



NEVADA STATE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Natural
Resources
Conservation
Service

Nevada
Fact Sheet
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What is the State Technical Committee?

Established by the 1985 Food Security Act, State Technical Committees (STEC's) provide recommendations to NRCS to carry out the conservation provisions of the Farm Bill. Although STEC's have no implementation or enforcement authority, their recommendations are given strong consideration by USDA.

Roles and Responsibilities

The STEC provides advice and input to NRCS on many issues, including:

- State program management policies and procedures
- Technical programmatic recommendations
- Statewide public information and outreach campaigns
- Identifying significant statewide natural resource concerns
- Guidelines for developing ranking criteria for evaluating applications
- Guidance on eligible conservation practices
- Technical guidance on conservation practices, including new and innovative practices
- Cost share rates and incentive payment limits and methods of payment
- Identifying, monitoring, and analyzing performance indicators
- Evaluating and reporting program impacts on natural resources and the environment
- Coordinating with other Federal, State, Tribal, and local public and private activities

State Technical Committee Membership

The State Conservationist chairs the STEC. In Nevada, membership is comprised of individuals who represent a variety of natural resource interests and occupations, including:

- Agricultural producers with demonstrable conservation expertise
- Nonprofit organizations with demonstrable conservation expertise
- Federally recognized American Indian Reservations encompassing 100,000 acres or more
- People knowledgeable about conservation techniques
- Agricultural groups, organizations, and businesses
- Other agency personnel with expertise in soil, water, wetlands, and habitat

Meetings

The State Conservationist is responsible for scheduling and conducting STEC meetings. A STEC meeting may be requested by any USDA agency, as needed, and public attendance is permitted. In notifying the public, the State Conservationist is to publish a meeting notice:

- No later than 14 days prior to the meeting, unless this 14-day minimum is exceeded by State open meeting laws.
- In at least one or more newspaper(s), including Tribal publications, in an attempt to attain statewide circulation.

For More Information

Contact the Natural Resources Conservation Service office or your local conservation district for more information. The NRCS office is listed in the telephone book under U.S. Government, U.S. Department of Agriculture. Or, visit us on the Web at www.nv.nrcs.usda.gov.