



Phillips
Conservation
District

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- **MACD Con-
vention**
- **Invasive
Aquatic
Mussels
found in
Montana
waters!**



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Phillips Conservation District Newsletter

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 1

WINTER 2017

2016 MACD Annual Convention

Representatives of the Phillips Conservation District recently traveled to Sidney for the 2016 Montana Association of Conservation Districts (MACD) Annual Convention. PCD Supervisors in attendance were Bob Breipohl and his wife Marilyn, Hal DeBoer, Merrilyn Black as well as Administrator Jenifer Anderson. The event was well attended with over 200 Conservation District folks traveling to Eastern Montana for a great convention.

There were several informative breakout sessions, meetings and tours. Breakout session topics were: Conservation District Law, Bison Policy, How to reach out to your Legislators, Montana Rangelands Partnership, Invasive Species and Conservation District River Councils. There were several Partner updates, including: NRCS, DNRC, NACD, SWCDM, MT Salinity Control, Dry Prairie & Dry Redwater Rural Water Systems, Missouri River Conservation District Council and the Musselshell Watershed Coalition.

Four different tours were offered; Sidney Sugars, Ag Research, Yellowstone River Intake and Sidney area oil country.

Five resolutions were passed during the business meeting at Convention this year. Phillips Conservation District submitted Resolution #16-2, a resolution to support Irrigation Infrastructure. You can read the resolutions on page 3 of this newsletter.



Bob & Marilyn Breipohl, Jenifer Anderson, Merrilyn Black and Hal DeBoer at MACD Convention in Sidney, November 15-18th

The 2016 Annual Convention concluded Thursday evening with a dinner banquet, auction and live music. Thank you to Richland County Conservation District for a fantastic event, showcasing Eastern Montana!

PCD now accepting 2017 tree orders

The Phillips Conservation District is now accepting orders for trees and shrubs for the 2017 spring planting season.



In an effort to provide our customers with the most complete and up-to-date information available; the Phillips Conservation District (PCD) is providing interested individuals with website ordering information for the three Nurseries that supply our trees and shrubs.

Because the Nurseries have a minimum order requirement, it is advisable for individuals to continue to place their orders through the Conservation District. *To place an order, please complete the attached tree order form and return it to the PCD/NRCS office along with your payment as soon as possible.* A 30% shipping and handling fee is added to each order.

Lincoln Oakes Nursery information can be accessed at www.lincolnoakes.com by clicking on "ordering information" and then on "out- of-State order form." Conservation grade and 2-3' trees must be ordered in bundles of 25, while 3' and taller trees are sold in bundles of 10.

The **Montana Conservation Seedling Nursery** can be found at www.dnrc.mt.gov/forestry/nursery by clicking on "inventory and price list," or "catalog." The State Nursery offers deciduous trees and shrubs in bundles of 50; bareroot and small container grown conifers in bundles of 25; and 100 cu.in. containerized in lots of 8. You may order directly from the State Nursery using their online order form, or you may place your order with the Conservation District.

Lawyer Nursery, Inc. offers a wider selection of trees and shrubs, and can be accessed at www.lawyernursery.com by clicking on "Lawyer Nursery catalog." Then choose the section of catalog that best fits your needs.

All of these websites provide plant selection information. Another excellent source of information is the "North Dakota Tree Handbook," at www.ag.ndsu.edu/trees/handbook.htm.

Orders will be accepted until April 3, 2017, **but you are encouraged to place your order as soon as possible to guarantee species and size availability.** *Orders will not be placed until payment is received in the District office.* You can expect the orders to be shipped the middle of April 2017.

If you prefer to receive hard copy ordering information or would like assistance in your order, please stop by the PCD/NRCS office in the USDA Building or phone us at 654-1334 ext. 3. If you have an email address that you are willing to provide the District for future mailings, please include it on your order form or give us a call.

"He that plants
trees loves
others besides
himself"
-Thomas Fuller

From McCone Conservation District Newsletter

RESOLUTIONS

Passed at the MACD Convention

Resolution 16-1: Support for Conservation District Water Reservations

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montana Association of Conservation Districts shall oppose any efforts to revoke or reduce the flowrates and volumes of any and all state reservations of water held by Conservation Districts.

Resolution 16-2: Supporting Infrastructure

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that MACD be directed to coordinate with local conservation districts on state, federal and all other levels to address problems, concerns and potential solutions to fund irrigation structures in need of repair, that are vital to local economies, wildlife, recreationalists, municipalities and agriculture.

Resolution 16-3: Retaining the Coal Bed Methane Protection Act (CBMPA) Legislation

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montana Association of Conservation Districts work with the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) and the state legislature to **assure that the Coal Bed Methane Protection Act is retained as state law** in order to maintain the future option of providing a mechanism to reimburse landowners with approved claims.

Resolution 16-4: Continued Funding for CBMPA Program

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montana Association of Conservation Districts to approach the next Montana Legislature to **request continued funding for the CBMPA** for program management, water sampling, and reimbursement to landowners for approved claims.

Resolution 16-5: Pollinator Outreach and Education

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that MACD encourages individual Conservation Districts to include pollinator projects in their annual goal setting.



What happens next? MACD goes to work for the Districts.

To read each resolution in its entirety, please visit: www.macdnet.org.

Photo sources: <https://d13yacurqjgara.cloudfront.net>; <https://static.pexels.com/photos/3237/scrabble-resolutions.jpg>

Items available for Sale or Rent:

Landowner Map Booklets

5.5" X 8.5" Map Booklet.....\$30.00 each
5.5" X 8.5" Map Booklet Satellite.....\$40.00 each
8.5" X 11" Map Booklet.....\$40.00 each
8.5" X 11" Map Booklet Satellite.....\$50.00 each
Wall Map.....\$40.00 each
Shipping & Handling.....\$10.00 each

Fabric Prices

Sunbelt fabric 6' X 300'\$85.00 each
Sunbelt fabric 4' X 300'\$65.00 each
3' X 3' weed control fabric squares...\$1.00 each
Staples.....\$2.00 per lb.
Box of Staples.....\$45.00 each



Sunbelt Fabric Layer Rental

\$10 per day with fabric purchase
\$25 per day with fabric purchase

Planting Products

Hydrosourse crystals.....\$5.00/lb.
Blue-X tree tubes (30 in).....\$1.25 each
Rigid Seedling Protector Tubes..\$.50 each
100 Marker Flags.....\$6.00/bundle

Tree Planter Rental

Minimum charge for up to 400 trees.....\$20.00
401-1,000 trees.....\$.05 per tree
1,000 or more trees.....\$.025 per tree

Conservation Items

Wildlife Escape Ramps.....\$10.00 each



United States Department of Agriculture

December 2, 2016

News Release!

Requesting Loan Deficiency Payments (LDP) Benefits

Producers must submit page 2 of the CCC-633EZ form to the local FSA office to request Loan Deficiency Payments (LDP) benefits. To be considered eligible for an LDP, producers must retain beneficial interest in the commodity from the time of planting through the date the producer filed form CCC-633EZ, Page 1 at the local FSA office. If form CCC-633EZ is filed before loss of beneficial interest, the producer may obtain the LDP rate in effect on the date beneficial interest is lost. A producer retains beneficial interest when control of and title to the commodity is maintained.

Example: Producer must have filed form CCC-633-EZ, page 1 with the local FSA office prior to delivery to an elevator. Once the commodity has been delivered to an elevator, beneficial interest would be considered lost. The producer would be eligible for the LDP rate in effect on the date the commodity was delivered to the elevator.

Producers are encouraged to contact their local FSA Office if they have questions regarding loss of beneficial interest.

Ongoing FSA Notice of Loss Requirements

ELAP – Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees and Farm-Raised Fish Program: Submit Notice of Loss the earlier of 30 calendar days of when the loss is apparent or Nov. 1st after the end of the program year in which the loss occurred.

LIP - Livestock Indemnity Program: Submit Notice of Loss within 30 calendar days of when the loss is apparent.

Emergency Loans – Disaster Designations in Montana

FSA's Emergency Loan Program is available for agricultural producers in counties designated as primary or contiguous natural disaster areas. See map below of current Disaster Designations in Montana by County. Contact your local FSA office for specific designations in your area and time frames to apply. Eligible producers have **eight months** from the date of the disaster designation to apply for low-interest emergency loans to 1.) restore or replace essential property; 2.) pay all or part of production costs associated with the disaster year; 3.) pay essential family living expenses; or 4.) refinance certain debts, excluding real estate. Producers interested in applying for an emergency loan, or other FLP loans, should contact their local FSA office to set up an appointment with the Farm Loan Program staff serving your area.

[Current Disaster Designations in Montana](#) - (by county)

[Emergency Loan Factsheet](#) (pdf)

Farm Service Agency | Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services
Phillips County Office
1120 US Hwy 191 South, Suite 1 | Malta, MT 59538
Phone: 406.654.1333 | Fax: 855.558.5661 | Website: www.fsa.usda.gov/mt

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.



Ranching, Conservation, Communities- a Winning Team!

WINTER GRAZING WORKSHOP

February 27, 2017

1:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Malta Business Center

46 S 1st St E, Malta, MT



Come learn about and discuss:
Rangeland Monitoring
Grass Growth and Response to Grazing
Grazing Systems

Speakers:

Rick Caquelin, NRCS Area Range Management Specialist

Emily Standley, Montana Rangelands Partnership Range Technician

Learn more about the Ranchers Stewardship Alliance at
ranchstewards.org or call (406) 654-1405

By Marni Thompson, NRCS Great Falls Area Planner

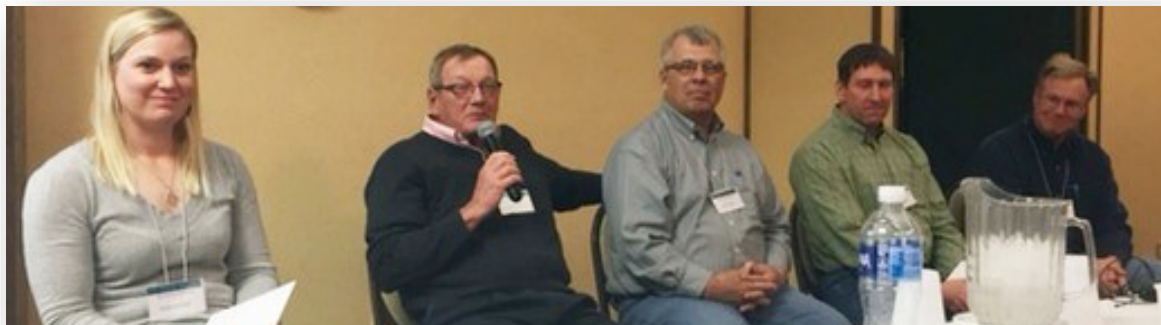
More than 150 soil health enthusiasts gathered from all corners of North Central Montana to listen to Dr. Dwayne Beck, Dan Forgey, and others in our stellar producer panel. Dr. Dwayne Beck stressed the importance of diverse rotations, keeping the ground covered with residue, and keeping living roots in the soil every year not every other year. Dan Forgey shared, with great enthusiasm, the story of the soil health improvements that they have made on Cronin Farms. He shared tricks, tips, and economics.



Amanda Gillett from Winnett shared her story that started 5 years ago when she attended her first soil health workshops in Great Falls. Amanda and her husband, Glen, converted a convention tilled crop fallow operation to a continuous cropping system that included a diverse rotation, cover crops, grazing, and a no-till disc drill. She tested a lot of the concepts on her no-till garden with great success. Amanda shared some marketing strategies that have worked for her.

Roger Solberg from Malta also shared his story that started 5 years ago when he attended his first soil health workshop in Great Falls. After hearing Dwayne Beck 5 years ago he went back to Malta and diversified his cropping rotation and bought a no-till disc drill. Recently he has also been bringing in his neighbors cows to graze his cover crops. After attending another soil health workshop in Fort Benton last year, he started intercropping chick peas and flax.

Jon Schipf from Highwood shared his tip and tricks with grazing cover crops. Jon



has grazed cover crops for a couple of years and loves what it does for his cows. The cows eat everything in the mixes and he has had no issues with planting crops back into those fields.

It was a great day and great to know that Soil Health is making a difference in Montana.

Featured Weed: Spotted Knapweed

From: Montana Weed Control Association



Image source: MT Weed Control Association

(*Centaurea stoebe*)

Description

Spotted knapweed is a short-lived perennial or biennial plant that can grow up to four feet in height. This plant has a strong taproot as well as lateral roots. The rosettes of spotted knapweed are grayish-green in color with leaves that are up to six inches in length. Leaves are oblong and wider at the tip, deeply lobed and in early stages, covered with a layer of fine hairs. Stem leaves are alternate and may be slightly lobed or even unlobed. Each rosette may produce many stems. This plant will adapt to mowing and grow shorter and shorter to bloom at very low heights, which is why this plant can vary in height from two inches to four feet. Stems and leaves are a blue-green color but the short, thin hairs on the leaves can give the plant a silver-gray cast. One flower pink to pinkish-purple flower grows on each stem. Flowers are surrounded by oval bracts with black tips, thus the name spotted knapweed. One plant can produce up to 300 flower heads, thus producing up to 140,000 seeds. Flowers, which bloom from June to September, resemble both Canada thistle and the popular bachelor button, a close relative. Seeds are oval, brown and up to 1/8 inches long with a short tuft near one end. Reproduction is primarily by seed, but can sometimes start shoots from a lateral root system. Dead plants that have gone to seed are readily identifiable by the tall cream colored to gray stalks and white to gray seed heads.

Key Features

Pink to purple bachelor button-looking flowers, bracts with black tips directly under the flowerhead and deeply lobed lower leaves with fine, cobweb-type hairs.

Habitat

It has a preference for sunny, arid conditions in course soil and especially in disturbed areas. Spotted knapweed is a highly adaptable plant and can be found just about anywhere. It can be found at various elevations, in moist or dry conditions, is shade tolerant but most often can be found in sunny areas on well drained or gravel/sandy soils.

Interesting Facts

Spotted Knapweed produces its own natural herbicide called "catechin" that eradicates plants around it. Spotted knapweed has had twelve different biocontrol agents (insects) released to manage the plant, perhaps the most famous of which is the *Cyphocleonus achates*, or root boring weevil. Seven of those are currently present in Montana.



"Spotted

Knapweed

produces its own

natural herbicide

called "catechin"

that eradicates

plants around it."

Image Source: MT Weed Control Association

Valley County Conservation District Hosts the 2017 Winter Grazing Seminar

By Jody Mason, Valley County Conservation District Supervisor



Lon Reukauf received an Environmental Stewardship award at this year's winter grazing seminar at the Cottonwood on Jan. 18. *James Walling, Courier*

On January 17th & 18th, more than 100 people from around the state met in Glasgow Montana to listen, learn and share about several aspects of livestock management. The two day event was organized by the Valley County Conservation District with support from the Montana Department of Natural Resources, and several local sponsors. The first day was packed with speakers addressing topics of rangeland monitoring, song birds and livestock grazing, improving management efficiency, winter feeding and forage management and Mr. Burke Teichert discussing profitability in the beef cattle business. Participants enjoyed insight from Mr. Aaron Flint as he emceed the event.

The first day concluded with a very inspiring evening banquet. The Horse Ranch family of south west Valley County were presented the range producer of the year award and Ray Neumiller, Rangeland Management Specialist at the Glasgow

BLM Field Office, was the recipient of the agency leader of the year award. Mr. Bruce Vincent, a highly sought after motivational speaker and business man, sparked the group with a highly entertaining speech on understanding society's concerns about environmental issues and animal husbandry issues.

The second day promised to be just as informational with the National Weather Service, MSU Beef Extension Specialist, and the Lead Research Scientists from Fort Keogh Livestock Range & Research Laboratory addressing group. Dr. Angus McIntosh, private property rights expert, concluded the seminar with an in depth and exceptional talk on knowing your rights when federal lands are involved.

The Winter Grazing Seminar is an event that travels around the state every year. Be looking for it next year as it will continue to be an exceptional event brought you to by your local conservation district.

Featured Plant: Gumbo Evening Primrose by Kelsey Molloy

Gumbo evening-primrose is objectively one of the most delightful plants in eastern Montana. Its big white flowers can be found across the prairie in early spring, low to the ground. Flowers last only a day or two and turn from white to pink as they fade. If you see this flower take time to stop and smell the (prim)roses as they are

very fragrant! They are pollinated by nocturnal moths. The leaves themselves are fairly inconspicuous, irregularly toothed, often with some red on the stems. As the name suggests they often grow on gumbo hillsides or other poor soils, as well as bare areas along road cuts.



Gumbo Evening Primrose
photo courtesy of Kelsey Molloy

Milk River Watershed Alliance News

1120 Hwy 191 S, Ste 2

Malta, MT 59538

(406)654-1334 ext. 101

www.milkriverwatershedalliance.com

MRWA Board & Staff

Jeff Pattison, Chair

Pat Anderson, Vice Chair

Ken Kiemele

Nancy Heins

Todd Eney

Donny Linn

Bruce Anderson

Greg Jergesen

Con Nystrom

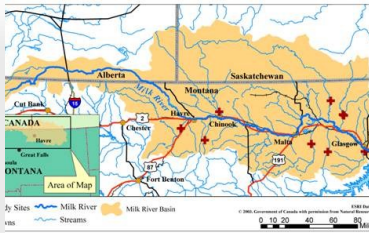
Barbara Broberg

Coordinator Jenifer Anderson



Life Line of the Hi-Line

**“Lifeline of
the Hi-line”**



*“The Milk River
Watershed Alliance is a
locally led organization
working together to
preserve, protect and
enhance natural resources
within the Milk River
Watershed, while
maintaining the quality of
life.”*



*St. Mary's diversion dam,
source of the Milk River,
photo by Jenifer Anderson*

Message from the Chairman, Jeff Pattison

The Milk River Watershed Alliance is on track again with new Coordinator, Jenifer Anderson from Malta, who will be working with Glasgow Chairman, Jeff Pattison and the rest of the MRWA Board. After a short funding situation, MRWA has a lot of new and some familiar faces on board. Educating citizens on the diversity and complexity of this unique watershed is one of MRWA's main objectives; how the river gets its water, the International Treaty and shared compact with Canada along the Milk River's 300+ miles it flows north, to the 525 miles it runs back into Montana where it reaches its confluence near Fort Pack in the Missouri.

Partnerships of wildlife interests, sportsmen, municipalities that draw their water from the Milk, recreationalists and of course, irrigators are forming partnerships with the MRWA. One of the unique facts of the partnerships is that for a public works project, irrigators are charged with paying 75% of the operating costs that are shared by all. Another leg of the stool is working on weed control, to prevent this watershed from turning purple and yellow with noxious weeds. Lastly, MRWA is working on having “shovel-ready” irrigation improvement projects identified, in the event funding sources come up.

The MRWA has participated in two Transboundary Workshops, working with the above goals to bring their presence and knowledge to the table when it comes to global environmental groups. It's exciting to think that the Hudson Bay, Pacific Ocean and the Gulf of Mexico all receive water from the St. Mary's project, constructed in the early 1900s.

One of the biggest challenges will be the 2017 legislative session funding priorities. A small request of \$160,000 will be sought for the biennium for projects, administration, office and travel expenses and more to keep the water flowing. Roughly 98% of the water that flows through the Milk River comes out of two eight foot siphon tubes at the St. Mary's Project. The recent cost of repairs to the project is around \$200 million. The economic impact if the Milk River returns to a seasonal stream is BILLIONS! What a return for an investment! MRWA will need support for the request to the legislature. Your support of MRWA is appreciated.

Governor declares natural resource emergency for Montana waters due to presence of invasive mussels. *Press release from MT DNRC*

Helena, MT – Governor Steve Bullock issued an [executive order](#) today declaring a statewide natural resource emergency for Montana water bodies due to the detection of the larvae of invasive aquatic mussels at Tiber Reservoir and suspected detections at Canyon Ferry Reservoir and the Milk and Missouri rivers. The signing of the Executive Order triggers the deployment of an interagency rapid response team to respond to the emerging situation.

“Aquatic invasive species are a serious threat to Montana’s critical infrastructure and economy. The deployment of the multi-agency rapid response team will work quickly to identify and contain existing mussel populations, and prevent future introduction to other water ways,” Bullock said. “The potential economic, ecological and recreational impacts for Montana and our region must be addressed quickly and every effort must be taken to prevent the additional spread of this threat.”

Bullock has directed the Montana Invasive Species Advisory Council, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, and Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks, to form a coordinated Rapid Response Team to immediately respond to the situation.

“We’ve been working statewide and regionally for decades to prevent the introduction of aquatic invasive mussels into Montana,” said incident commander Matthew Wolcott, who is leading the rapid response team. “With these detections we’re quickly transitioning from prevention efforts to a control and containment strategy to protect Montana water bodies and others within region.”

Last month, aquatic invasive mussel larva was discovered in samples at Tiber Reservoir. Further testing at Tiber confirmed the presence of mussel larvae. Ongoing sampling and testing efforts turned up water samples from Canyon Ferry Reservoir, the Milk River downstream of Nelson Reservoir and the Missouri River upstream of Townsend that were suspect for the mussel larvae. Additional samples from suspect water bodies are still being analyzed to provide further confirmation. Those tests results are expected within the next two weeks.

Montana is a headwater state for three regionally significant river systems and the economic, environmental and recreational impacts of an invasive aquatic mussel infestation has national implications. The location of the detections, the value of the fisheries and recreational resources, the proximity to critical state infrastructure such as hydroelectric dams, municipal water supplies, and irrigation structures require an effective and coordinated response.

“Montana has prepared for this event and has the response structure in place,” said Bryce Christiaens, chair of the Governor’s Council on Invasive Species and a member of the response team. “With the support from the Governor and of regional invasive species partners, we have the ability to respond with an intense and coordinated effort.”



Comparison of quagga (left) and zebra (right) mussel. Michigan Sea Grant.



Images courtesy MT DNRC

Milk River Watershed Alliance News

1120 Hwy 191 S, Ste 2

Malta, MT 59538

(406)654-1334 ext. 101

www.milkriverwatershedalliance.com

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Life Line of the Hi-Line

MRWA welcomes Big Sky Watershed Corps member, Casey Gallagher!

Casey Gallagher is joining us from Big Sky Watershed Corps of which she will be completing an 11 month term working for the MRWA. Casey grew up in Sussex County, New Jersey in the Delaware Water Gap Region where the Appalachian Mountains level out into the agricultural fields, sparking her interest in the outdoors and agriculture. She worked in a state forest where she was able to design invasive species management control plans, and implemented the forest's first educational summer program. Casey graduated with a bachelor's degree in Environmental Studies from Siena College in Albany, New York. Her most noteworthy achievement was the creation of Roots Café; a local farm to table luncheon held once a week to stress the importance of supporting local farmers and suppliers. Casey's professional interests include hydrology and watershed management, local agriculture integration for communities, and environmental education and outreach. In her spare time Casey enjoys many outdoor recreational activities such as hiking, skiing, biking, fishing, and wild mushroom foraging.





By Kris Polly

This July, I was fortunate to have participated in a tour of the St. Mary Diversion sponsored by the St. Mary Rehabilitation Working Group and the Montana Water Resources Association.

It was a great experience. Montanans are enthusiastic, can-do Americans, and the scenery is wide open and beautiful. The glacial water in the project canals has a unique, almost turquoise color that is also beautiful to see. The St. Mary Diversion was one of the first U.S. Bureau of Reclamation projects, with construction beginning in 1907, and most of the original infrastructure is still in place. Most noteworthy are the hand-riveted, 80-inch steel siphons that are still delivering water. While the siphons have been repaired in various places, the original engineering has stood the test of time. The gravity-flow system has successfully delivered water for alfalfa, wheat, other forage crops, and livestock production for over 100 years. It is clear, however, that many of the project's components are crumbling and in need of replacement.

What would those original builders of the St. Mary Diversion think if they could see the project today? They engineered it and built it to last, so they would likely not be surprised that it is still operating. They may be surprised, however, at the project's state of repair, and they may also be surprised to see that the project has not continued to develop. Those who promoted and built the St. Mary Diversion over 100 years ago understood that irrigation creates an economic engine for local and state economies. Today, Montana's Canadian neighbors to the north in Alberta are growing 40 different crops that supply a variety of processors and contribute C\$3.5 billion to the province's economy. What would the builders of the St. Mary Diversion think about that?

Kris Polly is editor-in-chief of Irrigation Leader magazine and president of Water Strategies LLC, a government relations firm he began in February 2009 for the purpose of representing and guiding water, power, and agricultural entities in their dealings with Congress, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, and other federal government agencies. He may be contacted at Kris.Polly@waterstrategies.com.



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Malta, MT 59538

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The Phillips Conservation District holds its monthly meetings the second Tuesday of each month at 1:00 p.m. in the conference room of the USDA building, located at 1120 Hwy 191 South. These meetings are open to the public.

Conservation District Board & Staff

Bob Breipohl, Chairman

Matt Simonson, Vice-Chairman

Bill French

Pat Anderson

Paul Mortenson

Gary Knudsen, Urban Supervisor

Merrilyn Black, Urban Supervisor

Hal DeBoer, Associate Supervisor

Jenifer Anderson, Administrator & Editor

Montana's conservation districts are political subdivisions of state government, created by the legislature in 1939. A non-paid elected and appointed board of supervisors governs the activities of a conservation district. The 58 conservation districts in Montana are part of a national network of over 3,000 conservation districts similarly organized in all 50 states.

Their main function is to conduct local activities to promote conservation of natural resources. The activities vary from district to district, but generally include education or on-the-ground conservation projects. Conservation districts, however, have the authority to pass land use ordinances if necessary to conserve local natural resources. In addition, individuals planning to work in or near a perennial stream or river must first receive a permit from their local conservation district.

We're on the web!

www.phillipsconservationdistrict.com

310 Permits

Phillips Conservation District is reminding landowners that a 310 permit is legally required if they are planning any project in or near a perennially flowing stream.

Any private entity or non-governmental group planning any project that may affect the shape of a stream or its banks must obtain a 310 permit prior to beginning any such activity.

This applies to natural perennial-flowing streams, rivers or springs, including the bed, immediate banks, and channels of the entire stream from its mouth to its source even if portions go dry periodically. Both state and local rules apply.

Construction of new facilities, or the modification, operation or repair of an existing facility, are all subject to this requirement.

This includes, but is not limited to, projects such as bridges, culverts, irrigation structures, bank stabilization, diversions

and stream restoration.

Application for 310 permits are to be made by the person performing the work or acting on behalf of the landowner, such as contractors, developers, ditch companies, or the landowners themselves.

The purpose of the 310 Law (Montana's Natural Streambed and Land Preservation Act of 1975) is to ensure that projects on perennial streams will be carried out in ways that are not damaging to the stream or adjoining landowners.

310 permit applications are free, and are available at the Phillips Conservation District (1120 Highway 191 South, Suite 2, Malta) or online at <http://dnrc.mt.gov/permits/streampermitting/jointapplication.asp>

Upcoming Events

New Year's Day (Office closed).....	Jan. 1
MRWA Quarterly Meeting.....	Jan. 5
PCD Monthly Meeting.....	Jan. 10
Transboundary Grasslands Workshop.....	Jan. 11-13
Martin Luther King, Jr. (Office closed).....	Jan. 16
Winter Grazing Seminar.....	Jan. 17-18
CD Legislative Meet & Greet.....	Jan. 24
PCD Monthly Meeting.....	Feb. 14
President's Day (Office closed).....	Feb. 20
SMRWG Meeting.....	Feb. 22
CMR-WG Meeting.....	Feb. 23
RSA Grazing Seminar.....	Feb. 27
PCD Monthly Meeting.....	March 14
St. Patrick's Day.....	March 17