

Agenda:

- Joint Updates with Southwest Region (Ceiba Room)
 - Pacific / Southwest Region Meeting in Maui – Mae Nakahata
 - NRCS Updates – Astor Boozer (invited)
- Pacific Region Meeting (Flamingo Room)
 - Discussion of questions for Region Chairs During NACD Board Meeting (see questions below)
 - Unfinished business

Region Chair Panel Questions

- NACD Organizational Topic
 - How can NACD best address issues conservation districts are experiencing in your region?
Better communication about NACD, districts, and distinctions between each of these

Funding – help make sure the communications on conservation districts is available
Federal programs for small diverse farmers don't fit – scale doesn't fit, practices (need to adjust for specific context), payments per acre (most farmer operate manually, not with equipment):
advocacy

Time zones and engagement – make opportunities available

Help farmers from financial side, important to provide funds to enable adoption of practices

Help state association connect better with districts

Communications

Clear distinction of what state association and national association

Don't re-invent wheel

Provide better examples of state laws, local tax bases, state statutes, etc., examples of state group

Help districts with staff training, retention, recruitment

- What feedback regarding NACD do you most often hear about from members?
Members don't know enough about NACD – help state and board members communicate better with districts

- If you were NACD President for a day, what is the one thing you would do?

Advocacy for the small scale ag systems, non-commodity crops

Funding for implementation, and monitoring and management

Advocacy for removal of barriers to implementation

Advocacy for all natural resource concerns beyond agriculture, especially at the landscape level beyond the single farm plot, with regard to climate change especially

Leadership development – getting the next generation involved, beyond those that come in the door

Advocacy for tribal, and other under represented, geographically disadvantaged, more outreach, more communities, etc.

Provide opportunities for tribal conservation districts to serve

- Resource Concerns

- What is the top resource concern that conservation districts are finding challenging to address?

Drought, food security, climate change, wildfire, irrigation efficiency, access to land, land conservation, forest health, invasive species, stormwater capture, wildlife

- How is the topic of climate change being addressed in your region and do you see perspectives evolving?

- We talked about Farm Bill yesterday with our task force, what opportunities do you see for NACD in the next Farm Bill to help address resource concerns in your region?

Landowners aren't able to continue projects through farm bill, POWER is not covered by EQIP, so once installed, aren't used

Implementation programs: bridge funding is super important (no up front capital to provide for starting practice). Can the district support projects up front

- Partnerships

- What are some of the emerging partnerships in your region that you view as important for conservation districts?

Environmental Social and Governance avenues with corporations

- In a few minutes we will have a partnership roundtable of our 5 national conservation partner organizations. How is the conservation partnership faring in your region?

- What partnership opportunities do you believe NACD should pursue?

DOD, Large Foundations and philanthropic organizations, large corporations, e.g., Cargill and other foundations, BLM, BIA, increase partnerships with University system to be able to leverage land grant dollars to help provide support to districts.