

Natural Resources Conservation Service

South Dakota's Conservation Implementation Strategy

The Vision

The goal of South Dakota (SD) Conservation Implementation Strategy (CIS) is to solve high priority natural resource concerns in a focused, targeted manner. By planning our approach, we are able to prioritize and focus conservation investment in SD. The NRCS has technical staff in the field and partners to help coordinate this strategic effort through targeted projects throughout SD. By clearly identifying locally-led goals and priorities, partnerships can be more effectively leveraged, conservation can be strategically delivered, and investments for treating resource concerns can be focused.

The Process

- The NRCS will make annual calls for project preproposals that can be submitted by any partner or NRCS staff.
- Once a preproposal has been accepted, the applicant will be invited to submit a full proposal.
- All three NRCS funded programs can be used through project proposals. The three programs are Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP), Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP), and Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). The proposed budget in the proposal should reflect what programs will be used in the project area.
- Project proposals will be approved prior to any funds awarded. The purpose is to allow time for outreach and planning prior to any conservation being implemented.
- Approved CIS projects will assist NRCS with budgeting and State Resource Assessment development.

Starting in 2021, NRCS is allocating 2/3 of its budget to CIS. This will allow partners and NRCS to work collaboratively to develop

complete and effective project proposals. The support and assistance of partners will help SD ensure we have identified resource concerns and developed realistic plans to address these concerns. The NRCS is committed to continual improvement of the approach by an ongoing discussion of challenges and successes through a steering committee made up of the Leadership Team, field, and state staff.

Benefits of this Approach

- Collectively focusing our expertise and resources on the highest priority resource concerns in the highest priority areas will yield impressive returns.
- Funding and support from other agencies and groups can be leveraged and coordinated to focus on mutual issues of high priority.
- Gives guidance to our employees and partners as to where we are going, what we are working to accomplish, and how we are going to get there.
- Provides clear goals and objectives that can form strategies to monitor and evaluate progress and achievements.
- Clearly identifies resources necessary to carry out the work and provides a solid basis for requesting funding and assistance from a variety of sources.

This restructure of efforts should allow the state office staff to be more responsive and provide opportunity to build and organize an even stronger support infrastructure. The strategy will give us the information we need to tell the story of what we have accomplished and how the work we have done together with landowners and our partners is changing our landscape and benefiting communities.



Links:

SD NRCS Webpage:

http://bit.ly/NRCS_SD

SD CIS Webpage:

<https://bit.ly/SDNRCS-CIS>

Contact SD NRCS:

<http://bit.ly/contactnrcssd>

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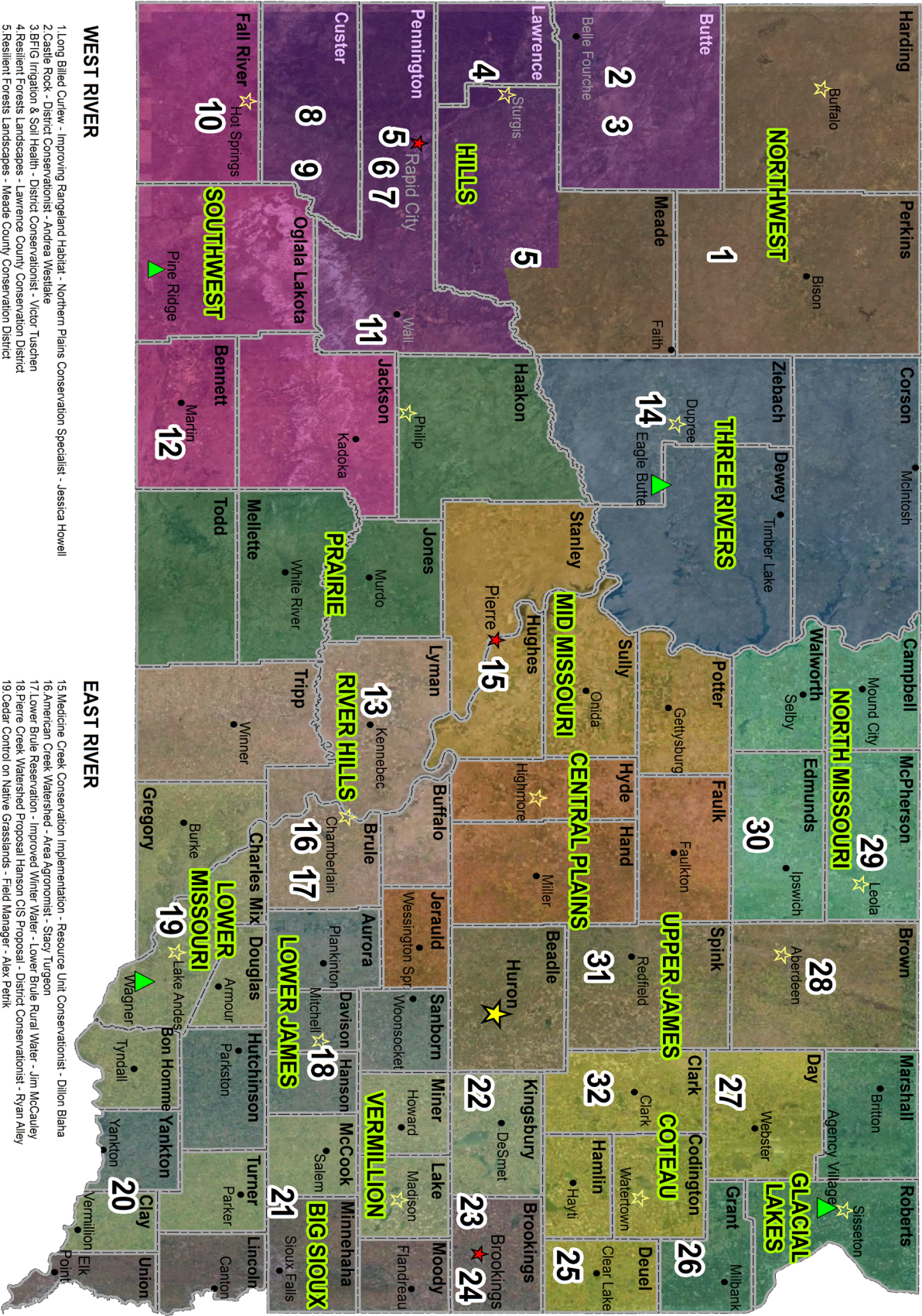
www.sd.nrcs.usda.gov/





SOUTH DAKOTA NRCS PROJECTS

Map created by GIS Section
Huron, South Dakota
1:3 300 000 Scale
December, 2021



WEST RIVER

- 1 Long Billed Curlew - Improving Rangeland Habitat - Northern Plains Conservation Specialist - Jessica Howell
- 2 Castle Rock - District Conservationist - Andrea Westlake
- 3 BFG Irigation & Soil Health - District Conservationist - Victor Tuschen
- 4 Resilient Forests Landscapes - Lawrence County Conservation District
- 5 Resilient Forests Landscapes - Meade County Conservation District
- 6 Jasper Area Fire - Resource Unit Conservationist - Justin Boerboom
- 7 Rapid Creek Watershed Restoration - District Manager - Lindsay Wader
- 8 Resilient Forests Landscapes - Custer County Conservation District - Mike Baldwin
- 9 Rangeland & Riparian Health in Eastern Grasslands of Custer County Custer Conservation District
- 10 Hot Springs Wildlife & Forest Pest Mitigation - Service Forester - Matthew Walsh
- 11 Upper Cheyenne River Breaks - District Conservationist - Lynn Schell
- 12 Ogala Livestock Water Development - District Conservationist - Sandra Huber
- 13 Missouri River Riparian Habitat Restoration - Project Manager Dept of Fish & Recreation Lower Brule Sioux Tribe - Joel Bich
- 14 Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Streambank Stabilization - District Conservationist - Dustin Jewett

EAST RIVER

- 15 Medicine Creek Conservation Implementation - Resource Unit Conservationist - Dillon Biana
- 16 American Creek Watershed - Area Agronomist - Stacy Turgeon
- 17 Lower Brule Reservation - Improved Winter Water - Lower Brule Rural Water - Jim McCauley
- 18 Pierre Creek Watershed Proposal Hanson CIS Proposal - District Conservationist - Ryan Aley
- 19 Cedar Control on Native Grasslands - Field Manager - Alex Petrik
- 20 Vermillion River CIS - Easement Specialist - Marcus Rock
- 21 Minnesota Sustainable Agricultural Initiative - Minnesota Urban Conservation
- 22 Flood Damage Repair & Erosion Prevention - Lake Badger Watershed - District Conservationist - Jim Finnegan
- 23 Concentrated Animal Feed Operation CIS - District Conservationist - Jeremy Sova
- 24 Oakwood Lakes - District Conservationist - Jeremy Sova
- 25 Clear Lake & Hiderwood Creek Water Quality Project - District Conservationist - Amy Engels
- 26 Flood Damage Repair - Whetstone River & North Fork of the Yellow Bank River - District Conservationist - Krecia Leddy
- 27 Upper James River Saline Soils Conservation Initiative - District Conservationist - Matthew Rubers
- 28 Hecla Sandhills Prairie Management - Audubon Dakota Executive Director - Marshall Johnson
- 29 CIS for Sharp Tailed Grouse - Resource Unit Conservationist - John Bender
- 30 Resiliency Strategies for Grazingland Management & Recovery - District Conservationist - Valerie Davine
- 31 Soil Health Salinity Management - District Conservationist - Jamison Winter
- 32 Honeybee Soil Health - District Conservationist - Kyle Montelth