



United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Glenwood Springs Field Office
258 Center Drive
Glenwood Springs, CO 81601
(970) 945-5494

TO: Middle Park Stockgrowers Association and Middle Park Conservation District

FROM: NRCS Glenwood Springs and Kremmling Field Office

RE: 2019 NRCS Report

2018 was a busy year for the Kremmling Field Office. Derrick Wyle has been providing service for the Kremmling Field Office since November of 2017. Two new successful programs were started in the area to provide financial assistance to producers; the Targeted Conservation Program (TCP) and the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) with Trout Unlimited. TCP is a funding source of EQIP set aside specifically for Middle Park Conservation District. MPCD submitted an application to the NRCS State Office requesting the special funds. TCP targets flood irrigation improvements, head gate installation, and ditch lining projects. The RCPP proposal was brought to NRCS by Trout Unlimited and the project was approved in 2017. RCPP funds projects for the Irrigators of the Land in the Vicinity of Kremmling (ILVK). It is targeted towards river restoration and irrigation improvements for those within the ILVK. In 2018, \$265,000 of new financial assistance contracts were awarded to landowners from these two sources. Matched with landowner contribution this could mean close to \$500,000 going to the local economy from purchasing materials and hiring contractors. 2019 is looking to be an even bigger success. We are anticipating \$655,000 of new contracts in RCPP and up to \$200,000 for TCP. Applications are being accepted now for 2020 projects, so call the office and we can start working on a plan! Other NRCS money is still available for forestry, sage grouse habitat, stock water systems, fencing, and many other practices.

2018 also brought changes to the Kremmling Field Office. Staffing cuts coupled with employee attrition statewide has reduced NRCS staff numbers from over 300 to hovering around 200 people. A statewide realignment plan has been finalized and field offices were merged into a Resource Team Lead system. This ensured no field offices had to be physically closed. The Kremmling Field Office merged with Glenwood Springs Field Office. Stephen Jaouen, the District Conservationist in Glenwood, is now the Resource Team Leader for the two offices. Derrick Wyle and Kathleen Knight are the Soil Conservationists working in the new five county service area (Eagle, Garfield, Grand, Pitkin and Summit). Mark Volt works for the MPCD as a District Conservation Technician. Jennifer Perkins joined the Steamboat Springs Field Office as the Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory Partner Biologist. She provides help on Sage Grouse projects in Kremmling area. Other nearby offices have also combined: Steamboat Springs merged with Walden, and Craig merged with Meeker.

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We're happy to enjoy a good partnership between NRCS, MPCD, and the Stockgrowers Association and look forward to many more successful projects in the coming years.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Derrick Wyle". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Derrick Wyle
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