

United States Department of Agriculture



Natural Resources Conservation Service
P.O. Box 2890
Washington, D.C. 20013

JUL 03 2012

SUBJECT: EOP - Announcing the National Organization of Professional Women in NRCS

TO: All NRCS Employees

File Code: 230-12

I am pleased to announce that the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has a new employee organization, the National Organization of Professional Women in NRCS (WIN). WIN is accepting membership and ready to become fully operational. In this year of the 150th Anniversary of the Department of Agriculture, this is a historic event for women in NRCS and all who support them.

This grassroots effort began in 2009 and through the diligence of several NRCS employees, this organization became a reality. WIN promotes the recruitment, retention, and leadership development of female members, as well as female participation in NRCS programs and services. Their mission is to provide women with training, opportunities, and mentoring to develop into their fullest professional potential. WIN envisions being an enabler assisting members to become high performing, diverse, innovative, and motivated employees who transform the workplace. This will be accomplished by:

- Advocating for a gender diverse workforce and leadership;
- Identifying and resolving barriers to employment, leadership development, and retention of female employees;
- Serving as a liaison to promote greater female participation in NRCS programs and services; and
- Shaping the future of natural resource management.

I encourage all interested employees to join and become active, participating members. Membership in the WIN is open to all regardless of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, sexual orientation, disability, marital status, familial status, or political status.

For more information about WIN, contact the Interim Officers listed on the next page or visit their Web site at www.winnrcs.org or Facebook, www.facebook.com.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dave White". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dave White
Chief

Attachment

Helping People Help the Land

An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer

WIN Interim Officers 2012

<p>Sharyn Alvarez, Co-President National Federal Women's Program Manager and Acting Hispanic Emphasis Program Manager National Headquarters Rosslyn, Virginia</p>	<p>Angela Biggs, Co-President Assistant State Conservationist for Field Operations, Area 5 Charleston, Illinois</p>
<p>Chris Taliga, Co-Vice President Plant Material Specialist Denver State Office Denver, Colorado</p>	<p>Katrina Thompson, Co-Vice President Pennsylvania State Office Management Analyst Harrisburg, Pennsylvania</p>
<p>Wendy Mears, Treasurer Area Administrative Coordinator Smithfield Area Office Smithfield, Virginia</p>	<p>Karin Sonnen, Secretary Rangeland Management Specialist Homer Field Service Center Homer, Alaska</p>