

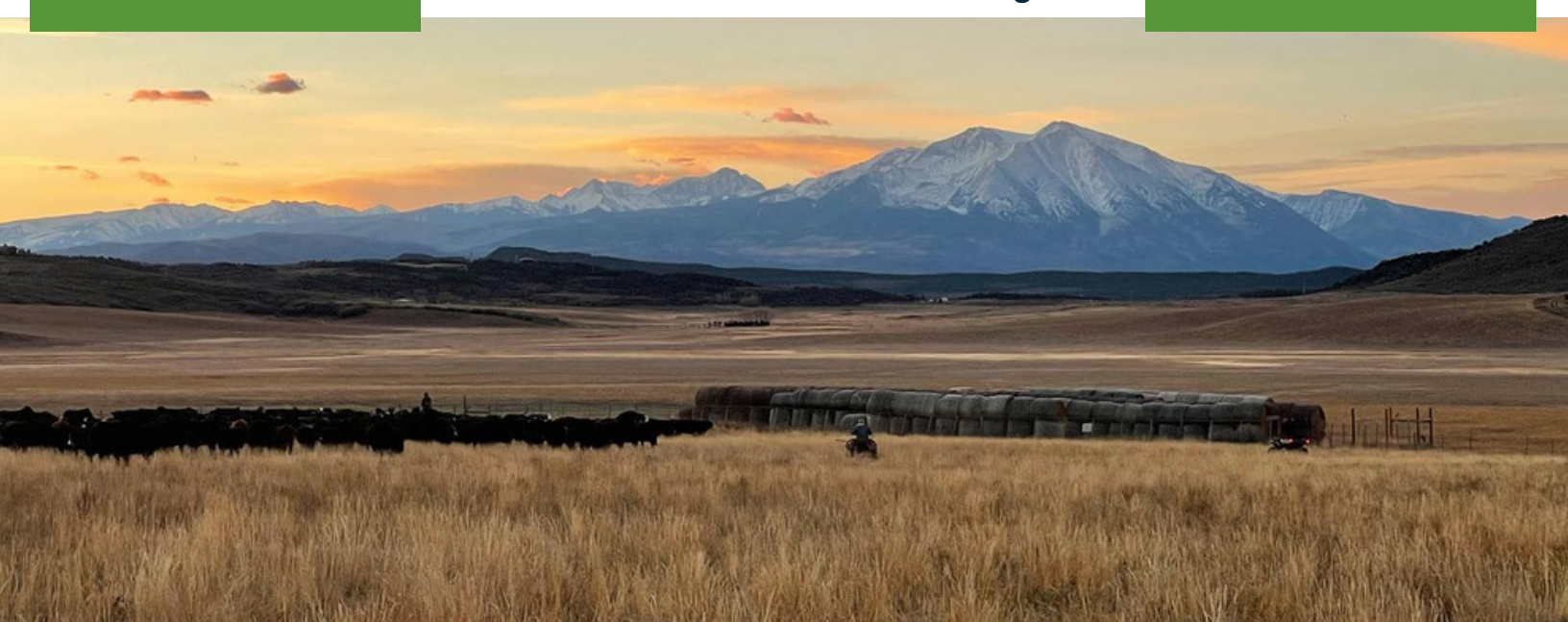


November 2023

>>> NEWSLETTER <<<

BOOKCLIFF, MOUNT SOPRIS, & SOUTH SIDE CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Our Land, Our Water, Our Heritage



UPCOMING EVENTS

HOME FOR
THE
HOLIDAYS



MON, DEC 25TH & MON, JAN 1ST

This is a friendly reminder that our offices will be closed on December 25th and January 1st. You can still send us an email or leave a voice mail and we will get back to you when we return to the office. Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!

MON, DEC 11TH OR 18TH <<<

The Conservation Districts will be presenting our annual report to the Board of County Commissioners to show the what we have accomplished in 2023. This will be followed by a joint meeting with all three districts. These meetings are always open to the public and agendas and meeting details are posted in the calendar on our website.

[Click here to view our annual report](#)
[or visit our website.](#)



**JOINT MEETING &
PRESENT TO
BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS**

WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO

>>> WOLF MEETING

The Preparing for Wolf Reintroduction Meeting took place on Nov 7th at the Garfield County Fairgrounds in Rifle, CO. We had about **165 people in attendance**. The four-hour event featured presenters, panelists from Federal Agencies, Local Resources, and Producers, as well as questions from the audience. The event was recorded by Rifle Community TV and can be found on [their website](https://www.riflenow.org), [Riflenow.org](https://www.riflenow.org)



THANK YOU TO OUR PRESENTERS AND PANELISTS

Tom Harrington, Lenny Klingsmith, Renee Deal, Robbie LeValley --

Livestock Producers

Scott Becker -- **USFWS Region 6 Wolf Coordinator**

Scott Fitzwilliams -- **USFS**

Larry Sandoval -- **BLM**

Matt Yamashita -- **CPW Area Wildlife Manager**

Kirk Oldham -- **CPW Area Wildlife Manager**

Travis Black -- **CPW Northwest Regional Manager**

Dr. Frank Garry -- **CSU Extension Specialist (Veterinarian)**

Dean Peterson -- **Peterson Brothers Cattle Company, Wisdom, MT**

Robin Young -- **CSU Extension**

Emily Schwaller -- **Mt Sopris, Bookcliff & South Side Conservation District**

Matt Collins (**Western Landowners Alliance**)

Adam Baca -- **CPW**

Martin Lowney -- **USDA WS**

Jo Stanko -- **CO Dept of Ag (CDA)**

>>> NOXIOUS WEED COST SHARE

The Noxious Weed Cost Share had its Fall 2023 review and **approved 59 applications**. There were also **26 applications from Spring** for a total of **85 applications and \$56,335.45 reimbursed in 2023**. Thanks to a grant for the Colorado Dept. of Ag and the South Side Conservation District an **additional \$11,408.67** was reimbursed in South Side Conservation District. We estimate that a total of **5,437 acres were treated** through our Cost Share program.

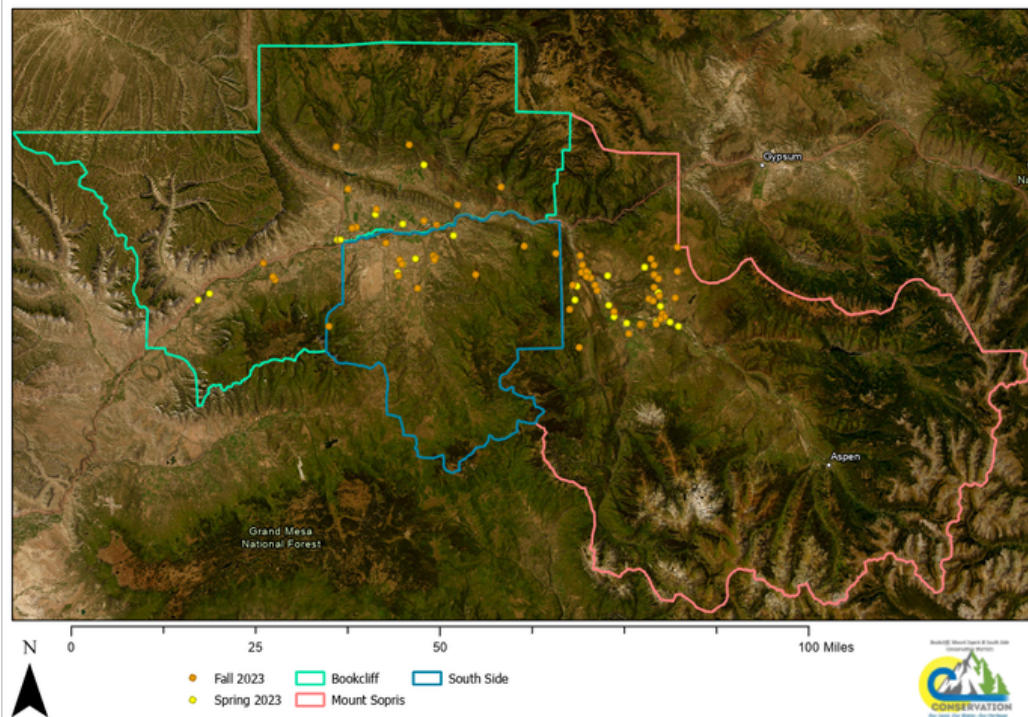
PER DISTRICT

- **Bookcliff**
19 apps
- **Mount Sopris**
50 apps
- **South Side**
16 apps

Noxious Weed Cost Share Applicants 2023 for Bookcliff, Mount Sopris and South Side Conservation Districts

Map created by Hannah Judge

Esri, HERE, Garmin, SafeGraph, FAO, METI/NASA, USGS, Bureau of Land Management, EPA, NPS, Earthstar Geographics





WORK IN PROGRESS

3

>>> STAR+ SOIL HEALTH PROGRAM

The Conservation Districts have teamed up with **ten producers** across our three districts to participate in the STAR+ Program. These producers have dedicated **647.24 acres** of land in production to practices that will improve soil health. Stay tuned for opportunities to talk with and learn from our staff and producers!

[Visit the CDA's site to learn more about soil health!](#)



>>> RUSSIAN KNAPWEED BIOCONTROL

The Districts have access to a nursery for Stem Wasps (*Aulacidea acroptilonica*) and are looking for people interested in biocontrol for their Russian Knapweed! Larvae spread in the fall that will pupate in the spring and start attacking infestations. Monitoring has shown a **66-85% decline in seed production** from infested plants. The wasps also do not sting people, pets, or wildlife. [You can learn more about biocontrol from the Palisade Insectary.](#) Please reach out if you are interested.

CHECK OUT OUR FACEBOOK

For updates on events, good information from our partners, as well as our weekly WEEDnesday posts to learn history, ID, and impact of specific weeds in Garfield County.



[Bookcliff, Mount Sopris, South Side Conservation Districts](#)

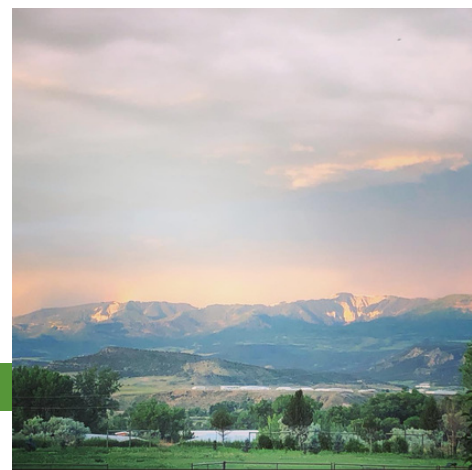
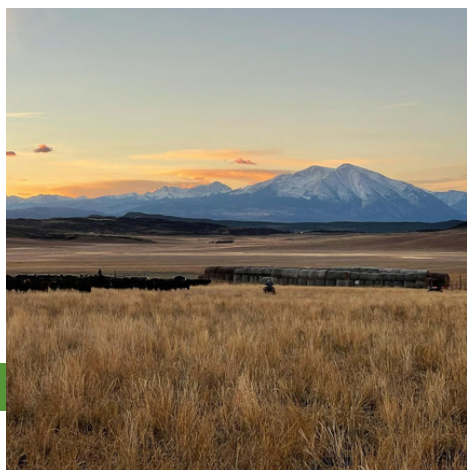
>>> CONTACT US

Your local Conservation Districts are here as a resource for financial and technical assistance. Visit us in person at the Glenwood Springs office or reach us by phone or email if you have any questions!

(970)-404-3450
Garpitcd@gmail.com

258 Center Dr.
Glenwood Springs, CO 81601

<https://bookcliffmountsoprisouthsidecd.org/>



OUR BOARDS AND STAFF

BOOKCLIFF

Raymond Langstaff	President
Tony Barrie	Vice President
Charles Ryden	Treasurer
Gray Mello	Member
Vacant	Member

MOUNT SOPRIS

Jeff Nieslanik	President
Sandy Jackson	Vice President
Robert Burry	Treasurer
Cassie Cerise	Member
Mike Wilde	Member

SOUTH SIDE

Brett Jolley	President
Vacant	Vice President
Brit McLin	Treasurer
Angela Ryden	Member
Vacant	Member



CALL FOR BOARD MEMBERS: SOUTH SIDE & BOOKCLIFF

Do you live or manage land in the Bookcliff or South Side Conservation Districts and want to be a voice for Landowners and Agricultural Producers?

Time commitment:

- One Monthly Board Meeting
 - Est. 2 hours a month
- Ability to sit on Review Committees for Noxious Weed & Irrigation Cost Share Review
 - Est. 3 hours 2-3 times a year
- Other meetings and events as your time allows

If interested please contact

Emily Schwaller

970-404-3439

GarPitCD@gmail.com

DISTRICT STAFF

District Manager
Engineering Tech
Technician
Intern

Emily Schwaller
Mike Kishimoto
Jamie Kelly
Jacob Cox

Bookcliff, Mount Sopris & South Side
Conservation Districts

