



2021
ANNUAL REPORT

BOARD MEMBERS: Gary Ratkovich, President; Tom Linza, Vice President, Tony Telck, Secretary/Treasurer; Rich Green, Board Member; John Daniels, Board Member
Total Board hours: 139 Total Board mileage: 419

SERVICES AND COST SHARE PROGRAMS

- ✚ NO-TILL DRILL RENTALS: The No-Till Drill was rented to 20 landowners from February through October for seeding on 321 acres.
- ✚ FCD LANDOWNER COST SHARE: Assisted ten landowners with irrigation pipe, paddock fencing, headgates and seeding. Irrigation pipe installed: 8", 60 feet; 2 headgates; 5 acres of paddock fencing installed, and 15 acres were re-seeded.
- ✚ FCD NOXIOUS WEED COST SHARE: None
- ✚ FREMONT COUNTY WEED MANAGEMENT LANDOWNER COST SHARE ASSISTANCE: Assisted Fremont County with cost share to assist landowner with spraying and herbicide purchases for 18 landowners on 77 acres.

TOTAL HOURS: 140.00 TOTAL INCOME: \$4800.00 TOTAL EXPENSES: \$19,372.52



Irrigation Pipe



Paddock fencing

DISTRICT CONSERVATION TECH AND GRANTS

- ✚ Our District Conservation Tech, Mia Cory, assisted landowners in the following areas: EQIP Applications, 39 landowners in Resource Team 9 area, **735.25 hours**; Technical Assistance, 20 landowners, **128.25 hours**; and on the Targeted Conservation Proposals, which will be included later.
- ✚ LINCOLN PARK RIPARIAN RESTORATION PROJECT: Mia assisted three landowners, **30.50 hours**, with the program and checking progress of removing Russian olive and Tamarisk trees. Funded through NRCSEQIP Program.
- ✚ CSCB MATCHING GRANT LITTLE SPROUTS GARDEN EDUCATION PROGRAM: Matching Grant funds were continued from 2020 in the amount of \$1115 for educating pre-school students where their food comes from. Debbie Mitchell assisted with planting four gardens and FCD provided materials for one additional garden. The staff took care of these gardens over the summer, with all producing very well!! These gardens are a source of fresh food for the schools and the families they serve. At The Ark Childcare in Florence, we made pickles and salsa with the students and staff as well as food tasting.



School gardens



- ✚ COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (CDA) NOXIOUS WEED FUND GRANT: Matching Grant funds received in the amount of \$80,000 (for 2021) for the Upper Ark Cooperative Weed Management Area (UACWMA) for the treatment of noxious weeds in Chaffee, Lake, Fremont, Custer, Huerfano, Teller and Park Counties. FCD is the sponsor for this grant, with the respective Weed Managers in each County responsible for the actual treatment programs
- ✚ RAINBOW PARK AND PORTLAND PLANT RIPARIAN RESTORATION PROJECT MONITORING: Original grant was received through the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) to mitigate Russian olive trees on County Road 119 in the Rainbow Park area of Florence. The requirements of the grant are to monitor this project area for five years from the end of the grant, which would be through June 2023.

TOTAL HOURS: 1085.00 TOTAL INCOME: \$27,466.44 TOTAL EXPENSES: \$49,468.75

DISTRICT OUTREACH

- ✚ FCD WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK: Information posted for District Meetings and other outreach.
- ✚ ROCKY MOUNTAIN CONSERVATION TIMES NEWSLETTER: Newsletter for Fremont, Lake and Custer Counties, sent out in May and December. A total of 2158 newsletters were mailed to landowners in these counties.
- ✚ FCD ANNUAL MEETING: 75th Annual Meeting held in October 2021, 68 landowners, agency personnel and other guests in attendance. Green Thumb Initiative gave a presentation on what they do in the local schools and with the students.
- ✚ LOCAL WORK GROUP MEETING: Landowner meeting held at Jenkins Farms in Penrose with presentations on Soil Health, Noxious Weeds, Wildlife and the landowner went over what conservation practices he uses on his farm. Eleven were in attendance, including two board members.
- ✚ FREMONT COUNTY HOME & GARDEN SHOW: Cancelled due to COVID-19 restrictions.
- ✚ COLORADO DIVISION OF RECLAMATION, MINING & SAFETY (DRMS) MINE RECLAMATIONS: Met with DRMS at one reclamation sites to make sure they met NRCS standards and specs for reclamation. Greg Langer with NRCS assisted with these site inspections for the District.

TOTAL HOURS: 298.75 TOTAL INCOME: \$2348.19 TOTAL EXPENSES: \$6166.70

WORKSHOPS AND YOUTH EDUCATION

- ✚ NACD 5TH & 6TH GRADE POSTER CONTEST: Presentations were made to one school, two classes and 59 students. Forty-one posters were returned
- ✚ FLORENCE JUNIOR SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL: Support the proposed greenhouse at the Florence High School Ag Department for future classroom training and teaching as well as for growing food in the upcoming garden area.
- ✚ All workshops and youth education outreach were cancelled this year due to COVID-19 restrictions.

TOTAL HOURS: 35.00

TOTAL EXPENSES: \$3002.83

PARTNERSHIP MEETINGS ATTENDED

- ✚ FREMONT COUNTY WEED ADVISORY BOARD: Attend three meetings this year to discuss noxious weed issues in Fremont County. Tony Telck, FCD Secretary/Treasurer serves on this Board.
- ✚ UPPER ARK COOPERATIVE WEED MANAGEMENT AREA (UACWMA): Attend four meetings via Zoom and two in-person meetings to discuss noxious weed issues within the 10 County boundaries of the UACWMA with Weed Managers from those Counties.
- ✚ BADGER CREEK WATERSHED PARTNERSHIP: Attended two meetings this year on the restoration of the Badger Creek Watershed. Discussion of projects that have been completed or that are being planned for the year. There are also several workshops planned for summer each year. There are numerous partnerships in Chaffee, Fremont and Park Counties for this Watershed.
- ✚ UPPER ARK WATERSHED MEETING: Attend one meeting this year to discuss what is going on in each County within the Watershed. Meeting held via Zoom in September.
- ✚ CACD ANNUAL MEETING: Attended meeting via Zoom, in November 2021. District Manager and District Conservation Tech attended all meetings. Tom Linza, Vice President, attended the Business Meeting.

TOTAL HOURS: 99.75

TOTAL EXPENSES: \$0.00

TOTAL BUDGET FOR 2021

TOTAL INCOME	\$199,707.74
TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>\$188,008.42</u>
NET INCOME	\$ 11,699.32