

2007

VIRGIN ISLANDS RC&D COUNCIL

PLAN OF WORK


Council President

11/9/06
DATE


State Conservationist

1/4/07
DATE

Virgin Islands RC&D verifies that this FY 2007 Plan addresses the Chief's Priorities and local area needs.

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VISION

Balancing Growth & Development with a Quality Environment

MISSION

To enhance the quality of life for the people of the Virgin Islands Resource Conservation and Development Area through the conservation of natural and cultural resources and the stimulation of growth and development.

GOAL A: PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY						
ELEMENT	OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIES	PROJECTS	Target Date	Key People	Accomplishments
Community Development	A1	Inform at least 500 producers, youth and adults about local and federal agricultural & forestry assistance programs, sustainable agriculture & forestry practices, and varied career opportunities in agriculture & natural resources by 2008.				
	A1a	Deliver information on VIRC&D and USDA conservation projects, programs and assistance to at least 500 youth & adults at annual Fairs and Conferences by 2008.				
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2006 St. Thomas-St. John Agriculture & Food Fair Display* 	11/30/06		
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2007 St. Croix Agriculture & Food Fair Display* 	02/28/07		
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agriculture Career Field Day – St. Croix 	06/30/07	MTM, EC, DC, RH, MF, DJ	
Community Development	A2	Improve sustainability of at least 75 local agriculture, forestry and/or seafood producers' businesses through training and outreach programs by 2008.				
	A2a	Educate at least 50 producers regarding agricultural productivity, marketing, safety & business practices and alternative agriculture enterprises by 2008.				
Community Development	A3	Provide support to at least 25 local artisans/businesses that produce / market locally-made products to improve their technical, business & marketing skills by 2008.				
	A3a	Sponsor at least 15 local artisans' travel to regional &/or national woodturners / forestry conferences to receive training & network w/ regional and national colleagues.				
	A3b	Promote forest-based products use & businesses by educating at least 100 youth & adults by 2008.				
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assist w/ Annual Wood Worker's Expo – St. Thomas 	12/31/06	LP	VICA grant proposal submitted
Land Management	A4	Provide sustainable agriculture & forestry practice training to 30% of VI farmers / forest property owners by 2008.				
	A4a	Provide sustainable agriculture practice training to 100 active / potential farmers by 2008.				

GOAL B		PROMOTE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION				
ELEMENT	OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIES	PROJECTS	Target Date	Key People	Accomplishments
Land Conservation / Water Management	B1	Increase use of recommended soil & water conservation practices (BMPs) by 2008.				
Land Conservation	B1a	Install at least three (3) erosion & sediment control BMP demonstration projects by 2008.				
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Install soil & water conservation BMPs in East End Bay watershed, St. Croix 	09/30/07	OD	On-going; scope change from CZM	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct Rapid Watershed Assessment in Coral Bay, St. John 	09/30/07	SColdren	Requested NRCS assistance approved	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Install rain garden demonstration project – St. Croix 	09/30/07	DC	\$ reprogrammed from completed 319 grants	
Land Conservation / Water Management	B1b	Provide soil & water conservation and pollution prevention practice training to at least 100 farmers, contractors, regulators & inspectors by 2008.				
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct Pond Construction Training – St. Thomas 	09/30/07	BMS	Requested NRCS assistance approved	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sponsor downlink of “Stormwater Management in Extreme Climates” Satellite Conference in St. Croix. 	10/31/06	MT	No funds necessary, partnering with CES	

GOAL C		IMPROVE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY				
ELEMENT	OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIES	PROJECTS	Target Date	Key People	Accomplishments
Land / Water Management	C1	Promote use of recommended beautification, urban forestry & habitat protection/enhancement practices.				
Land Management	C1a	Conduct 5 environmental enhancement & beautification projects by 2008.				
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secure funds for Est. Adventure Nature Trail expansion & maintenance, St. Croix 	09/30/07	OD, Crossman	To request funds from UCFAP; Am. Hiking Soc.
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Native Plant Propagation – Jacks & Isaacs Bay, St. Croix 	09/30/07	PC, EC, RH, MC, CCB, OD	\$25K from TNC; to seek CIG funds
Water Management	C1b	Enhance and/or restore 3 miles of shoreline and/or riparian area by 2008.				
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secure funds for Est. Adventure gut restoration 	09/30/07	OD, EC	Requested funds from GMP; to request funds from UCFAP
Land Management	C2	Increase general environmental awareness amongst 20% of VI youth & adult population by 2008.				
	C2a	Provide environmental / natural resource education to 1000 V.I. youth by 2008.				
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2007 GA Natural Resources Conservation Workshop 	09/30/07	EC, LP	
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secure funds to support VINE – VI Network of Environmental Educators 	09/30/07	SCurtis, EB, DO	Seeking alternate funding source [CFVI?]
	C2b	Distribute V.I. – specific environmental information / data to 1000 youth & adults by 2008.				
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Produce 8 quarterly NPS Newsletters* 	01/30/07	MT	On-going, 2 more newsletters to produce
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Produce signs, ed & outreach materials for St. Croix East End Marine Park* 	09/30/07	CK	On-going; awaiting rules & regs signature by Gov.
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct quarterly “Environmental Seminar Series” 	09/30/07	LM	

		GOAL D ENHANCE VI COMMUNITY & CULTURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT					
ELEMENT	OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIES	PROJECTS	Target Date	Key People	Accomplishments	
Community Development	D1	Improve leadership / nonprofit operation capabilities of at least 100 community group, NGO & local government representatives by 2008.					
	D1a	Conduct at least 3 workshops to improve the fund-raising and grants/project management skills of at least 150 Virgin Islanders by 2008.					
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct Council Member Training in conjunction w/ 2006 Annual Meeting 	12/30/06	LM, LP	NARCDC staff to conduct training	
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct Project Evaluation Workshop 	09/30/07	EB	To seek assistance from NOAA-CSC	
	D1b	Provide technical assistance and resources to at least 100 Council members, community groups & local government personnel to broaden access to available funding and program information by 2008.					
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide access to GrantStation Insider resources to Council members* 	09/30/07	CCB		
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide technical assistance to VIWMA to secure funds to construct a Yard Waste Composting Facility on St. Croix 	09/30/07	DO, EC, LP	To seek USDA-RD funds	
Internal	D2	Increase Council visibility, membership & resources by 15% by 2008.					
	D2a	Establish VIRC&D web presence & e-operations by 2005.					
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to maintain & update VIRC&D website 				
	D2b	Develop at least 5 new Council promotional publications & distribute to at least 1000 community leaders/members.					
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Produce FY2006 Annual Report 	12/31/06	MTM		
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop "What is VIRC&D?" Powerpoint presentation for delivery at community organization meetings 	09/30/07	EB		
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop VIRC&D 2008-2012 Area Plan w/ public input 	09/30/07	LP, EC, MTM, DJ		

* - denotes ongoing annual projects

SCHEDULE OF VIRC&D MEETINGS

Period: 10/1/06-9/30/07

Annual Business Meeting – Friday, December 8, 2006

Board of Directors Meetings:

1:30 – 3:30 p.m. teleconference meeting between USDA Service Center Conference Room, St. Croix & UVI Marine Science Conference Room, St. Thomas

- November 9, 2006
- January 17, 2007
- March 6, 2007
- May 1, 2007
- July 10, 2007
- September 25, 2007

St. Croix District Committee Meetings:

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. in the USDA Service Center Conference Room, St. Croix

- December 20, 2006
- March 14, 2007
- June 13, 2007
- September 12, 2007

St. Thomas – St. John District Committee Meetings:

3:00 – 5:00 p.m. in the UVI Marine Science Conference Room, St. Thomas, w/ teleconference to St. John Administrator's Office

- November 22, 2007
- March 7, 2007
- June 6, 2007
- September 5, 2007

Virgin Islands RC&D Council Area Plan:

Vision: Balancing growth and development with a quality environment.

Mission: To enhance the quality of life for the people of the Virgin Islands Resource Conservation and Development Area through the conservation of natural and cultural resources and the stimulation of growth and development.

Goal A: PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY

Objectives [Strategies](#)

A1 – Inform at least 500 producers, youth and adults about local and federal agricultural & forestry assistance programs, sustainable agriculture & forestry practices, and varied career opportunities in agriculture & natural resources by 2008.

A1a [Deliver information on VIRC&D and USDA conservation projects, programs and assistance to at least 500 youth & adults at annual Fairs and Conferences by 2008.](#)

A2 – Improve sustainability of at least 75 local agriculture, forestry and/or seafood producers' businesses through training and outreach programs by 2008.

A2a [Educate at least 50 producers regarding agricultural productivity, marketing, safety & business practices and alternative agriculture enterprises by 2008.](#)

A3 – Provide support to at least 25 local artisans/businesses that produce / market locally-made products to improve their technical, business & marketing skills by 2008.

A3a [Sponsor at least 15 local artisans' travel to regional &/or national woodturners / forestry conferences to receive training & network w/ regional and national colleagues.](#)

A3b [Promote forest-based products use & businesses by educating at least 100 youth & adults by 2008.](#)

A4 – Provide sustainable agriculture & forestry practice training to 30% of VI farmers / forest property owners by 2008.

A4a [Provide sustainable agriculture practice training to 100 active / potential farmers by 2008.](#)

Goal B: PROMOTE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION

Objectives [Strategies](#)

B1 – Increase use of recommended soil & water conservation practices (BMPs) by 2008.

B1a [Install at least three \(3\) erosion & sediment control BMP demonstration projects by 2008.](#)

B1b [Provide soil & water conservation and pollution prevention practice training to at least 100 farmers, contractors, regulators & inspectors by 2008.](#)

Goal C: **IMPROVE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**

Objectives Strategies

- C1 – Promote use of recommended beautification, urban forestry & habitat protection/enhancement practices.
 - C1a Conduct 5 environmental enhancement & beautification projects by 2008.
 - C1b Enhance and/or restore 3 miles of shoreline and/or riparian area by 2008.
- C2 – Increase general environmental awareness amongst 20% of VI youth & adult population by 2008.
 - C2a Provide environmental / natural resource education to 1000 V.I. youth by 2008.
 - C2b Distribute V.I. – specific environmental information / data to 1000 youth & adults by 2008.

Goal D: **ENHANCE VI COMMUNITY & CULTURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT**

Objectives Strategies

- D1 – Improve leadership / nonprofit operation capabilities of at least 100 community group, NGO & local government representatives by 2008.
 - D1a Conduct at least 3 workshops to improve the fund-raising and grants/project management skills of at least 150 Virgin Islanders by 2008.
 - D1b Provide technical assistance and resources to at least 100 Council members, community groups & local government personnel to broaden access to available funding and program information by 2008.
- D2 – Increase Council visibility, membership & resources by 15% by 2008.
 - D2a Establish VIRC&D web presence & e-operations by 2005.
 - D2b Develop at least 5 new Council promotional materials & distribute to at least 1000 community leaders/members.

New NRCS Required Reporting Items for RC&D's

Watershed or area-wide conservation plans developed, number:	2
Local businesses created or retained in rural communities through RC&D assistance, number:	20
Land & water resources benefited from completed RC&D projects, acres:	0*

**Projects in progress to benefit ~5350 acres of land & water resources, due to be completed in fiscal years 2008 – 2009.*

Virgin Islands RC&D Council FY07 Budget

INCOME		Status of Funding
Fundraising Income		
Grantwriting Net [leftover from previous years]	\$ 10,895.00	Actual
Project Design & Evaluation Training	\$ 1,000.00	Projected
Contributions Income		
Unrestricted as of August 31, 2006	\$ 6,536.00	Actual
Projected Program Fees		
Estate Adventure Gut Restoration [GMP]	\$ 1,190.00	Requested
Estate Adventure Trail Extension [UCFAP]	\$ 1,010.00	To Be Requested
Natural Resources Conservation Wkshp 2007	\$ 1,295.00	To Be Requested
Projected Membership Fees	\$ 1,125.00	Projected
Projected Interest	\$ 1,672.00	Projected
Total Projected Income	\$ 24,723.00	
PROJECTED EXPENSES		
National RC&D Association Dues	\$ 450.00	
Southeast RC&D Association Dues	\$ 150.00	
Internet Access	\$ 600.00	
GrantStation	\$ 269.00	
Website Domain fee	\$ 95.40	
Postage	\$ 200.00	
Regional RC&D Meeting	\$ 4,100.00	
Annual RC&D Meeting	\$ 3,900.00	
Legal Consultation	\$ 1,000.00	
Council Insurance	\$ 1,150.00	
Accounting Service	\$ 3,050.00	
Bookkeeping Service	\$ 2,000.00	
Paper	\$ 200.00	
Printer Ink/Toner	\$ 450.00	
Bank Fees	\$ 48.00	
Miscellaneous	\$ 500.00	
Advertisement	\$ 2,000.00	
Total Projected Expenses	\$ 20,162.40	
Net Gain (Loss)	\$ 4,560.60	