



## HEREFORD CONSERVATION DISTRICT

**Chair:** John Ladd

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**Legislative District:** 14

**Congressional District:** 2      **Acres:** 594,538

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## 2020 Accomplishments

There were many difficulties encountered in 2020 because of SARS-CoV-2 restrictions. However, the Board of Supervisors kept abreast of local programs by attending meetings of organizations such as Arizona Association of Conservation Districts, Fort Huachuca Sentinel Landscape Restoration Partnership, Upper San Pedro Partnership, and Cochise Conservation and Recharge Network.

The Board maintained monthly meetings via conference and face-to-face when able to do so. Representatives from various government agencies attended the regular monthly meetings to keep the Board up-to-date on their activities. These include: Natural Resource Conservation Service, Bureau of Land Management, United States Forest Service, Arizona Game and Fish Department, and Arizona Department of Environmental Quality. Programs available for landowner assistance change regularly, as do the required qualifications necessary to obtain assistance. Cooperators contacted the Board when they needed help or required information on how to apply for programs.

Also, In 2020, one of the District's biggest endeavors was to continue to reach out to the non-producing property owners with smaller acreages to ascertain their conservation resource concerns. The aim of the Board is to not only find out the concerns and needs, but also to reach out to multiple agencies in hopes of finding funding assistance for projects. To assist in this effort, the Board appointed Ivette and Chuck Cunningham as Small Acreage Landowner Advisors.



### **Key Partners:**

University of Arizona Extension Service, Natural Resource Conservation Service, Tombstone High School Future Farmers of America, Arizona State Land Department, National Association of Conservation Districts

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## Education Center

The Hereford NRC (HNRC) Board believes in a diversified use of its education funds as best use of our public money and for future funding opportunities. Unlike in 2019 when the District was able to sponsor two well-attended workshops featuring monitoring rangelands with drone imagery and soil health and sustainability, a planned Wildlife Attractor's Workshop was postponed to a later date in 2021. Workshops are generally free and open to the public. Workshop subject matter are planned in response to HNRC surveys.

The Board continued to support the Tombstone High School Future Farmers of America while reaching out to the San Pedro Spirits 4-H Club which serves the communities of Sierra Vista, Whetstone, Hereford, and Palominas. The costs associated with raising and producing quality livestock are daunting to many small operations. SARS-CoV-2 changed the way we reach out and communicate our mission to work together to enhance our natural resources. The HNRC is finding ways with our partners to get students, the public, and our Cooperators involved in agriculture, science, and leadership.

## MORE WORK TO DO

- Support Tombstone High School Ag/FFA and local 4-H programs to provide extra funding for the agriculture and FFA programs so the students can accomplish classroom and outdoor activities that they would otherwise be unable to do. For instance, required clothing assistance, equipment and livestock assistance.

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