

## Focused Conservation Questionnaire - 2020

On the back page, please mark on the map where your farming/ranching operation is located (does not have to be exact) or circle the watersheds that you farm/ranch within.

What kind of issues would you like to address in your farming/ranching operation (please prioritize across all categories):

Crop Health, as addressed by:

- Continuous Cover
- Crop Rotations
- Intercropping
- No-Till Equipment
- Precision Ag
- Residue Management
- Soil Testing
- Weed Control
- Other (please list) \_\_\_\_\_

Grazing Land Health, as addressed by:

- Fencing
- Grass Planting
- Grazing Monitoring and Rotation
- Riparian Area Protection
- Water Developments
- Other (please list) \_\_\_\_\_

Wildlife Habitat, as addressed by:

- Grass Planting
- Pollinator Plantings
- Tree Planting
- Wetland Restoration
- Other (please list) \_\_\_\_\_

Are you interested in applying through Environmental Quality Implementation Program (EQIP)?  YES  No

What kind of projects or issues would you like to see the McCone County Conservation District address?

Education (topic) \_\_\_\_\_

Demonstration (topic) \_\_\_\_\_

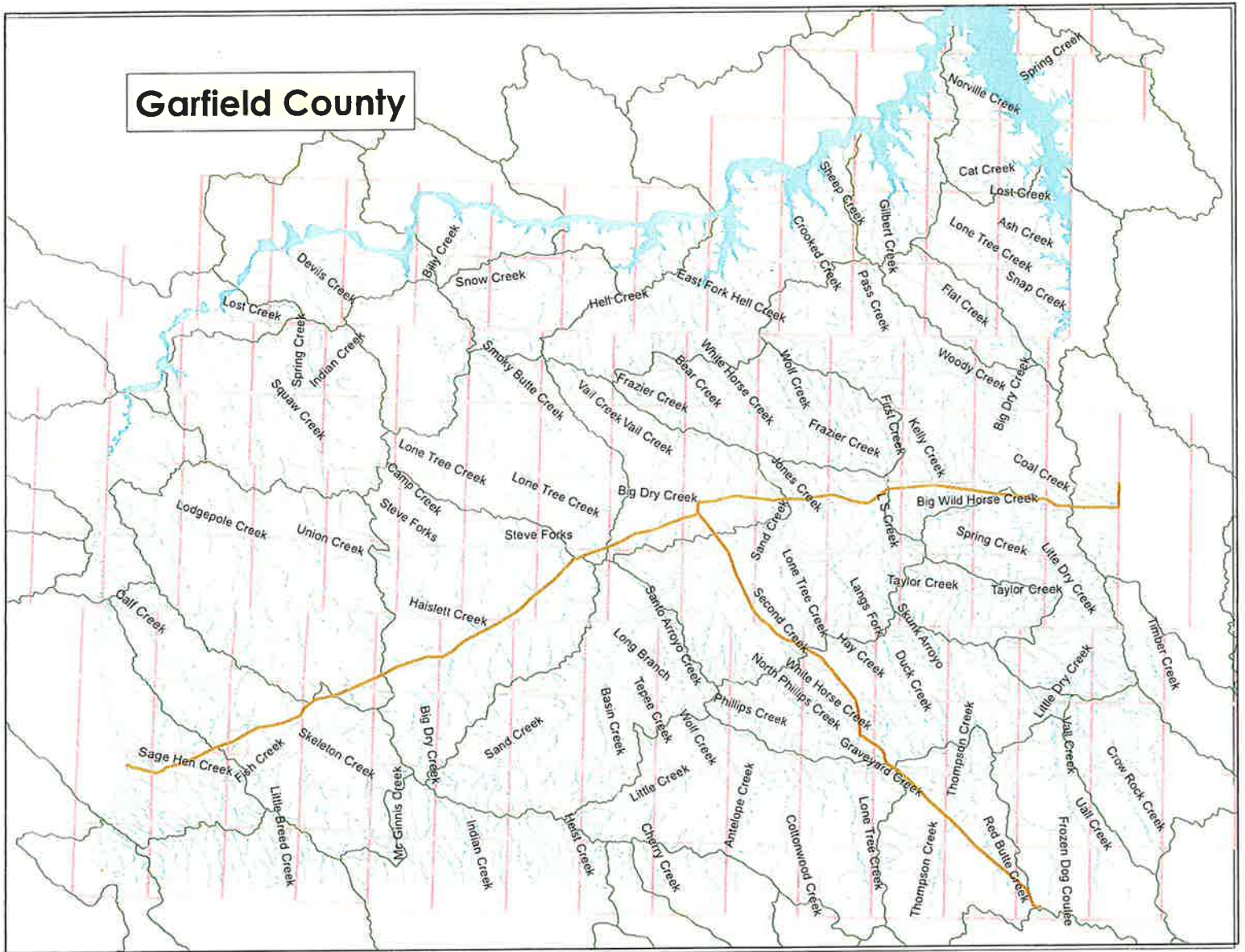
Speakers (topic) \_\_\_\_\_

Equipment (topic) \_\_\_\_\_

Name (optional) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Email (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

# Garfield County





# Garfield County Local Working Group Meeting

USDA

United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service

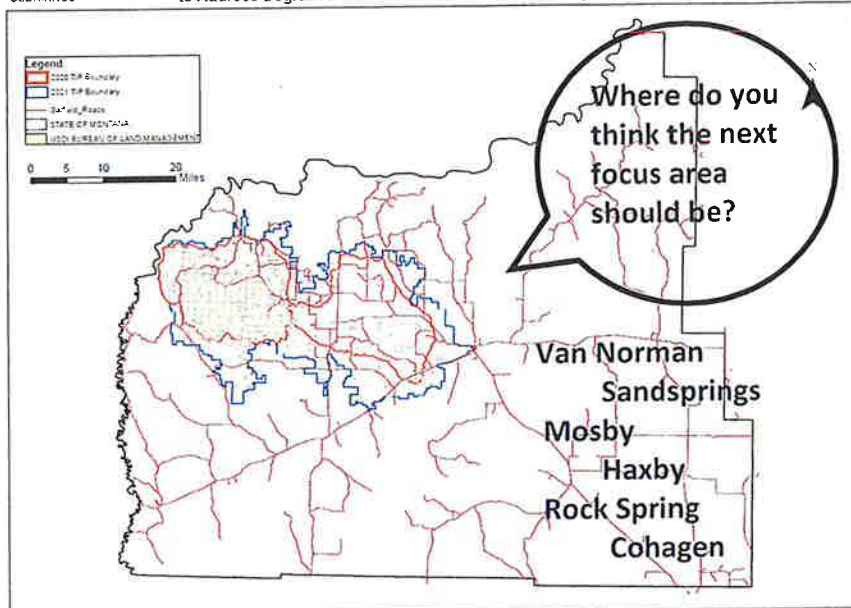
## Purpose:

- Hear/receive recommendations on **where to next focus the efforts** of the Natural Resources Conservation Service through their EQIP focused conservation planning.
- We will also be discussing the LWG's main resource concern of degraded plant conditions on grazing land.

1766.000  
USDA-NRCS

Increasing Stock Density & Changing Animal Behavior  
to Address Degraded Plant Condition in Garfield County - 2021

Garfield County  
Jordan Field Office



Local Working Group Meetings are a valuable part of the NRCS planning process, providing an opportunity for agricultural producers, partner conservation organizations, and local land managers to be part of a collaborative effort to improve natural resources within our county.



Natural  
Resources  
Conservation  
Service

[mt.nrcs.usda.gov](http://mt.nrcs.usda.gov) > MT Focused Conservation

## WHERE:

Summit Corral Meeting Room

## DATE:

Thursday, January 7th

## TIME:

2:00 pm

## Contact:

NRCS Office

406-557-2740

Dusty Olson

406-557-2740 ext 100

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender. USDA provides reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities to participate in USDA programs and activities. If you require accommodations, please call the contact above.



**NRCS definition of Role of Local Working Groups:**

"provide recommendations to the District Conservationist on local natural resource priorities & criteria for conservation activities & programs"

**NRCS Local Work Group meetings:**

"will be conducted as an open discussion among members with focus on identifying Local natural resource concerns that can be treated using programs & activities."  
<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/national/programs/financial/esp?cid=stelprdb1186926>

**Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 Local Working Group Questionnaire**

Due to COVID-19 concerns, the Phillips County Local Working Group will NOT be holding an in-person meeting this year. **In lieu of the meeting, we are asking you to fill out this questionnaire and return to the Phillips Conservation District office prior to June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021.** The questionnaire responses will be reviewed, and designated priority resource concerns will be selected for Fiscal Year 2022 USDA-NRCS conservation activities and programs.

This questionnaire can be returned to the Phillips Conservation District Office at the following address:

Phillips Conservation District      1120 US Hwy 191S, Suite 2      Malta, MT 59538

Due to COVID-19, USDA Service Centers are currently closed to the public, but Field Office staff are available via email, phone appointment, and field appointments. If you have any questions regarding this questionnaire, please contact either Shilo Messerly, Malta District Conservationist ([shilo.messery@usda.gov](mailto:shilo.messery@usda.gov)); Caitlin Gillespie ([caitlin.gillespie@usda.gov](mailto:caitlin.gillespie@usda.gov)); Dillon Moes ([dillon.moes@usda.gov](mailto:dillon.moes@usda.gov)) or Jenifer Anderson ([phillipsconservationdistrict@gmail.com](mailto:phillipsconservationdistrict@gmail.com)) by calling: (406) 654-1334 x 3.

Based on 2019-2020 Phillips County Local Work Group assessments, a list of resource concerns are on pages 3 & 4. In addition, a list of land uses is in the middle column and in the far right lists the potential NRCS practices to address that resource concern. Please circle what you feel are the top 3 to 5 resource concerns needing to be addressed through NRCS programs. For your chosen resource concern, please circle the land use(s) and NRCS practices you feel are needed to address this resource concern. For the chosen resource concerns, please write in the general geographic location (Turner, North Dodson, Frenchman, Beaver Creek, Milk River, Larb Hills, Little Rockies etc..) it located. Example is highlighted in yellow. Use the references on page 2 for assistance in completing this survey.

Below is list of references for more information related to this survey:

1. Refer to The Farmers.gov site for the Conservation Concerns Tool for assistance in choosing NRCS defined resource concerns: [Farmers.gov: Resources for Farmers and Producers](https://www.farmers.gov/resources-for-farmers-and-producers).
2. Refer to the Montana NRCS Field Office Technical Guide Conservation Practice Standards & Support Documents for complete list of practices <https://efotg.sc.egov.usda.gov/#/details>.
3. Phillips County NRCS Long Range Plan and other pertinent NRCS program information can be found @ <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/mt/programs/mfc/6b775eab-c3a0-46dc-bec6-502ec90d0b1a/>
4. NRCS Land Use definitions listed below:
  - a. **Crop:** Land used primarily for the production and harvest of annual or perennial field, forage, food, fiber, crops.
  - b. **Hay:** Land on which perennial plants are managed and harvested for hay.
  - c. **Range:** Land used primarily for the production of grazing animals and a native plant community.
  - d. **Pasture:** Lands used primarily for production of livestock and composed of introduced or domesticated native forage species.

Do you have any other additional concerns you would like to share with the Local Working Group?

Would you like us to send you information regarding any future workshops, meetings, or NRCS Farm Bill Programs? If yes, please include your name, mailing address, and email address (if applicable) below, and we will add you to our mailing lists.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_



FY2022 Phillips County Local Working Group Questionnaire

RESOURCE CONCERN	LAND USE	POTENTIAL PRACTICE(S) USED TO ADDRESS RESOURCE CONCERN
Inefficient irrigation water use (source water depletion)	Range, Pasture, Dryland Annual Crop, Irrigated Crop, Milk River Valley General Geographic Location	164 Land Leveling, 37 Structure for Water Control, 450 Irrigation Pipe, 388 Irrigation Field Ditch, 472 Sprinkler, Other
Aggregate instability (Soil Quality)	Range, Pasture, Dryland Annual Crop, Irrigated Crop, Irrigated Hay General Geographic Location	328 Conservation Crop Rotation, 340 Cover Crop, 386 Field Border, 393 Filter Strip, 329/345 Residue Management, 512 Pasture/Hay Planting, 550 Range Planting, 528 Prescribed Grazing, 590 Nutrient Management, 595 Integrated Pest Management, Other
Bare ground (Plant productivity and health/Degraded plant condition)	Range, Pasture, Dryland Annual Crop, Irrigated Crop, Irrigated Hay General Geographic Location	528 Prescribed Grazing, 382 Fencing, Livestock water (642 water well, 516 pipeline, 614 watering facility) Other
Compaction (Soil Quality)	Range, Pasture, Dryland Annual Crop, Irrigated Crop, Irrigated Hay General Geographic Location	328 Conservation Crop Rotation, 340 Cover Crop, 386 Field Border, 393 Filter Strip, 329/345 Residue Management, 512 Pasture/Hay Planting, 550 Range Planting, 528 Prescribed Grazing, 590 Nutrient Management, 595 Integrated Pest Management, Other
Concentration of salts or other chemicals aka Saline Seeps (Soil Quality)	Range, Pasture, Dryland Annual Crop, Irrigated Crop, Irrigated Hay General Geographic Location	328 Conservation Crop Rotation, 340 Cover Crop, 386 Field Border, 393 Filter Strip, 512 Pasture/Hay Planting, 550 Range Planting, 528 Prescribed Grazing, 590 Nutrient Management, 595 Integrated Pest Management, Other
Conifer Encroachment (Pest Pressure &/or Feed and Forage Balance)	Range, Pasture, Dryland Annual Crop, Irrigated Crop, Irrigated Hay General Geographic Location	314 Brush Management, 384 Woody Residue Treatment, Other
Flooding (Weather resilience)	Range, Pasture, Dryland Annual Crop, Irrigated Crop, Irrigated Hay General Geographic Location	Other
Inadequate livestock shelter (livestock production limitation)	Range, Pasture, Dryland Annual Crop, Irrigated Crop, Irrigated Hay General Geographic Location	576 Livestock Shelter Structure, 382 Fence, Other
Inadequate livestock water quantity, quality and distribution	Range, Pasture, Dryland Annual Crop, Irrigated Crop, Irrigated Hay General Geographic Location	642 water well, 576 spring development, 516 pipeline, 614 watering facility, 378 Pond, Other
Inefficient irrigation water use (source water depletion)	Range, Pasture, Dryland Annual Crop, Irrigated Crop, Irrigated Hay General Geographic Location	464 Land Leveling, 587 Structure for Water Control, 430 Irrigation Pipe, 388 Irrigation Field Ditch, 442 Sprinkler, Other
Invasive Species/Noxious Weeds (Pest Pressure)	Range, Pasture, Dryland Annual Crop, Irrigated Crop, Irrigated Hay General Geographic Location	315 Herbaceous Weed Control, 595 Integrated Pest Management, 528 Prescribed Grazing, Other

Please circle what you feel are the top 3 to 5 resource concerns needing addressed through NRCS programs. For your chosen resource concern, please circle the land use(s) and NRCS practices you feel are needed to address this resource concern.

Example is highlighted in yellow.

Return to the Phillips Conservation District prior to June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021

FY2022 Phillips County Local Working Group Questionnaire

RESOURCE CONCERN	LAND USE	POTENTIAL PRACTICE(S) USED TO ADDRESS RESOURCE CONCERN
Livestock Grazing Distribution (Feed and forage balance)	Range, Pasture, Dryland Annual Crop, Irrigated Crop, Irrigated Hay General Geographic Location	528 Prescribed Grazing, 382 Fencing, Livestock water (642 water well, 516 pipeline, 614 watering facility), Other 328 Conservation Crop Rotation, 340 Cover Crop, 386 Field Border, 585 Stripcropping, 393 Filter Strip, 329/345 Residue Management, 512 Pasture/Hay Planting, 550 Range Planting, 528 Prescribed Grazing, 590 Nutrient Management, 595 Integrated Pest Management, Other
Organic Matter Depletion (Soil Quality)	Range, Pasture, Dryland Annual Crop, Irrigated Crop, Irrigated Hay General Geographic Location	528 Prescribed Grazing, 382 Fencing, Livestock water (642 water well, 516 pipeline, 614 watering facility), Other
Overgrazing (Feed and forage balance)	Range, Pasture, Dryland Annual Crop, Irrigated Crop, Irrigated Hay General Geographic Location	528 Prescribed Grazing, 382 Fencing, Livestock water (642 water well, 516 pipeline, 614 watering facility), Other
Overgrazing (Plant productivity and health)	Range, Pasture, Dryland Annual Crop, Irrigated Crop, Irrigated Hay General Geographic Location	528 Prescribed Grazing, 382 Fencing, Livestock water (642 water well, 516 pipeline, 614 watering facility), Other
Plant Composition (Plant productivity and healthy/Degraded plant condition) Seepage from Delivery Ditches (Bank erosion from streams, shorelines or water conveyance channels/Concentrated Erosion)	Range, Pasture, Dryland Annual Crop, Irrigated Crop, Irrigated Hay General Geographic Location	464 Land Leveling, 587 Structure for Water Control, 430 Irrigation Pipe, 388 Irrigation Field Ditch, 442 Sprinkler, Other 328 Conservation Crop Rotation, 340 Cover Crop, 386 Field Border, 585 Stripcropping, 393 Filter Strip, 329/345 Residue Management, 512 Pasture/Hay Planting, 550 Range Planting, 528 Prescribed Grazing, 590 Nutrient Management, 595 Integrated Pest Management, Other
Soil organism habitat loss or degradation (Soil Quality)	Range, Pasture, Dryland Annual Crop, Irrigated Crop, Irrigated Hay General Geographic Location	512 Pasture/Hay Planting, 550 Range Planting, 528 Prescribed Grazing, 382 Fencing, Livestock water (642 water well, 516 pipeline, 614 watering facility), Other 328 Conservation Crop Rotation, 340 Cover Crop, 386 Field Border, 585 Stripcropping, 393 Filter Strip, 329/345 Residue Management, 512 Pasture/Hay Planting, 550 Range Planting, 528 Prescribed Grazing, Other
Threat of conversion (Long term protection of land)	Range, Pasture, Dryland Annual Crop, Irrigated Crop, Irrigated Hay General Geographic Location	65 Upland Wildlife Habitat Management, 528 Prescribed Grazing, 649 Structures for Wildlife, Other 328 Conservation Crop Rotation, 340 Cover Crop, 386 Field Border, 585 Stripcropping, 393 Filter Strip, 329/345 Residue Management, 512 Pasture/Hay Planting, 550 Range Planting, 528 Prescribed Grazing, Other
Water Erosion	Range, Pasture, Dryland Annual Crop, Irrigated Crop, Irrigated Hay General Geographic Location	65 Upland Wildlife Habitat Management, 528 Prescribed Grazing, 649 Structures for Wildlife, Other 328 Conservation Crop Rotation, 340 Cover Crop, 386 Field Border, 585 Stripcropping, 393 Filter Strip, 329/345 Residue Management, 512 Pasture/Hay Planting, 550 Range Planting, 528 Prescribed Grazing, Other
Wildlife Habitat (Terrestrial habitat for wildlife and invertebrates)	Range, Pasture, Dryland Annual Crop, Irrigated Crop, Irrigated Hay General Geographic Location	65 Upland Wildlife Habitat Management, 528 Prescribed Grazing, 649 Structures for Wildlife, Other 328 Conservation Crop Rotation, 340 Cover Crop, 386 Field Border, 585 Stripcropping, 393 Filter Strip, 329/345 Residue Management, 512 Pasture/Hay Planting, 550 Range Planting, 528 Prescribed Grazing, Other
Wind Erosion	Range, Pasture, Dryland Annual Crop, Irrigated Crop, Irrigated Hay General Geographic Location	65 Upland Wildlife Habitat Management, 528 Prescribed Grazing, 649 Structures for Wildlife, Other 328 Conservation Crop Rotation, 340 Cover Crop, 386 Field Border, 585 Stripcropping, 393 Filter Strip, 329/345 Residue Management, 512 Pasture/Hay Planting, 550 Range Planting, 528 Prescribed Grazing, Other

Name (Optional): \_\_\_\_\_

Are you one or more of the following (check all that apply):  
 \_\_\_ Rancher \_\_\_ Farmer \_\_\_ Private Landowner \_\_\_ Operator \_\_\_ Nonprofit Group  
 \_\_\_ Government Agency \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_