

***Eastern Plains Resource
Conservation and Development
Area, Inc.***

Annual Plan of Work

Fiscal Year 2007

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EASTERN PLAINS RC&D 2007 ANNUAL PLAN OF WORK

OBJECTIVE 1 – Help with business and industry development, retention and expansion, including value-added agriculture

Goal 1 - Assist with MonDak regional efforts to develop new irrigation

Action Item	Contact	Responsible Party	Target Date	% Completion	Remarks
1. Assist conservation districts by promoting new irrigation projects using reserved water rights and the Montana DNRC loan and grant program for irrigation development	Coordinator Pat Riley-DNRC	Coordinator	ongoing		

Goal 2 - Improve visibility and utilization of RC&D and other programs available in eastern Montana

Action Item	Contact	Responsible Party	Target Date	% Completion	Remarks
1. Eastern Plains RC&D website improvement, update and maintenance	Administrative Assistant		ongoing		
2. Meet with six conservation districts on EPRC&D projects and activities	Conservation Districts	Exec Board or Coordinator	9/07		
3. Meet with six county commissioners on RC&D assistance and programs	County Commissioners	Exec Board or Coordinator	9/07		
4. Meet with six city/town councils on RC&D assistance and programs	City/Town Councils	Exec Board or Coordinator	9/07		
5. Publish four newsletters per year	Administrator	Staff	9/07		
6. Assist in planning "Gateway to Opportunity," a regional economic development forum	GTO Committee	Coordinator & Staff	01/07		
7. Provide training of executive board members, new staff persons, and council members relating to responsibilities and duties	Executive Board	Chairman	4/07		

Goal 3 – Improve business climate

Action Item	Contact	Responsible Party	Target Date	% Completion	Remarks
1. Support EPRC&D area endowment with the Montana Community Foundation a. Endowment Dinner at RC&D Annual Meeting	EPRC&D Executive Board	Staff	1/31/07		
2. Seek funding for community project startup grants a. Search for foundation grants b. Search for corporate funding c. Big Sky Economic Development Program	EPRC&D Executive Board	Staff and Council	ongoing		
3. Coordinate with SBDCs, Montana Department of Commerce and other state, regional and local entities in assisting existing businesses in the area.	EPRC&D and CRDC	CRDC and SEMDC-SBDC GNDC-SBDC	9/07		
4. Hold one Inventors Workshop in eastern Montana	EPRC&D and CRDC	CRDC, GNDC, U of MT, SBIR, MMEC	7/07		
5. Implement the Revolving Loan Fund for SE Mt. CRDC Area in cooperation with SE Mt. Development Corporation.	EP RC&D and Council	Coordinator And CRDC	2/07		
6. Assist with the development of Community Scale Project in the Savage Area.	Tod Kasten and Gene Buxcel	Coordinator	7/07		

Goal 4 – Promote cooperation and alliances for marketing and adding value to crops and developing alternative energy sources

Action Item	Contact	Responsible Party	Target Date	% Completion	Remarks
1. Provide technical assistance and three meetings for groups promoting conventional and alternative crops to add value & market existing agricultural products and new ideas	Local Economic Development Committee	Coordinator and Assistant Coordinator	ongoing		
2. Participate in and co-sponsor the MonDak Ag Open and Tour for northeast Montana	MonDak Irrigation Coalition	Coordinator and Assist. Coordinator	8/07		
3. Locate potential wind energy sites in eastern Montana to monitor wind resources for wind energy development.	Wind Energy Volunteer and Coordinator	Volunteer and Coordinator	9/07		
4. Assist with the development of Eastern Montana Wind energy projects.	Coordinator and CRDC	Coordinator and CRDC	8/07		
5. Promote beef marketing and new dairy potential for Eastern Mt.	Dick Iversen	Dick Iversen	9/07		
6. Assist northeast Montana group in developing an ethanol production facilities in eastern Montana	Coordinator and Assist. Coordinator	Assistant Coordinator	9/07		
7. Assist MSU-EARC with CDBG and GTA grants to support ethanol related small grain research. Assist with their Bio-diesel pilot plant.	Dr. Jerry Bergman and Dr. Charles Flynn	Staff	8/07		
8. Support and promote 4th Annual Energy Open in Colstrip	SEMDC	Coordinator	6/07		
9. Assist Big Sky Diesel of Glendive with their bio-diesel plant efforts.	Coordinator and Dawson County EDC	Coordinator and Dawson County EDC	9/07		
10. Assist STI 6 (Jerry and Mike Bergman) in efforts to develop an oil seed refinery in Sidney area.	Coordinator and Assist. Coordinator	Coordinator and Assist. Coordinator	8/07		
11. Assist in the development of SE Mt. forest biomass for different uses.	Coordinator	S.E. MT. Bio-Mass Task Force	8/07		

OBJECTIVE 2 – Assist groups working through consensus for conserving, developing and managing natural resources

Goal 1 – Encourage resource management process and recycling

Action Item	Contact	Responsible Party	Target Date	% Completion	Remarks
1. Assist Lower Missouri Coordinated Resource Management Council in planning and seeking grants for Lower Missouri River projects	Lyn Guenther	Assistant Coordinator	ongoing		
2. Assist Glendive Yellowstone Recycling Program	Bruce Smith	Bruce Smith	ongoing		

OBJECTIVE 3 – Help local organizations and government identify needs and seek grants for addressing infrastructure needs

Goal 1 - Improve rural infrastructure; i.e., roads and bridges, water systems, fire protection

Action Item	Contact	Responsible Party	Target Date	% Completion	Remarks
1. Support effort to pave highway 323 in Carter County	Transportation Committee	Coordinator	ongoing		
2. Assist Dry Redwater Rural Water Project in eastern Montana	Tod Kasten	Staff	ongoing		

OBJECTIVE 4 – Help local communities assess housing needs and provide programs for assistance

Goal 1 - Provide rural housing assistance in eastern Montana

Action Item	Contact	Responsible Party	Target Date	% Completion	Remarks
1. Cooperate with Neighborhood Housing Services of Great Falls on the statewide homebuyer program	EPRC&D Executive Board	Khrystye Earle and Coordinator	ongoing		
2. Complete 12 homebuyer education classes per year.	Local Lenders, Realtors, USDA-RD	Khrystye Earle, H.B. Assistant	ongoing		
3. Maintain funding for part-time housing assistant for our First-Time Homebuyer Education Program.	Executive Board	Coordinator	9/07		

4. Meet with Shelia Rice of NHS of Great Falls on our homebuyer education program for eastern Montana	Executive Board	Housing Education Assistant, Coordinator	11/07		
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OBJECTIVE 5 – Assist eastern Montana residents ready, willing and able to deal with local issues on a regional scale

Goal 1 - Expand local leadership

Action Item	Contact	Responsible Party	Target Date	% Completion	Remarks
1. Assist three economic development groups in holding organizational meetings and planning	County EDCs	Coordinator	ongoing		
2. Provide information to individuals and groups on grant availability and review proposals	Mike Carlson	Coordinator	ongoing		
3. Complete EDA-CEDS planning for six counties (Carter, Dawson, Fallon, Prairie, Richland, and Wibaux) utilizing CDBG/EDA funding	John Rogers, EDA	Cal Oraw, CRDC	9/07		
4. Serve as a Montana Certified Regional Development Corporation for five counties (Carter, Dawson, Fallon, Prairie, and Wibaux) and provide technical and planning assistance to entrepreneurs	EPRC&D Executive Board	Cal Oraw, CRDC	ongoing		
5. Cooperate with Northwest Area Foundation Horizon Leadership Training Program	Peggy Iba	Horizon Leadership Committee	ongoing		

APPROVED:

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