



Tribal Conservation Districts essential planning tools

Core document building

What are management plans TCDs might consider?

- Planning unlocks funding, partnerships, and long-term impact
- There is no single “right” plan — it depends on your goals
- We’ll organize examples by resource focus areas
- Examples include USDA, EPA, BIA, FEMA, State, and partner-supported plans

Framework and approach

Key idea: Agencies organize work around resource concerns (similar to USDA SWAPAEH).

Categories we'll use today:

- Water & Watersheds
- Forestry & Plants
- Agriculture & Food Systems
- Solid Waste & Land Management
- Air, Climate & Energy
- Wildlife & Habitat
- Community / Integrated Planning

"Which of these best matches your community's priorities right now?"



Water and watersheds planning

- **Examples of plans:**
- Watershed Management Plans
- Watershed Restoration Action Plans (WRAPs)
- EPA 9-Element Watershed Plans (Clean Water Act 319)
- Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Plans
- Water Quality Monitoring Plans
- Flood-related Hazard Mitigation Plans
- **Agencies that may support:**
EPA, NRCS, USFWS, NOAA, State agencies, partners
- **Why it matters:**
Supports culverts, erosion control, riparian work, drinking water protection, fish habitat



Forestry & Plants Planning

- **Examples of plans:**
- Forest Stewardship Plans (USFS / State / Tribal / Private lands)
- BIA Forest Management Plans (for trust forest lands)
- Community Forest Management Plans
- Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPPs)
- Invasive Species Management Plans
- Vegetation Management Plans
- **Agencies that may support:**
BIA Forestry, US Forest Service, State Forestry, NRCS, partners

"These often require technical expertise — which can be a real challenge to access."

Agriculture & Food Systems Planning

- **Examples of plans:**
- NRCS Conservation Plans (required for EQIP)
- Farm / Ranch Plans
- Conservation Stewardship Plans (CSP)
- Food Security Plans
- Agriculture Development Plans
- Community garden or agroforestry plans
- **Agencies that may support:**
USDA NRCS, Native American Agriculture Fund, First Nations Development Institute, partners
- **Why it matters:**
Supports food sovereignty, workforce development, infrastructure, and local economies



Solid Waste, Air, Climate & Energy Planning

- **Examples of plans:**
- Tribal Solid Waste Management Plans
- Dump cleanup / site reclamation plans
- Tribal Environmental Plans (ETEPs under EPA GAP)
- Air Quality Monitoring Plans
- Climate Adaptation / Resilience Plans
- Community Energy or Infrastructure Resilience Plans
- **Agencies that may support:**
EPA, BIA Tribal Resilience, DOE, FEMA, USDA, partners

Wildlife, Fish & Habitat Planning

- **Examples of plans:**
 - Fish Habitat Restoration Plans
 - Aquatic Organism (Fish) Passage Plans
 - Habitat Restoration Plans
 - Monitoring & Assessment Plans (fish, wildlife, vegetation)
- **Agencies that may support:**
USFWS, NOAA, State Fish & Game, DOT, EPA, partners
- **Why it matters:**
Supports culvert prioritization, restoration grants, monitoring contracts, stewardship projects

Community & Integrated Planning

- **Examples of plans:**
 - Integrated Resource Management Plans (IRMPs)
 - Comprehensive Community Development Plans (CCDPs)
 - Tribal Strategic Plans
 - Conservation District Work Plans
 - Locally developed stewardship or cultural landscape plans
- **Why it matters:**

These serve as umbrella plans that strengthen grant competitiveness across all sectors

TCDs From Plans to Action

Key messages:

- Planning = eligibility + credibility + readiness
- One good plan can support multiple grants
- Start with community priorities, not just funding
- Partnerships (TCD + Tribe + agencies) make plans stronger

"What type of plan would be most useful for your community in the next 1–2 years?"