

CONSERVATION E-NEWS

McCONE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Local Conservation Groups Celebrate Success in Protecting Sage-Grouse

Yay!



September 22, 2015

Helena—This morning US Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell was in Denver to announce a much anticipated decision by the US Fish and Wildlife Service to not list the greater sage grouse as an endangered species.

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Governor Steve Bullock was on hand to celebrate the 'not warranted' decision, along with other Western governors. Ranchers, agencies, industry, and conservation groups across Montana are celebrating the decision too, thanks in large part to a number of recently signed cooperative conservation agreements to protect the bird and its habitat.

Local conservation groups across the state, including Soil and Water Conservation Districts of Montana, along with state and federal agencies have been working hard to forge cooperative agreements with landowners to protect and restore sage grouse habitat in Montana. "Listing the sage grouse as an endangered species would add a lot of restrictions for producers in Montana" says Jeff Tiberi, policy director for the Montana Association of Conservation Districts. "It's really amazing to see so many people and organizations come together with a unified goal of conserving sage grouse and their habitat. Local Conservation Districts and their partners have played a big role in reaching out to landowners and getting them signed up for programs."

In July, Soil and Water Conservation Districts of Montana signed a historic agreement with the State of Montana and NRCS pledging continued collaboration and enhancement of joint efforts on sage grouse issues. This agreement came on the heels of the recent passage of the state's sage grouse stewardship program and NRCS's renewed commitment of the Sage Grouse Initiative, an NRCS-led partnership initiative across the West. These agreements have positioned Montana to stand tall with the other Western states in seeking voluntary, working land solutions that also provide for sage grouse conservation. It's based on these agreements and the work already undertaken by landowners and land managers that US FWS made today's decision.

For more information on SWCDM and our work with the Sage Grouse Initiative to conserve private working lands and sage grouse habitat in Montana, please visit our website at

www.swcdmi.org.

SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICTS
of MONTANA

Sage-Grouse Do Not Need Federal Protection

Additional Comments

“This is truly a historic effort – one that represents extraordinary collaboration across the American West,” said U.S. Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell. “It demonstrates that the Endangered Species Act is an effective and flexible tool and a critical catalyst for conservation – ensuring that future generations can enjoy the diversity of wildlife that we do today. The epic conservation effort will benefit westerners and hundreds of species that call this iconic landscape home, while giving states, businesses and communities the certainty they need to plan for sustainable economic development.”

Sally Jewell, U.S. Secretary of the Interior

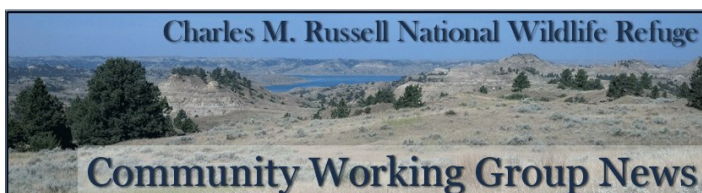
“We’ve written an important chapter in sage-grouse conservation, but the story is far from over,” said Director Ashe. “By building on the partnerships we’ve forged and continuing conservation efforts under the federal and state plans, we will reap dividends for sage-grouse, big game and other wildlife while protecting a way of life in the West. That commitment will ensure that our children and grandchildren will inherit the many benefits that this rich but imperiled landscape has to offer.”

Dan Ashe, Director Fish Wildlife Service

Read more at <https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/historic-conservation-campaign-protects-greater-sage-grouse>

“Although sage-grouse will not be listed as an endangered species, our work and commitment to conservation are not done. We will continue investing in voluntary conservation efforts that benefit sage-grouse, landowners and protect our nation’s natural resources.”

Lisa Coverdale, Montana State Conservationist



The CMR Community Working Group Sage Grouse Subcommittee will remain active and continue working on landscape conservation activities in the area.

In the Time it Took to Form 1 Inch of Soil the World Changed

In the 2000s: World population reaches 6.5 billion—2006. Hurricane Katrina devastates U.S. Gulf Coast region—2005. World War II Memorial opens in Washington D.C.—2004. XIX Winter Olympics held in Salt Lake City, Utah—2002. Terrorists attacks in U.S. kill thousands—2001. World celebrates new millennium—2000.

In the 1990s: Control of Panama Canal reverts to Panama—1999. Lieutenant Colonel Eileen Collins chosen first woman space commander—1998. U.S. space probe Pathfinder lands on Mars—1997. Space shuttle Atlantis docks with orbiting Russian space station Mir—1995. Soil Conservation Service renamed Natural Resources Conservation Service—1994. Americans with Disabilities Act becomes law—1990.

In the 1980s: Berlin Wall torn down signaling an end to the Cold War—1989. Sally Ride becomes first U.S. woman astronaut—1983. Sandra Day O'Connor becomes first woman member of U.S. Supreme Court—1981.

In the 1970s: Viking 1 becomes first spaceship to reach Mars—1976. U.S. Armed Forces withdraw from Vietnam—1975. Congress passes Endangered Species Act—1973. First “Earth Day” observed—1970.

In the 1960s: American astronaut Neil Armstrong walks on moon—1969. Thurgood Marshall becomes first African American member of U.S. Supreme Court—1967. Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr., receives Nobel Peace Prize in Oslo, Norway—1964. President John F. Kennedy assassinated in Dallas, Texas—1963. British pop group The Beatles make its first recordings—1962. Soviet cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin becomes first human to orbit Earth—1961. African American track star Wilma Rudolph wins three gold medals the Olympic Games, Italy—1960.

In the 1950s: Hawaii becomes 50th state—1959. Elvis Presley’s first film “Love Me Tender” premieres in New York City—1956. Korean War ends—1953. Dr. Jonas Salk successfully tests polio vaccine—1952.

In the 1940s: Mao Tse-tung rises to power in China—1949. World War II ends—1945.

In the 1930s: Brown Creek Soil Conservation District in North Carolina becomes first conservation district in the Nation—1937. African American athlete Jesse Owens wins four gold medals at Olympic Games, Germany—1936. U.S. Soil Conservation Service established—1935. Drought leads to severe dust storms in “Dust Bowl” region of Great Plains—1934.

In the 1920s: Charles Curtis of the Kaw Tribe, Kansas, a U.S. Senator for 25 years, becomes Vice President of the United States—1929. Amelia Earhart becomes first woman to fly across Atlantic Ocean—1928. Sonja Henie wins first of 10 consecutive World Figure Skating Championships—1927. Hirohito becomes 124th Emperor of Japan—1926. 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution gives women the right to vote—1920.

In the 1910s: World War I ends—1918. Jeannette Rankin (Montana) elected first U.S. Congresswoman—1916. Jim Thorpe of the Sauk and Fox Tribes wins decathlon and pentathlon in Olympic Games, Sweden—1912.

In the 1900s: First Model “T” Ford rolls off assembly line—1908. Upton Sinclair’s novel “The Jungle” leads to U.S. Pure Food and Drug Act—1906. Orville Wright makes first successful flight in self-propelled airplane—1903. International Exposition opens in Paris—1900.

In the 1890s: Amusement pier opens in Atlantic City, New Jersey—1898. Dr. George Washington Carver begins to develop more than 300 products from the peanut and 118 from the sweet potato—1896. Katherine Lee Bates publishes “American the Beautiful”—1895.

In the 1880s: Philip Pratt unveils first electric automobile—1888. Statue of Liberty presented to U.S. in Paris—1884.

In the 1870s: Thomas Edison invents phonograph—1877. Alexander Graham Bell invents telephone—1875. U.S. experiences worst grasshopper plague in its history—1874. Yellowstone, first national park, created—1872.

In the 1860s: Suez Canal opens—1869. President Abraham Lincoln delivers Gettysburg Address—1863. Julia Ward Howe composes the song “Battle Hymn of the Republic”—1862.

In the 1840s: Frederick Douglass establishes abolitionist newspaper “The North Star”—1847. Elias Howe patents sewing machine—1846.

In the 1830s: Samuel F.B. Morse develops code for electric telegraph systems—1838. Texas proclaims independence from Mexico—1836.

In the 1820s: Louis Braille publishes system of writing for the blind—1829. Emma Hart Willard founds first U.S. women’s college, Troy Female Seminary, New York—1821.

In the 1810s: Construction of Erie Canal begins—1817. Napoleon defeated by Wellington and Blucher at Battle of Waterloo—1815.

In the 1800s: Lewis and Clark begin “Corps of Discovery” expedition to find a water route across North America—1804. Louisiana Territory purchased by U.S. for \$15 Million—1803. Library of Congress established—1800.

In the 1790s: English physician Edward Jenner develops vaccination against smallpox—1796. Kamehameha I becomes King of Hawaii—1795. Eli Whitney invents cotton gin—1793. First U.S. Mint established in Philadelphia—1792. Bill of Rights ratified—1791. First American patent awarded to Samuel Hopkins for process of manufacturing potash—1790.

In the 1780s: French Revolution begins with attack on the Bastille—1789. U.S. Constitution ratified—1788. American Revolutionary War ends—1781.

In the 1770s: Continental Congress adopts Declaration of Independence—1776. American colonists throw British tea into Boston Harbor—1773.

In the 1740s: Thomas Jefferson born—1743. Astronomer Anders Celsius introduces Centigrade temperature scale—1741.

In the 1730s: British agriculturist Jethro Tull invents seed drill—1733. George Washington born—1732.

In the 1720s: Daniel G. Fahrenheit, inventor of mercury thermometer, devises Fahrenheit temperature scale—1724. First permanent Native American school created in Williamsburg, Virginia—1720.

In the 1680s: Peter the Great becomes Tsar of Russia—1689. Rice cultivation begins in North America—1685. Edmund Halley observes the Great Comet, which is later named for him—1682.

In the 1670s: John Bunyan’s “Pilgrims Progress” published—1678. First mail service in North America established between New York and Boston—1673.

In the 1660-1600s: Mt. Etna erupts in Italy, killing 20,000—1669. First Quakers land in America—1657. First book printed in Native American language—1653. World population estimated at 500 million—1650. First newspaper, Gazette de France, published in Paris—1631. Pilgrim leaders at Plymouth Colony establish a governing authority through Mayflower Compact—1620. Native American princess Pocahontas marries John Rolfe—1614. Native Americans teach colonist to raise corn—1608. John Smith settles first permanent English colony in North America at Jamestown, Virginia—1607.

In the 1580s to 1500s: Virginia Dare becomes first child of English parents born in America—1587. Sir Walter Raleigh brings first tobacco to England from Virginia—1586. Spain settles colony in St. Augustine, Florida—1565. Shakespeare and Galileo are born—1564. Earthquake in China is worst in history with a death toll of 830,000—1556. University of Mexico founded—1551. First botanical garden founded in Pisa, Italy—1543. Francesco Coronado introduces horses to North America—1540. Juan Ponce de Leon becomes first European to set foot in Florida—1513. Michelangelo finishes painting the Sistine Chapel ceiling—1512. First sugar cane mill established in the Americas—1509. Martin Waldseemuller, German geographer, first mapmaker to call the New World “America”—1507.

Let’s take time to protect the soil, every inch of it.



MACD Area 1 Meeting September 23rd



NRCS + SWCDM SOIL HEALTH *workshops*

2015 Dates

Nov 2 Missoula
Nov 3 Great Falls,
Bozeman
Nov 4 Billings
Nov 5 Plentywood

Registration

\$15 through October 20.
\$20 after October 20
and at the door.

Lunch will be provided.

Register online at
www.swcdmi.org

For more info or to learn about
sponsor or vendor opportunities,
call 406.443.5711

About the presenters

- **Gabe Brown (Missoula, Great Falls, Billings):** Gabe's presentations will highlight his innovative rotational cover cropping and grazing systems, and discuss how improving his soil organic matter has translated into higher nutritional values for their animals and crops.

- **Neil Dennis (Missoula, Bozeman):** Neil will share his experiences using rotational mob grazing, lessons learned, and observations on how his grazing systems have improved pasture productivity and animal and soil health.

- **MSU Extension Specialists (Bozeman, Billings):** Dr. Clain Jones will present recent research on nutrient dynamics in single and mixed cover crop species in small grain systems. Dr. Fabian Me-nalled will give an overview of recent research using sheep to graze mixed species cover crops in an organic vegetable system.

- **Derek Axten (Plentywood):** Derek Axten employs numerous practices to improve his soil's health and operation's sustainability. Derek will present on his experiences with intercropping, diverse crop rotations, one pass, and no-till planting.

- **Stripper header demonstrations and Q&A with representative from Shelbourne Reynolds (Billings, Plentywood).**

- **Local producer panels (all locations):** Local producers will share their first-hand experiences with various soil health practices. Opportunity for Q&A.

The key to success.

SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICTS
of MONTANA

NRCS

United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service

"Soil Health & What it Means to You"

Workshop & Ag Expo
Forsyth, Montana

December 2nd & 3rd 2015



Jay Fuhrer~

Guest Speaker & Emcee. NRCS District Conservationist in Bismarck ND.
"Soil Health Matters"



Burke Teischert~

Beef Magazine ~ "Ranching for profit".
Expert in organizing farms & ranches to be very cost effective and efficient, with minimal labor requirements.



Gabe Brown~

"Regenerating Landscapes for a Sustainable Future"

Bismarck, ND ~ Gabe with his son Paul have taken a holistic approach to the family



Dr. Elaine Ingham~

President & Director of Research at Soil Foodweb Inc. The importance of a healthy soil food web and the difference between soil and dirt.



~Dr. Don Huber

Professor Emeritus of Plant Pathology at Purdue University "The Effects of Glyphosates on Soil Health, The Base of our Food Supply."

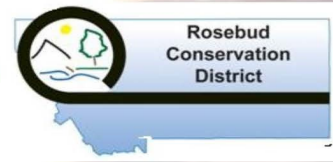
WHO: Everyone is invited to attend this workshop, It is not just for farmers and ranchers. We encourage people from all walks of life to come and take something away from this excellent panel of speakers.

Where

Rosebud Treasure County Fair Grounds
Exhibition Hall
513 N 16th Ave, Forsyth, MT 59327

For more Information on our speakers & Registration forms go to

www.rosebudcd.com



Registration: Early registration \$75 per person October 15th–November 25th. November 26th–December 2nd will be \$125 per person * Registration include meals and refreshment during the conference. There will be \$25 cancellation fee and no refunds after November 25th

Sponsors

Talen Energy Montana,
Colstrip Power Plant
Custer County Conservation District
Bobcat of Miles City
Custer County Conservation District
Yellowstone County Conservation District

*Sponsors are welcome, contributions are tax deductible.

Vendors: \$125 / Booth

* All the meals included

Contact Bobbi Vannattan or go to our Website!



Call Bobbi Vannattan @ 406-346-7333 ext. 101. or

Email~bobbi.vannattan@mt.usda.gov

Go online to the Rosebud CD Website

www.rosebudcd.com



McCONE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

106 10th Street
P.O. Box 276
Circle, MT 59215

Phone: 406-485-2744 x100
Email: Mcconecountycd@yahoo.com
Website: www.mcconecountycd.com
Like us on Facebook! [Mcconecountycd](https://www.facebook.com/Mcconecountycd)

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Ashley Kiehl, Soil Conservationist, NRCS
Mandi Nay, Coordinator, DRWA

Upcoming Events

October 2015

7 Board Meeting, Circle

November 2015

2-5 Soil Health Workshops,
Missoula, Great Falls,
Bozeman, Billings &
Plentywood

4 Board Meeting, Circle

5 CMR CWG Meeting,
Lewistown

17-19 MACD Convention,
Missoula

26 Thanksgiving Day

December 2015

2 Board Meeting, Circle

2-3 Soil Health Workshops,
Forsyth

25 Christmas Day

MCCONE CONSERVATION DISTRICT MISSION STATEMENT CONSERVATION DISTRICT AUTHORITY

Mission Statement—By performing a leadership role in conservation for McCone County, the District will develop a more sustainable and economic resource management plan for the community.

Conservation District Authority—MCA 76-15-102 Declaration of policy. It is hereby declared to be the policy of the legislature to provide for the conservation of soil and soil resources of this state, for the control and prevention of soil erosion, for the prevention of floodwater and sediment damages, and for furthering the conservation, development, utilization, and disposal of water and therefore to preserve natural resources, control floods, prevent impairment of dams and reservoirs, preserve wildlife, protect the tax base, protect public lands, and protect and promote the health, safety, and general welfare of the people of this state.

