



# PACIFIC REGION BI-MONTHLY ZOOM

*Alaska, American Samoa, California, Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Guam, Hawaii, Idaho, Oregon, Palau, Washington*

## MEETING NOTES - Tuesday, September 1, 2020

### **Welcome and Introductions of Attendees** – *Doug Rushton, Pacific Region Vice Chair (WA)*

- See list of attendees at the end of document.

### **Update: Natural Resources Policy Activities** – *Mary Scott, NACD Natural Resources Policy Specialist (DC)*

- Mary joined NACD in March 2020, she's based in DC and originally from Idaho
- DOI released a **Draft Invasive Species Management Plan**, with the goal of strengthening collaboration within DOI and with local and state stakeholder groups.

#### ***More Information:***

- [Draft Invasive Species Management Plan](#)
- [Information on specific virtual Listening Sessions](#) (RSVPs Required)
  - Tribal Teleconference Consultation – Sept. 17, 4:00pm, EDT
  - Alaska Native Corporations Teleconference – Sept. 22, 4:00pm, EDT
  - General Listening Session Teleconference – Sept. 24 and 28, 4:00pm, EDT

#### ***NACD Actions:***

- Natural Resource Policy Committee and the Invasive Species Resource Policy Group will review and submit comments if applicable.
- Roland Quitugua was involved in the original draft document and will provide that information to Mary and Ariel.
- The recently introduced **Emergency Wildfire and Public Safety Act of 2020** would provide additional resources and tools for mitigating wildfire risk. The bill would:
  - Pilot landscape-level projects to mitigate wildfire risk in up to 3 states in the west
  - Create categorical exclusions for fuel breaks
  - Provide more flexibility to FEMA dollars allowing them to be used for wildfire damage
  - Provide funding for forestry workforce development
  - Establish a western fire center providing training for firefighters and forestry professionals
  - Provide grants and loans to expand biomass facilities

#### ***NACD Actions:***

- Mary is working with offices on Capitol Hill to provide additional info in support of the bill on behalf of conservation districts.
- Mary is available as a resource, and readily available to discuss natural resource policy issues and answer any questions.

*Direct any questions or log-in issues to Ariel Rivers:*

[ariel-rivers@nacdnet.org](mailto:ariel-rivers@nacdnet.org), (925) 290-8925

**Update: Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI)** – *Kim LaFleur, NACD Second Vice President (MA)*

- A subcommittee through the District Operations and Membership Services (DOMS) Committee is collecting materials related DEI. Materials will be:
  - Available on members-only part of NACD website
  - Incorporated into [District Officials Training Program](#) modules
- NACD President Tim Palmer will convene a DEI task force with representation from across the US and from various partners
  - The Task force will look at the recent [NACD Statement on DEI](#) and incorporate actions into a concrete plan.
- The California Association of Resource Conservation Districts (CARCD) has done an extensive amount of work related to DEI, recent updates:
  - CARCD released a [4-page letter](#)
  - They followed up with a voluntary, 2-hour call with 55 attendees from throughout the state discussing DEI and including readings and short activities
  - The next call will involve discussions of vulnerability, the cycle of decision making, and creating equitable workplaces
  - CARCD will share notes and is willing to support others in their DEI programs, but the calls remain closed to those in CA for the time being.

**Discussion: Pacific Region Webinars** – *Doug Rushton, Pacific Region Vice Chair (WA)*

- After the success of the recent [Forestry RPG Webinar Series](#), Doug sees value in conducting Pacific Region webinars to highlight different projects and programs

***NACD Actions:***

- Keeping in mind the Pacific Region Communications Plan (see attached), Ariel will draft a proposal for a monthly series of webinars, virtual tours, short videos, etc. to feature district activities, in collaboration with the NACD Board Member from each state.

**Additional State and RPG Updates**

***Tribal RPG:***

- Larry Davis, Supervisor with Whatcom CD (WA) serves as the Tribal RPG Chair.
  - He's in his 12th year as a CD supervisor, so will likely transition out of the role within the coming year, in which case he can no longer serve as the Chair
- Three federal agencies have signed an MOU in cooperation with the Tribal RPG
- Larry will reach out to the Chairs of other RPGs to join on future tribal calls and look for opportunities to collaborate.
- Also serve on Coastal RPG.
- Larry is also participating in the Western Regional Partnership Tribal Temporary Work Group, which includes six western states

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### ***Alaska:***

- Subsection of Pacific Region comprised of geographically disadvantaged states.
  - In '06-07 NACD helped Alaska and others advocate for a mini grant program to support farmers in disadvantaged states.
- A large cover cropping project with NRCS will implement trials throughout the state

### ***Guam:***

- Roland would like some follow-up information about how NACD can support the Department of Defense's Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) Program
- USDA-APHIS is also putting together an invasive species conference for the Pacific, planned for Dec. 2020 in person (tentatively), with a virtual contingency plan
  - Roland has requested the presence of NACD at this meeting. He will follow-up with Michael Crowder

### ***Hawaii:***

- Suggestions welcome for how to conduct the Land Judging Contest during COVID
  - Others provided ideas of examples: NCF-Envirothon, FFA and 4-H programs

### ***Oregon:***

- Currently working on advocacy training with districts, and seeing much higher attendance virtually than they typically do in person
- Working on some projects on the protection of working lands in collaboration with Oregon Global Climate Commission, and the role of SWCDs in Oregon's conservation story
- Annual meeting will take place Nov. 10

### ***Washington:***

- WACD is working to protect association's assets, plant sales are currently down (which has reduced revenue for WACD)
- Planning for upcoming legislative session

### **Additional Outcomes:**

- With most state meetings occurring virtually, please consider having an NACD Officer to participate in these meetings. Please use the [NACD Speaker Request Form](#) or contact Ariel Rivers for support

### **UPCOMING MEETINGS**

- Pacific Region Bi-Monthly Zoom, Nov. 3, 2020 – *Zoom*
  - Please send any agenda items and materials to Ariel by Oct. 20.
- NACD Annual Meeting, Feb. 6-10, 2021 – *New Orleans, LA*
- NACD Summer Meeting, July 24-27, 2021 – *Chicago, IL*

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**Pacific Region Dues Updates (as of August 31, 2020):**

- Districts can pay FY20 districts through September.
- NACD will send the dues notices for the new fiscal year on Oct. 1, 2020.
- Tom Wehri encouraged board members to reach out to their respective districts to encourage dues payments.
- Documents to support membership outreach are available on the [Board of Directors](#) and the [Pacific Region Webpages](#).

| <b>State</b>                   | <b>Dues FY-2020</b> | <b># of State's Members</b> | <b>% of State's Members</b> |  | <b>Dues FY-2019</b> | <b>Dues FY-2018</b> |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|--|---------------------|---------------------|
| Alaska                         | \$2,600             | 6 of 12                     | 50.0%                       |  | \$2,156.00          | \$2,060.00          |
| American Samoa                 |                     |                             |                             |  |                     |                     |
| California                     | \$12,590.00         | 30 of 93                    | 32.3%                       |  | \$16,582.00         | \$11,230.00         |
| Federated States of Micronesia |                     |                             |                             |  |                     |                     |
| Guam                           | \$775.00            | 1 of 3                      | 33.3%                       |  | \$775.00            | \$775.00            |
| Hawaii                         | \$850.00            | 17 of 17                    | 100.0%                      |  | \$850.00            | \$850.00            |
| Idaho                          | \$17,687.00         | 42 of 51                    | 82.4%                       |  | \$18,646.00         | \$15,478.50         |
| Northern Mariana Islands       |                     |                             |                             |  |                     |                     |
| Oregon                         | \$17,683.25         | 28 of 46                    | 60.9%                       |  | \$14,801.00         | \$13,752.00         |
| Palau                          |                     |                             |                             |  |                     |                     |
| Washington                     | \$24,729.00         | 39 of 46                    | 84.8%                       |  | \$27,103.00         | \$24,257.50         |
| <b>Grand Total</b>             | <b>\$76,914.25</b>  | <b>156 of 274</b>           | <b>56.9%</b>                |  | <b>\$80,913.00</b>  | <b>\$68,403.00</b>  |

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**ATTENDEES:**

| <b>Name</b>      | <b>State</b> | <b>Role</b>  | <b>Email</b>                |
|------------------|--------------|--|-----------------------------|
| Tim Palmer       | IA           | NACD President   | Tim-Palmer@nacdnet.org      |
| Michael Crowder  | WA           | NACD President-Elect   | MichaelCrowder@frontier.com |
| Kim LaFleur      | MA           | Second Vice President  | Kim-Lafleur@nacdnet.org     |
| Ian Cunningham   | MN           | Secretary-Treasurer  | Ian-Cunningham@nacdnet.org  |
| Doug Rushton     | WA           | Pacific Region Vice Chair  | Doug.Rushton@conservewa.net |
| Tom Wehri        | CA           | Pacific Region Executive Board Member                                | WehriTom@gmail.com          |
| Chris Rainwater  | AK           | NACD Board Member  | snowshoe2@gmail.com         |
| Trish Sims       | AK           | AACD Executive Director  | trish.aacd@mtaonline.net    |
| Rick Gomez       | CA           | NACD Board Member  | rickaicp5252@outlook.com    |
| Karen Buhr       | CA           | Executive Director, CARCD  | karen-buhr@carcd.org        |
| Mandy Parkes     | CA           | NCDEA Pacific Region Director<br>District Manager, Inland Empire RCD | mparkes@iercd.org           |
| Michael Aguon    | GU           | NACD Board Member  | medafarms@yahoo.com         |
| Roland Quitugua  | GU           | District Advisor   | rkarabao@mac.com            |
| Erica Pangelinan | GU           | Staff, Southern Guam SWCD  | southernnguamswcd@gmail.com |
| Mae Nakahata     | HI           | NACD Board Member  | mnakahata@gmail.com         |
| Michelle Watkins | HI           | Executive Director, HACD   | hacdhawaii@gmail.com        |
| Jan Lee          | OR           | Executive Director, OACD   | jan.lee@oacd.org            |
| Tom Salzer       | WA           | Executive Director, WACD   | tsalzer@wadistricts.org     |
| Alan Chapman     | WA           | District Supervisor, Whatcom CD                                      | alanchapman398@gmail.com    |
| Ashley Smithers  | WA           | District Staff, Clark CD   | asmithers@clarkcd.org       |
| Mary Scott       | DC           | NACD Natural Resources Policy Specialist (Staff)                     | Mary-Scott@nacdnet.org      |
| Ariel Rivers     | CA           | NACD Pacific Region Representative (Staff)                           | Ariel-Rivers@nacdnet.org    |

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# PACIFIC REGION COMMUNICATIONS PLAN

ALASKA, AMERICAN SAMOA, CALIFORNIA, COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANAS ISLANDS, FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA, GUAM, HAWAII, IDAHO, OREGON, PALAU, WASHINGTON

| Product                                      | Intent   | Audience  | Frequency   |
|--|--|---|---|
| Bi-Monthly Call Email                        | Remind NACD Pacific Region board members of monthly call. Include agenda and call-in numbers.  | <b>Primary:</b> Board members<br><b>Secondary:</b> EDs and state contacts                   | Bi-Monthly<br><b>Initial email:</b> Thurs. before call<br><b>Follow-up:</b> day before call   |
| Bi-Monthly Zoom                              | Discussion of opportunities, challenges, resource concerns, project updates, etc. from across the region.  | NACD Board Members, State Association Executive Directors and Staff. Please                 | Bi-Monthly, the first Tuesday: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nov 3, 2020 04:00 PM Pacific</li> <li>• Jan 5, 2021 04:00 PM Pacific</li> <li>• Mar 2, 2021 04:00 PM Pacific</li> <li>• May 4, 2021 04:00 PM Pacific</li> <li>• Jul 6, 2021 04:00 PM Pacific</li> </ul> |
| Region newsletter                            | Provide news/updates for/about/tailored to the region, e.g., region spotlight  | <b>Primary:</b> Districts, partners, EDs, state contacts<br><b>Secondary:</b> Board members | Every month, approximately 2-weeks after Bi-Monthly Calls   |
| Region webpage                               | Provide news and updates for region  | <b>Primary:</b> Board members, EDs, state contacts, districts, partners                     | At least monthly, or as needed  |
| Pacific Region Webinars and/or Virtual Tours | Showcase region projects via webinars, short videos, or other virtual platforms to provide ideas and opportunities to learn from district activities | Board Members, EDs, state contacts, NACD Officers and staff, districts, partners            | At least one per member state or territory throughout the year  |
| Annual Dues Update                           | Provide a complete, state by state picture of dues payments for the previous Fiscal Year   | NACD Board Members and Officers   | October, after the end of the Fiscal Year   |
| Emails as needed                             | Provide news/updates to or request action from associations and/or state contacts  | <b>Primary:</b> EDs and state contacts<br><b>Secondary:</b> Board members                   | As needed   |

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