



NACD Tribal Outreach and Partnership RPG

Conservation District and Tribal Partnership Success Stories

Recommended Template

April 4, 2017

Background

The NACD Tribal Outreach and Partnership (TOP) RPG has recommended that a template be prepared to assist conservation districts, tribes, and others describing examples of successful partnerships between tribes and conservation districts to put conservation on the ground. This template outlines the helpful information needed to share these success stories.

Not all questions may be relevant, but please explain the most important pertaining to your project.

Recommended Template

Success stories are best reported as just that – your story. ***Telling your story*** of success becomes your sharing narrative about what you did and how you did it. Such a narrative should be built upon the following questions:

- 1) **What did your outreach and partnership - between a conservation district(s) and tribe(s) – accomplish?**
 - a) Describe your conservation project/example in some detail, as you would in illustrating the results of any conservation project accomplishment. The example may be a field project (e.g., watershed restoration, structural, planning, water quality, riparian areas, water quantity, wildlife habitat), an educational collaborative (e.g., tribal youth Envirothon participation, cooperator training, district supervisor/staff training), a particular program accomplishment (e.g., RCPP, EQIP), or any other stewardship-promoting collaboration.
 - b) Further, describe what made this effort important from an outreach perspective – Why is this example important to both the conservation district and tribe, and what were/are your mutual objectives?
 - c) Also, does your example relate to tribal land and water resources, or is it focused on a wider landscape to include non-tribal (shared) resources?
 - d) List (formally) which conservation district(s) and tribe(s) participated. List significant local district/tribal leadership who spearheaded or enabled the outreach effort.
 - e) Provide both *landscape outcome-oriented* and *people-oriented* photos of the project/example.

2) How did you get started and how did you follow through to complete the collaboration and partnership between the district and tribe?

- a) How did you establish communication to reach out to one another? Who assisted in making first contact – *the right contact* – between the tribe and district?
- b) Was there ongoing or previous technical (field level) project coordination or cooperation between staff that set the stage for larger collaboration?
- c) What barriers did you need to overcome to create trust and mutual respect? How did you overcome these barriers?
- d) ***What lessons have you learned*** from this experience that you can share with others seeking similar success?

3) What exactly did you share in accomplishing your mutual objectives?

- a) Did you share technical resources?
- b) Did you share financial resources? Were you able to leverage additional financial resources for conservation?
- c) Were you able to bring in other, new partners (e.g., local government, non-profits, state and federal agencies) based on your successful partnership between the district(s) and tribe(s)?
- d) Did you develop cooperative agreement(s) between the tribe and district?
- e) Did you develop contracts for services between the tribe and district?
- f) Did you collaborate in landowner outreach, participation or education?

4) Who may be contacted for additional information?

- a) List your contacts for both the district(s) and tribe(s) who can be reached for further information and sharing. Include names, titles, telephone, e-mail and other **preferred** contact information for each.

The success story narrative should be prepared in electronic format, using readily-available programs (e.g., Word, Publisher), so that the TOP RPG can work with NACD staff to include the narratives in routine and special NACD and partner publications. The TOP RPG intends to utilize existing NACD and partner publication venues to distribute success stories, and these narratives should be easily transferable. The narrative should be no longer than two pages, including inserted photos.

This template is intended to help conservation districts and tribes convey, share and celebrate their success stories. However, not every item in the template must be answered as not all may pertain to your project.

For questions about this recommended template, please contact Jeff Burwell, NACD TOP RPG staff at jeff-burwell@nacdn.net or David Vogel, NACD RPG Advisor at davidvogelmail@gmail.com.