Creating Tribal Conservation Districts

USDA
Natural Resources Conservation Service

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American Indian Liaison - CA

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.
To make available technical, financial, and educational resources, whatever their source, & focus or coordinate them so that they meet the needs of the local land user for: conservation, development, restoration & preservation of soil, water, air, plants, animals, and related resources.
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Tribal Law – usually by Resolution

**NRCS** - ONE agency within United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)

ONLY AGENCY WITHIN USDA THAT IS NON-REGULATORY

USDA - Secretary recognizes Tribal Conservation Districts with 3-way MOU

- Tribal Government
- Tribal Conservation District
- Department of Agriculture
USDA

- Federal – to meet Tribal needs at the Department level
  - Agencies within USDA: NRCS, RD, RMA, FSA, USFS, etc.
Tribal Conservation
Districts

- Assistance to develop a Tribal Conservation District:
  - NRCS – Natural Resources Conservation Service
  - INCA – Indian Nations Conservation Alliance
NRCS:

- **Technical Assistance**
  - Web Soil Survey
  - Conservation Planning
  - Plants Database

- **Financial Assistance**
  - Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)
  - Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP)
  - Wetland Reserve Program (WRP)

New Tribal Districts:

- Meeting facilitation
- Capacity Building
- Conservation planning
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