

# RESOURCE ASSESSMENTS

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# STRATEGIC & FINANCIAL PLAN

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- **LOCAL NATURAL RESOURCE ASSESSMENT AND PLANNING**
- **Conservation Strategy I.I:**
- **Local Resource Assessments and Conservation Strategies**
- **Conservation Districts** will work with local partners and stakeholders to develop or update local Conservation Needs Assessments (CNAs), and develop Natural Resource Conservation Strategies that address the **local conservation priorities** and the needs of their cooperators for conserving soil, water, and related resources within their District.

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- CNAs/RNAs serve as the **first step** to identify the resource concerns that need to be addressed in the protection and conservation of the natural resources within a District and/or watershed. It is the foundation for the **Conservation Action Plan** for the district(s). The Conservation Action Plan charts the direction of a conservation district for a **five- to ten-year period**, and can dually serve as the **Long-Range Plan** and assist in the development of the **Annual Plan of Work** required by the Arizona State Land Department. Within the Long-Range Conservation Action Plan, specific Conservation Implementation Strategies (CIS) can be developed to target high priority conservation needs.

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- A CNA is the foundation for carrying out Federal programs such as those delivered by NRCS. From a resource concern identification standpoint, CNAs may also be used to assist partners in implementing the Clean Water Act, the Safe Drinking Water Act, the **Endangered Species Act**, as well as many state, tribal, and local programs that provide assistance to private landowners and land managers.

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- CNAs are dynamic documents and should be revised and refined as additional information and updated data become available.
- Knowing the issues is the first step, but a dynamic plan will allow us to evaluate how our conservation work has addressed those issues and if we need to adjust course to reach the desired outcomes

# RESOURCE NEEDS ASSESSMENT AGREEMENT

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- Program Development & Implementation
- \$1.5 million-dollar agreement over five years in partnership with NRCS
- Front loaded with \$400,000 additional funds added as progress occurs
- AACD & Districts
  - \$2.3 million-dollar AACD match
  - \$598,000 District match

# STATUTORY AUTHORITIES

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- 37-1054. Powers of district
- A. This state recognizes the special expertise of the districts in the fields of land, soil, water and natural resources management within the boundaries of the district. A district is empowered to:
  - I. Conduct surveys, investigations and research relating to the character of the soil, soil erosion prevention within a farm or ranch, methods of cultivation, farm and range practices, seeding, eradication of noxious growths and any other measures that will aid farm and range operations, disseminate information pertaining thereto, and carry on research programs with or without the cooperation of this state or its agencies or the United States or its agencies.

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- 37-1054. Powers of district
  - 6. Develop, publish and bring to the attention of landowners within the district comprehensive plans for the conservation of soil and water resources within the district that specify in such detail as may be feasible the acts, procedures, performances and avoidances necessary or desirable for the effectuation of the plans.



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- 37-1054. Powers of district
  - 11. d) Conducting or sponsoring scientific studies that affect natural resources in this state.

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- 37-1054. Powers of district
  - 8. Employ agents, engineers, attorneys or other employees not readily available from existing state agencies.