

Natural Resources Conservation Program Highlights



South Dakota Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources Division of Resource Conservation & Forestry

Our mission is to protect and preserve South Dakota's agriculture, environment, and natural resources through effective regulatory services, natural resource conservation, and financial and technical assistance.

Executive Summary

Coordinated Natural Resources Conservation Fund

The Coordinated Natural Resources Conservation Fund was established by the State Legislature in 1992 to implement goals and objectives identified in the South Dakota Coordinated Plan for Natural Resources Conservation. The plan targets reduction of soil erosion, improvement of rangelands, improvement of water quality and quantity, enhancement of wildlife habitat, increased public awareness of natural resources, funding, and use of renewable energy.

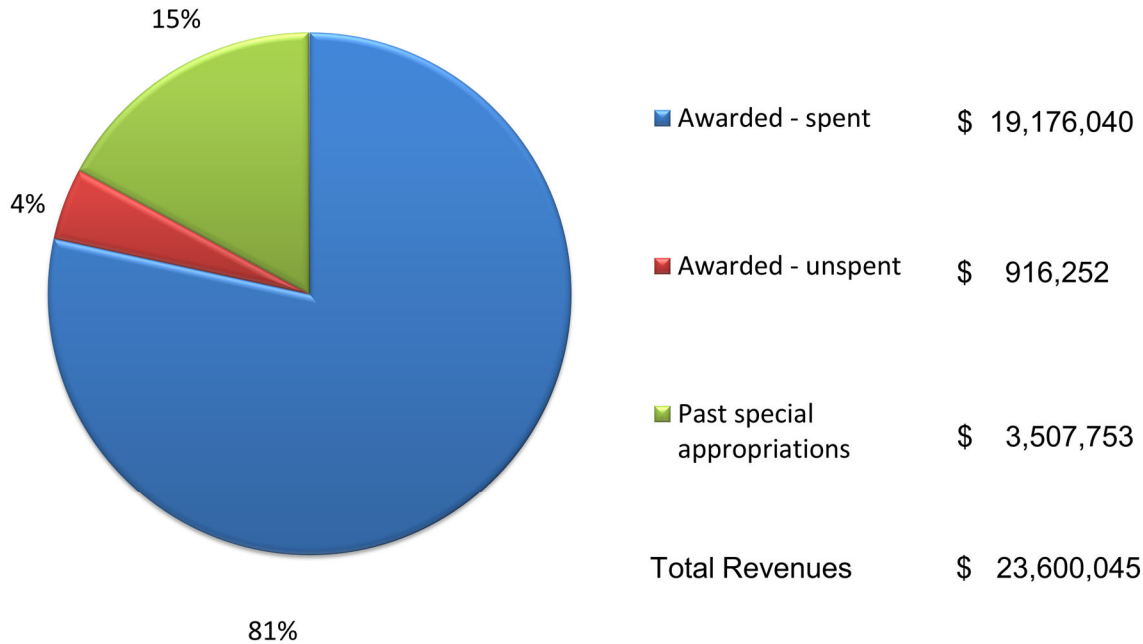
Funding for the Coordinated Natural Resources Conservation Fund is provided by state law SDCL 10-47B-149. This law states \$500,000 will be deposited into the Coordinated Natural Resources Conservation Fund on July 1 of each year.

The Coordinated Natural Resources Conservation Fund is used to provide cost share grants to South Dakota conservation districts. Grant applications are reviewed, approved, and awarded by the State Conservation Commission. The Division of Resource Conservation and Forestry administers conservation programs on behalf of the state and the Conservation Commission.

1993—2024 Fund Disbursements and Revenue

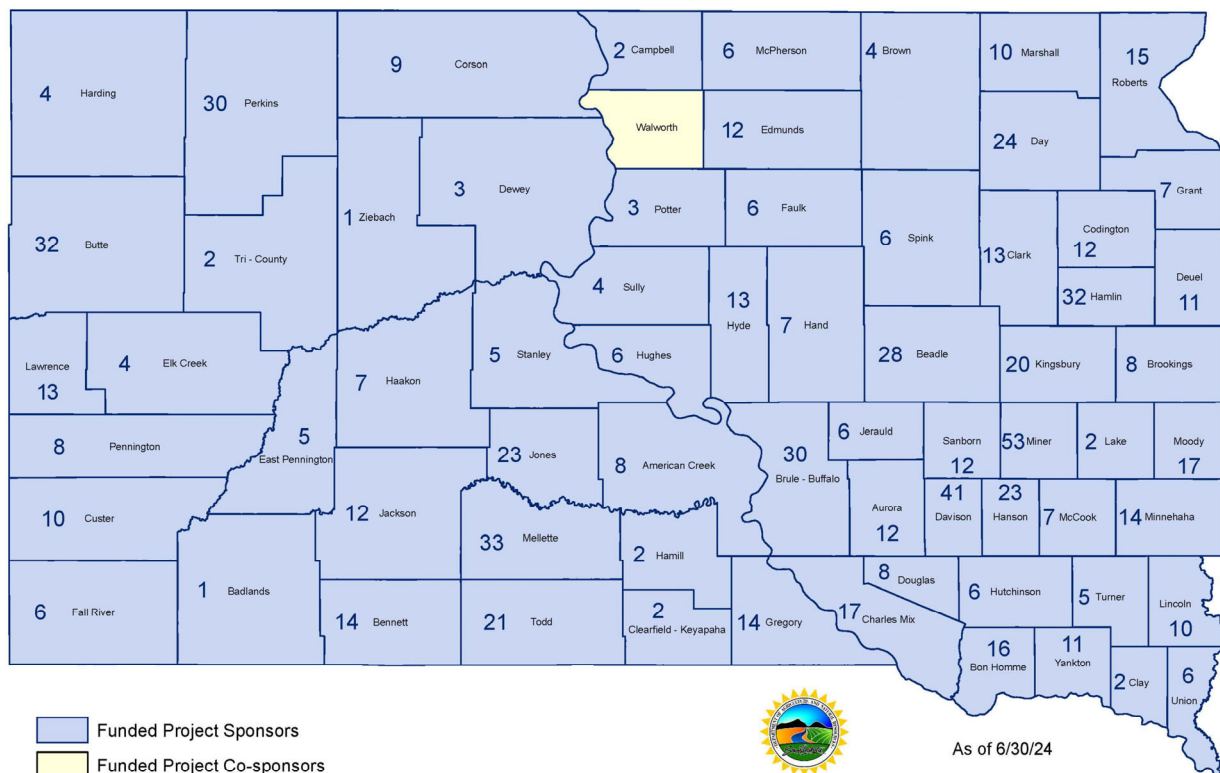
- 825 projects funded since 1993
- \$25,144,902.54 awarded to 68 Conservation Districts
- Leveraged \$80,522,456.20 including federal, local, and other funds
- Every \$1 of conservation funds was matched by \$3.20 of other funds

Coordinated Natural Resources Conservation Fund



As of 6/30/2024

Conservation District Awarded Program Grants



As of 6/30/24



Shelterbelt Establishment & Renovation

1993—2024 Accomplishments

- 159 cropland projects funded
- 236 rangeland projects funded
- 109 information & education projects funded
- 240 water quality projects funded
- 71 technical assistance projects funded
- 10 forest health & management

Water Quality Improvement



Soil Health & Erosion Control



Information & Education



Rangeland Management



Grants Funded in Calendar Year 2024

The Conservation Commission reviewed 34 grant applications requesting \$747,371.19 during calendar year 2024. As listed below, \$647,160.69 in Coordinated Natural Resource Conservation Grant Funds were awarded to 33 projects and \$45,610.50 in SB 170 Resilient Forest Funds to two projects.

District	Project Name	Conservation Grant Funds	SB 170 Resilient Forest Funds	Match	Total Project
Aurora	Conservation Ed & Awareness	\$ 1,500.00		\$ 1,500.00	\$ 3,000.00
Beadle	Livestock Water	\$ 28,290.00		\$ 65,020.00	\$ 93,310.00
Beadle	Shelterbelt	\$ 8,256.00		\$ 12,934.00	\$ 21,190.00
Bennett	Tree Plantings 2025	\$ 10,444.00		\$ 12,907.00	\$ 23,351.00
Brule Buffalo	Multi County Brush Management	\$ 18,250.00		\$ 18,250.00	\$ 36,500.00
Brule Buffalo	Renovation and Tree Planting	\$ 25,200.00		\$ 29,200.00	\$ 54,400.00
Butte	Multi-County Ditch to Pipe Conversion	\$ 30,000.00		\$ 30,000.00	\$ 60,000.00
Butte	SD Envirothon	\$ 15,500.00		\$ 62,000.00	\$ 77,500.00
Charles Mix	Brush Management	\$ 15,000.00		\$ 15,000.00	\$ 30,000.00
Charles Mix	Shelterbelts	\$ 10,000.00		\$ 10,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
Clark	Tree Shelterbelt	\$ 11,825.50		\$ 22,694.00	\$ 34,519.50
Codington	2025 Promotion Grant	\$ 2,000.00		\$ 2,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
Corson	Tree Planting Grant	\$ 1,265.75		\$ 1,173.75	\$ 2,439.50
Custer	Thinning for a Resilient Forest	\$ 61,200.00		\$ 61,200.00	\$ 122,400.00
Davison	Multi County Brush Management	\$ 40,000.00		\$ 40,000.00	\$ 80,000.00
Davison	Awareness & Outreach Activities Grant	\$ 1,500.00		\$ 1,500.00	\$ 3,000.00
Davison	Microirrigation Grant	\$ 2,000.00		\$ 2,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
Davison	DCD Tree Planting	\$ 10,000.00		\$ 10,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
Day	Prairie Coteau Watershed Project	\$ 10,000.00		\$ 413,940.00	\$ 423,940.00
Dewey	Dewey County Tree Grant	\$ 11,201.89		\$ 11,808.83	\$ 23,010.72
Douglas	Tree & Fabric Project	\$ 17,000.00		\$ 17,000.00	\$ 34,000.00
Edmunds	Conservation Education	\$ 1,500.00		\$ 1,500.00	\$ 3,000.00
Fall River	Forest Resiliency Project	\$ 15,000.00		\$ 17,100.00	\$ 32,100.00
Hamlin	2025 Tree Plantings	\$ 8,975.00		\$ 12,580.00	\$ 21,555.00
Hyde	Hyde/Faulk Enhancement Project Phase	\$ 28,273.50		\$ 30,200.00	\$ 58,473.50
Kingsbury	Conservation for Everyone!	\$ 49,000.00		\$ 50,000.00	\$ 99,000.00
Lake	Improving Soil Health by Conservation	\$ 15,000.00		\$ 15,000.00	\$ 30,000.00
Lawrence	Thinning for a Forest Health Project	\$ 145,530.58	\$ 21,469.42	\$ 167,000.00	\$ 334,000.00
Miner	Conservation Education	\$ 2,550.00		\$ 2,550.00	\$ 5,100.00
Miner	Pollinator Plantings	\$ 1,650.00		\$ 1,650.00	\$ 3,300.00
Miner	SDACDE Prooting Conservation in 2025	\$ 8,000.00		\$ 8,000.00	\$ 16,000.00
Pennington	Thinning for Forest Health	\$ 21,858.92	\$ 24,141.08	\$ 46,000.00	\$ 92,000.00
Perkins	NWA Tree Planting	\$ 19,389.55		\$ 46,973.31	\$ 66,362.86
Total		\$ 647,160.69	\$ 45,610.50	\$ 1,238,680.89	\$ 1,931,452.08

For more information, please contact Paul Lorenzen at 605.773.4047 or Paul.Lorenzen@state.sd.us