

Resource News

Idaho Soil & Water Conservation District

Winter 2007

Volume 3, Issue 1

Meet Your New Board Member, Tom Gehring

As we say good-bye to Mike Duclos, the ISWCD's board secretary since 1999, we welcome our newest member to the board. We are pleased to introduce to you, Tom Gehring.

Tom was born in Keuterville. He still resides there on a ranch where he works with his dad and cousin. Together, they raise beef cattle and hay.

Besides raising beef cattle and hay, Tom has a family to tend to. His wife, Judy, is a Registered Nurse in Cottonwood. Cody, his oldest son, is a sophomore at the University of Idaho. Tom's daughter, Laura, is a sophomore at Prairie High School.

Tom is also really busy with all of his occupations. He is the manager of Primeland in Cottonwood. He is also a certified crop advisor, a pilot, and a flight instructor. Tom is a member of the National Ski Patrol and the Keuterville Cowboy Wildland Firefighter group. He is also a hunter's safety instructor.

Tom believes that the Idaho SWCD is a good organization because it works to protect the water and land. It helps farmers and ranchers to fix problems that; otherwise, would not be addressed. He also likes the fact that they help with direct seeding and cattle feeding operations.

We gladly welcome Tom to the board and hope he enjoys the work.

Inside this Issue:

POTENTIAL Phase IV
Division II AFO 2

Cattle Corner 3

Tree Program 4

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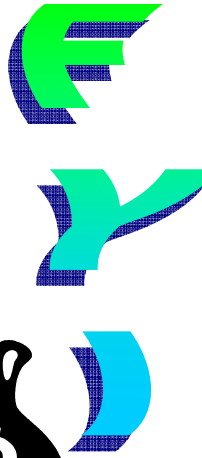
Rich Gribble

Soil Conservation Commission

Eileen Rowan

There is **New Cost-Share Funding** for landowners in the Lawyers Creek Watershed and the South Fork Clearwater River Watershed.

For More Information contact:
Jessica @ 983-1046 x3



Keeping the Family Forest Intact

A Conference for Family Forest Landowners and Managers

March 26-27, 2007
University Inn Best Western
Moscow, ID

DIVISION II AFO SEEKING SIGNUPS FOR POTENTIAL PHASE IV

ATTENTION ANIMAL FEEDING OPERATION (AFO) OWNERS

NORTH CENTRAL IDAHO AFO IS ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR FUNDING

The Idaho Soil and Water Conservation District is currently accepting participant sign ups for **POTENTIAL** Phase 4 funding assistance on Best Management Practices that are related to AFO's throughout Idaho County, including those streams that are not 303D listed streams*.

Eligible Practices Include But Are Not Limited to:

- Fencing
- Upland seeding
- Heavy use area protection
- Offstream watering facilities and water developments
- Diversions
- Riparian Protection
- Access Roads

THE SIGNUP DEADLINE IS JUNE 1, 2007.

For more information or to determine your eligibility, contact the Idaho SWCD District Office, USDA Service Center on Highway 95 N & Pine Street, Grangeville; or call 983-1046 Ext. 3.

*303D listed streams will receive preference if funding is not available for all projects.

3rd Annual North Central Idaho Grazing Conference—Recap

Our annual Grazing conference was held Jan 25, 2007 at the Red Lion Convention Center, Lewiston, Idaho. In attendance were 150 producers and land agency personnel from north central Idaho, southeastern Washington, and north eastern Oregon.

The conference is sponsored by Division II of the Idaho Association of Conservation Districts (includes Clearwater, Idaho, Latah, Lewis and Nezperce Counties) Idaho State Soil Conservation Commission, Natural Resource Conservation Service, and the University of Idaho Extension Service.

This was the third year for what is continuing to be a very successful and educational event. The goal of the conference is to present past, current and new information on Best Management Practices (BMP's) to enhance good stewardship of our land and water for sustainable grazing of pasturelands, native ranges and crop aftermath. Presenters were:

-Dr. Jim Kingery, U of I College of Natural Resources

Dr. Kingery's information was how forestland grazing can be done in a positive manner, benefiting the grass, livestock and timber regrowth. This topic was well received with several questions and comments from the audience.

-Dan Coonrad, WSU Beef Herdsman, retired.

Dan's presentation was on intensive grazing of seeded pastures. His work was done over a ten year period and proved very successful economically in the production of livestock forage in comparison with similar land being under cultivation for the production of small grains/crops.

-Pete Talbott, Land and Livestock Advisory Service LLC; Lakeview, Oregon.

Pete emphasized that managing the available forage properly for sustainable overall plant health, growth and vigor is key to the overall growth/production of pounds of livestock from any given operation. He explained the implementation and use of a long term grazing management plan, and that each operation needs to develop and identify their own specific needs and goals.

-A four person panel discussion on the control of annual grasses was presented by: **Mark Stannard**-NRCS, **Tom Gehring**-CCA, Primeland, **Dr Tim Prather**-U of I, and **Don Kambitsch**, DuPont Chem. Co. This discussion was very informative and received numerous questions and comments from those in attendance.

-Tom Gehring, CCA and beef cattle producer—Keuterville, Idaho

Tom gave a power point presentation and talk on what he has been doing on his own ranch in regards to annual grass broadleaf weed, and brush control. He also went into what he is doing to reseed with various competitive perennial grasses.

-Dale George FSA, Lewiston, Idaho

Dale gave an up to date explanation of the current parameters for CRP grazing. Also included was our first trade show, which was well received with ten ag vendors in attendance.

-Denny Dau, the conference planning committee member from Nezperce Co. SWCD, was presented with a plaque in recognition of his 24 years of service to conservation and being instrumental in the start and success of the Grazing Conference.

Article written by Leon Slichter

Div II AFO—Grazing Conference Committee



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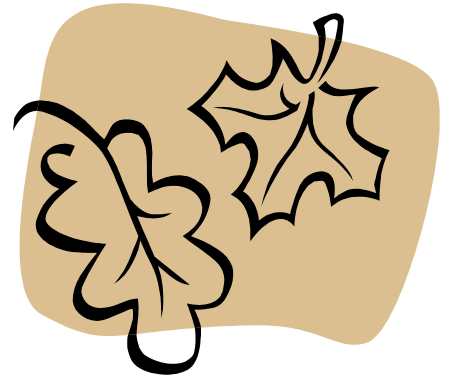
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Happy 2007!

Note: The Idaho SWCD prohibits discrimination in its programs on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status.