

CONSERVATION NEWS

McCONE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Inside this issue:

Grass: The Stockman's Crop	2
Featured Noxious Weed: Russian Knapweed	3
Priority Categorization: Weeds	3
Transferring Your Farm or Ranch to the Next Generation	4-5
FSA News	6
MACD	7
DRWA	7
February Event Flyers	8
Imminent Threats—Noxious Weeds Poster	9



Photo source: Unknown

"February is merely as long as is needed to pass the time until March." ~J.R. Stockton

INVASIVE WEED WORKSHOP

MCCONE COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS

FEBRUARY 17, 2016

1PM-5PM

TOPICS & SPEAKERS

COUNTY NOXIOUS WEED ACT

DAVID BURCH, STATE WEED COORDINATOR

PROPOSED EPA CHANGES FOR PRIVATE

APPLICATORS & RECORDKEEPING

DIANA DEYOUNG, MT DEPARTMENT OF AG

INVASIVE INTRODUCED GRASSES IN

RANGELAND PLANTINGS

DR. MATT RINELLA, ARS MILES CITY

IMMINENT THREATS

JOHNNA BLANKENSHIP, DC NRCS CIRCLE
FIELD OFFICE

PESTICIDE APPLICATIONS,

A Q & A SESSION

TYLER SCHAEFER, CROP PRODUCTION
SERVICES (CPS)

We are still taking Trees & Shrub Orders for the 2016 Season.

We will also be pre-ordering
Landscape Fabric* and Staples.

*Can't guarantee availability without pre-order.

If interested, please stop by the District Office
at 106 10th Street in Circle, call 485-2744 x100
or download order forms from our website.



PROVIDING QUALITY TREES AND SHRUBS FOR
WILDLIFE SHELTERBELTS, WINDBREAKS, AND
EROSION CONTROL. ALL AT AN AFFORDABLE PRICE!

*"Winter is on my head,
but eternal spring
is in my heart."
~ Victor Hugo*

Grass: The Stockman's Crop: How to Harvest More of It

Special Report by Harland E Dietz, Range Conservationist (Ret), SCS

Yes, grass is a crop—a crop that rivals corn, wheat, and soybeans in importance. It's the backbone of our livestock industry, and also important to wildlife, watersheds, and recreation. In this report you'll learn the basics about grass and ways to manage it for desired production.



DO YOU TAKE YOUR GRASS FOR GRANTED?

Almost everything takes their grass for granted—and has for a couple of centuries. Few of our early-day stockmen had enough time to look closely at their grass and think about its needs. The demands of pioneer life assigned their grass “crop” a low priority. The apparent endless growing energy of their grass gave them these founding cowmen a false sense of security.

Not enough of our pioneer stockmen realized then—or for that matter, even today—that grass needs more than Nature's allotment of rainfall in order to produce a bumper crop for livestock, our four-legged harvesting machines.

It's been difficult for a society oriented toward cultivation to accept that management and the manipulation of foraging animals is the basic key to production.

MANAGE YOUR GRASS

Experience with planted crops has naturally led many cattlemen to search for solutions to rangeland problems in the realm of fertilizers, mechanical equipment, and the like. The idea that grassland production could be increased via practical grazing management has, thank goodness, gained acceptance over the years.

But, the application of needed management has unfortunately lagged. Since the last ice age melted on its retreat northward, the vegetation of North America has had several thousand years to adapt to a multitude of local climatic and soil conditions. By the time European settlers turned out their cattle in the USA and Canada the most adapted grasses were already in place and flourishing. These grasses had through “survival of the fittest” and were in tune with their environments. They were adapted to grazing and could survive drought, flood, fire, insects, and diseases. Millions of wild animals, from bison to elk, were supported by this grass.

When they were largely replaced by cattle and sheep the conversion was rapid and simple. We got off easy. Because, in some parts of the world the native vegetation often had to be completely replaced before a livestock industry could prosper. Fencing of grasslands became widespread following the invention of barbed wire. This, however, was a two-edged sword. Stockmen could then control the grazing of their cattle, and so better manage their grass efficiently. But, fences also established confines that permitted mismanagement that often led to deterioration of the native pasture.

Fences plus water developments were even more damaging to grassland, because this allowed the stockman to continue to graze during the drought conditions where under natural conditions the grazing animals either left or died when the water dried up. The result: due to either a lack of understanding or a low priority given to grass management, many ranges degenerated far below their pre-cattleman conditions.

WHAT A RESOURCE!

There's a silver lining, though. Grass is a renewable resource. It'll respond to a combination of management techniques so you can restore much of its original lost production. The importance of grass management can't be overstressed. Many cattlemen have spent nearly their entire lifetimes in livestock breeding and culling programs to increase herd production 20 to 30 percent. They then also found they were able to increase stocking rates 30 to 100 percent through sound grazing management.

Your efforts to restore grass production need to begin with a solid grounding in the fundamentals of grass growth. There's a natural tendency to search for exotic and often expensive methods of improving grasslands. However, any innovation or practice that doesn't allow for the basic functions of grass growth to occur is incomplete. Once you understand the basics, then you can apply the innovations towards your goal of measurable improvement.

IS CORNERSTONE CROP

Have you ever thought about just how important grass is? In most states west of the Mississippi and in a few to the east, grass is the foundation of the leading source of income: the sale of livestock. But, in addition to production of meat, milk, and wool, grasslands provide other amenities important to us all. Grasslands form vast watersheds that yield quality water for urban use. They're also important for production of wildlife. And, they're becoming recognized as sources of recreation and aesthetics. There are more than 1,000 species of grass in the USA alone. And, in any given locality this number may vary from 100 to 200. As a general rule, eight to ten of these species produce 70 to 90 percent of a locality's forage.

Read more at: <http://mcconecountycd.com/newsletter-2/newsletter-2016/>



Featured Noxious Weed: Russian Knapweed

“Brown knapweed (*Centaurea jacea*,) closely resembles Russian knapweed, but its bracts are brown, not yellow-green and it is also not rhizomatous”.

Russian knapweed (*Acroptilon repens*, formerly *Centaurea repens*) is a rhizomatous, deep-rooted, long-lived perennial forb that grows about two feet tall. Stems are thin, stiff and covered with soft, short hairs. Rosette leaves are narrow at the base and widen toward the tip. Shoots emerge in the early spring, and plants bolt in early summer and flower from mid-summer to early fall. Like spotted knapweed, flower color is light pink to purple, but two characteristics distinguish Russian knapweed from spotted knapweed and other similarly colored knapweeds:

- Flower head bracts have light thin hairs, a papery, translucent tip and are green at the base
- Rhizomatous instead of tap-rooted

Habitat

Russian knapweed may occur in a wide range of habitats including open forests, rangeland, roadsides, Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) lands, pasture land and ditch banks, but its tolerance for poorly drained, saline, alkaline soils extends its range to irrigation ditches, flood plains and river corridors, too. It is likely to be a pest in crops and hay fields where its rhizomatous growth makes it difficult to control. In the north-central part of Montana, it is common in alfalfa and grain fields in the Missouri River bottomlands.

Spread and Establishment Potential

Russian knapweed seed production is highly variable, but generally lower than the other knapweeds. Plants along roadsides or on rangelands average 100 to 300 seeds per plant, but may increase to 1,200 under optimal conditions. Seed longevity is two to nine years. Russian knapweed has no appendages for dispersal, and seed is spread by the same mechanisms as for spotted knapweed. Once established, patches expand mainly by rhizomatous growth. Mature plants can spread radially from established plants' rhizomes and can cover up to 23 feet over two growing seasons. Rhizome fragments created after plowing or other disturbances can also increase spread. Competitive ability and spread is highly dependent on the surrounding plant community. Rhizomatous grasses can suppress this plant, but if competing vegetation is sparse or highly disturbed, or droughty conditions prevail, Russian knapweed is highly competitive.

Damage Potential

Knapweeds are associated with reductions in native plants, reduced forage yields and degraded habitats in range, grasslands and agricultural areas. Based on estimates from 1996, knapweeds cost Montana \$42 million per year in direct and indirect costs.

Russian knapweed can cause “chewing disease” in horses, a neurologic disorder that causes brain lesions and mouth ulcers. Symptoms of chewing disease include drowsiness, difficulty in eating and drinking, twitching of the lips, tongue flicking and involuntary chewing movements. There is no cure and horses die of dehydration or starvation. Horses will select other forage when available.

Biology, Ecology and Management of Montana Knapweeds, Duncan, C., Story, J., Shelley, R. Revised by Parkinson, H., and Mangold, J. EB2024 May 2011

ORIGINS, CURRENT STATUS and DISTRIBUTION

Russian knapweed is native to Mongolia, Russian Turkestan, Iran, Turkish Armenia and Asia Minor.

Seeds of Russian knapweed were present in alfalfa seed imported from Russian Turkestan beginning in 1898.

Once imported, it spread widely by sale of domestically produced alfalfa seed or hay containing weed seeds.

It was first reported in the Northwest in Yakima County, Washington, in 1922 and in Fergus County, Montana, in 1934.

By 1991 the weed was recorded in every Montana county and infests an estimated 51,000 acres.

Priority Categorization of Montana's State Listed 32 Noxious Weeds

Priority 1 species have limited populations within the state. Management includes eradication or containment and education to prevent the spread of these species. Yellow Starthistle, Dyer's Woad, Japanese Knotweed Complex, Purple Loosestrife, Rush Skeletonweed, Scotch Broom, Curly Pondweed, Eurasian Watermilfoil, Flowering Rush

Priority 2 species are weeds that are widespread in many counties. Management includes eradication or containment where populations are less abundant. Control of these weeds is prioritized by local weed districts. Tansy Ragwort, Meadow Hawkweed Complex, Orange Hawkweed, Tall Buttercup, Perennial Pepperweed, Yellowflag Iris, Blueweed, Hoary Alyssum, Canada Thistle, Field Bindweed, Leafy Spurge, Whitetop, Russian Knapweed, Spotted Knapweed, Diffuse Knapweed, Dalmatian Toadflax, St. Johns Wort, Sulfur Cinquefoil, Common Tansy, Oxeye Daisy, Houndstongue, Yellow Toadflax, and Saltcedar

Priority 3 regulated species are not actually state listed noxious weed species and control is not mandated as it is with other priority levels. Plant species listed as Priority 3 species may not be intentionally spread or sold other than as an agricultural contaminant in agricultural products. Cheatgrass, Hydrilla and Russian Olive

Source: Montana Noxious Weed Education Project

Transferring Your Farm or Ranch to the Next Generation

How to Combine Legal, Economic and Social Decision-Making

Transferring your farm or ranch to the next generation can be a complex web of economic, legal and family social decision.

- *Transfer planning* includes the legal and economic decisions.
- *Succession planning* includes family social decisions and managing value and role conflicts.

An important goal for many Montana farm/ranch family enterprises is transferring land and business to the next generation. This process is challenging because it includes a complex web of economic, legal, and family social decisions. Often taxes and legal decisions become the focus of attention while the family's social decisions about succession planning are ignored. Or, individuals assume that any problems, disagreements or differences among family members will be worked out when the legal and tax processes are in order. Serious problems can arise for both the younger and older generations, however, if the transfer and succession processes never begin. Often families avoid planning because they do not want to deal with the conflict that arises because of the differences among members regarding goals, values and perceptions of fairness and equity.



Photo source: www.bakerbro.com/ThreeGenerationsWheat.bmp

Getting Started

Younger generations often find it difficult to initiate a discussion about the farm/ranch transfer and succession processes because they fear older generations may perceive them as being overly interested in their inheritances. On the other hand, when older generations bring up the topic, younger generations may not be responsive because they do not want to think about their grandparents or parents dying. Magazine and newspaper articles about farm/ranch transfers or an estate planning seminar could provide an opportunity for family members to learn about legal and tax issues regarding transfer planning. Follow-up discussions can then be held among family members who could voice concerns from their various perspectives.

Family members are not always aware of all the issues that need to be considered, discussed between generations, and decided upon within the farm/ranch transfer process. Often there is a certain level of denial involved. That denial can be caused by issues that are hard for individuals to discuss, such as change, money, disability, mental incapacity or death. Every family also has certain issues that bring strong emotions to the surface or are point of disagreement among various family members. Families who have been through the transfer and succession planning processes suggest that first, issues need to be decided at an individual level. Next, these issues need to be discussed at the couple level.

Finally a discussion needs to be held at the family level for each unit in each generation. If this is accomplished before a discussion at the business level, negotiation often proceeds more smoothly, although not necessarily without times of tension or value and role conflict. The processes are more effective when all parties who could be involved in the transfer have an opportunity to identify and express their needs.

Members of the older generation will still make the final decision, but without hearing the needs and concerns of the other family members, they may make assumptions that are not necessarily true. And, at the same time, members of the younger generation will realize that their needs are being acknowledged and considered by the older generation.

Take the quiz to discover how well you know—or think you know—the expectations of your family members.

DISCOVERING EXPECTATIONS QUIZ

Families who have worked together in a business for years often think they know what the others' expectations are, but may never have really asked them. For example, what would be each family member's response to these questions?

1. Which child (ren) intends to operate the farm/ranch or will be involved in the farm/ranch?
2. Will non-farming/non-ranching children have ownership of significant farm/ranch assets currently owned by the parents?
3. What are the feelings of on-ranch/farm family members compared with off-ranch/farm members regarding the ownership of the business property?
4. What would happen to land and/or equipment that was transferred to a child who then prematurely died? (Would the property go to his or her spouse, the children or be returned to the parents?)
5. Do parents or grandparents need full income, partial income or no income from the farm/ranch when they retire?
6. When do the parents intend to give up control over the land (After they have both died? After the first parent dies? At retirement? When the children ask for it?)
7. Do parents want to own assets separately from or jointly with their children?
8. Who has control over major decisions in the farm/ranch, such as the purchase of business assets, mortgages (The parents? The children? Parents and the children?)
9. What consideration has been given to the "in-laws" in the ownership of the business property?

To finish reading this publication, go to <http://store.msueextension.org/publications/FamilyFinancialManagement/EB0149.pdf>

Article source: "Transferring Your Farm or Ranch to the Next Generation", Goetting, MA., Danes, SM., Knerr, V., Leifeld, C., Bradshaw, G., MSU Extension EB149



"They... threw themselves into the interests of the rest, but each plowed his or her own furrow. Their thoughts, their little passions and hopes and desires, all ran along separate lines. Family life is like this — animated, but collateral."
~Rose Macaulay



McCone County Office Committee (COC) Organized for 2016

Vida farmer Ryan Bogar was recently elected to serve a second 3-year term on the COC representing Local Administrative Area 2. The committee's organizational meeting was held in January. Michael Thoeny was elected as chairperson for 2016. Tom Garoutte will serve as vice-chairperson and Ryan Bogar is the voting member. Nancy Stempel is currently the minority advisor.

Deadline to Purchase 2016 NAP Coverage for Spring Planted Crops is March 15th

FSA would like to remind Montana producers that they have until **March 15, 2016** to sign-up for the Non-insurable Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage for 2016 spring planted NAP crops. NAP provides a catastrophic level (CAT) coverage based on the amount of loss that exceeds 50 percent of the expected production at 55 percent of the average market price for the crop. Under the 2014 Farm Bill, NAP now offers buy-up coverage for the 2015 through 2018 crop years in addition to the basic CAT-level coverage, on all crops except those intended for grazing. These additional coverage levels range from 50-65 percent of the expected production, in 5 percent increments, at 100 percent of the average market price.

2016 ARC-PLC Enrollment Began December 7th and ends on August 1st

FSA has announced that producers who chose coverage from the safety net programs established by the 2014 Farm Bill, known as the Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) or the Price Loss Coverage (PLC) programs, can visit FSA county offices to sign contracts to enroll in coverage for 2016. The enrollment period will continue until Aug. 1, 2016. Appointments are being scheduled with notification postcards mailed to producers a few weeks in advance of their scheduled appointment. Producers may contact the office if they would like contracts mailed rather than coming into the office to sign up. If a farm is not enrolled during the 2016 enrollment period, producers on that farm will not be eligible for financial assistance from the ARC or PLC programs should crop prices or farm revenues fall below the historical price or revenue benchmarks established by the program.

Conservation Reserve Program 49th Enrollment Period Underway; Feb 26th Deadline to Submit Offers to FSA

Farmers and ranchers are reminded that the general enrollment period for the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) began Dec. 1, 2015, and ends Feb. 26, 2016. December, 2015 also marks the 30th anniversary of CRP, a federally funded program that assists agricultural producers with the cost of restoring, enhancing and protecting certain grasses, shrubs and trees to improve water quality, prevent soil erosion and reduce loss of wildlife habitat.

Montana FSA Hiring Additional Loss Adjusters: Feb. 8th Deadline to Apply

FSA is currently accepting offers from individuals interested in providing contracted crop adjusting services throughout Montana for the 2016 crop year. Loss Adjuster applications for the 2016 crop year are due Feb. 8, 2016 to the Montana FSA state office.

Upcoming FSA Deadlines in Montana

- Feb. 1:** Deadline for 2015 Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) Application for Payment
- Feb. 1:** Deadline for Tree Assistance Program (TAP) Application for Payment and Supporting Documentation for Loss for 2015 (or 90 days after disaster event or loss was apparent)
- Feb. 1:** Final Availability Date for Loans and LDPs for Mohair, Unshorn Pelts (LDP only) & Wool
- Feb. 26:** Last Day of Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) General Signup
- March 15:** 2016 NAP Application Closing Date for Spring Crops
- March 31:** Final Availability Date for Loans and LDPs for Barley, Canola, Crambe, Flaxseed, Honey, Oats, Rapeseed, Wheat and Sesame Seed
- May 31:** Final Availability Date for Loans and LDPs for Corn, Dry Peas, Grain Sorghum, Lentils, Mustard Seed, Rice, Safflower Seed, Chickpeas, Soybeans and Sunflower Seed





Two \$500 Scholarships are available for Montana students—high school seniors or students *who are attending* an accredited post secondary institution in Montana may apply.

Eligibility requirements include: US citizenship, Montana residency, minimum grade point average of 3.0, and enrollment or plans to enroll in a course of study that allows students to explore natural resource issues. Appropriate courses of study include agriculture, agribusiness, animal science, range science, forestry, environmental science, land resource science, plant science, etc.

Students may receive a scholarship both as a high school senior and once during post secondary career.

Application deadline is February 18, 2016.

Visit www.macdnet.org/scholarship for more information and the application.



COLD & FLU SEASON

By Mandi Nay

We all succumb to a cold or cough every now and then. Actually, each year, Americans suffer through one billion colds. Children catch up to 10 colds a year, while adults average up to four. Runny nose, fever, sore throat, etc...all dreaded symptoms of the common cold. Over-the-counter meds available can only battle symptoms, and not the cause. The fact of the matter is that little can actually be done for a virus once it sets in, except to ride it out.

The best way to fight a cold is just to prevent it from overtaking the body in the first place. There are things you can do to help, including washing hands frequently, taking vitamins and avoiding people who are sick. But, perhaps the most important (and easiest) form of prevention is sometimes also the most overlooked: sufficient fluid replacement.

Fluids flush out harmful impurities and toxins in our bodies, and aid in the production of mucus. Since the body uses even more fluid than usual when fighting off a cold or flu, the body can be left very dehydrated without it. That is why extra water should be ingested when a cold or flu hits. In fact, a lack of water can make the colds and coughs worse.

Hot beverages can be soothing to a sore throat and can reduce congestion. Also, gargling with salt water is helpful. In the way of coughs, drinking ample water will keep the mucus lining in the lung area thin and lubricated, making it easier to have a productive cough. Water will also help loosen phlegm, and will just plain soothe an irritated throat. Not only can water help prevent a cold, but it can also help sufferers feel better. By drinking plenty of clean water, we can build up our immune systems which will allow us to stay healthy and enjoy the wonders beauty of the winter season.



February Event Flyers

SOIL HEALTH

How to up
the mark!



Tuesday, February 2, 2016 1- 4:30
Fairgrounds Exhibit Hall, 7900 Hwy 7, Wibaux, MT

Speakers: Jay Fuhrer
Todd McPeak

*Soil is a complex organism and it always
responds productively to diversity.*

Please RSVP by January 29,
2016 to 406-796-2211 Ext 3



NRCS provides reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities to participate in NRCS programs. If you require special accommodations, contact Katrina Johnson, at 406-796-2211

USDA is an equal opportunity employer and provider

GLASGOW SOIL HEALTH & COVER CROP ROUNDTABLE

WHEN
Thursday February 11th, 2016
1pm-4pm

WHERE
Glasgow City-County Library
408 3rd Ave South

Interested in cover crops and soil health practices but unsure where to start? Come to this interactive roundtable for specific advice and direction on how to incorporate soil health practices into your farming or ranching operation.

TOPICS:

- ADDING DIVERSITY TO CROPPING ROTATIONS
- GRAZING COVER CROPS
- CROP DISEASE RISKS
- COMMODITY MARKET OUTLOOK
- COVER CROP IMPACTS ON CROP INSURANCE



QUESTIONS?

CALL KATE VOGEL
(406) 600-5205
KVOGEL@NORTH40AG.COM

WWW.NORTH40AG.COM



Winter Workshop: Invasive Weeds

McCone County Fairgrounds
February 17, 2016
1pm - 5pm



An Educational Opportunity
With a Great Line-up of Speakers!
Applicator Points Awarded:
• Private—4
• Commercial—3

TOPICS

- County Noxious Weed Act
- Proposed EPA changes for Private Applicators & Recordkeeping
- Invasive Introduced Grasses in Rangeland Plantings
- Imminent Threats—Spotted Knapweed, Leafy Spurge, Hoary Cress, and Houndstongue
- Pesticide Applications, a Q & A Session



February 2nd & 3rd 2016

2016 WINTER GRAZING SEMINAR

MISSOULA • MONTANA

DoubleTree Hotel
Missoula, Montana

Tuesday, Feb. 2nd

8:30 am – 9:00 am: Registration
9:00 am – 9:30 am: Welcome and Introductions
Jim Simpson, Lake County Conservation District Chair
Other Introductions??
9:30 am – 10:30 am: Steve Kenyon – Greener Pastures Ranching Ltd., Babb, AB: "Redneck Ranching – Economics and Environmental Sustainability for Generations"
10:30 am – 10:45 am: Break
10:45 am – 11:45 am: Steven C. Franzen, Ph.D. – Forage and Extension Agronomist, Washington State University, Prosser, WA
"How do Plants Respond to Grazing: Improving Pasture Productivity via Targeted Grazing"
11:45 am – 1:00 pm: Lunch
1:00 pm – 2:15 pm: Awards Ceremony
Panel Discussion on Winter Grazing facilitated by Ben Montgomery, District Conservationist, Rotum, MT
Panelists:
• Steven C. Franzen, Ph.D. – Forage and Extension Agronomist, Washington State University, Prosser, WA
• Steve Kenyon – Greener Pastures Ranching Ltd., Babb, AB
• Rick Cagnell – Rancher and Rangeland Management Specialist, NRCS, Great Falls, MT
• Dave Scott – Rancher, Livestock Specialist, National Center for Appropriate Technology, Butte, MT
• Race King – Ranch Manager, La Crosse Ranch, Dillon, MT
2:15 pm – 2:30 pm: Break
2:30 pm – 4:00 pm: Panel Discussion and Audience Questions – Continued
Panel Discussion Topics Will Include:
• Winter grazing basics: do's and don'ts of winter grazing
• Reducing expenses and maximizing financial returns
• Optimizing animal performance
• Selecting where and when to winter graze
• Managing pasture for winter grazing
• Utilizing diverse forages and feeding methods: cover crops, bale grazing, slash grazing, aftermath hay
• Supplementation during the dormant season
• Winter grazing and calving
• Adding flexibility to stocking rates on the ranch
4:00 pm: End
5:00 pm – 7:00 pm: No Half Social and Bar! Join us! Kettlehouse Brewery (Nashville), 313 N. 1st St., W. Missoula, MT

Wed. Feb. 3rd

8:30 am – 9:00 am: Registration
9:00 am – 9:15 am: Welcome and Introductions
Jim Simpson, Lake County Conservation District Chair
9:15 am – 10:00 am: Breakfast Session One
10:00 am – 11:00 am: Breakfast Session Two
11:00 am – 12:00 pm: Breakfast Session Three
12:00 pm – 1:00 pm: Breakfast Session Four
1:00 pm: End

Breakfast Session Topics (Four Topics will be held during each session, attendees will attend the topics that interest them most)

- Steven C. Franzen, Ph.D. – Forage and Extension Agronomist, Washington State University, Prosser, WA: "Maximizing Pasture Production"
- Steve Kenyon – Greener Pastures Ranching Ltd., Babb, AB: "Bale Grazing, Slash Grazing and Managing Leased Pastures"
- Rick Cagnell – Rancher and Rangeland Management Specialist, NRCS, Great Falls, MT: "Animal Nutrition and Monitoring"
- Dave Scott – Rancher, Livestock Specialist, National Center for Appropriate Technology, Butte, MT: "Dormant Season Grazing on Irrigated Pastures"
- Race King – Ranch Manager, La Crosse Ranch, Dillon, MT: "Intensive Grazing Mgr. under Pasture"
- Josh Schreengost – Biologist, NRCS, Great Falls, MT: "Maximizing Wildlife Habitat Grazing"
- Ann Fischer – Rancher, District Conservationist, NRCS, Butte, MT: "Alternative Forage Options – Cover Crops"
- Matt Rickert – State Forester, NRCS, MT: "Forestland Grazing Dynamics and Nutrition"
- Kristi Waldau, District Conservationist, NRCS, Joliet, MT: "Grazing for Weed Control"
- Five Valley's Land Trust: "Conservation Easements on Ag. Lands"

To Register on-line:
<http://wcdmi.org/winter-grazing-seminar/>
For more information please contact:
Ben Montgomery <Ben.Montgomery@mt.usda.gov> or
Steph Barter <SBarter@mt.gov> (406) 444-6619

Hosted by the Lake County Conservation District

Coming Up in March

310 Workshop in Culbertson March 8th

ONE OF THE TOPICS COVERED IN OUR UPCOMING WORKSHOP



Spotted Knapweed



HOARY CRESS

IMMINENT THREATS--COMING TO A FIELD NEAR YOU



HOUNDSTONGUE



LEAFY SPURGE

[illegible]



McCONE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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

Phone: 406-485-2744 x100
Email: mcconecd@macdnet.org
Website: www.mcconecountycd.com
Like us on Facebook! McCone County Conservation District

Conservation District Board & Staff

Steve Wanderaas, Chairman
Casey Nay, Vice-Chairman
Larry Nagel, Urban Supervisor
Brant Quick, Rural Supervisor
Josh Murphy, Rural Supervisor
Greg Nagel, Rural Supervisor
** Opening **, Rural Supervisor
Kirk Haynie, Associate Supervisor
Mary Hendrix, Administrator & Editor

Partners in Conservation

Johnna Blankenship, DC, NRCS
Mandi Nay, Coordinator, DRWA

Upcoming Events

February 2016

- 2 Soil Health Workshop, Wibaux
- 2-3 Winter Grazing Seminar, Missoula
- 3 Board Meeting, Circle
- 10 County Weed Meeting, Circle
- 11 Soil Health & Cover Crop Roundtable, Glasgow
- 15 Presidents Day Holiday-Office Closed
- 17 Noxious Weed Workshop, Circle
- 18 NWTF Grant Meeting, Circle

March 2016

- 8 310 Workshop, Culbertson
- 16 Board Meeting, Circle

April 2016

- 6 Board Meeting, Circle

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.

Disclaimer: The views and opinions expressed on the Conservation News do not necessarily represent those of McCone Conservation District.

