

**NM Strategicplan**

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**From:** Sanchez, Clifford - Socorro, NM  
[Clifford.Sanchez@nm.usda.gov] **Sent:** Thu 7/14/2005 4:53 PM

**To:** NM Strategicplan

**Cc:**

**Subject:** Form posted from Microsoft Internet Explorer.

**Attachments:**

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 General\_Comments=Keep the plan simple and manageable.

We do not support the establishment of yet another office in State Government. Do not start the office of forest and watershed health in State Government.

Revegetation Plantings have started and are also being successful. There is no basis for another "Committee" to take this function from the SWCD's  
 Recommendations\_Comments=We do not support the establishment of yet another office in State Government. Do not start the office of forest and watershed health in State Government.

Allow NMDA & the Conservation Districts to fully administer and carry out this program without interference from Energy Minerals and Natural Resources and state forestry.  
 Implementation\_Comments=It is most important that the Soil & Water Conservation Districts in New Mexico CONTINUE to administer and carry out this Program of Non-Native Phreatophyte/Watershed Management. ABSOLUTELY NOT the NM State Division of Forestry!

The SWCD's have the entire mechanism already in place and have been extremely successful with very little administrative cost to the Taxpayers. They have the local support and the local contacts to continue to succeed in accomplishing the Objectives and Goals of the Program. They are located in each County, have local conservation leaders elected by the local people, and have the infrastructure to do this. The state division of forestry does not.

Allowing the program to fall under the state department of Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources will only serve to siphon off large sums of funds from the program to bolster their budget. They have recently come on board to demand this after seeing the funds and success going to the Conservation Districts. They are not the leaders in this, the Conservation Districts are.

CONTINUE TO HAVE THE CONSERVATION DISTRICTS CARRY OUT THIS PROGRAM, absolutely not the NMDEMNR and State Forestry.  
 Templates\_Comments=They are fine under the SWCD's.