

The background features abstract, overlapping green geometric shapes, primarily triangles and polygons, in various shades of green, creating a dynamic and modern aesthetic. The shapes are layered, with some appearing more prominent than others, and they extend towards the corners of the frame.

# Surviving in a Changing Environment



# Change Happens

- Nationally, RC&D Councils were authorized by Congress in 1962
- Formerly affiliated with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
- Defunded in April 2011 - retained our Congressional Mandate
- While many RC&D councils closed after the federal funding was cut, others survived by operating as independent nonprofit organizations with diversified funding sources.



# Now What?

## ➤ Evaluate Your Mission

- The RC&D program was established by the Agriculture Act of 1962 to assist multi-county areas with natural resource conservation, community development, and improving the standard of living in rural areas.



# Now What?

## ➤ Identify Your Partners

- New Mexico Forestry Division
- US Forest Service
- Bureau of Land Management
- Lincoln County
- Otero County
- New Mexico Counties



# Identify Need

- Build On What You Do Best
  - Identify an unmet need
  - How can your organization help?
  - Identify Collaborators - Both Old and New
  - Search for funding sources



# Identify New Opportunities

American Forests



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**American Forests**

**National Forest Foundation**

**New Mexico Game & Fish**



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**New Mexico Outdoor Recreation Division**

**New Mexico Tourism Department**





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**New Mexico Outdoor Recreation Division**

**New Mexico Tourism Department**

**Local Foundations**

**Smith's Grocery Stores**



# In This New Environment

- Be open to new challenges
- Be PERSISTENT
- Be PATIENT and UNDERSTANDING
- Put together the best proposal you can
- Lean on your partners
- Be specific and be precise
- ANSWER THE QUESTIONS

# CHANGE IS INEVITABLE

*It's not a problem, it's an  
opportunity to excel*