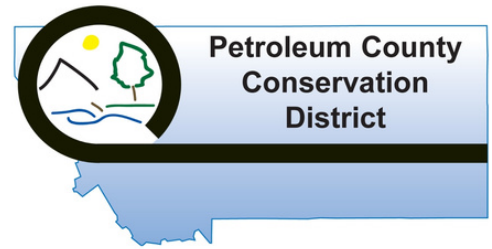


2024

PCCD Annual Report



Prepared by
Trish Smith

Date
December 2024

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About our CD

The Petroleum County Conservation District encompasses the county’s 1,071,000 acres and the board is comprised of five county elected officials and two appointed city officials. This board is tasked with the education and conservation of the county’s natural resources.

The Petroleum County Conservation District through education, outreach and program and project development works hard to put local common sense natural resource conservation on the ground and to educate the current and future producers and landowners on natural resource conservation all while helping them to continue sustainability in their businesses.

The Petroleum County Conservation District regularly partners with other conservation districts, watershed groups, stakeholder groups, state and federal agencies, as well as some NGO’s and nonprofits to put conservation on the ground.

Meet the Board

Jay King	Chairman
Brenda Brady	Vice Chairman
Laura Kiehl	Treasurer/Secretary
Ralph Corbett	Urban Supervisor
Rodney Rowton	Rural Supervisor
Butch Arthur	Urban Supervisor
Tye Lund	Supervisor

PCCD STAFF



TRISH SMITH
ADMINISTRATOR

Trish and husband, along with their two daughters live in Mosby, MT. Trish is the PCCD Administrator, MRCDC secretary, CEMIST assistant and also works part-time for MWC. She enjoys family time spent outdoors, painting, and photography.



KATIE LUND
FISCAL MANAGER

Katie and her husband, along with their five children, run a registered Black Angus operation east of Winnett. Being first generation Petroleum County ranchers, they have a deep appreciation of the land. In her free time, Katie is an avid walleye fisherwoman, enjoys the mountains and enjoys chasing her kids around.



MOLLY MASTERS
MRCDC COORDINATOR

Molly grew up on a cow/calf ranch outside of Hardin, Montana. She currently works as the Coordinator for the Missouri River Conservation Districts Council and part of her duties is to help support CEMIST. Molly and her husband, Josh, have two kids, Lester and Elaine. They love helping out with their families' ranches whenever possible.



BRENT SMITH
CEMIST PROGRAM MANAGER

Brent was raised on the Rocky Mountain Front in Choteau. Brent worked 17 years in Fire Management, 4 years at Trident Cement Plant and four years for Winnett ACES as their Coordinator before his current position as the CEMIST Program Manager since Fall of 2022.



ALLISON MARTIN
MWC COORDINATOR

Allison obtains a bachelor's degree from Montana State University in Natural Resources and Range Science. Allison is the coordinator for the Musselshell Watershed Coalition. Allison is also a Park County Weed board member. She enjoys riding her mules in the mountains, spending time with her family outdoors, skiing and gardening.

Programs & Events



Ladies Day on the Range

Ladies Day was held June 6th at Laura Kiehl's ranch SE of Winnett. There were 16 attendees and 5 presenters. Allison Martin (MWC) kicked off the event with an EZ Ject presentation. Michelle Grocke (MSU-Extension) discussed Agriculture related mental health issues and ways to cope with stress. She provided the ladies with handouts that included tools, and exercises, and went through a "Mental Wellness Menu" checklist. Megan Hoyer (Yellowstone Co. Weed District) and Pam Schwend (Carbon Co. Weed District) put on an entertaining rendition of noxious weed eradication, followed by a field trip on the Kiehl ranch identifying noxious weeds. Sara Degn (Fresh Hopped Farms) discussed side practices/income on ranching properties to help with sustainable living in rural communities, diversifying conservation with other options for growing commodities other than hay, wheat, barley, etc., for supplemental income to support the ranch. After her discussion, Laura Kiehl showed everyone her thriving hops crop, and discussed all that is involved in starting and maintaining the hops in an everchanging environment in eastern Montana.



Kid's Education Day

September 4th marked the PCCD's Annual Kid's Ag & Conservation Education Day. Seven stations (& 17 presenters) presented on bees, fish, invasive species, fire (fire engine), fossils/dinosaur bones, soils, and wildlife tracks/scat identification.



Gardening Workshops

We had a Homesteading Workshop May 8th. The group learned about heirloom seeds, and had two hands on activities making homemade butter in a jar and bread from a bag. They also learned about atmospheric canning.

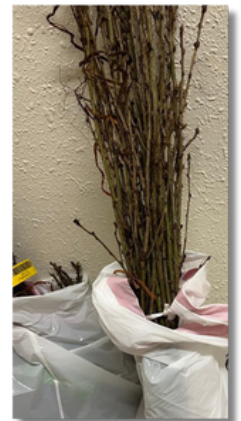


Applicators Class

Our annual Applicators Class was September 11th. Stephen Vantassel from the MT Dept. of Ag gave interesting presentations on varmint control (raccoons, mice & prairie dogs) and folks that attended were able to get 3 credits towards their applicator license.

Tree Program

We work with Lincoln Oakes Nursery out of North Dakota for our annual tree sales. We had around 250 trees picked up May 2024, and so far have around 60 trees ordered for the 2025 spring trees sale. The trees are delivered by FedEx and there a large variety to choose from.



For Sale

- 2023 Petroleum County Ownership Map w/ Color Aerial Photos - \$35.00
- 2023 Petroleum County Ownership Map - \$28.00
- Fence Markers - \$0.25 each
- Weed Fabric - \$100.00/6' roll or by the Square
- Fabric Staples - \$0.15 ea or \$50/box of 500
- Gate Closers - \$18.00
- Escape Ramps:
Winter - \$62.00
Summer - \$52.00

Rentals

- Tree Planter - \$50/week, \$25 returnable deposit
- No Till Drill - price based on acreage and worked/unworked ground
- Fabric Layer - \$0.08/foot, minimum \$10/max \$250.00

For Sale/Rental items listed are just the most popular items purchases/rented. There is a full list of rentals/merchandise available in the CD office.

CD PARTNERS



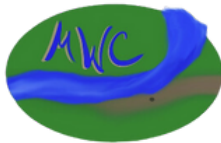
- NRCS provides conservation planning assistance on a request basis through working agreements with the conservation district. They also provide office space for the PCCD.



- DNRC provides our conservation district state-funded grants that we use for district operations, implementing on-the-ground projects, delivering educational workshops/classes to youth and adults, and assisting landowners with innovative conservation practices.



- The PCCD is the fiscal sponsor for the MRCDC. We work closely with the Missouri River Conservation District Council: Attend meetings, take minutes, help with the River Rendezvous events and help as needed with other duties assigned.



- The PCCD is the fiscal sponsor for the Musselshell River Coalition and we work closely with the MWC: Attend meetings, take minutes, MWC newsletter layout and design, put together the MWC new website and maintains their website and social media. Last summer purchased two EZ Ject lances last summer for Woody Invasives treatment



- The PCCD is the fiscal sponsor for the Central & Eastern Montana Invasive Species Team. We work closely with CEMIST: Administrator is on their Executive Council, attends meetings and events, designed their website, and helps with social media.



- MSU Extension works with the CD on various workshops & classes throughout the year. Last year they put on an Applicators Class for 2 applicators credits, and also a Gardening Workshop.



- Winnett ACES set up a Conservation Committee with the goal of funding conservation projects around the Winnett Area.



- Bureau of land management houses our Fuels Mitigation Program Grant Their experienced forester provides assistance in designing a forest treatment plan designed specifically to land owner needs.

FY24 Financials & Grant Summary

Prepared by Katie Lund



Total Federal Grant Income

\$59,282

Total State Grant Income

\$282,683

Goods & Services Income

\$53,395

Expenses

\$441,106

PCCD Grant Summary List FY24 (Through QTR 1, 2025)

Grant Number	Grant Name	Funder	Sponsor/Partner	Grant Contact	Amount Awarded	Amount Remaining
PCCD Grants						
CDA-24-0128	Administrative Grant	MT DNRC CD Bureau	PCCD	Veronica Grigaltchik	\$ 61,000.00	\$ -
RD-PCCD-723	Audit Grant	MT DNRC CD Bureau	PCCD	Veronica Grigaltchik	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 30,000.00
NACDTA2023	NACD Grant (Loyd, Josh, Molly)	National Association of Conservation Districts	PCCD	Meg Leader and Aubrey Evans	\$ 26,250.00	\$ 14,406.87
NACDTA2024	NACD Grant (Loyd, Josh, Molly)	National Association of Conservation Districts	PCCD	Meg Leader and Aubrey Evans	\$ 29,250.00	
RRG-23-1874	PID Headgate RRGL Construction Grant	MT DNRC RRGL Program		Ann Kulczyk Lindsey Volpe	\$ 105,742.00	\$ 88,435.95
SG-PCDGRR-0026	MSGOT	MT DNRC	PCCD	Therese Hartman	\$ 378,701.21	\$ 189,350.60
SG-PCDSCH-0027	MSGOT	MT DNRC	PCCD	Therese Hartman	\$ 175,810.74	\$ 87,905.37
SG-PCDHAY-0028	MSGOT	MT DNRC	PCCD	Therese Hartman	\$ 289,986.60	\$ -
CEMIST Collaboration						
23G-22-3739	CEMIST	MT DNRC CD Bureau	PCCD/CEMIST	Veronica Grigaltchik	\$ 112,581.00	\$ 10,975.30
RD-PCCD-724	AIS Trunk Training	MT DNRC CD Bureau	PCCD/CEMIST	Liz Lodman	\$ 20,515.00	\$ 20,515.00
AIS-24-0059	AIS Grant	MT DNRC CD Bureau	PCCD/CEMIST	Anna Miller	\$ 23,307.00	\$ 20,823.24
TA 2022	CEMIST	MT DNRC	LMCD	Wendy Jones	\$ 52,479.23	\$ -
TA 2023	CEMIST	MT DNRC	LMCD	Wendy Jones	\$ 40,399.00	\$ 40,290.33
TA 2024	CEMIST	MT DNRC	LMCD	Wendy Jones	\$ 60,000.00	\$ -
ACES Collaboration						
CDG-24-3774	Musselshell River Stream Bank Restoration	MT DNRC	PCCD/ACES	Veronica Grigaltchik	\$ 47,700.00	\$ 47,700.00
MWC Collaboration						
224037	DEQ-WRP	MWCC	PCCD		\$ 10,000.00	\$ 9,100.29
POTENTIAL	DEQ-AML	MWCC	PCCD		\$ 10,500.00	\$ -
NR210325XXXXC005	MWC Collaborative Agreement	NRCS	PCCD/MWC	Kyle Tackett	\$ 245,564.40	\$ 152,950.06
CDG-23-3751	Cushman Bridge Bank Restoration	MT DNRC	MWC/LMCD	Wendy Jones	\$ 1,800.00	\$ -
MRCDC Grants						
RD-PCD-707	MRCDC DNRC	MT DNRC CD Bureau	PCCD/MRCDC	Stephanie Criswell	\$ 242,520.44	\$ 107,905.83
NR220325XXXXC011	NRCS-SSA	NRCS	PCCD/MRCDC		\$ 40,576.00	\$ 30,139.42
Totals					\$ 2,004,682.62	\$ 850,498.26

2024 Year Review



Events

Homesteading Workshop
Applicators Class
 Ladies Day on the Range
Pasture Golf
 Kids Ag & Conservation Day
Area 1 Meeting (Zoom)
 AIS Train the Trainer
NAISMA
 MACD Convention

Grants

NACD TA 2023 Grant
 DNRC RD Grant - MRCDC
 RRG-23 Petrolia Dam Headgate Grant
 23G-22 CEMIST Grant
 NRCS MWC Grant
 RPG-24 Petroleum Irrigation Grant
 3DG-24 Musselshell River Stream
 Bank Restoration Grant
 RD-PCCD Audit Grant
 CDG-24 Education Grant
 CDA-25 Grant

310s

We had five regular 1-year joint 310 stream permits issued, one 10-year maintenance permit issued in 2024

Rentals

The No-Till Drill was rented out one time this summer.

The Tree Planter was rented out once.

Marketing

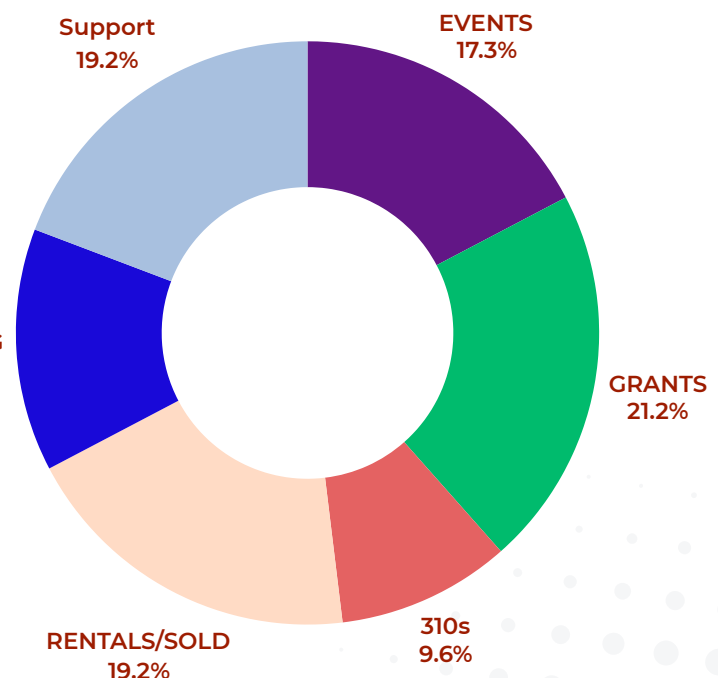
The PCCD put out four quarterly newsletters to approximately 350 community members in January, April, July and October.
 Two MWC Newsletters

The NEW CEMIST website was launched March 2024.

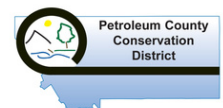
Support

Supported many partners including but not limited to:

- MRCDC - River Rendezvous & CMR CWG
- MWC - Website & Newsletter
- CEMIST - Events & Website
- ACES - Support letter
- PID - Support Letter



PCCD 1st Quarter 2025 Operational Plan



PRIORITY #1. Agriculture Conservation

This Quarter's goals and activities are:	Action/Deliverable	WHEN	STATUS
Article in the Winter CD newsletter on Ag Cons.	Stephen Vantassel has agreed to do a several article series in the four 2024 CD newsletters	Jan/April July/Oct	On Going
Plan spring homesteading workshop	Work with ACES on 1-2 spring/summer W.S.	April/May	N/A
Promote our No-Till Drill and other rental equip	Post flyers and on social media information	Jan-Mar	N/A
Plan other Ag Cons. related W.S. (rejuvra?)	Work with CEMIST program manager to put on W.S.	Mar	In Process

PRIORITY #2. Water Conservation

This Quarter's goals and activities are:	Action/Deliverable	WHEN	STATUS
Apply for WMCC grant	\$5000 grant application due Jan 9	Jan	N/A
Look to hire a Water Cons. Tech	Look into options and logistics of this	By end of 2025	N/A
Start planning W.S. on water storage	Visit with other CDs on W.S. they have done	May/June	N/A
River Rendezvous (help MRCDC)	Planning started – location not determined	June-Aug	On Going

PRIORITY #3. Education

This Quarter's goals and activities are:	Action/Deliverable	WHEN	STATUS
Start planning Applicators Class (Sept)	Set up with Stephen Vantassel – 3 credit class	Sept	In Process
Plan spring Ladies Day on the Range event	Figure out presenters and date	Jan/Feb	In Process
Start planning Kid's Ag Day (Possible April/May)	Figure out presenters and date	April/May	N/A
Keep CD & CEMIST website updated/current	Update calendar, announcements, info	Monthly	On Going
Attend CEMIST events, meetings & workshops	As events come up throughout the year	Monthly	On Going

PRIORITY #4. Development & Recreation

This Quarter's goals and activities are:	Action/Deliverable	WHEN	STATUS
Have a Fuels Mitigation Info meeting	Put on a spring meeting with new Forester	Mar/April	N/A
Continue to pursue Tree USA	Set up tree board, public tree care ordinance, etc.	All of 2025	In Process
Publish Quarterly newsletter	Publish Winter CD & MWC newsletter	Jan/Feb	In Process

PCCD Long Range & Annual Work Plans

Long Range Plan main areas of focus:

- Resiliency Planning & Response* (PDF)
- Grazing Lands Conservation*
- Soil Health*
- Invasive Species*
- Education & Outreach*
- Water Conservation*

PCCD Complete Long Range Plan - PDF*

PCCD Annual Work Plan - PDF*

*PDF/FlippingBook links all clickable with the digital copy.



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