

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
LONG RANGE PLANNING SUBCOMMITTEE
50TH LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The meeting of the Long Range Planning Subcommittee was called to order by Chairman Rep. Robert Thoft on January 26, 1987 at 8:00 a.m., in Room 202B of the State Capitol.

ROLL CALL: All members of the Long Range Planning Subcommittee were present except Sen. Van Vakenburg and Rep. Donaldson who were excused.

Tape 42:A:000

RENEWABLE RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

Caralee Cheney, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC), said \$380,000 is the estimated total of Renewable Resource Development (RRD) monies that could be appropriated by the Long Range Planning Subcommittee.

Agricultural Land Improvement Category

Grant #1 Department of Fish Wildlife and Parks:

Caralee Cheney, DNRC, said the Conservation Reserve Program of the 1985 Federal Farm Bill is designed to take highly eroding crop lands out of production and establish permanent vegetative cover on them. The cost to establish the permanent vegetation will be shared (50%) by the federal government. The purpose of the proposed projects is to encourage landowners to establish suitable wildlife habitat on Conservation Reserve Program acres by cost sharing a portion of the landowner's cost of vegetation establishment.

Jim Flynn, Department of Fish Wildlife and Parks (FWP), said they have set a maximum expenditure of \$1,000 per landowner. Rep. Bardanoue asked how they propose to select the landowners that receive the funds. Mr. Flynn said the funds will be disbursed on a first come first serve basis. Chairman Thoft asked what guarantee do you have that it will be permanent. Mr. Flynn said FWP is not dictating that portion of the project, it's under the federal Soil Conservation Service (SCS) project.

Grant #2 Gallatin and Meagher County Conservation Districts:

(110) Caralee Cheney, DNRC, said the Gallatin and Meagher County Conservation Districts will use grant funds to establish grass on approximately 90 acres within the

right-of-way of the abandoned Milwaukee Railroad along a 33 mile distance between Lombard and Ringling, Montana.

No one was present for the grant.

Rep. Bardanoue asked if the Milwaukee Railroad was liable in any way. Caralee Cheney, DNRC, said she doesn't know.

Grant #3 DNRC - Conservation Districts Division: (137)

Caralee Cheney, DNRC, said the grant funds awarded from this project will be used to develop computer software used to teach the principles of soil and water conservation to school children between ages 12 and 16 years. Other audiences such as farmers, district supervisors, SCS conservationists, university students, and other teachers will be served.

Ray Beck, DNRC, read his written testimony (Exhibit #1) for the Long Range Planning Subcommittee.

Sen. Walker asked why the ages of 12 and 16. Mr. Beck said those are the most effective ages.

Grant #4 Hill County Conservation District: (170)

Caralee Cheney, DNRC, said the Hill County Conservation District proposes to purchase a grass drill to be used for seeding permanent vegetation on acreage contracted under the USDA Conservation Reserve Program and for renovating range lands and pasture. Grasslands will be renovated by seeding grass directly into chemically pretreated tame and native sod conditions. The district will purchase the drill and make it available to cooperators on a rental fee per acre basis. The district will maintain the drill and schedule its distribution to users.

Dan Hybner, said the grant will cover up to 50% of the purchase price of the grass drill.

Mr. Hybner said the grass drill will aid in the saline seep project.

Mr. Hybner read a worksheet titled Hill County District (Exhibit 2) for the Long Range Planning Subcommittee, and submitted a brochure on the grass drill (Exhibit #3).

Rep. Bardanoue asked if Northern Montana College Agricultural Experiment Station has a drill. Mr. Hybner said no.

Grant #5 DNRC - Conservation Districts Division: (263)

Caralee Cheney, DNRC, said the purpose of the project is to increase the understanding of grazing lands by the public, ranchers, and land managers through increased educational opportunities. Grant funds will be used to build two grazing land simulators which depict the ecology of grazing lands on an interactive computer. The simulators will be used by over 1,500 students per year as well as adults who attend functions where the simulators are displayed. Grant funds will also be used to pay for the reprinting and updating of 500 copies of the Montana Range Land Resource Program book, and 500 copies of range leader information packets. Sub grants will be given to conservation districts who host the annual Montana Grazing Seminar to reduce cost charged to individuals who attend the seminars.

Ray Beck, DNRC, read his testimony for the Long Range Planning Subcommittee (Exhibit #4).

Mr. Beck showed the Subcommittee an example of the simulator.

Sen. Aklestad asked how many of the simulators they have. Mr. Beck said four. Chairman Thoft asked where they are manufactured. Mr. Beck said at Montana State University. Sen. Walker asked how much the simulators cost. Mr. Beck said \$4,000.

Mr. Beck asked that the Subcommittee include an additional \$2,000 in the cost for setting up the seminars on the simulators.

Sen. Aklestad asked if DNRC is trying to take over the Extension Service's duties. Mr. Beck said no, they are working together with the Extension Service. (413)

Grant #6 Little Beaver Conservation District: (433)

Caralee Cheney, DNRC, said the applicant requests a \$100,000 grant to be used to accelerate the soil survey being conducted by the SCS in Fallon county. In the last three years Fallon County has received approximately 400 requests for soil survey information. Often these requests cannot be met because there are 1,510,520 acres in the county that have not been surveyed. Because of federal funding cutbacks in the SCS Soil Survey Program, soil surveys in Montana are not expected to be completed for at least 20 to 50 years. If this grant is awarded, 100,000 acres, or approximately 6.6% of these remaining acres will be surveyed.

Mary Siccum, said 42% of state lands are not surveyed at this time. Ms. Siccum said the Federal Farm Act requires that the Conservation Plan and Soil Survey be completed by

1990. Ms. Siccum said if they receive the funds they will be completed by 2004, if they do not receive the funds they will not be complete until 2025. Ms. Siccum said some counties are putting money into the project.

Ms. Siccum presented a film on Soil Survey projects. The film said the soil surveys are used for farming, ranching, septic tank placements, land fills, sewage lagoons, building homes, and planning recreational areas.

Barry Dutton, Missoula County Conservation District, said he was in favor of the project.

Alyce Keehn, Carter County Conservation District, read her testimony for the Long Range Planning Subcommittee (Exhibit #5).

Dale Marxer, Montana Association Conservation District, read his testimony for the Subcommittee (Exhibit #6). Mr. Marxer said the Federal Crop Insurance is also asking for soil surveys.

Ms. Siccum said \$50,000 of the SCS 223 monies have to into this project. Chairman Thoft asked what level of federal funding is the State of Montana getting. Ms. Siccum said \$2 million a year from the SCS. Montana is getting the highest amount of federal monies for soil surveys of any state.

Sen. Aklestad said you do not have to have a soil survey to have a conservation plan. Rep. Bardanouve said if you don't have a soil survey, you can't write a conservation plan.

Ray Beck, DNRC, said they did apply for RIT monies.

Grant #17 DNRC - Conservation Districts Division: (280)

Caralee Cheney, DNRC, said the Conservation Districts Division requests grant funds for the purchase of two Geodimeter 136 surveying instruments equipped with Geodat Data Recorders. The instruments will be loaned by the CDD to local conservation districts through area offices of the Soil Conservation Service.

Ms. Cheney, said the SCS now has two Geodimeters based in the state office for used statewide. Both instruments are heavily used, with demand exceeding the availability. The current SCS budget does not allow for the purchase of additional Geodimeters for use in Montana.

Ray Beck, DNRC, read his written testimony for the Subcommittee (Exhibit #7).

Grant #18 Prairie County Conservation District: (312)

Caralee Cheney, DNRC, said the Prairie County Conservation District proposes to purchase a Haybuster 107 (20-ft.) no-till grain drill. The drill will be leased to district farmers, and used to demonstrate no-till grain seedings, Conservation Reserve Program grass seedings, and deep banding of fertilizer in established alfalfa and grass stands. The district estimates the drill will be used on approximately 1,000 acres per year, at a per acre rental fee of from \$5 to \$7. Additionally, the district plans to conduct no-till field tours annually, and increase publicity on the benefits of no-till and conservation tillage through articles in the district newsletter and local newspaper.

No one was present for the project.

Sen. Aklestad asked if all districts involved attempted to jointly purchase equipment or go to market together to get a better price. Ray Beck, DNRC, said yes.

Grant #19 DNRC - Conservation Districts Division: (345)

Ray Beck, DNRC, read his written testimony for the Subcommittee (Exhibit #8).

Grant #20 Ruby Valley and
Beaverhead Conservation Districts: (390)

Caralee Cheney, DNRC, said the Beaverhead and Ruby Valley Conservation Districts are cooperating in a program to demonstrate and promote reduced soil erosion through no-tillage management and improvement irrigation water management efficiencies. The SCS and conservation district personnel will select and establish a total of twelve demonstration plots for no-till, identify twelve cooperators for evaluating existing irrigation practices, and select two demonstration plots for appropriate irrigation water management. Field tours and educational information will be prepared for the benefit of district cooperators in both counties. Ms. Cheney said the project was recommended 0 funding.

No one showed up for the project.

Timber Improvement Category

Grant #1 Anaconda Deer Lodge County: (400)

Caralee Cheney, DNRC, said in the late 1900's, the Anaconda Copper Mining Company used wood extensively in its refining process; most of the timber in the local area was harvested.

The removal of existing vegetative cover, combined with heavy metal pollution in the soils from smelting activities, and a harsh climate inhibited the reestablishment of a natural ground cover. After the harvesting operations, major soil erosion problems occurred.

Ms. Cheney said the applicant proposed to use the grant funds to continue ongoing tree planting and revegetation efforts in the area. Approximately 40,000 trees will be planted, and 30 acres will be planted in grass and shrubs.

Jack Perkins, Chairman of the Forestry Committee said it is the best project the Forest Committee has ever had.

Milo Manning said the land went from a \$21 million tax value to a \$9 million tax value.

Mary Siccum said she was in favor of the project.

Rep. Bardanoue asked how many acres the Anaconda Minerals Company turned over to the city of Anaconda. Mr. Manning said 2,500 acres were turned "over to the City of Anaconda and the 2,000 acres kept might be eligible for Super Fund.

Grant #2 Madison Conservation District: (420)

Caralee Cheney, DNRC, said the Madison Conservation District proposes to use the grant funds to purchase a mobile saw and implement a forestry management program on approximately 2,000 acres of private forest land in Madison County. The area includes timbered area from the valley bottom to the higher forested U.S. Forest Service lands between Ennis, and Norris, Montana.

Lynn Owens, Chairman, Madison County Conservation District, said the District sees the Mobile Saw for Forest Land Management project as a pilot project to give data to other projects like it.

Jack Perkins and Peter Jackson said they are in favor of the project.

Bob Andreozzi, Department of State Lands, said the project will be funded for two years with the hope that the project will then be self-sufficient. Mr. Andreozzi said the mill produces 3000 ft. of timber a day. Chairman Thoft said he would like information about the saw.

Grant #3 University of Montana: (440)

Caralee Cheney, DNRC, said this project will demonstrate the beneficial effects of applying preferred timber management

and forage improvement treatments to increase grazing capacity without harming other resources. The implementation will be carried out by coordinated planning between the Forestry Division of the Department of State Lands (DSL), UM and the Cooperative Extension Service (CES). Ms. Cheney said UM will be responsible for planning, installing, and monitoring the demonstration areas and for reporting of results in terms of wood and forage production and costs of management treatments. The CES will assist in coordination of workshops and training sessions to provide maximum transfer of knowledge to citizen and agency groups interested in practicing effective agro-forestry practices. The DSL will use the area as part of their Service Forestry program.

No one showed up for the project.

Grant #4 Department of State Lands
Grant #5 Department of State Lands: (451)

Jeff Jahnke read written testimony for grant #4 and #5 (Exhibit #9).

Sen. Walker asked what benefits grant #5 will have. Mr. Jahnke said a return of 10% on the investment.

Water Reservation Category

Grant #1 Lower Yellowstone Conservation
District Development Committee (LYCDDC):

Caralee Cheney, DNRC, said that through a resource coordinator, the group is conducting an on-going investigation of innovative and cost-effective methods of implementing high lift irrigation and cooperative irrigation projects using existing canals systems. The LYCDDC resource coordinator has prepared conceptual designs and evaluations of various irrigation projects meeting these criteria. This proposal involves funding a preliminary review and evaluation of three LYCDDC projects by the Bureau of Reclamation. Those projects are the Fallon Flats, Belle Prairie, and Sidney irrigation projects.

No one showed up for the project.

Sen. Walker asked if this is just for a study. Ms. Cheney said yes. Chairman Thoft said didn't we fund this before. Ms. Cheney said yes.

Grant #2 DNRC - conservation district Division:

Caralee Cheney, DNRC, said the Conservation District Division of DNRC requests a grant from the earmarked water

reservation category under the Renewable Resource Development Program. The CDD will in turn provide funds to conservation districts upon request for preparation of water reservation applications, or for implementation of existing water reservations.

Ray Beck, DNRC, read his written testimony for the Long Range Planning Subcommittee (Exhibit #10).

Chairman Thoft asked how much money was allocated last session to the water reservation area. Mr. Beck said \$100,000.

Other Category

Grant #1 Montana Department of
Health and Environmental Sciences:

Chairman Thoft asked if they could get the project done with \$19,000. Caralee Cheney, DNRC, said she will get more information on grant #1.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business the Long Range Planning Subcommittee the meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.



Chairman Rep. Bob Thoft

law

DAILY ROLL CALL

LONG RANGE PLANNING

SUBCOMMITTEE

DATE January 26 , 1987

NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
Rep., Thoft, Chairman			
Sen., Van Valkenburg, Vice-Chairman			
Rep., Bardanoue	✓		
Rep., Donaldson			
Sen., Aklestad	✓		
Sen., McLane	✓		
Sen., Walker	✓		

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
AND CONSERVATION



TED SCHWINDEN, GOVERNOR

1520 EAST SIXTH AVENUE

STATE OF MONTANA

DIRECTOR'S OFFICE (406) 444-6699

HELENA, MONTANA 59620

RRD #3

Mr. Chairman, members of the committee for the record, my name is Ray Beck. I am the administrator of the Conservation Districts Division of DNRC.

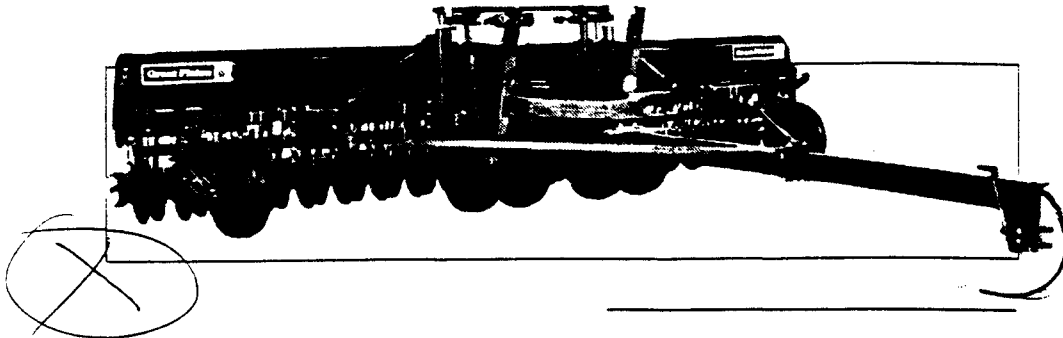
If grant funds are awarded for this project, they will be used to develop computer software used to teach the principles of soil and water conservation to school children between the ages of 12 and 16 years. Other audiences such as farmers, district supervisors, SCS conservationists, university students, and school teachers will also be served.

Studies in many states have shown that soil and water resources receive only limited attention in the accepted public school curriculum. Few youth have the opportunity to either be exposed to or secure a clear understanding and education of the value and methods of soil and water resource conservation.

Initial phases of this project will involve development, distribution, collection, and summarization of a detailed survey of resources, facilities, and support for soil and water resource conservation and computer technology/applications in Montana schools. This information will be used to determine potential interest, perceived use-need-adoption, appropriate software development directions, and other baseline information essential to successful program development and adoption.

We feel that since Montana's school system has one of the highest computer-student ratios in the nation, computer software is an efficient medium for teaching conservation ethics and long-term philosophies about soil and water resources. Conservation software is currently not available for students.

SOLID STAND FOLDING DRILLS



The accuracy you
need in the field and
the convenience you
want on the road.

Great Plains fluted seed cups meter seed gently and evenly. Depth control is assured with a direct press wheel linkage that allows the opener to penetrate to a preset depth. Hydraulic folding makes transporting quick and easy. Folded width is only 14' and the transport wheels are positioned so you can easily move to the edge of the road when meeting traffic.

See the features on the 24' and 30' Solid Stand Drills at:



Solid Stand[®] Folding Drill
24' and 30' widths

Same precision depth control system as drill above, but in a wider, pull-type drill. Sections flex to follow field contours, and fold quickly for easy transport.

HILL COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

720 1st St. West
Havre, MT 59501

APPROVED
DATE 1/26/87
HILL COUNTY

TOPIC: MONTANA RENEWABLE RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

ITEM: HILL COUNTY'S GRANT PROPOSAL FOR A 24 FOOT GREAT PLAINS GRASS AND LEGUME DRILL FOR RENTAL TO AREA PRODUCERS

COST: \$16,000. GRANT REQUEST FROM RRD PROGRAM
\$ 4,340. DISTRICT FUNDS
\$20,340. TOTAL PROJECT COST

STATUS: RANKED 4th AT AN \$8,000 FUNDING LEVEL DURING THE INITIAL REVIEW

REASONS FOR APPLICATION:

The Hill County Conservation District supervisors saw a need for a larger grass and legume seeding drill to be used to establish permanent vegetative cover on area cropland and rangeland. There are several reasons the district felt the need for a larger unit than the 10 foot Brillion grass drill that is currently rented out to local producers. There is quite a sizable amount of acreage in Hill County that is eligible for the Conservation Reserve Program. There is approximately 15,000 acres in Hill County that is eligible for the Conservation Reserve Program under the current qualifying criteria. Since this land must be left in permanent vegetative cover for 10 years a good initial stand is necessary. Also, the amount of land effected by saline seep is also increasing in the county. The treatment of these areas requires the seeding of sometimes sizable acreage to alfalfa and grass in the recharge area in order to use up the excess water. There are approximately 7000 acres in Hill County that are effected by saline seep or are recharge areas contributing to the saline seep. There also is tame pasture seeding being done on land that was previously cropland or in already established pastures. When faced with seeding any large acreage of grass or alfalfa, the area producers were forced to use their grain drills because of the high cost of purchasing a grass drill for a relatively small project. The grass seeding done with these grain drills has not always been successful due to placing the seed too deep or creating too large of a furrow that by water or wind erosion ends up covering up the seedlings. Since the grain drills do not have a way of accurately metering the much smaller legume seed, it is difficult to get the correct seeding rate for alfalfa and other legumes. The Hill County Conservation District feels that there is a definite need for this piece of equipment and hope to be able to offer this service to area producers in the near future. The district would allow producers from the surrounding counties to also use this piece of equipment.

VAN'S | TRACTOR, INC.

FARM | INDUSTRIAL EQUIPMENT

1617 Hiway #2 East * Havre, Montana 59501 * 406-265-1253

Soil Conservation Service - Havre, Mont.

May 6, 1986

Bid on Drills.

1. Great Plains 24 foot Folding Drill - Double Disc - 7 inch spacing

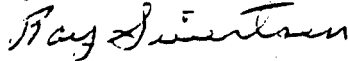
Fertilizer Boxes

4" X12" V Rubber Press Wheels

FOB Havre - Set up and Delivered.

BID PRICE:	\$18,700.00
Legume box	\$ 1,100.00
Depth bands	\$ 540.00
total	\$20,340.00

Ray Sivertsen



Vans Tractor Inc.



24' and 30'

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
AND CONSERVATION



TED SCHWINDEN, GOVERNOR

1520 EAST SIXTH AVENUE

STATE OF MONTANA

DIRECTOR'S OFFICE (406) 444-6699

HELENA, MONTANA 59620

RRD #5

EMD T 4
1/26/57

Mr. Chairman, members of the committee for the record, my name is Ray Beck. I am the administrator of the Conservation Districts Division of DNRC.

The Conservation Districts Division is responsible by law to administer the Rangeland Resource Program. With over 70 percent of the surface area of Montana being either rangelands or grazeable woodlands, there is a significant amount of activities involving our rangeland resources. Understanding the value of this resource and the principles involved in its management is essential for both those who deal with grazing land management in their day to day work, and for those who participate in decisions concerning its management.

The recommended funding for our application is for \$10,000 to be used for the grazing simulators and the training portion of the proposal. This will provide the districts two simulators and funding to assist with seminar expenses.

The seminars are held once a year. These funds will be used to assist a district or county range committee in sponsoring the seminar.

I would like to have the committee consider returning back into our proposal the \$2,000 for simulator training that was not recommended for funding. I feel that proper training for instructors is essential if we are to get proper use of the simulators.

Thank you.

To be filled out by a person testifying or a person who would not like to stand up and speak but wants their testimony entered into the record.

1/26/87

WITNESS STATEMENT

HB _____

NAME BUDGET

ADDRESS

WHOM DO YOU REPRESENT?

SUPPORT OPPOSE AMEND

COMMENTS:

[Handwritten text in cursive script, mostly illegible due to blurriness and bleed-through. Some words like "I am" and "I support" are faintly visible.]

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

To be filled out by a person testifying or a person who would not like to stand up and speak but wants their testimony entered into the record.

WITNESS STATEMENT

EXHIBIT 6
DATE 1/26
HOUSE

NAME Dave Warner BUDGET _____

ADDRESS Milligan Rd Great Falls

WHOM DO YOU REPRESENT? Conservation dist

SUPPORT OPPOSE _____ AMEND _____

COMMENTS: The soil survey is important in the process of administering the 95 farm bill.
Every farm must have a conservation plan by 1990. The soil survey is a very important part of writing the plan.

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

FACT SHEET

MONTANA SOIL SURVEY STATUS

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Soil
Conservation
Service

Federal Building, Room 443
10 East Babcock Street
Bozeman, MT 59715

For More

Information: Soil Conservation Service Office in your county.

WHAT: The U.S. Soil Conservation Service makes and publishes soil surveys of agricultural and built-up areas for nonfederal lands.

Each soil survey describes the physical and chemical characteristics of the soils in the survey area--generally a county. It names and classifies the soils according to a nationwide system and provides information on the potential and limitations of the soils for various uses. Detailed maps show where each soil is located.

HOW: In making the survey, soil scientists determine the soils' texture, structure, chemical composition, depth, slope, and other features that affect their response to various uses and various kinds of management.

WHY: These surveys form the basis of nearly all conservation planning. They are carried out in cooperation with state agricultural experiment stations and other federal and state agencies. SCS also helps other agencies prepare special maps and reports based on soil surveys.

Soil surveys are important tools for planning the use and management of land and water resources.

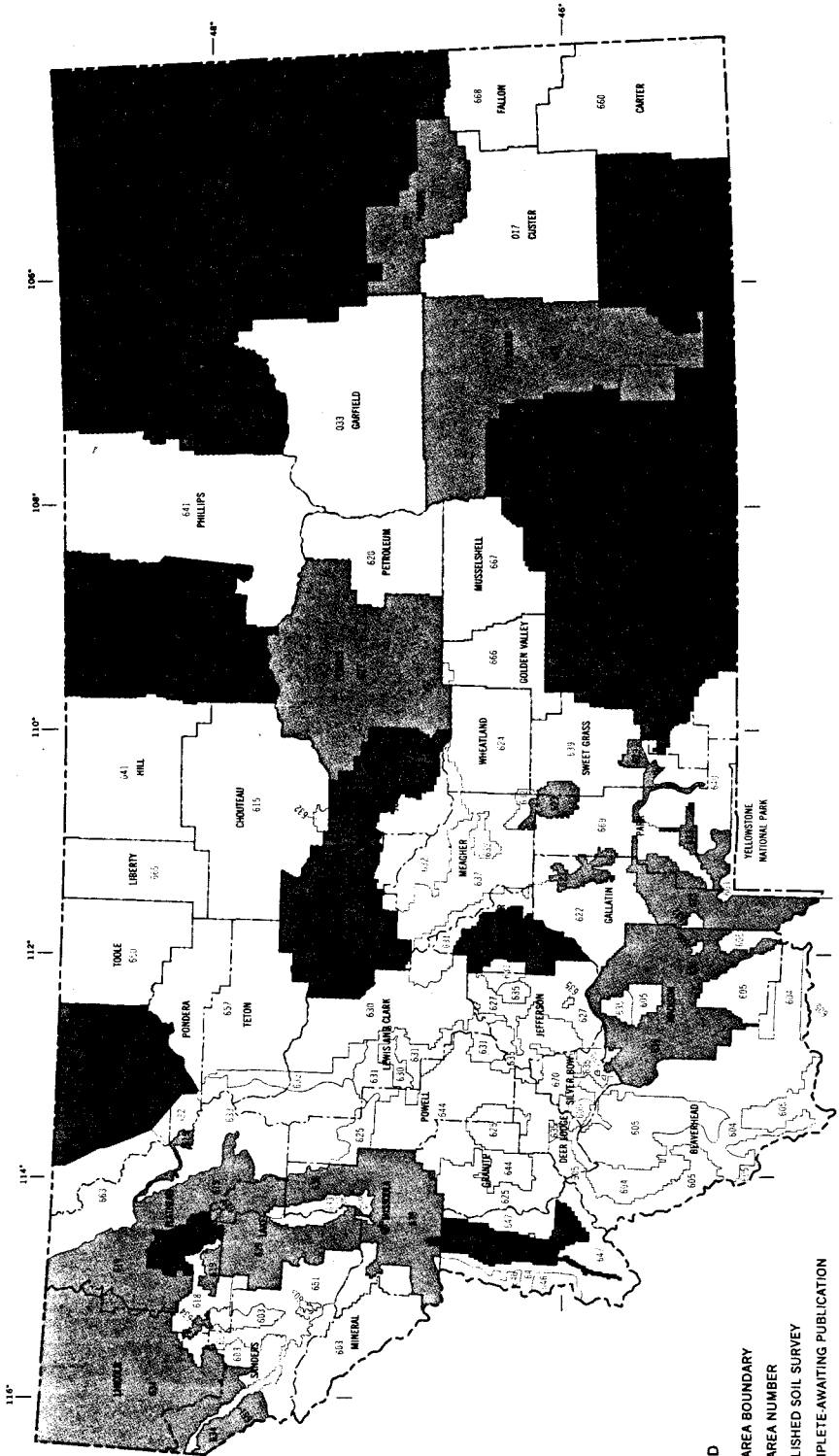
WHO USES: They are used by farmers and ranchers; city, county, state, and federal agency personnel; and land use planners, engineers, contractors, developers, builders, and others.

The survey is useful to many people, ranging from the farmer who wants to control erosion . . . to the engineer who needs to know what kind of structure the soil can support . . . to the planner looking for a suitable site for a municipal reservoir.

STATUS: In Montana, soil scientists have mapped about 58 percent of the state by the end of 1985. This amounts to about 54.6 million acres.

August 1986

EXHIBIT 6
 DATE 1-26-87
 HB _____

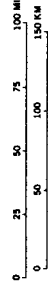


- LEGEND**
- SOIL SURVEY AREA BOUNDARY
 - SOIL SURVEY AREA NUMBER
 - MODERN PUBLISHED SOIL SURVEY
 - MAPPING COMPLETE-AWAITING PUBLICATION
 - SOIL SURVEY IN PROGRESS
 - NO SOIL SURVEY IN PROGRESS

SOIL SURVEY PUBLICATION AREAS

677 Custer County	629 Lake County Area	647 Bitterroot National Forest Area
678 Dawson County	630 Lewis and Clark County Area	648 Rosebud County Area and part of Big Horn County
679 Fergus County	631 Helena National Forest Area	649 Toole County
680 Garfield County	632 Lewis and Clark National Forest Area	650 Sanders County Area and parts of Flathead and Lincoln Counties
681 Hill County	633 Bob Marshall, Scappoose, Great Bear, and Mission Mountain Wilderness Area	651 Stillwater County Area
682 McCone County	634 Kootenai National Forest Area	652 Choteau-Conrad Area--parts of Teton and Pondera Counties
683 Prairie County	635 Deer Lodge National Forest Area	653 Carter County
684 Richland County	636 Madison County Area	654 Roosevelt and Daniels Counties
685 Sheridan County	637 Meagher County Area	655 Glacier National Park Area--parts of Glacier and Flathead Counties
686 Treasure County	638 Missoula County Area	656 Yellowstone National Park Area--parts of Park and Gallatin Counties
687 Valley County	639 Sweet Grass County Area	657 Liberty County
688 Wibaux County	640 Absaroka Beartooth Wilderness Area	658 Golden Valley County Area
689 Yellowstone County	641 Phillips County Area	659 Musselshell County
690 Glacier County and part of Pondera County	642 Powder River Area	660 Fallon County
691 Judith Basin Area	643 Upper Clark Fork River Area--parts of Powell, Granite, and Deer Lodge Counties	661 Park County Area and part of Gallatin County
692 St. Regis-Clark Fork Area--part of Lolo National Forest	644 Bitterroot-Valley Area	662 Silver Bow County Area and parts of Jefferson and Beaverhead Counties
693 Beaverhead County Area	645 Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness Area	
694 Beaverhead National Forest Area		
695 Silver Bow County		

**STATUS OF SOIL SURVEYS
 MONTANA
 MARCH 1986**



SOURCE: Data compiled by SCS Field Personnel.

1) Requests for specific soil survey information in the last three (3) years. 3) Some of the identified needs for soils information.

Cascade County CD 200** State Wide: 2,442

Cascade County CD: Sale of property; determination of proper soil for construction; septic and drain fld data; tree shelterbelts and windbreaks planning and planting; a study group from California was interested; irrigation management; range management (vs. sodbusting); saline seep planning; college students use in studies at MSU; and SCS--to figure erosion rates for cost-share.

2) Those making the requests.

Cascade County CD: Nearly all state agencies--some more than one copy; federal governmental agencies including Malmstrom AFB, ASCS, FmHA, SCS, Forest Service; County agencies such as Pesticide Control, CES, Roads and Grounds, Commissioners, and others; realtors; one church that was about to construct a new building; landowners; study groups, etc.

STATEWIDE:

LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

Private landowners
Irrigation companies
Realtors
Potential buyers
Developers
Home builders
Lending institutions
Burlington Northern R.R.
Irrigation equipment suppliers
Insurance companies
Engineering firms
Montana Power Company
Wells Fargo
AG Credit
Western Energy
Construction companies
Attorneys
Drainage districts
Miners
Students
Consultants
Oil and pipeline companies
Glacier Park Company
Montana Dakota Utilities
Tongue River Railroad
Crow Tribe

Conservation districts
County sanitarians
County roads and grounds
School districts
County pesticide control
County planners
Subdivision review boards
County appraisers
City golf courses

FEDERAL AGENCIES

Western Area Power Administration
Army Corp. of Engineers
National Park Service
Bureau of Indian Affairs
Bureau of Reclamation
Bureau of Land Management
Federal Aeronautics Administration
U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service
Farmers Home Administration
U. S. Forest Service
U. S. Air Force
Federal Crop Insurance

STATE AGENCIES:

MT Dept. of Highways
MT Dept. of State Lands
MT Dept. of Natural Resources and Conservation
MT Dept. of Fish, Wildlife & Parks
Universities

STATEWIDE:

Determining productivity
Determining land capability
Tree and grass plantings
Environmental Impact Statements
Intensive cropping
Irrigation projects
Water rights
Water reservations
Engineering properties
Range to cropland conversions
Critical area treatments
Fertility reports
Water Table problems
Salinity & sodium problems
Reclamation
Stocking rates
Leases
Farm programs
Estate settlements and suits

County land-use plans
Flood plain determinations
Determining land values
(Septic, industrial and city wastes systems)
Teaching
Landscaping
Landfills
Drainfields
Loans
Road and building site information
Tax purposes
Transmission line locations
Research projects
Home site development
Airport enlargement
(Mobile home park site suitability)
Park and Recreation area development

4) Some of the existing problems identified statewide which could have been reduced or avoided with the use of a soil survey.

Farming unsuitable soils (plowout, saline or sodic, erosive and shallow soil).
Drainfield problems in subdivisions and other problems with urban development.
Problems with recreation areas.
Improper irrigation or irrigation systems.
Quicker land determinations at less cost.
Fewer chemical - soil relationship problems.
Groundwater contamination.
Location of better site for a sanitary landfill.
Failed crop, grass, and tree plantings.
Failure and cracking of roads, sidewalks, dams, ditches, foundations, and other structures.

*Information is based on a survey of conservation districts across the state.

**Gave away about 500 survey books

STATUS OF MONTANA SOIL SURVEYS OF MAINLY PRIVATE LANDS
REMAINING TO BE MAPPED AS OF 9/30/85

	Acres in Survey Area	Acres Mapped as of 9/30/85
604 Beaverhead County Area	1,163,640	-0-
660 Carter County Area	2,120,320	1,060,160
657 Choteau-Conrad Area--parts of Teton and Pondera Counties	2,015,723	1,458,723
615 Chouteau County Area	2,526,082	1,196,082
017 Custer County	2,409,600	545,170
668 Fallon County Area	1,045,120	594,760
618 Flathead County Area and part of Lincoln County	241,600	-0-
622 Gallatin County Area	883,708	-0-
033 Garfield County	2,940,800	-0-
666 Golden Valley County Area	722,530	-0-
041 Hill County	1,872,640	-0-
627 Jefferson County Area and part of Silver Bow County	612,520	-0-
630 Lewis and Clark County Area	1,288,258	1,097,488
665 Liberty County Area	926,048	-0-
637 Meagher County Area	1,067,070	-0-
667 Musselshell County Area	1,207,040	37,000
669 Park County Area and part of Gallatin County	780,910	12,000
620 Petroleum County	1,056,000	395,000
641 Phillips County Area	3,230,472	-0-
651 Sanders County Area and parts of Flathead and Lincoln Counties	882,415	-0-
670 Silver Bow County Area and parts of Jefferson and Beaverhead Counties	304,480	-0-
639 Sweet Grass County Area	774,317	-0-
650 Toole County	1,245,383	-0-
644 Upper Clark Fork River Area-- parts of Powell, Granite, and Deer Lodge Counties	1,571,718	982,388
624 Wheatland County Area	845,890	-0-

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
AND CONSERVATION

TED SCHWINDEN, GOVERNOR

1520 EAST SIXTH AVENUE



STATE OF MONTANA

DIRECTOR'S OFFICE (406) 444-6699

HELENA, MONTANA 59620

RRD #17

EX-107
1/26/97
10

Mr. Chairman, members of the committee for the record, my name is Ray Beck. I am the administrator of the Conservation Districts Division of DNRC.

This application is for purchasing two Geodimeters. A Geodimeter is a computerized surveying instrument that uses infrared light to make readings rather than the visual readings used in conventional surveying transit. Field readings are collected in automatic data recorder called a Geodat.

The Geodimeter can cut up to 75 percent from the time needed for field data gathering and up to 90 percent can be saved in the time required for computation, mapping, or drawing cross sections. The data in the Geodat is entered into a computer which makes all the computations, plot maps cross sections, or prints all the coordinates. A project requiring two and a half weeks of drafting time would take about 14 minutes using data gathered in the field with the electronic surveying system.

The system will be used in the surveying and design of all conservation projects in which the SCS and conservation districts become involved with.

With the 1985 Food Security Act requiring that anyone farming marginal lands must have a conservation plan by 1990, time saving tools such as the Geodimeter are essential. The work load being placed on conservation districts is enormous, since only about 25 to 50 percent of the farmers in Montana have any type of conservation plan.

The funding recommendation is for half of what we requested. This would allow for the purchase of one Geodimeter, which will certainly help. This will leave an area without one at the present time. If funding becomes available for the second one, it would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you.

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
AND CONSERVATION



TED SCHWINDEN, GOVERNOR

1520 EAST SIXTH AVENUE

1/26/89
STATE OF MONTANA

DIRECTOR'S OFFICE (406) 444-6699

HELENA, MONTANA 59620

KRD # 19

Mr. Chairman, members of the committee for the record, my name is Ray Beck. I am the administrator of the Conservation Districts Division of DNRC.

Currently, Montana has a total of 14,500 acres of cropland eroding at a very high rate. These soils, depending on location, soil type, and land classification, have a potential to erode at a rate greater than 10 tons per acre. (1) With proper conservation tillage practices, these rates can be reduced to less than 1 ton per acre of soil lost. (2) Studies have shown that conservation tillage not only saves soil from the effects of wind and water erosion, but also can lead to lower input cost, and higher land values.

This grant, if funded, will be used to help the districts purchase a conservation tillage drill only. The Conservation Districts Division will require each successful grant applicant to provide sources such as operation and maintenance, promotion, insurance, and public meetings on training seminars.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ray Beck".

January 26 1987

EXHIBIT 9

DATE 1/26/87

HB _____

Testimony
Before the Long-Range Planning Subcommittee
Regarding the request by the Department of State Lands
For a RRD Grant to conduct Reforestation and Thinning
on State Forest Lands

The Department of State Lands has requested a grant from the Renewable Resource Development Program for two projects, reforestation of approximately 388 acres following harvest and thinning of approximately 965 acres of dense forest stands.

The proposed reforestation projects are intended to rapidly establish trees following harvest on six different parcels of State forest. Without treatment, these forest stands would be established through natural seeding over a period of up to 7 or 8 years. Within a couple of years after harvest, other vegetation such as grasses and brush begin to compete with tree seedlings for growing space. This reduces both the chance for additional seedling establishment and the growth of seedlings already established. The result is future loss of both trust revenue and a source of timber supply for the Montana economy. Artificial reforestation, as proposed, rapidly establishes seedlings following harvest, reduces the amount of time the harvested area is without a growing forest and increases the ability of the seedlings to compete with the surrounding vegetation. Seedlings would be grown in the State nursery and would be planted using contracted planting crews.

The purpose of the proposed thinning projects is to reduce the amount of trees in young forest stands and provide more room for the remaining trees to grow. This increases their growth and improves their vigor and health. The proposed thinning will result in larger trees with a higher future value to the trust, reduce the potential for losses due to major insect and disease outbreaks and increase the future supply of available timber in Montana. If these projects are not funded, thinning will have to be postponed until the forest has grown enough to allow the removal of commercial products to offset the cost of thinning and many of the benefits of thinning will not be realized. The thinning projects would be conducted by contracting with local woods crews.

Studies on similar areas and under similar conditions have demonstrated that reforestation and thinning are capable of producing long term economic returns that are consistent with good business practice. In addition, the proposed projects would have the benefit of employing local thinning and planting crews and directly enhancing the health and vigor of Montanas' forest resource.

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
AND CONSERVATION

DATE 11/26/87
HB



TED SCHWINDEN, GOVERNOR

1520 EAST SIXTH AVENUE

STATE OF MONTANA

DIRECTOR'S OFFICE (406) 444-6699

HELENA, MONTANA 59620

RRD - Water Reservations #2

Mr. Chairman, members of the committee for the record, my name is Ray Beck. I am the administrator of the Conservation Districts Division of DNRC.

This grant request is for the earmarked conservation districts water reservation funds.

Conservation districts (CDs) in the Yellowstone River basin, among other eligible reservants, were granted the right to put reserved water to beneficial use by the Board of Natural Resources and Conservation. These CDs were given a priority date of 1978, and have made significant progress towards developing their water reservations.

The 1985 Water Marketing Bill established a similar water reservation application process for the Missouri River basin. The Upper Missouri CDs are currently in the process of preparing their applications for the near future.

Applications for financial assistance from the CDs for either preparing water reservation applications, or implementing existing reservations will be received by the CDD, reviewed in cooperation with the DNRC Water Development Bureau, and approved by the director of DNRC.

Water reservation applications are also being prepared by qualified public entities in the Clark Fork basin of Western Montana. Two conservation districts, Granite and Mile High (Butte), are working on applications and on water resource surveys of the district. This information will be used to determine the feasibility of applying for reserved water in the Upper Clark Fork basin.

Recently three conservation districts in southeast Montana have expressed an interest in beginning a water reservation process on the Little Missouri. By definition, the Little Missouri is not included in the current Missouri basin water reservation proceeding. A logical funding source would be the earmarked funds from RRD.

These funds have played an important part in the water reservation process in the past. It is projected that there will be an even greater need for the funds in the future if the reservation process is to be completed.

Thank you.

VISITOR'S REGISTER

LONG RANGE PLANNING

SUBCOMMITTEE

AGENCY(S) _____

DATE JANUARY 26, 1987

DEPARTMENT _____

NAME	REPRESENTING	SUP- PORT	OP- POSE
Dan Hlybner	Hill County Conservation District	X	
Barry Dutton	Missoula County Cons. Dist.	X	
JEFF JANALICK	Department of State Lands	*	
Debi Brammer	MT ASSN Conservation Dist	X	
Dale Marper	" " " "	X	
Alyce Kuehn	Carter County Conserv. Dist	X	
Mrs MANNING	ANACONDA-DEER LODGE Co.	X	
Mary J. Deacon	MT Assn of Conservation Dist	X	
Bob Andreozzi	Headwaters Resource Conservation & Development Forester & Dept. of St. Lands	X	
Peter V Jackson	" " " "	✓	
Lynn Owens	Madison Co Conservation ^{District}	✓	
JOE GECHO	MADISON C. D.	✓	
ELMER VISSER	MADISON Co ^{District} Conservation	✓	

IF YOU CARE TO WRITE COMMENTS, ASK SECRETARY FOR WITNESS STATEMENT.
 IF YOU HAVE WRITTEN COMMENTS, PLEASE GIVE A COPY TO THE SECRETARY.