



December 2023

>>> NEWSLETTER <<<

BOOKCLIFF, MOUNT SOPRIS, & SOUTH SIDE CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Our Land, Our Water, Our Heritage



UPCOMING EVENTS

AG WATER WORKSHOP



WED, JAN 10TH 10:00 AM-1:30 PM

The Districts will be teaming up with Garfield County CSU Extension and Colorado Cattlemen's Association to talk about Soil Health, Water Policy, and Project Funding. [Register here](#) on our website, the event will be held at the Garfield County Fairgrounds. *More information on Pg 2*

SAT, JAN 20TH 9:30-12:15, 12:55-5:00 <<<

Join the HCCA for their 67th Annual Meeting this January. RSVP is requested for the morning session and sponsored lunch. RSVP is appreciated for the afternoon session. Contact Ginny Harrington at (970)-274-1404 or [Register Online](#). The event will be at the Grand River Event Center. Stay tuned for information on the Banquet and Fundraiser February 2024!



**HOLY CROSS
CATTLEMEN'S
ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL MEETING**

WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO

>>> AG WATER WORKSHOP CONT.

The event will feature:

- “Soil Health to Improve Water Utilization”
- “Water Rights 101 and River Update”
- “Funding for Ag Water Projects”

Lunch will be provided and there will be time for questions during and after the presentations.

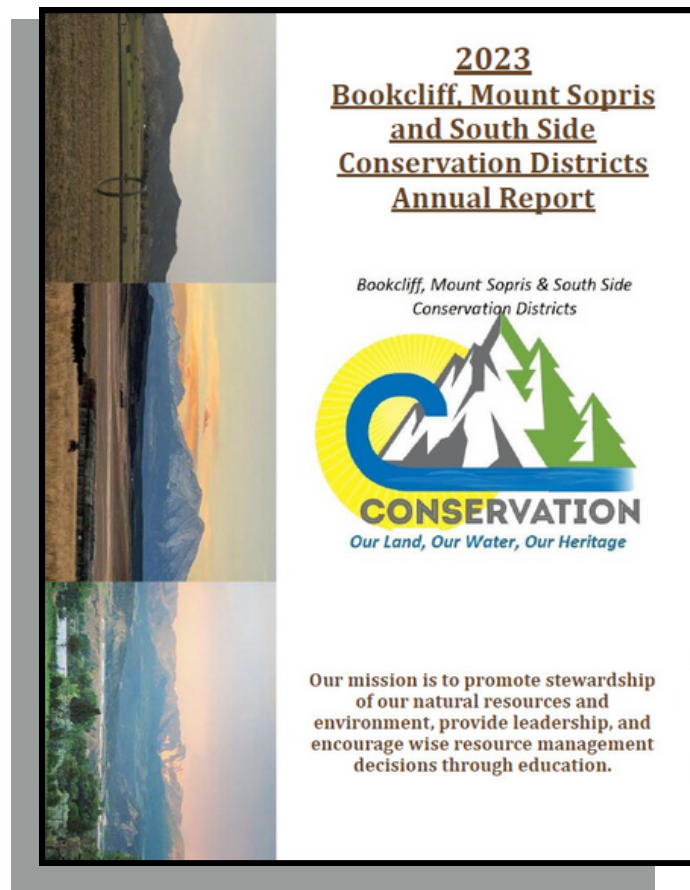


AGENDA

- 10:00- Welcome
- 10:05- **Conservation Stewardship Program**- Tyler Maxwell, NRCS Acting Resource Team Lead
- 10:15- **Soil Health to Improve Water Utilization**- John Rizza, CDA Western Slope Soil Health Coordinator
- 11:00- **Water Rights 101 and River Update**- James Heath, CO Division of Water- Division 5 Engineer (Topics covered: Use it or Lose it, How to Avoid Abandonment, The Importance of Ag Water Return Flows, and an Update on the Shoshone Power Plant Water Right)
- 12:00- **Break**- Grab and Listen Lunch provided
- 12:20- **Funding for Ag Water Projects**- Phil Brink, CO Cattlemen's Association- Ag Water NetWORK; Greg Peterson, CO Ag Water Alliance (Topic: Grants that can be leveraged to fund irrigation infrastructure projects, including storage)
- 1:30- **Questions and End of Meeting**

>>> BOCC PRESENTATION

The Districts presented our Annual Report to the Garfield County Board of County Commissioners, highlighting how much we have been able to help landowners in the area thanks to their support. Last year the Districts were awarded **\$213,500.00** in grant money and **80%** went directly back to Producers and Landowners!



[View our Annual Report here!](#)

WORK IN PROGRESS

>>> SCHOLARSHIPS IN BOOKCLIFF AND MOUNT SOPRIS

The Bookcliff and Mount Sopris CDs offer Scholarships to high school seniors who live in the district pursuing degrees in Agriculture, Natural Resources, or other related fields. This can apply to anything from a 4-year degree to Trade Schools. Options can range from Welding, to Firefighting, or even to Vet Med. All you have to do is apply!



>>> RUSSIAN KNAPWEED BIOCONTROL

Thanks to Brit McLin, Treasurer on our South Side CD board. We have been able to collect these bugs from a nursery site on his property and provide them to landowners for free!

The numbers so far:

- Released at 10 different sites
- ~25,000 bugs released
- Locations from Glenwood to Parachute and everything in between!

You can learn more about biocontrol from the Palisade Insectary.

Please reach out if you are interested!

>>> 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/>

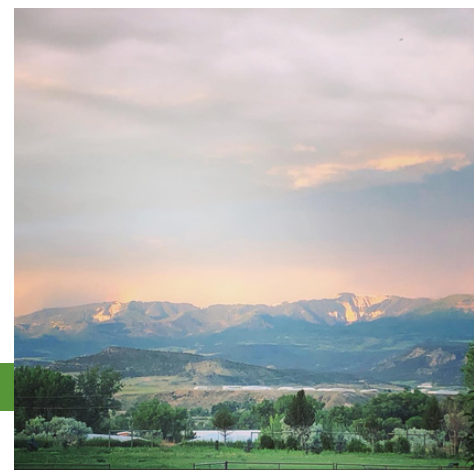
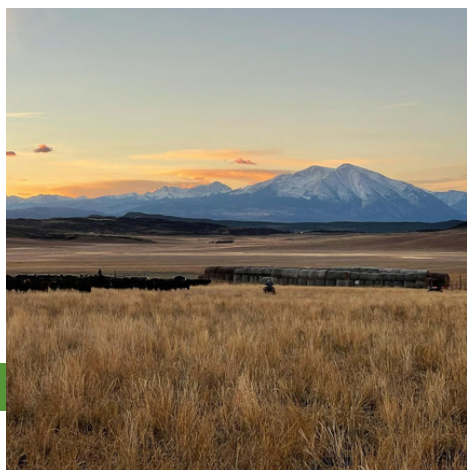


CHECK OUT OUR FACEBOOK

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](#)



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

DISTRICT STAFF

District Manager
Engineering Tech
Technician
Intern

Emily Schwaller
Mike Kishimoto
Jamie Kelly
Jacob Cox

If interested please contact
Emily Schwaller
970-404-3439
GarPitCD@gmail.com

*Bookcliff, Mount Sopris & South Side
Conservation Districts*

