



# Shavano District

# Fall News

FALL 2021  
VOLUME 24  
ISSUE 3

SERVING MONTROSE, GUNNISON, OURAY, AND  
SAN MIGUEL COUNTIES

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## Fall Cover Crop Tour—Nov. 10, 2021

The Western Colorado Soil Health Team has announced two future events they are hosting. The first is the Fall Cover Crop Tour on November 10, 2021. The Team is partnering with Shavano Conservation District and Yara's Agoro Carbon Alliance to host the tour,



which will kick off from the USDA Service Center at 102 Par Place, Montrose. Individuals interested in the tour should meet at the USDA Service Center at 9am to board the tour bus.

Three featured stops on the tour will visit farms between Spring Creak and north Olathe. The stops will highlight multiple cover crop and minimum till fields, inter-seeding legume cover crop mixes in sweet corn and in field corn for cow pasture, and surge irrigation techniques.

For more information and to RSVP for the tour, contact the Shavano Conservation District at 970-249-8407.

## WCSHC Keynote Speakers: Dale Strickler and Marlon Winger

The second event hosted by the team is the Western Colorado Soil Health Conference on February 26, 2022 at the Montrose Pavilion. The keynote speakers for the 2022 Conference will be Green Cover Seed Agronomist and author, Dale Strickler and NRCS Regional Soil Health Specialist Marlon Winger.

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Dale Strickler



## Carl McKinney Join SCD Board of Directors



Carl McKinney

At the September Shavano Conservation District Board Meeting Carl McKinney was sworn on to the Board. Carl was on the San Miguel Basin Conservation District Board for more than 20 years and served as president of the Board for the last 15. While Carl was serving on the SMBCD board, the District completed projects such as reseeding rangeland after wild fires and pest management during grasshopper infestations through a combination of baiting the ‘hoppers into areas designated for spraying them.

As a third generation resident of the Norwood area, Carl’s family has been strong in conservation for over 40 years. Both sets of his grandparents homesteaded the edge of Lone Cone. He even has 1912 photos of his grandparents building Lone Cone Reservoir, moving dirt with a horse team.

## Seedling Tree Sale!

CSU Extension and Colorado State Forest Service are doing a collaborative sale of seedling plants. Contact your local CSU Extension office in the Tri River Area to order. Do NOT order online. Our prices are less expensive than if you purchase directly from the nursery.

Due to covid, and the number of fires we had a year ago, there are limited quantities of many of the potted species. We will do our best to get you these plants, but they do go quickly as they go to as many as 7 states.

Remember these Colorado sourced plants (seedlings) are small and water is essential to their survival. More information on planting and survival. [https://](https://csfs.colostate.edu/seedling-tree-nursery/planting-guide/)

[csfs.colostate.edu/seedling-tree-nursery/planting-guide/](https://csfs.colostate.edu/seedling-tree-nursery/planting-guide/)

The first order will be placed Monday, November 1, call or come by early. After that we will be placing orders on Friday mornings, though sometimes if quantities are low we can hold plants once we have payment.

**Seedlings Tree and Plant Sale Starts November**

Seedling trees and plants are available to purchase for conservation plantings.

- Reduce stormwater runoff
- Enhance wildlife habitat
- Reduce energy costs
- Increased plant diversity

For more information, call the CSU Extension Office at: 970-249-3935 or visit our website <https://tra.extension.colostate.edu>







Colorado State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture and Colorado counties cooperating. CSU Extension programs are available to all without discrimination.

MONTROSE COUNTY  
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY  
EXTENSION



## SCD Attends Ridgway RiverFest

The 2021 Ridgway RiverFest on August 28 raised \$13,000 for the Uncompahgre Watershed Partnership, and provided watershed education and outreach opportunities for the nonprofit focused on the Uncompahgre River watershed in Ouray County. The free festival included river races, a Ute culture presentation, two bands, a rubber ducky river race, a silent auction, and lots of booths with food, drinks, community information, and giveaways from local businesses.



Continued from Page 1...

## Cover Crop Corner:

### WCSHC Keynote Speakers Dale Strickler and Marlon Winger

**D**ale Strickler is an agronomist for Green Cover Seed, the nation's leading cover crop specific seed company and a leader in the soil health movement, based out of Bladen, NE. He grew up on a diversified farm near Colony, KS, then attended Kansas State university, achieving both B.S. and M.S. degrees in Agronomy. Dale also has his own cattle operation near Jamestown, KS, where he puts into practice his theories about creating better soil. He planted his first cover crop in 1988 and has been experimenting with them ever since with increasingly impressive results.



Marlon Winger earned a BS and MS degrees at Utah State University in Plant Science. He grew up on a family owned dairy farm in Dayton, Idaho, where he found his professional passion for life (Agriculture). Marlon worked as a County Agricultural Agent for Utah State University Extension service for 9 years in Price, Utah. Has been working for the USDA - Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) for 17 years, as Area Agronomist in Northern Utah and State Agronomist in Idaho, currently works as the Regional Soil Health Specialist for MT, WY, UT, and Idaho. Marlon and his family lives on a ranchette in Casper, WY where the family raises, pasture, sheep, hogs, a few calves and a large garden.



Marlon Winger

Although the Western Colorado Soil Health Conference is being held in person at the Montrose Pavilion, virtual/online attendance options are also available.

Tickets will be made available starting in November. Visit the conference website for a conference schedule, the full line-up of speakers, and to register: [www.westerncoloradosoilhealth.org](http://www.westerncoloradosoilhealth.org).

### Be a Western Colorado Soil Health Conference Sponsor!

**S**ponsorships are critical to the Soil Health Conference and off-set conference expenses to keep registration fees affordable and accessible for all attendees. Sponsors of this event will have an opportunity to build and expand upon new and existing relationships with Colorado producers from all over the state. Sponsorship information can also be found on the conference website.

The Western Colorado Soil Health Team is made up of individuals and local agencies that promote the 5 principles of soil health: minimize soil disturbance, keep the soil covered, maintain a live root in the soil, plant diversity, and integrate livestock grazing.



## John Miller is New Regional Field Specialist for CSCB

John Miller changed positions from a Civil Engineer Technician in the Montrose NRCS Office to being the new Regional Field Specialist for the Colorado State Conservation Board. John is a lifelong resident of Delta County. He worked previously for Wilmore and Company Land Surveying and UTE Engineering while in his 20’s. John was with the Delta Conservation District for right at 10 years (all of his 30’s). While at Delta Conservation District, John spent the first year and a half as an engineering technician and the remainder of the time there in the Irrigation Water Management position (IWM). In May 2020, John joined the Montrose NRCS team as a Civil Engineering Technician, designing, drafting, and surveying.

John’s experience in engineering, IWM, Conservation District operations, and NRCS protocols will be a great asset to the western slope conservation districts!



John Miller next to a research quality advanced soil moisture monitoring system that he installed in 2018

**Colorado Association of Conservation Districts**

**CACD 77th Annual Meeting Agenda**

**November 15– 19th, 2021**

<p><b>Water, Energy Education/Urban Interface</b></p> <p>Resource Committee Meeting</p> <p>November 15 6:30 PM</p>	<p><b>Soil &amp; Land</b></p> <p>Resource Committee Meeting</p> <p>November 16 6:30 PM</p>	<p><b>District Outlook &amp; Financial</b></p> <p>Resource Committee Meeting</p> <p>November 17 6:30 PM</p>	<p><b>CACD Membership Business Meeting</b></p> <p>November 18 6:00 PM</p> <p>*Presentation: 2020 NRCS/ CSCB/CACD Partnership Video Determine Quorum, Read/Approve 2020 Minutes CACD Financial Review 2020/ Financial Update 2021/2022 Budget Approval CACD Bylaws and Policy Book Review</p> <p>Resource Committee Reports Reading of 2021 Resolutions - Voting on 2021 Resolutions Thank You/Adjourn</p>
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**NEWCOMERS MEETING**

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 15TH, 4:00-5:00 PM

**AWARDS CEREMONY & POSTER CONTEST**

November 19th  
6:00 – 8:00 PM

Resource Committee Meetings & Membership Meeting  
**ALL VIRTUAL & ALL FREE!**

General Assembly Membership Meeting & Resolution Voting!  
**YOU DO MAKE A DIFFERENCE!**

**WESTERN COLORADO**

**SOIL HEALTH CONFERENCE**

**FEBRUARY 26, 2022**

**7:30am-5:00pm**

**NEW LOCATION**

**Montrose Pavilion**

1800 E Pavilion Pl, Montrose, CO 81401

**Marlon Winger**  
USDA—NRCS  
Regional Soil Health Specialist

**Dale Strickler**  
Green Cover Seed  
Agronomist

Keynote Speakers

Early Registration (until Feb. 11)	\$40
Virtual Conference	\$40
In-Person Conference Registration (after Feb. 11)	\$50
College Student Rate (with Valid ID)	\$20

<http://www.westerncoloradosoilhealth.org/>



Destry Seiler

## Destry Seiler Joins the NRCS Engineers

Hi there! My name is Destry Seiler. I grew up in Kirkland, Washington and went to school at Washington State University in Pullman, Washington for my degrees in Civil Engineering with a Water Resources/Hydrology emphasis. My love for adventure, travel, and the outdoors combined with my passion for water and hydrology led me to spend time in Mexico, Panama, and Ghana working with underdeveloped communities to help them with their food, water, and housing needs. After returning to the states I moved to Northern Idaho to work as a Civil Engineer for the Forest Service. However, my desire to get back in touch with water, land, and the people who rely on those natural resources for their livelihood led me to the NRCS. I am so excited to join the NRCS team and enjoy Colorado!

## Carma Edgell is New Program Support Specialist

Hi, I am Carma! I was born in Cortez, CO, but moved around quite a bit with my parents when I was younger. After I graduated from High School in Seminole, TX I joined the US Navy and spent some time in Florida, Tennessee and California.

I met my husband of 25 years, a local boy Eric Edgell. We have 2 boys. Harlen is 18 and graduated in 2021. He is working and is going to start a Vo Tech Program for Graphic Design and computer stuff in the spring. Garret is my baby at 15 years old and is part of the JR ROTC at the high school. He is counting the days until he gets his drivers license and can be free!

I stayed at home with the boys until they both were in school full time. While I was staying home with them, I went back to school and finished my Bachelors Degree in Business Management with a minor in Human Resources. When Garret was born, I decided to go back to school again and finished my MBA with a double Major in Human Resources. I worked at WAPA for 9 years, until my husband started his own Excavation Business. I then helped get him up and going strong. Since he did not need me much anymore, I started looking at job listings. When the NRCS job came open, I jumped at the chance of meeting new people, learning new and interesting matters and the rest is history!



Carma Edgell



## Conservation at Work Video Series

A new video series from NRCS and Farmers.gov, “Conservation at Work”, presents short and easy to understand videos about popular conservation practices. These videos feature producers explaining how an individual practice helps their land and why they are using it.

The videos shine the spotlight on farmers, ranchers, and forestland owners from across the U.S. who explain why they’ve implemented the conservation practices and how they work on their land. They also provide insight into how each practice is helping them protect and improve resources and save time and money.

The first 15 videos cover:

- Brush Management
- Cover Crop
- Forest Stand Improvement
- Grade Stabilization
- Grassed Waterway
- High Tunnel
- No Till
- Nutrient Management
- Prescribed Grazing
- Pumping Station
- Sprinkler System
- Trails and Walkways
- Waste Storage
- Water & Sediment Control Basin
- Wetland Restoration

The Conservation at Work video series can be found at [farmers.gov/conservation/conservationatwork](https://farmers.gov/conservation/conservationatwork).



## Be on the Lookout: New Form Required for Some NRCS Customers

If you are a producer or landowner who participates in USDA’s Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) conservation programs, the Farm Service Agency (FSA) may be reaching out by mail with information about a form you’ll need to fill out.

Starting this year, all producers and landowners participating or applying to participate in certain NRCS conservation programs must complete form CCC-902, Farm Operating Plan. Historically, to participate in these programs, legal entities could file either the CCC-901, Member Information or the CCC-902, while individuals were not specifically required to file the CCC-902 with FSA. Now, to ensure FSA and NRCS are properly determining payment eligibility and maximum payment limitations, all customers must have a CCC-902 on file to establish eligibility.

These changes will not affect participants who already have a Form CCC-902 with a “determined” status

recorded with FSA. Customers that do not have a CCC-902 on file with FSA will be sent a letter in the mail in the coming weeks with detailed information on what is needed and how to file the form. The letter requests that the form be completed within 30 days of receiving the letter.

For added convenience, USDA is offering options for remote or in-person submission of the CCC-902. Fiscal year 2021 is considered a transition year to ensure all NRCS program participants can meet this updated filing requirement. Beginning in FY 2022, if form CCC-902 is not on file your payments may be impacted.

We can help: NRCS and FSA staff are available at USDA Service Centers nationwide to provide information and assistance to walk you through meeting this filing requirement. For more information, see the NRCS National Bulletin 300-21-7 or FSA Notice PL-293.

## New Farmers.gov Conservation Concerns Tool Provides Customized Support for America’s Farmers and Ranchers

Are you interested in keeping your working land productive for years to come? Use Natural Resources Conservation Service’s new Conservation Concerns Tool to learn about conservation concerns that might impact your agricultural operation, then work with us on solutions targeted to fit your business needs. This tool is available now on our Farmers.gov website, no login or account necessary.

With plain language and illustrative photos, the Conservation Concerns Tool provides a walkthrough of more than 40 conservation concerns related to soil, water, plants, animals, energy and air. Use the tool to create a list of resource concerns specific to your farm, ranch, or working

forest lands, then download or print your list to share with NRCS staff at your local USDA Service Center.

We have a video available to walk you through the tool so you can see how it works.

The Conservation Concerns Tool is built to run on any modern browser such as Chrome, Edge, Firefox, or Safari and is fully functional on mobile devices. Whether you work from your desktop at home or your smartphone in the field, this new tool offers personalized conservation insights to meet the needs of 21st century agriculture. Visit [farmers.gov/conserves](https://farmers.gov/conserves) to learn about additional USDA resources available for your working land.





## USDA Expands Assistance to Cover Feed Transportation Costs for Drought-Impacted Ranchers

In response to the severe drought conditions in the West and Great Plains, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced today its plans to help cover the cost of transporting feed for livestock that rely on grazing. USDA is updating the Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees and Farm-raised Fish Program (ELAP) to immediately cover feed transportation costs for drought impacted ranchers. USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) will provide more details and tools to help ranchers get ready to apply at their local USDA Service Center later this month at [fsa.usda.gov/elap](https://fsa.usda.gov/elap).

"USDA is currently determining how our disaster assistance programs can best help alleviate the significant economic, physical and emotional strain agriculture producers are experiencing due to drought conditions," said Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack. "The duration and intensity of current drought conditions are merciless, and the impacts of this summer's drought will be felt by producers for months to come. Today's announcement is to provide relief as ranchers make fall and winter herd management decisions."

ELAP provides financial assistance to eligible producers of livestock, honeybees, and farm-raised fish for losses due to disease, certain adverse weather events or loss conditions as determined by the Secretary of Agriculture.

ELAP already covers the cost of hauling water during drought, and this change will expand the program beginning in 2021 to cover feed transportation costs where grazing and hay resources have been depleted. This includes places where:

Drought intensity is D2 for eight consecutive weeks as indicated by the U.S. Drought Monitor;

Drought intensity is D3 or greater; or

USDA has determined a shortage of local or regional feed availability.

Cost share assistance will also be made available to cover eligible cost of treating hay or feed to prevent the spread of invasive pests like fire ants.

Under the revised policy for feed transportation cost assistance, eligible ranchers will be reimbursed 60% of feed transportation costs above what would have been incurred in a normal year. Producers qualifying as underserved (socially disadvantaged, limited resource, beginning or military veteran) will be reimbursed for 90% of the feed transportation cost above what would have been incurred in a normal year.

A national cost formula, as established by USDA, will be used to determine reimbursement costs which will not include the first 25 miles and distances exceeding 1,000 transportation miles. The calculation will also exclude the normal cost to transport hay or feed if the producer normally purchases some feed. For 2021, the initial cost formula of \$6.60 per mile will be used (before the percentage is applied), but may be adjusted on a state or regional basis.

To be eligible for ELAP assistance, livestock must be intended for grazing and producers must have incurred feed transportation costs on or after Jan. 1, 2021. Although producers will self-certify losses and expenses to FSA, producers are encouraged to maintain good records and retain receipts and related documentation in the event these documents are requested for review by the local FSA County Committee. The deadline to file an application for payment for the 2021 program year is Jan. 31, 2022.

### Additional USDA Drought Assistance

USDA has authorized other flexibilities to help producers impacted by drought. USDA's Risk Management Agency (RMA) extended deadlines for premium and administrative fee payments and deferred and waived the resulting interest accrual to help farmers and ranchers through widespread drought conditions in many parts of the nation. Additionally, RMA authorized emergency procedures to help streamline and accelerate the adjustment of losses and issuance of indemnity payments to crop insurance policyholders in impacted areas and updated policy to



## Change to Policy on Filing a Notice of Loss for Grazed Forage Producers with NAP Coverage



For the 2021 and subsequent crop years, NAP forage producers with the intended use of grazing who elect to use independent assessments or other approved alternative loss percentage methods to establish their loss are no longer required to file a CCC-576 Notice of Loss with FSA. However, a CCC-576 Application for Payment form must be submitted to FSA no later than 60 calendar days

after the coverage period ends.

Producers that elect to have the grazing loss determined using similar mechanically harvested units still must timely file a CCC-576 Notice of Loss within 15 days of the disaster event or damage to the crop first becomes apparent or within 15 days of harvest.

### Advertise with the Shavano District News

If you have a business that you would like to advertise in the SCD News, contact Mendy Stewart at 249-8407, ext. 113 for more information and rates.

## Continued from page 7... USDA Expands Assistance to Cover Feed Transportation Costs for Drought-Impacted Ranchers

allow producers with crop insurance to hay, graze or chop cover crops at any time and still receive 100% of the prevented planting payment. This policy change supports use of cover crops, which improves soil health can help producers build resilience to drought.

Meanwhile, USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) provides technical and financial assistance to improve irrigation efficiency and water storage in soil, helping producers build resilience to drought. In response to drought this year, NRCS targeted \$41.8 million in Arizona, California, Colorado and Oregon through Conservation Incentive Contracts, a new option available through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program, focused on drought practices.

USDA offers a comprehensive portfolio of disaster assistance programs. On farmers.gov, the Disaster Assistance Discovery Tool, Disaster Assistance-at-a-Glance fact sheet, and Farm Loan Discovery Tool can help producers and land-owners determine all program or loan options available for disaster recovery assistance.

### More Information

More information on this expansion to ELAP is forthcoming. In the meantime, more information is available at [fsa.usda.gov/elap](https://fsa.usda.gov/elap) or by contacting a local USDA Service Center.

USDA touches the lives of all Americans each day in so many positive ways. In the Biden-Harris Administration, USDA is transforming America's food system with a greater focus on more resilient local and regional food production, fairer markets for all producers, ensuring access to safe, healthy and nutritious food in all communities, building new markets and streams of income for farmers and producers using climate smart food and forestry practices, making historic investments in infrastructure and clean energy capabilities in rural America, and committing to equity across the Department by removing systemic barriers and building a workforce more representative of America. To learn more, visit [www.usda.gov](https://www.usda.gov).





## Farmers.gov Feature Helps Producers Find Farm Loans that Fit Their Operation

Farmers and ranchers can use the Farm Loan Discovery Tool on farmers.gov to find information on USDA farm loans that may best fit their operations.

USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) offers a variety of loan options to help farmers finance their operations. From buying land to financing the purchase of equipment, FSA loans can help.

USDA conducted field research in eight states, gathering input from farmers and FSA farm loan staff to better understand their needs and challenges.

### How the Tool Works

Farmers who are looking for financing options to operate a farm or buy land can answer a few simple questions about what they are looking to fund and how much money they need to borrow. After submitting their answers, farmers will receive information on farm loans that best fit their specific needs. The loan application and additional resources also will be provided.

Farmers can download application quick guides that outline what to expect from preparing an application to receiving a loan decision. There are four guides that cover loans to individuals, entities, and youth, as well as information on microloans. The guides include general eligibility requirements and a list of required forms and documentation for each type of loan. These guides can help farmers prepare before their first USDA service center visit with a loan officer.

Farmers can access the Farm Loan Discovery Tool by visit-

ing [farmers.gov/fund](https://farmers.gov/fund) and clicking the "Start" button. Follow the prompts and answer five simple questions to receive loan information that is applicable to your agricultural operation. The tool is built to run on any modern browser like Chrome, Edge, Firefox, or the Safari browser, and is fully functional on mobile devices. It does not work in Internet Explorer.

### About Farmers.gov

In 2018, USDA unveiled farmers.gov, a dynamic, mobile-friendly public website combined with an authenticated portal where farmers will be able to apply for programs, process transactions, and manage accounts.

The Farm Loan Discovery Tool is one of many resources on farmers.gov to help connect farmers to information that can help their operations. Earlier this year, USDA launched the My Financial Information feature, which enables farmers to view their loan information, history, payments, and alerts by logging into the website.

USDA is building farmers.gov for farmers, by farmers. In addition to the interactive farm loan features, the site also offers a Disaster Assistance Discovery Tool. Farmers can visit [farmers.gov/recover/disaster-assistance-tool#step-1](https://farmers.gov/recover/disaster-assistance-tool#step-1) to find disaster assistance programs that can help their operation recover from natural disasters.

For more information on guaranteed loans, contact your Mesa County USDA Service Center at 970-242-4511 ext. 2 or visit [fsa.usda.gov](https://fsa.usda.gov).

## Disaster Assistance for 2021 Livestock Forage Losses

Producers in Montrose-Gunnison-Ouray Counties are eligible to apply for 2021 Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP) benefits on non-irrigated pastures.

LFP provides compensation if you suffer grazing losses for covered livestock due to drought on privately owned or cash leased land or on federally managed land.

County committees can only accept LFP applications after notification is received by the National Office of qualifying

drought or if a federal agency prohibits producers from grazing normal permitted livestock on federally managed lands due to qualifying fire. You must complete a CCC-853 and the required supporting documentation no later than January 30, 2022, for 2021 losses.

For additional information about LFP, including eligible livestock and fire criteria, contact your Montrose-Gunnison-Ouray County USDA Service Center at 970-249-8407 extension 2.



## Reminders for FSA Direct and Guaranteed Borrowers with Real Estate Security

Farm loan borrowers who have pledged real estate as security for their Farm Service Agency (FSA) direct or guaranteed loans are responsible for maintaining loan collateral. Borrowers must obtain prior consent or approval from FSA or the guaranteed lender for any transaction that affects real estate security. These transactions include, but are not limited to:

- Leases of any kind
- Easements of any kind
- Subordinations
- Partial releases

- Sales

Failure to meet or follow the requirements in the loan agreement, promissory note, and other security instruments could lead to nonmonetary default which could jeopardize your current and future loans.

It is critical that borrowers keep an open line of communication with their FSA loan staff or guaranteed lender when it comes to changes in their operation. For more information on borrower responsibilities, read Your FSA Farm Loan Compass.

## USDA Announces Increased Subsidies and Other Improvements to the Livestock Risk Protection Insurance Program

The USDA's Risk Management Agency (RMA) announced it is increasing premium subsidies and will make other improvements to the Livestock Risk Protection (LRP) plan of insurance for feeder cattle, fed cattle and swine starting with the 2021 crop year. The increased premium subsidy is retroactive to the beginning of the 2021 crop year and is based on the coverage selected by you. RMA will implement the other improvements later this year.

Other improvements to be implemented include:

- Increasing livestock head limits for feeder and fed cattle to 6,000 head per endorsement/12,000 head annually, and swine to 40,000 head per endorse-

ment/150,000 head annually

- Modifying the requirement to own insured livestock until the last 60 days of the endorsement
- Increasing the endorsement lengths for swine up to 52 weeks
- Creating new feeder cattle and swine types to allow for unborn livestock to be insured

For more information on the LRP program, please see the RMA website ([www.rma.usda.gov/Policy-and-Procedure/Insurance-Plans/Livestock-Insurance-Plans?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=govdelivery](http://www.rma.usda.gov/Policy-and-Procedure/Insurance-Plans/Livestock-Insurance-Plans?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery)). RMA is authorizing additional flexibilities due to coronavirus. More information can be found at [farmers.gov/coronavirus](http://farmers.gov/coronavirus).

# USDA SERVICE CENTER CONTACT INFORMATION

## FARM SERVICE AGENCY

970-249-8407

Direct Phone

**MIKE STEFFEN**, District Director 964-3590  
**NATALIE PARKER**, County Exec. Dir. 964-3589  
**JO TRICE**, Program Technician 964-3572  
**DEBBIE STEWART**, Program Technician 964-3571



### MONTROSE-GUNNISON-OURAY COUNTY COMMITTEE

**BRYAN DISTEL**, Chairperson  
**CHERRI COOPER**, Vice Chairperson  
**ERNIE ETCHART**, Regular Member  
**SARAH MCCONNELL**, Regular Member  
**TYLER HANSON**, Regular Member



## HOW TO CONTACT US

**Montrose USDA Service Center**  
 102 Par Place, Montrose, CO 81401  
**PHONE (970) 249-8407**

Phone Extension

Farm Service Agency.....2  
 Natural Resources Conservation Service.....3  
 Shavano Conservation District.....3

## NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

970-249-8407



Direct Phone

**AMANDA JAMES**, Soil Conservationist 964-3580  
**CARMA EDGELL**, Program Support Specialist 964-3576  
**CASEY HARRISON**, Soil Conservationist 964-3577  
**DESTRY SEILER**, Ag Engineer Project Leader 964-3595  
**JAMISON JEWKES**, 964-3588  
 Montrose/Gunnison Resource Team Lead  
**JEFF LONG**, Ag Engineer Project Leader 964-3586  
**JEREMY OMVIG**, Cultural Resource Specialist 964-3593  
**JERRY ALLEN**, Shavano IWM Specialist 964-3575  
**MARISSA MARKUS**, Soil Conservationist 964-3581  
**NANCY DEANS**, Program Support Assistant 964-3570  
**SARAH ERICKSON**, Soil Conservationist 964-3578



## COLORADO STATE FOREST SERVICE

Web Site: [csfs.colostate.edu](http://csfs.colostate.edu)

### MONTROSE FIELD OFFICE—970-249-9051

(Montrose, Ouray and San Miguel Counties)

**New Address - 535 S Nevada Ave, Montrose** Phone Extension

**JODI RIST**, Supervisory Forester 132  
 jodi.rist@colostate.edu  
**AUSTIN SHELBY**, Forester 133  
 austin.shelby@colostate.edu  
**SCOTT JOHNSON**, Forester 127  
 scott.johnson2@colostate.edu  
**TANYA BANULIS**, Forester 129  
 tanya.banulis@colostate.edu  
**AMARA ROSE**, Forest Technician  
 amara.rose@colostate.edu

### GUNNISON FIELD OFFICE - 970-641-6852

(Gunnison and Hinsdale Counties)

106 Maintenance Drive, Gunnison, CO 81230  
**SAM PANKRATZ**, Supervisory Forester  
**MIKE TARRANTINO**, Forester



## SHAVANO CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Website: [www.shavano.cd.org](http://www.shavano.cd.org)

Direct Phone

**KEN LIPTON**, President 626-3951  
**LANNY DENHAM**, Vice President 323-5461  
**ROXI STEWART**, Secretary/Treasurer 249-0706  
**EDWARD ATENCIO** 303-898-5855  
**JACK BRUNGARDT** 249-5081  
**SHELLY MCLAUGHLIN-MALISH** 424-4451  
**CARL MCKINNEY**  
**PENNY BISHOP**, Manager 964-3584  
**MENDY STEWART**, Education Coordinator 964-3582



## WEST REGION WILDFIRE COUNCIL

Phone 970-615-7300 [www.cowildfire.org](http://www.cowildfire.org)

**New Address - 510 S Cascade Ave, Montrose**

**LILIA FALK**, Director of Finance & Agreements Lilia.Falk@COwildfire.org  
**JAMIE GOMEZ**, Executive Director Jamie.Gomez@COwildfire.org  
**ROB MCCANN**, GIS/IT Rob.Mccann@cowildfire.org  
**COURTNEY HAYNES** Courtney.Haynes@COwildfire.org  
 Wildfire Mitigation Specialist - Delta, Gunnison, Hinsdale, Montrose, Ouray,  
 and San Miguel Counties

## Dates to Remember

<b>November 1, 2021</b>	<b>Organic Certification Cost Share Program (OCCSP) Deadline</b>
<b>November 1, 2021</b>	<b>FSA County Committee Election Ballots mailed to eligible voters</b>
<b>November 9, 2021</b>	<b>Shavano CD Board Meeting 6:30 pm</b>
<b>November 10, 2021</b>	<b>Fall Cover Crop Tour, 9am @ Montrose NRCS Office</b>
<b>November 11, 2021</b>	<b>Veteran's Day—Office Closed</b>
<b>November 15, 2021</b>	<b>Acreage reporting deadline for fall-seeded crops (rye, spelt, wheat), and 2021 production reporting</b>
<b>November 15-17, 2021</b>	<b>Colorado Assn. of Conservation Districts Annual Meeting, Virtual</b>
<b>November 20, 2021</b>	<b>2022 NAP Application Closing Date for Apricots, Cherries, Grapes, Hops, Nectarines, Pears, Plums and Prunes</b>
<b>November 25, 2021</b>	<b>Thanksgiving Day—Office Closed</b>
<b>December 1, 2021</b>	<b>2022 NAP Application Closing Date for Alfalfa, Clover, Grass, Honey, Mixed Forage, Mustard, and Vetch</b>
<b>December 2, 2021</b>	<b>Last Day to Return FSA Ballots to the USDA Service Center</b>
<b>December 14, 2021</b>	<b>Shavano CD Board Meeting 6:30pm</b>
<b>December 25, 2021</b>	<b>Christmas Day—Office Closed</b>
<b>January 1, 2022</b>	<b>FSA Newly Elected FSA County Committee Members Take Office</b>
<b>January 1, 2022</b>	<b>New Year's Day—Office Closed</b>
<b>Jan 21-22, 2022</b>	<b>Western Colorado Food and Farm Forum, Montrose Pavilion</b>
<b>February 26, 2022</b>	<b>Western Colorado Soil Health Conference, Montrose Pavilion</b>

## Notice of SCD 2022 Budget

Notice is hereby given that a proposed budget has been submitted to the Shavano Conservation District Board of Supervisors for the ensuing year of 2022. A copy of such proposed budget has been filed in the District office at 102 Par Place, Montrose, CO 81401 where same is open for public inspection, Monday through Thursday during normal business hours (9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.) by appointment only due to Covid-19 restraints. Such proposed budget will be considered at two regular meetings of the Shavano Conservation District Board of Directors to be held on October 12, November 9, and December 14, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. Any interested elector residing within the Shavano Conservation District may inspect the proposed budget and file or register any objections thereto at any time prior to the final adoption of the budget.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its program and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individuals' income is derived from any public assistance program. (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 to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (866) 632-9992 (Toll-free Customer Service), (800) 877-8339 (Local or Federal relay), (866) 377-8642 (Relay voice users).

***Reasonable accommodations will be made, upon request, for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment, or hearing impairment to attend or participate in meetings or events sponsored by the Farm Service Agency. If you require special accommodations to attend or participate in one of our meetings/events/functions, please call the FSA county office and we will be happy to make any needed arrangements.***