

**Bowman-Slope Conservation District
Natural Resource Policy Plan
Steering Committee**

The Bowman-Slope Soil Conservation District's mission is to educate and assist the public with natural resource conservation. The District is a subdivision of State Government at the County Level. The District has begun the process of preparing and adopting a Natural Resource Policy Plan (NRPP) for the benefit of the citizens of the District, in compliance with state and federal laws and regulations while ensuring that the Constitution of the United States is fully respected. The plan will establish the local government's preferred policies for the planned use, management, protection, and preservation of the natural resources on the federal land within its jurisdiction. These policies will support agricultural concerns; protect private property rights; protect and enhance the customs, cultures, and the economy; protect the tax base; assure the well-being of the people; and provide for the public health, safety, and welfare of the District's citizens.

Purpose of Steering Committee:

A Steering Committee will be developed to provide technical information in their respective field of expertise as well as their general knowledge regarding the community and its customs and culture. The Committee will be working with Camie Janikowski of the Bowman-Slope Soil Conservation District and the consultants hired to help develop this plan, Budd-Falen Law Offices and Y2 Consultants, LLC.

Steering Committee Membership

- Members must be residents of Bowman or Slope County or represent a business or industry with substantial activities located in the District.
- Members will be appointed by the Bowman-Slope Soil Conservation District Board.
- Members are encouraged to seek additional individuals with professional expertise associated with their area of concern (i.e.: natural resources, industries, custom/culture, etc.) to provide technical information.

Term of Commitment:

- Members will serve on this committee through completion of the document which it is estimated will take 12 months to complete.
- Participation is expected to entail approximately 40 to 50 hours over the course of that 12-month time frame.

Process and Responsibilities of Steering Committee Members

- Members are asked to attend all Steering Committee meetings. We anticipate this will be two face to face meetings and potentially a couple of conference calls. In particular, attendance by all Members for conference calls and in person meetings with the consultants will ensure efficient use of their time.
- Communication with the consultants will largely be coordinated by Camie Janikowski.
- Committee Members are expected to provide timely information and feedback on questions regarding the plan to Camie and the consultants throughout the process via email, conference calls, and in person meetings as needed.
- Committee Members will provide the consultants with information and feedback on the plan regarding the customs, culture and socioeconomics of the community, and will assist in identifying resources for additional information.
- Committee Members will work together to prioritize areas of concern to be addressed in the plan.

- Committee Members will work with the consultants to develop draft policy statements that best reflect the values of the community.
- Committee Members will review and provide comments on the first draft of the plan before it is formally provided to the public for comments.
- Committee Members will attend and participate in public scoping meetings after the draft plan is released to secure feedback from the public on the draft plan and its policies.
- Committee Members will work with the consultants to incorporate changes to the plan based on public comment and finalize the plan for presentation to the District Board.
- Committee Members are asked to network with citizens to promote involvement in the development of the plan.

Tentative Timeline:

- July/August 2017 Initial Informational Meeting with consultants and preparation of memorandum of Anticipated Federal Decisions Potentially Impacting the Bowman-Slope Soil Conservation District; selection of Steering Committee; creation of website for public outreach
- August – October 2017 Data gathering and preparation of initial draft plan
- November 2017 - December 2018 Review of initial draft plan by Steering Committee (30 days to review and provide feedback); revision to plan by consultants based on feedback and comments
- January 2018 Release of draft plan to the public and solicit public comment and review for thirty days
- February 2018 Scoping Meetings in North Dakota with consultants for development of policies and feedback from public
- March – April 2018 Incorporation of comments and feedback on policy statements into plan with Steering Committee guidance
- May 2017 Completion of final Natural Resource Policy Plan and formal adoption by Bowman-Slope Soil Conservation District through public process

Members of the Steering Committee:

Vern Brown Brett Hendrickson Randy Gaebe Lynn Brackel Mike Sonsolla
 Wendy Bartholomay Mike Wedlock Levi Paulson Terry Bagley Lyn James