

**Opening, Introduction/Welcome from Region Chair – Michael Aguon, Guam Association of Conservation Districts (GACD)**

- Chairman Michael Aguon – Welcome all, thanks for attending – would like to revisit Pacific Region meeting takeaways.

**September Pacific Region Meeting Updates & Action Items – Pacific Region Board Members (All in Attendance)**

- Tom Wheri – the event offered great insight to local resource concerns on HI
- Sarah Jones – noted deer access issues & potential limitations of NRCS fence practice applicability
- Michael Aguon – good experience to connect the broader conservation world to island conservation issues
- Mae Nakahata – really enjoyed discussions on idea sharing strategies and use of technology (GoPro/Drone) for conservation education and awareness
- Terri Preeg Riggsby – capacity building for State Associations is an ongoing interest – Any funding opportunities to assist w/ State Assoc. Capacity Building from NACD or other sources?
- Tom Wheri – State Associations are considered members and are eligible to apply for NACD grants/programs
- Ariel Rivers – mentioned bringing State Association leadership together to explore capacity building options and share ideas, while seeking funding opportunities collectively.
- Terri Preeg Riggsby – asked for sharing within network any opportunities for capacity building at State Assoc. level; recalled grant that involved partnership w/ university system, but turnaround was too short
- Mae Nakahata – interested in cultivating relationships between local universities and districts to build capacity and shared support
- Doug Rushton – discussed a method of sharing resources for conservation districts (legal, HR, grant writing), established through State Association policy resolution.
- Craig Nelson – shared methods of engaging colleges/universities - job fairs, professional development courses, enhancing CD career awareness and recruitment
- Michael Aguon – discussed the benefits of having close relationships with local universities – support, funding, and participation

**NACD Opportunities & Events – Caleb Griffin**

Advocacy:

- Dec. 31, 2022 deadline for NACD policy resolution submissions. States are encouraged to review the policy book, as well as the submittal instructions, closely prior to submitting any resolutions. As a reminder, these policies help drive NACD's advocacy efforts, and help position the organization on key topics. All materials are available via email; please contact your region representative or NACD's Director of Government Affairs, Chris Young, [chris-young@nacdnet.org](mailto:chris-young@nacdnet.org). Policy review of submissions will take place during the February Annual Meeting.

- Dec. 10, 2022 deadline for suggested amendments to NACD bylaws. Please send any bylaws amendments to Jeremy Peters at [jeremy-peters@nacdn.net.org](mailto:jeremy-peters@nacdn.net). NACD's current Bylaws can be found on the [Board of Directors webpage](#).
- WACD is quite familiar with the policy resolution process and can help in providing support for state/territory/nation members who wish to participate but are unfamiliar with the process.

#### Meetings:

- Annual Meeting Reminder: February 11<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at New Orleans Marriott – 555 Canal Street, New Orleans, LA → Early Bird Registration Ends on 12/23/22. Additional tickets for extras/events can be purchased separately from registration → Inquire with [events@nacdn.net.org](mailto:events@nacdn.net) for details.
- I am strategizing to attend as many State/Territory/Nation Associations of Conservation District meetings as possible – Virtually or In-Person → Please do not hesitate to reach out. I am eager to attend and/or support as many district events as I can!

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#### Funding:

##### *Technical Assistance Grant Program*

- FY 2022 Funding cycle is completed; this program is likely to continue for Fiscal Year 2023
- However, we may receive less funds as in years past.
- Please encourage districts to seek out other funding opportunities to cover the current TA employees

##### *Urban and Community Conservation (UAC) Grant*

- New RFP is in the works – will hopefully be released in early December
- Grants provide up to \$50K to support planning for- or staffing for technical assistance related to urban and community conservation
- [Info about past recipients is available on our webpage](#); consider reaching out to those districts to learn of their programs as you prepare your proposals
- Stay tuned through eResource weekly newsletter and other NACD publications – See “Subscribe to our Publications” link at bottom of NACD home page.

*Friends of NACD:*

- Applications for the [Friends of NACD District Grant Program](#) are open Oct. 17-Nov. 29, 2022.
- Grants provide up to \$2,500 for 8 conservation districts to conduct new activities or test novel approaches to their operations.
- Awards will be announced at the 2023 NACD Annual Meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana.
- Grants are funded by individual donations - thank you to everyone who is a Friend of NACD.

**Team Discussion on Establishment of TCDs – Red Bradley & Robin Slate**

Please share a little about your experience in supporting the development/establishment of TCDs.

Can you offer perspective on the organizational structure of TCDs as they relate to Tribal, State, County, and or Local governments in your geographic area?

Drawing from your experiences, what methods and tactics would you advise others use to support the successful development/establishment of TCDs?

Robin –

1 TCD in Washington State – Were their own separate entity, formed under Tribal/federal law.

Lacked in standing as far as State recognition. Working to find niche, lots of broad focus areas.

Moved under Tribal Natural Resources Department, now answers to Tribal Council.

TCD District Manager is working to develop conservation plans & planning certification.

RCD member interested in developing more TCDs in state - slow progress due to limited tribal interest.

Red –

Boundaries are often defined by traditional tribal use areas, rather than reservation boundaries.

Many TCDs have specific focus on food sovereignty, fisheries habitat, watershed protection.

22 currently operate in AK, and 4 in Queue.

For a TCD to form in AK, a board is needed, then resolution needs to be developed, and approved by village gov't. In some cases, village corporations are also partners.

There is a desire and need for a National Association of TCDs.

Larry Davis – recently attended INCA conference – mentioned struggle to find resources beyond NRCS and NACD passthrough opportunities for TCDs.

**Closing/Final Items:**

Chris Rainwater – provided suggestions to revise & approve resolutions process at national level; recommended a drop-down menu planted into resolutions handbook.

Tom Wehri – board election process for new region leadership – will schedule a meeting to discuss soon.