



FALL 2023
VOLUME 26
ISSUE 3

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

UWP 10th Anniversary Celebration, Nov 16	2
Cheatgrass Treatment Workshop, Nov 7	2
2023 Spirit of the River Contest, Due Oct 31	2
Pancake Breakfast and Farm Tour, Nov. 14	3
Montrose Welcomes Kate Foral	3
Economics of Soil Health Systems Farmer Focus	3
Financial Assistance Application Process Opens for USDA Farm Loan Borrowers Who Have Faced Discrimination	4
USDA Reminds Producers of Fall Deadlines for NAP Program	5
West Slope Water Summit, Nov 9	6
Annie's Project, Nov 30-Dec 2	7
USDA Launches First Phase of Soil Carbon Monitoring Efforts	8
USDA RD has grant funding available to help with energy efficiency improvements	11
Notice of SCD 2024 Budget	11

Shavano District

Fall
News

SERVING MONTROSE, GUNNISON, OURAY, AND
SAN MIGUEL COUNTIES

Meet Our Board Supervisor: Zak Danielson



Zak joined the Shavano Conservation District Board of Supervisors in April of this year. He was born and raised in Northern Colorado, where he spent time between agricultural and urban living. Growing up this way has allowed Zak to gain an intimate knowledge of the issues facing our natural landscapes. The proximity to open spaces only helped Zak foster a love and feeling of commitment to the land we live and play on. Zak hopes to help protect and leave natural areas natural for future generations.

Growing up on the Northern Colorado Front Range has given Zak a lot of insight to the plight of farms, ranches and urban green spaces. Zak is most passionate about sustainable food sources and protecting our ecological supply chain. Taking classes through Colorado State University's School of Global Environmental Sustainability has only highlighted how important this opportunity is to him.

Zak and his wife Sarah live near her parent's house on the western slope of Colorado. The two bought land in the area, and in homage to Zak's roots started a ranching operation. Between horses, cattle, dogs, and cats the two have quite the menagerie at their ranch in Cimarron, where they also produce high altitude mountain grass hay. The two are focused on regenerating the landscape through responsible grazing and a holistic approach to working with nature.

Zak's experience agriculture and knowledge of sustainability practices makes him a tremendous asset to Shavano's Board of Supervisors.

Zak enjoys spending time outside. Fixing fence, checking cows, fishing, hunting, gardening, any time outside is time well spent in Zak's eyes. If Zak were to be a vegetable, he thinks it would be an asparagus spear; lean, spindly, returns every spring, and found almost everywhere!



January 26-27, 2024
Montrose Pavilion, Montrose, CO




Uncompahgre Watershed Partnership
"A Partnership in Conservation"

UWP 10th Anniversary Celebration!

November 16, 2023
@ 5:30 pm – 8:30 pm, Free

Ouray Community Center, 320 6th Ave, Ouray, CO 81427

Join UWP staff and board to celebrate the 10th anniversary of our nonprofit, dedicated to preserving and improving the natural, scenic and economic assets of the Upper Uncompahgre River Watershed. This free event will feature a potluck dinner and recognition of UWP's past accomplishments. Potluck signup form coming soon. Until then, you can RSVP to Tanya at tanya@uncompahgrewatershed.org. Thank you very much to Chipeta Lodge for sponsoring the evening.

The highlight of the evening will be a performance by Eeland Stribling, an angler, educator, wildlife biologist and a stand-up comedian born and raised in Denver, Colorado. He has a passion for conservation and comedy and advocates for outdoor education. Grew up learning about wildlife and ecosystem services with his grandfather who was also a wildlife biologist. He picked up flyfishing by learning to tie flies first, in college, then taking those flies he created to the local waterway of Denver to fish for carp. Eeland graduated with a degree in Fish, Wildlife and Conservation biology. No one in his family was outdoor"sy" besides his grandfather so Eeland created his own path to be in the outdoors.


Cheatgrass Treatment
 Uncompahgre Valley Workshop


Cheatgrass is an annual invasive grass, and its range is expanding across the Western Slope. This plant increases wildfire frequency, reduces forage for livestock and big game, and reduces the quality of wildlife habitat.

If you want to learn how to control this plant on your land, please join us for a FREE informational workshop on cheatgrass ecology and management! We will cover the topics below and also provide information about partnerships and funding resources to help address this invasive plant on your land.

Topics will include:

- Cheatgrass identification & ecology
- Impacts of grazing on cheatgrass
- Treatment options
- Reducing the spread

Cost is FREE but RSVP required.

Dinner will be provided!



Workshop details:

- Ouray County 4H Events Center & Fairgrounds, 22739 US-550, Ridgway, CO 81432
- November 7, 2023, 5:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

For more information or to RSVP:
 Marcella Tarantino (970) 707-3049;
marcella.tarantino@usda.gov; or online at
<https://forms.gle/XADVcHXbqRczblQr8>



www.birdconservancy.org

2023 Spirit of the River Contest

THEME: The importance of protecting our rivers and what we can do to preserve our watershed

Art, poetry and essay contest organized by the Uncompahgre Watershed Partnership, open to students in grades 6 – 12, who live in the seven counties (Delta, Montrose, Ouray, Gunnison, Hinsdale, San Juan and San Miguel) within the Uncompahgre River watershed

Contest submissions accepted through midnight October 31st, 2023.

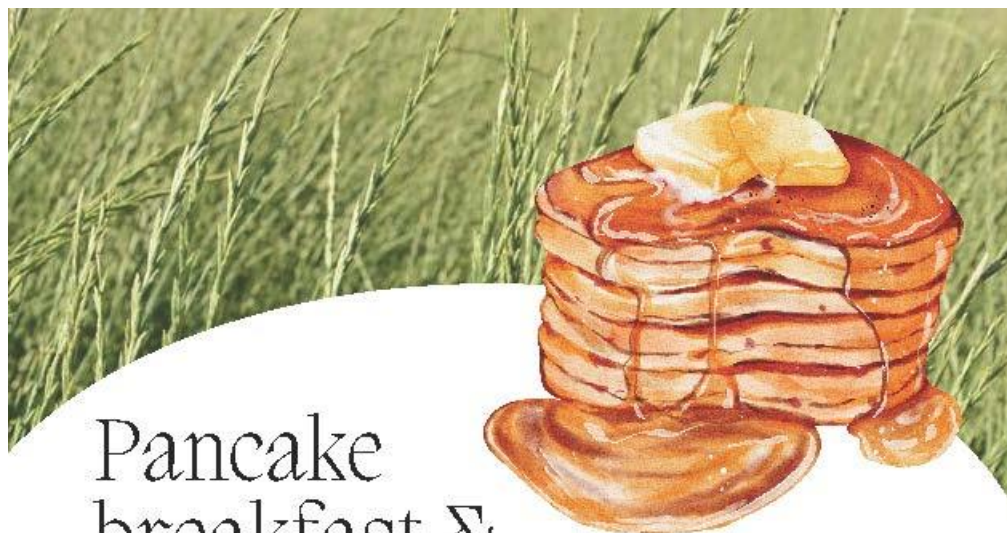
Prizes for the Art, Poetry and Essay contest: 1st place \$200, 2nd place, \$100, and 3rd place \$50

More details: <https://www.uncompahgrewatershed.org/event/2023-spirit-of-the-river-contest>



Shavano Conservation District

"A Partnership in Conservation"



Pancake breakfast & farm tour

November 14th, 2023

Location: Montrose County Fair Grounds Friendship Hall
1001 Nth 2nd Street

Start off your day tasting pancakes made from a perennial grain called Kernza paired with locally grown breakfast sausage and apple cider.

Then hop the bus for a tour lead by local experts and the Land Institute viewing local kernza fields, sainfoin fields and cover crops in corn cut for silage.

- 8am - 8:45am Breakfast
- 8:45am board the bus
- Kernza, Sainfoin, and Cover crop / interspecies stops
- 1:30pm Return to Fair Grounds, offload by 2pm



Please RSVP by COB
Nov 10th

kathryn.alexander@colostate.edu

970-249-3935

Changes Around the Office: Montrose Welcomes Kate Foral

Kate joins us from Georgia, where she attended the University of Georgia. After obtaining a BS/MPH in Environmental Health, she worked at Canyonlands and Mammoth Cave National Parks. She enjoys caving and canyoneering, and she is very excited to work as a planner in the Montrose office!



Kate Foral, NRCS Resource Specialist

Economics of Soil Health Systems Farmer Focus

NACD, the Soil Health Institute, and NRCS recently released economic findings from 30 farmers who adopted soil health management systems. Each week, they highlighted one Farm from this study.

For example, In Iowa, Levi Lyle added cover crops to a corn-soybean rotation in a system of no-till production, saw his net farm income increase by almost \$40/acre for corn and \$11.33/acre for soybeans.

In a time of rising costs, long-term economic sustainability is of utmost importance. These findings show that producers

who can remain afloat while implementing conservation practices see increased revenue and healthier land in the long run. A robust safety net and supportive farm policy can bridge this gap for potential conservationists, widening access to the agricultural and financial benefits of soil health management systems.

Article taken from "The NACD eResource" published on August 29, 2023. To read about each of the farms highlighted in the study, go to <https://soilhealthinstitute.org/our-work/initiatives/economics-of-soil-health-systems-on-30-u-s-farms/#overview>



Financial Assistance Application Process Opens for USDA Farm Loan Borrowers Who Have Faced Discrimination

USDA announced the opening of the financial assistance application process for eligible farmers, ranchers, and forest landowners who experienced discrimination in USDA farm lending programs prior to January 2021. Section 22007 of the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) directs USDA to provide this assistance. Since the law's passage, USDA has worked diligently to design the program in accordance with significant stakeholder input.

The program website, 22007apply.gov, is now open. The website includes an English- and Spanish-language application that applicants can download or submit via an e-filing portal, information on how to obtain technical assistance in-person or virtually, and additional resources and details about the program.

Farmers, ranchers, and forest landowners who experienced discrimination by USDA in its farm loan programs prior to January 1, 2021 and/or are currently debtors with assigned or assumed USDA farm loan debt that was the subject of USDA discrimination that occurred prior to January 1, 2021, are eligible for this program.

To apply, borrowers have the option to apply via the e-filing portal at 22007apply.gov or submit paper-based forms via mail or in-person delivery to the program's local offices. The application process closes October 31, 2023. Under the planned timeline, applications will be reviewed in November and December, with payments reaching recipients soon thereafter. Importantly, applicants should know that the application process is not on a first come, first served, basis. All applications received or postmarked before the October 31 deadline will be considered.

To support producers throughout the application process, USDA is ensuring that organizations with extensive experience conducting outreach to farm organizations are able to support individuals who may be eligible for the pro-

gram. These groups include AgrAbility, Farmer Veteran Coalition, Farmers' Legal Action Group, Federation of Southern Cooperatives, Intertribal Agriculture Council, Land Loss Prevention Program, National Young Farmers Coalition, and Rural Coalition.

Vendors operating four regional hubs are also providing technical assistance and working closely with these and other community-based organizations to conduct outreach using digital and grassroots strategies, to ensure potential applicants are informed about the program and have the opportunity to apply. These hubs are operating a network of brick-and-mortar program offices and will conduct extensive outreach about the program. Windsor Group serves farmers in the eastern regions of the U.S. and Analytic Acquisitions serves the western regions. A national administrator, Midtown Group, is responsible for program oversight and integrity, and will lead a national call-center, operate the application website -

22007apply.gov, which is now open – and review and process applications and payments. All vendors have experience in professional services, supporting government contracts, and complex program operations.

In standing up this program, USDA has become aware of some lawyers and groups spreading misleading information about the discrimination assistance process, pressuring people to sign retainer agreements, and asking people to fill out forms with private and sensitive information. As of today, the official application process has begun and filling out an application is free.

No attorneys' fees will be paid to applicants or their counsel by USDA or by any other agency or department of the United States. The amount of financial assistance will not be increased for those claimants who are represented by an attorney. Applicants are not required to retain an attorney. USDA, the national administrator, and the regional

Continued on Page 5...



USDA Reminds Producers of Fall Application Deadlines for Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP)

USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) reminds producers of approaching application deadlines for purchasing risk coverage for some crops through the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP). NAP provides financial assistance to producers of non-insurable crops impacted by natural disasters that result in lower yields, crop losses, or prevented crop planting.

NAP covers losses from natural disasters on crops for which no permanent federal crop insurance program is available, including forage and grazing crops, fruits, vegetables, floriculture, ornamental nursery, aquaculture, turf grass and more.

Upcoming application deadlines for NAP coverage Montrose, Gunnison, Ouray County for the 2024 production season include:

Grapes, Plums, Cherries, Apricots, Hops - November 20, 2023

Perennial Crops – December 1, 2023

Honey - December 31, 2023

Tomatoes - March 15, 2024

Hemp- March 15, 2024

NAP basic coverage is available at 55% of the average market price for crop losses that exceed 50% of expected production. Buy-up coverage is available in some cases. NAP offers higher levels of coverage, ranging from

50% to 65% of expected production in 5% increments, at 100% of the average market price. Producers of organic crops and crops marketed directly to consumers also may exercise the "buy-up" option to obtain NAP coverage of 100% of the average market price at coverage levels ranging between 50% and 65% of expected production. Buy-up coverage is not available for crops intended for grazing.

For all coverage levels, the NAP service fee is the lesser of \$325 per crop or \$825 per producer per county, not to exceed a total of \$1,950 for a producer with farming interests in multiple counties. Premiums apply for buy-up coverage.

If a producer has a Socially Disadvantaged, Limited Resource, Beginning and Veteran Farmer or Rancher Certification (form CCC-860) on file with FSA, it may serve as an application for basic coverage for all eligible crops beginning with crop year 2022. These producers will have all NAP-related service fees for basic coverage waived. These producers may also receive a 50% premium reduction if higher levels of coverage are elected on form CCC-471, prior to the application closing date for each crop.

To learn more about NAP visit fsa.usda.gov/nap or contact your local USDA Service Center at 970-249-8407x2.

Continued from Page 4...

Financial Assistance Application Process Opens for USDA Farm Loan Borrowers Who Have Faced Discrimination

hub vendors will neither recommend that any applicant retain counsel or retain a specific attorney or law firm, nor discourage an applicant from obtaining counsel or using a

specific attorney or law firm. For more information, read our fact sheet about the program timeline and ways to protect against possible scams.



NRCS, Camp Rocky and the Next Generation of Natural Resource Stewards

Lakewood, CO, August 16, 2023

From all corners of the state, high schoolers converged in Divide, Colorado to learn about natural resource conservation in a week-long immersive camp experience. Throughout the week, this year's 31 campers delved into the world of resource stewardship, learning about the importance of protecting and preserving our environment. From interactive workshops to hands-on activities, they have gained a deeper understanding of sustainable land use, wildfire mitigation, and the interdependence of ecosystems.

All week campers get the opportunity to work side by side with trained professionals in the fields of rangeland science, forestry management, soil and water science, and fish and wildlife management. Through team projects, problem-solving activities, and mentorship, they learned the importance of effective communication, cooperation, and leadership.

Ben Berlinger, Rangeland Management Specialist for the Natural Resources Conservation Service, was one of the instructors leading the rangeland science cohort for the week. “The campers in the range management discipline come away with an appreciation of rangelands and the many values healthy rangelands provide to humans,” shares Berlinger. “They have a working knowledge and skills in rangeland plant identification, how to assess the quality of the rangeland in terms of biological diversity/productivity, and prescribed grazing management techniques.”

The utilization of hands-on learning is what lies at the heart of the Camp Rocky experience. Activities for the week for the range management group included plant identification, collecting plant samples, and making plant presses. Additionally, they gained experience in calculating stocking

rates for pastures and ultimately put their knowledge to the test in their final project – creating a range management plan for an on-site llama grazing pasture.

By the end of the week and all across camp, budding natural resource professionals had implemented their very own resource management projects. Other group projects included resource management plans for aspen grove support, assessing local stream CFS flows, and wildlife camera surveys.

Continued on Page 7...

2023 WEST SLOPE WATER SUMMIT



NOVEMBER 9, 2023
9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

THE AGENDA

9:00AM WELCOME

9:10 AM ROGER PIELKE, JR.

Five Things Everyone Should Know About Climate and Energy

10:15 AM CONNIE WOODHOUSE

Tree-rings and Colorado River streamflow: Is the record of past streamflow useful for water resource management today?

11:15 AM DAN DALLAS

Where Water Meets the Forests

12:15 - 1:00 PM NETWORKING LUNCH

1:00 PM PANEL, MODERATED BY BOB HURFORD

Why Water Storage is Critical - Challenges and Opportunities
Panel Participants: Aaron Clay, Attorney, Steve Pope, Director UVWUA, Mike Berry, Director Tri-County Water, Steve Fletcher, Paonia Reservoir, Gary Krail, GM Crawford Reservoir

REGISTRATION

westslopewatersummit.com

More information
970-252-4505





Natural Resource Conservation Service

“A Partnership in Conservation”

Continued from Page 6...

NRCS, Camp Rocky and the Next Generation of Natural Resource Stewards

While there was certainly a lot of learning and work taking place, there was also room for lots of fun – with activities ranging from scenic hikes and campfires, to obstacle courses and talent shows. Of course, the fan favorite Camp Rocky tradition of glow-in-the-dark capture the flag continued for another exciting year of fun filled competition.

Importantly, many of this year’s campers were returning attendees, with many of them enjoying their second or even third year at Camp Rocky. And this kind of engagement is largely due to the continued support of local Conservation Districts across the state that help support Camp Rocky by sponsoring campers. Almost all the campers were sponsored by Conservation Districts to some degree – affording them the opportunity to make life long memories and friends, and to give them the beginning tools to pursue invaluable careers in resource conservation.

Moreover, the support from key actors in Colorado’s conservation partnership such as the Natural Resources Conservation Service, plays an invaluable role in the cultivation of the next generation of conservationists. “Camp Rocky demonstrates how professionals in natural resources assess resource concerns, quantify the concerns, and then develop a plan to address those concerns and issues,” says Berlinger. “It is because of the extreme satisfaction of helping these young people experience the wonders of natural systems, and how humans fit-in to the big picture, that has kept me coming back to this quality educational experience for the past 36 years.”

Highlighting the overall goal of Camp Rocky, Noah McCord, Camp Director, notes: “We hope that the lessons learned and friendships forged at Camp Rocky will inspire our campers to become lifelong stewards of our natural resources.” To find out more about Camp Rocky or next year’s registration, please visit <https://www.camprocky.org/>.

[Read news release here](#)



ANNIE'S PROJECT

EMPOWERING WOMEN IN AGRICULTURE

ANNIE'S PROJECT

"I took the class to gain a better understanding about agribusiness and how financial decisions impact our farm operation. This class has improved my communication with my spouse on concerns he works with on a daily basis." - Linda

Core Topics

- ✔ Financial Documents
- ✔ Marketing
- ✔ Estate Planning
- ✔ Farm Leasing
- ✔ Insurance and More!

November 30 - December 2

CSU Western Campus
3170 B 1/2 Road.
Grand Junction, CO

Course Fee: \$ 65

Registration Deadline November 17

Visit the website for a full list of topics and course details!

<https://gjannies.eventbrite.com>

Program fee includes meals (7 total), but does not include lodging. The course will be capped at 50 participants - if registration is full you will be placed on a waitlist and notified if a spot becomes available.

Contact Jenny Beiermann or Nicole Didero

☎ Jenny - 970-241-3346 | Nicole - 970-581-2900

✉ jenny.beiermann@colostate.edu
nicole.didero@colostate.edu

🌐 <https://abm.extension.colostate.edu/annies-project/>





USDA Launches First Phase of Soil Carbon Monitoring Efforts through CRP

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is investing \$10 million in a new initiative to sample, measure, and monitor soil carbon on Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) acres to better quantify the climate outcomes of the program. CRP is an important tool in the Nation's fight to reduce the worst impacts of climate change facing our farmers, ranchers, and foresters. This initiative will begin implementation in fall 2021 with three partners. Today's announcement is part of a broader, long-term soil carbon monitoring effort across agricultural lands that supports USDA's commitment to deliver climate solutions to agricultural producers and rural America through voluntary, incentive-based solutions.

These models include the Daily Century Model, or DayCent, which simulates the movement of carbon and nitrogen through agricultural systems and informs the [National Greenhouse Gas Inventory](#). Data will also be used to strengthen the [COMET-Farm](#) and [COMET-Planner](#) tools, which enable producers to evaluate potential carbon sequestration and greenhouse gas emission reductions based on specific management scenarios.

USDA partners will conduct soil carbon sampling on three categories of CRP practice types: perennial grass, trees, and wetlands.

Perennial grasses: In consultation with USDA, Michigan State University will sample and measure soil carbon and bulk density of CRP grasslands (including native grass plantings, rangelands, and pollinator habitat plantings) at an estimated 600 sites across the U.S. with a focus in the central states during this five-year project. This information will be used to model and compare the climate benefits of CRP. Partners include the University of Wisconsin-Madison, the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, Deveron, an agriculture technology company, and Woods End Laboratories.

Trees: Mississippi State University will partner with Alabama A&M University to collect above and below ground data at 162 sites across seven states documenting CRP-related benefits to soil and atmospheric carbon levels. Information will



help further calibrate the DayCent model. This five-year project will focus within the Mississippi Delta and Southeast states.

Wetlands: Ducks Unlimited and its partners will collect data on carbon stocks in wetland soils as well as vegetation carbon levels at 250 wetland sites across a 15-state area in the central U.S. Data will support the DayCent and additional modeling. Partners for this five-year project include: Migratory Bird Joint Venture, Intertribal Research and Resource Center at United Tribes Technical College, Clemson University, Kenyon College, Lincoln University, Pennsylvania State University, the University of Missouri, and the University of Texas at Austin.

CRP Monitoring, Assessment, and Evaluation Projects These three Climate Change Mitigation Assessment Initiative projects are funded through FSA's program to work with partners to identify [Monitoring, Assessment and Evaluation \(MAE\)](#) projects to quantify CRP environmental benefits to water quality and quantity, wildlife, and rural economies.

Applications for projects were welcome from all organizations, including public, private, nonprofit institutions, and educational institutions including historically Black colleges and universities, Tribal colleges and universities and Hispanic-serving institutions or organizations.

For more details on all the awarded MAE projects, visit the [FSA Monitoring Assessment & Evaluation webpage](#). For more information on CRP, visit our [Conservation Reserve Program webpage](#).



USDA Rural Development has grant funding available to help Agricultural Producers with renewable energy or energy efficiency improvements

Grant funds for up to 50% of the total project costs are currently available for installation of Renewable Energy Systems and Energy Efficiency Improvements for Agricultural Producers and Rural Small Businesses. The [Rural Energy for America Program \(REAP\)](#) has additional grant funding available for Fiscal Years 2023 and 2024. Applications are accepted anytime, with quarterly funding competition deadlines through September 30, 2024. Those deadlines are:

September 30, 2023

December 31, 2023

March 31, 2024

June 30, 2024

Agricultural producers with at least 50% of their gross income coming from agricultural operations can apply for REAP; they can be located in rural or nonrural areas. Small businesses that are located in an eligible rural area are also eligible to apply.

The REAP program reduces demand for energy through energy efficiency improvement and increases American energy independence by increasing the private sector supply of renewable energy. Over time these investments will help lower the operational costs for business and production operations.

REAP Renewable Energy System (RES) funds can be used for systems such as:

Small and large solar or wind generation

Geothermal for electric generation or direct use

Hydropower below 30 megawatts

Biomass (for example: biodiesel and ethanol, anaerobic digesters, and solid fuels)

REAP Energy Efficiency Improvement (EEI) funds can be used to buy, build and install EEI such as:

Electric, solar, or gravity pumps for sprinkler pivots

Switching from a diesel to an electric irrigation motor

Lighting, Insulation, Doors, Windows, Cooling or Refrigeration units

High-efficiency heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems (HVAC)

Please contact SM.CO.REAP@usda.gov for more information on this program in Colorado.



USDA SERVICE CENTER CONTACT INFORMATION

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

FARM SERVICE AGENCY

970-249-8407

Direct Phone

MARK BENTLEY, District Director 970-259-3289
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
ERNIE ETCHART, Vice Chairperson
CHERRI COOPER, Regular Member
SARAH MCCONNELL, Regular Member
TYLER HANSON, Regular Member



COLORADO STATE FOREST SERVICE

Web Site: csfs.colostate.edu

MONTROSE FIELD OFFICE — 970-249-9051

(Montrose, Ouray and San Miguel Counties)

	Phone Extension
535 S Nevada Ave, Montrose	
JODI RIST, Supervisory Forester	132
jodi.rist@colostate.edu	
TANYA BANULIS, Forester	129
tanya.banulis@colostate.edu	
JEFF RAINEY, Forester	130
Jeffrey.rainey@colostate.edu	
LAUREN LOMONOCO, Forester	127
Jeffrey.rainey@colostate.edu	

GUNNISON FIELD OFFICE - 970-641-6852

(Gunnison and Hinsdale Counties)

106 Maintenance Drive, Gunnison, CO 81230
MIKE TARRANTINO, Supervisory Forester
DYLAN EIMER, Forester

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

970-249-8407



Direct Phone

AARON KOLB, Ag Engineer 964-3581
AMANDA JAMES, Range Specialist 964-3580
CASEY HARRISON, Resource Conservationist 964-3577
JAMISON JEWKES, 964-3588
Montrose/Gunnison Resource Team Lead
JEREMY OMVIG, Cultural Resource Specialist 964-3593
KATE FORAL, Natural Resource Specialist 964-3570
MONA NKOYOYO, Shavano DCT Engineer Technician 964-3575



SHAVANO CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Website: www.shavanocd.org

Direct Phone

STEVE HALE, President 626-3951
LANNY DENHAM, Vice President 323-5461
ROXI STEWART, Secretary/Treasurer 249-0706
EDWARD ATENCIO 303-898-5855
CARL MCKINNEY 327-0329
CLIFFORD CHILES 428-2265
ZAK DANIELSON 231-3195
PENNY BISHOP, Manager 964-3584
MENDY STEWART, Education Coordinator 964-3582



WEST REGION WILDFIRE COUNCIL

Phone 970-615-7300 www.cowildfire.org

Serving Delta, Gunnison, Hinsdale, Montrose, Ouray, and San Miguel Counties
160 South Amelia St, Ridgway

LILIA FALK, Director of Finance & Agreements
Lilia.Falk@COWildfire.org

JAMIE GOMEZ, Executive Director
Jamie.Gomez@COWildfire.org

AARON JOHNSON, Wildfire Mitigation Specialist
Aaron.Johnson@COWildfire.org

LEIGH ROBERTSON, Partnership & Collaboration Director
Leigh.Robertson@COWildfire.org

BRAD ECKERT, Forester/Program Coord. - Community & Watershed
Brad.Eckert@COWildfire.org

JOSH HANSEN, Forester/Program Coord. - Parcel Scale Cost-Share & Seeding
Josh.Hansen@COWildfire.org

DANNY DUDA, GIS Specialist
Danny.Duda@COWildfire.org

Dates to Remember

November 1, 2023	Organic Certification Cost Share Program (OCCSP) Deadline
November 7, 2023	Cheatgrass Treatment Workshop, Ridgway, 5:30-8:00pm
November 8, 2023	Shavano CD Board Meeting, 6:30pm
November 9, 2023	West Slope Water Summit, Montrose
November 11, 2023	Veteran's Day—Office Closed
November 13-17, 2023	CACD Committee Meetings (held virtually)
November 14, 2023	Pancake Breakfast and Farm Tour, Montrose
November 15, 2023	Acreage reporting 2024 deadline for fall-seeded crops (rye, spelt, wheat)
November 16, 2023	UWP 10th Anniversary Celebration, Ouray
November 20, 2023	NAP Application Closing Date for Apricots, Cherries, Grapes, Hops, Nectarines, Pears, Plums and Prunes
November 23, 2023	Thanksgiving Day—Office Closed
Nov 30-Dec 2, 2023	Annie's Project, Grand Junction
December 1, 2023	2024 NAP Application For Coverage Deadline for Perennial Crops (Grass, Alfalfa, Mixed Forage)
December 4-5, 2023	CACD Annual Meeting, Colorado Springs
January 15, 2024	Fruit acreage reporting due for 2024
January 26-27, 2024	Western Colorado Soil Health, Food and Farm Forum

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 individual's 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. 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.

Notice of SCD 2024 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 2024. 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.). Such proposed budget will be considered at the next regular meeting of the Shavano Conservation District Board of Directors to be held on November 8, 2023 and December 12, 2023 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.