



United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service
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Monthly Middle Park CD Report

As part of NRCS's commitment to continue to provide service to the Middle Park CD we have agreed to update the board each month there is no board meeting scheduled. This will help keep the board informed on NRCS's work within the area.

This report will cover happenings in June. Derrick was in the Kremmling Service Area once every week in June. He provided service in the office and in the field at least one day a week. In June we finished obligating all the approved applications in Kremmling. During the field season both Mark and Derrick started working on engineering and certification on projects that went in the ground. The field office now has 20 active contracts, four of which are FY 2017 or older. These older contracts will be a focus for the field this year to get them engineered and finished up as soon as possible. The 20 contracts represent over \$1,165,000 in EQIP obligations for the folks in Middle Park. This covers over 9000 acres of land. With the match from the landowners this represents over \$2 million in conservation within the district. Please let your county commissioners and representatives know how much hard work the local ranching and farming community is doing for conservation in the district!

The 8 RCPP projects are continuing work and installation as engineering is complete. When water recedes in the fall the river work will start to be completed. Our Area Engineer (Gabe Lucero) has finished the irrigation design for one of the projects and has started work on another. He has also been assigned another project as it is in a higher Job Class then the Field Office can complete. He will also be helping on preliminary engineering for another project that was applied for but went unfunded this year.

River run off has peaked and is starting to settle down. When irrigation is stopped for hay cutting the field office will be getting out to look at new projects and help install current projects. Derrick has been making service calls to folks within the district. These take a lot of windshield time and so I appreciate the districts continued support for the District Conservation Technician program that allows Mark to service the area from Kremmling. Thanks Mark and Derrick for all your hard work in the Middle Park District.

In May and June, I had a teleconference with the Army Corp of Engineers, the Environmental Protection Agency and Colorado Parks and Wildlife on the Colorado River Conservation Reserve Wetland Banking Proposal. I'll be meeting on site the month. If the district has questions or concerns on this, please let me know. Mark is aware and worked on it for awhile when he was the District Conservationist.

If you have any questions about the above information, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Stephen Jaouen
USDA, NRCS
Glenwood Springs Service Center

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