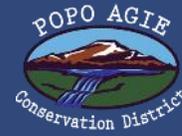




July 2017 Newsletter



PRESORTED
STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
LANDER, WY
PERMIT NO. 77

Calendar

July

- 13 AIM training
- 15 Household/Hazardous Waste Clean Up

Board of Supervisors

- Tim Wilson—Chairman
- Jeri Trebelcock—Vice Chairman
- Bryan Hamilton—Secretary/Treasurer
- Steve Dutcher—Member
- Arlen Lancaster—Member

Staff

- Kelsey Beck—Manager
- Dave Morneau—Conservation Technician
- Diana Olson—Program Assistant/Education
- Mandi Hirsch—Range/Wildlife Conservationist

The PACD Board of Supervisors meeting is the first Wednesday of every month at 11:00 a.m. and is open to the public.



75th Anniversary

SERVING YOU SINCE 1942!

PACD is excited to celebrate 75 years of service to the folks within our District! For over seven decades, PACD has been helping our constituency with their natural resources by assisting landowners with irrigation improvements; windbreaks; stream bank stabilization; rangeland health; wildlife and fisheries; water quality and quantity; and education.

HISTORY:

The conservation district concept was born during the Dust Bowl years of the 1930s; known as “The Dirty Thirties”. The Dust Bowl was caused by severe drought, high winds, and poor farming methods which resulted in drastic soil loss.



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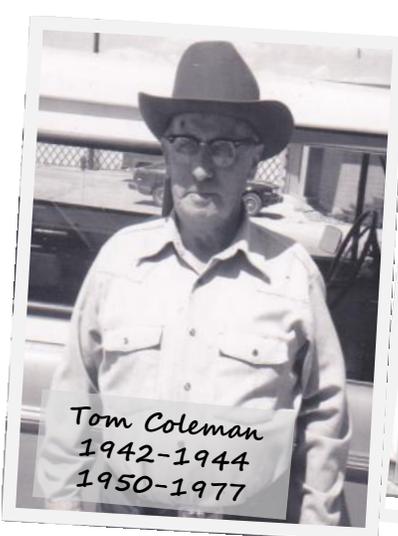
High wheat prices coupled with the invention of the tractor turned millions of acres of grassland into farmland in what was known as the “Great Plow Up”. When the rains stopped, the plowed ground had no vegetation to hold it in place against the wind. The devastation to the soil and abandonment of farms led

The Dust Bowl is thought to be the worst man-made disasters of all time.

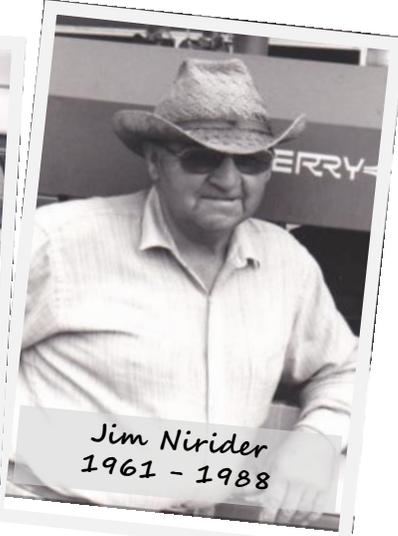
President Franklin D. Roosevelt to pass legislation authorizing locally led conservation programs in 1937. Wyoming passed legislation in 1941 and our local office in Lander was established in 1942.



Exposed cropland during The Dust Bowl era.



Tom Coleman
1942-1944
1950-1977



Jim Nirider
1961 - 1988

Two supervisors that stand out for years of service are Tom Coleman and Jim Nirider.

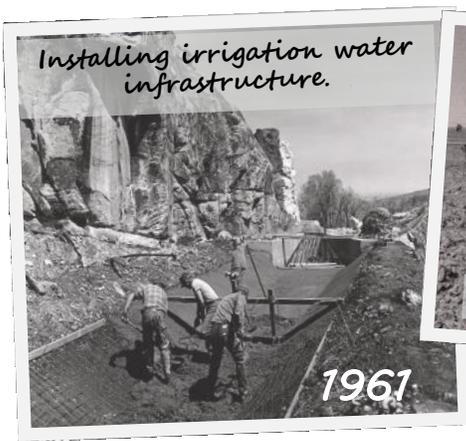
Annual Report 1944

The Popo Agie Soil Conservation District has, since it was organized, worked with 75 farmers in the district. On 50 of these farms heavy equipment has been used and on 67 farms and ranches technical assistance has been furnished for various conservation practices.

At the present time there seems to be good cooperation within the District. At the time it was organized there was considerable opposition to formation of a district, but some of those who were most opposed at first are the ones who are desiring a lot of work and assistance on their units, so we feel that the roughest part of the road is behind us.

There have been about 25 farmers in the District made application for assistance that we have...

Above is an excerpt from the 1944 Annual Report. We have original documents since the District's inception; many of which were created using carbon paper and a manual typewriter.



Installing irrigation water infrastructure.



Planting windbreaks.

There are a couple of things that make conservation districts unique:

- 1) We are locally led. Our board of Supervisors are elected by the community.
- 2) We are not a regulatory agency. We support landowners that are voluntarily choosing to employ good conservation practices.

We think it's important for you to know why we have a conservation district and that PACD continues to hold the belief that locally led, volunteer conservation efforts work best. We invite you to come down to our office anytime to learn more about the history of your local conservation district and to learn about plans for sustaining our natural resources and quality of life for future generations to come.



Another Successful Event!

We would like to thank everyone who attended the sixth annual Garden Expo. Over 1500 people participated. Keynote speaker Mike Kintgen from Denver Botanic Gardens drew a crowd of 150 people. The highest attended class, outside of the keynote, was Mushroom Hunting In The Wind River Range with 87 people, and the average attendance in a single workshop was about 55 people.

Robyn Enders won the drawing for a rain barrel, Sharon Luchsinger won a backyard bag, and Melissa Shear won the balled and burlapped tree from Sprouts Greenhouse.



FREE HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE & CHEMICAL CLEAN UP EVENT



Saturday, July 15th
9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Lander landfill

Fremont County Solid Waste Disposal District (FCSWDD) is partnering with several agencies to host a free household hazardous waste and chemical clean up event on Saturday, July 15th 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Lander landfill (52 Beebee Road).

Acceptable household materials include aerosols, lithium batteries and paint. Acceptable chemicals include old oil & fuel, Freon, solvents, and pesticides (do not mix chemicals). They will not be accepting prescription drugs, explosives, radioactive waste, friable asbestos, etc.

The following items are always free and acceptable for County residents to dispose of at the landfill: standard recyclables, scrap iron, appliances, motor oil, anti-freeze, lead batteries, and latex paint.

For additional information check out trashmatters.org or call FCSWDD at 307-332-7040.



SERVING YOU



SEEDLING TREES

We sold 2343 seedling trees and donated 270 to the Adopt-A-Tree program. The top selling species this year were Caragana and Nanking Cherry. Two large windbreaks with over 200 trees each were planted this year.

Thanks for your support and effort to put conservation on the ground.

WELL TESTING

Each May, PACD hosts our annual Well Water Testing Day. On May 24th, a total of 40 samples were tested.

- Option 1 Bacteria = 17
- Option 2 Annual Well Maintenance = 3
- Option 3 Family Water Quality = 18
- Option 4 Livestock Suitability = 1
- Option 5 Irrigation Suitability = 1



Nine wells tested positive for coliform bacteria; none of those tested positive for E. coli bacteria.

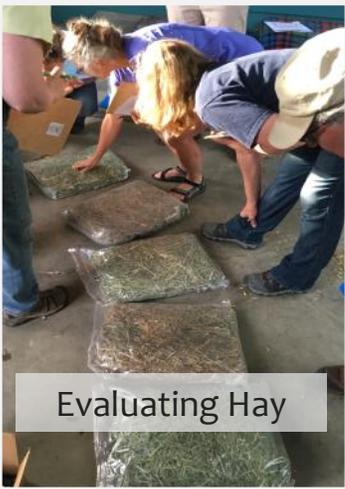
COMPOSTERS



Ten composters were sold during our cost-share program. Due to our negotiated price with the manufacturer, folks paid less than half of the retail price. As a reminder, if you did not receive your free thermometer, please stop by the District to pick one up.

HORSE AND PASTURE WORKSHOP SUCCESS

In early June, Popo Agie Conservation District, UW Extension, and Fremont County Weed and Pest conducted a pasture workshop teaching participants how to estimate forage produced, how to evaluate and select hay, as well as how to manage weeds in your fields.



Thank you to all who attended!

SAVE THE DATE—AIM TRAINING

JULY 13TH, 9 A.M.

BLM will host an AIM (Assessment, Inventory, and Monitoring) Training. Meet at Sweetwater Rest Area at the junction of County Road 135 and State Hwy 287 to head to the field. Contact Amanda Small with BLM for more information 307-332-8400.



- AIM guidance
- Sample design
- Locations of AIM points
- Monitoring methods
- Data management
- Use of monitoring data

POSTER CONTEST WINNERS

Congratulations to winners of the **Soil and Water Stewardship Poster Contest**. This year’s theme was “Healthy Soils Are Full Of Life.” First Place winner Emily Anderson received \$50. Second place winner Jordan Armajo received \$25. Third place winner Gracie Russo received \$10. These posters will continue to the State level of the competition. The posters are displayed at our office.



Emily Jordan Gracie



HEALTHY RIVER INITIATIVE The first HRI work group meeting took place in May, with brainstorming sessions of how to achieve a healthier watershed. More information will be forthcoming. To keep up to date on the HRI follow online popoagie.org > water tab or stop by PACD and visit with us.



FLOOD TOOL BOX

Looking to protect Infrastructure? Is your ditch threatened to blow out? We have posted a one page “Flood Tool Box” document that lists where to get sandbags and who to call before or after a loss. NRCS Emergency Watershed Protection Program (EWP) may be able to assist you. This program is only intended to protect infrastructure that has not been lost or destroyed. Cost-share funding is available if you qualify and is subject to Congressional approval. Contact PACD to learn more. [Click here](#) to go to the tool box or visit popoagie.org Current Events. Our website also has a couple of handy links to websites that will help you to see our local flood stage conditions, snowpack conditions and the big picture across the state.

USDA and PACD are equal opportunity providers and employers.