

Welcome from new Region Chair - Michael Aguon, Guam Association of Conservation Districts

Policy Updates – Chris Young, NACD Director of Government Affairs

- [Climate Change Task Force](#) - active and meeting regularly
- [Farm Bill Task Force](#) – working towards reviewing priorities. Already movement in Senate and House Ag Committees toward conservation, with bi-partisan support.
- Discussion on Farm Bill and Climate Change yielded several policy priorities for our region, with opportunities to discuss submitting resolutions at upcoming NACD Summer and Region Meetings:
 - Advocacy for farm bill food disbursement programs to source foods locally from farmers, specifically on islands.
 - [Emergency Forest Restoration Program](#) (EFRP) – opportunities to streamline funding process to ensure conservation districts can serve as technical assistance providers.
 - The NACD Policy Book does not yet have many policies related to climate change; our region should consider leading on the submission of specific policies.
 - Within certain farm bill programs, the use of hoop houses is promoted, but crops must be planted in the ground. Focus could potentially shift to promoting the use of high yielding cropping systems within hoop houses, rather than only on planting in ground.
 - Law of the Seas Treaty

Pacific / SW Joint Region Meeting, Maui – Sept. 8-11, 2022

- Agenda and registration pending, likely available within the next month.
- Rooms are secured in a block at the [Royal Lahaina](#), with additional nights available before and after the event. Please call the hotel to reserve (mention NACD/HACD meeting in September): 1-800-447-6925
- Additional info: Mae Nakahata,

NACD Updates

- Upcoming NCPP Meeting – May 9-13, 2022 – See additional info at end of this email, please share widely with your districts.
- Funding Updates
 - NACD Technical Assistance Grants – pending budget announcement from NRCS, may be a few weeks before we have a full understanding of details
 - UAC – 31 new grants announced this week, 11 will come to the Pacific
 - Alaska, Idaho, California, and 6 more for Washington (most successful state under this program) for a total of \$355K for the region.
- [NACD Summer Meeting](#), San Juan, Puerto Rico – July 17-19, 2022