

Pinion-Juniper (PJ) Removal Projects

The ECD continues to lead efforts to cut PJ trees down on mostly privately owned lands in important wildlife habitats. The project was focused on improving wildlife habitat, primarily for Greater Sage Grouse, increasing water availability, and providing additional forage for livestock operations. To date, a total of 5,150 acres of PJ within sagebrush habitat have been removed. A portion of the overall project was funded through the Conservation District Program Sage Grouse Habitat Grant. Before and after photos were taken at the locations for the Sage Grouse Habitat Grant.



2016 Pre-Cutting Photo



2017 Post-Cutting Photo

Resource Needs Assessment (RNA)

The ECD committed to be one of seven Conservation Districts in NV to complete a Resource Needs Assessment through funding received from USDA-NRCS and NACO. The Resource Needs Assessment is being created to identify the resource concerns in the area. By determining those concerns ECD will be able to create plans for the resource needs and also be able to use that information to apply for funding. This will also help with funding opportunities and with leverage when collaborating with agencies and landowners. The process is open to ensure local priorities are considered.



RNA Workshop 2019



Partnerships

- ❖ Private Landowners and entities: Ranches, farms, mines, NGO's
- ❖ Eureka County Board of Commissioners
- ❖ Eureka County Natural Resources Dept.
- ❖ Bureau of Land Management
- ❖ Eureka County School District
- ❖ Apex Pest Control LLC
- ❖ Nevada Conservation Districts Program
- ❖ NV Department of Wildlife
- ❖ NV Department of Environmental Protection
- ❖ NV Department of Agriculture
- ❖ State Conservation Commission
- ❖ Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
- ❖ National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD)
- ❖ NV Association of Conservation Districts (NvACD)
- ❖ Eureka County Juvenile Probation Office
- ❖ NV Society of Range Management

Mission

The mission of the Eureka Conservation District is to coordinate technical and educational resources to meet the needs of individuals within the district for the conservation of natural resources.

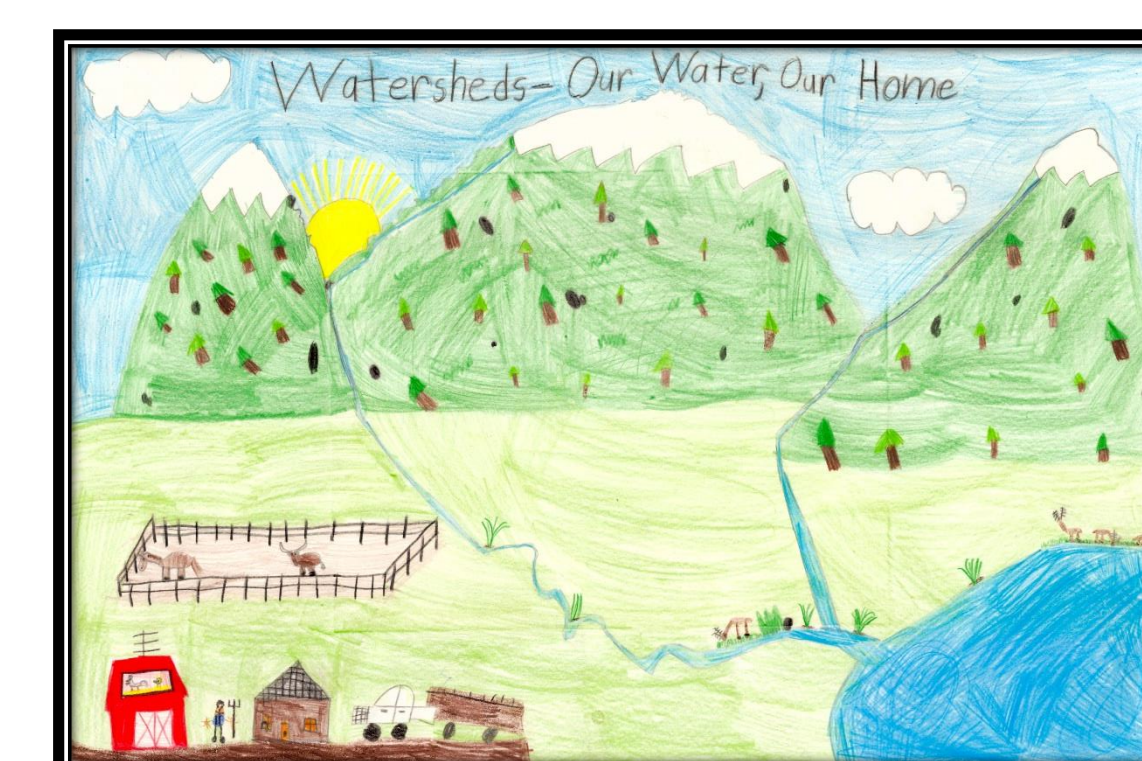


The ECD provides continuing education scholarships to Eureka High School students who are interested in agriculture or natural resource fields of study, (other fields of study are allowed). Scholarships are made available to any students who meet the required criteria and are enrolled in college or have plans to attend college after graduating from high school.



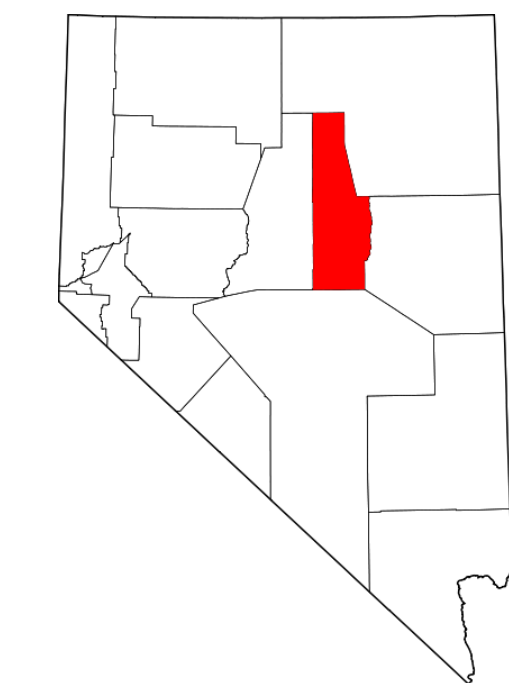
Poster Contest

Every year, the ECD provides a presentation at the Eureka Elementary School, Crescent Valley Elementary School and to the Pine Valley students on the theme which is provided by the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD). The most recent theme presented was "Watersheds- Our water, Our home!". Students are educated on what the theme means in order to help them depict/draw the theme on their poster. For many years, Newmont Mining Corporation has graciously sponsored the contest with cash prizes. The winning posters from the local competition are forwarded onto the Nevada Association of Conservation Districts (NvACD) state poster contest for a chance to win more cash prizes.



Weed Control District

The Eureka County Board of Commissioners, through the authority granted in SB 276, designated the ECD Board of Supervisors to become the Weed Control District Board of Directors in January 2016. While the budgeting for the Weed District falls under the Board of Commissioners, ECD has directed the work completed under the Weed District. Many thousands of dollars and hundreds of hours were devoted to weed control since ECD took the helm over the Weed District; mostly through contract spraying, herbicide distribution to landowners, and provided technical assistance. The ECD is currently working through a multi-year agreement with BLM.



Diamond Valley Groundwater Management Plan (DVGMP)

The ECD has been participating in and facilitating the development of the DVGMP in order to better understand alternatives for the water issues being faced in Diamond Valley (DV). DV is over pumped resulting in a water table decline and unsustainable use. Two-thirds of the population of Eureka County derives their water from DV and DV hosts roughly 200 center-pivots and contributes millions of dollars to the local economy. The DVGMP is now completed. The call for signed petitions happened in August of 2018 and it was determined that the majority of signatures by permit holders had been met. The State Engineer then reviewed the plan and scheduled a hearing in October 2018 to receive testimony. In January 2019, the State Engineer released Order #1302 Granting Petition for adoption of the DVGMP.



DV-GMP Meeting 2018