

Conservation News

McCone Conservation District



Fallon County: Producer Burdick



Fallon County: Producer O'Connor



McCone County: Producer Haynie



Burleigh County: Producer Bauer

Compilation of Area Soil Health Field Tours

McCone Conservation District board members and administrator attended 3 area soil health tours in one week recently. We saw producers from 9 separate operations with a variety of innovative practices to feed the soil, improve crops and livestock and increase the bottom line. Topics discussed were cover crops, crop rotation, crop diversity and grazing systems.

July 23rd—Fallon County Soil Health Tour sponsored by Garfield County Conservation District—3 Operations. Producers: Burdick, Sikorski & O'Connor

July 29—McCone County Soil Health Tour sponsored by North40Ag—2 Operations. Producers: Guldborg & Haynie

July 30—Burleigh County (ND) Soil Health and Sustainability Tour sponsored by NRCS & Burleigh County Conservation District—4 Operations. Producers: Bauer, Williams, McPeak and Doan.

Please call the District office with any questions you may have regarding these operations and their practices.

Dollar Value of Soil Organic Matter (SOM)

1000 pounds of N (nitrogen) @ \$0.39 per #	\$390.00
100 pounds of P (phosphorus) @ \$0.43 per #	\$43.00
100 pounds of K (potassium) @ \$0.50 per #	\$50.00
100 pounds of S (Sulfur) @ \$0.62 per #	\$62.00
10,000 pounds of C (Carbon) @ \$0.50 per ton	\$2.50
Total value per acre of 1% Soil Organic Matter = \$545.50	



4 KEYS OF SOIL HEALTH

1. Disturb the Soil Less
2. Crop Diversity
3. Grow Living Roots
4. Keep the Soil Covered

Volume 14, Issue 3

Fall 2014

Inside this issue:

Compilation of Area Soil Health Field Tours	1
Range Conservation Management Workshop	1
Improving Sage Grouse Habitat	2
McCone County Fair—Pollinator Booth, Random spots & Seed bombs	3
DRWA	3
Growing trees & shrubs by seed	4
Bats—a species in decline	5
Gourds—and their many uses, Jack-o'-lanterns, Home-made birdhouse & feeder, Cast iron pumpkin pie	6
Leafy Spurge, Noxious Weeds- Myth and Facts	7
Calendar	8

Range Conservation Management Workshop

Join us in exploring what's new in Range Conservation Management.

Date: Thursday, October 16, 2014

Location: McCone County Fairgrounds

Time: 9:30am Registration & Coffee
10:00am-3:00pm Workshop

* Lunch included

It's what you learn after you know it all that counts.
~ Attributed to Harry S Truman



In the News

- DRWA
- Education
- Happenings

Contributors:

Mary Hendrix, MCCD

Mandi Nay, DRWA

Editor's Correction: In the special "Women's Edition" August 2014, we misspelled the last name of the historical woman of McCone County Polly Wischmann. Our sincerest apologies ma'am.



The 2015 Tree Order

Form will be in the
Winter Newsletter out
December 2014!



United States Department of Agriculture
National Institute of Food and Agriculture

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, or marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington DC, 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Improving Sage Grouse Habitat through Revegetation and Rangeland Management

Reduced Sage Grouse populations

Sage Grouse originally inhabited 13 states and three Canadian provinces. The species was first described for science by Lewis and Clark during their 1804 expedition. Sage Grouse are currently found in parts of 11 states and southern Alberta and Saskatchewan. Sage Grouse strongholds remain in Montana, Wyoming, Idaho, Nevada and Oregon.

Issues Posing Risk to Sage Grouse

Wildlife agencies have identified 12 major issues in Sage Grouse conservation. Four of the issues can be addressed through proper rangeland management and revegetation of critical habitats.

Vegetation. Historical uses of rangelands have altered the density, structure, and composition of big sagebrush and related understory plant communities. In some cases, this has reduced seasonal habitat for Sage Grouse.

Grazing. The effects of livestock on Sage Grouse habitat, and on the birds themselves, may be positive, negative, or neutral depending on the specific grazing prescription and the site.

Noxious Weeds. Noxious weeds and other invasive weed species have spread across all western states at an unprecedented rate. Invasive plants such as cheatgrass, medusahead and juniper displace desirable native plant species and degrade rangeland health. In many cases the displaced species are critical to Sage Grouse survival.

Mining and Energy Development. Much of the nation's oil and gas resources are found under Sage Grouse habitats across the western U.S. Careless development and production activities can fragment and degrade Sage Grouse habitats.

Loss of sagebrush-grasslands in some western states has approached 50 percent. This type of habitat is important to Sage Grouse throughout their life cycle. Sage Grouse chicks and juveniles require habitat with a diverse succulent plant community offering nutritious grazing and a supply of insects. Adult Sage Grouse rely heavily on Wyoming and mountain big sagebrush for food in winter and expand their diets to include various forbs and insects in spring and summer.

Re-vegetation and Management Options for Improving Sage-grouse Habitat

Sage Grouse habitat can be established by reclaiming disturbed lands with diverse plant communities that include native forbs, grasses, and shrubs. Introduced plants that also have potential value for Sage Grouse habitat improvement include alfalfa varieties, "Appar", blue flax and "Delar" small burnet. Other important forbs during spring and summer nesting and brood-rearing include common dandelion, salsify and prickly lettuce.

Studies have found that Sage Grouse populations and habitats are very compatible with livestock and grazing management. Practices such as rotational grazing systems and exclusion or deferment in riparian areas, can enhance plant community vigor, suppress noxious weeds, and sustain diverse plant communities with forb components that benefit Sage Grouse.

Commercially Available Species

Native Forb Species: Narrow-leaved purple coneflower, Rocky Mountain penstemon, Fuzzytongue penstemon, Maximilian sunflower, Stiff sunflower

Native Grass Species: Bluebunch wheatgrass, Thickspike wheatgrass, Indian ricegrass, Big bluegrass, Sandberg bluegrass, Basin wildrye, Western wheatgrass, Slender wheatgrass, Little bluestem, Side-oats grama, Blue grama

Native Shrub Species: Mountain big sagebrush, Wyoming big sagebrush, Winterfat, Fourwing saltbush

Many NRCS conservation programs, including the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP), the Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP) and the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) can help improve Sage Grouse habitat. For more information on NRCS conservation programs contact your local NRCS office.



Like us on Facebook! McCone Conservation District



Photo: fws.gov

McCone County Fair ~ August 14, 15 & 16, 2014



Pollinator education was the theme for this year's booth at the McCone County Fair. Pollinators are bees, butterflies, birds, and bats. About three-quarters of the world's flowering plants and many of the food crops eaten in North America depend upon pollinators. No pollination means no apples, blueberries, strawberries, chocolate, almonds, melons, peaches or pumpkins. Also many plants used for medicine require pollination. Thanks to everyone who stopped by!

Give-a-ways: Pollinator seed boxes, flower seed bomb tool kits & noxious weeds poster (since everyone should have one of those!)



 * Flower seed bomb tool kit winners: Kaitlyn Thoeny & Larry Schipman *

RANDOM SPOTS OF LOVELINESS

Guerilla gardening. The word guerilla-anything evoke images of fighting and strife, but in the context of botanicals it means gardening without possession. You may have heard of nocturnal diggings in seemingly vacant lots in decaying neighborhoods that are transformed almost magically into community gardens. You may have driven past a weed choked median strip daily only to find trees planted in an avenue one morning. Flower boxes appear on Main Street while nobody was looking. And while we are not advocating trespassing on your neighbor's private or city property, we ask that you think about this. Are there neglected spaces on your property that can be random spots of loveliness?

And yes, the tree building lot is our work in progress!



For a quick and fun way to seed flowers over large areas like pastures, let a few seed bombs fly with a slingshot! Parental guidance definitely recommended.

Flower Seed Bombs



- Native Wildflower or Pollinator Seeds
- Corn Starch and Baking Soda
- Potting Soil
- Water

Instructions: Mix 2 cups of corn starch, 1 cup baking soda, 9 cups of potting soil and 2 cups of seeds together in a bowl. Mix thoroughly. Slowly add water, but don't make it too goopy. Form into marble-sized balls (better trajectory!) and let them air-dry until solid and not crumbly.

Please note: Seed bombs are not for eating, so please do not feed them to anyone or anything. They are also not pretty by any means. Seed bombing is best done in spring, autumn or when a soaking rain is predicted.

Dry-Redwater Regional Water Authority (DRWA)



Did you know a healthy person can drink about three gallons of water per day? And, not all drinks are created equally. Soft drinks, coffee, and tea, while made up almost entirely of water, also contain caffeine that can act as a mild diuretic, preventing water from traveling to the necessary locations in the body.

Water is absolutely essential to the human body. It flushes out wastes and bacteria that can cause disease. It is the primary mode of transportation for all nutrients in the body and is essential for proper circulation. It helps maintain metabolism and appetite, increases energy levels, and is a natural moisturizer for the skin. In fact, the most common cause of daytime fatigue is actually mild dehydration. Drinking adequate amounts of water can decrease the risk of certain types of cancer. And, for the majority of sufferers, drinking water can significantly reduce joint and back pain.

Water is extremely important for a healthy existence and DRWA continues to work toward quality water for our entire service area. The Sidney South line of DRWA is live this summer. DRWA is working on planning and estimating additional lines to continue to keep growing throughout the area. We understand the need for good quality and quantity of water in our area and continue to do everything we can to make that a reality for our service area.

If you may be interested in enrolling to be part of DRWA please contact Mandi.

drwa@midrivers.com

(406) 485-3792

www.midrivers.com/~drwa



Growing Trees and Shrubs from Seed

STARTING YOUR OWN PLANTS CAN BE FUN and can save you money on plant material—if you are willing to wait the several years it may take to produce a seedling of field-planting size. Here are some tips on how to collect and handle seeds of Montana species for the greatest success in plant production.

COLLECTION: *Where.* Gather seeds from parent plants that have good form and are the dominant trees in stands of the same species, where cross pollination was probable. Don't collect from lone trees that would be self-pollinated. **NOTE:** Some species, like willow and poplar are dioecious, having male and female trees. Only the female trees bear seeds.

When. Collect fleshy fruit as soon as they're fully ripe but before they fall or have been damaged by squirrels and birds. Harvest the cones of most pines when they have become dry enough to shed their seeds. Harvest legume seeds when the cord connecting the seed to the pod has shriveled.

How. By hand. Do not leave fleshy fruit in piles for more than an hour to reduce the chance of fermentation.

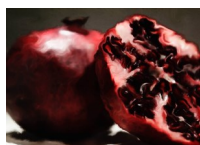
EXTRACTION: The method of seed extraction depends upon the species.

Air drying. Place fruit on a screen in a single layer, making sure they don't touch each other. Works for elm, mountain ash, pine, poplar, spruce, and willow.

Oven-drying. Use a simple convection oven or a screen placed above a stove burner. Spread the fruit in a thin layer and be sure the temperature doesn't get too high. Seeds of ponderosa pine (120° F for 3 hours), Scotch pine (130° F for 5-24 hours) are extracted this way.



Threshing. Spread fruit on a concrete floor and walk on them, but don't stomp your feet. You may have to remove walnut hulls by hand with a sharp knife. Use this method for honeylocust, common lilac, caragana and walnut.



Depulping. Remove the pulp promptly after harvest by running them over a screen by hand or by placing them into a food chopper. Wash out the pulp with running water. For chokecherry, crush and soak the fruit in water before trying to separate the seeds from the pulp. Most fleshy fruit, including apple, barberry, blackberry, buffaloberry, honeysuckle, juniper, pear, raspberry and serviceberry are extracted by this method.

CLEANING: *Dewinging.* Rub winged seeds like those of pine, spruce, ash, birch and elm between your hands to remove the wings.

Winnowing. Pass any of the above seeds from container to container on a windy day or in front of a fan, allowing the chaff to blow away.

Flotation. After depulping, place seeds of fleshy fruit in a jar of water. Sound seeds sink, poor seeds and chaff float.

STORING: How do you store the seeds for extended periods once you've collected them? Room temperature is recommended for common lilac, pear and caragana. Store buckeye, silver maple, oak and walnut in damp cold (33 to 50° F). Be sure there is plenty of air circulation. All other species are best stored in dry cold in sealed containers. A paper envelope will work well and reduces the possibility of condensation destroying the seeds.

SOWING: You can use a plastic or wooden flat to start seeds in the house, or sow them outdoors in the spring or fall. Plant the seeds at a depth equal to their largest diameter and cover them with a light peat/sand mix or sand alone. Keep sprouting media damp, never waterlogged or dry. A porous media such as peat moss or sand that is not waterlogged will have the right amount of oxygen to promote germination. The right temperature for germination varies for different species. Start your seeds indoors in a warm area out of direct sunlight or plant them outdoors at about the time of the last spring frost. Keep them weed free and well watered through the first season and transplant them to their permanent location in the spring after sowing.

In the fall, you can collect the following seeds: Ash, Birch, Buffaloberry, Cherry, Juniper, Pine (most), Plum, Spruce & Walnut.

BATS



Year Round Bat Residents of Eastern Montana

The **Big Brown Bat** is a larger bat that has overall brown to copper-covered fur. They emerge at dusk to forage on mostly beetles, but will eat other bugs, too. They fly 20-33' above the ground in fairly direct paths to foraging areas. Their size and flight patterns make this species highly recognizable. This species may not segregate during the summer.

The **Little Brown Myotis** is a species of concern. They are a small bat that can have a cinnamon-buff to dark brown coat and buff to pale gray undercoat. The hairs on its back are long and glossy. They eat mostly insects. Males and females segregate during the summer. Females live in maternity colonies of up to a thousand individuals. They can live more than 30 years.

The **Long-Eared Myotis** has the longest ears of any other North American bat in genus *Myotis*. They are dull brown to straw-color with black ears. Summer roosts may include the customary places listed below but they also use abandoned buildings, bridges, hollow trees, stumps, under loose bark and rock fissures. They typically emerge 10-40 minutes after dark and are known to eat primarily moths and beetles.

The **Long-Legged Myotis** is similar in appearance to the Little Brown Myotis, but is slightly larger. Their habitat occurs mostly in forested mountain regions, river bottoms and also at high elevation. They eat primarily moths and emerge early during twilight and are active all night foraging around tree canopy and over water. They may live up to 21 years.

The **Silver-haired Bat** is a potential species of concern. They are a mostly black bat with silvery tips on their back hairs. Their habitat are mature conifer and deciduous forests, riparian woodlands and aspens. Summer roosts include tree cavities, under loose bark, birds nests, sheds and barns. They hibernate in tree cavities, rock crevices and buildings. They eat a variety of insects. They emerge early and are slow flying. They frequently change roosts. Females typically give birth to twins in late June and July.

The **Townsend's Big-Eared Bat** is a species of concern. They differ from other Montana bats by its extremely long, brownish ears that are joined at the base. The dorsal hairs are brownish at the tips contrasting with the lighter underfur. They typically emerge one hour after sunset and feed on nocturnal flying insects.

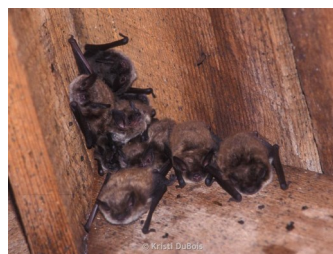
The **Western Small-Footed Myotis** is a smaller bat with a wingspan of 8-10 inches and weighs 4-6 grams. They can be light brown to yellowish brown with a lighter underside. Ears and facial mask is black to dark brown. Their habitat includes mesic and arid conifer forest, rock outcrops, talus, clay banks, riparian woodland. They fly slow, erratic and low over the ground. They consume a variety of small insects. Males roost singly, females may occur singly or in a small maternity colony. They often hibernate singly.

Common Bat Characteristics

Most bats roost during the summer days in attics, barns, bridges, rock outcrops and bat houses. They hibernate in caves and mines in the winter.

Most bats segregate during the summer with females in maternity colonies. Most bats have one young per year born in late June and July.

Insects consumed by bats: flies, mosquitoes, mayflies, aphids, true bugs, beetles, caddis flies, moths, lacewings, wasps, termites, spiders, gnats, crane flies, stone flies and ants.



Little Brown Myotis
Photo: NRCS, Kristi DuBois



Silver-Haired Bat
Photo: NRCS, Allison Begley



Townsend's Big-Eared Bat
Photo: NRCS, Kristi DuBois

Source: NRCS Field Guide

Bats of Montana

Year Round Residents:

- Big Brown Bat
- California Myotis (western MT only)
- [Little Brown Myotis](#)
- Long-Eared Myotis
- Long-Legged Myotis
- **Silver-Haired Bat**
- [Townsend's Big-Eared Bat](#)
- Western Small-Footed Myotis
- Yuma Myotis (western MT only)

Visitors ~ Migratory Bats:

- Eastern Red Bat
- Fringed Myotis
- Hoary Bat
- Pallid Bat (southeastern MT only)
- [Spotted Bat](#)

Species of Concern

Species of Concern are native taxa that are at-risk due to declining population trends, threats to their habitats, restricted distribution, and/or other factors.

Potential Species of Concern

Potential Species of Concern are native taxa for which current, often limited, information suggests potential vulnerability. Also included are animal species which additional data are needed before an accurate status assessment can be made.

Gourds—and Their Many Uses



Carved Turnips
Photo: libertylv.com

Jack-o'-lanterns—The Halloween tradition of carving jack-o'-lanterns began in Ireland many years ago based on a tale of a skinflint man named Jack who conned the devil. As it turns out, when Jack dies and isn't admitted to heaven, the devil decides he won't have him either. So Jack is left to roam the earth forevermore. In Ireland, turnips and potatoes were carved out and candles were placed inside to ward off evil spirits like Jack. When Irish immigrants moved to the New World, they brought their traditions with them. In America, they used the readily available pumpkin and we still do to this day. In 2012, 12.4 million cwt (hundredweight) of pumpkins were produced in the U.S. That's 1,240,000,000 or 1.24 billion pumpkins! That's a lot of pumpkins for pies and carving!

Source: agmrc.org

October, tuck tiny candy bars in my pockets and carve my smile into a thousand pumpkins.... Merry October! ~Rainbow Rowell, *Attachments*



Home-made Bird Houses and Feeders

Selecting: Gourds come in many sizes and shapes. To make a gourd birdhouse or feeder as pictured, select a fruit that has a hard rind such as a Lagenaria bottle gourd.

Drying: The drying process is the most time consuming part of the project. It may take up to 6 months (a good winter project). Once you select your gourd, clean the outside with a damp cloth. Then suspend your gourd in a well-ventilated space away from direct sunlight. Check it every few weeks to see if the outside skin is hard and when shaken, seeds rattle inside.

Cutting: The outer skin is pretty hard, so you may need a small drill or handsaw to make holes (Parental guidance recommended).

Bird Feeder: To make a bird feeder, cut two or three slots (like this) into the gourd (see photo).



Bird Feeder
Photo: marthastewart.com



Bird House
Photo: wi.gov

Birdhouse: To make a birdhouse, make a hole in the middle that is about 1 1/2" in diameter. Also cut a few small holes in the bottom for circulation and drainage (see photo).

Cleaning: Empty gourd of all seeds and fibers that may have dried inside.

Decorating: Your gourd is now ready. If the texture is rough, you can sandpaper it prior to painting or varnishing it. Or for rustic charm, keep it natural.

Uses: Put seeds in feeder. You don't need to do anything with the house—let the birds decorate it! Suspend both away from predators' reach.

Provide a water source like a bird bath and viola! You've just created a bird sanctuary and habitat!

The Filling (Store bought or roast a sugar pumpkin and puree your own)

- 2 cups pumpkin puree
- 1 1/2 cups heavy cream
- 3/4 cup packed brown sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 2 eggs, plus the yolk of a third
- 2-3 teaspoons pumpkin spice

The Crust (Store bought or your own recipe)

Assembling: Preheat oven to 425°F. Mix filling ingredients in a large bowl. Whisk until combined. Press pie dough into a cast iron skillet. Trim excess dough and set aside. Pour filling into pie shell. Optional: Cut out decorative leaves from excess dough and place on top of filling before baking.

Baking: Bake at 425°F for 15 minutes, then reduce heat to 350°F. Bake for another 45-50 minutes, or until inserted toothpick comes out clean. Let cool before serving.

Cast Iron Pumpkin Pie



Add a dollop of Homemade Whipped Cream & Serve

Thanksgiving dinners take eighteen hours to prepare. They are consumed in twelve minutes. Half-times take twelve minutes. This is not coincidence. ~Erma Bombeck

Leafy Spurge

Leafy spurge (*Euphorbia esula*) is a perennial that grows up to 3 feet tall with yellowish green flowers arranged in heart-shaped clusters. This species has been reported to cause severe irritation of the mouth and digestive tract in cattle which may result in death.

The roots can extend as deep as 30 feet into the soil and are extremely wide-spreading. The roots are brown and contain numerous pink buds that generally produce new shoots or roots. The entire plant contains white, milky sap that exudes readily upon stem or leaf breakage. This sap can damage eyes and sensitive skin. Leafy spurge is one of the earliest plants to emerge in the spring. Flower clusters develop 1 to 2 weeks after stem emergence in mid-April to late May. One plant can produce up to 130,000 seeds and the seed capsules explode when ripe, projecting seeds up to 15 feet away.



Photos & articles source: Colorado.gov

Leafy Spurge Management

Cultural: The most effective method of control is to prevent its establishment through proper land management. Maintain healthy pastures and rangeland and continually monitor for new infestations.

Biological: Both sheep and goats can be effective grazers of leafy spurge. The flea beetles (*Aphthona nigrescens*, *A. lacertosa*, and *A. cyarissiae*) are effective when combined with grazing and herbicides.

Mechanical: Due to extension root systems, hand pulling is not a viable option. Mowing repeated every 2-4 weeks during the growing season will reduce seed production, but will provide little long-term control.

Herbicides: Application of herbicides should coincide with plant maturation. Certain herbicides are effective during the spring only during bloom to post bloom stage. Other herbicides should be applied in the fall prior to hard freeze. Consult your local weed board for more information.

Noxious Weeds ~ Myths and Facts

Myth #1: By not taking care of the noxious weeds on my property, I'm letting nature take its course and leaving my land "natural."

Fact: Ignoring the situation will only make it worse. Land must be managed correctly or the most aggressive, non-native plants will move in, displacing native plants, wildflowers and grasses.

Myth #2: Thistles such as musk and Canada are examples of the worst noxious weeds.

Fact: Although the thorns on these plants make them especially annoying, they are not the most difficult to control or the most invasive. Some of the most serious weeds have pretty flowers and no thorns such as knapweeds, leafy spurge and yellow and Dalmation toadflax.

Myth #3: Wildlife will eat noxious weeds.

Fact: This depends on the animal and type of noxious weed. Elk prefer native plants and grasses, and will starve to death on range infested with spotted knapweed and leafy spurge. Deer and cattle will graze spotted knapweed, but leafy spurge and houndstongue are poisonous to cattle.

Myth #4: Oxeye daisies are beautiful wildflowers that do not cause serious damage to landscapes or wildlife.

Fact: This perennial plant can spread very quickly. In pastures it increases when large herbivores avoid eating oxeye and more pressure is put on grasses. The ungrazed oxeye daisy is then free to expand, while the grasses are decreased. Instead of oxeye daisy, which is illegal to plant in Wyoming, plant Shasta daisy or blanket flower.

Myth #5: Thick weed infestations help hold soil and prevent erosion.

Fact: Research has proven this assumption is misleading. In one study conducted in Wyoming on native prairie bunch grass and spotted knapweed, native bunch grass lost 12.5 pounds of soil per acre in a simulated thunderstorm while spotted knapweed lost over 125 pounds per acre. Tap rooted weeds will always increase soil erosion when compared to healthy stands of grass.

Myth #6: Cutting, hand-pulling or mowing are the best ways to control noxious weeds.

Fact: This is true in some instances. Plants such as musk thistle can be chopped off at the base of the plant. However, perennials such as Dalmation toadflax and Canada thistle should not be cut or pulled; this will only stimulate growth and produce more plants.

Myth #7: Biological control methods such as insects are the answer to noxious weed problems.

Fact: There is no one miracle fix for the problem noxious weeds pose. Never rely on a single method to control weeds. The best approach is an integrated management plan that includes a combination of chemical (herbicides), biological (insects), and mechanical (pulling/cutting) control methods.

Myth #8: Biological controls are bad because non-native insects are released on a non-native plant, and thus the insect could damage native plants, too.

Fact: This might be true except for the fact that biological controls are highly regulated and tested prior to their release in the U.S. All biological controls are tested on plants native in the U.S. over a period of years in a lab on foreign soil. If the potential biological control does not feed on native plants and shows itself to be specific to the target weed species, then it is approved. If however, it feeds on a native plant during the tests, the insect is banned from release in the U.S.



MARY HENDRIX, EDITOR AND
DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR

MCCONE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

106 10th Street,
PO Box 276
Circle, MT 59215

Phone: 406-485-2744

Email: mcconecountycd@yahoo.com



Find us on the Web!
www.mcconecountycd.com

Board Members

Steve Wanderaas, Chairman
Jenny Garoutte, Vice Chair
Larry Nagel, Treasurer
Matt Beery, Rural Supervisor
Brant Quick, Rural Supervisor
Casey Nay, Urban Supervisor

Partners in Conservation

Johnna Blankenship, NRCS District Conservationist
Mandi Nay, DRWA, Coordinator Extraordinaire

Non-Profit Org.
US Postage Paid
Circle, MT
Permit No. 4

POSTAL PATRON MCCONE COUNTY

Mark Your Calendars

Thank You To

Polly Wischmann for consenting
to be interviewed for The Special
Edition Newsletter.

&

Wendell Pawlowski, curator of
the Circle Museum for generously
providing historical information
about McCone County and its many
colorful residents.

&

Ron & Denise Hinthner for picking
up the Special Edition Newsletter
for us in Miles City.

&

Ryan Grigg & Jeane Clinton with
The Circle Banner for picking up
the quarterly newsletters for us
in Miles City.

You are all Awesome!

Labor Day, September 1
Board Meeting, September 10
DRWA Meeting, September 12
Area 1 Meeting, Jordan, Sept 26

Board Meeting, October 1
DRWA Meeting, October 10
Range Workshop, October 16
Halloween, October 31

Daylight Savings ends, November 2
Board Meeting, November 5
Veterans Day, November 11
DRWA Meeting, November 14
MACD Convention, November 18-21
Thanksgiving, November 27

SEPTEMBER 2014

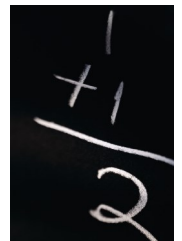
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

OCTOBER 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

NOVEMBER 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23/30	24	25	26	27	28	29



Scheduled meetings are subject to date and time change. Meeting agendas will be posted one week prior to board meetings. The general public is welcome to attend. Please call 406-485-2744 for further questions.