

# UPPER HONDO SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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## Supervisors:

David Cox, Chairman  
Jason Price, Vice-Chairman  
Jackie Powell, Secretary /Treasurer

Stacey Mills, Member  
Richard Montoya, Member  
Robert Barber, Member  
Beth Mendiola, Member

## Staff:

Judy Bock, District Manager - [upperhondo@uhswcd.com](mailto:upperhondo@uhswcd.com)

Wanda Schmidt, Conservation Assistant - [wanda@uhswcd.com](mailto:wanda@uhswcd.com)

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## ANNUAL REPORT – FISCAL YEAR -2024 July 1, 2023 –June 30, 2024

The Upper Hondo Soil and Water Conservation District (UHSWCD) abides by the Soil and Water Conservation District Act and the Open Meetings Act. Programs and assistance are available to all people, without regard to race, color, sex, or national origin, disability, political beliefs, and marital or familial status. Meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month at 1:00 p.m. at the Upper Hondo District Office, 267 Main Road, Capitan, New Mexico. The Public is encouraged to attend meetings.

## CONSERVATION

### FEDERAL FUNDING

- BLM: Noxious weed treatments on Tracts 1-4 and local campgrounds (110 acres); archaeological clearances (2,098 acres); wind energy research (2,457 hours); and fuel reductions/brush removal (132 acres) projects totaling \$384,503.74.
- Wildland Urban Interface (2 grants): Rio Bonito - brush removal projects on 78.31 acres totaling \$110,555.24. and Nogal – brush removal projects on 73.35 acres totaling \$103,487.59.
- NRCS-Emergency Watershed Protection program: Hondo Valley-coordinated with NRCS and Lincoln County for revetment fencing (295 feet), woody debris removal (296 cubic yards); and wire bound riprap (427 cubic yards) totaling \$439,262.92.

### STATE FUNDING

- New Mexico Soil and Water Conservation Commission Grant: Rio Ruidoso Watershed Restoration and Management Project – downed debris removal from two areas (2.5 acres) totaling \$4,104.75
- Energy Minerals and Natural Resources: Invasive Plant Management in the Rio Hondo Watershed – treated 680 acres twice, primarily for thistle along the Rio Bonito totaling \$10,195.79

### COUNTY FUNDING

- Noxious, invasive weed program for Lincoln County thru the Lincoln County Cooperative Weed Management Area (LCCWMA) totaling \$47,210.19
- Treatment of 211 acres and 58.85 miles of public areas through Lincoln County.

### DISRICT FUNDING

- Conservation cost share projects totaling \$118,758.12 namely brush management, livestock watering facilities, and rainwater harvesting.
- Native grass seed (1,630 pounds) mixes sold to local landowners
- A 50/50 cost share is available, to qualifying applicants for chemical purchase when treating noxious weeds
- Purchase 5,000 gallons of horticulture grade vinegar for local residents to use in thistle treatment

## EDUCATION

- Website and Facebook page were maintained
- Flyers were made and distributed for the WUI program
- 200 noxious weed calendars distributed