



Calendar of Events

HCRC&D Board Members:

The annual High Country summer tour will be on August 25th. Meet at the Rexburg USDA Service center 9:30a.m.

Henry's Fork CWMA:

The next HF CWMA meeting is scheduled for September 7th. 10am at the Madison County Weed Control Office.

Holding the Line:

Please contact the High Country office if you'd like to sign-up for leafy spurge bio-control releases. 208-624-3200

Thank You Sponsors!

Conservation Districts:

Butte SWCD
Clark SCD
Custer SWCD
Eastside SWCD
Jefferson SWCD
Lemhi SWCD
Madison 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
Rigby
St. Anthony
Sugar City
Ucon
Victor

High Country RC&D Board Members:

Chair - Dave Radford, Bonneville County

Vice Chair - Kimber Ricks, Madison County

Secretary/Treasurer - Debbie Karren, Jefferson County

Board Members - Kent Cummins, Butte County; Tod Shenton, Clark County; Wayne Butts, Custer County; Kelly Park, Teton County; Lee Miller, Fremont County; John Jakovac, Lemhi County; Boyd Bowles, Teton Conservation District.

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SINCE 1979.



High Country Highlights

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A Little bit of Change....

As the old saying goes “the only constant in life is change.” That is true most places you look, even here at the High Country RC&D office. A few months ago the Federal Government was making some tough decisions regarding the Federal budget for the FY 2011 (which ends September 30th, 2011). After much deliberation among the House and Senate, a possible government shut-down, and a continuing resolution (or two), Congress came to some sort- of agreement. Incidentally, funding for the RC&D program was eliminated at that time.

Despite intensive effort on the part of many RC&D Council Members and supporters nationwide, Congress failed to restore funding to the RC&D Program for the FY 2011. The House voted to approve the budget by a vote of 260-167. The Senate approved the legislation by a vote of 81-19. Although, funding for

this fiscal year was eliminated efforts are still mounting to restore funding for FY 2012. Yet, the pressure to cut federal spending is very strong and we can only hope Congress will choose the right areas to cut.

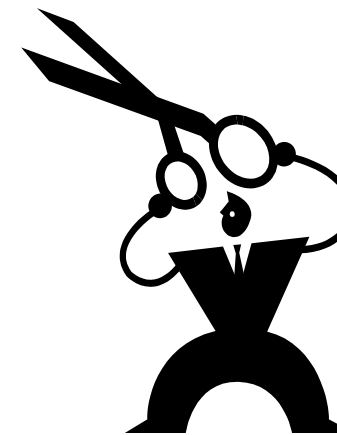
The “defunding” of the RC&D program nationwide impacts many, many people. Not only do the RC&D Coordinators no longer have a role working with the Councils, but many RC&D’s will struggle to keep their doors and programs open. Most RC&D Councils were operating out of government buildings such as the USDA Service Centers, now most need to find other offices.

We here at High Country have a strong Board and helpful sponsors. We’d like to publicly Thank all our sponsors especially Fremont County who so graciously donated of-

office space in the new Fremont County Annex Building for us to use. Bonneville County also provided very affordable at-cost desks, file cabinets and chairs to furnish our office. Without this support the Council and staff would be hurting. At this time we are all settled into our new office at 101 North Bridge Street, St. Anthony, ID 83445; 208-624-3200. Come by and see us anytime! Our projects are still going strong with the help from our Board and staff. We will miss our Coordinator Pam Herdrich but she isn’t going far, she stops by after work some days to volunteer her time and talents. She plans to come on full-time once she retires this fall. ■

“When we are no longer able to change a situation, we are challenged to change ourselves.”

~Victor Frankl



Summer Tour

The annual High Country tour will be held this summer on August 25th, 2011. The tour is a great time to meet partners, sponsors, staff, and the Board. We also try to highlight a few of the current projects we've been working on. This year we will try



2010 tour participants waiting to "hit the road". Please RSVP to Tammy at highcountryadmin@fairpoint.net

to visit a cloud seeding machine in Clark County, the boat wash & inspection stations up at Henrys Lake, and finally we will try to see how the Wild-land Urban Interface project is going up in the Ashton area.

Anyone wishing to participate on the tour should contact Tammy Egbert for more information at 208-624-3200 or at: highcountryadmin@fairpoint.net. We will be meeting at the Rexburg USDA Service Center (302 Profit St.) at 9:30 am on August 25th to carpool to the various

tour locations. The tour should last until about 4pm, and lunch will be provided for those interested. We'd love to see you there, please RSVP!!! ■

"Sunshine is delicious, rain is refreshing, wind braces us up, snow is exhilarating; there is really no such thing as bad weather, only different kinds of good weather."
~John Ruskin

Cloud Seeding Report—End of the 2010-2011 Season

What a difference a month can make! After two pretty slow months in January and February, storm patterns finally changed and gave us a good boost of moisture! As usual, winds came with the storms making it difficult to operate our ground-based generators in many areas, especially in the northeast area.

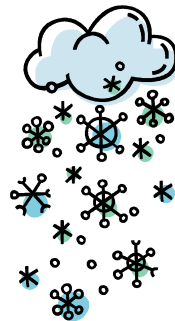
We had budgeted to run 1000 hours and we ran a total of 598.5 hours in March. Winds kept us from operating during some of the storms, especially in Fremont County. Year to date we ran a

total of 2729.5 hours, or 44% of our budgeted 6250 hours. Storms in the middle of the month allowed us to operate almost all the generators. The following week brought a storm to the Clark County-upper Fremont area, and the last week of March hit the Palisades/Gray's Lake area. Mother nature took care of us!

On the Idaho Power side of operations, they ran a total of 277.4 hours, the highest month of the year for their seeders. They ran a total of 1018.5 hours for the

year on their fifteen generators.

Due to the above normal snow pack readings on the first of April, the decision was made to shut down cloud seeding operations for the 2010-2011 season, on April 1st. Overall it was a pretty good year for seeding. Wind, convective storms and cold temperatures played havoc with us more than we'd like, but when you're dealing with mother nature, you take what you get!



Meet a Board Member - John Jakovac

Once again it is that time of the year to introduce everyone to another High Country board member. This month we will spotlight one of our newest board members— John Jakovac.

John Jakovac is one of three county commissioners in Lemhi County, Idaho. He was recently introduced into local government this past November (2010) when he ran for the commissioner seat. Soon after that he was appointed to the High Country RC&D Board of Directors.

John was born and raised in Lemhi County in the "Salmon area," as he puts it. At a young age John went to work building houses. He took a few drafting and design classes then started

his own business in 1980. For the past 31 years John has worked in commercial and residential construction. John points out that after 30 years he is starting to "phase out" and is letting the younger guys take over. John still keeps busy though by running a small cow-calf ranching operation that uses any free time he may have.

John has been married to his wife Debbie for 34 years. Together they have two children, a son and a daughter, who both reside in Lemhi County.

As mentioned before, John is new to local government but has enjoyed the transition and the challenge. He is looking forward to working with the other Board

members on the High Country projects and has attended a few Cloud Seeding meetings this last season. The biggest challenge is always to get caught up on what High Country does but we know John will do fine and will be a great asset to the Board. ■



Legislative Alert from the National Association of RC&D Councils

Congressman Tim Holden (D-PA) is circulating a letter in the U.S. House of Representatives on behalf of the RC&D Program. He is seeking signatures from his colleagues in the House for a letter to the House Subcommittee on Agriculture Appropriations to provide RC&D funding in the FY 2012 budget. The National Association of RC&D Councils is very grateful for Congressman Holden's efforts and support for the RC&D Pro-

gram.

Please contact your U.S. Representative by phone, email or fax and encourage him/her to sign this "Dear Colleague" letter. Congressman Holden is the Ranking Member of the Conservation, Credit, Energy, and Research Subcommittee of the House Committee on Agriculture. He is currently serving his 10th term in the U.S. House of Representatives.

If you have any questions, please contact John Haugen, Andy Gordon, or Peter Costolanski at the NARC&DC office by calling 202.434.4780 or through email: pcostolanski@sso.org.

Thank you! ■

The best way to cheer yourself up is to try to cheer somebody else up. ~Mark Twain