

Soil, Water, and Society

A Changing Paradigm

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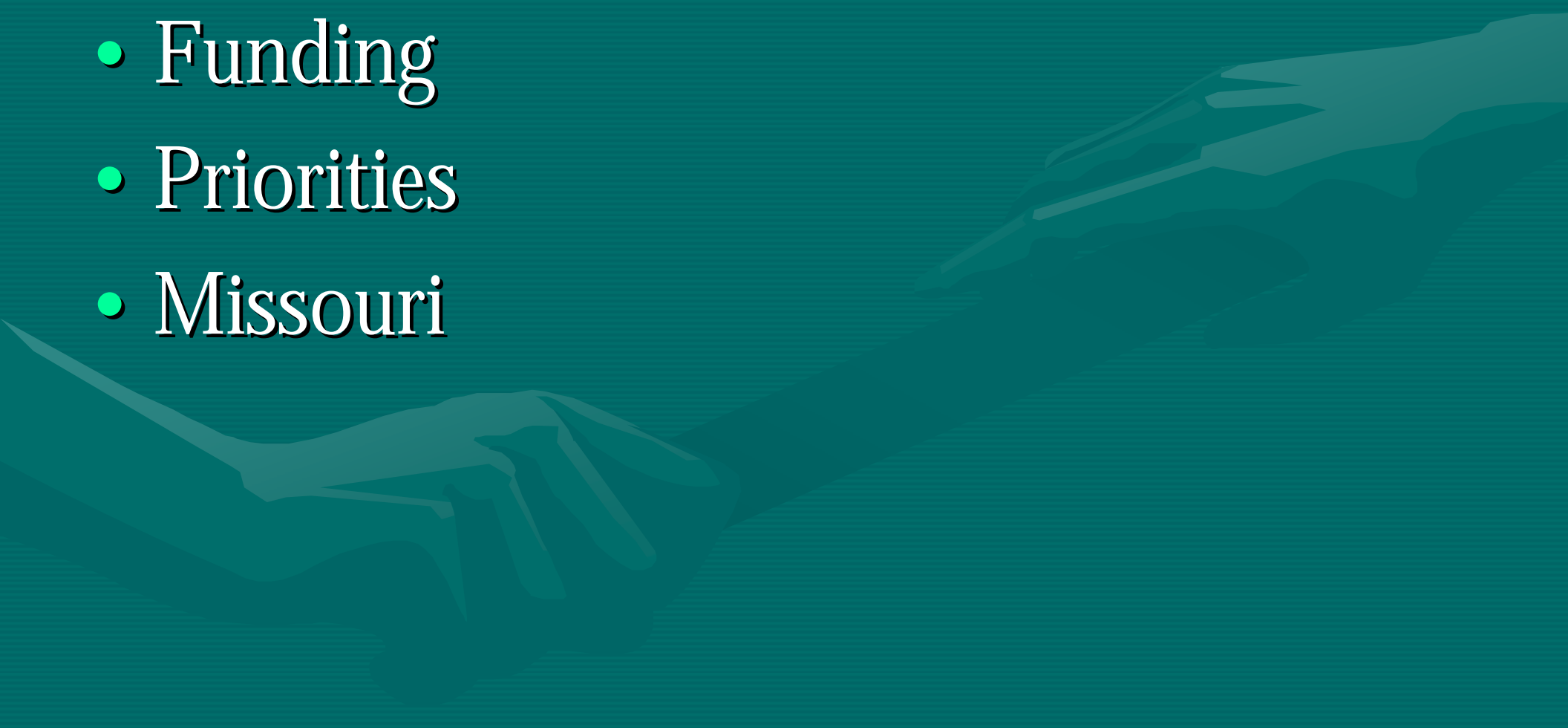
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Overview of:

- Structure
- Funding
- Priorities
- Missouri



A Look At Natural Resources

- What's' in the name?—
 - **“Resource District”**
- Conservation District - Soil Conservation District
- Soil & Water Conservation District
- Watershed District
- Rural Water District
- Flood/Levee Control District
- Timber Management District
- Natural Resource Conservation District

Comparing and Contrasting Structures In Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, Wisconsin, and Missouri

- Common Elements
 - Federal Influence/Agency – NRCS/FSA/Other
 - Resource Conservation & Development Districts
 - Historic Commonality – The Dust Bowl - 1937
 - Local Districts - SWCD
 - State Agency Partner(s)

Iowa Overview

- 1940 first district were
 - Legal subdivision of state government
 - 9 districts formed 1952 all of Iowa was covered by conservation districts

Iowa Cont.

- Governance
 - 5 commissioners elected on a general ballot
- Funding
 - State and Federal partners
- Programming
 - Carry out state laws and programming within district boundaries including:
 - Sediment control
 - Conservation cost sharing
 - Conservation revolving funds
 - Water quality protection projects
 - Resource Enhancement and protection
 - Wetlands programs
 - Conservation Planning

Kansas Overview

- First formed in 1937
- Five districts cover the state
- Political subdivision of state government

Kansas Cont.

- Governance – five locally elected supervisors
- Funding
 - County and state appropriations,
 - Fee Generation
- Programming
 - Ag & urban erosion & sediment control
 - Water quality & quantity
 - Rangeland & pasture management
 - Fish & wildlife habitat
 - Other natural resource concerns

Nebraska Overview

- 1972 – 154 special purpose districts consolidated into 23 Natural Resource Districts
 - “These districts are local government entities with broad responsibilities to protect our natural resources. Major Nebraska river basins for the boundaries, enabling districts to respond best to local needs.”

Nebraska Cont.

- Governance
 - Elected district directors
- Funding
 - Base funding – Property tax, typically 1 – 2 %
- Programming
 - Soil conservation
 - Ground water protection & conservation
 - Others

Wisconsin Overview

- **LCC**

- ● Sets policy and program goals & programs
- ● Provides leadership LCC
- ● Approves the LCD budget budget
- ● Approves the LCD work plans work
- ● Supports the LCD assistance
- ● Advises the county board

LCD

- Admin. LCC policy
- Advises & Informs
- Prepares the LCD
- Prepares the plan of
- Provides technical

Wisconsin Cont.

- Governance
 - LCC & LCD
- Funding
 - State funding mechanism
- Programming
 - Conservation of soil, water, & other natural resources
 - Land use planning & management
 - Management of groundwater
 - Management of wetlands
 - Management of manure & nutrients
 - Managing lakes, forest, & invasive species

Missouri Overview

- Missouri soil & water conservation districts first formed in the early 1940s
- Work closely with their state conservation commission and other partners

Missouri Continued

- Governance
 - Locally elected land owners
- Funding
 - State funding .10% parks & soil sales tax (renewable)
 - Local funding
- Programming
 - Charged with soil erosion/sediment control
 - Water issues
 - Other natural resource Issues

Missouri Studies & Observations

- Dr Sandy Rikoon (1999)

- Survey 1990, 350 returns
 - 1998, 370 returns

• Reducing Soil Erosion	– 1990 71.5 %	1998 78.4%
• Water Quality	14.5%	53.6%
• Grassland & Pasture		36%
• Conservation Education	13%	24.9%
• Flood Control	9%	20%
• Animal Waste	4.5%	16%

- Dr. Steve Jeanetta (2005)

- The nature of the work is changing
 - Land use is different – Development
 - Urban Influence

Missouri's Future

- Urbanization
 - Agricultural land converted to urban
- Ex-urbanization
 - Agricultural land divided into smaller rural tracts
- Changing land use
 - Recreation, episodic use, public ownership
- Other environmental issues
 - Tourism & Water Quality

District Changes

- More flexible programming
- More inclusive local board membership
- Broader environmental perspective
- More flexible funding sources
- Shifting accountability