**WINDS WATER & WILDFIRES SUMMIT**

**May 25 & 26, 2021**

CONSERVATION DISTRICTS ACCELERATING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE

NATIONAL COHESIVE WILDLAND FIRE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY (COHESIVE STRATEGY)

**MINNESOTA – NACD & NORTHEAST COHESIVE STRATEGY REGION**

**DAY 1 MAY 25, 2021 Central Standard Time**

9:00-9:30 LEADERSHIP WELCOME - Ann Walker, NACD Wildfire Program Coordinator (Facilitator)

Kim LaFleur, NACD First Vice-President

Chris French, USDA, Acting Deputy Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment

MINNESOTA WELCOME - Kurt Beckstrom & LeAnn Buck, Minnesota Association of Conservation Districts

NACD Forestry RPG Representatives - Linda Brownson, Conservationist, Grafton County Conservation District, New Hampshire & Tom Crowe, Consulting Forester, Allen County Soil & Water Conservation District Board, Indiana

Minnesota, Dakota County - Mary Hamann-Roland, Commissioner & Co-author Cohesive Strategy (pre-recorded message)

Wildland Fire Leadership Council - Northeast Region - Larry Mastic, Coordinator

9:30-10:00 COHESIVE STRATEGY 101 - Larry Mastic, WFLC, NE Region Coordinator & Ann Walker

10:00-11:00 PANEL #1 – SHOWCASE HOST - COLLABORATION WITH MINNESOTA CONSERVATION DISTRICTS- IMPLEMENTING THE GOALS OF THE COHESIVE STRATEGY - Moderator - LeAnn Buck, Executive Director, Minnesota Association of Conservation Districts

Conservation Districts and Forestry and Fire in Minnesota – Minnesota Department of Natural Resources – John Carlson, Private Forest Management Program Coordinator; Casey McCoy, Fire Prevention Supervisor

The Land of 10,000 Lakes: How Conservation Districts in Minnesota Use Water Resources to Manage Forested Landscapes – Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources, Dan Steward, Forested Landscapes Planning Coordinator

Fire Preparedness with conservation districts - Minnesota State Fire Marshal Division - Amanda Swenson, Chief Deputy State Fire Marshal; Bob Reif, Deputy State Fire Marshal, Fire & Life Safety Officer; John Ehret, Supervisor & Eastern Area T2 Incident Management Team member

Q & A - Guided Discussion - Focus on Action (facilitated by Ann Walker)

11:00-12:00 PANEL #2 - ADVANCING THE ROLE OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS IN ASSISTING COMMUNITIES PREPARE FOR AND RECOVER FROM DISASTER-RELATED EVENTS - Moderator - Amanda Swenson, Chief Deputy State Fire Marshal, Minnesota State Fire Marshal Division

Conservation districts assist in developing Fire-Adapted (prepared) Communities - National Fire Protection Association - Megan Fitzgerald-McGowan, Program Specialist, Firewise USA

Funding opportunities for conservation districts to help their communities build capacity to work on planning for and recovering from disaster-related events - Federal Emergency Management Administration, Region 2 - David J. Hojsak, AICP, PP, Hazard Mitigation Planner

Conservation districts provide expertise to landowners in many ways and all Cohesive Strategy goal areas – Connecticut Association of Conservation Districts - Denise Savageau, President, and NACD NE Region Chair

Q &A Guided Discussion - Focus on Action (facilitated by Ann Walker)

WRAP UP – Instructions for joining on Day 2

**DAY 2 May 26, 2021 Central Standard Time**

8:30-9:00 Coffee Klatch with Conservation Districts and Attendees (Facilitated by Ann Walker)

9:00-9:30 WELCOME AND RECAP OF DAY ONE – LeAnn Buck, Minnesota Association of Conservation Districts and Ann Walker

9:30-10:00 COHESIVE STRATEGY AND “HOW TO” APPLY IT IN THE NORTHEAST – NE Risk Assessment Needs and data coordination with conservation districts - Larry Mastic, WFLC, NE Region Coordinator; Timmons Group, Chris Lutz and Chris Gerecke

10:00-11:00 PANEL #3 – BUILDING RESILIENT, HEALTHY, HABITATS AND LANDSCAPES TOGETHER DURING THESE CHANGING CLIMATE CONDITIONS - Moderator - Denise Savageau, Connecticut Association of Conservation Districts

How Conservation Districts in Minnesota Use Water Resources to Manage Private Woodlands – Clayton Lenk, National Wild Turkey Federation, District Biologist (MN, WI, ND, SD) previously Crow Wing SWCD

Cross-boundary landscapes, coordinating projects with Tribes in the Northeast - Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe - Ben Benoit, Environmental Director

Federal support for private and state landscape resiliency - coordinating with the US Forest Service - USFS, Eastern Region, State and Private Forestry - Karl Honkonen, Forest Watershed Specialist, Durham, New Hampshire Field Office

Q & A - Guided Discussion - Focus on Action (facilitated by Ann Walker)

11:00-12:00 PANEL #4 – ACTIONS TO INCREASE CAPACITY OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS ASSISTING WITH ACCELERATING COHESIVE STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION (facilitated by Ann Walker)

US Forest Service, Eastern Region, Fire and Aviation - Steve Goldman, Deputy Director

Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources - John Jaschke, Executive Director

Natural Resource Conservation Service - Terrell Erickson, Regional Conservationist

Q & A - FOCUS ON ACTION - POLICY UPDATE - WRAP UP (facilitated by Ann Walker)

12:00-1:00 Optional Networking Lunch - Sharing of Activities by all Attendees

Thank you for your valuable participation! To contact summit host, please email Ann Walker at: [annwalkerconsulting@yahoo.com](mailto:annwalkerconsulting@yahoo.com)