

Natural Resources Conservation Service State Technical Committee

Linking Producers and Partners to Conservation Delivery



Overview

The State Technical Committee (STC) serves in an advisory capacity to the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and the other U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) agencies regarding the implementation of the natural resources conservation provisions of the Farm Bill legislation. Committees are intended to include members from a wide variety of natural resources and agricultural interests. The South Dakota (SD) STC meets on a quarterly basis and may be attended by anyone.

Role of the Committee

The State Technical Committee's role is to provide information, analysis, and recommendations to the NRCS State Conservationist on issues related to Farm Bill conservation legislation. It is purely an advisory committee that allows the State Conservationist to seek the advice, ideas, and recommendations from those with an interest in natural resource management.

Program topics that may be addressed include, but are not limited to:

- State program management policies and procedures;
- Technical program recommendations;
- Statewide public information and outreach campaigns;
- Identifying significant statewide natural resource concerns;
- Guidelines for developing ranking criteria for evaluating applications;
- Guidance on eligible conservation practices;
- Technical guidance on conservation practices, including new, innovative practices;
- Cost-share rates and incentive payment limits and methods of payment;
- Identifying, monitoring, and analyzing performance indicators;
- Evaluating and reporting program impacts on natural resources and the environment; and
- Coordinating with other federal, state, Tribal, and local public and private activities.

Who Are the Committee Members? The State Conservationist serves as the chair of the STC. There are organizations that are required to be invited to participate. The SD State Conservationist welcomes the participation of any organization or agency desiring to participate knowing that these meetings are open to the public.

Representatives include: federal and state natural resource agencies, American Indian Tribes, agricultural and environmental organizations, and agricultural producers. To participate on the committee, individuals or groups may submit a request to the State Conservationist that explains their interest and outlines their natural resource credentials.

Representatives on the committee may include:

- NRCS
- Farm Service Agency (FSA)
- FSA State Committee
- Cooperative Extension Service
- U.S. Forest Service
- Tribal Governments
- SD Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources
- SD Association of Conservation Districts and individual conservation districts
- Other agency personnel with expertise in soil, water, wetland, and wildlife management
- Agricultural producers with conservation expertise
- Non-profit organizations with conservation expertise
- Persons knowledgeable about conservation techniques
- Agribusiness

How Do I Find Out About Meetings?

Meetings are typically scheduled quarterly and notices are published a minimum of 14 days prior to the meeting date. An announcement will also be sent to all committee members and to the public via e-mail and GovDelivery which is found at <http://bit.ly/SubscribeSDNRCS>. Visit the SD NRCS' STC Web site to view the upcoming meeting dates, past meeting minutes, presentations, and handouts.

How Can I Get More Information?

Please contact the SD NRCS at 200 Fourth Street SW, Room 203 Huron, SD 57350, via phone at (605) 352-1200, via e-mail at SM.FPAC.NRCS.SD.PublicAffairs@usda.gov, at any local NRCS office listed under USDA, or visit www.sd.nrcs.usda.gov/.

South Dakota

Natural
Resources
Conservation
Service

