

HIGH COUNTRY RC&D  
302 PROFIT STREET  
REXBURG, ID. 83440

## Calendar of Events

### HCRC&D Board Meeting

The next High Country RC&D board meeting is scheduled for June 24th 2010. From 1:00 to 3:00 in the Rexburg Commissioners room.

### Henrys Fork CWMA Meeting

The next HFCWMA meeting will be held on May 18th 2010 at 10:00 in the Driggs Forest Service office.

### Upper Snake River CWMA Meeting

The next USRCWMA meeting will be held on May 26th 2010 at 9:00 a.m. in the Idaho Falls Fish and Game Office.

## Thank You to our Sponsors

### Conservation Districts:

Butte SWCD  
Clark SCD  
Custer SWCD  
Eastside SWCD  
Jefferson SWCD  
Lemhi SWCD  
Madison SWCD  
Mud Lake SWCD  
Teton SCD  
Teton, WY CD  
Westside SWCD  
Yellowstone SCD

### County Commissions:

Bonneville  
Butte  
Clark  
Custer  
Fremont  
Jefferson  
Lemhi  
Madison  
Teton  
Teton, WY

### Cities:

Ammon  
Ashton  
Challis  
Driggs  
Dubois  
Idaho Falls  
Iona  
Mud Lake  
Rexburg  
St. Anthony  
Sugar City  
Ucon  
Victor

### High Country RC&D Officers and Board Members:

**Chair** - Dave Radford, Bonneville County Commissioner  
**Vice Chair** - Kimber Ricks, Madison County Commissioner  
**Secretary/Treasurer** -  
**Board Members** - Kent Cummins, Butte County ; Allyn May, Clark County; Wayne Butts, Custer County; Paul Romrell, Fremont County; Michelle Harrington, Jefferson County; Brett Barsalou, Lemhi County; Boyd Bowles, Teton Conservation District.

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# High Country Highlights

## Thank You Steve Smart

Steve Smart began working for the NRCS as a student trainee in 1977 after completing his schooling from Humbolt State University in Arcata, California. For two years Steve was a Soil Conservationist in St. Anthony, Idaho. Then he was a District Conservationist in Driggs, Idaho, for 11 years. In 1991 Steve became the High Country RC&D Coordinator.

Throughout his time with the RC&D, 19 years, Steve has been involved in hundreds of projects that have immeasurably benefited and beautified Eastern Idaho and sur-

rounding areas.

Among his standout performance in the work place, Steve also served in the military in Vietnam, where he was wounded in action and received the Purple Heart; he married the love of his life, Janet Holgers, and together they have two wonderful children, Neil and Hailey; and Steve was also incredibly musically talented, playing guitar in a local traveling band.

Everyone he associated with was greatly impressed by his vast knowledge, work ethics, sense of humor, and willingness

to try anything new that would benefit others.

Dave Radford, High Country's Chairman said, "Steve is one of the greatest public servants I have ever been privileged to work with. I have always been awed by his professionalism, dedication, and ability to view both sides of all issues. Steve not only talked the talk, he walked the walk. All who have worked with Steve were effected in a positive way forever."

So, thank you Steve Smart for being you. From all of us you have inspired.



Steve teaching a group of students about aquatic invasive species and the prevention strategies being taken at Henrys Lake.



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## For Steve Smart

Can you make the world a better place?  
Can you do something good?  
Can you build the terraces?  
Can you plant the grass and trees?  
Can you control the noxious?  
Can you collect the bugs?  
Can you draw up the grants and plans?  
Can you bring people together?  
Can you play guitar, and sing to make people happy?  
Can you love your wife and family?  
Again, can you make the world a better place?  
'Of course, Steve said,  
And He Did!

By Lori Ringel





Sponsors and board members listening to presenters during our annual sponsors meeting.

## Annual Sponsors Meeting

All sponsors are welcome to attend any RC&D Board meeting throughout the year. However, once a year during the annual sponsors meeting we discuss our financial reports, end of year reports, and current plan of operations. This meeting is important to have sponsors input and to update everyone on our projects.

This year we spent a moment to have all in attendance give tribute to Steve Smart with a few short comments. It was apparent through the remarks that Steve had an astounding effect on all that he worked with.

After the touching honor for Steve, four presenta-

tions were given to update and inform.

Bryce Fowler, Fremont Co., Steve Hopley, Madison Co., and Adrienne Keller with U.S. Forest Service came to present the Holding the Line Project. They reported the great successes from last season, and their project objectives for this coming year.

Randy Purser, IASCD division VI Director gave a presentation on the funding challenges and opportunities for the Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

Paul Romrell gave a presentation on Cloud Seeding, and their efforts to expand into Wyoming as

well as the partnership with Idaho Power.

Lastly, Bob Tribelhorn, NRCS Area Conservationist/RC&D Program Manager gave a presentation on program updates including the new performance criteria and our Area Plan.

The meeting took a short recess to have lunch catered by Frontier Pies, and to network and discuss.

A traditional board meeting was held when the meeting reconvened.

Overall, the meeting was informative and progressive. The board and sponsors are excited for a new coordinator and new projects for this coming year.

## Excerpts from the National Catalyst

'Food that's in when school is out' written by Julie Paradis, USDA Food and Nutrition Service Administrator.

Julie writes about the Summer Food Service Program or SFSP, and how it can provide free nutritious meals and

snacks in low income areas to help children under 18 during the summer months. Many successful programs also offer transportation and recreational, educational or enrichment activities.

SFSP is part of the USDA's initiative to end childhood

hunger by 2015.

The group is looking for sponsors, and partnering organizations to put together and run a successful program. These programs are funded by the USDA Food and Nutrition Service.

## ISDA Noxious Weed Grants

ISDA cut all of the Cooperative Weed Management Area's grants submitted this season by 57%. All requests for equipment and Information/Educations projects

were not funded. Most of the funds cut were from state dollars due to the weak economic conditions and overall state cuts.

The USRCWMA was

awarded nine projects for a total of \$44,377 while the HFCWMA was awarded three projects for a total of \$78,146. These projects will begin as soon as weather permits.

No race can prosper until it learns that there is as much dignity in tilling a field as in writing a poem.  
-Brooker T. Washington

## Holding the Line

An additional \$60,000 was added to the Holding the Line project since last fall. The Forest Service was impressed with the number of bio's collected and redistributed, maps created, partnerships made, and considerable amount of work that was done last year. The new funds will be used to ex-

pand the project into Wyoming as well as pay for a full time mapping/redistribution team, and to add "Lyve" uploading component to the GPS 's.

Project updates include: the project buffer zone has been expanded to include Grand Teton National Park (These buffer

zones are designed to give the committee a threshold for rapid response), project area is expanding, mapping team has been hired, equipment for harvest stations is being purchased, and the committee is planning a tour for the Washington D.C. representatives this July 2010.

## Henry's Lake Aquatic Nuisance Species

Henry's Lake project was awarded the Department of Agriculture Aquatic Invasive grant again for the third year. The monies will be used to fund six full time employees, and purchase one additional self contained boat wash station which will be placed at Island Park Reservoir.

Protecting Idaho's waters

is important to Fremont County, and they will be paying for any additional costs and employees needed for this project.

A few weeks ago a boat was stopped on it's way to Henry's Lake this season. The owner was hauling the boat to the Lake early for storage in their summer home when it was

checked and then quarantined for having the invasive mussels attached to it's bottom. The contaminated boat was been cleaned and released after a one week holding.

Henry's Lake Opening Day is May 29th, and we are excited to start a new season protecting the Lake.

## Meet a Board Member/Michelle Harrington

Michelle was born and raised in San Francisco, CA. She moved to Idaho after the Teton Dam broke in 1976 and stayed until 1979.

She then moved to Washington where she owned and operated *Sunrise Pest Management* until 1996 when she moved back to Idaho. Michelle subsequently worked as the general manager for an alternate energy company specializing in solar and wind powered systems. In 2008 she

graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Business and Management/Marketing from Brigham Young University-Idaho, and currently works as the Jefferson County Deputy Administrator.

Michelle is a member of the *National Association of Professional Women* and *International City Managers Association*. She also Founded *Concerned Parents Coalition*, a political action committee, and sits on the High Country RC&D board as

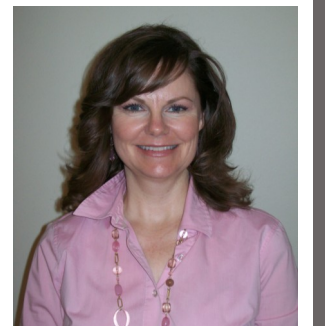
well as our cloud seeding and all hazards mitigation committees.

When asked about her thoughts on working within the High Country RC&D Michelle said, "It's been great to associate with RC&D board members and sponsors. Working with capable, passionate leaders for worthy goals is uplifting. It's exciting to see the progress that has been made and how our community is a better place because of the efforts of the RC&D."



New buffer zone for Rapid Response.

We never know the worth of water till the well is dry. - Thomas Fuller, *Gnomologia*



Michelle Harrington, High Country RC&D Jefferson County Representative