

NATURAL RESOURCES REPORT - KRVN
September 23, 2009

I'm Marcia Lee of the Central Platte Natural Resources District in Grand Island Nebraska, and this is.. the Natural Resources Report.

Last week, Heather Francis from the Upper Republican NRD, discussed how NRDs were created by the Legislature and what we're doing to protect your property through flood control, and protecting the future of the state through various water, tree and soil programs.

The NRDs also make great efforts to educate. Education of our natural resources starts with elementary, middle and high school levels and then reaches beyond that to local citizens. Today, I'd like to talk to you about the high school efforts taking place. Working with FFA and agricultural instructors, the NRDs host range judging, land judging and Envirothon competitions. These competitions provide instructors with the basis to teach about native grasses, plants, trees, soil, water, wildlife and issues that concern Nebraska.

Earlier this month, Central Platte NRD hosted the Area 4 Range Judging contest in Sumner with the NRCS office. With 181 participants, students visited actual sites to test their knowledge about rangeland. Teams from Ord FFA won 1st and 2nd place with Sargent placing third. Students participate individually as well, with Debra Wray of Ord taking the overall championship and Johnny Ference of Ord winning the junior division. Ivan Soper of Aurora won the professional division. We want to congratulate each of these participants.

Education of our natural resources is very important. Please encourage your children or grandchildren to learn about their surroundings and help them understand why our natural resources need to be protected.

Thank you for listening. This is Marcia Lee, keeping you informed about your natural resources. Protecting Lives, Protecting Property and Protecting the Future.