

2017 Western Montana GRAZING & AGRICULTURE CONFERENCE



\$50 early (before Jan. 31st) / \$75 at the door . Includes breakfast, lunch, dinner

Register @ www.lakecountyconservationdistrict.org or call (406) 676-2841 ext. 102

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS FOR THE 2017 WMGA CONFERENCE

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9TH, 2017

8-9 am REGISTRATION —Pastries and Coffee provided by DoubleTree Missoula

9-10 am KEYNOTE SPEAKER “I don’t need no stinking grazing system.” Rick Caquelin NRCS Grazing Specialist and Rancher Great Falls, MT

10-10:15 am BREAK—Sponsored by the **Montana Farmers Union**

10:15 am -12 pm CONCURRENT PANEL SESSIONS—Panels Consist of (3-4) Western Montana Producers and resource professionals.

1. Agronomic Transitions: Jumping off a cliff or dipping your toes; how to manage risk while employing change
2. Management Strategies for Smaller Scale Diversified Operations

12-1 pm LUNCH—Provided by Doubletree Missoula— Sponsored by the **Montana Audubon Society and the Long Billed Curlew**

1-1:50 pm CONCURRENT SPEAKER SESSIONS (3)

1. Roots of Resilience, Pacific Northwest Grazing Management Specialists—Part 1 — “Planned Grazing - Putting together a management plan”
2. Josh Schrecengost NRCS Biologist—“Maximizing Habitat for Ground Nesting Birds”
3. Phillip Davis MSU and UM Researcher “Precision Ag Trends and Research in Montana: A look to the Future”

2-2:50 pm CONCURRENT SPEAKER SESSIONS (3)

1. Roots of Resilience—Part 2 —“Planned Grazing - Furthering the management plan”
2. Marlon Winger NRCS Soil Health Specialist—“How do I tell if my soil is healthy?”
3. Mark Schiltz, Flathead Valley Land Trust and Pelah Hoyt Five Valleys Land Trust— “The Benefits of Conservation Easements on Working Agricultural Lands”

3-4:30 pm PANEL SESSION—Integrating Diverse Forage and Cover Crops into Western Montana Agriculture

5:30-8 pm SOCIAL HOUR and Famous Dave's BBQ at the Northside Kettlehouse Brewery
1st St. W Missoula, MT—Sponsored by **all Sponsors**

313 N.

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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10TH, 2017

8-9 am LIGHT BREAKFAST—Pastries and Coffee Provided by the Doubletree Missoula

9-10:45 am KEYNOTE SPEAKER—“Building Resilience from the Soil Up” Jay Fuhrer NRCS Soil Health Guru Bismarck, ND

10:45-11 am BREAK—Sponsored by **RDO Equipment**—Missoula, MT

11-11:50 am CONCURRENT SPEAKER SESSIONS (3)

1. Dave Scott, Livestock Specialist and Rancher, National Center for Appropriate Technologies—“Grazing Taller Grass: A Case Study from Montana”
2. Dr. Zach Miller, Superintendent of MSU Western Ag Research Center—“Diversified Ag Products and Markets for Western Montana”
3. Jay Fuhrer NRCS Soil Health Guru Bismarck, ND—“Soil Health Perspectives”

12-1 pm LUNCH—Provided by Doubletree Missoula—Sponsored by **Westland Seed**—Ronan. MT

1-1:50 pm CONCURRENT SPEAKER SESSIONS (3)

1. Dr. Kay Hajek, Postdoctoral Associate, University of Montana—“Using grazing to manage wet land and riparian habitat”
2. Rick Caquelin NRCS Grazing Specialist and Rancher Great Falls, MT—“You Have Control - Taking Control of the Herd”
3. Ben Montgomery NRCS District Conservationist—“Weed eat it!—How improved grazing management fits into your Integrated Pest Management Plan”

2-2:50 pm CONCURRENT SPEAKER SESSIONS (3)

1. Ben Montgomery NRCS District Conservationist—“Renovating pastures: Seeding and interseeding for forage improvement”
2. Josh Schrecengost NRCS Biologist—“Managing human/wildlife conflicts on agricultural lands in Montana.”
3. Dr. Clain Jones, Extension Soil Fertility Specialist, Montana State University —“Interpreting soil tests for practical application”

3-3:30 CLOSING REMARKS