



RANDALL RC&D Assoc., Inc.
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2014 ANNUAL REPORT

The Randall RC&D Council continues to be active and dedicated to improving the natural resources and making the area a better place to live, work and play.

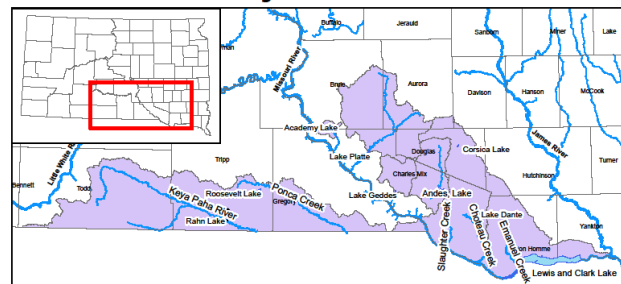
Lewis & Clark Watershed Implementation Project (LCWIP)

Randall RC&D Association, Inc. continues to act as Local Sponsor for this 2.5 million-acre water quality project in south central South Dakota. LCWIP Partnership consist of 11 Conservation District (Aurora, Bon Homme, Brule-Buffalo, Charles Mix, Clearfield-Keya Paha, Davison, Douglas, Gregory, Hutchinson, Todd and Yankton); South Central Water Development District; South Central and Lower James RC&D's; SD Association of Conservation Districts; SD Non-Point Source Task Force; SD-DENR; SD


Board of Water & Natural Resources; EPA, SD Conservation Commission; USDA-NRCS; and most importantly the farmers and ranchers in the project area. In Segment 3 (2012-2014) LCWIP Partnership leveraged \$2,047,910.60 Local Match with \$705,782.33 federal Section 319 funds; \$423,640.91 SD Consolidated Water Facility Construction and Clean Water State Revolving Funds; \$86,478.53 State Conservation Commission grants and \$1,202,283.50 USDA federal Conservation Programs funds. Significant progress was made applying Best Management Practices, which are improving water quality. Choteau Creek, one of 6 major streams, improved to achieve "de-listed" status. Keya Paha River is close to achieving "de-listed" status for Total Dissolved Solids. Segment 3 ended July 1, 2014 and Segment 4 (2014-2016) is underway.

Lake Andes Restoration Project -- Detailed Wetlands Mitigation Plan has been reviewed by SD DENR and US Army Corps of Engineers – major step toward obtaining a federal Section 404 Permit plus state water rights permit which will allow CMCLRO to dredge sediment, build water retention dike, install flowing artesian well and create an 18-acre fishing pond, plus outdoor natural resources classroom. Randall RC&D continues to assist with funding for water quality monitoring.

Lewis and Clark Implementation Project Area



Legend

 Lewis And Clark Watershed area 2,500,000 Acres



SD Birding Festival at Ft Randall -- Volunteers partnered for the 4th Annual Festival held the first weekend in May 2014. Seventy-seven birding enthusiasts enjoyed excellent presentations and outdoor activities. Buses were provided this year to transport groups to two different bird-viewing sites. The 2015 festival will be held May 1st, 2nd and 3rd.

Wagner Area Farmers Market -- The Wagner Area Farmers Market kicked off its third season on June 27, 2014. The market ran from 4 to 6 PM every Friday at their new location in the city park along Highway 46 in Wagner. Fresh fruits and vegetables were on display from many vendors.



Fairfax Lake Restoration -- Local residents, led by Darrell Bentz, are working with SD Game, Fish & Parks to make repairs on the concrete spillway of this 1937 Works Progress Administration dam. Purpose is to extend useful life of this beautiful lake. Randall RC&D is helping seek and secure potential funding resources.

South Dakota Specialty Producers Association Tour -- Randall RC&D and the SD Specialty Producers Association teamed up to sponsor a specialty crop tour on August 8th at Stewart's Aronia Acres farm and the Greg and Joanne Farke hobby vineyard in Charles Mix County. Approximately 20 people started the tour at the Stewart farm and viewed their 12-acre aronia/black currant plantation. The tour continued to the Farke farm where Greg and Joanne showed and talked about growing their many varieties of grapes and hops.

Burke Nutrition Site Assistance -- Burke Nutrition Site experienced a major unexpected expense when lightning strike destroyed electrical components of their commercial grade dishwasher. This is a critical item for maintaining certification of the Site. A request for help filed with Randall RC&D resulted in \$1,000.00 "seed money" which attracted adequate funding to replace the damaged dishwasher.

Leadership Development -- Les Labahn and Susan Schultz provided numerous hours of volunteer assistance toward organizing the upcoming Western RC&D Association Annual Conference scheduled for January 2015. Several Randall RC&D Council members contributed many volunteer hours helping local units of government and non-profit organizations on how to organize and fund projects.