



# Shavano District

SERVING MONTROSE, GUNNISON, OURAY AND SAN MIGUEL COUNTIES

SUMMER  
 2023  
 VOLUME 26  
 ISSUE 2

**INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

Flood Control Dam Annual Survey 2

Join SCD at these Community Events 3

WCRC Farm Tour & Field Day August 29 3

John Miller is new CDA Soil Health Program Manager 4

UWP 10th Anniversary! 4

Agrarian Network Connections Sept 11 5

Local Food Farm Tour, August 14 6

USDA to Help Cover Costs of Organic Producers 7

FSA Farm Loan Programs 8

NRCS CSP Funding Opportunity, Applications Due Aug. 18 9



Compost Seminar participants listen as Tony Daranyi shares the compost method utilized at Indian Ridge Farm during Field Tour on Aug. 1, 2023.

## Compost Seminar and Field Tour

The Compost Seminar and Field Tour took place on August 1, 2023. There were 33 attendees. In classroom presentations for the Compost Seminar was held at the Lone Cone Library in Norwood. The Compost Seminar started off with Dave Dearstyne providing a brief introduction to the importance of healthy soils and the 5 soil health principles. Anthony Myint from Zero FoodPrint gave a virtual presentation through Zoom on the Zero FoodPrint program and their activities in San Miguel County. Julie Soderquist showed pictures of the bioreactor she built using the Johnson-Su model she learned about at the Western Colorado Soil Health, Food and Farm Form in January. Julie also told how she started a worm trench and used the worm casings to get the biology in the bioreactor started. Cliff & Rosella Chiles gave an update on the cover crops they planted using a no-till drill under the STAR+ program. After lunch participants were transported to Tony & Barclay Daranyi's Indian Ridge Farm near Norwood to show their method of composting, rotational grazing and soil health practices. We are planning to have another compost seminar and field tour in the Norwood area in the summer of 2024.



## Clifford Chiles, Newest SCD Board Member

Clifford Chiles is one of Shavano CD's two Board Members that represent the west end of Montrose County and the portion of San Miguel Count that falls within the our District boundaries. Cliff was elected to the Shavano Conservation District Board in May of 2023. He owns/operates Rimrocker Ranch (located near Nucla on the Rimrocker

Trail) with wife, Rosella. Together they raise custom beef based on the Regenerative Agriculture principles that were learned through the Star + program and mentoring from the Shavano Conservation District. Cliff now enjoys sharing his trials and successes with other ranchers, as he demonstrates—with boots on the ground—the positive difference soil health practices can make.

We are pleased to have Cliff on our Board!



## Flood Control Dam Annual Survey

**M**ona Nkoyoyo, Engineer Technician at Shavano Conservation District, conducted an annual survey and inspection of the Shavano Dams 1 & 2 and Roat Cap Dam. The annual survey and inspection consist of locating the monuments to verify that they have not moved vertically or horizontally, inspect for prairie dog damage or excessive vegetation, and look for cracks in the concrete spillways.

Shavano CD's flood control dams were built to protect individual's lives, county roads, bridges, homes, and thousands of acres of cropland. Two of the dams, Shavano 1 and Shavano 2, are located west of Montrose in Shavano Valley. The third dam, named Roatcap, is in Olathe and borders BLM land. Since their inception, Shavano CD has maintained the 3 earthen dams, including removal of noxious weeds in and along the dams, erosion due to flood events and prairie dog infestation, and removal of debris blocking intakes that would prevent adequate drainage. The dams are classified as Class 1 - High Hazard Dams (meaning that in the event of a significant flood the consequences could be catastrophic, including potential for loss of human life).

The Colorado Department of Water Resources conducts dam safety inspections every three years. Last year, in 2022, the dams received their 3 year safety inspection. Though in relatively good condition, Roatcap Dam has outlived its 50-year life and all 3 dams require regular maintenance.

Mona Nkoyoyo, the Engineer Technician who conducted the survey and inspection, has been working for Shavano Conservation District since January 2023 through a District Conservation Technician grant from the Colorado State Conservation Board. The purpose of the grant is to deliver natural resource conservation technical assistance to private landowners through a federal, state, and local partnership. As an Engineer Technician, Mona implements Farm Bill conservation practices/planning on private land. While 80% of her job duties include designing controlled flood irrigation systems utilizing gated pipe and designing water control structures for NRCS projects, she also used her skills as a civil engineer to survey the dams for Shavano Conservation District.

## Opportunity for Water Conservation Survey Participation

**A**re you an agricultural water user on Colorado's Western Slope? If so, we need your input. This survey intends to explore the aspects of existing or future water conservation programs that individual users find preferable and/or problematic. Your participation is extremely valuable!



You are being asked to participate in a survey distributed by researchers at Colorado State University. We are conducting a research study assessing attitudes toward water conservation programs in Colorado. The title of our project is "Linked socio-political and environmental controls on large-scale water conservation program feasibility and effectiveness." The Principal Investigator leading this effort is Dana Hoag and Seth Mason is the Co-Principal Investigator. We invite you to take this anonymous online survey. Participation will take approximately 20-30 minutes.

Click on the link below to participate in the survey today!

[https://colostate.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_aVWW4oZkNfvMpSIK](https://colostate.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_aVWW4oZkNfvMpSIK)



You are invited to share your innovative solutions through collaborative learning, visioning and problem solving.

**September 19, 2023: Forum at CSU Spur**

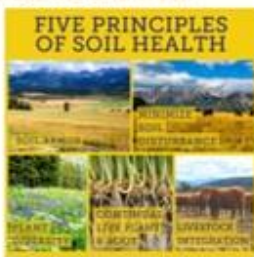
**September 20, 2023: Field day**

[Agenda and Registration](#)

Working toward a shared vision to guide soil health initiatives across the arid West.

Join thought leaders from:

- State and Federal Agencies
- Academia
- Producer Groups
- Industry Partners
- NGOs & Conservation Organizations
- Ranching and Agriculture
- Foundations and Funders



**Collaborate Across Boundaries**

Gather to make an impact with implications from human health, to agricultural productivity, to the environment by collaborating to identify shared strategies and research priorities and to determine which are the most critical to improving soil health in the arid West.

This event is free. Please register only if you plan to attend. If you register and do not attend, others may miss the opportunity to participate due to limited space.

Hosted By



Questions? Please reach out to [natalie.allen@gmail.com](mailto:natalie.allen@gmail.com) or [csa@colorado.gov](mailto:csa@colorado.gov)



# Join SCD at these Community Events

Shavano Conservation District will be presenting at local community events in the coming weeks. Come along and learn about what we are doing and some of the history of conservation in the Uncompahgre Valley.

• **Montrose Forum, Wednesday, August 16, 8-9am,**

"Taking Care of the Uncompahgre River", Leaders of four organizations—Uncompahgre Watershed Partnership, Gunnison Gorge Anglers, Friends of the River Uncompahgre, and Shavano Conservation District—working to preserve and improve water conditions in the Uncompahgre River Watershed will share their organization’s missions and activities, as well as conditions they believe need to be addressed the most to ensure long-term watershed health in the valley. The presentation will be in Cascade Hall of the CMU-Montrose campus, which is located on the corner of Cascade and S 3rd Street

• **Montrose County Historical Society, October 4, 7pm**

Shavano Conservation District will be the guest speaker at the Montrose County Historical Society’s month meeting. Join us at the Montrose County Event Center, 1036 N 7th St, Montrose, CO 81401, for a presentation on District history and current activities. This is a free event.

• **Cheatgrass Treatment Workshop, November 7, 5:30-8pm**

A free event including dinner and helpful information for property owners with large landscapes. Sponsored by the Bird Conservancy. Hosted by Uncompahgre Watershed Partnership and Shavano Conservation District.

**SAVE THE DATE**

**September 8, 2023**

FOR THE

**Gunnison Dolores Watershed Annual Meeting and Tour**

LOCATION

Crawford, CO

TIME

9:30 AM—4:30 PM

- District activities presentations from the Delta, Gunnison, and Shavano Conservation Districts
- Partner Updates
- Special Guest Speaker
- Tours

Share this reaction coming in the next few days or week!

Hosted by  
DELTA CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
1050 Industrial Blvd.  
Delta, CO 81424  
Phone: (970) 969-8133  
deltaconservation@gmail.com



**COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY  
WESTERN COLORADO RESEARCH CENTER  
GRAND VALLEY**

**FARM TOUR AND FIELD DAY**

Join us for tours of the CSU research farm with presentations about our latest research projects, followed by a BBQ lunch.

1910 L Road | Fruita, CO

[MORE INFORMATION](#)



**AUGUST 29, 2023  
9AM - 1PM**







## John Miller is new CDA Soil Health Program Manager

Colorado Department of Agriculture is pleased to announce John Miller will serve as the new CDA Soil Health Program Manager.

John was raised on a cattle ranch near Hotchkiss Colorado where he still lives with his wife and daughter. With a background in agriculture and engineering, John led the Delta Conservation District's Irrigation Water Management Program for over a decade. He learned to design and troubleshoot various types of irrigation systems and gained expertise that he uses to promote efficient water usage and sustainable agricultural practices. John has worked with conservation districts across Colorado and believes that active, prosperous districts are a crucial bridge between conservation programs and local producers. Throughout his career, Mr. Miller has been an advocate for implementing healthy soil practices on farms and ranches. He has acquired valuable insights from producers and specialists around the state, making him well-versed in soil conservation strategies. In his most recent position as the CDA-Soil Health Program Coordinator, John collaborated with our soil health team to foster partnerships, enhance program frameworks, and prepare for the much-anticipated USDA Climate Smart Commodities grant. As he assumes his new responsibilities, John is enthusiastic about guiding the expansion of the Soil Health Program, ensuring it continues to offer maximum education and assistance to Colorado's valued agriculture community.



John Miller at CoAg Met station when he provided Irrigation Water Management for Delta Conservation District

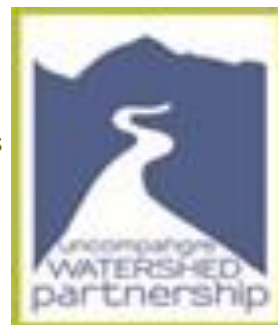
## UWP 10th Anniversary!

Uncompahgre Watershed Partnership is celebrating their 10th Anniversary with a series of free Field Trips, and Celebrations! Save the date for these events and watch for registration information coming next week:

- **Watershed Restoration in the Ironton Park Area, Sept. 9**, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
View and learn about watershed conditions along Highway 550 above Ouray.
- **Water Quality Monitoring in the Upper Unc, Sept. 16**, 9:30 am to 12:30 pm  
View and learn about water quality monitoring around Ouray County.
- **Watershed Restoration in the Upper Unc, Sept. 29**, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
View and learn about watershed conditions in south Ouray and along Campbird Road.
- **The Next 10 Years of the Upper Uncompahgre River Watershed**  
  - Thu., Oct. 12**, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Ridgway location TBD.
  - Tue., Oct. 17**, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Ouray Community Center

Pick one of these free community events to come and learn about UWP's history, goals and plans while giving input about future projects and activities.

- **UWP 10th Anniversary Celebration, Thu., Nov. 16**  
Stay tuned for time, location & other information.





## Agrarian Network Connections Group, Starts September 11

Cultivating Farmers and Ranchers that Thrive are starting the Agrarian Connections Network, a networking group specifically designed to bring together individuals from diverse sectors within the agriculture industry. Whether you're a seasoned farmer, a dedicated rancher, an insurance provider specializing in agricultural coverage, a realtor dealing with rural properties or anything in between, this group is the perfect platform for you to connect, collaborate, and grow. Each month we will meet for snacks, networking, and an educational talk relevant to your farming or ranching business.

The Agrarian Connections Network is open to the public and aims to foster meaningful relationships and facilitate knowledge exchange among professionals involved in agriculture-related fields. By uniting farmers, ranchers, and other agricultural stakeholders, we strive to create a supportive community that promotes growth, innovation, and prosperity within the industry.

Our first meeting will be September 11th at the Region 10 Business Cultivator in Olathe: 300 Hap Court, Olathe, CO

The goal of this meeting will be to get to know each other and to brainstorm ideas for future meeting topics.

### Key Features:

- **Networking Opportunities:** Connect with like-minded individuals from diverse agricultural backgrounds, expanding your professional network and creating valuable contacts.
- **Knowledge Sharing:** Exchange insights, best practices, and expertise with other members, staying up to date with the latest trends and developments in the agricultural industry.
- **Collaborative Projects:** Find potential collaborators and partners for joint ventures, initiatives, and innovative projects that can benefit the entire agriculture community.
- **Educational Talks:** Participate in educational talks hosted by industry experts, covering a wide range of topics relevant to those in agriculture.
- **Q&A Sessions:** Engage in interactive Q&A sessions, where members can seek advice and guidance from experienced professionals on specific challenges or opportunities they may encounter.
- **Social Events:** Join in-person meetups, social gatherings, and farm tours to build stronger connections and relationships beyond the virtual realm.
- **Job and Business Opportunities:** Discover potential job openings, career advancements, or business prospects within the agriculture industry.

Join us for our first meeting on September 11th and become a part of Agrarian Connections Network, where you can play an essential role in the growth and development of the agriculture sector while forming lasting friendships and partnerships along the way. Let's cultivate success together!

**Monthly Agrarian Connections Network Meeting**  
**SEPTEMBER 11**  
**5:30 PM - 7 PM**  
 300 Hap Court, Olathe, CO 81425

Please join us for our first networking event. During this meeting, we will get to know one another, brainstorm topics for future meetings and learn more about the Valley Food Partnership and Cultivating Farmers and Ranchers that Thrive.

**Brought to you by:**

**Valley Food PARTNERSHIP**

**CULTIVATING Farmers & Ranchers THAT THRIVE**



## Local Food Farm Tour, August 14

Local Food Farm Tour, organized by Valley Food Partnership in collaboration with CO Dept. of Ag, CSU Extension Office, and Montrose Recreation District. This tour is a wonderful opportunity for chefs, restaurant owners, producers, local leaders, schools, and institutions to connect with local agriculture and learn about the initiatives shaping our community’s food landscape and the opportunities and resources available to help get more local food into our community.

**Event Details:**

Date: Monday, August 14, 2023

Time: 1:30 PM - 5:00 PM

Location: Meet at City of Montrose - Public Parking Lot, 533 N. 1st St.

Tour Stops: Uncompahgre Farms, Sandy Seed Farm, and Mattics Orchard Road-side Stand

During the tour, you'll have the opportunity to engage with local farmers, sample their products, and learn about valuable resources and opportunities that support our mission to enhance local food access.

This is a free tour that welcomes anyone with an interest in local food access. We encourage you to invite colleagues, friends, and associates who share your passion for quality, locally-sourced ingredients.

For more information, please feel free to contact Samantha Wynne, Valley Food Partnership - Local Food Promotion Program Manager, at [Samantha@valleyfoodpartnership.org](mailto:Samantha@valleyfoodpartnership.org).

Join us as we strengthen the connection between local agriculture and the community and explore opportunities to collaborate on bringing more local food to our tables.

**CONNECTING LOCAL AG AND LOCAL PEOPLE**

Join us to engage with local farmers, enjoy samples, and learn about resources, and opportunities to help facilitate this regional effort to get more local food into our community. This tour is open to ANYONE interested in local food access.

- TOUR INFO - FREE TOUR**  
Monday, August 14, 2023  
1:30PM - 5:00PM
- FREE TRANSPORTATION**  
Meet downtown at City of Montrose - Public Parking Lot, 533 N. 1ST ST. By 1:30PM
- INVITED TO LEARN MORE:**  
Chefs, Producers, Schools, Restaurants, & Institutions
- QUESTIONS/MORE INFO.**  
Contact: Samantha Wynne, VFP Local Food Promotion Program Manager  
[Samantha@valleyfoodpartnership.org](mailto:Samantha@valleyfoodpartnership.org)

## Ethnobotany Garden Tour at Ute Museum, Aug 10

August 10th from 9:30-10:30 am, enjoy a 45 minute tour in the relative cool of the morning to see what is blooming in summer and talk about the trees, shrubs and other plants that are connected with the Ute people. [Click here](#) for more info.

## Free Manure

Free horse manure is available to start your compost pile or bioreactor. Contact Judy Nixon at the Metaphorse Growth & Healing Center, 18903 Spring Creek Rd, Montrose; Call and leave a message at 970-249-1821. You will need to bring your own trailer or dump to haul, but the Center has a tractor on site for loading.



## USDA Accepting Applications to Help Cover Costs of Organic Producers

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will cover up to 75% of the costs associated with organic certification, up to \$750 per category, through the Organic Certification Cost Share Program (OCCSP). Colorado Farm Service Agency (FSA) encourages organic agricultural producers and handlers to apply for OCCSP by Nov 1, 2023, for expenses incurred from Oct. 1, 2022, through Sept. 30, 2023.

As part of USDA's broader effort to support organic producers and in response to stakeholder feedback, this year FSA increased the cost share to the maximum amount allowed by statute.

"We're taking steps to better support Colorado organic producers," said Kent Pepler, State Executive Director for FSA in Colorado. "We've heard about this program's value in helping Colorado organic producers and handlers obtain or renew their certifications under the National Organic Program, and I'm pleased that we're able to increase and restore the cost share to the statutory limit this year. Organic certification costs have long been identified as a barrier to certification, and this assistance, at its full levels, will help Colorado organic producers participate in new markets while supporting and growing our local and regional food systems."

### Cost Share for 2023

The cost share provides financial assistance for organic certification, and producers and handlers are eligible to receive 75% of the costs, up to \$750, for crops, wild crops, livestock, processing/handling and state organic program fees (California only).

Colorado producers have until Oct. 31, 2023, to file applications, and FSA will make payments as applications are received.

### How to Apply

To apply, Colorado producers and handlers should contact their local FSA office USDA Service Center. As part of completing the OCCSP application, producers

and handlers will need to provide documentation of their organic certification and eligible expenses.

Organic producers and handlers may also apply for OCCSP through participating state departments of agriculture. Additional details can be found on the OCCSP webpage.

Opportunity for State Departments of Agriculture FSA is also accepting applications from state departments of agriculture to administer OCCSP. FSA will post a synopsis of the funding opportunity on [grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov) and will electronically mail the notice of funding opportunity to all eligible state departments of agriculture.

If a state department of agriculture chooses to participate in OCCSP, both the state department of agriculture and FSA County Offices in that state will accept OCCSP applications and make payments to eligible certified operations. However, the producer or handler may only receive OCCSP assistance from either FSA or the participating state department of agriculture.

### Other USDA Organic Assistance

USDA offers other assistance for organic producers, including the new Organic Transition Initiative (OTI), which includes direct farmer assistance for organic production and processing, conservation and crop insurance.

For conservation, USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is helping producers adopt the new organic management standard, which allows flexibility for producers to get the assistance and education they need such as attending workshops or requesting help from experts or mentors. It supports conservation practices required for organic certification and may provide foregone income reimbursement for dips in production during the transition period.

USDA's Risk Management Agency (RMA) reminds....







## Communication is Key in Lending

Farm Service Agency (FSA) is committed to providing our farm loan borrowers the tools necessary to be successful. FSA staff

will provide guidance and counsel from the loan application process through the borrower's graduation to commercial credit. While it is FSA's commitment to advise borrowers as they identify goals and evaluate progress, it is crucial for borrowers to communicate with their farm loan staff when changes occur. It is the borrower's responsibility to alert FSA to any of the following:

- Any proposed or significant changes in the farming

operation

- Any significant changes to family income or expenses
- The development of problem situations
- Any losses or proposed significant changes in security
- If a farm loan borrower can't make payments to suppliers, other creditors, or FSA on time, contact your farm loan staff immediately to discuss loan servicing options.

For more information on FSA farm loan programs, contact your Mesa County USDA Service Center at 970-242-4511 or visit [fsa.usda.gov](http://fsa.usda.gov).

## Update Your Records

FSA is cleaning up our producer record database and needs your help. Please report any changes of address, zip code, phone number, email address or an incorrect name or business name on file to our office. You should also report changes in your farm operation, like the addition of a farm by lease or purchase. You should

also report any changes to your operation in which you reorganize to form a Trust, LLC or other legal entity.

FSA and NRCS program participants are required to promptly report changes in their farming operation to the County Committee in writing and to update their Farm Operating Plan on form CCC-902.

## USDA Accepting Applications to Help Cover Costs of Organic Producers

...Cont'd from pg. 7

...producers interested in the Transitional and Organic Grower Assistance Program, also part of OTI, to visit with their crop insurance agent for more information. Premium benefits for eligible policies will be automatically applied to the producer's billing statement later this year.

For producers that participated in the Transitional and Organic Grower Assistance Program, also part of OTI, premium benefits for eligible policies will be automatically applied to the producer's billing statement later this year.

USDA's Risk Management Agency (RMA) also administers federal crop insurance options, including Whole Farm Revenue Protection and Micro Farm, which may be good options for organic producers.

Also under OTI, is the USDA Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) National Organic Program's (NOP) Transition to Organic Partnership Program (TOPP). TOPP builds mentorship relationships between transitioning and existing organic farmers to provide technical assistance and wrap-around support in six U.S. regions.

On May 10 USDA AMS announced the availability of approximately \$75 million in grant funding for the Organic Market Development Grant (OMDG) program. OMDG will fund businesses transitioning to organic or initiating new organic production or processing and support new, improved and expanded markets for domestically produced organic products with a focus on processing capacity, market access, and product development.





Natural Resource Conservation Service

“A Partnership in Conservation”



USDA NRCS's Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) provides funding for agricultural landowners to implement activities that improve existing conservation efforts through new technologies and management techniques.

**Applications Due August 18, 2023**

## NRCS in Colorado Announces NEW CSP Funding Opportunity

Denver, CO July 26, 2023 - Clint Evans, State Conservationist for USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in Colorado announced today the availability of additional Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) funding for Colorado landowners to implement activities that improve existing conservation efforts through new technologies and management techniques.

CSP can help producers increase their resiliency to extreme weather events, improve wildlife habitat, increase forage base, decrease inputs, improve forest health, and increase crop productivity. Funding is available to both large- and small-scale producers, and there are variety of conservation practices and enhancements from which to choose. The NRCS even offers enhancement/practices in bundles.

CSP utilizes a five-year contact and offers eligible land a baseline payment in addition to the incentive payment. All new activities must be completed on land that the eligible producer has operated for at least five years. Interested participants are encouraged to contact their local NRCS office to learn more about CSP. Applications are due to local NRCS offices by August 18, 2023.

## Changes Around the Office

In July Carma Edgell resigned as NRCS Program Support Specialist. Over the last 2 years Carma assisted with EQIP payments for the Montrose NRCS Team. In her personal time, Carma has been passionately working with the Western Slope Native American Resource Center to grow their outreach to Native Americans on the West Slope. Her future plans are to give the Resource Center more of her time and talents. We are excited for Carma, but we will miss having her in the Montrose Field Office. More information on the Western Slope Native American Resource Center can be found [here](#).



Adam Kolb, new NRCS  
Engineer

The Montrose NRCS office welcomes Aaron Kolb, Civil/Agricultural Engineer. Aaron is originally from Flagstaff, Arizona and graduated from Colorado State University with a degree in Environmental Engineering in 2017. He previously worked for NRCS in the Grand Junction Field Office as a Soil Conservationist for 2.5 years, and before that for the Yellowstone River Conservation District Council in Montana for 3 years. While all of Aaron's time is dedicated to Montrose projects, he will be splitting his week between the Montrose office and working remotely from Grand Junction.



Carma Edgell

# USDA SERVICE CENTER CONTACT INFORMATION

## 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  
**ERNE ETCHART**, Vice Chairperson  
**CHERRI COOPER**, Regular Member  
**SARAH MCCONNELL**, Regular Member  
**TYLER HANSON**, Regular Member



## 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  
**MONA NKOYOYO**, Shavano DCT Engineer Technician 964-3575



## SHAVANO CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Website: [www.shavanocd.org](http://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

## 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



## 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

**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



## WEST REGION WILDFIRE COUNCIL

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

Serving Delta, Gunnison, Hinsdale, Montrose, Ouray, and San Miguel Counties

**New Address - 160 South Amelia St, Ridgway**

**LILIA FALK**, Director of Finance & Agreements [Lilia.Falk@COWildfire.org](mailto:Lilia.Falk@COWildfire.org)

**JAMIE GOMEZ**, Executive Director [Jamie.Gomez@COWildfire.org](mailto:Jamie.Gomez@COWildfire.org)

**AARON JOHNSON**, Wildfire Mitigation Specialist  
[Aaron.Johnson@COWildfire.org](mailto:Aaron.Johnson@COWildfire.org)

**LEIGH ROBERTSON**, Partnership & Collaboration Director  
[Leigh.Robertson@COWildfire.org](mailto:Leigh.Robertson@COWildfire.org)

**BRAD ECKERT**, Forester/Program Coord. - Community & Watershed  
[Brad.Eckert@COWildfire.org](mailto:Brad.Eckert@COWildfire.org)

**JOSH HANSEN**, Forester/Program Coord. - Parcel Scale Cost-Share & Seeding  
[Josh.Hansen@COWildfire.org](mailto:Josh.Hansen@COWildfire.org)

## Dates to Remember

August 14, 2023	Local Food Farm Tour, Montrose
August 18, 2023	NRCS Conservation Stewardship Program Applications Due
August 29, 2023	Western Colorado Research Center Farm Tour & Field Day, Fruita, CO
September 1, 2023	Triticale and Spelt deadline for NAP Insurance
September 4, 2023	Labor Day—Office Closed
September 8, 2023	Gunnison-Dolores Watershed Meeting & Tour, Crawford, CO
September 9, 2023	UWP Watershed Restoration in the Ironton Park Area Field Trip
September 11, 2023	Agrarian Connections Network Meeting, Olathe
September 12, 2023	Shavano CDBoard Meeting, 6:00pm
September 16, 2023	UWP Water Quality Monitoring in the Upper Unc Field Trip
September 19-20, 2023	Rocky Mountain Soil Health Roundtable, CSU, Fort Collins
September 29, 2023	UWP Watershed Restoration in the Upper Unc Field Trip
September 30, 2023	Wheat and Barley deadline for NAP Insurance
October 9, 2023	Columbus Day—Office Closed
October 10, 2023	Shavano CD Board Meeting
October 12, 2023	UWP “The Next 10 Years of the Upper Uncompahgre River Watershed”, Ridgway, CO
October 17, 2023	UWP “The Next 10 Years of the Upper Uncompahgre River Watershed”, Ouray, CO
November 1, 2023	Organic Certification Cost Share Program (OCCSP) Deadline
November 7, 2023	Cheatgrass Treatment Workshop, Ridgway, 5:30-8:00pm
November 11, 2023	Veteran’s Day—Office Closed
November 13-17, 2023	CACD Committee Meetings (held virtually)
November 14, 2023	Shavano CD Board Meeting
November 15, 2023	Acreage reporting 2024 deadline for fall-seeded crops (rye, spelt, wheat)
November 16, 2023	UWP 10th Anniversary Celebration, Location TBD
November 20, 2023	NAP Application Closing Date for Apricots, Cherries, Grapes, Hops, Nectarines, Pears, Plums and Prunes
November 23, 2023	Thanksgiving Day—Office Closed
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.*