

Walsh County Three Rivers Soil Conservation District

Long-Range Plan of Work

Planning Period: January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2035

I. Purpose and Authority

The Walsh County Three Rivers Soil Conservation District is organized under **North Dakota Century Code Chapter 4.1-20** to provide for the conservation, protection, and improvement of soil, water, and related natural resources. This Long-Range Plan of Work establishes the District's goals, priorities, and planned activities for the planning period identified above and provides guidance for annual plans of work and budgeting.

II. District Description

The Walsh County Three Rivers Soil Conservation District serves agricultural producers, landowners, and residents within Walsh County. The District includes cropland, pastureland, rural residential areas, and associated waterways within the Red River Basin. Major land uses are agricultural, with soils susceptible to wind and water erosion and areas subject to excess surface water and flooding.

III. Long-Range Goals

During the planning period, the Walsh County Three Rivers Soil Conservation District will work toward the following long-range goals:

1. Help reduce soil erosion and help improve long-term soil productivity.
 2. Help improve surface and subsurface water quality.
 3. Help promote soil health systems and climate-resilient agricultural practices.
 4. Help strengthen conservation education and public awareness.
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IV. Priority Resource Concerns

Based on local knowledge, past assessments, and input from cooperating agencies, the District identifies the following long-term resource concerns:

- Wind and water erosion on cropland
 - Excess surface water and drainage management
 - Sediment and nutrient delivery to surface waters
 - Declining soil health and organic matter
 - Streambank and waterway stability
 - Flooding impacts to agricultural and rural lands
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V. Long-Range Objectives and Strategies

A. Soil Conservation and Soil Health

Objectives:

- Help reduce wind and water erosion on agricultural lands.
- Help increase adoption of soil health management systems.

Strategies:

- Help promote reduced tillage, no-till, and residue management.
 - Encourage use of cover crops and diverse crop rotations.
 - Promote & Support installation and maintenance of grassed waterways, windbreaks, and shelterbelts.
 - Coordinate with NRCS to provide and promote conservation planning and technical assistance.
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B. Water Quality Protection

Objectives:

- Help reduce sediment and nutrient transport to surface waters.
- Help protect riparian and drainage areas.

Strategies:

- Promote buffer strips, filter strips, and vegetated waterways.
- Encourage nutrient management planning and precision application.

- Support practices that increase infiltration and reduce runoff.
 - Cooperate with watershed projects aimed at water quality improvement.
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C. Water Management and Flood Damage Reduction

Objectives:

- Help improve management of excess surface water.

Strategies:

- Coordinate with the North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality and local water board.
 - Support retention, erosion control, and flood mitigation projects where feasible.
 - Encourage land treatment practices that reduce runoff rates.
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D. Education and Outreach

Objectives:

- Help increase awareness and understanding of conservation practices.
- Help encourage voluntary participation in conservation programs.

Strategies:

- Provide conservation information through meetings, workshops, and field demonstrations.
 - Support youth conservation education programs when available.
 - Utilize newsletters, social media, and local media to share conservation information.
 - Collaborate with partner agencies on outreach activities.
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E. Interagency Cooperation and Partnerships

Objectives:

- Strengthen partnerships with local, state, and federal agencies.
- Improve coordination on conservation and water management issues.

Strategies:

- Maintain working relationships with NRCS, NDDEQ, NDSU Extensions, NDDA, county government, and other local agencies.
 - Participate in interagency meetings and planning efforts.
 - Coordinate conservation efforts across district and watershed boundaries.
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F. District Operations and Governance

Objectives:

- Ensure effective governance and compliance requirements.
- Maintain financial stability and accountability.

Strategies:

- Conduct regular board meetings with proper notice and documentation.
 - Maintain accurate financial records and timely reporting.
 - Provide training opportunities for supervisors and staff.
 - Review and update district policies, bylaws, and long-range plans as needed.
 - Develop annual budgets aligned with district priorities.
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VI. Implementation

This Long-Range Plan of Work will be implemented through annually adopted **Annual Plans of Work**. Annual plans will identify specific activities, timelines, and priorities.

VII. Evaluation and Revision

- Progress toward long-range goals will be reviewed annually by the Board of Supervisors.
 - The plan may be amended as necessary due to changing resource concerns, funding availability, or state policy.
 - A formal review of the Long-Range Plan will occur at least every ten years.
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VIII. Adoption

This Long-Range Plan of Work was reviewed and adopted by the Walsh County Three Rivers Soil Conservation District Board of Supervisors in accordance with NDSCC requirements.

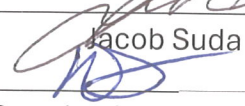
Adopted this 15th day of January, 2026.

Board Chair: 

Joel Hylden

Board Vice Chair: 

Jacob Suda

District Manager: 

Brandon Mathiason