

THE ROLLING THUNDER



July 2024

SHERMAN COUNTY SWCD & WATERSHED COUNCIL

Soil & Water Conservation District

Upcoming Meetings

The next SWCD meeting is September 10th at 8:30 am in the USDA Service Center Conference Room.

County Cost Share

The SWCD has County Cost Share (CCS) grants still available! CCS funds conservation projects in crop, range, and/or riparian areas. We have made some changes to our CCS program. Haul roads and boundary fence are no longer limited by product/distance. You can now apply for those projects the same as the other projects. Eligible projects include **cross and border fencing, haul roads, spring development, solar water development, weed treatment, range seeding, riparian restoration, and more.** Projects up to \$20,000 have a 75% cost share rate. Our completion deadline for all CCS projects is now 2 years from the date of approval. Call the SWCD at 541-565-3216 to learn more or to apply. There is no deadline to apply. Applications are reviewed every month at SWCD board meetings.



New Watershed Technician

We would like to welcome Taylor Bullock to the team! Taylor was recently hired on as the Watershed Technician.

“I was raised in Tri Cities, Washington and lived there until I met my boyfriend, Clayton, and fell in love with his hometown in Sherman County. I have 3 amazing horses at the moment and 4 cow dogs that are always by my side. I have a love for agriculture. Growing up on my grandparents farm and being able to work with them for numerous summers made me love it even more. I am excited for this journey with the SWCD and can't wait to learn new skills, face new challenges, and hope I can continue on with the great work of others before me.”

Feel free to drop by the office to meet Taylor!



How to Reach Us

USDA Service Center
2004 1st Street, Moro, OR
(Open Monday through Friday, 8:00am—4:30pm)

Amanda Whitman
SWCD District Manager
541-565-3216 ext. 109
Amanda.whitman@or.nacdnet.net

Marylou Martin
SWCD Office Assistant
541-565-3216 ext. 101
Martin.marylou@or.nacdnet.net

Taylor Bullock
SWCD Watershed Technician
541-565-3216 ext. 110
Taylor.bullock@or.nacdnet.net



Farm Service Agency (FSA)

- **July 15, 2024:** 2023 ARC-Individual Option Yield Certification Deadline
- **July 15, 2024:** Spring Acreage Reporting Deadline
- **August 1, 2024:** Last day to request a recon to split or combine a farm for 2024 crop year.
- **September 30, 2024:** Deadline for ALL signatures to be received and enrollment complete for late-filed ARCPLC Contracts, General, CREP and Grasslands CRP contracts
- **CREP** Now Accepting CREP Sign-ups
- **ERP- 2022:** (Emergency Relief Program- 2022): Track 1 and 2 are available at this time for losses incurred in the 2022 crop year.
- **NAP** (Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program): Report losses within 15 days of event. Notify FSA of event within 72 hours for hand-harvested crops.

Maps for Acreage Reporting Are Available - Spring Acreage Reporting Deadline JULY 15

Maps are now available at the Sherman County FSA Office for acreage reporting purposes. If you wish to receive your maps by e-mail, please call our office or email Kayci Sharp at Kayci.Sharp@usda.gov.

- **July 15, 2024: All Grass for Grazing, CPR and any Spring Planted Crops**

In order to maintain program eligibility and benefits, you must file timely acreage reports. Failure to file an acreage report by the crop acreage reporting deadline may cause ineligibility for future program benefits. FSA will not accept acreage reports provided more than a year after the acreage reporting deadline.

Producers are encouraged to file their acreage reports as soon as planting is completed.

Marketing Assistance Loans

Marketing Assistance Loans (MALs) provide financing and marketing assistance for producers of many commodities. MALs are available for 2024 crop as soon as the crop has been harvested. MAL's provide interim financing to help you meet cash flow needs without having to sell commodities when market prices are low, enabling you to delay selling until more favorable marketing conditions emerge.

FSA is now accepting requests for 2024 MALs (as soon as the grain is harvested) for all eligible Wheat in Sherman County. These requests should be made to the FSA office with plenty of time for FSA to process the loans. The MAL loan rate for Wheat is \$4.03/BU.

To be eligible for an MAL producers must:

- have and retain beneficial interest in the commodity until the MAL is repaid or the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) takes title to the commodity, and;
- meet Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) limitations.

In addition to producer eligibility, the loan commodity must have been produced in the 2024 crop year by the eligible producer.

To retain beneficial interest, the producer must have control and title of the commodity. If beneficial interest in the commodity is lost, the commodity loses eligibility for an MAL or LDP and remains ineligible even if the producer later regains beneficial interest. The producer must be able to make all decisions affecting the commodity including movement, sale, and the request for an MAL or LDP.

Producers may repay an MAL any time during the loan period at the lesser of the loan rate plus accrued interest and other charges or an alternative loan repayment rate, the national posted price, which is announced weekly. Visit the Farm Service Agency (FSA) website for posted loan and LDP rates.

How to Apply

Producers can apply for an MAL by contacting Kayci Sharp at the Sherman County FSA 541-565-3551 ext 105

Bill Todd Memorial

Thank you to Sherman County Sheriff's office and their Community Service Crew! They did an awesome job cutting down dead trees, mowing, and watering at the Bill Todd Memorial.



SWCD and NRCS had a great time planting trees at Bill Todd Memorial on Arbor Day with Sherman County students. Mrs. Jones and Mrs. Farrens brought their classes out to plant a Weeping Willow and a Northern Red Oak. All the students worked really hard digging large holes, planting trees, and refilling the holes. We talked about the benefits of trees, such as cleaning the air, providing habitat for wildlife, boosting our mental health, and much more!



Watershed Education Incentive Program

The Watershed Education Incentive Program is to provide financial resources for local conservation education including workshops, demonstrations, and youth conservation projects; to provide technical resources for implementation of education projects that will benefit Sherman County residents and resources; and to assist with worthwhile projects that don't fit traditional funding sources. Applicants can apply for up to \$2,000.

2024 grants included 4H Camp, a Maryhill Museum field trip, the Spring Livestock Showcase, and an FFA trip to the National Land and Range Judging contest. Call us at 541-565-3216 for more information or to apply.

4H Day Camp in Wamic, Oregon

SWCD partially funded 4H Day Camp and was invited to be a part of the activities again this year. Crafting stations were set up outside on the picnic tables. At the SWCD table, campers painted wood necklaces and recyclable canvas bags using nature themed stencils. Other art stations were leathercraft (Laurie Wilhite), mirrored nature reflection painting (Deanna & Evan Christiansen), nature weaving (Cathy Musick), and face painting (4H counselors).



Maryhill Museum Field Trip

SWCD awarded a grant to Sherman 4th and 5th grade classes for a field trip to Maryhill Museum of Art. An interactive tour focused on the history of the museum, the American Indian wing, and the amazing chess sets. The students enjoyed an outdoor scavenger hunt and lunch on the lawn. Several parents volunteers helped chaperone this trip.



Ag in the Classroom Art Contest (Local)

Sherman County students, grades K-4 participated in a local "Ag in the Classroom" art contest. The winners received prizes and certificates from SWCD. Every student's artwork (not just our local winners) got sent on to be judged in the State contest. Congratulations to our Sherman winners!



Baylor-Grade K



Andres-Grade 4



Lilly-Grade 2



Stephie-Grade 3

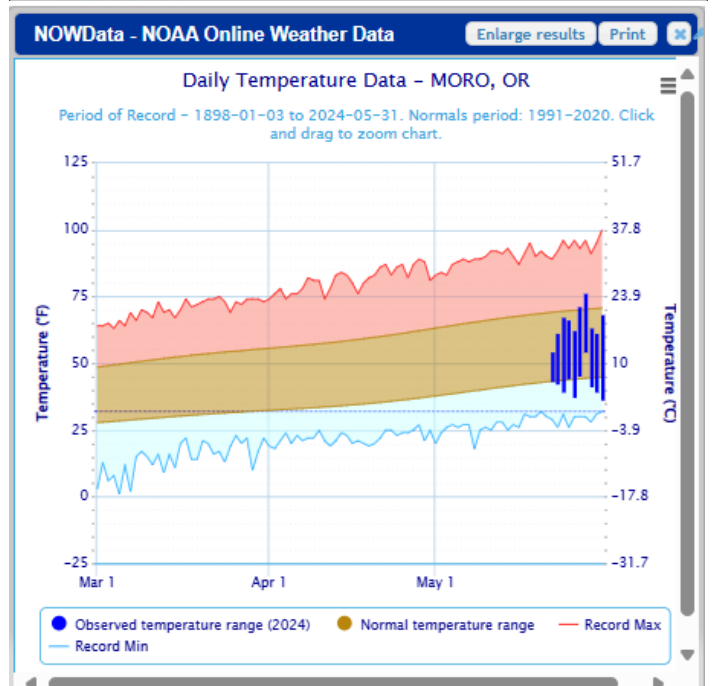
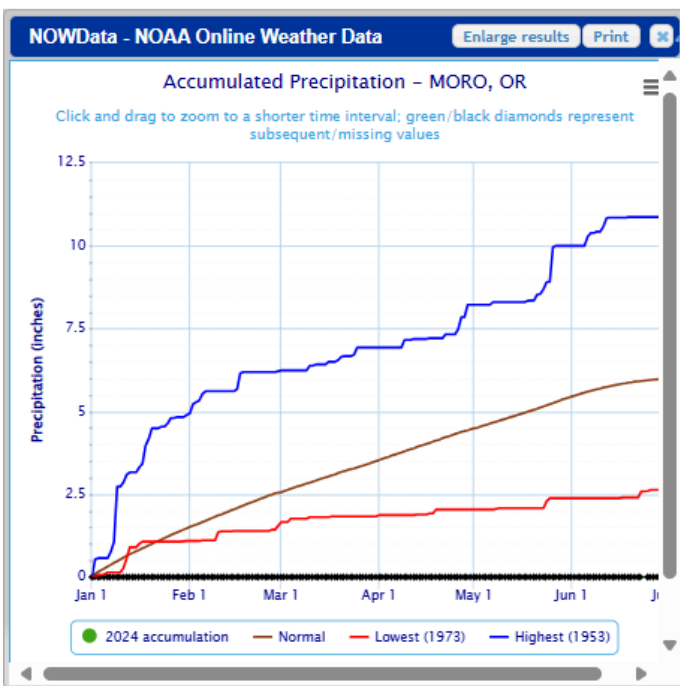
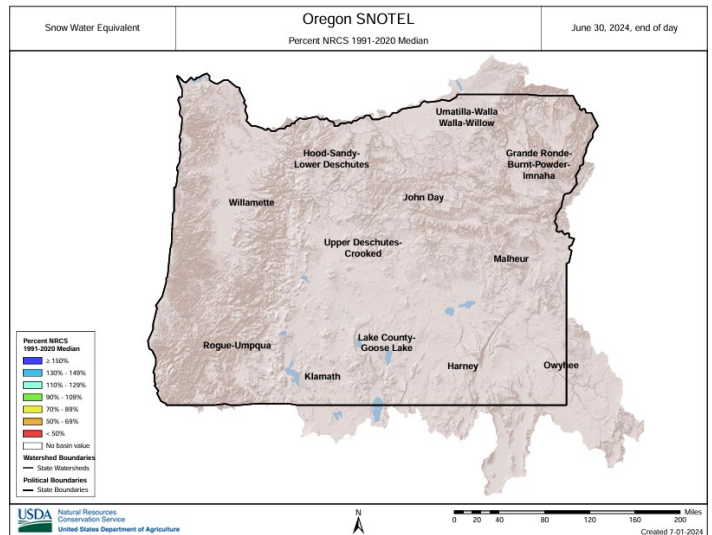
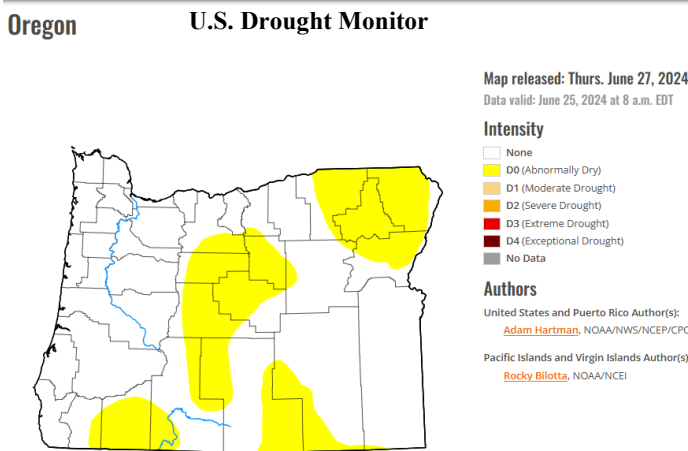


Charlotte-Grade 2



Bryndle-Grade 1

Moro Weather



Notice of Election

NOTICE OF ELECTION FOR DISTRICT DIRECTORS OF THE SHERMAN COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Notice is hereby given that on November 5, 2024, an election will be held for the purpose of electing board director(s) to the following positions for the Sherman County Soil and Water Conservation District:

Positions: **Zone 2, 4 years; Zone 3, 4 years; At-Large 1, 4 years**

Zone boundaries, eligibility requirements, and copies of the required elections forms may be obtained at the SWCD Office located at 2004 First Street Moro, OR 97039 or call 541-565-3216.

Election forms and information may also be found at: <https://oda.direct/Elections>

Each candidate must file a "Declaration of Candidacy" and a "Petition for Nomination Signature Sheet" with the Oregon Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Division. The filing deadline is 5:00 p.m. on August 27, 2024.

For more details contact Amanda @ 541-705-5070 or Amanda.whitman@or.nacdnet.net

OWEB Small Grant Funding

Small Grant Funding Available!

We have Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) funding available. Projects up to \$10,000 have a 75% cost share and projects \$10,001- \$15,000 have a cost share of 50%.

Eligible projects include:

- Livestock and wildlife water developments
- Range seeding
- Riparian planting
- In-stream restoration
- Cross fence
- Cropland erosion control

Local Advertisements

BUSINESS OWNERS!!!!

Are you interested in showcasing your business cards in our newsletter?

Advertisements are \$20 per issue or \$75 for the year! Issues are dispersed quarterly. For those of you who previously advertised, if you haven't renewed don't get left out! Call our office today!




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Grain * Fuel * Oil * Seed * Farm Stores

Mid Columbia Producers, Inc. operates three offices to better serve our customers. Our main office is located in Moro, Oregon.

Moro Office | 2003 First Street | Moro, OR 97039 | 800-325-9327
Bend Office | 913 1st Street | Bend, OR 97701 | 888-616-0690
Hermiston Office | 345 N 1st Pl | Hermiston, OR 97838 | 541-289-5015

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Contact Sherman
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~ CONSERVATION CALENDAR ~

July 28: World Nature Conservation Day
August 15: National Honey Bee Day
August 19-24: Sherman County Fair
September 2: Labor Day, Office Closed
September 10: SWCD Regular Board Meeting 8:30am
October 8: SWCD Regular Board Meeting 8:30am

~ BOARD & STAFF ~

SWCD Staff

Amanda Whitman, District Manager
Marylou Martin, Office Assistant
Taylor Bullock, Watershed Technician
Vacant, Watershed Coordinator

NRCS Staff

Misty Strayhorn, District Conservationist
Becky Hilderbrand, Conservation Technician
Theron Taylor, Conservation Technician

Sherman County SWCD Board of Directors

Jesse Stutzman, Chair
Josh Hilderbrand, Vice Chair
Clint Moore, Treasurer
Trevor Fields, Secretary
Nick von Borstel, Member

"Wisdom, Power, and Goodness meet in the bounteous field of wheat"— Hannah Flagg Gould

We're on the Web! Don't forget to check us out for current news! www.shermancountyswcd.com

We're also on Facebook @ Sherman County SWCD

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