

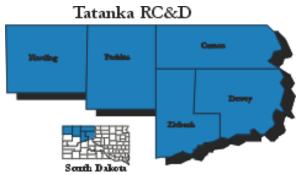
Bison, SD 57620

Phone: 605-244-5222 Ext.4 Fax: 605-244-5223



FY 2010 Annual Report

In 2001, the Tatanka RC&D Area Application was approved and a coordinator hired. 26 sponsoring entities from Corson, Dewey, Harding, Perkins, and Ziebach Counties formed the Tatanka RC&D Council Inc. and they received their 501 (c)(3) nonprofit status in 2002.



In FY 2010, the Tatanka RC&D Council provided technical and financial assistance to 20 area projects for planning, funding, and implementation. Approximately \$80,800 in funds was secured and 9 projects were completed.

#### VISION STATEMENT

The Tatanka Resource Conservation and Development Council envisions a partnership of local groups such as tribes, conservation districts, county boards of commissioners and municipalities working to enhance conservation of natural resources, the quality of life and rural economic development.

#### MISSION STATEMENT

To provide social and environmental benefits, rural economic development, and an enhanced quality of life for communities and surrounding areas, through cooperative efforts in RC&D project implementation.

The Tatanka RC&D Council thanks the following sponsors for their continued support of Tatanka RC&D in 2010:

Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Standing Rock Sioux Tribe

Corson, Dewey, Harding, Perkins and Ziebach County Board of Commissioners

Corson, Dewey, Harding, Perkins, Ziebach, Tri-County, and Standing Rock Tribal Conservation Districts

Bison Economic Development Committee

Lemmon Area Charitable and Economic Development Corporation

Town of Bison, Buffalo, Isabel, and Camp Crook and the Cities of Dupree, Eagle Butte, Lemmon, McIntosh, McLaughlin, and Timber Lake

## Thanks also to the following 26 council members for their time and dedication in helping make the Tatanka RC&D program a great success in FY 2010:

Arnold Schott John Hetzel Ray Lenk	President Vice President Secretary/Treasurer	City of McLaughlin Corson County Conservation District Ziebach County Conservation District
Vacant	Council Member Council Member	Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe
Joseph Smith	Council Member	Standing Rock Sioux Tribe
Donald Pazie	Council Member	Corson County Board of Commissioners
John Meginness	Council Member	Dewey County Board of Commissioners
Charles Verhulst	Council Member	Harding County Board of Commissioners
Willard Ottman	Council Member	Perkins County Board of Commissioners
Dean Johnson	Council Member	Ziebach County Board of Commissioners
Jim Petersen	Council Member	Dewey County Conservation District
Leonard Nygaard	Council Member	Harding County Conservation District
Greg Fried	Council Member	Perkins County Conservation District
Rodney Giesler	Council Member	Tri-County Conservation District
Vacant	Council Member	Standing Rock Tribal Conservation District
Richard Odell	Council Member	Town of Camp Crook
Don Howe	Council Member	City of Dupree
John Bachman	Council Member	City of Eagle Butte
Neal Pinnow	Council Member	City of Lemmon
Garth Hansen	Council Member	City of McIntosh
Vacant	Council Member	City of Timber Lake
Juell Chapman	Council Member	Town of Bison
Ann Parfrey	Council Member	Town of Buffalo
Rita Frank	Council Member	Town of Isabel
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Rachel Eggebo	Council Member	Bison Economic Development Committee
Jo Hetzel	Council Member	Lemmon Area Charitable & Economic Dev.

#### Highlights of Projects Completed in FY 2010:

Cottonwood Re-Establishment: A drastic reduction of natural occurring woody vegetation regeneration has been observed in western South Dakota. Aging stands have left many areas with only a few mature trees in poor health. This program is very popular among the landowners in northwest South Dakota as we are wrapping up our third phase.

This program involved planting native cottonwoods along with other native woody



vegetation to enhance and re-establish fragile riparian areas. The trees are then protected with a tree tube. Fabric squares are utilized to keep vegetative competition to a minimum. The trees are then fenced out to protect them from livestock.

This project was accomplished through cooperation from numerous groups and entities including the Perkins, Harding, Corson, Dewey, Ziebach, and Tri-County Conservation Districts, the US Forest Service – Grand River National Grasslands District, SDSU, National Wild Turkey Federation, South Dakota Conservation Commission, National Forest Foundation, South Dakota Game, Fish, & Parks, Tatanka RC&D, and USDANRCS. This project was implemented on private and US Forest Service property.

**Boss-Up Rancher Workshop:** Approximately 50 ranchers attended the "Boss Up Rancher Workshop" held at the Bart Carmichael Ranch September 23-24, 2009. The workshop presenter was certified holistic educator, Wayne Berry. Wayne is a life-long livestock producer and retired professor at Williston State College.

Mr. Berry led an interactive discussion with the group about alternative ways to think about people, natural resources, livestock, grazing management, creativity, time, money, setting goals, and making decisions. The holistic philosophy is that people can improve their quality of life and their farms and ranches by looking at all aspects of farm/ranch life and making their decisions accordingly.



The workshop was sponsored by the South Dakota Grassland Coalition, in partnership with the Tatanka RC&D, NRCS, and Corson, Ziebach, Perkins, & Tri-County Conservation Districts.



West River Wind Power Workshop: A West River Wind Power Workshop was held in Spearfish, SD on June 9, 2010. 80 people attended consisting of various landowners around the region, established wind power groups from around the state, transmission line builders, representatives from electric cooperatives and wind developers.

The day began with the Keynote speech by Dusty Johnson, SD Public Utilities Commissioner. Agenda topics included Wind Power Development and Education, Progress and Status of Wind Power Groups, Transmission Line Development, and Electric Cooperatives. Steve Wegeman, SD Wind Energy

Association emceed the event.

This was a great opportunity for landowners, electric cooperatives, developers, and transmission line builders to meet, obtain and share information, building relationships and deciding what to do next.

This workshop was coordinated by the Northwest Landowners Energy Alliance (NLEA), Tatanka RC&D, SD Cooperative Extension Service, SD Wind Energy Association, and the SD Association of RC&D Councils.

2010 Rangeland Days: The 27th annual SD Rangeland Days and the 6th annual Soils Days was held in Lemmon, SD June 22-23, 2010. Over 100 individuals participated in this event. This was a great opportunity for participants (ages 8 and up) and adults to learn more about one of the most important SD resources, our rangelands. The first day the rangeland participants traveled to practice sites to study plant morphology and identification and judging habitat suitability for livestock and wildlife. The soils participants traveled to a site where they were given the opportunity to learn soil texture, soil depth, past erosion, slope, and stoniness of the different layers of soil. That evening they returned back to town for supper and student presentations and displays. An adult presentation was provided by Kevin Sedivic, NDSU Extension Service.

The next morning the group headed out to the contest site where they were tested on plant identification and soil knowledge. The day concluded with lunch followed by an awards ceremony.

Rangeland Days was hosted by the Perkins County Conservation District, SDSU Cooperative Extension Service, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Forest Service, and Tatanka RC&D. The Grand River Grazing Association made a large donation to help with expenses.



#### Other Projects of the Tatanka RC&D Council:

A City Park for Dupree: Tatanka RC&D assisted in L&WCF grant and it was approved to plant trees, install benches, and light posts. Plans changed and the committee decided to install a war memorial. Funds couldn't be used for that purpose and the City had to give the money back.

Wind Power Association Phase II: Assisted group in forming Northwest Landowner's Energy Alliance to address landowner concerns about wind development.

**Adopt A Goat:** Assisted committee in writing SARE grant to help preschool travel to goat farm, learn how to milk goats, make cheese, and weave mittens. Grant was denied. As of now there is nothing else to do on the project

**Bison Volunteer Fire Department Building:** Assisted committee in writing FEMA grant to build a new Fire Hall to store trucks, equipment, and hold training in. Grant was denied. Council voted project complete.

Coordinated Weed Management Area: Assisted Corson, Dewey, Harding, Perkins, and Ziebach counties in SD and Adams, Bowman, and Sioux counties in North Dakota in forming the Dakota Border Weed Management Partnership. Their main goal is to help educate the public and manage noxious weeds. A \$2,500 grant was approved from North Central RC&D's THE Project. The money was used to purchase North Dakota and South Dakota weed guides and Weeds of the West books. These guides/books were distributed to Extension offices, County Weed Boards, Conservation Districts, and NRCS offices in all 8 counties. A \$70,000 Fish & Wildlife Foundation pre-proposal has been submitted. This will help to develop a weed map that addresses the area, acreage, and type of invasive weeds that are in that area which in the long run will help to manage invasive weeds in the 8 county area.

# For Tatanka RC&D Assistance Contact: Garrett Schweitzer, Coordinator Tatanka RC&D Office

PO Box 68

Bison, SD 57620

**Phone:** 605-244-5222 Ext. 4

Email: garrett.schweitzer@sd.usda.gov Website: www.sdrcd.org/tatanka.html

#### **Other Highlights:**



Hulm Receives South Dakota Region Award: Cindy Hulm, Program Support Assistant for Tatanka RC&D Council received the "2009 Outstanding Program Support Assistant of the Year" award. Peg Althoff, former RC&D Coordinator nominated Cindy for this award for her involvement with the Council and her outstanding assistance this past year. She has worked part-time for the Tatanka RC&D since January 2002. Cindy's most rewarding job is working with the 26

council members and partners watching projects develop and grow into something successful and beneficial for the communities in Corson, Dewey, Harding, Perkins, and Ziebach counties.

Hulm Receives Western Region Award: Cindy Hulm, Program Support Assistant for Tatanka RC&D Council received the 2010 Outstanding Program Support Assistant of the Year Award at the Western RC&D Conference held in Missoula, MT January 31-February 3.

The Western RC&D Region consists of over 80 RC&D Councils in the states of Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming. Each RC&D Council is organized and directed by local people to meet local needs.



Cindy received this award because of her leadership and dedicated involvement with the council and her outstanding assistance this past year. Cindy and her husband Brent farm/ranch with her dad, Donald Palmer in Prairie City, SD. They have two children, Maddie (5) and Trucker (2 1/2).



New Coordinator Hired: Garrett Schweitzer, Lemmon native accepted the Coordinator position and began work on July 6, 2010. Garrett attended school at SDSU and graduated with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Wildlife & Fisheries Sciences. He has been working out of the Tatanka RC&D office as the Northwest Area Forester since January 2008. Garrett is very active in his community. He voluntarily assists in coaching Legion Baseball, is on the City Council, is a Lemmon Masonic

Lodge member, and helped establish the Grand River Archery Club. In his spare time, he enjoys hunting, fishing, and anything outdoors.

### TATANKA RC&D FINANCIAL STATEMENT January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010

Balance as of January 1, 2010	\$ 14,729.86	
Income:  5 County Board of Commissioners 10 Municipalities (plus last year's fee) 7 Conservation Districts 2 Economic Development Entities 2 American Indian Tribes (plus last year's fee) Randall RC&D (Wind Energy Workshop)	\$ 625.00 \$ 1,375.00 \$ 875.00 \$ 250.00 \$ 375.00 \$ 725.45	) ) ) 5
Lemmon Lodge (3-D Archery Range)  Total Income  Expenses:	\$ 5,314.45	\$ 9,539.90
Incorporation, IRS Nonprofit RC&D Assoc. Memberships Stationery & envelopes Postage Misc. (cards, check blanks, website, box rent) Travel D& O Insurance Perkins Co. Conservation District (Cottonwood Phase II) Perkins County CD (Bookkeeping) Northwest Landowner's Energy Alliance (Wkshp)	\$ 200.00	) )
Dinkins Archery (3-D Archery Range) Stateline Designs (3-D Archery Range)  Total Expenses  Balance on Hand December 31, 2010	\$ 4,564.45 \$ 750.00	5

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