funds:

Cash In-kind

Total:

\$ - \$ -

RC&F:

DANR:

GF&P:

USFWS:

NRCS:

OTHER:

Description of Grant Application:

We would like to offer this grant for more cost-share opportunities for the landowners/ operators for Hutchinson County.

If selected for funding, RC&F suggests that:

- The Conservation Commission will not reimburse any costs that exceed the 2025 Conservation Commission Cost-share Docket. Please note other restrictions as listed there.
- All tree and shrub planting plans be reviewed and approved by one of the SDDANR RCF foresters prior to planting.
- Stand alone farmstead/homestead windbreaks do not qualify for cost-share from the Commission.
- District must secure a landowner application to determine eligibility for cost-share funds, copy to be provided with reimbursement request.
- District must provide the landowner with notification letter indicating whether or not they have been approved for cost-share, copy to be provided with reimbursement request.
- Project reimbursement will be based on actual bill/receipts submitted for completed work. Cost-share will be based on legitimate costs up to the specified maximum.
- The district provide a copy of the Joint Powers Agreement with all the conservation districts involved.
- The district provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant.
- Final report must be submitted before final reimbursement will be processed. This report must be submitted no more than 30 days after the end of the grant.

DANR:

GF&P:

Other current grants:

N/A

Project	Start date	End Date	Original Award	Balance	Extensions
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	

Approved:

Denied:

Reason for denial:



SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY DIVISION

523 East Capitol Avenue

Pierre, SD 57501

Phone: 605.773.3623

danr.sd.gov

GRANT APPLICATION FORM

Applicant Information

Organization: Hutchinson Conservation District Mailing Address: 459 East HWY 18

Telephone: (605) 387-5539 City: Menno State: SD Zip: 57045

Tax Status: Government

Project Contact

Project Officer: Bryan Kludt Telephone: (605) 387-5539

Fax: _____ Email: hutchcd@gwtc.net

Project Information

Project Name: HCD Shelterbelt Grant

Start Date: 01/01/2026 End Date: 12/31/2026

Legal description: County: Hutchinson

Township: _____ Range: _____

Section: _____ Qtr: _____

Type of Grant

☒ Conservation Grant ☐ Community Forestry

☐ Insect/Disease ☐ Invasive Species

☐ Forest Stewardship ☐ Mountain Pine Beetle

☐ Other (specify): _____

Financial Information

Grant funds requested: \$ 11,000.00 Partner contributions (total): \$ 11,000.00 Total project cost: \$22,000.00

Please provide a brief, descriptive summary of the project:

The Hutchinson County Shelter belt Grant will be the first commission grant in Hutchinson County. We would like to offer this grant for more cost-share opportunities for the landowners/operators of Hutchinson County,

I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief, this application is true and correct. I further agree to comply with the provisions of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and regulations issued thereunder relating to nondiscrimination in federally assisted programs.

Applicant Signature *Bryan Kludt* Title Chairman Date 09/25/2025

A copy of the state required W-9 form must be attached to this application.

SD EForm - 0549 V5

OFFICE USE ONLY

Signature of Reviewer _____ Title _____ Date _____

Signature of Approval _____ Title _____ Date _____

BUDGET SHEET

The total for each of these three sections should equal the "Total Project Cost" on page 1.

A. Operating Budget

1. Salary/Benefits	_____	
2. Travel	_____	
3. Contractual Services	_____	\$ 16,000.00
4. Supplies	_____	
5. Equipment (list major equipment)	_____	
6. Consultation Services	_____	
Total Project Costs	\$16,000.00	This total must equal \$22,000.00

B. Activity Budget

Activity	Grant Funds	Local Funds	Local In-Kind	Other Funds	Total
1. Tree Planting	3,200.00	3,200.00	_____	_____	\$6,400.00
2. Fabric Installation	5,210.00	5,210.00	_____	_____	\$10,420.00
3. Tree Tubes	2,250.00	2,250.00	_____	_____	\$4,500.00
4. Tree Tube Installation	340.00	340.00	_____	_____	\$680.00
5. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
6. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
7. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
8. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Totals	\$11,000.00	\$11,000.00	_____	_____	\$22,000.00
				This total must equal	\$22,000.00

C. Project Partners

Partners	Amount Cash	Amount In-Kind	Total
1. DANR	11,000.00	_____	\$11,000.00
2. Landowners/operators	11,000.00	_____	\$11,000.00
3. _____	_____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____	_____
5. _____	_____	_____	_____
6. _____	_____	_____	_____
7. _____	_____	_____	_____
8. _____	_____	_____	_____
Totals	\$22,000.00	_____	\$22,000.00
			This total must equal \$22,000.00

Please send application and attachments to the South Dakota Department of Agriculture & Natural Resources:

		<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>GRANT</u>	<u>LOCAL</u>	<u>INKIND</u>	
tree planting	12260 l.f. @ \$0.52	6,400	3200	3200		6400
	50%					
fabric	12260 l.f. @ \$0.85	10420	5210	5210		10420
	50%					
Tree Protectors	400 protectors @11.25	4500	2250	2250		4500
	50%					
Tree Protector Installation	400 @ 1.70	680	340	340		680
	50%					
		22000	11000	11000	0	22000

SHELTERBELT COST-SHARE NARRATIVE

Project Description And Need

Primary Beneficiaries

This project is designed to make funds available to landowners to plant trees on sites to protect livestock and out buildings. Landowners and operators who establish new shelterbelts will see many benefits. The new shelterbelts will provide protection for livestock of all ages reducing health costs and death loss to producers. The new shelterbelts will reduce energy needs by sheltering buildings and livestock from harsh weather conditions. Other benefits of the newly established shelterbelts include increased wildlife habitat and increased hunting areas for hunters. The public will benefit by the improved aesthetics a properly designed shelterbelt can provide.

Implementation, Maintenance And Follow-Up

The Hutchinson Conservation District will be responsible for the implementation of these projects. Maintenance of the project areas will be monitored by Hutchinson Conservation District and provided by either the Conservation District or the producers. Follow-up activities will be done by the Conservation District through personal interviews with the producers to closely monitor savings and benefits of the projects.

Project Location

The project will be required to be located anywhere within the boundaries of the Hutchinson Conservation District.

Special Needs Addressed

Shelterbelts greatly diminish the effect of cold temperatures on livestock. This significantly lowers stress on animals and consequently reduces feed energy requirements. Livestock producers and ranchers will see better animal health and greater financial gain.

Site Specific Activities

Soils, data, proper site preparation principals, and prior chemical use will be monitored carefully to ensure that the tree planting is successful, and the newly established plants have the best possible chance to survive. Cultural resource data and utility line location will also be part of the project to help protect the producers' project from harming others. Plans will be designed to provide the maximum benefit for the producer, the type of livestock, wildlife, and erosion needs in each specific area.

Project Management And Protection

Producers receiving financial assistance for these projects will be required to properly care for their new shelterbelt. Technical assurance will be provided by Hutchinson Conservation District.

Required Permits

No federal, state, or local permits will be required prior to the establishment of these projects in Hutchinson County.

Conservation District

Hughes County

Project Name:

2025-2027 HCCD Tree Initiative

Start Date

01/01/2026

End Date

06/30/2027

Total Project Amount:

\$ 53,250.00

Commisson Funds:

\$ 15,000.00

District Funds:

\$ 2,765.00

Landowner Cash:

\$ 35,485.00

Local In-kind:

Other Funds:

Other funds:

Cash In-kind

Total:

\$ - \$ -

RC&F:

DANR:

GF&P:

USFWS:

NRCS:

OTHER:

Description of Grant Application:

Hughes CD over the past several years has been contacted by several producers in the county. These producers want to create or reestablish a windbreak consistent with NRCS or GF&P standards and plans but they do not meet the qualifications and requirements for assistance from programs like CRP, EQIP, CSP or Woody Habitat Program. Hughes CD staff will assist each producer with the planning of their project, and the implementation of each project once a deposit has been received by the producer along with a signed HCCD tree planting contract.

If selected for funding, RC&F suggests that:

- The Conservation Commission will not reimburse any costs that exceed the 2025 Conservation Commission Cost-share Docket. Please note other restrictions as listed there.
- All tree and shrub planting plans be reviewed and approved by one of the SDDANR RCF foresters prior to planting.
- Stand alone farmstead/homestead windbreaks do not qualify for cost-share from the Commission.
- District must secure a landowner application to determine eligibility for cost-share funds, copy to be provided with reimbursement request.
- District must provide the landowner with notification letter indicating whether or not they have been approved for cost-share, copy to be provided with reimbursement request.
- Project reimbursement will be based on actual bill/receipts submitted for completed work. Cost-share will be based on legitimate costs up to the specified maximum.
- The district provide a copy of the Joint Powers Agreement with all the conservation districts involved.
- The district provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant.
- Final report must be submitted before final reimbursement will be processed. This report must be submitted no more than 30 days after the end of the grant.

DANR:

GF&P:

	Project	Start date	End Date	Original Award	Balance	Extensions
--	---------	------------	----------	----------------	---------	------------

Other current grants:

N/A

N/A

N/A

N/A

N/A

N/A

N/A

Approved:

Denied:

Reason for denial:



SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY DIVISION

523 East Capitol Avenue

Pierre, SD 57501

Phone: 605.773.3623 Fax: 605.773.3481

sdda.sd.gov

GRANT APPLICATION FORM

Applicant Information

Organization: Hughes County Conservation District Mailing Address: 1717 N Lincoln Ave, Suite 103

Telephone: 605-301-3401 City: Pierre State: SD Zip: 57501

Tax Status: Government

Project Contact

Project Officer: Triniti Sowards Telephone: 605-280-6715

Fax: _____ Email: hughesccd@gmail.com

Project Information

Project Name: 2025-2027 HCCD Tree Initiative

Start Date: January 1, 2026 End Date: June 30, 2027

Legal description: County _____

Township: _____ Range: _____

Section: _____ Qtr: _____

Type of Grant

- ☒ Conservation Grant ☐ Community Forestry
☐ Insect/Disease ☐ Invasive Species
☐ Forest Stewardship ☐ Mountain Pine Beetle
☐ Other (specify): _____

Financial Information

Grant funds requested: 15000 Partner contributions (total): 48250 Total project cost: 63250

Please provide a brief, descriptive summary of the project:

Hughes County Conservation District, over the past several years have been contacted by numerous producers within our county. These producers would like to create or reestablish a windbreak consistent with NRCS or GF&P standards and plans, but they do not meet the qualifications and requirements for assistance from programs such as CRP, EQIP, CSP, or Woody Habitat Program. These producers are unable to acquire the funds for the full scope of each of these projects on their own without some form of cost share assistance. Through the use of these funds our district would like to fill this void within our county and supply these producers with the technical expertise to plan and then implement these projects, along with supplying up to 50% of the total project costs utilizing these grant funds, providing up to 25% of the total cost utilizing the districts resources, while relying on each producer to supply the remaining cost balance of the projects utilizing cash and in-kind amounts.

Hughes County Conservation District staff will assist each producer with the planning of their project, and the implementation of each project once a deposit has been received by the producer along with a signed HCCD tree planting contract. Each producer would then be contractually obligated under the threat of cost share repayment to ensure the sustainability of at least 85% survivability counts for the first three growing seasons, to help the producer insure the 85% survivability.

This grant proposal would help cost-share approximately 60,000 feet of new windbreaks, shelter-belt machine tree plantings, fabric installations and renovations in addition to numerous hand planted trees for producers who have verbally committed to projects, are willing and ready to go. We also maintain a list of individuals and projects who have expressed extreme interest in accomplishing plantings under just such a grant proposal and who did not receive funds from our last three grants. Some of these plantings are quite substantial in size.

I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief, this application is true and correct. I further agree to comply with the provisions of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and regulations issued thereunder relating to nondiscrimination in federally assisted programs.

Applicant Signature Terry Ness Title HCCD Supervisor Date 9-17-25

A copy of the state required W-9 form must be attached to this application.

OFFICE USE ONLY

Signature of Reviewer _____ Title _____ Date _____

Signature of Approval _____ Title _____ Date _____

BUDGET SHEET

The total for each of these three sections should equal the "Total Project Cost" on page 1.

A. Operating Budget

1. Salary/Benefits	_____	
2. Travel	_____	
3. Contractual Services	_____	63250
4. Supplies	_____	
5. Equipment (list major equipment)	_____	
6. Consultation Services	_____	
Total Project Costs	_____	63250
		This total must equal _____ 63250

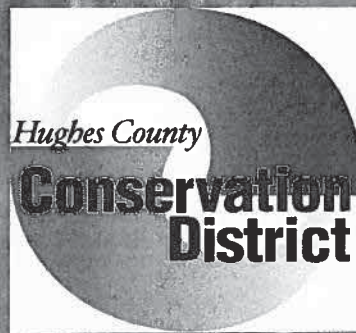
B. Activity Budget

Activity	Grant Funds	Local Funds	Local In-Kind	Other Funds	Total
1. Machine Tree & Shrub Planting	5500	9015	_____	_____	14515
2. Machine Fabric Install	5500	20665	_____	_____	26165
3. Handplanting	2000	6190	_____	_____	8190
4. Site Preperation	2000	2515	9865	_____	14380
5. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	0
6. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	0
7. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	0
8. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	0
Totals	15000	38385	9865	0	63250
					This total must equal _____ 63250

C. Project Partners

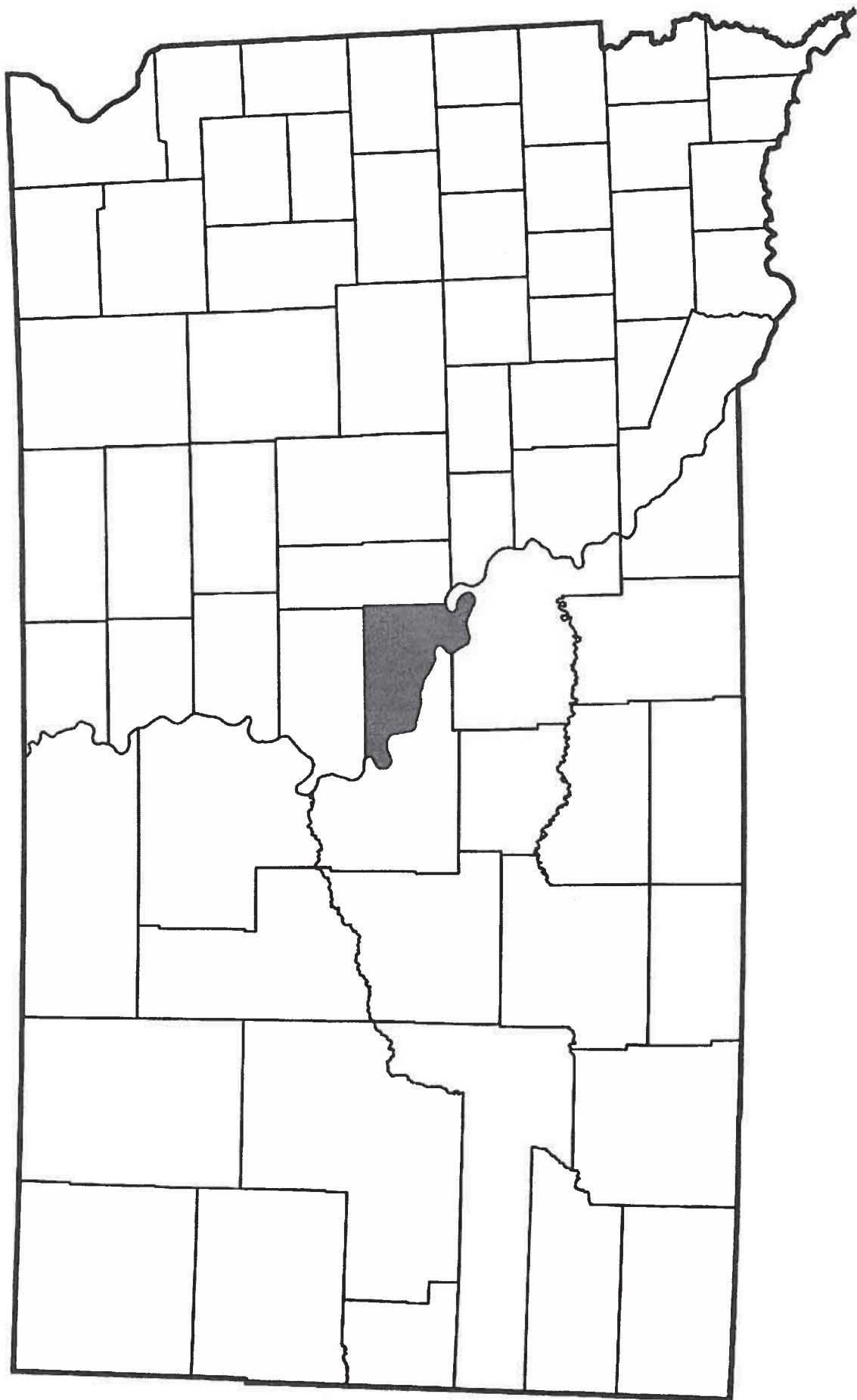
Partners	Amount Cash	Amount In-Kind	Total
1. RC&F	25000	_____	25000
2. Hughes Co. Conservation District	_____	2765	2765
3. Participating Landowners	26985	8500	35485
4. _____	_____	_____	0
5. _____	_____	_____	0
6. _____	_____	_____	0
7. _____	_____	_____	0
8. _____	_____	_____	0
Totals	51985	11265	63250
			This total must equal _____ 63250

Please send application and attachments to the South Dakota Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources.



2025-2027

**HUGHES COUNTY
CONSERVATION DISTRICTS
"TREE INITIATIVE"
GRANT PROPOSAL
TO THE CONSERVATION
COMMISSION**



Applicant: Hughes County Conservation District
Project Name: 2025/2027 H.C.C.D. TREE INITIATIVE

Section D – Additional Information Required

D. Project Description and Need-

- Explain who will be the primary beneficiaries of this project (who will receive the benefits when this project is complete).

The Hughes County Conservation District is applying to provide a cost share opportunity for producers wanting to either renovate or install new windbreaks and livestock shelterbelts. The 2025/2027 H.C.C.D. Tree Initiative Grant Project will install conservation systems within the boundaries of the Hughes County Conservation District. The primary beneficiaries of this project will not only include landowners and their neighbors, but also citizens of the conservation district. The Hughes County Conservation District, over the past several years, have been contacted by numerous producers within our county. These producers have voiced their wishes to create or reestablish a windbreak consistent with NRS or GF&P standards and plans; however, they do not meet the qualifications and requirements for assistance from programs such as CRP, EQIP, CSP, or Woody Habitat Program. These producers are unable to acquire funds for the full scope of each project on their own without some form of cost-share assistance. Through the use of these funds, our district would fill this void within our area and supply these producers with technical expertise to plan and implement these projects. We will supply up to 50% of the total project costs by utilizing these grant funds and provide up to 25% of the total cost utilizing the districts resources, while relying on each producer to supply the remaining cost balance of the projects utilizing cash and in-kind amounts.

- Define who will be responsible for the implementation, maintenance and follow-up stages of the project.

Hughes County Conservation District staff will be “Point” on this project but will coordinate closely with all producers, NRCS, South Dakota Dept. of AG, and with our Resource Conservation & Forestry Service Forester. H.C.C.D. staff will assist each producer with planning and implementing each project once a deposit has been received by the producer along with a signed H.C.C.D. tree planting contract. Each producer would then be contractually obligated under the threat of cost share repayment to insure the sustainability of at least 85% survivability of each project for the first three growing seasons after completion of the project. The producer will also be responsible for the upkeep of windbreaks and shelterbelts after planting, including, but not limited to: watering when it cannot be obtained thru natural occurrences, weed control between rows of trees, and for replacing any dead trees that will not be cost shared through the grant for a period of three growing seasons. The H.C.C.D staff will proactively conduct annual Fall survivability counts for the first three growing seasons to help the producer insure the 85% survivability.

- Indicate where this project will be located (district, watershed, community, etc. Attach map(s) as relevant).

The 2025/2027 H.C.C.D. Tree Initiative Grant Project will install conservation practices within the boundaries of the Hughes County Conservation District. Projects installed will assist those interested in the numerous advantages that shelterbelts and windbreaks provide. Many of our local producers have expressed a desire to plant trees but are unable to qualify for any other cost share and/or are financially unable to do a planting without cost share. We would like to help those who don't meet qualifications for CSP, EQIP, CRP, or Woody Habitat Plantings.

- Describe the specific environmental, natural resource, ecological, educational and/or socio-economic need(s) the project will address.

The shelterbelts and windbreaks planned are needed to conserve the counties' natural resources. Shelterbelts and windbreaks are important conservation practices used to protect and conserve our soil by reducing wind and water erosion. Wind erosion will be reduced because plantings will slow down wind speeds, therefore minimizing wind effects. Water erosion will be reduced by plantings because the trees and shrub roots help hold the soil together. It will benefit the landowner's livestock by providing shade and shelter. Wildlife will also benefit from the shade and shelter, and they may receive a new food source. Others within the district will benefit due to reduced energy costs that will be affected due to the shade and wind protection provided by the windbreaks established.

It will reduce wind-damage to crops, trap snow that will provide future moisture, and reduce moisture loss through evaporation. It will also provide a potential for increased crop yields for landowners and improve water quality by reducing non-source point pollution because roots of trees and shrubs filter harmful substances out of water as it soaks downward. Further, it will provide shade along with organic materials found under them that help to hold moisture so that it can be absorbed and used to replenish groundwater levels. Shade will also keep water cooler for fish eggs to have a better chance at hatching.

- Briefly describe the specific on-the-ground restoration activities to be undertaken on-site to achieve the project objectives, and why it is needed.

The Hughes County Conservation District will provide technical assistance during the planning, designing, and construction of the shelterbelts and windbreaks along with being responsible for the implementation, follow-up, and administration of this grant. The district will assist landowners on the best management practices when it comes to helping them through the process of picking a project site, deciding on the tree species to be planted, determining the correct spacing between trees/shrubs, maintenance, and putting the plan into effect. All the plantings will be planned by the Hughes County Conservation District and approved by the Resource Conservation & Forestry Service Forester, along with all plantings being located within the boundaries of the district.

- Please indicate if any federal, state or local permits are required to complete the project and the status of efforts to secure necessary authorization.

The Hughes County Conservation District along with the participating producers will work jointly through all partners to meet permit requirements per each site-specific basis. Participating producers under the H.C.C.D. planting contract will be responsible for obtaining any documentation if federal, state, or local permits are required for the project.

E. Final Products -

- Describe the anticipated benefits of the project from an ecological, educational, and/or socio-economic prospective (e.g., number of acres of wetlands or stream miles restored, target audience and how they will benefit)

The 2025/2027 H.C.C.D. Tree Initiative Grant Project would help cost-share approximately 60,000 feet of new windbreaks, shelterbelt machine tree plantings, fabric installations and renovations in addition to numerous hand planted trees for producers who have verbally committed to projects and are willing and ready to go. We also maintain a list of individuals and projects who have expressed extreme interest in accomplishing plantings under just such a grant proposal and who were unable to receive funds from our 2025 HCCD Tree Initiative Grant. Some of those plantings are quite substantial in size. We are extremely hopeful to assist the producers who have not has the opportunity to integrate or learn about the chance for a cost-share alternate.

F. Partner Justification:

- Describe the strengths, qualifications and nature of the contribution of your organization and other collaborating organizations.

The Hughes County Conservation District has an extensive history of aggressively supporting natural resource conservation and protection within our county. The individual supervisors on the H.C.C.D. board are exceptionally well rehearsed in natural resource needs within Hughes County, and with which practices appropriate to address those issues. The H.C.C.D. has an extremely good report with its corresponding landowners, community, and the other agencies within this grant proposal. The history of H.C.C.D.'S efforts and knowledge along with its openness to complete communication with its partners, other agencies, and customers will assist the complete successful completion of this project.

G. Identify how you will measure the success of the Project.

The success of this project will be measured by the amount of shrubs and trees planted, the amount of fabric that is laid, the number of acres that are covered, and the number of producers that we are able to help in establishing a successful shelterbelt and/or windbreak. The district would also feel successful if this project would produce interest and questions from other individuals within the district about the benefits of, and cost-share alternatives, to future tree plantings such as these. The district will also feel the grant successful if their staff continue their outstanding record of accomplishing all the plantings in a timely manner resulting in satiated producers and satiated partners. The environmental benefits of these projects are unquantifiable but should be considered a success as well. The Hughes County Conservation District hopes and expects that future generations will consider this project a success and appreciate their efforts in conserving natural resources that they can then enjoy along with their families and children.

The Hughes County Conservation District would like to take this space to thank the Members of the Conservation Commission Grant Board for allowing us the opportunity to apply for such a grant and for closely considering "The 2025/2027 H.C.C.D. Tree Initiative Grant Project". We appreciate all that you do for South Dakota, so Thank You.

"THE BEST TIME TO PLANT A TREE WAS TWENTY YEARS AGO, THE NEXT BEST TIME IS TODAY."

-Chinese Proverb



HUGHES COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

11 N LINCOLN, SUITE #103

PIERRE, S.D. 5501

PHONE: 605-301-3401 OR 605-301-3405

EMAIL: hughesccd@gmail.com

September 17, 2025

South Dakota Conservation Commission
523 East Capitol Avenue
Pierre, S.D. 5501-3182

Dear South Dakota Conservation Commission:

The Hughes County Conservation District is proud to submit a grant application for the 2025 Spring Grant Round. The following application is for our 2025-2027 H.C.C.D. Tree Initiative Grant that would start January 1, 2025 and end June 30, 2027.

Along with our application, you will find a copy of the narrative that goes along with our application. Thank you for helping South Dakotans conserve their natural resources, for your assistance and for considering our grant application.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call the Hughes County Conservation District (Triniti Sowards) at 605-280-6715.

Sincerely,

Triniti Sowards
H.C.C.D.
605-280-6715
Hughesccd@gmail.com

Hughes County Conservation District
1717 N Lincoln Ave, Ste 103
Pierre, SD 57501
September 17th, 2025

Call Meeting to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Ness at 5:40 pm. The following board members were in attendance: Darrell Metzinger, Brent Pries, Jesse Foster Terry Ness, Lyle Stewart and advisor Cassie Auxt. Office Personnel included: Triniti Sowards, Pam Haag, and Kerry Kelly. Guests are Susan Mahowald with A2D.

Agenda:

There were no objections to the agenda therefore Ness approved.

Minutes of the last Meeting:

Metzinger motioned to approve the minutes as presented, Pries seconded the motion. All present voted aye, and the motioned passed.

Treasurer's Report and Reconciliation:

Mahowald also presented a check detail of all checks written from accounts since the August meeting, along with the current checks needing signed. Foster motioned to approve the financials as presented and to pay the bills; Stewart seconded the motion. All present voted aye, and the motion passed.

Old Business:

- Pries motioned to pay off Big Sioux Nursery, Metzinger seconded the motion. All present voted aye, and the motion passed.
- The board members decided to table the 2025 SDACD Membership for the next meeting.

New Business:

- Stewart motioned to have Ness sign the 2025-2027 Conservation Commission Grant Application, Metzinger second the motion. All present voted aye, and the motion passed.

Executive Session:

- Pursuant to Executive Session 1-25-2.4.

Secretaries Report:

-

District Manager Report:

-

Field Office Report:

- Kerry gave the Field report.

Plans for Review:

- Kerry gave the Field report.

New Meeting:

- October 15th at 5:30 pm

Adjourn:

- Ness declared the meeting adjourned at 6:45 pm.

State Conservation Commission

November 2025

Conservation District

Jerauld

Project Name:

Multi-Purpose

Start Date

01/01/2026

End Date

06/30/2027

Total Project Amount:

\$ 91,275.00

Commisson Funds:

\$ 41,996.50

District Funds:

Landowner Cash:

\$ 49,278.50

Local In-kind:

Other Funds:

Other funds:

Cash

In-kind

Total:

\$ -

\$ -

RC&F:

DANR:

GF&P:

USFWS:

NRCS:

OTHER:

Description of Grant Application:

Jerauld Conservation District (JCD) continues to promote the benefits of planting trees for livestock, wildlife, and erosion control. We take pride in the work we do for conservation and for producers in Jerauld County. This year we have introduced a variety of projects to area producers and JCD will be providing technical assistance and planning to several producers seeking help with fencing, and brush control projects along with planning and planting windbreak shelter-belts. A shelter-belt planning and tree planting workshop is planned as an educational event for all community members and rural land owners in 2026 along with an EAB training/seminar in 2027. Jerauld Conservation District board members and staff strive to recognize county needs and have made more of an effort to reach out to landowners for insight through advertising and newsletters. This grant will help JCD to answer producers' and community needs with not only trusted advice and technical assistance but also some much needed funding.

If selected for funding, RC&F suggests that:

- The Conservation Commission will not reimburse any costs that exceed the 2025 Conservation Commission Cost-share Docket. Please note other restrictions as listed there.
- All tree and shrub planting plans be reviewed and approved by one of the SDDANR RCF foresters prior to planting.
- Stand alone farmstead/homestead windbreaks do not qualify for cost-share from the Commission.
- District must secure a landowner application to determine eligibility for cost-share funds, copy to be provided with reimbursement request.
- District must provide the landowner with notification letter indicating whether or not they have been approved for cost-share, copy to be provided with reimbursement request.
- Project reimbursement will be based on actual bill/receipts submitted for completed work. Cost-share will be based on legitimate costs up to the specified maximum.
- The district provide a copy of the Joint Powers Agreement with all the conservation districts involved.
- The district provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant.
- Final report must be submitted before final reimbursement will be processed. This report must be submitted no more than 30 days after the end of the grant.

DANR:

GF&P:

	Project	Start date	End Date	Original Award	Balance	Extensions
--	---------	------------	----------	----------------	---------	------------

Other current grants:

N/A

N/A

N/A

N/A

N/A

N/A

N/A

Approved:

Denied:

Reason for denial:



SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY DIVISION

523 East Capitol Avenue

Pierre, SD 57501

Phone: 605.773.3623

danr.sd.gov

GRANT APPLICATION FORM

Applicant Information

Organization: Jerauld Conservation District Mailing Address: 510 Dakota Ave. Ste. 2

Telephone: (605) 539-9232 City: Wessington Springs State: SD Zip: 57382

Tax Status: Government Entity

Project Contact

Project Officer: Lisa Sall Telephone: (605) 933-0517

Fax: _____ Email: jerauldcocd@gmail.com

Project Information

Project Name: Multi-Purpose

Start Date: 01/01/2026 End Date: 06/30/2027

Legal description: County: Jerauld

Township: _____ Range: _____

Section: _____ Qtr: _____

Type of Grant

☒ Conservation Grant ☐ Community Forestry

☐ Insect/Disease ☐ Invasive Species

☐ Forest Stewardship ☐ Mountain Pine Beetle

☐ Other (specify): _____

Financial Information

Grant funds requested: \$ 41,996.50 Partner contributions (total): \$ 49,278.50 Total project cost: \$91,275.00

Please provide a brief, descriptive summary of the project:

Jerauld Conservation District (JCD) continues to promote the benefits of planting trees for livestock, wildlife, and erosion control. We take pride in the work we do for conservation and for producers in Jerauld County. This year we have introduced a variety of projects to area producers and JCD will be providing technical assistance and planning to several producers seeking help with fencing, and brush control projects along with planning and planting windbreak shelter-belts. A shelter-belt planning and tree planting workshop is planned as an educational event for all community members and rural land owners in 2026 along with an EAB training/seminar in 2027. Jerauld Conservation District board members and staff strive to recognize county needs and have made more of an effort to reach out to landowners for insight through advertising and newsletters. This grant will help JCD to answer producers' and community needs with not only trusted advice and technical assistance but also some much needed funding.

I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief, this application is true and correct. I further agree to comply with the provisions of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and regulations issued thereunder relating to nondiscrimination in federally assisted programs.

Applicant Signature Lisa Sall Title Secretary/Treasurer Date 09/30/2025

A copy of the state required [W-9 form](#) must be attached to this application.

OFFICE USE ONLY

Signature of Reviewer _____ Title _____ Date _____

Signature of Approval _____ Title _____ Date _____

BUDGET SHEET

The total for each of these three sections should equal the "Total Project Cost" on page 1.

A. Operating Budget

1. Salary/Benefits	_____	
2. Travel	_____	
3. Contractual Services	_____	\$ 25,000.00
4. Supplies	_____	
5. Equipment (list major equipment)	_____	
6. Consultation Services	_____	
Total Project Costs	_____	\$25,000.00
		This total must equal <u>\$91,275.00</u>

B. Activity Budget

Activity	Grant Funds	Local Funds	Local In-Kind	Other Funds	Total
1. tree removal	3,000.00	_____	_____	_____	\$3,000.00
2. trees	3,000.00	_____	_____	_____	\$3,000.00
3. fabric & installation	6,500.00	_____	_____	_____	\$6,500.00
4. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
5. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
6. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
7. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
8. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Totals	\$12,500.00	_____	_____	_____	\$12,500.00
					This total must equal <u>\$91,275.00</u>

C. Project Partners

Partners	Amount Cash	Amount In-Kind	Total
1. DANR	12,500.00	_____	\$12,500.00
2. landowner	12,500.00	_____	\$12,500.00
3. _____	_____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____	_____
5. _____	_____	_____	_____
6. _____	_____	_____	_____
7. _____	_____	_____	_____
8. _____	_____	_____	_____
Totals	\$25,000.00	_____	\$25,000.00
			This total must equal <u>\$91,275.00</u>

Please send application and attachments to the South Dakota Department of Agriculture & Natural Resources.

Jerauld Conservation District

Grant Application Project Narrative

January 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027

The Jerauld Conservation multi-purpose grant would provide technical and financial assistance to the landowners/producers in Jerauld County to plan and plant shelterbelts, to assist producers with fencing materials and installation, and help a producer with necessary brush management. These projects will improve and protect livestock on farm and ranch operations and protect the county's natural resources.

This multi-project grant would provide cost-share assistance to producers that are not eligible for cost share programs from other state or federal programs needed for conservation management practices. Cost share will be provided for tree and shrub plantings, tree protectors, weed control fabric, hand plants, site preparation, fencing, brush and erosion control with the landowner/producer paying 50% of the proposed management plans.

The Jerauld Conservation District (JCD) will be responsible for all phases of the projects including planting, follow-up, administration, and educational promotion. Shelterbelt establishments will be designed by the district in cooperation with Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) and the South Dakota Department of Agriculture Service Forester. The shelterbelt plantings will follow guidelines of the NRCS technical guide. Landowners/producers receiving assistance will be guided through the planting guidelines that are set up by JCD, so the ground is prepared correctly for planting their shelter belts. Training and preparation will be accomplished through utilization of the expertise of the district's partnership with NRCS. The JCD will be responsible for completing an annual follow-up on the shelter belts planted under this grant for a minimum of three years.

At this time, we have producers interested in planting shelterbelt establishments for either livestock wind protection, erosion control, or wildlife habitat. A fencing project will be installed, along with technical assistance for brush management to make this a multi-project grant proposal. Jerauld Conservation District has been working diligently to promote conservation and funding resources available to the landowners in the district. Producers are becoming more aware of the partners and opportunities we recognize and as a result we currently have 6 producers committed to specific projects for funding with the 2026/27 grant funds. As always, we will follow the JCD Vision and Mission Statement.

Jerauld Conservation Vision and Mission Statement

The Jerauld Conservation District will provide conservation of the soil and water resources of this district, for the control and prevention of flood water and sediment damages, for furthering the conservation, development utilization and disposal of water, control the impairment of dams and reservoirs, assist in maintaining the water quality of the water bodies in the County, preserve wildlife, protect the tax base, protect public lands and protect and promote the health, safety and general welfare of the District for the upcoming 21st Century.

Our mission for the 21st century will be to work with the producers in Jerauld County with animal nutrient management, improving cropland and residue management, wildlife and livestock water development, grassland management, buffer strips, Conservation Reserve Program, EQIP Contracts, restoring deteriorated shelterbelts, planning and planting new shelterbelts, reducing water and wind erosion, creating wildlife habitat, improving water quality, and conserving our natural resources.

JERAULD CONSERVATION DISTRICT MEETING MINUTES

August 20, 2025

Board of Supervisors Present:

Lynn Horsley, Chairman; Dennis Scheel, Vice-Chairman; Richard Kolousek, Supervisor; Fred Krohmer, Supervisor; Jason Weber, Supervisor

Others Present:

Lisa Sall, District Manager

Rod Huisman, NRCS DC

Chairperson, Lynn Horsley, called the regular meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. A motion was made by Krohmer to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Weber. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the minutes of the July 16, 2025, meeting. Krohmer made a motion to approve the minutes of the July meeting Scheel seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Discussion was held regarding the Treasurer's report and new bills. A motion to approve the July financial report and to pay new bills was made by Krohmer, seconded by Weber. Motion carried.

District Manager Report:

See Appendix A

NRCS Report:

Rod Huisman

Rod reported on the "Reorganization" of USDA: no changes yet in the Jerauld Service Center. Rod is making payments now on EQIP contracts, CSP contracts, and has completed paperwork on 14 CRP contracts. Paperwork goes on to FSA office.

Unfinished Business

Additional rows at the Tree Demo plot remain tabled.

Discussion was held on increasing SDPAA Liability insurance coverage. No action at this time.

Lisa looked into the order overage on plan made by Pheasants Forever. The error happened in transferring the original PDF file to the shared drive at the Wess. Springs office. No determination can be made who made the mistake.

New Business:

A motion was made by Krohmer to apply for a SD Conservation Commission Grant for 2026-2027. Discussion was held on uses and docket costs. Lisa will advertise and/or promote in local newspaper. The motion was seconded by Weber. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the 2025 SDACD Convention held in September. Supervisors were encouraged to attend, and to contact Lisa if registration is required.

Executive Session

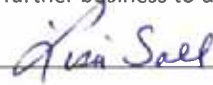
None

Other Business New or Old

No Public Input

Next meeting will be held in September with date to be determined

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

Attest:  Lisa Sall, Secretary/Treasurer

Approved: _____

State Conservation Commission

November 2025

Conservation District

Kingsbury

Project Name:

Conservation Practice

Start Date

01/01/2026

End Date

06/30/2027

Total Project Amount:

\$ 138,000.00

Commisson Funds:

\$ 69,000.00

District Funds:

Landowner Cash:

\$ 69,000.00

Local In-kind:

Other Funds:

Other funds:

Cash

In-kind

Total:

\$ -

\$ -

RC&F:

DANR:

GF&P:

USFWS:

NRCS:

OTHER:

Description of Grant Application:

Seeding: tame, native grasses, native/ forbs mix, mulching

Grazing Management; water pipelines, water tanks, pasture pumps, rural water hookups, dugout construction, dugout repairs. Fencing: electric, barbed wire, protective fence.

Tree Planting: site prep, conservation size shrub & tree planting, bare-root handplants.

Weed & Pest Control: fabric weed barrier & install, fabric squares and staple installtion, tree protectors & stakes installation.

Soil Health: cover crops, seed bed prep, soil erosion.

Shelterbelt Renovation

Earthwork & Erosion Control

Grade/Shoreline Stabilization

Urban Conservation: Tree planting, pollinator/native plots

Education: any outreach to our producers, schools and communities

If selected for funding, RC&F suggests that:

- The Conservation Commission will not reimburse any costs that exceed the 2025 Conservation Commission Cost-share Docket. Please note other restrictions as listed there.
- All tree and shrub planting plans be reviewed and approved by one of the SDDANR RCF foresters prior to planting.
- Stand alone farmstead/homestead windbreaks do not qualify for cost-share from the Commission.
- District must secure a landowner application to determine eligibility for cost-share funds, copy to be provided with reimbursement request.
- District must provide the landowner with notification letter indicating whether or not they have been approved for cost-share, copy to be provided with reimbursement request.
- Project reimbursement will be based on actual bill/receipts submitted for completed work. Cost-share will be based on legitimate costs up to the specified maximum.
- The district provide a copy of the Joint Powers Agreement with all the conservation districts involved.
- The district provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant.
- Final report must be submitted before final reimbursement will be processed. This report must be submitted no more than 30 days after the end of the grant.

DANR:

GF&P:

	Project	Start date	End Date	Original Award	Balance	Extensions
--	---------	------------	----------	----------------	---------	------------

Other current grants:

Conservation for Everyone

2025-CSW-018 01/01/2025

06/30/2026

\$ 49,000.00

\$ 27,352.41

Approved:

Denied:

Reason for denial:



SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY DIVISION

523 East Capitol Avenue

Pierre, SD 57501

Phone: 605.773.3623 Fax: 605.773.3481

sdda.sd.gov

GRANT APPLICATION FORM

Applicant Information

Organization: Jerauld Conservation District Mailing Address: 510 Dakota Ave. Ste. 2

Telephone: (605) 539-9232 City: Wessington Springs State: SD Zip: 57382

Tax Status: Government Entity

Project Contact

Project Officer: Lisa Sall Telephone: (605) 933-0517

Fax: _____ Email: jerauldcocd@gmail.com

Project Information

Project Name: Multi-Purpose

Start Date: 01/01/2026 End Date: 06/30/2027

Legal description: County Jerauld

Township: _____ Range: _____

Section: _____ Qtr: _____

Type of Grant

☒ Conservation Grant ☐ Community Forestry

☐ Insect/Disease ☐ Invasive Species

☐ Forest Stewardship ☐ Mountain Pine Beetle

☐ Other (specify): _____

Financial Information

Grant funds requested: \$ 41,996.50 Partner contributions (total): \$ 49,278.50 Total project cost: \$91,275.00

Please provide a brief, descriptive summary of the project:

Jerauld Conservation District (JCD) continues to promote the benefits of planting trees for livestock, wildlife, and erosion control. We take pride in the work we do for conservation and for producers in Jerauld County. This year we have introduced a variety of projects to area producers and JCD will be providing technical assistance and planning to several producers seeking help with fencing, and brush control projects along with planning and planting windbreak shelter-belts. A shelter-belt planning and tree planting workshop is planned as an educational event for all community members and rural land owners in 2026 along with an EAB training/seminar in 2027. Jerauld Conservation District board members and staff strive to recognize county needs and have made more of an effort to reach out to landowners for insight through advertising and newsletters. This grant will help JCD to answer producers' and community needs with not only trusted advice and technical assistance but also some much needed funding.

I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief, this application is true and correct. I further agree to comply with the provisions of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and regulations issued thereunder relating to nondiscrimination in federally assisted programs.

Applicant Signature *Romya Muel* Title Secretary/Treasurer Date 09/30/2025

A copy of the state required [W-9 form](#) must be attached to this application.

OFFICE USE ONLY

Signature of Reviewer _____ Title _____ Date _____

Signature of Approval _____ Title _____ Date _____

BUDGET SHEET

The total for each of these three sections should equal the "Total Project Cost" on page 1.

A. Operating Budget

1. Salary/Benefits	_____	
2. Travel	_____	
3. Contractual Services	_____	\$ 25,000.00
4. Supplies	_____	
5. Equipment (list major equipment)	_____	
6. Consultation Services	_____	
Total Project Costs	_____	\$25,000.00
		This total must equal <u>\$91,275.00</u>

B. Activity Budget

Activity	Grant Funds	Local Funds	Local In-Kind	Other Funds	Total
1. tree removal	3,000.00	_____	_____	_____	\$3,000.00
2. trees	3,000.00	_____	_____	_____	\$3,000.00
3. fabric & installation	6,500.00	_____	_____	_____	\$6,500.00
4. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
5. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
6. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
7. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
8. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Totals	\$12,500.00	_____	_____	_____	\$12,500.00
					This total must equal <u>\$91,275.00</u>

C. Project Partners

Partners	Amount Cash	Amount In-Kind	Total
1. DANR	12,500.00	_____	\$12,500.00
2. landowner	12,500.00	_____	\$12,500.00
3. _____	_____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____	_____
5. _____	_____	_____	_____
6. _____	_____	_____	_____
7. _____	_____	_____	_____
8. _____	_____	_____	_____
Totals	\$25,000.00	_____	\$25,000.00
			This total must equal <u>\$91,275.00</u>

Please send application and attachments to the South Dakota Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

State Conservation Commission

November 2025

Conservation District

Lawrence

Project Name:

Forest Resiliency Project

Start Date

01/01/2026

End Date

12/31/2027

Total Project Amount:

\$ 186,000.00

Commission Funds:

\$ 93,000.00

District Funds:

Landowner Cash:

\$ 93,000.00

Local In-kind:

Other Funds:

Other funds:

Cash

In-kind

Total:

\$ - \$ -

RC&F:

DANR:

GF&P:

USFWS:

NRCS:

OTHER:

Description of Grant Application:

The purpose of this grant is to provide cost-share funds and opportunities to empower private landowners to manage their forested property. Goals of this project are to improve the overall forest health in Lawrence and Meade County, reduce the potential for high severity fires, and assist with other landowner goals such as increase timber production on their property. This project will include thinning by removal of trees, disposal of timber waste piles (slash piles), encouragement of practices to encourage health of all tree species, assistance with fencing projects to promote hardwood regeneration and water quality protection, as well as the enhancement of natural meadow areas. This grant will be to assist landowners in treating 100 acres for forest stand improvement practices in Lawrence County, SD and Meade County, SD.

If selected for funding, RC&F suggests that:

- The Conservation Commission will not reimburse any costs that exceed the 2025 Conservation Commission Cost-share Docket. Please note other restrictions as listed there.
- All tree and shrub planting plans be reviewed and approved by one of the SDDANR RCF foresters prior to planting.
- Stand alone farmstead/homestead windbreaks do not qualify for cost-share from the Commission.
- District must secure a landowner application to determine eligibility for cost-share funds, copy to be provided with reimbursement request.
- District must provide the landowner with notification letter indicating whether or not they have been approved for cost-share, copy to be provided with reimbursement request.
- Project reimbursement will be based on actual bill/receipts submitted for completed work. Cost-share will be based on legitimate costs up to the specified maximum.
- The district provide a copy of the Joint Powers Agreement with all the conservation districts involved.
- The district provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant.
- Final report must be submitted before final reimbursement will be processed. This report must be submitted no more than 30 days after the end of the grant.

DANR:

GF&P:

Other current grants:

Forest Resiliency Project

Project	Start date	End Date	Original Award	Balance	Extensions
2023-CSW-018	01/01/2023	12/31/2025	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 2,654.76	
2024-CSW-012	01/01/2024	12/31/2025	\$ 31,500.00	\$ 13,500.00	
2025-CSW-020	01/01/2025	12/31/2027	\$ 167,000.00	\$159,710.00	
2025-CSW-030	07/01/2025	06/30/2026	\$ 1,150.00	\$ 1,150.00	

Thinning for Forest Health

Thinning for Forest Health

Walk in The Forest

Approved:

Denied:

Reason for denial:



SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY DIVISION

523 East Capitol Avenue

Pierre, SD 57501

Phone: 605.773.3623 Fax: 605.773.3481

sdda.sd.gov

GRANT APPLICATION FORM

Applicant Information

Organization: Lawrence Conservation District Mailing Address: 1230 North Avenue Ste. 8
Telephone: 605-642-3590 City: Spearfish State: SD Zip: 5783
Tax Status: Government

Project Contact

Project Officer: Yvette Kirkman Telephone: 605-642-3590
Fax: _____ Email: lawrencecd@sdconservation.net

Project Information

Project Name: Forest Resiliency Project
Start Date: 01/01/2026 End Date: 12/31/2027
Legal description: County Lawrence and Meade
Township: _____ Range: _____
Section: _____ Qtr: _____

Type of Grant

- ☒ Conservation Grant ☐ Community Forestry
☐ Insect/Disease ☐ Invasive Species
☐ Forest Stewardship ☐ Mountain Pine Beetle
☐ Other (specify): _____

Financial Information

Grant funds requested: 93000 Partner contributions (total): 93000 Total project cost: 186000
Please provide a brief, descriptive summary of the project:

*1.14 The purpose of this grant is to provide cost-share funds and opportunities to empower private landowners to manage their forested property. Goals of this project are to improve the overall forest health in Lawrence and Meade County, reduce the potential for high severity fires, and assist with other landowner goals such as increase timber production on their property. This project will include thinning by removal of trees, disposal of timber waste piles (slash piles), encouragement of practices to encourage health of all tree species, assistance with fencing projects to promote hardwood regeneration and water quality protection, as well as the enhancement of natural meadow areas.

This grant will be to assist landowners in treating 100 acres for forest stand improvement practices in Lawrence County, SD and Meade County, SD.

I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief, this application is true and correct. I further agree to comply with the provisions of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and regulations issued thereunder relating to nondiscrimination in federally assisted programs.

Applicant Signature Karl F. Jensen Title Chairman Date Sept. 26, 2025

A copy of the state required [W-9 form](#) must be attached to this application.

OFFICE USE ONLY

Signature of Reviewer _____ Title _____ Date _____

Signature of Approval _____ Title _____ Date _____

BUDGET SHEET

The total for each of these three sections should equal the "Total Project Cost" on page 1.

A. Operating Budget

1. Salary/Benefits	3000	
2. Travel		
3. Contractual Services	183000	
4. Supplies		
5. Equipment (list major equipment)		
6. Consultation Services		
Total Project Costs	183000	This total must equal 1 8 6 0 0 0

B. Activity Budget

Activity	Grant Funds	Local Funds	Local In-Kind	Other Funds	Total
1. Forest Stand Improvement	90000	93000			183000
2. Administration	3000				3000
3. _____					0
4. _____					0
5. _____					0
6. _____					0
7. _____					0
8. _____					0
Totals	93000	93000	0	0	183000
This total must equal					183000

C. Project Partners

Partners	Amount Cash	Amount In-Kind	Total
1. DANR RC&F	93000		93000
2. Landowners	93000		93000
3. _____			0
4. _____			0
5. _____			0
6. _____			0
7. _____			0
8. _____			0
Totals	186000	0	186000
This total must equal			186000

Please send application and attachments to the South Dakota Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

Lawrence Conservation District
Thinning for Forest Health Grant Application
Coordinated Natural Resources Conservation Grant

Project Partners

Partners on this project include the district manager from Lawrence Conservation District, district manager from the Elk Creek Conservation District, foresters from the South Dakota Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Resource Conservation and Forestry Division (RCF), and a cooperative forester from the National Wild Turkey Federation. Foresters meet with prospective landowners to identify project areas and conduct necessary field work for the administration of the grant. The Lawrence Conservation District will process applications, submit required documentation, and distribute payments as work is completed.

Project Description and Need Assessment

In the Black Hills, especially in the northern hills area, there is a great need for forest management on private lands. The purpose of this project is to help restore these private forest lands to healthier conditions, ensuring the current and future use of the resource for the benefit of the land, wildlife, and people.

The Lawrence and Elk Creek Conservation Districts are extremely diverse, not only in forest types and conditions, but also through landowner objectives. The primary objective of most landowners within the Lawrence and Elk Creek Conservation Districts is to steward the land through restoring forest health, but secondary objectives vary more. Common secondary objectives include producing timber, increasing forage production for livestock or wildlife, reducing risk of catastrophic wildfire, creating or enhancing wildlife habitat, promoting a diverse mix of tree species, and improving recreational opportunities and aesthetics. These objectives will be met using practices which include (1) thinning overly dense stands of conifers, (2) removing conifers from hardwood stands to promote increased species diversity, (3) removal of undesired species such as ironwood to enhance vigor and promote regeneration of desired species, and (4) removal of encroaching trees from meadows to improve diversity and forage available to livestock and wildlife.

At this time, mountain pine beetle is at endemic populations in the Black Hills, but insect damage is still a threat and has been increasing in Lawrence County. There has been a noticeable increase in mountain pine beetle in Spearfish Canyon that both Forest Service and State insect and disease experts have been keeping a close eye on. Thinning dense ponderosa pine will result in more water, space, and nutrient availability for remaining trees, which will make the remaining trees less susceptible to insect attack despite increasing populations of mountain pine beetle.

Wildfire is a huge concern in the Lawrence and Elk Creek Conservation Districts, where there is a large wildland-urban interface, and the impact of catastrophic wildfire on the landscape is visible, especially in the Deadwood-Lead area where there are still areas that remain bare and

haven't recovered from the Grizzly Gulch Fire which burned 11,000 acres back in 2002. Additionally, many private forest lands have not been managed regularly and are at a high risk of high severity and even stand-replacing wildfire. Thick ponderosa pine and spruce regeneration has created an accumulation of ladder fuels, dense overstories where conifer canopies interlock and increase risk for crown runs, and heavy dead and downed debris that has built up overtime also attribute to fuel hazards. If a high-severity wildfire were to occur, it would not only threaten many homes, but also our water and soil which can be damaged from the impacts of catastrophic wildfire. Thinning and the following slash treatment within the areas that this project targets will reduce the risk for catastrophic wildfire and help reduce the severity of wildfires that come through these stands to protect our communities, both personal and ecological.

With current uncertainty in the NRCS Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) funding availability, access to these cost-share funds is tentative at this time. While there are other cost-share grants available to landowners as well, these programs have caveats, so they don't cover all landowners. The South Dakota Family Forests Association (SDFFA) Forest Resiliency Grant is only available to landowners who are members of the organization, which also requires having a completed Forest Stewardship Plan which can be quite costly to get from a private forester. Additionally, the South Dakota Wildland Fire Fuels Reduction Program only covers 10 acres around the home, so landowners with larger acreage won't be able to treat their whole property using this cost-share. This project fills an important niche for landowners who want to participate in forest thinning cost-share but aren't funded through EQIP or aren't eligible for SDFFA or SD Wildland Fire cost-share options.

The primary beneficiaries of this project are landowners in the Lawrence and Elk Creek Conservation Districts who have a need for forest management activities completed on their property. Other beneficiaries include: neighboring and adjacent landowners as the wildfire and insect damage risk is reduced from cross-boundary threats; watershed residents that receive the benefits from thinning that helps protect streams from the impacts of catastrophic wildland fire; local, state, and federal firefighting agencies that will be faced with lower fire intensity during suppression activities on these thinned lands, resulting in lower costs of fire suppression as well; and wildlife and livestock, who are benefitting from increased forage production, a natural result of forest thinning.

Through this project, the district is hoping to build on the successes of the 2021-2024 forest thinning grants, and build on the momentum of the 2025 grant, where all 180 acres of forest thinning funding was allocated across 10 different projects with 22.4 of these acres already completed! The conservation district and partners also anticipate more interest, as landowners who have previously worked with the district come back to treat more acres and new landowners are introduced to the program.

RCF, in collaboration with a cooperative forester from the National Wild Turkey Federation, will provide technical assistance in identifying specific areas to be thinned, administering thinning contracts and certifying completed thinning projects.

Landowners will hire private contractors to complete the thinning projects or complete the work themselves, logging their hours and expenses at the docket rate and submitting these to the conservation district. Landowners will be responsible to pay the full amount or complete the labor on their own and then submit expense receipts to the conservation district for reimbursement.

The project will be administered by the Lawrence Conservation District and will serve landowners in Lawrence and Meade County.

Forest thinning in conifer stands determined to be overly dense by a professional forester will be used to reduce the density of trees in these coniferous forests. Other activities will include the removal of conifers from hardwood stands, the removal of ironwood in forest stands, and the removal of trees encroaching on meadows. These treatments will bring private forest lands to their desired future condition, restoring forest health and decreasing the threat of insect infestations and catastrophic wildland fire.

Landowners will be required to maintain project areas for ten years following completion of the project.

Permits may be required if the preferred method of slash treatment is piling and burning and the property is located in the Black Hills Forest Fire Protection District, as a burn permit will be required to dispose of piled thinning slash. Burn permits are available free of charge from the South Dakota Department of Public Safety, Wildland Fire Division, and are only valid if the following conditions are met: burning occurs between November 1st and March 31st, there is continuous snow cover, and the depth of the snow is at least 2 inches for small slash piles, and 6 inches for large slash piles.

Final Products

The project is expected to enable private landowners to complete forest management activities on at least 100 acres of their forest lands.

Partner Justification

The Lawrence Conservation District will provide administrative support for contracting with private landowners, bookkeeping, records maintenance as required by the Conservation Commission and RCF, and reimbursement to landowners for completed thinning and fuels reduction practices. The Lawrence and Elk Creek Conservation Districts, in collaboration with area foresters, will also help locate landowners that have the potential to benefit from this project. Landowners will receive reimbursement of up to 50% of the cost of completing work on their property, not to exceed the Conservation Commission Financial 2025 Docket. Current docket rates have placed a maximum of \$750 per acre for thinning of overly dense stands, hardwood enhancement, ironwood removal, and removal of trees from hardwood stands and meadows. An additional \$150 per acre reimbursement for treating slash created during practices. These rates are based off a 50% reimbursement with average practice costs of \$1,800 to producers.

RCF will administer project implementation on the ground by identifying specific forest areas to be thinned, developing thinning prescriptions, monitoring thinning progress for compliance, and certifying that practices are completed.

Measuring Project Success

Success will be measured by the number of private forest acres treated. A successful project will result in at least 100 acres of forest land treated.

Lawrence County Conservation District
Board of Supervisors Meeting
September 3, 2025 @ 6pm
Minutes

Call meeting to order: Karl Jensen @ 6pm

Present: Karl Jensen, Charles Nicholas, Charles Edwards, Eric Hanson, Kat Rowe, Yvette Kirkman, Tyler Swan (via phone)

Absent: Ellen Reddick

Approval of Agenda: Hanson moved to approve the agenda, Edwards second, all in favor, motion carried

Approval of Minutes: Hanson moved to approve the minutes, Nicholas second, all in favor, motion carried

Financial Report: Yvette reported that the district had been approved for \$20k for 2026, Edwards moved to approve the report and pay bills as presented, Nicholas second, all in favor, motion carried

NRCS Report – Tyler noted the work on the RCPP proposal, would include Lawrence, S Meade, Pennington, Fall River and Custer, looking for more partners in the effort, need someone to commit to handling the admin, need to work on ranking criteria; the Belle Fourche FSO will have a QAR next week, staff certifying CSP for FY 2025 and EQIP apps, deadline for apps in Oct, Cher Burgess has retired and Keela Deaton has returned to the Sundance NRCS

Partner Report – Kat updated on current projects, nearing the completion of the 2023 and 2024 grants, waiting on invoices for completed projects to request reimbursement for landowners, board discussed moving forward with an application for the fall grant round, Jensen moved to have Kat and Yvette work on the summary and application, Hanson second, all in favor, motion carried. Apps are due Oct. 1

Committee Reports were delivered

Old Business

Lookout Mountain I&E Event – Hanson reported on conversation with the city staff, Jensen had no contact yet with SDALT Tony Leif, will discuss public meeting at October meeting

New Business

2026 Pricing – table until October following the SDACD Convention and Big Sioux Annual Meeting

Grant Review – Kat shared updated spreadsheet

Other Business

SDACD Convention – Jensen and Hanson will be attending Sept 21-23

NACD Convention – Feb. 14-19, Jensen discussed the upcoming Convention in San Antonio and having Yvette attend, Edwards made a motion to send Yvette to San Antonio, paying for Registration/Lodging, Hanson second, all in favor, motion carried, Butte will pay for the airfare portion of this event

Adjourned: 7:15pm Next Meeting: October 1 @ 6pm

ELK CREEK CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
SEPTEMBER 10, 2025 @ 1:30 PM
MINUTES

Call meeting to order: Connie McPherson @ 1:30pm

Present: Connie McPherson, Philip Wilson, Nick Uherka, Eddie Grubl, Lane Lamphere, Joe Nichols, Gary Deering, Yvette Kirkman

Absent: Valerie Riter

Approval of Agenda: Lane moved to approve the agenda with the addition of Restock Fee and Notice of Intent to Mine, Nick second, all in favor, motion carried

Approval of Minutes: Philip moved to approve the minutes of the July meeting, Nick second, all in favor, motion carried

Financial Report: Eddie moved to approve and pay bills as presented, Phil second, all in favor, motion carried

NRCS Report: Valerie Riter sent a copy of her report to the meeting in her absence

Partner Reports: Joe Nichols reported on several projects either completed or in progress, including pipelines, fences, conversion to solar tanks, potential for funds to partner with GF&P, a couple of projects waiting on cultural resources for 2026

Gary Deering, County Commissioner: Gary noted that the county is working diligently on the budget and hopes to finalize on Sept. 23, he explained the different portions of the budget including outside agencies, drug/opioid, libraries and general fund, noted that the airport had been approved with several conditions, TIF-Haines Avenue passed the planning committee

Old Business

Meade Co Fair – Connie reported on the fair, commented it was fun, something for everyone, working on fundraisers for indoor bathrooms and cement floor, they are working on getting their additional building back for shooting sports

Rural School Day – April 15, 2026, still deciding on the theme, Union Center just had a safety presentation, possibly continue with the water theme, will make contact with speakers for input – Connie would still like to put a packet together for the 6th graders to include newsletter and order form.

New Business

Mid-Year Review – Yvette prepared a mid-year report and included in supervisor folders, no questions were asked

Tree Season – updated pricing was tabled until after nursery meeting at SDACD Convention, Connie discussed implementing a restocking fee following the recent fabric return, Connie moved to implement a 15% restock fee, Philip second, all in favor, motion carried – Connie mentioned possibly adding the tree order form to the Chamber News

Chamber Dues – Eddie moved to approve payment of dues, Nick second, all in favor, motion carried – Yvette noted the SDPAA premium was due

Other

Big Sioux Voting Member Update: Emily Grey-Smith was still on record as the voting member for the nursery, Connie as proxy, Philip moved to update to Yvette as voting member and Connie remains the proxy, Lane second, all in favor, motion carried

Notice of Intent to Mine - FYI

Eddie moved to adjourn, Lane second, all in favor, motion carried
Next meeting October 8 @1:30pm

*9/24/2025 – email sent to the board, Wilson, McPherson, Uherka, Lamphere and Grubl, requesting approval to be included in the project area for the Lawrence CD Thinning for Forest Health grant application, no additional funding or work would be required from Elk Creek CD, McPherson move to approve the inclusion via email, Gruble second via phone, Lamphere and Uherka were in favor via text.

State Conservation Commission

November 2025

Conservation District

Lincoln

Project Name:

Windbreak Renovation Spring 2026

Start Date

01/01/2026

End Date

06/30/2026

Total Project Amount:

\$ 11,590.00

Commisson Funds:

\$ 2,750.00

District Funds:

Landowner Cash:

\$ 8,840.00

Local In-kind:

Other Funds:

Other funds:

Cash In-kind

Total:

\$ - \$ -

RC&F:

DANR:

GF&P:

USFWS:

NRCS:

OTHER:

Description of Grant Application:

Lincoln Conservation District will manage implementation of trees, fabric, tree protectors and grass on Windbreak Renovation sites. This project will provide cost share to help with these costs according to the Conservation Commission approved practice costs. These sites have had trees removed and are ready to be re-planted in Spring 2026.

If selected for funding, RC&F suggests that:

- The Conservation Commission will not reimburse any costs that exceed the 2025 Conservation Commission Cost-share Docket. Please note other restrictions as listed there.
- All tree and shrub planting plans be reviewed and approved by one of the SDDANR RCF foresters prior to planting.
- Stand alone farmstead/homestead windbreaks do not qualify for cost-share from the Commission.
- District must secure a landowner application to determine eligibility for cost-share funds, copy to be provided with reimbursement request.
- District must provide the landowner with notification letter indicating whether or not they have been approved for cost-share, copy to be provided with reimbursement request.
- Project reimbursement will be based on actual bill/receipts submitted for completed work. Cost-share will be based on legitimate costs up to the specified maximum.
- The district provide a copy of the Joint Powers Agreement with all the conservation districts involved.
- The district provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant.
- Final report must be submitted before final reimbursement will be processed. This report must be submitted no more than 30 days after the end of the grant.

DANR:

GF&P:

	Project	Start date	End Date	Original Award	Balance	Extensions
--	---------	------------	----------	----------------	---------	------------

Other current grants:

N/A

Approved:

N/A

N/A

N/A

N/A

Denied:

N/A

N/A

Reason for denial:



SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY DIVISION

523 East Capitol Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501
Phone: 605.773.3623
danr.sd.gov

GRANT APPLICATION FORM

Applicant Information

Organization: Lincoln Conservation District Mailing Address: 801 East 5th Street
Telephone: (605) 987-2624 City: Canton State: S.D. Zip: 57013
Tax Status: Government, Local

Project Contact

Project Officer: Jeremy Saugstad Telephone: (605) 987-2624
Fax: _____ Email: LincolnCD@SDConservation.net

Project Information

Project Name: Windbreak Renovation Spring 2026
Start Date: 01/01/2026 End Date: 06/30/2026
Legal description: County: Lincoln
Township: _____ Range: _____
Section: _____ Qtr: _____

Type of Grant

☒ Conservation Grant ☐ Community Forestry
☐ Insect/Disease ☐ Invasive Species
☐ Forest Stewardship ☐ Mountain Pine Beetle
☐ Other (specify): _____

Financial Information

Grant funds requested: \$ 2,750.00 Partner contributions (total): \$ 8,840.00 Total project cost: \$11,590.00
Please provide a brief, descriptive summary of the project:

Lincoln Conservation District will manage implementation of trees, fabric, tree protectors and grass on Windbreak Renovation sites. This project will provide cost share to help with these costs according to the Conservation Commission approved practice costs. These sites have had trees removed and are ready to be re-planted in Spring 2026.

I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief, this application is true and correct. I further agree to comply with the provisions of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and regulations issued thereunder relating to nondiscrimination in federally assisted programs.

Applicant Signature David S. Gillespie Title Supervisor Date 09/30/2025

A copy of the state required [W-9 form](#) must be attached to this application.

OFFICE USE ONLY

Signature of Reviewer _____ Title _____ Date _____
Signature of Approval _____ Title _____ Date _____

BUDGET SHEET

The total for each of these three sections should equal the "Total Project Cost" on page 1.

A. Operating Budget

1. Salary/Benefits		
2. Travel		
3. Contractual Services	\$ 11,590.00	
4. Supplies		
5. Equipment (list major equipment)		
6. Consultation Services		
Total Project Costs	\$11,590.00	This total must equal \$11,590.00

B. Activity Budget

Activity	Grant Funds	Local Funds	Local In-Kind	Other Funds	Total
1. Shelterbelt Renovation	2,750.00	8,840.00			\$11,590.00
2.					
3.					
4.					
5.					
6.					
7.					
8.					
Totals	\$2,750.00	\$8,840.00			\$11,590.00
This total must equal					\$11,590.00

C. Project Partners

Partners	Amount Cash	Amount In-Kind	Total
1. Commission Grant	2,750.00		\$2,750.00
2. Landowners	8,840.00		\$8,840.00
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
Totals	\$11,590.00		\$11,590.00
This total must equal			\$11,590.00

Please send application and attachments to the South Dakota Department of Agriculture & Natural Resources.

LINCOLN CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING Minutes
16 Sept. 2025, start 4 p.m. at: 801 E. 5th St. Suite 2, Canton, SD

Option to join by call in at: 607-374-1189, access code 946-062#, (if you let us know)

Present: Dave G., Neil B., Ron G., Kory K., J.S.

Called in:

Called Meeting to Order 4:05.

- I. Public comment period: n.a.
Lynn Bren of SDPAA gave brief talk about insurance coverage & option to increase General Liability coverage.
- II. Reviewed Minutes of previous meeting. Neil motioned, Dave 2nd, All approved.
- III. District Supervisor's Reports: Eric P. working.
- IV. NRCS Report – Kory K. Looking for cost-share funds. Received many EQIP applications for tree renovation projects.
- V. District Manager's Report – Operations
 - ☐ District Staff – Updated Safety Manual merged with Application.
 - ☐ Equipment –
 - ☐ Tree Plant Jobs – Many pending. Still have renovation sites to visit this month.
 - ☐ Pickup Orders – 5 orders for 46 Fall potted
 - ☐ Drill Jobs – 0
 - ☐ Other –
 - Administration, Financial Report: A/R, A/P, cash flow, budget to actual.
 - Reviewed bills, & financial reports. Dave motioned, Neil 2nd, all approved.
 - Checks to sign: no
- VI. Old Business: Discuss Any Resource concerns. SDSU Public Tree info meeting on Sept. 23, notice put on Face-Book & post cards mailed out. Discussed need for manager to go to part time until funds allow full time. JS will Review & propose product & services prices for 2026, & send email.
New Business: Discussed Application for S.D. Commission Grant to help with July Storms Tree Renovation project. Dave G. motioned, Neil B. 2nd all approved to submit grant application. JS will send out relevant emails about District website.
- VII. Executive Session: none
- VIII. Time & Date for Next Board Meeting – Third Tuesday: 4:00 p.m. 21-Oct.-2025 tentative, pending harvest /weather?
- IX. Adjourned at 5:00.

Lincoln Conservation District, in USDA Office Bldg.,
801 East 5th Street, Suite 2-South (near 481.33 282nd St.) South side of Hwy 18
Canton, SD 57013
Office: (605) 987-2624 Ext. 3
Email: LincolnCD@SDConservation.net
www.LincolnConservationDistrictSD.com

Lincoln Conservation District Shed
220 North Howard Street (near 480.40 2 Blocks N. of Hwy 18 (282nd St.))
Canton, SD 57013

Lincoln Conservation District Board of Supervisors: Started

Greg Huffman	605-366-4386	273.28 476 th Ave (East of) Harrisburg	2018
gjuffman@sio.midco.net		Farmer, Dayton Township	
Dave Gillespie,	605-941-2791	in Canton	2021
dgdgillespie@gmail.com		Farm owner Canton Twnshp	
Eric Poppens	605-261-5136	274.59 468 th Ave. (NE of) Lennox	2022
deere7810@hotmail.com		Farmer, Perry Twnshp	
Neil Broughton	(605) 351-4931	47683 292 nd , Hudson	2024
tinesuplm@gmail.com		Land Manager Norway Twnshp	
Ron Gibbons, <i>Chairman</i> ,	605-310-3533	28861 467 th Ave., Centerville	2025
rdgibbons2@gmail.com		Farmer Delaware Twnshp	

Lincoln Conservation District Advisor to Board

Dennis Halverson,	605-366-3536	29083 485th Ave., Fairview	2025
dahalverson@alliancecom.net		Advisor, Farmer, Fairview Twnshp	

Lincoln Conservation District Manager: Jeremy S.

NRCS District Conservationist: Kezar, Kory, kory.kezar@usda.gov

Practice	Max Cost Per Unit \$	unit of Measure	Estimated Units	Max Total Cost of UnitS \$	Cost Share %	Amount \$ Requested for Grant	Landowner Cost \$
<u>Windbreak Renovation Tree Removal</u>							
Dead Tree Removal Above Ground							
Dead Tree Removal Include Roots	\$6,100.00	Acre	1.00	\$6,100.00	0	\$0.00	\$6,100.00
				\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
<u>Critical Area Grass Seeding & ground Prep</u>							
with Native Grass Mix	\$120.00	Acre	2.60	\$312.00	50	\$156.00	\$156.00
with Tame Grass				\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
				\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
<u>Windbreak Renovation Planting</u>							
Site Preparation				\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
Shrubs & Planting	\$0.54	Foot	308.0	\$166.32	50	\$83.16	\$83.16
Trees & Planting	\$0.52	Foot	1600.0	\$832.00	50	\$416.00	\$416.00
Fabric & Install	\$0.85	Foot	3750.0	\$3,187.50	50	\$1,593.75	\$1,593.75
5' tree protectors	\$11.25	Each	76.0	\$855.00	50	\$427.50	\$427.50
tree protector installation	\$1.70	Each	76.0	\$129.20	50	\$64.60	\$64.60
Windbreak Renovation Total				\$11,582.02		\$2,741.01	\$8,841.01
						24%	76%

- Conservation District - The district will be responsible for the project management, provide information for implementation, and / or provide service to implement, and evaluation of the project. The district provided an estimate to, & plans to supply & plant the grass & trees, supply & install the fabric, and the tree protectors.
- Conservation Commission Grant - The grant may cover up to 25% of the cost of the tree removal, and 50% of the cost of the grass seeding, trees & planting, fabric & installation, and tree protectors and installation.
- Natural Resource Conservation Service - The NRCS Tech Guide will be followed when designing a shelterbelt. Local NRCS staff will provide guidance.
- Landowner - The landowner is ultimately responsible for site management. Landowners have prepared the tree sites and will provide at least 25% of the cost of the practices, even if other funding is found by the producer. Under the proposed plan the landowner will supply over 76% of the total budget for this project.

E. Project Descriptions

Beneficiaries of Renovation Project

- o The project's primary goal is to renovate storm damaged shelterbelts in Southern Lincoln County. Funding will ensure local farmers and livestock producers receive the protection needed for their farmsteads, and feedlots. Shelterbelt renovations will provide reduced wind and soil erosion, along with energy consumption.
- o Lincoln County Landowners - this project would supply cost-share for renovation of existing shelterbelts area, and would supply cost-share to replant the trees shrubs, and grass.
- o Surrounding areas - will benefit through improved water quality and air quality, reduction in soil erosion, and an improved landscape.
- o Lincoln County - economic benefits through improved efficiency of livestock, reduction in energy costs, visual screens, and improved land value.
- o Due to storm damage and the number of ash trees, shelterbelt decline will result in hazards to each farmstead around shelterbelts, renovations will address this hazard.
- Implementation, Maintenance, & Follow-up
 - o Lincoln County Conservation District will implement this project. The Conservation District along with assistance from state foresters, and NRCS planners will determine features of the renovation. Renovation plans will be drawn up with the producer. Removal of trees/shrubs is complete. Spring 2026 - final land preparation, tree/shrub planting, fabric, and grass seeding. Fall 2026 - monitoring and survival counts.
 - o Lincoln Conservation District will follow up with survival rates of new trees and shrubs, and work with producers on replacement stock.
- Location of Project
 - o Southern Lincoln County, Nearby towns include Centerville, Beresford, Fairview, and Hudson, South Dakota.

- Environmental, Natural Resource, Ecological, Education, and Social Impact
- o The farmers and ranchers of Southern Lincoln County are very much aware of the damage caused by summer storms in 2025. Restoring shelterbelts to function and provide conservation benefits to the landscape are very important. With the presents of emerald ash borers in the county, this project will remove infected ash trees that are dying or will die in years to come. Priorities of Lincoln Conservation District include water quality, soil erosion, and air quality. This project helps address these priorities, and plan for future generations.
- o Environmental and Natural Resources – Renovation of Shelterbelts will provide landowners planning assistance to address resource concerns well beyond the shelterbelts on their operations, getting technical assistance from state and federal planners starts conversations that can lead to better conservation across the farm. The Shelterbelt renovations will provide improved energy efficiency, water quality, and wind and soil erosion for landowners, and the County.

F. Final Products.

Social Impact – Provide opportunities for seasonal work in the spring working with tree crew to establish shelterbelts, potentially creating new interest in conservation work. Increase esthetics in the County and provide a sense of community for participants after challenging storms have left their farmsteads altered, and many not knowing how to go about addressing their wind protection needs. Provide Boots-on-the-ground approach to work directly with rural members of Lincoln County, on their locations.

Economic Impact - The economic impact of a shelterbelt is hard to quantify. Energy saving can be significant, and on large scall feedlot can have huge economic benefits to their operations. Money saved on livestock efficiency's potentially is money that can be invested back into local communities. With prominent winds, shelterbelts are a must in Southeast South Dakota to protect property and livestock.

- o Success of this project will be measured by the number of producers who successfully renovate shelterbelts, and the acres of new trees/shrubs planted. These acres will stand to protect these farmsteads from prevailing winds for many years.
- o This Commission Grant would provide the district with the ability to work with and reach new customers, and provide education for our customer base. This helps build recognition and reputation, for a strong working partnership in our rural setting.
- o Renovated shelterbelts will replenish the landscape with their beauty, and restore the functions & benefits they provide to our landowners & wildlife.

Thank you for your consideration,
Jeremy S.

Lincoln Conservation District

Office: 801 E. 5th St. Suite 2-South, Canton, S.D. 57013

Office: (605) 987-2624

State Conservation Commission

November 2025

Conservation District

Mellette

Project Name:

2025 MC Multi-Purpose Grant

Start Date

01/01/2026

End Date

06/30/2027

Total Project Amount:

\$ 181,600.00

Commission Funds:

\$ 70,000.00

District Funds:

\$ 500.00

Landowner Cash:

\$ 111,100.00

Local In-kind:

Other Funds:

Other funds:

Cash

In-kind

Total:

\$ - \$ -

RC&F:

DANR:

GF&P:

USFWS:

NRCS:

OTHER:

Description of Grant Application:

The 2026 MC Multi-Practice Grant would assist producers in the conservation of our natural resources by providing cost share opportunities. Please see the attached project narrative and budget sheet that outlines, in detail, the goals of this proposed project.

The practices proposed in this project are:

Pipelines/Tanks

Fencing

Trees/fabric

Alt. Energy Pumps/Rural Water Hookups

Wells/Seeding

Dugouts/Dams

Fabricated windbreaks

Administration

If selected for funding, RC&F suggests that:

- The Conservation Commission will not reimburse any costs that exceed the 2025 Conservation Commission Cost-share Docket. Please note other restrictions as listed there.
- All tree and shrub planting plans be reviewed and approved by one of the SDDANR RCF foresters prior to planting.
- Stand alone farmstead/homestead windbreaks do not qualify for cost-share from the Commission.
- District must secure a landowner application to determine eligibility for cost-share funds, copy to be provided with reimbursement request.
- District must provide the landowner with notification letter indicating whether or not they have been approved for cost-share, copy to be provided with reimbursement request.
- Project reimbursement will be based on actual bill/receipts submitted for completed work. Cost-share will be based on legitimate costs up to the specified maximum.
- The district provide a copy of the Joint Powers Agreement with all the conservation districts involved.
- The district provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant.
- Final report must be submitted before final reimbursement will be processed. This report must be submitted no more than 30 days after the end of the grant.

DANR:

GF&P:

	Project	Start date	End Date	Original Award	Balance	Extensions
Other current grants:						
2024 MC Multi-Practice Grant	2024-CSW-013	01/01/2024	06/30/2026	\$ 60,000.00	\$50,106.97	1 yr
Approved:			Denied:			

Reason for denial:



SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY DIVISION

523 East Capitol Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501
Phone: 605.773.3623
danr.sd.gov

GRANT APPLICATION FORM

Applicant Information

Organization: Mellette County Conservation District Mailing Address: PO Box 1
Telephone: (605) 259-2352 City: White River State: SD Zip: 57579
Tax Status: Exempt-Government Entity

Project Contact

Project Officer: Jewell Bork Telephone: (605) 259-3252
Fax: _____ Email: toddcoed@outlook.com

Project Information

Project Name: 2025 MC Multi-Practice Grant
Start Date: 01/01/2026 End Date: 06/30/2027
Legal description: County: Mellette/Todd
Township: _____ Range: _____
Section: _____ Qtr: _____

Type of Grant

- ☒ Conservation Grant ☐ Community Forestry
☐ Insect/Disease ☐ Invasive Species
☐ Forest Stewardship ☐ Mountain Pine Beetle
☐ Other (specify): _____

Financial Information

Grant funds requested: \$ 70,000.00 Partner contributions (total): \$ 111,600.00 Total project cost: \$181,600.00
Please provide a brief, descriptive summary of the project:

The 2026 MC Multi-Practice Grant would assist producers in the conservation of our natural resources by providing cost share opportunities. Please see the attached project narrative and budget sheet that outlines, in detail, the goals of this proposed project.

The practices proposed in this project are:

Pipelines/Tanks
Fencing
Trees/fabric
Alt. Energy Pumps/Rural Water Hookups
Wells/Seeding
Dugouts/Dams
Fabricated windbreaks
Administration

I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief, this application is true and correct. I further agree to comply with the provisions of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and regulations issued thereunder relating to nondiscrimination in federally assisted programs.

Applicant Signature

Title

Chairman

Date

9-29-2025

A copy of the state required [W-9 form](#) must be attached to this application.

OFFICE USE ONLY

Signature of Reviewer _____ Title _____ Date _____

Signature of Approval _____ Title _____ Date _____

BUDGET SHEET

The total for each of these three sections should equal the "Total Project Cost" on page 1.

A. Operating Budget

1. Salary/Benefits	\$ 7,000.00	
2. Travel		
3. Contractual Services	\$ 111,600.00	
4. Supplies		
5. Equipment (list major equipment)		
6. Consultation Services		
Total Project Costs	\$118,600.00	This total must equal \$181,600.00

B. Activity Budget

Activity	Grant Funds	Local Funds	Local In-Kind	Other Funds	Total
1. Pipeline/Tanks	13,000.00	15,600.00			\$28,600.00
2. Fencing	11,000.00	37,000.00			\$48,000.00
3. Tree planting/fabric	18,000.00	18,500.00			\$36,500.00
4. Alt Pumps/hookups	3,000.00	9,000.00			\$12,000.00
5. Wells/Seeding	2,000.00	6,000.00			\$8,000.00
6. Dugouts/Dams	3,000.00	9,000.00			\$12,000.00
7. Fabricated Windbreaks	13,000.00	16,000.00			\$29,000.00
8. Admin	7,000.00		500.00		\$7,500.00
Totals	\$70,000.00	\$111,100.00	\$500.00		\$181,600.00
				This total must equal	\$181,600.00

C. Project Partners

Partners	Amount Cash	Amount In-Kind	Total
1. DANR	70,000.00		\$70,000.00
2. MCCD/TCCD		500.00	\$500.00
3. MC/TC producers	111,100.00		\$111,100.00
4. _____			
5. _____			
6. _____			
7. _____			
8. _____			
Totals	\$181,100.00	\$500.00	\$181,600.00
		This total must equal	\$181,600.00

Please send application and attachments to the South Dakota Department of Agriculture & Natural Resources.

Project Descriptions and Need

Primary Beneficiaries

The primary beneficiaries of this project will be Mellette and Todd County agricultural landowners/operators and any future generations.

Who will be responsible for the implementation, maintenance and follow-up stages of this project

The Mellette and Todd County Conservation District will be responsible to providing leadership, technical and educational assistants to producers to help them utilized and manage their natural resources. The planning assistance will be carried out by the Districts, NRCS and the local forester. The producer will be responsible for the implementation and maintenance of the conservation practices installed. Producers need to ensure that the practice functions as intended for the designated life span of the practice and thereafter. The conservation districts will complete the construction check making sure specifications and standard were followed. Administrative duties will be handled by the Mellette/Todd County Conservation District.

Indicate where the project will be located

The projects will be located within the boundaries of Mellette and Todd Counties. There may be some projects that are installed in the Lewis and Clark Watershed Implementations Project area. Other watershed that may benefit from the installed practices include Cottonwood Creek, Pine Creek, Niobrara, Little White River, Porcupine Creek and White River.

Describe the specific environmental, natural resources ecological, educational and/or socio-economic need(s) that the project will address.

Mellette/Todd County producers who want to ensure the long-term use of their natural resources in an economically, socially, and environmentally sustainable manner will be able to use this funding opportunity to do just that.

All conservation practices installed through this grant will address natural resource concerns.

- *Pipelines /Tanks:* Pipelines will allow adequate water supply to distribute grazing more evenly across rangelands. Strategically placing of tanks will allow clean water to be more readily available allowing livestock to graze more uniformly maximizing forage utilization.
- *Fencing:* Fencing will help manage livestock movement in a well-planned grazing management system. When properly rotated through a grazing management system it will address the natural resource concern of overgrazing and will allow the proper rest and recovery time of the native plants. This rest and recovery will over time increase

native plant production and increase the biology in the soil creating healthier rangeland and better water infiltration.

- *Tree plantings/fabric:* Planting trees to form a shelterbelt will provide shelter, food, and protection for birds, wildlife and livestock. Laying fabric in a shelterbelt planting will help with erosion and weed control and increase water retention allowing for a better environment for the tree's survival.
- *Alternative Energy Pumps/Rural Water Hookups:* Using an alternative energy pump can give producers more flexibility in rotating cattle to remote areas. Rural water hookups are essential for getting pipelines and tanks on the land. In some places additional hookups are needed to get additional pipe lines and tanks to those areas.
- *Wells/Seedings:* Wells usually provide a stable, consistent water source at times creeks, ponds, and dams are dry or are and unreliable. Reseeding disturbed soil back to grassland will reduce soil erosion and improve the health of the soil by controlling erosion and weed suppression.
- *Dugouts/Dams:* Dugouts, dams and ponds being constructed, repaired, or cleaned out will benefit natural resources by improving range condition and wildlife habitat, reducing riparian area pressure, providing better water quality and reducing soil and nutrient runoff.
- *Fabricated Windbreaks:* Metal fabricated windbreaks will stop wind erosion and will help with water control by eliminating excess water runoff.

On the ground restoration activities to achieve the project objectives and why needed

Contracts will be signed with producers to meet requirements based on the NRCS State Technical Guide. Staff will conduct sited visits with landowners and producers to evaluate the feasibility of implementing the conservation practices. Site preparation will be completed by the landowner.

A larger regional and /or local watershed effort

There are several watersheds located in the area where the project will be completed. The Lewis and Clark Watershed Implementation project may partner with practices that are located in the project area and help contribute to the success of their goals and objectives.

Long Term Management

The Producers agree to perform necessary upkeep and repairs to ensure the conservation practices remain effective and intact throughout the full Natural Resources Service (NRS) lifespan of the practice. They also are aware that if they do not abide by the terms of the agreement, they may be required to pay back the cost share received from this program.

Permits

Federal, State, Tribal, or local permits that may be required to complete this project will be the responsibility of the producers. The Conservation District will advise the producer of the authorizations that are needed for completion of the projects. Consideration for cultural resources and environmental impacts will be considered when planning the practices.

Final Products

Conservation practices installed through this project will help preserve our natural resources for years to come. Some of the concerns that will be address are: wildlife shelter, water quality, rangeland management, nutrients in ground or surface water, inadequate livestock water, wind and soil erosion, and invasive plant species.

Through the 2026 Multi-Practice Grant, the district aims to support a range of conservation and infrastructure initiatives, including: Assist with planting and laying protective fabric to establish shelterbelts. Bury several miles of pipelines, install water tanks, and support rural water hook-ups. Replant grasses on disturbed ground to promote soil health and prevent erosion. Install metal-fabricated windbreaks to reduce wind erosion and manage water runoff. Provide assistance for constructing wells and dams/dugouts to increase water supply and install alternative energy sources to power water pumps and distribute the enhanced water supply efficiently.

Through the 2026 Multi-Practice Grant the district's goals are to assist with planting and laying fabric for shelterbelts, bury several miles of pipelines, install tanks, and assist with rural water hook-ups. Plant grasses back into disturbed ground, and install metal fabricated windbreak to protect from wind erosion and control water runoff. Also provide assistance to increase water availability with wells and dam/dugouts and distribute this extra water supply by installing alternative energy source to power the pumps.

Success of the Project

Success of this project will be measured by the number practices that were put in place and the number of producers that were provided technical assistance to successfully implement these conservation practices. The environmental benefits are hard to measure but are also included in the success of the project.

Partner Justification

Project Partners Include: Mellette County Conservation District
Todd County Conservation District
NRCS
Owners, operators and producers

The Mellette County Conservation District will be the organization in charge of making sure the grant functions as intended. Mellette & Todd Counties have continually improved over the years, thanks in part to the Commission Grant Funds being available for producers interested in installing conservation practices. The district has had past experience in being responsible for administering grants, if they are awarded. The NRCS staff and the Service Forester are available to provide technical assistance.

Mellette County Conservation District

Board of Supervisors Regular Meeting

USDA Service Center – White River, S.D

Monday, September 19, 2025 7:00 p.m

Meeting Minutes

President Clint Rasmusson called the meeting to order at 7:20 p.m. and declared a quorum was present.

Board members present were Bret Strain, Clinton Rasmusson, Cliff Bryan and Brett Galbraith.

Others present included Jewell Bork.

Bret Strain made a motion to approve the agenda Cliff Bryan seconded it. Motion carried.

Cliff Bryan made a motion to approve the September 15, 2025 meeting minutes with one correction. Bret Strain seconded it. Motion carried.

Cliff Bryan made a motion to approve the treasurer's report. Bret Strain seconded it. Motion carried.

An estimate for \$13,067.00 from Quality Drill to repair the 2017 drill was presented. Bret Strain made a motion to have the drill repaired. Cliff Bryan seconded it. Brett Galbreth will contact Quality Drill to work on the drill.

Bret Strain make a motion to pay the \$100 South Central RC&D membership. Cliff Bryan seconded it. Motion carried.

Cliff Bryan made a motion to approve the accounts receivable report. Jewell was asked to contact customers with unpaid balances. Bret Strain seconded it. Motion carried.

Cassie Bell presented a written NRCS report.

*All motions passed unanimously unless otherwise indicated.

Other Reports:

Jewell reported on the state technical meeting.

Old Business:

- Still waiting for one check to clear before the Ranchers Workshop checking account can be moved from Wells Fargo Bank in Mission to First Fidelity Bank in White River.
- District manager position was discussed.
- Conservation Commission Grant
 - Moran tree planting site in Todd County was looked at by Agroforester Nathan Kafer. Kafer flagged the site and approved the tree planting. Whitney Jones is working with the Tribe to get the required permits.
 - Travis Tinant application for a tree planting and fence was approved with the Todd County Conservation District board.

New Business

- Motion by Bret Strain for the Mellette County Conservation District to apply for a Multi-Practice Conservation Commission Grant. Cliff Bryan seconded it. Motion carried.
- The board discussed the candidates for the South Dakota Natural Resources Conservation Award for the 250th Celebration of the U.S. The producers selected were Dan Rasumssen and Dominic Harmon.
- Clint Rasusson will have one of his mechanics look at the district pickup to see why it will not start.
- The South Dakota Public Assurance Alliance handbook and tri-fold were reviewed.
- Discussion was held on the 2026 docket. The board will make a recommendation to add virtual fencing to the docket.

Executive Session

Correspondence

- Cherry-Todd meeting-September 20th
- Golden West Annual Meeting-September 27th

The next meeting was set for October 7, 2025 at 7:00p.m.

Cliff Bryan made the motion to adjourn. Bret Strain seconded it.

Meeting adjourned at 9.50 p.m.

Clinton Rasmusson, Chairmen

Jewell Bork, Acting District Manager

State Conservation Commission

November 2025

Conservation District

Miner

Project Name:

SDACDE Promoting Conservation in 2026

Start Date

01/01/2026

End Date

12/31/2026

Total Project Amount:

\$ 16,400.00

Commission Funds:

\$ 8,200.00

District Funds:

\$ 8,200.00

Landowner Cash:

Local In-kind:

Other Funds:

Other funds:

Cash

In-kind

Total:

\$ -

\$ -

RC&F:

DANR:

GF&P:

USFWS:

NRCS:

OTHER:

Description of Grant Application:

State-wide awareness of Conservation is so important. As Conservation Districts, we must make everyone aware of the importance of 'good' conservation. To accomplish this mission, we must do our best to make everyone (residents and visitors) aware of the importance of conservation. Conservation Districts cover the entire state in every county - we are the locally led conservation! As the SDACDE we promote the importance of Conservation Districts by participating in activities such as: South Dakota State Fair, Central States Fair, Dakota Fest, Black Hills Stock Show, Pheasant Fest, Hunting & Outdoor Conventions, Area Farm Shows, South Dakota Soil Health Conference, State-wide and Area-wide Workshops and Seminars. Training and seminars are costly and this funding would allow SDACDE to provide additional support with expenses. Publications, Newspapers, Websites, and other social media are also a valuable outreach avenue. Outreach, Public Awareness, and Promotion of Conservation is vital to each and every Conservation District in South Dakota. South Dakota Conservation Districts must make conservation awareness a priority!

If selected for funding, RC&F suggests that:

- The district provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant.
- Project reimbursement will be based on actual bill/receipts submitted for completed work. Cost-share will be based on legitimate costs up to the specified maximum.

DANR:

GF&P:

Other current grants:

	Project	Start date	End Date	Original Award	Balance	Extensions
Soil Health Improvement	2024-CSW-016	01/01/2024	12/31/2025	\$ 21,840.00	\$13,926.28	
Conservation Education & Awareness	2025-CSW-021	01/01/2025	12/31/2025	\$ 2,550.00	\$ 2,550.00	
Pollinator Planting	2025-CSW-022	01/01/2025	12/31/2025	\$ 1,650.00	\$ 1,650.00	
SDACDE 2025 Promoting Conservation	2025-CSW-023	01/01/2025	12/31/2025	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 8,000.00	

Approved:

Denied:

Reason for denial:



SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY DIVISION

523 East Capitol Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501
Phone: 605.773.3623
danr.sd.gov

GRANT APPLICATION FORM

Applicant Information

Organization: Miner Conservation District Mailing Address: 601 W Farmer Ave, Suite A
Telephone: (605) 772-5642 City: Howard State: SD Zip: 57349
Tax Status: Government

Project Contact

Project Officer: Tami Moore Telephone: (605) 480-2401
Fax: _____ Email: tami.moore@sd.nacdnet.net

Project Information

Project Name: SDACDE Promoting Conservation in 2026
Start Date: 01/01/2026 End Date: 12/31/2026
Legal description: County: State of South Dakota
Township: _____ Range: _____
Section: _____ Qtr: _____

Type of Grant

- ☒ Conservation Grant ☐ Community Forestry
☐ Insect/Disease ☐ Invasive Species
☐ Forest Stewardship ☐ Mountain Pine Beetle
☐ Other (specify): _____

Financial Information

Grant funds requested: \$ 8,200.00 Partner contributions (total): \$ 8,200.00 Total project cost: \$16,400.00
Please provide a brief, descriptive summary of the project:

State-wide awareness of Conservation is so important. As Conservation Districts, we must make everyone aware of the importance of 'good' conservation. To accomplish this mission, we must do our best to make everyone (residents and visitors) aware of the importance of conservation. Conservation Districts cover the entire state in every county - we are the locally led conservation! As the SDACDE we promote the importance of Conservation Districts by participating in activities such as: South Dakota State Fair, Central States Fair, Dakota Fest, Black Hills Stock Show, Pheasant Fest, Hunting & Outdoor Conventions, Area Farm Shows, South Dakota Soil Health Conference, State-wide and Area-wide Workshops and Seminars. Training and seminars are costly and this funding would allow SDACDE to provide additional support with expenses. Publications, Newspapers, Websites, and other social media are also a valuable outreach avenue. Outreach, Public Awareness, and Promotion of Conservation is vital to each and every Conservation District in South Dakota. South Dakota Conservation Districts must make conservation awareness a priority!

I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief, this application is true and correct. I further agree to comply with the provisions of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and regulations issued thereunder relating to nondiscrimination in federally assisted programs.

Applicant Signature Tami Moore Title District Manager Date 09/25/2025

A copy of the state required [W-9 form](#) must be attached to this application.

OFFICE USE ONLY

Signature of Reviewer _____ Title _____ Date _____
Signature of Approval _____ Title _____ Date _____

BUDGET SHEET

The total for each of these three sections should equal the "Total Project Cost" on page 1.

A. Operating Budget

1. Salary/Benefits	\$ 7,600.00	
2. Travel	\$ 900.00	
3. Contractual Services	\$ 500.00	
4. Supplies	\$ 7,400.00	
5. Equipment (list major equipment)		
6. Consultation Services		
Total Project Costs	\$16,400.00	This total must equal \$16,400.00

B. Activity Budget

Activity	Grant Funds	Local Funds	Local In-Kind	Other Funds	Total
1. Salary & Benefits			7,600.00		\$7,600.00
2. Travel	300.00		600.00		\$900.00
3. Supplies	7,400.00				\$7,400.00
4. Administrative	500.00				\$500.00
5. _____					
6. _____					
7. _____					
8. _____					
Totals	\$8,200.00		\$8,200.00		\$16,400.00
This total must equal					\$16,400.00

C. Project Partners

Partners	Amount Cash	Amount In-Kind	Total
1. Conservation Commission	8,200.00		\$8,200.00
2. SD Conservation Districts		8,200.00	\$8,200.00
3. _____			
4. _____			
5. _____			
6. _____			
7. _____			
8. _____			
Totals	\$8,200.00	\$8,200.00	\$16,400.00
This total must equal			\$16,400.00

Please send application and attachments to the South Dakota Department of Agriculture & Natural Resources.

Project Description and Need - SDACDE PROMOTING CONSERVATION IN 2026

- **Project Partners**

Miner Conservation District will administer the grant. Other partners will include South Dakota Conservation Districts, SDACD, NRCS, DANR, SD Soil Health, & SD Grasslands. SD Conservation Districts will be donating time and various expenses to all the projects promoting conservation. The other partners will be supplying advice to make this project a success.

- **Goals Of Coordinated Plan met by this Project**

This grant meets the following goals of the Coordinated Plan: **Goal #1** -Water Quality, **Goal #3** - Soil Health, **Goal #5** - Wildlife, **Goal #6** - Public Awareness, **Goal #7** – Supplemental Funding, **Goal #8** – Conservation Education, **Goal #9** – Enhancing Trees Outside of Forests. By participating in state-wide events, we help educate the general public on all the natural resource concerns. Conservation District personnel are educated and ready to engage with the public. Funding is always a struggle for many Conservation Districts in South Dakota. This assists all conservation district employees the opportunity to participate in state-wide and area-wide conservation projects. Conservation Districts have unlimited options for promoting conservation. If we only had the funding, we could go anywhere from here!

- **Primary Beneficiaries of this Project**

The state of South Dakota will be the beneficiary of this project. Conservation efforts in South Dakota need to be made a priority for this generation and future generations. **Conservation awareness is a must.** The conservation districts need to continue to raise awareness of the services and conservation practices offered. These events are key parts of keeping our districts visible and conservation on the land as a priority.

- **Responsible for Implementation, Maintenance and Follow-up**

The Miner Conservation District will be responsible for all funding and reimbursement requests. The Miner Conservation District board feels this is a very important project for Miner County, as well as the state. The South Dakota Conservation District Employees Association, as well as the SDACDE Area Directors, voted to participate in all these activities.

- **Project Location**

This project will take place in the entire state of South Dakota. The most important events the SD State Fair, Dakota Fest, Pheasant Fest, Central States Fair, & Black Hills Stock Show. In 2025, we had every county visit our booths at these fairs. We keep a map of the state, and visitors mark where they live. The State Fair had over 725 people visiting the booth from at least 47 counties at the value-added tent. Central States Fair and the Black Hills Stock Show is manned by both Conservation Districts and NRCS and lasts for a few days, so it is harder for them to keep track of the number of visitors and where they are from. Everyone that attends the Soil Health Conference is interested in Conservation - it is the perfect place for Conservation Districts to be represented. Participation in all these events is expensive; this outreach grant allows Conservation District employees to attend the events representing their own Conservation District as well as Conservation District across the state. Employees

representing Conservation Districts across the state must be trained and knowledgeable about what districts offer, along with their specific programs.

- **Specific Environmental, Natural Resource, Ecological, and Educational needs this project will address**

This funding will help educate the public on the importance of conservation and continued conservation efforts in our future. It will raise awareness in the public that careful management of our environment and our natural resources are what conservation is all about. It will bring visibility to the districts in our state and the services that are available to the public.

- **Provisions to Ensure Long-Term Management and Protection of the Project**

More conservation awareness and education ensure better conservation on the land. We must have conservation on the land a priority for now and future generations. Each generation has new concerns about soil health, and how they can work it into their own operations.

- **Federal, State, or Local Permits Required**

No permits will be required for these projects. If permits are required, they will be obtained. Cultural Resources are considered for all conservation activities.

- **Final Products**

With the reduction of county funding given to many of the conservation districts, our districts are losing the ability to participate in outreach or promotional activities. The South Dakota Conservation Districts need to have a vision which includes successful Conservation Districts. The benefits the local Conservation Districts provide for the public is unlimited. Residents of South Dakota want Healthy Soil - they just need guidance in finding out how they can make that happen. The ultimate goal is to make Conservation Districts more visible to the public as an avenue in Good Conservation. As the public learns more about Conservation opportunities, the public will embrace Good Conservation!

Note to South Dakota Conservation Commission - Miner Conservation District is responsible for the operation and success of this grant. The Miner Conservation District is under the direct supervision of the South Dakota Conservation District Employees Association concerning the activities and success of each involvement. It takes total participation from the Conservation Districts as well as the Conservation District Employees Association. We are always open to new opportunities to promote 'Good Conservation' and 'Healthy Soil'.

PLEASE ALWAYS FEEL FREE TO CONTACT THE MINER CONSERVATION DISTRICT OR THE SOUTH DAKOTA CONSERVATION DISTRICT EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION FOR RECOMMENDATIONS OR IDEAS TO PROMOTE SOUTH DAKOTA CONSERVATION!

**Miner Conservation District
Board of Supervisors Meeting
August 13, 2025
12:00 pm @ USDA Conference Room**

Mission Statement of the Miner Conservation District: *To promote responsible land use decisions for the conservation, protection, and improvement of natural resources.*

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dale Shumaker, Chairman
Marvin Kizer, Vice-Chairman
Julie Calmus, Treasurer
Randy Dawson, Supervisor
Catherine Connor, Supervisor

OTHERS PRESENT:

Tami Moore, District Manager
Rachel Walter, Acting District Conservationist

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Shumaker called the meeting to order at 12:00pm at the USDA Conference Room, with a quick lunch for everyone attending.

INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS: NRCS personnel, Rachel Walter was welcomed and thanked for her attendance.

NRCS REPORT: Rachel Walter, Natural Resource Specialist and Acting District Conservationist, informed board members of activities of NRCS. A written report was also submitted. The board expressed their appreciation for the excellent work she was doing and commended her on successfully doing the work of both the Natural Resource Specialist and as Acting District Conservationist.

MINUTES: The minutes for the June 16, 2025, board meeting were given to board members prior to the meeting. Randy Dawson moved to approve the June minutes. Discussion was held. Catherine Connor seconded the motion. Following a unanimous voice vote, the minutes for June were approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The vouchers for July and August were submitted for review, discussion, and approval. Randy Dawson moved to approve all vouchers. Julie Calmus seconded the motion. Discussion was held. Following a unanimous voice vote, vouchers were approved.

Treasurer's Reports for July and August were submitted for review, discussion, and approval. Randy Dawson moved to approve the Treasurer's Reports; Julie Calmus seconded the move. Discussion was held. Following a unanimous voice vote, the Treasurer's Reports were approved.

The following Treasurer's Reports were submitted and presented by Treasurer, Julie Calmus.

Treasurer's Report dated July 31, 2025:

Bank Balance on June 11, 2025	\$ 3,022.37
Income	75,205.12
Expenses	18,603.95
Bank Balance on July 31, 2025	\$ 58,623.54
CD's & Education Account	\$ 169,568.60
Special Accounts – Equipment, Land, Operating	\$ 33,000.00
Accounts Receivable	\$ 31,132.26

The following is the Treasurer's Report dated August 13, 2025.

Bank Balance on July 31, 2025	\$ 58,623.54
Income	21,045.01
Expenses	14,040.31
Bank Balance on August 31, 2025	\$ 65,628.24
CD's & Education Account	\$ 170,339.04
Special Accounts – Equipment, Land, Operating	\$ 33,000.00
Accounts Receivable	\$ 36,496.44

OLD BUSINESS:

Conservation District Bank Statements – The statements for June & July were provided to board members for review and discussion.

Vermillion / Big Sioux Area Meeting – Tami attended June 18 at Good Earth State Park in Sioux Falls and reported. Attendance was not great, especially if the employees, NRCS, and partners were not counted. 4 of the 7 Conservation Districts were represented by their supervisors. A note of interest on Emerald Ash Borer, if we suspect EAB contact John Hartland, Forester for V/BS Area. He will contact John Ball – who is the only person in South Dakota that can confirm EAB infestation.

Northern Plains Regional Meeting – Tami attended June 24 in Brookings and reported. Board members reviewed the agenda. In reviewing the agenda, questions and concerns were asked about if any success stories about South Dakota Conservation Districts or if anything about SD CD's were discussed.

SDACDE Leadership Conference – Tami attended June 25-27 at Cedar Shores in Oacoma. Tami reported on the training conference and showed board members the agenda.

NEW BUSINESS:

Riteway Land Rollers – Billing is complete. Waiting for Curt Eliason to work on 23 roller bearings. Roller parts are kept here at the office. Marvin picked up brackets and slow-moving signs and installed them.

Grass Drilling and Grass Seed Sales – All spring drilling was completed with the exception of 1 – the producer had not destroyed the alfalfa in part of the fields, so the drilling could not be completed. Hopefully this fall the site will be ready for seeding. Billing has been completed – invoices, seed tags, and seed plan certifications have been completed and submitted to FSA and filed in NRCS folders.

John Deere 1590 No-Till Drill – Billing has been completed for spring drilling. The board discussed the idea of trading next year. A survey was sent out to drill users asking for their opinion on trading for a 20' drill instead of a 15'. Tami will talk with John Deere in Mitchell and Madison.

Tree Planting & Hand Plant Sales – Tree planting billing is complete. Invoices and tree plans for CRP have been submitted to FSA and filed in NRCS folders. Reimbursement requests have been made for Grant Tree Plantings; checks have been issued when reimbursement money has been received. Cost-share for Tree Plantings through the Vermillion Basin Water Development District are being worked on.

Lawn Equipment – The 4' land roller has been used. The seeder has not been used this year.

4-Wheeler with Sprayer – This was used by one person. When Tami has the pickup, she will take home to have Wayne inspect and store it.

Miner Conservation District Facebook Page – We post as needed.

Miner Conservation District Website – We have no website which is very disappointing, we have been waiting for the state to make a statewide website available. We will consider creating our own when time allows. – goal is before 2026.

Conservation District Supervisor Accreditation – No modules were reviewed (a huge disappointment to board members - haha) at this meeting. The Howard NRCS has been awarded a screen to use for such trainings – we will wait until we receive the screen.

NACD Update – NACD makes weekly updates. The board reviewed some federal cuts for state funding that will directly affect our Conservation District.

Vermillion / Big Sioux Area Employees Meeting – This will be held August 20 in Renner at the Minnehaha Conservation District shed. Tami plans to attend.

Computer On-Line Courses Completed – None were completed for July or August.

National Association of Conservation District Employees – NCDEA Mid-year is the last week in August. Tami cannot attend because of working at the state fair in the Conservation District booth.

Community & School Activities – 5th Grade – *Leaf Booklet* – Tami will contact the new 5th grade teacher to see if she would like to participate in this project. **All School Activities** – All activities have been published in the Miner County Pioneer. **Home Coming Parade** – Catherine agreed to contact the cheerleader advisor to see if they wanted to have some promotional basketballs to give out at the parade. **Homecoming Football Game** – Catherine agreed to contact the cheerleader advisor to see if they wanted some light up bracelets to have at the football game. **Miner County Fall Festival** – Ideas were discussed for participation. Catherine is going to think on this issue as she always volunteers to help with the festival.

Employer Quarterly Reemployment Report – This has been completed, submitted, and filed.

Employer Quarterly Federal Tax Return – This has been completed, submitted, and filed.

Vermillion Basin Water Development District – Minutes for the last meeting were given to supervisors. We were awarded \$5,000 towards the cost-share of trees. A thank you letter was composed and signed by board members.

Computer On-Line Courses Completed – No courses were completed in July or August.

SML – Insurance Benefits – 2026 Renewal Worksheet has been completed prior to the deadline. We will receive a 19% renewal credit.

SDACD Convention – This will be held September 21-23 at the Huron Event Center. The Agenda & Registration was given to supervisors. Registration deadline is September 11. Tami is to be notified if any supervisor plans to attend so registration can be completed. At this time, Dale hopes to attend. Our area (Vermillion/Big Sioux) is the host for the Convention.

SD Conservation Commission – Tami virtually attended the meeting on July 24. The next meeting will be held in conjunction with the SDACD Convention.

SD Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources – Their Executive Summary was given to board members. Page 2 listed the number of grants each Conservation District has had. Miner Conservation District is #1 in the state with the most grants at 53. 2nd was Davison with 41. 3rd was Mellette with 33.

‘Soil Health Improvement’ Grant #2024-CSW-016 – This grant was approved in the amount of \$21,840. It runs from 1/1/24 to 12/31/25. It will cover conservation practices such as tree planting, shelterbelt renovations, and cover crops. At the present time we have \$12,354.674 remaining. We have paid \$8,335.81 to 4 producers for tree planting cost-share. The remaining funds will hopefully be used for cover crops.

‘Conservation Education & Awareness’ Grant #2025-CSW-021 – This grant was approved in the amount of \$2,550. It runs from 1/1/25 to 12/31/25. It will cover all conservation education and awareness for Miner County.

‘SDACDE Promotion of Statewide Conservation’ Grant #2025-CSW-023 – We were approved for this grant the SD Conservation Commission 1/1/25 to 12/31/25 in the amount of \$8,000. Miner is grant administration, but the grant is for SDACDE activities. This will cover activities such as the State Fair, Dakota Fest, etc.

‘Pollinator Plantings’ Grant #2025-CSW-022 – The grant runs from 1/1/25 to 12/31/25, in the amount of \$1,650. This grant cost-shares pollinator plantings.

‘SDACDE Career Development’ Grant #2023-CSW-031 – The grant runs from 7/1/23 through 12/31/25 in the amount of \$3,630. Miner is the grant administrator: this grant is for SDACDE. It promotes career development with employees.

‘Miner County 4-H Campground & Howard School Fruit Garden’ Grant UCF-2023-CFG-008 – We have started taking pictures for submission to the Miner County Pioneer.

‘NRCS/SDACD Contribution’ Agreement – 2024-2025 application has been submitted and approved. The funding opportunity is very slim this year.

Northern Plains Professional Development Conference – This will be held October 6-9 in Salina, Kansas. Tami is the NP Director so one of the 3 in charge of planning the conference.

Conservation Commission Grant – Possible grant applications were discussed. Marvin Kizer moved to submit a grant for Conservation Practices, Public Awareness, and the SDACDE Public Awareness. More discussion. Julie Calmus seconded the move. Following a unanimous voice vote, it was approved.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be in October.

Marvin Kizer moved to adjourn the meeting at 1:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by Tami Moore, District Manager

State Conservation Commission

November 2025

Conservation District

Miner

Project Name:

Conservation Practices for Miner Co.

Start Date

01/01/2026

End Date

12/31/2026

Total Project Amount:

\$ 61,975.00

Commisson Funds:

\$ 29,975.00

District Funds:

Landowner Cash:

\$ 32,000.00

Local In-kind:

Other Funds:

Other funds:

Cash

In-kind

Total:

\$ - \$ -

RC&F:

DANR:

GF&P:

USFWS:

NRCS:

OTHER:

Description of Grant Application:

This grant would provide the opportunity to promote conservation practices that will improve soil health. It will provide cost-share for practices such as Tree Planting, Shelterbelt Renovations, Cover Crops to producers wanting to try cover crops, Tank & Pipeline to promote Grazing Management, Dug-out cleanout to producers who can not hook up to rural water, and Pollinator Plantings. This will also provide conservation education to the local schools and communities. We know that starting with school age children and teaching them about conservation and the value of healthy soil is a great start in a community. Working with the communities in community events brings awareness of the value of a Conservation District and all that it can provide to not only the producer but the entire community. Through the Public Awareness part of this grant, we would like to improve our Local Work Group efforts - we believe that locally led projects are very important to our community. This grant is designed to make much needed improvements to our Conservation District delivery and accomplishments, and be a great asset to our Miner County!

If selected for funding, RC&F suggests that:

- The Conservation Commission will not reimburse any costs that exceed the 2025 Conservation Commission Cost-share Docket. Please note other restrictions as listed there.
- All tree and shrub planting plans be reviewed and approved by one of the SDDANR RCF foresters prior to planting.
- Stand alone farmstead/homestead windbreaks do not qualify for cost-share from the Commission.
- District must secure a landowner application to determine eligibility for cost-share funds, copy to be provided with reimbursement request.
- District must provide the landowner with notification letter indicating whether or not they have been approved for cost-share, copy to be provided with reimbursement request.
- Project reimbursement will be based on actual bill/receipts submitted for completed work. Cost-share will be based on legitimate costs up to the specified maximum.
- The district provide a copy of the Joint Powers Agreement with all the conservation districts involved.
- The district provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant.
- Final report must be submitted before final reimbursement will be processed. This report must be submitted no more than 30 days after the end of the grant.

DANR:

GF&P:

	Project	Start date	End Date	Original Award	Balance	Extensions
Other current grants:						
Soil Health Improvement	2024-CSW-016	01/01/2024	12/31/2025	\$ 21,840.00	\$13,926.28	
Conservation Education & Awareness	2025-CSW-021	01/01/2025	12/31/2025	\$ 2,550.00	\$ 2,550.00	
Pollinator Planting	2025-CSW-022	01/01/2025	12/31/2025	\$ 1,650.00	\$ 1,650.00	
SDACDE 2025 Promoting Conservation	2025-CSW-023	01/01/2025	12/31/2025	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 8,000.00	

Approved:

Denied:

Reason for denial:



SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY DIVISION

523 East Capitol Avenue

Pierre, SD 57501

Phone: 605.773.3623

danr.sd.gov

GRANT APPLICATION FORM

Applicant Information

Organization: Miner Conservation District Mailing Address: 601 West Farmer Ave, Suite A
Telephone: (605) 772-5642 City: Howard State: SD Zip: 57349
Tax Status: Government

Project Contact

Project Officer: Tami Moore Telephone: (605) 480-2401
Fax: _____ Email: tami.moore@sd.nacdnet.net

Project Information

Project Name: Conservation Practices for Miner County
Start Date: 01/01/2026 End Date: 12/31/2026
Legal description: County: Miner
Township: _____ Range: _____
Section: _____ Qtr: _____

Type of Grant

- ☒ Conservation Grant ☐ Community Forestry
☐ Insect/Disease ☐ Invasive Species
☐ Forest Stewardship ☐ Mountain Pine Beetle
☐ Other (specify): _____

Financial Information

Grant funds requested: \$ 29,975.00 Partner contributions (total): \$ 32,000.00 Total project cost: \$61,975.00

Please provide a brief, descriptive summary of the project:

This grant would provide the opportunity to promote conservation practices that will improve soil health. It will provide cost-share for practices such as Tree Planting, Shelterbelt Renovations, Cover Crops to producers wanting to try cover crops, Tank & Pipeline to promote Grazing Management, Dug-out cleanout to producers who can not hook up to rural water, and Pollinator Plantings. This will also provide conservation education to the local schools and communities. We know that starting with school age children and teaching them about conservation and the value of healthy soil is a great start in a community. Working with the communities in community events brings awareness of the value of a Conservation District and all that it can provide to not only the producer but the entire community. Through the Public Awareness part of this grant, we would like to improve our Local Work Group efforts - we believe that locally led projects are very important to our community. This grant is designed to make much needed improvements to our Conservation District delivery and accomplishments, and be a great asset to our Miner County!

I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief, this application is true and correct. I further agree to comply with the provisions of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and regulations issued thereunder relating to nondiscrimination in federally assisted programs.

Applicant Signature Tami Moore Title District Manager Date 09/24/2025

A copy of the state required [W-9 form](#) must be attached to this application.

SD EForm - 0549 V5

OFFICE USE ONLY

Signature of Reviewer _____ Title _____ Date _____

Signature of Approval _____ Title _____ Date _____

BUDGET SHEET

The total for each of these three sections should equal the "Total Project Cost" on page 1.

A. Operating Budget

1. Salary/Benefits	_____	
2. Travel	_____	
3. Contractual Services	\$ 3,000.00	
4. Supplies	\$ 57,375.00	
5. Equipment (list major equipment)	_____	
6. Consultation Services	\$ 1,600.00	
Total Project Costs	\$61,975.00	This total must equal \$61,975.00

B. Activity Budget

Activity	Grant Funds	Local Funds	Local In-Kind	Other Funds	Total
1. Conservation Practices	22,375.00	29,000.00	_____	_____	\$51,375.00
2. Conservation Education	3,000.00	3,000.00	_____	_____	\$6,000.00
3. Contractual Services	1,600.00	0.00	_____	_____	\$1,600.00
4. Administrative	3,000.00	0.00	_____	_____	\$3,000.00
5. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
6. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
7. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
8. _____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Totals	\$29,975.00	\$32,000.00	_____	_____	\$61,975.00
This total must equal					\$61,975.00

C. Project Partners

Partners	Amount Cash	Amount In-Kind	Total
1. Conservation Commission	29,975.00	_____	\$29,975.00
2. Producer Costs	32,000.00	_____	\$32,000.00
3. _____	_____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____	_____
5. _____	_____	_____	_____
6. _____	_____	_____	_____
7. _____	_____	_____	_____
8. _____	_____	_____	_____
Totals	\$61,975.00	_____	\$61,975.00
This total must equal			\$61,975.00

Please send application and attachments to the South Dakota Department of Agriculture & Natural Resources.

Goals for Conservation Practices Grant for 2026 for Miner County

<u>Practice</u>	<u>Maximum Cost</u>	<u>Est. Units</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>	<u>Cost-share %</u>	<u>CC Grant \$</u>	<u>Local Match</u>
<u>Tree Plantings</u>						
Shrubs, Trees, & Planting	\$	15000	\$8,100	50%	\$ 4,050	\$ 4,050
Fabric & Application	\$	15000	\$12,750	50%	\$ 6,375	\$ 6,375
Site Preparation	\$	10	\$500	40%	\$ 200	\$ 300
Handplants (bareroot & container)	\$	100	\$375	50%	\$ 140	\$ 235
Fabric Squares for Handplants	\$	100	\$450	50%	\$ 225	\$ 225
Tree Protectors & Installation	\$	305	\$3,950	50%	\$ 1,975	\$ 1,975
Total on Tree Plantings			\$26,125		\$ 12,965	\$ 13,160
<u>Cover Crops</u>						
Cover Crops	\$	230	\$6,900	50%	\$ 3,450	\$ 3,450
Total on Cover Crops			\$6,900		\$ 3,450	\$ 3,450
<u>Shelterbelt Renovations</u>						
Sod Control, chem & mechanical	\$	1.0	\$200	40%	\$ 80	\$ 120
Dead Tree Removal (inc roots)	\$	1.0	\$6,100	25%	\$ 1,525	\$ 4,575
Total on Shelterbelt Renovations			\$6,300		\$ 1,605	\$ 4,695
<u>Grazing Management</u>						
Tank	\$	1000	\$2,150	30%	\$ 645	\$ 1,505
Pipeline	\$	1000	\$2,700	30%	\$ 810	\$ 1,890
Dugout Construction or Repair	\$	1	\$3,500	30%	\$ 1,050	\$ 2,450
Total on Grazing Management			\$8,350		\$ 2,505	\$ 5,845
<u>Contractual Work</u>						
Checking all Conservation Practices at Completion			\$3,000	100%	\$ 3,000	\$ -
Total on Contractual Work			\$3,000		\$ 3,000	\$ -
<u>Conservation Education & Public Awareness of Conservation</u>						
School & Community			\$6,000	50%	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000
Total on Conservation Education & Public Awareness of Conservation			\$6,000		\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000
<u>Pollinator Plantings</u>						
Planting Supplies & Consultation			\$3,700	50%	\$ 1,850	\$ 1,850
Total on Pollinator Plantings			\$3,700		\$ 1,850	\$ 1,850
<u>Administrative</u>						
Admin Fees	\$60,375		\$1,600	2.65%	\$ 1,600	\$ -
Total on Administrative			\$1,600		\$ 1,600	\$ -
Totals			\$61,975		\$ 29,975	\$ 32,000

Maximum Cost may vary depending on the 2026 Conservation Commission Docket. For this purpose we are using the 2025 Conservation Commission Docket.

Project Partners:

- NRCS will assist the Conservation District and the producer with the conservation practice regulations and requirements for Grazing Management, Tree Plantings, Shelterbelt Renovations, Cover Crops, & Pollinators.
- SDDANR will assist the Conservation District with the Tree Plantings and Shelterbelt Renovation regulations and requirements. Tree Plans and Renovations will be sent to the Forester for approval.
- SDSU & Extension will be consulted (John Ball) with tree questions and concerns.
- Seed Dealers will be consulted on recommendations on cover crop plantings.
- Local Schools will be consulted prior to visits to the school for permission and input on the student needs.
- Community Leaders will be consulted on community activities and assist with Locally Led Workgroups.
- Producers are the most important partners. We will provide proven research on the importance of healthy soil and good conservation practices.

This Grant will meet **ALL** of the Goals through the Coordinated Plan for the Natural Resources Conservation:

- Goal 1: South Dakota Conservation Districts can assist with protecting water quality by encouraging and providing incentives. **Tree Planting, Shelterbelt Renovations, Grazing Management, Dugout Replacement/Repair, Conservation Education and Public Awareness of Conservation, Cover Crops, and Pollinator Plantings** will help achieve this very important goal for South Dakota (Objective 1.1)
- Goal 2: South Dakota will have sufficient quantities of quality water. Adequate quantities of quality water are often a limiting factor for resource conservation measures. This goal will be achieved through the **Grazing Management** part of this grant by installing pipelines and tanks (Objective 2.1) and also by **Dugout Replacement/Repair** for livestock use (Objective 2.3).
- Goal 3: South Dakota will have healthy soils appropriate to their capability. This goal will be achieved through the **Cover Crop** plantings (Objectives 3.1 & 3.5). It will also be achieved through the **Grazing Management** practices (Objectives 3.3 & 3.5). The **Conservation Education and Public Awareness of Conservation** projects and the **Pollinator Plantings** will achieve increased education of soil health in rural settings and urban areas (Objective 3.6). **Tree Plantings** and **Shelterbelt Renovations** will also help reduce erosion of topsoil and improve soil health conditions (Objective 3.5).
- Goal 4: To reduce detrimental impacts on air quality. **Tree Planting, Shelterbelt Renovation, and Cover Crops** will assist with air quality especially in the strong winds in Miner County, all 3 of these practices will reduce the blowing of soil causing bad air quality. The trees will assist with the air quality by reducing the sediment in the air and also contribute to carbon sequestration.
- Goal 5: Enhance and/or establish fish and wildlife habitats. All of the projects through this grant will help enhance fish and wildlife habitats. **Conservation Education & Public Awareness of Conservation** teach students and community members the importance of clean water, healthy soil, and importance of wildlife habitat. **Grazing Management, Pollinator Plantings, Tree Plantings & Renovations, and Cover Crops** have been proven to enhance wildlife habitat. (Objectives 5.1, 5.3, 5.4, 5.5, 5.6,)
- Goal 6: Increase South Dakota citizens awareness and understanding of the benefits of natural resources management in urban and rural areas. **Conservation Education & Public Awareness of Conservation** supports organized K-12 education programs that further the cause of natural resources conservation (Objectives 6.5). Local work groups, outreach material, social media to educate and spread awareness of conservation will also be accomplished (Objectives 6.1, 6.2, 6.4)
- Goal 7: Each conservation district will increase their supplemental funding by pursuing additional services or projects. **Conservation Education & Public Awareness of Conservation** will help identify the communities' need for conservation services, thus increasing the funding of services and projects provided by the Miner Conservation District.
- Goal 8: Conservation Districts will help to actively and sustainably manage our state's privately owned forests. **Tree Planting & Shelterbelt Renovations** achieve all of the objectives of this goal. They provide

forest management technical assistance to private landowners. This grant provides financial assistance and delivers programs and incentives that encourage and implement landscape scale restoration projects (Objectives 8.1, 8.2, 8.3, & 8.4). **Conservation Education & Public Awareness of Conservation** support conservation education about the importance of forest sustainability and management (Objective 8.5)

- Goal 9: Conservation Districts and partners will enhance trees outside of forests to provide natural resources benefits. **Tree Planting, Shelterbelt Renovation, & Conservation Education & Public Awareness of Conservation** provide technical assistance to landowners regarding planting, managing, and renovating shelterbelts and riparian areas in Miner County. They also provide technical assistance and implement cost-share programs to promote the benefits of trees outside of the forests. This grant will accomplish all Objectives of Goal 9 (9.1, 9.2, & 9.3).

Project Descriptions and Needs

- The primary beneficiaries of this grant project will be the producer. The citizens, visitors, and communities will also be beneficiaries of this project.
- The Miner Conservation District will be responsible for insuring the implementation, maintenance, and follow-up stages of these projects.
- This Conservation project will be located in Miner County.
- The **Environmental and Natural Resource** needs this project will address are Water Quality & Quantity, Healthy Soil, Air Quality, and Wildlife Habitat. **Ecological** needs are the essential requirement for maintaining healthy ecosystems and biodiversity which are crucial for human well-being and environmental sustainability. The effective conservation efforts of this project through the **Tree Planting, Cover Crops, Grazing Management, and Pollinator Plantings** are necessary to halt biodiversity loss. We will be implementing projects that protect endangered species and their habitats, as well as promoting sustainable practices that minimize environmental impact. Local community in conservation efforts is essential, which is accomplished through the **Conservation Education and Public Awareness of Conservation** part of this grant. The **Education and Socio-Economic** Needs will also be addressed through the **Conservation Education and Public Awareness of Conservation**.
- This project ensures long term management through the Application for Cost-Share and through the education of conservation. Producers, Landowners, and Community Members will realize the benefits of good conservation and continue to enjoy, appreciate, and protect our natural resources.
- The only federal, state, or local permits required would be zoning for tree plantings.

Final Products

- Through this project we hope to accomplish the following from an ecological, educational, and socio-economic perspective:
 - Planting of 15,000 linear feet of trees and protecting the hardwood trees with 305 tree protectors.
 - Planting of 230 acres of Cover Crops.
 - Renovating 1.0 acre of Shelterbelt.
 - Installing 1 tank with a pipeline and cleaning or installing 1 Dugout to promote Grazing Management.
 - Plant 6 pollinator gardens to promote and protect pollinators.
 - Educate at least 150 students, and influence and educate at least 200 community members.
- The success of the project will be easily measured by what is accomplished and how we did it.

Partner Justification

- The Miner Conservation District is very strong in the community and always collaborates with other organizations for the improvement of conservation in Miner County.

**Miner Conservation District
Board of Supervisors Meeting
August 13, 2025
12:00 pm @ USDA Conference Room**

Mission Statement of the Miner Conservation District: *To promote responsible land use decisions for the conservation, protection, and improvement of natural resources.*

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dale Shumaker, Chairman
Marvin Kizer, Vice-Chairman
Julie Calmus, Treasurer
Randy Dawson, Supervisor
Catherine Connor, Supervisor

OTHERS PRESENT:

Tami Moore, District Manager
Rachel Walter, Acting District Conservationist

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Shumaker called the meeting to order at 12:00pm at the USDA Conference Room, with a quick lunch for everyone attending.

INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS: NRCS personnel, Rachel Walter was welcomed and thanked for her attendance.

NRCS REPORT: Rachel Walter, Natural Resource Specialist and Acting District Conservationist, informed board members of activities of NRCS. A written report was also submitted. The board expressed their appreciation for the excellent work she was doing and commended her on successfully doing the work of both the Natural Resource Specialist and as Acting District Conservationist.

MINUTES: The minutes for the June 16, 2025, board meeting were given to board members prior to the meeting. Randy Dawson moved to approve the June minutes. Discussion was held. Catherine Connor seconded the motion. Following a unanimous voice vote, the minutes for June were approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The vouchers for July and August were submitted for review, discussion, and approval. Randy Dawson moved to approve all vouchers. Julie Calmus seconded the motion. Discussion was held. Following a unanimous voice vote, vouchers were approved.

Treasurer's Reports for July and August were submitted for review, discussion, and approval. Randy Dawson moved to approve the Treasurer's Reports; Julie Calmus seconded the move. Discussion was held. Following a unanimous voice vote, the Treasurer's Reports were approved.

The following Treasurer's Reports were submitted and presented by Treasurer, Julie Calmus.

Treasurer's Report dated July 31, 2025:

Bank Balance on June 11, 2025	\$ 3,022.37
Income	75,205.12
Expenses	18,603.95
Bank Balance on July 31, 2025	\$ 58,623.54
CD's & Education Account	\$ 169,568.60
Special Accounts – Equipment, Land, Operating	\$ 33,000.00
Accounts Receivable	\$ 31,132.26

The following is the Treasurer's Report dated August 13, 2025.

Bank Balance on July 31, 2025	\$ 58,623.54
Income	21,045.01
Expenses	14,040.31
Bank Balance on August 31, 2025	\$ 65,628.24
CD's & Education Account	\$ 170,339.04
Special Accounts – Equipment, Land, Operating	\$ 33,000.00
Accounts Receivable	\$ 36,496.44

OLD BUSINESS:

Conservation District Bank Statements – The statements for June & July were provided to board members for review and discussion.

Vermillion / Big Sioux Area Meeting – Tami attended June 18 at Good Earth State Park in Sioux Falls and reported. Attendance was not great, especially if the employees, NRCS, and partners were not counted. 4 of the 7 Conservation Districts were represented by their supervisors. A note of interest on Emerald Ash Borer, if we suspect EAB contact John Hartland, Forester for V/BS Area. He will contact John Ball – who is the only person in South Dakota that can confirm EAB infestation.

Northern Plains Regional Meeting – Tami attended June 24 in Brookings and reported. Board members reviewed the agenda. In reviewing the agenda, questions and concerns were asked about if any success stories about South Dakota Conservation Districts or if anything about SD CD's were discussed.

SDACDE Leadership Conference – Tami attended June 25-27 at Cedar Shores in Oacoma. Tami reported on the training conference and showed board members the agenda.

NEW BUSINESS:

Riteway Land Rollers – Billing is complete. Waiting for Curt Eliason to work on 23 roller bearings. Roller parts are kept here at the office. Marvin picked up brackets and slow-moving signs and installed them.

Grass Drilling and Grass Seed Sales – All spring drilling was completed with the exception of 1 – the producer had not destroyed the alfalfa in part of the fields, so the drilling could not be completed. Hopefully this fall the site will be ready for seeding. Billing has been completed – invoices, seed tags, and seed plan certifications have been completed and submitted to FSA and filed in NRCS folders.

John Deere 1590 No-Till Drill – Billing has been completed for spring drilling. The board discussed the idea of trading next year. A survey was sent out to drill users asking for their opinion on trading for a 20' drill instead of a 15'. Tami will talk with John Deere in Mitchell and Madison.

Tree Planting & Hand Plant Sales – Tree planting billing is complete. Invoices and tree plans for CRP have been submitted to FSA and filed in NRCS folders. Reimbursement requests have been made for Grant Tree Plantings; checks have been issued when reimbursement money has been received. Cost-share for Tree Plantings through the Vermillion Basin Water Development District are being worked on.

Lawn Equipment – The 4' land roller has been used. The seeder has not been used this year.

4-Wheeler with Sprayer – This was used by one person. When Tami has the pickup, she will take home to have Wayne inspect and store it.

Miner Conservation District Facebook Page – We post as needed.

Miner Conservation District Website – We have no website which is very disappointing, we have been waiting for the state to make a statewide website available. We will consider creating our own when time allows. – goal is before 2026.

Conservation District Supervisor Accreditation – No modules were reviewed (a huge disappointment to board members - haha) at this meeting. The Howard NRCS has been awarded a screen to use for such trainings – we will wait until we receive the screen.

NACD Update – NACD makes weekly updates. The board reviewed some federal cuts for state funding that will directly affect our Conservation District.

Vermillion / Big Sioux Area Employees Meeting – This will be held August 20 in Renner at the Minnehaha Conservation District shed. Tami plans to attend.

Computer On-Line Courses Completed – None were completed for July or August.

National Association of Conservation District Employees – NCDEA Mid-year is the last week in August. Tami cannot attend because of working at the state fair in the Conservation District booth.

Community & School Activities – 5th Grade – *Leaf Booklet* – Tami will contact the new 5th grade teacher to see if she would like to participate in this project. **All School Activities** – All activities have been published in the Miner County Pioneer. **Home Coming Parade** – Catherine agreed to contact the cheerleader advisor to see if they wanted to have some promotional basketballs to give out at the parade. **Homecoming Football Game** – Catherine agreed to contact the cheerleader advisor to see if they wanted some light up bracelets to have at the football game. **Miner County Fall Festival** – Ideas were discussed for participation. Catherine is going to think on this issue as she always volunteers to help with the festival.

Employer Quarterly Reemployment Report – This has been completed, submitted, and filed.

Employer Quarterly Federal Tax Return – This has been completed, submitted, and filed.

Vermillion Basin Water Development District – Minutes for the last meeting were given to supervisors. We were awarded \$5,000 towards the cost-share of trees. A thank you letter was composed and signed by board members.

Computer On-Line Courses Completed – No courses were completed in July or August.

SML – Insurance Benefits – 2026 Renewal Worksheet has been completed prior to the deadline. We will receive a 19% renewal credit.

SDACD Convention – This will be held September 21-23 at the Huron Event Center. The Agenda & Registration was given to supervisors. Registration deadline is September 11. Tami is to be notified if any supervisor plans to attend so registration can be completed. At this time, Dale hopes to attend. Our area (Vermillion/Big Sioux) is the host for the Convention.

SD Conservation Commission – Tami virtually attended the meeting on July 24. The next meeting will be held in conjunction with the SDACD Convention.

SD Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources – Their Executive Summary was given to board members. Page 2 listed the number of grants each Conservation District has had. Miner Conservation District is #1 in the state with the most grants at 53. 2nd was Davison with 41. 3rd was Mellette with 33.

‘Soil Health Improvement’ Grant #2024-CSW-016 – This grant was approved in the amount of \$21,840. It runs from 1/1/24 to 12/31/25. It will cover conservation practices such as tree planting, shelterbelt renovations, and cover crops. At the present time we have \$12,354.674 remaining. We have paid \$8,335.81 to 4 producers for tree planting cost-share. The remaining funds will hopefully be used for cover crops.

‘Conservation Education & Awareness’ Grant #2025-CSW-021 – This grant was approved in the amount of \$2,550. It runs from 1/1/25 to 12/31/25. It will cover all conservation education and awareness for Miner County.

‘SDACDE Promotion of Statewide Conservation’ Grant #2025-CSW-023 – We were approved for this grant the SD Conservation Commission 1/1/25 to 12/31/25 in the amount of \$8,000. Miner is grant administration, but the grant is for SDACDE activities. This will cover activities such as the State Fair, Dakota Fest, etc.

‘Pollinator Plantings’ Grant #2025-CSW-022 – The grant runs from 1/1/25 to 12/31/25, in the amount of \$1,650. This grant cost-shares pollinator plantings.

‘SDACDE Career Development’ Grant #2023-CSW-031 – The grant runs from 7/1/23 through 12/31/25 in the amount of \$3,630. Miner is the grant administrator: this grant is for SDACDE. It promotes career development with employees.

‘Miner County 4-H Campground & Howard School Fruit Garden’ Grant UCF-2023-CFG-008 – We have started taking pictures for submission to the Miner County Pioneer.

‘NRCS/SDACD Contribution’ Agreement – 2024-2025 application has been submitted and approved. The funding opportunity is very slim this year.

Northern Plains Professional Development Conference – This will be held October 6-9 in Salina, Kansas. Tami is the NP Director so one of the 3 in charge of planning the conference.

Conservation Commission Grant – Possible grant applications were discussed. Marvin Kizer moved to submit a grant for Conservation Practices, Public Awareness, and the SDACDE Public Awareness. More discussion. Julie Calmus seconded the move. Following a unanimous voice vote, it was approved.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be in October.

Marvin Kizer moved to adjourn the meeting at 1:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by Tami Moore, District Manager

Conservation District	Perkins	Project Name:	Perkins County Tree Planting
Start Date	01/01/2026	End Date	12/31/2026

Total Project Amount:	\$ 18,280.20	Other funds:	Cash	In-kind
Commisson Funds:	\$ 3,740.10	Total:	\$ -	\$ 10,800.00
District Funds:		RC&F:		
Landowner Cash:	\$ 3,740.10	DANR:		
Local In-kind:		GF&P:		
Other Funds:	\$ 10,800.00	USFWS:		
		NRCS:		
		OTHER:		\$ 10,800.00

Description of Grant Application:

This project will benefit Perkins County by offering cost share on trees that will benefit livestock, wildlife, and fields that are not eligible for CRP, EQIP or GFP funding.

The overall goals of the project comply with the South Dakota Coordinated Soil and Water Conservation Plan and the long-range plan of the Conservation District.

There are 1 producers lined up to participate in this grant.

- If selected for funding, RC&F suggests that:
- The Conservation Commission will not reimburse any costs that exceed the 2025 Conservation Commission Cost-share Docket. Please note other restrictions as listed there.
 - All tree and shrub planting plans be reviewed and approved by one of the SDDANR RCF foresters prior to planting.
 - Stand alone farmstead/homestead windbreaks do not qualify for cost-share from the Commission.
 - District must secure a landowner application to determine eligibility for cost-share funds, copy to be provided with reimbursement request.
 - District must provide the landowner with notification letter indicating whether or not they have been approved for cost-share, copy to be provided with reimbursement request.
 - Project reimbursement will be based on actual bill/receipts submitted for completed work. Cost-share will be based on legitimate costs up to the specified maximum.
 - The district provide a copy of the Joint Powers Agreement with all the conservation districts involved.
 - The district provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant.
 - Final report must be submitted before final reimbursement will be processed. This report must be submitted no more than 30 days after the end of the grant.

DANR:

GF&P:

	Project	Start date	End Date	Original Award	Balance	Extensions
Other current grants:						
2024 Fencing Pipeline	2024-CSW-017	01/01/2024	12/31/2025	\$ 12,488.52	\$ 7,067.14	
NWA Tree Planting	2025-CSW-024	01/01/2024	12/31/2025	\$ 19,389.55	\$19,389.55	
Approved:						
Denied:						
Reason for denial:						



SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY DIVISION

523 East Capitol Avenue

Pierre, SD 57501

Phone: 605.773.3623 Fax: 605.773.3481

sdda.sd.gov

GRANT APPLICATION FORM

Applicant Information

Organization: Perkins County Conservation District Mailing Address: PO Box 189
Telephone: 605-244-7160 City: Bison State: SD Zip: 57620
Tax Status: _____

Project Contact

Project Officer: Elyssa Barkman Telephone: 605-244-7160
Fax: _____ Email: perkinsconservation@gmail.com

Project Information

Project Name: Perkins County Tree Planting Grant
Start Date: 01/01/26 End Date: 12/31/26
Legal description: County Perkins
Township: _____ Range: _____
Section: _____ Qtr: _____

Type of Grant

- ☒ Conservation Grant ☐ Community Forestry
☐ Insect/Disease ☐ Invasive Species
☐ Forest Stewardship ☐ Mountain Pine Beetle
☐ Other (specify): _____

Financial Information

Grant funds requested: 3740.10 Partner contributions (total): 14540.10 Total project cost: 18280.2
Please provide a brief, descriptive summary of the project:

This project will benefit Perkins County by offering cost share on trees that will benefit livestock, wildlife, and fields that are not eligible for CRP, EQIP or GFP funding.

The overall goals of the project comply with the South Dakota Coordinated Soil and Water Conservation Plan and the long-range plan of the Conservation District.

There are 1 producers lined up to participate in this grant.

I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief, this application is true and correct. I further agree to comply with the provisions of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and regulations issued thereunder relating to nondiscrimination in federally assisted programs.

Applicant Signature Lyndel Johnson Title PCCD Chairman Date 9-16-25

A copy of the state required [W-9 form](#) must be attached to this application.

OFFICE USE ONLY

Signature of Reviewer _____ Title _____ Date _____

Signature of Approval _____ Title _____ Date _____

BUDGET SHEET

The total for each of these three sections should equal the "Total Project Cost" on page 1.

A. Operating Budget

1. Salary/Benefits	10800	
2. Travel		
3. Contractual Services	7480.20	
4. Supplies		
5. Equipment (list major equipment)		
6. Consultation Services		
Total Project Costs	18280.2	This total must equal 18280.2

B. Activity Budget

Activity	Grant Funds	Local Funds	Local In-Kind	Other Funds	Total
1. Tree Planting	1419.60	1419.60			2839.2
2. Shrub Planting					0
3. Fabric	2320.50	2320.50			4641
4. PCCD			10800		10800
5. _____					0
6. _____					0
7. _____					0
8. _____					0
Totals	3740.1	3740.1	10800	0	18280.2
This total must equal					18280.2

C. Project Partners

Partners	Amount Cash	Amount In-Kind	Total
1. Commission Grant	3740.1		3740.1
2. Landowners	3740.1		3740.1
3. NR Outreach Tech		10800	10800
4. _____			0
5. _____			0
6. _____			0
7. _____			0
8. _____			0
Totals	7480.2	10800	18280.2
This total must equal			18280.2

Please send application and attachments to the South Dakota Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources.



PO Box 189 – Bison, South Dakota 57620-0189 – Phone (605) 244-7160

September 8, 2025

South Dakota Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources
Division of Resource Conservation & Forestry
Attention: Alex Roeber
523 E. Capitol Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501

Dear South Dakota Conservation Commission:

The Perkins County Conservation District is proud to submit a grant application for the 2025 Fall Grant Round. The following application is for the Perkins County Tree Planting Project that will start January 1, 2026, and end December 31, 2026.

Along with our application, you will find a copy of the minutes from our board meeting, the budget to explain how we came up with our figures and the narratives that go with our application.

Thank you for your assistance, and if you have any questions or concerns, please call Elyssa Barkman, Perkins County Conservation District manager at (605) 244-7160.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lyndel Johnson".

Lyndel Johnson
Chairman

2025 NORTHWEST AREA TREE PLANTING GRANT BUDGET

TREES & SHRUB PLANTING -

Tree planting- 5,460 ft. x \$0.52/ft. =\$2,839.20

Grant-50% \$1,419.60

Landowner-50% \$1,419.60

Shrub planting- ft. x \$0.54/ft.

Grant-50%

Landowner-50%

FABRIC WEED CONTROL- 5,460 est. ft x \$0.85/ft=\$4,641

Grant-50% \$2,320.50

Landowner-50% \$2,320.50

FENCE-PROTECTIVE- est. ft x \$1.06/ft =

Grant-30% \$

Landowner- 70% \$

IN-KIND Natural Resource Outreach Technician

Technical Assistance \$3,800

(200 hrs x \$19.00/hr)

Equipment/supplies \$5,000

Travel \$2,000

\$10,800

TREE PLANTING GRANT COMMISSION TOTAL: \$3741.00

PROJECT NARRATIVE:**D. Project Description and Need**

This proposed Perkins County Tree Planting Project will benefit the natural resource management of farmers and ranchers in Perkins County along with providing off site benefits to neighbors and other citizens in these producers' watersheds. The shelterbelts cost-shared will have the primary focus of livestock protection but will also be multi-purpose. The natural resource benefits to these shelterbelts include: improvement of surface water quality, erosion control on cropland, livestock protection to support proper grassland management, wildlife habitat creation, and energy savings.

Project Need:

Many landowners, farmers, and ranchers in Perkins County do not qualify for financial assistance for shelterbelt plantings from federal and state cost-share programs, because their needed shelterbelts are:

1. Located in an area that is currently grassland or pastureland (not eligible for CCRP).
2. Located in an area that is cropland and doesn't have the needed cropping history for the period 2008-2013 (not eligible for CCRP).
3. Their planned shelterbelt has natural resource benefits such as erosion control, wildlife habitat, and water quality improvement; however, it does not meet the size, location, requirements or ranking needed for cost-share (not eligible for EQIP or CCRP).

The demand for shelterbelts by farmers and ranchers involved in tree planting are not eligible under other existing programs and the proposed multi-purpose shelterbelts provide benefits to livestock, wildlife, water quality, energy savings, and assistance to beginning farmers and ranchers. Producers who participate in the proposed project will be required to prepare their shelterbelt site the summer and fall before tree planting and seek approval for cost-share prior to site preparation.

The shelterbelts to be planted in Perkins County Conservation District through this proposed project are needed to conserve the county's natural resources, as they are an important conservation practice used by landowners to:

- The shelterbelts to be planted under this proposed project are also very significant from an economic and social aspect to the area, as they are important to the overall economic success of the areas crop and livestock producers. The sustainability of livestock producers and the grasslands they manage are significantly impacted using shelterbelts to reduce feed costs and calf death losses, improve overall herd health, and implement planned grazing systems on grasslands. Shelterbelts also provide farmers and ranchers economic opportunities through diversification of their operations for recreation uses (aesthetics and wildlife habitat), and through reduced energy use and increased land values.
- Protect and/or improve the waters to provide needed water quality and quantity. Shelterbelt plantings support clean water for people, fish, and wildlife by filtering out and/or absorbing sediments, nutrients, and chemical or bacterial contaminants.
- Protect or improve soil productivity and quality. Shelterbelts protect soils from wind and water erosion.
- Improve wildlife habitat for game and non-game species. Shelterbelts are significant areas for resident as well as migratory birds for food, nesting and cover, and provide important habitat for game species - such as deer and upland game birds.

Project Goal: The proposed project's goal is to provide technical and financial assistance to landowners in Perkins County to complete 5,460 ft of trees, shrubs and weed control planted on acres that are not eligible thru CCRP program or similar conservation programs. This would improve the county's natural resources, the sustainability of farm and ranch operations, and greatly reduce energy cost and use of fossil fuels.

Project Objective: Increase the profitability of farm and ranch operations in Perkins County by providing technical and financial assistance to 1 landowners, reducing erosion, improving water quality, increase wildlife habitat and energy saving. All other shelterbelt establishment costs will be provided in-kind by the landowner, or technical assistance provider, and include: producer labor and equipment, site design, replacement trees for death loss and follow-up as needed. The District's proposed sources of funds to cost-share eligible items that meet the direction from the 2025 Conservation Commission Cost-share Docket. The shelterbelts where cost-share assistance is provided will include field windbreaks, livestock shelterbelts, riparian area plantings, farmstead/livestock shelterbelts, and wildlife plantings.

The District will set natural resource priorities and policy for this proposed cost-share assistance to landowners for windbreak and shelterbelt establishment. The Conservation District will continue to provide the landowner with information and assistance on applications for cost-share assistance from existing state and federal programs prior to consideration for cost-share under this proposal. The Conservation District will make the final decision on shelterbelts cost-shared based on the written priorities and policies, they establish and are as follows: (A maximum cost-share per planting/landowner will be \$7,000).

#1 Priority: Shelterbelts that protect livestock, improve aesthetics, sequester carbon, conserve energy for landowners who make a significant part of their income from farming and ranching, and the reduction of fossil fuel consumption.

#2 Priority: Shelterbelts that improve or protect water quality in lakes, streams, and aquifers.

#3 Priority: Shelterbelts that improve or protect soil productivity.

#4 Priority: Shelterbelts that improve or protect grassland resources as part of a landowner's overall plan to improve or maintain good grassland management.

#5 Priority: Shelterbelts that establish needed wildlife habitat.

List of Project Activities:

Activity 1: Establishing program eligibility guidelines, program priorities, and make final approval of requests for program assistance (in-kind).

Activity 2: Information and education campaign to market shelterbelt benefits and this proposed shelterbelt program, through their newsletter, press releases, and on-farm contacts (in-kind).

Activity 3: Coordinating and/or providing technical assistance to landowners for shelterbelt design (in-kind). The Districts have a close working relationship with state and federal agencies that currently provide technical and financial assistance to landowners for shelterbelt plantings and will be able to coordinate assistance to avoid cost-shares where existing assistance is already available.

Activity 4: Contracting with landowners for trees, planting, and weed control for three years. Weed control is required; however, landowners choose methods and service providers.

Activity 5: Follow-up with landowners a minimum of one time per year for the first three years after shelterbelt planting, to ensure proper management as stated in the Conservation District/Landowner maintenance agreement. Weed control will be required for three years, and the landowner will replace trees that fail to establish.

Activity 6: Project financial records will be maintained, and documentation filed on the design, cost, planting (species, size, etc), and follow-up records on performance of each shelterbelt receiving cost-share.

E. Final Products:

The completion of this project's goals, objectives, and activities will provide the following products: 5,460 ft of trees, shrubs and weed control planted on acres that are not eligible thru CCRP program or similar conservation programs will be established in Perkins County, benefiting the natural resources of the counties and the economic stability of 1 agricultural landowners. Most of the landowners aided would not plant these shelterbelts without the proposed assistance.

F. Partner Justification:

Project management, marketing, and shelterbelt design and shelterbelt maintenance will be provided to the project as an in-kind match. The Perkins County Conservation District will be responsible for all phases of project implementation, follow-up, and administration. Shelterbelt planning and maintenance requirements will be based on the Natural Resources Conservation Service Technical Guide for shelterbelt plantings. Landowners receiving financial assistance will enter into a five-year agreement with Perkins County Conservation Districts, identifying landowner shelterbelt maintenance requirements. The project will aid landowners in Perkins County who are involved in farming or ranching.

Landowners partnering with the Conservation Districts on this proposed project will provide approximately 50-60% of the cost of establishing these practices.

South Dakota Conservation Commission Soil and Water Conservation Grant is proposed to provide approximately 40-50% cost-share to landowners.

The Conservation Districts will work with existing sources of financial and technical assistance for new shelterbelt establishment, and these program's lead agencies include:

1. South Dakota Department of Agriculture – Technical Assistance from the area natural resource specialist.
2. Natural Resources Conservation Service and Farm Service Agency – Technical (NRCS staff) and financial assistance (CCRP, EQIP, CSP).

G. Project Success (Measurement)

The success of this proposed project will be measured by:

- Social and economic benefits to landowners, such as carbon sequestration, energy savings, and economic benefits to livestock and grazing enterprises.
- Natural resource benefits by acres of water bodies and/or miles of watercourse with improved water quality.
- Natural resource benefits by acres of cropland, grassland, and wildlife habitat benefited.
- The number of landowners and acres of shelterbelts planted.

2025 Northwest Area Tree Plantings

2025 Docket Rates

District	Participants	Sites	Row Ft	Tree FT	Trees	Shrub FT	Shrubs	Fabric Ft	Fabric	Fence Ft	Fence	Total C/S \$
Perkins	1	2	5460.0	5460.00	\$ 1,419.60	0.00	\$ -	5460.0	\$ 2,320.50	0.0	\$ -	\$ 3,740.10
			0.0	0.00	\$ -	0.00	\$ -	0.0	\$ -	0.0	\$ -	\$ -
Totals:	1	2	5460.0	5460.00	\$ 1,419.60	0.00	\$ -	5460.0	\$ 2,320.50	0.0	\$ -	\$ 3,740.10

Tree Plantings:	\$ 3,740.10
Total Needed:	\$ 3,740.10

2026

District	Last Name	F Name	Total Row Ft	Tree FT	Comm Cost Share Trees	Shrubs FT	Shrubs	Fabric Ft	Fabric	Fence Ft	Fence	Program
Perkins	[REDACTED]	Ryan 1	3510	3510.0	\$ 912.60		\$ -	3510	\$ 1,491.75		\$ -	Grant
Perkins	[REDACTED]	Ryan 2	1950	1950.0	\$ 507.00		\$ -	1950	\$ 828.75		\$ -	Grant
	TOTALS for Perkins		5460	5460	\$ 1,419.60	0	\$ -	5460	\$ 2,320.50	0.00	\$ -	\$ -



PO Box 189 – Bison, South Dakota 57620-0189 – Phone (605) 244-7160

2025 September MEETING

The monthly meeting of the Perkins County Conservation District was held Tuesday, September 16, 2025, at 1:03 A.M. at the Bison NRCS conference room. Supervisor's present were Chairman Lyndel Johnson, Vice Chairman Drew Anderson, Supervisors Chuck Anderson, and Veronica Kari along with District Manager Elyssa Barkman & Corson County District Manager Annie Walker.

A motion was made by Supervisor Chuck Anderson and seconded by Supervisor Drew Anderson to approve the agenda; motion carried.

The August 2025 minutes were reviewed. A motion was made by Supervisor Chuck Anderson and seconded by Supervisor Drew Anderson to approve the minutes from August; motion carried.

The employee timesheets from August were reviewed. A motion was made by Supervisor Drew Anderson and seconded by Supervisor Chuck Anderson to approve employee timesheets for this month; motion carried.

The financial report was reviewed. A motion was made by Supervisor Chuck Anderson and seconded by Supervisor Veronica Kari to accept the financial report and to pay monthly bills; motion carried.

NRCS Update: *DC Sarah Eggebo was not present, ABC Partner Kirsten Linnemeier gave a report on her behalf. CSP deadline for fiscal year is coming up. They are working on getting EQIP practices certified. Currently taking applications for next year. Also working on gathering reports on grazing records for CRP grasslands.*

American Bird Conservancy: *Kirsten Linnemeier reported that her grand total of acres contracted was just under 20,000 acres in the Timber Lake area for CREP. One employment position will be opening in Timber Lake and Janice in Buffalo will be moving up to North Dakota.*

FSA Update: *no report*

SDACD/NACD Update: *Vice Chairman Drew Anderson reported the SDACD Convention will be in Huron, SD September 21st- 23rd.*

District Pickup, Trailer & Equipment- District Manager Elyssa Barkman is going to reach out to other districts to see what they use for a fabric layer and where they got theirs from. Corson County District Manager Annie Walker gave some insight on district pickup and trailer.

Natural Resource Outreach Report: District Manager Elyssa Barkman updated the board on the grant project

District Operations Report: District Manager Elyssa Barkman updated the board on district activities. 2026 Tree Plantings have been in full force, and we have 90,000-100,000 feet of planting to do in the spring of 2026. As soon as nurseries send out their price sheets for 2026 a tree order form will be created and advertised.

SD Commissions & Extensions: A motion was made by Supervisor Drew Anderson and seconded by Supervisor Chuck Anderson to apply for the 2025 Tree Planting Grant Round and send in grant extensions; motion carried.

Big Sioux Board of Director: A motion was made by Supervisor Drew Anderson to remove Shauna Kopren & add District Manager Elyssa Barkman as the voting member for Big Sioux Nursery.

AIS update: District Manager Elyssa Barkman updated the board on staffing for AIS. GF&P has invited the district to be recognized at their commission meeting in October and District Manager Elyssa Barkman will be attending.

No Till Drill Report: District Manager Elyssa Barkman updated the board on the current state of the drill. John Deere has been down to fix it this week and get it back in working order. Use of the drill has slowed down for this season.

The meeting adjourned at 3:43 P.M. The next meeting will be tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, October 7th at 1:00 PM at the Bison NRCS office conference room.

State Conservation Commission

November 2025

Conservation District

Sanborn

Project Name:

Conservation Reborn in Sanborn

Start Date

01/01/2026

End Date

12/31/2026

Total Project Amount:

\$ 5,700.00

Commission Funds:

\$ 2,850.00

District Funds:

\$ 2,550.00

Landowner Cash:

Local In-kind:

Other Funds:

\$ 300.00

Other funds:

Cash In-kind

Total:

\$ - \$ 300.00

RC&F:

DANR:

GF&P:

USFWS:

NRCS:

OTHER:

\$ 300.00

Description of Grant Application:

The "Conservation Reborn in Sanborn" project is dedicated to strengthening conservation education and outreach throughout Sanborn County by implementing a variety of initiatives: publishing a triannual newsletter to keep producers, non-operating producers, and urban communities informed about practices, programs, and events; offering hands-on conservation lessons and contests for students in local schools to foster a new generation of conservationists; and organizing community outreach at events such as the annual Woonsocket Water Festival, where educational booths, demonstrations, and native seed distributions will raise awareness of soil and water conservation. The project also aims to establish native pollinator gardens at places like Artesian's town park and the Sanborn County 4-H grounds, showcasing resilient plant species and their benefits under diverse soil conditions. Additionally, workshops and social discussions-such as "Coffee, Donuts & Conversation with Conservation"-will provide community members with direct opportunities to connect, learn, and ask questions about conservation practices.

If selected for funding, RC&F suggests that:

- The Conservation Commission will not reimburse any costs that exceed the 2025 Conservation Commission Cost-share Docket. Please note other restrictions as listed there.
- All tree and shrub planting plans be reviewed and approved by one of the SDDANR RCF foresters prior to planting.
- Stand alone farmstead/homestead windbreaks do not qualify for cost-share from the Commission.
- District must secure a landowner application to determine eligibility for cost-share funds, copy to be provided with reimbursement request.
- District must provide the landowner with notification letter indicating whether or not they have been approved for cost-share, copy to be provided with reimbursement request.
- Project reimbursement will be based on actual bill/receipts submitted for completed work. Cost-share will be based on legitimate costs up to the specified maximum.
- The district provide a copy of the Joint Powers Agreement with all the conservation districts involved.
- The district provide timesheets or other documentation to demonstrate the actual time spent on salary/administration of the grant.
- Final report must be submitted before final reimbursement will be processed. This report must be submitted no more than 30 days after the end of the grant.

DANR:

GF&P:

Other current grants:

N/A

Approved:

Denied:

Reason for denial:



SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY DIVISION

523 East Capitol Avenue

Pierre, SD 57501

Phone: 605.773.3623

danr.sd.gov

GRANT APPLICATION FORM

Applicant Information

Organization: Sanborn Conservation District Mailing Address: 203 W 7th St, Ste 200
Telephone: (605) 796-4476 City: Woonsocket State: SD Zip: 57385
Tax Status: Government

Project Contact

Project Officer: Hanna Peterson Telephone: (605) 999-5657
Fax: _____ Email: sanborncd@santel.net

Project Information

Project Name: Conservation Reborn in Sanborn
Start Date: 01/01/2026 End Date: 12/31/2026
Legal description: County: Sanborn
Township: _____ Range: _____
Section: _____ Qtr: _____

Type of Grant

☒ Conservation Grant ☐ Community Forestry
☐ Insect/Disease ☐ Invasive Species
☐ Forest Stewardship ☐ Mountain Pine Beetle
☐ Other (specify): _____

Financial Information

Grant funds requested: \$ 2,850.00 Partner contributions (total): \$ 2,850.00 Total project cost: \$5,700.00
Please provide a brief, descriptive summary of the project:

The "Conservation Reborn in Sanborn" project is dedicated to strengthening conservation education and outreach throughout Sanborn County by implementing a variety of initiatives: publishing a triannual newsletter to keep producers, non-operating producers, and urban communities informed about practices, programs, and events; offering hands-on conservation lessons and contests for students in local schools to foster a new generation of conservationists; and organizing community outreach at events such as the annual Woonsocket Water Festival, where educational booths, demonstrations, and native seed distributions will raise awareness of soil and water conservation. The project also aims to establish native pollinator gardens at places like Artesian's town park and the Sanborn County 4-H grounds, showcasing resilient plant species and their benefits under diverse soil conditions. Additionally, workshops and social discussions—such as "Coffee, Donuts & Conversation with Conservation"—will provide community members with direct opportunities to connect, learn, and ask questions about conservation practices.

I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief, this application is true and correct. I further agree to comply with the provisions of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and regulations issued thereunder relating to nondiscrimination in federally assisted programs.

Applicant Signature Mark Smedley Title Chair Date 10-22-25

A copy of the state required [W-9 form](#) must be attached to this application.

OFFICE USE ONLY

Signature of Reviewer _____ Title _____ Date _____
Signature of Approval _____ Title _____ Date _____

BUDGET SHEET

The total for each of these three sections should equal the "Total Project Cost" on page 1.

A. Operating Budget

1. Salary/Benefits	\$ 200.00
2. Travel	
3. Contractual Services	\$ 1,400.00
4. Supplies	\$ 4,100.00
5. Equipment (list major equipment)	
6. Consultation Services	

Total Project Costs \$5,700.00 This total must equal \$5,700.00

B. Activity Budget

Activity	Grant Funds	Local Funds	Local In-Kind	Other Funds	Total
1. Supplies	2,050.00			2,050.00	\$4,100.00
2. Contractual Services	600.00			800.00	\$1,400.00
3. Administrative	200.00				\$200.00
4. _____					
5. _____					
6. _____					
7. _____					
8. _____					
Totals	\$2,850.00			\$2,850.00	\$5,700.00
This total must equal					<u>\$5,700.00</u>

C. Project Partners

Partners	Amount Cash	Amount In-Kind	Total
1. Commission Grant	2,850.00		\$2,850.00
2. Sanborn Cons Dist	2,550.00		\$2,550.00
3. Sanborn 4-H		300.00	\$300.00
4. _____			
5. _____			
6. _____			
7. _____			
8. _____			
Totals	\$5,400.00	\$300.00	\$5,700.00
This total must equal			<u>\$5,700.00</u>

Please send application and attachments to the South Dakota Department of Agriculture & Natural Resources.

**2025 Conservation
Commission
Grant Proposal**

Sanborn Conservation
District

“Conservation Reborn in Sanborn”



"Conservation Reborn in Sanborn" Project Description

Our goals/plans through this grant, some additional goals/plans may be added as needed.

"Conservation Reborn in Sanborn" project goal is to spread conservation education around Sanborn County.

The goals, objectives and benefits are:

- 1. Create and publish a newsletter three times a year (Winter, Spring/Summer and Fall) that provides information for producers, non-operating producers and the urban communities.**
 - a. In past years, Sanborn has only sent out one newsletter per year. In the "Conservation Reborn in Sanborn", the new goal is to increase this publication and improve communication with the community. Communication is key to increasing awareness of conservation and increasing conservation practices around the county. Each newsletter will contain an article that will provide information for the current season and topics that relate to producers/nonproducers, urban community and youth.
 - b. This will greatly benefit the community as they will stay informed in current conservation practices, programs and events happening throughout the state and local level. It will help support the Sanborn Conservation Partners as their events will be included in the newsletter.
 - c. This goal coincides with Coordinated Plan of Natural Resources Conservation Goal 6: Public Awareness and Objective 6.2: Develop at least one new item of outreach material yearly to promote conservation awareness.
- 2. Provide conservation education to community schools.**
 - a. Sanborn County has two schools and one colony: Sanborn Central School, Woonsocket School and the Upland Colony. Sanborn had not engaged with the youth about conservations. In the "Conservation Reborn in Sanborn", the goal is providing education to each grade level through an educational activity.
 - i. 1st Grade: Water Cycle: Students will learn about the water cycle and will make 'water cycle bracelets' to remind them of water quality and quantity.
 - ii. 2nd Grade: Plants & Pollinators: "Bee Smelly" students will learn about native plants, given seed packets to plant and learn how SD pollinators pollinate plants.
 - iii. 3rd Grade: Soil: "The Soil Quilt" by Amanda Radke will be read to the class and then kids will make their own 'soil quilt.'
 - iv. 4th Grade: Watershed: The conservation district, with financial assistance of this grant, will promote water quality and purchase the Envirosapes Watershed/Nonpoint Source Model to demonstrate how storm water runoff carries pollutants through the watershed to a pond, lake, river, bay, or ocean – and the best management practices to prevent this type of pollution from occurring.
 - v. 5th Grade: Arbor Day Poster Contest & Black Hills Spruce Giveaway: Students will be given trees to plant and will learn planting techniques and how planting trees help improve air quality. While planting their trees, they will gain inspiration from partaking in a conservation practice for the Arbor Day Poster Contest.
 - vi. 6th Grade: Arbor Day Creative Writing & Tree Windbreak: Students will learn about windbreak structures and how they protect the land, crops and wildlife/livestock from wind. Students will be sorted into groups they will make windbreaks with miniature tree and shrubs and then they will test the strength of their windbreak from the wind, which will be a portable fan and see which group built the strongest windbreak. This will provide inspiration for their creative writing contest.
 - vii. 9th-12th Grade: Conservation Speech Contest: Students will learn about conservation and gain public speaking experience which will be beneficial as they further in life. There will

be area prize money and support for the state contest expenses. Wildlife Camp: Promote attendance at the Wildlife Camp and provide financial support for Sanborn youth attending.

viii. Upland Colony: Arbor Day & Black Hills Spruce Giveaway: They will be given trees and will learn planting techniques and how planting trees help improve air quality.

- b. This will benefit next generation of conservationists by teaching them about all the aspects of conservation and teaching them why soil, water and air are precious entities to protect and preserve. They will gain an understanding of conservation and hopefully use this information to make the right choices in conservation.
- c. This goal coincides with Coordinated Plan of Natural Resources Conservation Goal 6: Public Awareness and Objective 6.5: Support organized K-12 education programs that further the cause of natural resources conservation in South Dakota in the manner deemed most appropriate. Additionally, it also conforms with Goal 2: Water Quality, Goal 3: Healthy Soils, Goal 4: Air Quality and Goal 5: Wildlife.

3. During the Woonsocket Water Festival (held annually over the Fourth of July holiday), Sanborn Conservation District will provide a booth education about water, provide native plants for the public, trees and outreach materials.

- a. Each year the City of Woonsocket hosts a festival around the lake with an attendance of over 200 people. This will be a great opportunity to provide education and outreach about soil and water conservation. Financial assistance from this grant and the Conservation District the goal is to purchase Expo Rainfall Stimulators to show the community how they can benefit from planting cover crops, native grasses and plants. The Envirosapes Watershed/Nonpoint Source Model will be set up to show how water runoff effects the streams and lakes. This model will benefit both kids and adults. Throughout the Water Festival the Conservation District booth will be holding demonstrations with these models. The booth will also have material handouts, native plant seed packets and promotional items like pens, stickers, stress flowers/trees and key chains all with the Conservation District logo on them.
- b. The benefit is the community to show why good conservation practices must be performed. It will provide an insight into how to protect the watershed and how they do the right practices to preserve the Woonsocket Lake so it can be enjoyed by next generations.
- c. This goal matches with Coordinated Plan of Natural Resources Conservation Goal 2: Water Resources and Objective 2.4: Establish and maintain practices that protect source water quality.

4. Implement native plant landscaping/gardens throughout Sanborn County.

- a. The City of Artesian recently updated their playground at the town park. The plan is to work with the City Board to plant a native pollinator garden, while town locals can learn how the native plants grow and how they can incorporate native plants into their own gardens.
- b. The Sanborn County 4-H recently built a new building. The goal is to introduce native plants back into Sanborn County and Sanborn County 4-H is wanting landscaping around their new addition to the fairgrounds. The garden will be on the north side of the building. The garden will extend 6 feet from the building and showcase plants that can thrive in dry, sandy soil, shade and sun.
- c. This will benefit the community by showing them how they can incorporate these plants into their own gardens. A unique benefit will be the garden on the 4-H grounds. The 4-H grounds has soil quality that differs from other areas of the county. This will demonstrate that plants can be cultivated successfully under these conditions.

- d. This goal aligns with Coordinated Plan of Natural Resources Conservation Goal 5: Wildlife and Objective 5.4 Increase pollinator habitat in urban and rural South Dakota.
5. **Host at least one workshop and social discussion in the year 2026 for producers/non-operating producers and community members.**
 - a. Providing workshops will allow all of community to gather to connect and discuss conservation practices. These events will be called "Coffee, Donuts & Conversation with Conservation", the main goal is to host this during our annual tree sale day and during a morning at the Woonsocket Water Festival at the Sanborn Conservation Booth.
 - b. This will provide information firsthand to the community and will provide a safe place for the public to ask questions and gain information. During the annual tree sale day, it will provide a one-on-one experience for the public to learn how to properly care for their trees, which trees will work best for their planting situations and great way to build connections with the public. At the Woonsocket Water Festival, this will allow the public to ask questions firsthand about how they can preserve the quality of water near them.
 - c. This will cover the objectives in the Coordinated Plan of Natural Resources Conservation Goal 6: Increase South Dakota citizens awareness and understanding of the benefits of natural resources management in urban and rural areas.

"Conservation Reborn in Sanborn" Project Beneficiaries and Needs of this Project

Sanborn Co Producers & Non-Operating Producers
4-H youth & leaders

Sanborn Co Urban Community
Sanborn Youth

Above are the groups that will be the direct beneficiaries, but conservation education will be dealing with the entire community, whoever resides, visits or drives through Sanborn County. The purpose of this grant is to involve as many citizens as possible of Sanborn County in 'good conservation'.

Implementation, Maintenance and Follow-Up & Location

The Sanborn Conservation District will be responsible for all aspects of this grant. All public awareness and conservation education will be held in Sanborn County. *No permits will be required for these projects, if they are required, they will be obtained.*

Final Products

County funding has been reduced throughout the state for conservation districts, thus causing the lack of outreach or promotional activities. Many residents, particularly in urban areas, may be unfamiliar with these practices; the Sanborn Conservation District aims to promote conservation activities and educate the community. Conservation Districts provide unlimited amounts of benefits to the community. Community engagement in Sanborn has been limited, so "Conservation Reborn in Sanborn" aims to reconnect with residents and promote effective conservation practices through any available means.

Support Documents

Support Document A: Photos of the Enviroscaapes Watershed/Nonpoint Model & Conservation Demonstration Expo Rainfall Simulators

Support Document B: Support Letter from Audra Scheel, Sanborn/Jerauld 4-H Youth Advisor

Support Document C: Soil Survey/Map of the 4-H Grounds & Location of Native Plant Landscaping/Garden

Support Document D: Support Letter from Travis King, Mayor of Artesian

Support Document E: Soil Survey/Map of the Artesian Park Location of Native Plant Landscaping/Garden

Support Document A: Educational Materials



Conservation Demonstration
Expo Rainfall Simulator



Enviroscape Watershed/Nonpoint
Source Model

Support Document B: 4-H Support Letter



SOUTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION

Audra Scheel- SDSU Extension 4-H Youth Educator
Woonsocket, SD

September 15, 2025

To Whom It May Concern:

We look forward to working with the Sanborn County Conservation District with this grant opportunity. I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the grant application submitted by Hannah Peterson to establish a native plant garden at the 4-H fairgrounds in Forestburg, SD. This opportunity will provide local youth with valuable hands-on experience in environmental stewardship, sustainable gardening, and leadership—core principles that align deeply with the mission of 4-H.

The proposed project will allow 4-H members to design, plant, and maintain a garden featuring native plants, fostering a deeper understanding of their local ecosystem and the importance of biodiversity. Through this experiential learning process, participants will gain essential life skills such as responsibility, teamwork, planning, and problem-solving.

Our organization is proud to support this partnership and we stand ready to assist in any way we can to ensure its success.

Thank you for considering this worthwhile project. We are confident that it will inspire growth—in the garden and in the hearts and minds of our future leaders.

Sincerely,

Audra Scheel

4-H Youth Educator – Jerauld-Buffalo, Sanborn Counties

605-796-4509

audra.scheel@sdstate.edu

Support Document C: 4-H Grounds

Conservation Tree and Shrub Group—Sanborn County, South Dakota



Natural Resources
Conservation Service

Web Soil Survey
National Cooperative Soil Survey

9/27/2025
Page 1 of 5

Support Document D: Artesian Support Letter

Town of Artesian

☎ 605-579-0147

✉ townartesian@santel.net

📍 PO Box 104, Artesian, SD 57314

Travis King
Town of Artesian Mayor
PO Box 104
Artesian, SD 57314
605-999-8858

September 30, 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express my strong support for the proposed native garden project at the Artesian Town Park, which is being considered for assistance through the Conservation Grant administered by the Conservation Commission.

This initiative presents a valuable opportunity to enhance the ecological integrity of our community green space, educate the public about the importance of native plant species, and support vital pollinator habitats. By replacing turf grass or non-native landscaping with regionally appropriate native plants, the project will contribute to soil health, reduce water usage, and improve biodiversity—all key goals for sustainable land stewardship.

As the mayor, with a vested interest in environmental conservation and public education, I believe this garden will be a model for sustainable practices and community engagement. In addition to its ecological benefits, the garden will serve as a living classroom for students, visitors, and residents, helping to foster a deeper understanding of our local natural heritage.

I wholeheartedly support the efforts and commend the Conservation District for considering projects like this that invest in long-term ecological health and community well-being.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Travis King
Mayor of Artesian

Support Document E: Artesian Park



Natural Resources
Conservation Service

Web Soil Survey
National Cooperative Soil Survey

10/1/2025
Page 1 of 5

Sanborn Conservation District Minutes

September 15th, 2025

Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Mark Snedeker at 7 p.m. at the Sanborn County Conservation Tree Shed @ 7 pm.

Present: Supervisors: Snedeker, Rodney Clarambeau, Judy Fredrichs, & Karen Lambert; District Manager: Hanna Peterson

The motion to amend the agenda to add Sanborn Co Commissioner meeting to Unfinished Business was made by Fredrichs, second Clarambeau; motion carried. The amended agenda was approved and will stand.

Motion to approve the August 11, 2025 minutes was made by Clarambeau, seconded by Fredrichs; motion carried

NRCS Report: NRCS representative was not present.

District Manager Report:

DM Peterson officially started. She gave an update on the Silent Auction basket for State Convention and items she bought. She is registered along with Supervisors Fredrichs & Clarambeau. She noticed some discrepancies in QuickBooks and will work on sorting them out. She talked & met with multiple different District Managers to answer questions and learn about how different Conservation Districts work. Lambert & Karen will work on the JRWD grant and send it in. She has an established windbreak to look at, working on sales goals for tree sales and how much to charge in 2026. She gave an update on fall drilling and had a total of 44 acres, and was finishing one producer on day of the meeting. Discussed different charging methods for drilling. Gave an update on drill and other equipment. Recommended updating some equipment, tree planter and trailer. The conservation district laptop needs to be updated since Dell will no longer be supporting Windows 10 and the current laptop's hardware cannot support Windows 11. Presented board with the Dell 15 laptop priced at \$379.99. Motion by Snedeker to approve purchasing of new laptop, second by Clarambeau; motion carried.

New Business:

Discussion was held on equipment services, drill need new cultivators, discs and some maintenance on tires.

Discussion was held on adding DM Peterson to FNBO signature card. Peterson will stop in at FNBO to see what needs to be done to be added.

Discussion was held on acquiring newsletter sponsors and DM Peterson provided an estimate of how many sponsors to ask, how much to charge and asked for recommended sponsors.

Unfinished Business:

Discussion was held on SDACD Convention. Lambert made a motion to add remove previous DM Riley Schmidt and add current DM Peterson as proxy voter for Big Sioux Nursery, second by Fredrichs; motion carried.

DM Peterson stated State Conservation Commission grant is due October 1. Motion made by Lambert to apply, second by Clarambeau; motion carried.

Sanborn Co Commissioners meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 16, to continue discussions on funding proposal. DM Peterson sent in additional records that the Sanborn Co Auditor requested.

Drainage Board report:

Clarambeau reported on Olsens? and tomorrow Gary will meet with Davison Drainage Board.

Executive Session:

No session proceeded.

Financial Report: Approval of vouchers to be filed for audit: Motion to approve by Clarambeau, seconded by Lambert; motion carried.

Snedeker adjourned the meeting at 8:47pm.

Next month's meeting: Monday, October 6th, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. at the Sanborn Conservation Tree Shed in Woonsocket.

Respectfully submitted: Hanna Peterson District Manager

SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS, CONSERVATION DISTRICT REVOLVING LOAN FUND
Scheduled Payments for Fiscal Year 2026
(July 1, 2025 through June 30 2026)

Accumulated Interest Since 1965
Accumulated Interest from HBL210 (2022)

\$ 225,407.76

Accumulated Loans Since 1965

\$ 4,020,359.43

RCF LOAN NUMBER	AG DEV LOAN NUMBER	DATE OF LOAN	CONSERVATION DISTRICT	PURPOSE OF LOAN	AMOUNT OF ORIGINAL LOAN	Amount of loan with Interest	PAYMENT DUE THIS FISCAL YEAR	MONTH DUE	MONTH PAID	PRINCIPAL PAID	INTEREST PAID	Total Paid	EXTRA PAID	TOTAL CURRENTLY OUTSTANDING
<i>New Loans This Fiscal Year</i>														
1121		07/24/2025	Clark	Vehicle Purchase	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 31,260.76	\$ 10,605.91	04/01/2026						
1122		07/24/2025	Roberts	Tractor Refinance	\$ 80,000.00	\$ 85,203.36	\$ 17,468.37	04/01/2026						
1123		07/24/2025	Brule Buffalo	Skid Steer Purchase	\$ 65,000.00	\$ 69,684.97	\$ 14,193.05	04/01/2026						
1124		07/24/2025	Minnehaha	Drill Refinance	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 42,883.06	\$ 8,734.18	04/01/2026						
1125		09/22/2025	Minnehaha	Bobcat Purchase	\$ 36,400.00	\$ 36,261.82	\$ 7,948.11	06/01/2025						
<i>Loans Closing This Fiscal Year</i>														
1086		05/10/2021	Butte	No Till Drill	\$ 24,500.00	Fully Paid Amount			08/26/2025	\$ 5,092.59	\$ 152.78	\$ 5,245.37		\$ -
1087		05/21/2021	Day	Tractor	\$ 20,000.00	26,226.89			08/14/2025	\$ 4,150.29	\$ 124.51	\$ 4,274.80		\$ -
1089		05/21/2021	Kingsbury	Drill	\$ 7,500.00	21,374.36			09/16/2025	\$ 1,458.24	\$ 43.75	\$ 1,501.99		\$ -
1091		11/10/2021	Kingsbury	Vehicle Purchase	\$ 45,000.00	49,129.77	\$ 9,825.96	09/01/2025	08/25/2025	\$ 9,261.91	\$ 564.05	\$ 9,825.96		\$ 9,142.18
1091		11/10/2021	Grant	No-Till Drill	\$ 7,500.00	8,016.92	\$ 1,252.23	07/01/2025	07/14/2025	\$ 1,215.76	\$ 36.47	\$ 1,252.23		\$ -
1092		01/01/2023	Beadle	Vehicle Purchase	\$ 22,909.89	24,881.33	\$ 5,002.48	11/01/2025						\$ 14,876.37
1093		01/01/2023	Codington	Vehicle Purchase Refi	\$ 27,950.00	30,355.14	\$ 6,103.01	11/01/2025	08/25/2025	\$ 5,589.51	\$ 513.50	\$ 6,103.01		\$ 12,046.11
1094		01/01/2023	Codington	Compressor Cooler	\$ 18,000.00	19,548.93	\$ 3,930.38	11/01/2025	08/25/2025	\$ 3,599.68	\$ 330.70	\$ 3,930.38		\$ 7,757.79
1095		01/01/2023	Brule-Buffalo	Spray Drone	\$ 45,000.00	48,872.32	\$ 9,825.96	11/01/2025	09/29/2025	\$ 8,999.21	\$ 826.75	\$ 9,825.96		\$ 19,394.44
1097		01/01/2023	Davison	Vehicle Purchase	\$ 50,000.00	54,302.57	\$ 10,917.73	11/01/2025	10/16/2025	\$ 9,999.12	\$ 918.61	\$ 10,917.73		\$ 21,549.38
1098		01/01/2023	Gregory	Fabric Machine	\$ 16,500.00	17,919.86	\$ 3,602.85	11/01/2025	10/17/2025	\$ 3,299.71	\$ 303.14	\$ 3,602.85		\$ 7,111.31
1099		04/01/2023	Minnehaha	Tractor	\$ 55,692.00	59,627.73	\$ 12,160.60	09/01/2025	09/02/2025	\$ 11,100.94	\$ 999.66	\$ 12,100.60		\$ 23,145.92
1100		03/01/2023	Perkins	No-Till Drill	\$ 59,585.00	63,774.43	\$ 13,006.29	09/01/2025	08/22/2025	\$ 12,087.11	\$ 919.18	\$ 13,006.29		\$ 19,755.56
1101		03/01/2023	Spink	Tractor	\$ 180,000.00	192,956.89	\$ 39,303.82	09/01/2025	07/24/2025	\$ 36,066.36	\$ 3,237.46	\$ 39,303.82		\$ 75,045.43
1102		03/01/2023	Turner	No-Till Drill	\$ 30,000.00	32,243.89	\$ 6,550.64	09/01/2025	09/09/2025	\$ 6,011.06	\$ 539.58	\$ 6,550.64		\$ 12,591.97
1103		07/13/2023	Lincoln	Vehicle Purchase	\$ 14,508.00	15,614.93	\$ 3,167.89	04/01/2026						\$ 9,279.14
1105		07/13/2023	Day	Vehicle Purchase	\$ 44,500.00	47,895.22	\$ 9,715.78	04/01/2026						\$ 28,461.66
1106		07/13/2023	Dewey	Skid steer, attachments, repair	\$ 100,000.00	107,629.71	\$ 21,835.46	04/01/2026						\$ 63,958.79
1107		03/01/2024	Hughes	Mulch Machine	\$ 17,000.00	18,271.53	\$ 3,712.03	10/01/2025	10/20/2025	\$ 3,305.79	\$ 406.25	\$ 3,712.04		\$ 10,847.46
1108		03/01/2024	Codington	Mower	\$ 24,484.00	26,326.07	\$ 5,348.38	10/01/2025	08/25/2025	\$ 4,763.05	\$ 585.33	\$ 5,348.38		\$ 15,629.31
1109		03/01/2024	Moody	Mulch Machine	\$ 17,200.00	18,486.51	\$ 3,755.70	10/01/2025	10/27/2025	\$ 3,344.67	\$ 411.03	\$ 3,755.70		\$ 10,975.11
1110		03/01/2024	Fall River	No-Till Drill	\$ 10,000.00	10,294.75	\$ 5,226.11	10/01/2025	10/20/2025	\$ 4,921.01	\$ 147.63	\$ 5,068.64		\$ -
1111		03/01/2024	Charles Mix	Skid Steer Refi	\$ 150,000.00	161,219.47	\$ 32,753.19	10/01/2025	10/27/2025	\$ 29,168.66	\$ 3,584.53	\$ 32,753.19		\$ 95,713.09
1112		03/01/2024	Charles Mix	Vehicle Purchase Refi	\$ 33,000.00	35,488.28	\$ 7,205.70	10/01/2025	10/27/2025	\$ 6,417.10	\$ 788.60	\$ 7,205.70		\$ 21,056.88
1113		05/01/2024	Deuel	Drill Repairs	\$ 20,000.00	21,721.02	\$ 4,367.09	04/01/2026						\$ 17,353.93
1114		07/17/2024	Hand	2024 Ford F350	\$ 65,000.00	70,038.57	\$ 14,193.05	04/01/2026						\$ 55,845.52
1116		01/15/2025	Spink	John Deere Tractor	\$ 171,000.00	184,271.36	\$ 37,338.63	10/01/2025	07/24/2025	\$ 34,360.38	\$ 2,978.25	\$ 37,338.63		\$ 146,932.73
1117		01/15/2025	Butte	No Till Drill	\$ 33,000.00	35,561.13	\$ 7,205.70	10/01/2025	09/15/2025	\$ 6,630.95	\$ 574.75	\$ 7,205.70		\$ 28,355.43
1118		01/15/2025	Grant	Tree Storage Repairs	\$ 16,500.00	17,780.58	\$ 3,602.85	10/01/2025	09/22/2025	\$ 3,315.48	\$ 287.38	\$ 3,602.86		\$ 14,177.72
1119		01/15/2025	Davison	Vehicle Purchase	\$ 50,000.00	53,880.51	\$ 10,917.73	10/01/2025	10/16/2025	\$ 10,046.90	\$ 870.83	\$ 10,917.73		\$ 42,962.78
1120		01/15/2025	Jones	Grass Drill	\$ 27,100.00	29,203.23	\$ 5,917.41	10/01/2025	09/23/2025	\$ 5,445.42	\$ 471.99	\$ 5,917.41		\$ 23,285.82
COLUMN TOTALS					\$ 1,618,418.89	\$ 1,739,935.64	\$ 308,868.99			\$ 229,710.90	\$ 20,616.71	\$ 250,327.61	\$ -	\$ 807,251.83
NEW LOANS THIS FISCAL YEAR							PAYMENTS DUE REMAINDER OF YEAR							\$ 58,541.38
CURRENT CASH BALANCE														\$ 2,647,877.89
AVAILABLE CASH BALANCE														\$ 2,647,877.89
PENDING LOANS														\$ 215,000.00
BALANCE - NEW LOANS AWARDED														\$ 2,432,877.89



CUSTER COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

25363 US Hwy 385

Custer, SD 57730

Phone: 605-673-5680

custercd@sdconservation.net

South Dakota Conservation Commission
SD Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources
Resource Conservation and Forestry Division
523 East Capitol Ave.
Pierre, SD 57501

Dear Commissioners,

The Custer County Conservation District is requesting the following changes to the docket rates for livestock pipelines and tanks.

Grazing Management:

Pipeline:

- Pipeline: Plastic above ground..... \$2.00 / L.f.
- HDPE (below ground) \$5.00 / L.f.
- PVC – up to 1 ¼” (below ground) \$4.60 / L.f.
- PVC –1 ½” to 2” (below ground) \$5.00 / L.f.
- PVC – 3” (below ground) \$5.50 / L.f.

Tanks:

- Standard tank installation w/base..... \$2.50 / Gal.

In addition, we are providing a review of payment rates for all conservation practices currently available on the docket. The review determined the last year each practice’s cost-share payment rate was adjusted, and when possible, compared the current rate to rates of similar practices funded through other cost-share programs (NRCS-EQIP and SD Game, Fish & Parks-Private Lands Habitat Program). This review revealed that the majority of practices (~75%) have not undergone a price adjustment in a decade or more, and roughly 30 percent have not changed in 18 or more years. Moreover, comparisons to other cost-share programs illustrate that there are significant differences in payment amounts, and these differences are more pronounced for practices that have not had a price adjustment in recent years.

As a result of this effort, we respectfully urge the Commission to review current payment rates for all conservation practices, particularly those that have remained changed for several years. The current system of updating the docket works well for practices frequently used by the Conservation Districts; however, it does not adequately address those that are used less often.

We also ask the Commission to consider adopting a new policy for annual updates to the docket. While cost recommendations from Conservation District employees should continue to be a key consideration, we also encourage the Commission to consider other annual adjustments. Possible options include:

Board of Supervisors: Dave Thom, Custer (Chair); Oonagh Wood, Pringle (Treasurer); Tamarah Caster, Elk Mountain; Paul Nettinga, Pleasant Valley (Vice Chair); Greg Neugebauer, Hermosa. **Advisors:** Stuart Adrian, Hayward; Gladwin Paulsen, rural Custer.

- Applying an annual inflation-based adjustment using the Consumer Price Index or another index suitable to the Commission.
- Aligning payment rates with those of other cost-share programs.

We understand that making significant changes may not be feasible during the November Commission meeting, but we hope changes can be made in the near future. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Mike Baldwin,
District Manager, Custer County Conservation District

Board of Supervisors: Dave Thom, Custer (Chair); Oonagh Wood, Pringle (Treasurer); Tamarah Caster, Elk Mountain; Paul Nettinga, Pleasant Valley (Vice Chair); Greg Neugebauer, Hermosa. **Advisors:** Stuart Adrian, Hayward; Gladwin Paulsen, rural Custer.

Conservation Commission Docket: Practice Cost Review (2006-2025).

Note: 2006 was oldest docket available

Practice	Unit	Unit Cost (Specified Max.)	Maximum payment to landowner	Equivalent NRCS EQIP payment (FY25)	Equivalent GF&P maximum payment (2025)	Year of last docket change (Note: missing 2010 & 2014 dockets)	Years since docket change	Avg. # years since docket change by Practice Category
Grass Seeding: (with seedbed prep & operation)								
Seed:			(30% / 50%)					
- Tame	Ac.	\$50.00	\$15.00 / \$25.00	\$69.14		2015	11	13.0
- Native grass mix	Ac.	\$120.00	\$36.00 / \$60.00	\$151.07		2015	11	
- Native grass/Native Forbs Mix	Ac.	\$245.00	\$73.50 / \$122.50		\$125.00	2015	11	
Mulching:	Ac.	\$300.00	\$90.00 / \$150.00	\$396.02		2007	19	
Grazing Management:								
Pipeline: Plastic above ground	L.f.	\$1.80	\$0.54 / \$0.90	\$2.51	\$1.00	2015	11	13.8
HDPE (below ground)	L.f.	\$2.00	\$0.60 / \$1.00			2008	18	
PVC - up to 1 1/4"	L.f.	\$2.70	\$0.81 / \$1.35	\$3.15	\$2.50	2012	14	
PVC - 1 1/2" to 2" (below ground)	L.f.	\$3.10 / \$3.60	\$0.93 / \$1.80			2013	13	
PVC - 3" (below ground)	L.f.	\$4.10	\$1.23 / \$2.05	\$3.80		2013	13	
Tanks:			(30% / 50%)					11.9
- Freeze-proof with base	Gal.	\$2.15	\$0.65 / \$1.08			2007	19	
- Steel rim w/flex. bottom	Gal.	\$0.69	\$0.21 / \$0.35			2015	11	
- Standard tank installation w/base	Gal.	\$1.60	\$0.48 / \$0.80	\$1.87	\$1.50	2015	11	
- Fountain type water tanks	Ea.	case-by-case		\$2,375.22				
Pasture pumps (nose pumps)	Ea.	\$670.00	\$201 / \$335			2011	15	
Alternative energy pumps	Ea.	case-by-case		\$5,927.76 (solar)	\$5,000 (solar)			
Rural water hookups	Ea.	\$3,500.00	\$1050 / \$1750	\$4,264.91	\$3,750.00	2018	8	
Dugout construction	Ea.	\$3,500.00	\$1050 / \$1750			2013	13	
Dam construction or repair	Surf Ac.	\$3,000.00	\$900 / \$1500			2013	13	
Wells- Steel or copper/plastic	L.f.	\$36.00 / \$38.00	\$10.80 / \$19.00	\$53.89		2015/2020	11 / 6	
Fencing:			(30% / 50%)					15.8
- Electric	L.f.	\$0.63	\$0.19 / \$0.32	\$1.09	\$0.50	2013	13	
- Barbed wire	L.f.	\$1.06	\$0.32 / \$0.53	\$2.26	\$0.85 - \$0.95	2015	11	
- Specialized protective fence	L.f.	\$0.15 additional				≤ 2006	20	
- Temporary fence	L.f.	\$0.10	\$0.03 / \$0.05	\$0.22		2007	19	
Seeding (see grass seeding rates)								
Brush Control:								
Mechanical	Hr.	\$175.00 not to exceed 30 hrs/landowner	\$87.50			2024	2	2

Color Key

1-5 yrs
6-10 yrs
11-15 yrs
15-20 yrs

Note: 2025 counted as year 1

					Equivalent GF&P maximum payment (2025)	Year of last docket change (Note: missing 2010 & 2014 dockets)	Years since docket change	Avg. # years since docket change by Practice Category
Practice	Unit	Unit Cost (Specified Max.)	Maximum payment to landowner	Equivalent NRCS EQIP payment (FY25)				
Tree Planting:								
Site prep. (tilled/non-tilled areas)	Ac.	\$ 25.00 tilled / \$ 50.00 non-tilled	\$ 10 / \$ 20	\$465.51 / \$120.05-chem only	2015	11	8.25	
Shrubs & planting	L.f.	\$0.54	\$0.27		2025	1		
Trees & planting	L.f.	\$0.52	\$0.26		2025	1		
Handplants (bareroot/container)	Ea.	\$ 2.00 / \$ 3.75			≤ 2006	20		
Weed & pest control:								
- Fabric weed barrier & install	L.f.	\$0.85	\$0.43	\$16.76-54.43 / \$10.23-283.32	2025	1	4	
- Fabric squares and staple	Ea.	\$4.50	\$2.25		2025	1		
- Chemical/Mechanical	Ac.	\$ 50 / \$ 200	\$ 20 / \$ 80		2008	18		
- 5' Tree protectors (with stake)	Ea.	\$11.25	\$5.63		2025	1		
- 4' Tree protectors (with stake)	Ea.	\$8.00	\$4.00		2025	1		
- Tree protector installation	Ea.	\$1.70	\$0.85		2024	2		
Soil Health:								
Cover Crop (inc. seedbed prep. & operation)	Ac.	\$28.16 not to exceed 160 Ac. per land operator (first time user) and for one time per land unit	\$14.08	\$33.92-\$52.27	2025	1	1	
General Water Quality:								
Abandoned well sealing	Ea.	\$500.00	\$150.00		2011	15	15	
Shelterbelt renovation:								
Sod control, chem. & mechanical	Ac.	\$200.00	\$80.00		2011	15	15	
With dead tree removal (above grd.)	Ac.	\$2,800.00	\$1,120.00		2011	15		
With dead tree removal (incl. roots)	Ac.	\$6,100.00	\$1,525.00		2011	15		
			(40% / 50%)					
Fabricated Windbreak:	L.f.	\$16.62	\$6.65 / \$8.31	\$34.08	2019	7	7	
Earthwork & Erosion Control:								
w/dragline	Cu. Yd.	\$2.00	\$1.00		2011	15	14.5	
Excavation	Cu. Yd.	\$1.78	\$0.89		2011	15		
Excavation	Hr.	\$175.00	\$87.50		2013	13		
Class S Earthfill	Cu. Yd.	\$2.08	\$1.04		2011	15		

Practice	Unit	Unit Cost (Specified Max.)	Maximum payment to landowner	Equivalent NRCS EQIP payment (FY25)	Equivalent GF&P maximum payment (2025)	Year of last docket change (Note: missing 2010 & 2014 dockets)	Years since docket change	Avg. # years since docket change by Practice Category
Earthwork & Erosion Control Continued:								
Diversions/water retention/water spreading (for erosion control)								
- 0-2% slope .27 cu.yd./ft	L.f.	\$0.60	\$0.30	\$3.37		2007	19	17.0
- 2-4% slope .34 cu.yd./ft	L.f.	\$0.97	\$0.49			2007	19	
- 4-6% slope .44 cu.yd./ft	L.f.	\$1.42	\$0.71			2007	19	
Terracing	L.f.	\$2.10	\$1.05	\$1.27-\$3.83		2013	13	
Waterway (<25 ft/>25 ft)	L.f.	\$ 2.10 / \$ 2.90	\$1.05 / \$1.45			2011	15	
Grade/Shoreline Stabilization:								
Rock riprap	Cu. Yd.	\$50.00	\$20.00 / \$25.00	\$122.93		≤ 2006	20	19.6
Rock filled wire baskets	Cu. Yd.	\$200.00	\$80.00 / \$100.00			2007	19	
Livestock crossing (rock & gravel)	Sq. Ft.	\$2.50	\$1.00 / \$1.25	\$7.37		2007	19	
Straw bales	Ea.	\$1.50	\$0.60 / \$0.75			≤ 2006	20	
Willow planting	Ea.	\$0.20	\$0.08 / \$0.10			≤ 2006	20	
Animal Nutrient Systems:								
Engineering	Ea.	\$15,000.00	\$7,500.00			≤ 2006	20	19.5
Construction (see earthwork)								
Monosloped/hoop barn waste sys.	Animal Unit	\$100.00	\$50.00			2007	19	
Technical Assistance:								
I & E			case-by-case	case-by-case				
Forest Stand Improvement:								
Thinning	Ac.	\$1,500.00	\$750.00	\$286.55-\$493.87 \$109.54-\$271.18		2024	2	5.75
Slash Disposal	Ac.	\$300.00	\$150.00			2024	2	
Mechanical Root Stimulation	Hr.	\$175.00	\$87.50			2015	11	
Wildlife Exclusion Fencing	L.f.	\$1.80	\$0.90			2018	8	



South Dakota Conservation District Employees

Josh Wagner, President

Yvette Kirkman, Vice-President

Tami Moore, Secretary/Treasurer

October 14, 2025

TO: South Dakota Conservation Commission

RE: 2026 Conservation Commission Docket Recommendations

Based on our Employee Surveys and estimated increases in labor and supplies for 2026, the South Dakota Conservation District Employees Association would like to recommend the following changes for the 2026 Conservation Commission Approved Practices Docket.

Tree Planting: Planting of Trees & Shrubs - \$.60 per linear foot
We are recommending Shrubs & Trese at the same rate
Hand Plants - \$3.00 / bareroot tree; \$4.00 / container tree
Fabric & Installation - \$.90 per linear foot
Shelterbelt Renovation – 40% cost-share for below ground
We would like cost-share percentage to be the same for both above & below Ground.

Thank you for your consideration of these possible changes to the Approved Practices Docket.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

South Dakota Conservation District Employees

Josh Wagner, President

Tami Moore, Secretary/Treasurer

Area Directors:

Dawn Schulte, South James/Missouri

Bonnie Schmidt, North-West

Mike Baldwin, Hills

John Parker, Vermillion/Big Sioux

Yvette Kirkman, Vice-President

Valerie Feddersen, Prairie

Meshele Townsend, North Missouri

Jean Fagerland, Coteau



Mellette County Coservation District

Po Box I

White River, SD 57559

Phone: (605) 259-3252ext 3

Email: toddcodd@outlook.com

October 10, 2025

Dear Conservation Commission,

The Mellette County Conservation District proposes an addition to the 2026 Cost-Share Docket. We recommend including virtual fence collars as an eligible item under the Grazing Management Practice category.

This emerging technology offers producers a flexible, and efficient method for managing livestock movement without the need for physical fencing. Virtual fencing supports improved pasture utilization, protects sensitive areas, and enhances overall land health.

Attached are documents outlining:

- The importance and benefits of virtual fencing in conservation grazing systems
- Suggested cost-share rates and estimated unit costs for implementation
- Additional supporting information

Thank you for considering this addition to the docket. We believe this practice will offer support to producers while advancing conservation goals across diverse landscapes.

Thank you for considering this added practice to the docket.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Clinton Rasmusson".

Clinton Rasmusson, President

Describe the importance of the new practice or recommended change

Virtual fencing is a new technology that helps livestock managers improve grazing management by efficiently controlling and moving their animals without physical barriers. By using GPS-enabled collars, wireless signals, and radio frequency are used to guide animal movement without the need for permanent fences. These collars interact with base stations to deliver sound, vibrations, and mild electric pulses to guide the animal's movement to stay within a designated area. These virtual boundaries can be adjusted remotely through a base station, or cloud-based software, that has been downloaded on a laptop, computer or cell phone. This flexibility offers ranchers an efficient way to create virtual boundaries, enabling ranchers to efficiently manage livestock grazing while promoting animal welfare and minimizing environmental impact. This technology offers a cost-effective alternative to traditional cross-fencing. When used with browsing species such as goats, virtual fencing can be used to mitigate woody plant encroachment—especially in areas that are inaccessible or impractical to fence using conventional methods.

By adding Virtual fencing to the docket, it will offer producers another management tool to help improve soil and plant health, and protect wildlife.

Suggested cost-share rates and unit costs

The suggested cost varies by the type of animal it is being purchased for:

Practice-Grazing Management

Unit-each collar

Unit Cost-(specified Max.)each

Large animal (cattle)-\$329 per collar

Small animal (goat/sheep)-\$229

Cost-share-docket:

Practices used for:

Riparian protection: 50%

General livestock needs: 30%

The highlighted is what is currently on the docket for fencing.

Other information and documentation that would assist the Commission to make revisions for the 2026 docket.



Virtual Fencing



What is virtual fencing?

Virtual fencing is a new technology that controls the distribution and movement of livestock without physical barriers. Livestock are fitted with GPS equipped collars that keep the animal in a pre-determined area using two forms of cues – auditory and electrical. As livestock approach a virtual fence boundary, the collar will beep to notify that the animals are getting too close to that virtual boundary. Once the livestock have gotten too close, the collar will emit a short electrical cue. Cattle, sheep, or goats can quickly learn to respond to auditory cues to stay within the virtual boundary.

Who can use it?

Anyone willing to learn the software, putting time into training their animals to virtual fence, and managing their livestock through the software can use the technology. There is a bit of a learning curve, but no more than learning other new technologies.

Users of virtual fences do need an internet connected computer, tablet, or smart phone to connect with the collars and create virtual fences. Software provided by the manufacturers may be used on computer or smartphones. Building fences may be easier on a computers or tablet, while smart phone applications may include real-time pasture adjustments, locating livestock or lost collars

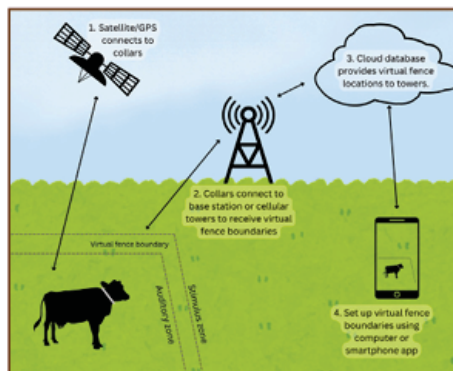
When can it be used?

Virtual fencing can be used now! Many manufacturers of virtual fencing are in the marketplace, with more developers coming online.

Although virtual fences can be used year round, it is best used during the grazing season.

rechargeable battery within the collar may run down faster than if there is strong cellular service.

Base-station systems use a stationary tower to “talk” with the collars. This system can cover various terrain when positioned at certain locations on the ranch. Although, depending on the topography and size of a ranch, multiple base-stations may be needed.



Schematic of how the virtual fence system works.

Why should it be used?

- Management flexibility
- Manage areas where fences are not feasible such as leased or rented land.
- Monitor large pastures where cross fences are not present.
- Track animal movements and locations over time.
- Exclude livestock from sensitive areas, such as riparian corridors
- Reduced time fixing fence.
- Fewer fences improve wildlife mobility across the landscape.
- Target graze to manage invasive species.
- Integrate livestock on previously, ungrazed land to improve nutrient cycling and soil health.
- Incorporate multi species grazing where proper infrastructure is lacking.
- Reduce understory fuels and create firebreaks.

Where can I use virtual fencing?

There are two types of virtual fence systems: base-station based or cellular based.

The cellular based systems use the cellular service to ‘talk’ with the collars. The cellular-type collars can be used anywhere with good cellular service. If service is spotty, the





The main benefit of this technology is the ability to better manage areas that may not be utilized because of distance from water, topography, size of pasture, etc.

How should it be used?

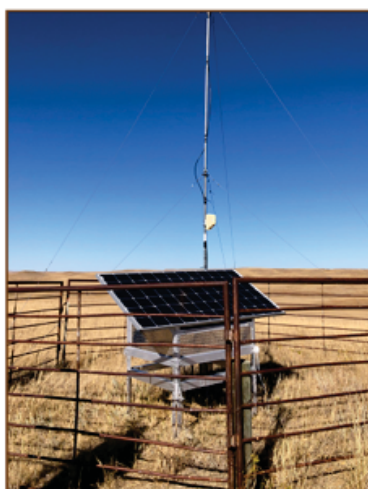
Virtual fences should be used to provide more value to an operation. This could be through better managed pasture, less labor or time (e.g. moving cattle, fixing fence, etc.), or accessing forages that were otherwise inaccessible.

Virtual fencing should not be used in situations where livestock are tightly managed in very small paddocks or areas. Virtual fences are typically more of a gradual boundary, versus a sharp line, so very small pastures may not work well. Further, smaller pastures increase the likelihood that collars will interact with the virtual fence, thereby drawing down the battery.

Virtual fencing should not be used for managing cattle where no management will occur, adversely, where management is already providing adequate utilization of pastures and there would be no added value to managing cattle virtually.

Considerations when purchasing virtual fencing technology

Virtual fencing is a new technology, but there are already many manufacturers in the marketplace. When considering



Example of a base station being protected by cattle panels. (Photo by Emily Rohrer).

what type of virtual fence provider to go with consider the following:

- Type of livestock (some providers only work for cattle).
- Type of service (cellular or base-station).
- Does the land being managed have good cellular service?
- Battery life of product and warranty of product.
- Cost of product and software and ease of use of the software.
- Ability to access manufacturer help desk when questions occur.

Considerations when installing virtual fence technology

Most virtual fence pioneers have found that certain animals respond to the collars, while others will not. With that in mind, a boundary or perimeter fence for the grazing area is a must for those animals that get out of the virtual fence.

When drawing the virtual fence boundaries, utilize natural boundaries when possible. Don't put the fence boundary on the other side of a hill that an animal would naturally just continue walking down – use ridge tops as boundaries or similar.

Try not to use 90° angles when building virtual fences. This can cause confusion, especially with sheep, and may lead to 'break outs' or just no movement at all.

Make sure to design virtual paddocks with water accessibility in mind.

For more information about virtual fence visit:

<https://extension.sdstate.edu/virtual-fencing-emerging-companies-functionality-and-benefits>

<https://extension.sdstate.edu/range-roundup-virtual-fencing-project-takes-place-cottonwood-field-station>

<https://rangelandsgateway.org/virtual-fence>



