

AgroClimate Workshop for Agricultural & Forestry Professionals and Partners

March 14 & 15, 2023

**DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel
Grand Ballroom
27 North 27th Street
Billings, MT 59101**

Goal & Objectives

Goal. Increase working lands’ resilience to extreme events and a changing climate by building a community of agricultural professionals and partners that can help to implement climate informed conservation practices.

Objective 1. Increase the knowledge and confidence of participants to enable more effective use and communication of weather and climate resources.

Objective 2. Build community among participants to assist one another as they continue learning to use weather and climate resources.

Objective 3. Strengthen participants’ awareness and knowledge of NRCS conservation practices that could reduce climate-related risks in agriculture.

Day 1	Tuesday, March 14, 2023
9:00 - 9:30 am	Welcome and Event Kickoff Tom Watson, USDA NRCS Dannele Peck, USDA Northern Plains Climate Hub
9:30 - 10:15 am	Observed Trends and Climate Outlooks for Montana Kyle Bocinsky, Montana Climate Office
10:15 - 10:30 am	Break
10:30 - 11:30 am	Observed Impacts and Opportunities on Working Lands <i>Facilitated by Hayes Goosey, MSU Extension Forage Specialist, with invited guests:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Leon LaSalle, Intertribal Agriculture Council Delegate ● Kim Davis, USDA Forest Service ● Kent McVay, MSU Agricultural Experiment Station
11:30 - 12:00 pm	Small Group Dialogue – Scenario planning

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12:00 - 1:00 pm	Lunch and Networking
1:00 - 2:00 pm	Climate Science Communication 101 Kristin Timm, University of Alaska Fairbanks, International Arctic Research Center
2:00 - 3:00 pm	Exploring Climate Perspectives from the Field – Is climate a four-letter word? Invited guests will discuss how extreme events and climate are affecting agriculture in their area, management and planning, and if/how producers are talking about these topics. <i>Facilitated by Hailey Wilmer, USDA ARS, with invited guests:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Vicki Hebb, Native Climate Project ● Pam Linker, USDA NRCS ● Lee Schmelzer, MSU Extension
3:00 - 3:15 pm	Break
3:15 - 4:15 pm	Small Group Dialogue – Communicating about climate on the ground , Organized and facilitated by Kristin Timm
4:15 - 4:45 pm	Social Science of Conservation and Climate in Agriculture Sarah Church, MSU Department of Earth Sciences
4:45 - 5:00 pm	Closing Remarks and Preview of Day 2 Windy Kelley, USDA NPCH
5:45 - 7:30 pm Social w/Light Appetizers: Hooligan’s Sports Bar; 109 N 28th St	



Day 2	Wednesday, March 15, 2023
8:00 - 8:15 am	Networking, Coffee, and Settle-in
8:15 - 8:45 am	Welcome Back – Centering community partnerships Joel Schumacher, MSU Extension ANR Program Leader Craig Harry, Intertribal Agriculture Council

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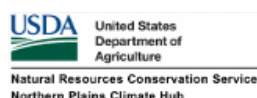
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8:45 - 9:45 am	<p>Adaptation Options in Action – Field and science insights</p> <p><i>Facilitated by Dannele Peck, USDA NPCH, with invited speakers:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● How are we keeping the ground covered? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mitch & Jenny Auer, Farmers & Susan Tallman, USDA NRCS ● Rangeland Livestock: tools for a future climate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Leo Barthelmess, Rancher & Sam Wyffels, MSU Extension Beef Cattle Specialist ● Managing Fine Fuels: prairies to mountains <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Chris Schachtschneider, Lightning S Livestock Solutions
9:45 - 10:00 am	Break
10:00 - 11:00 am	<p>Relevant Weather and Climate Resources</p> <p><i>Facilitated by Windy Kelley, USDA NPCH, with invited speakers:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ReGEN Mapper: postfire prediction and prioritizing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Kim Davis, USDA Forest Service ● Rangeland Forecasts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Dannele Peck & Julie Elliott (retired), NPCH ● Cold Weather Advisory for Newborn Livestock <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Joe Lester, NOAA NWS Billings ● ENSO in MT and Seasonal Outlooks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Joe Lester, NOAA NWS Billings ● Drought Assessment in MT: some new tools <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Michael Downey, MT DNRC
11:00 - 11:45 am	Small Group Dialogue – Putting tools to work
11:45 - 12:45 pm	Lunch and Networking
12:45 - 1:45 pm	<p>On the Ground – Collaborations in action</p> <p><i>Facilitated by Alex Dado, USDA NRCS, with invited speakers:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Tribal hazard planning using climate projections <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Kyle Bocinsky, MT Climate Office ● Forest thinning partnerships and checkerboard <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Andy Miller, MT DNRC ● Integrated cropping and livestock systems <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Marni Thompson, USDA NRCS

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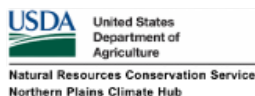
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1:45 - 2:30 pm	Small Group Dialogue – Growing the crop, where do we go from here?
2:30 - 3:00 pm	<p>Opportunities for Action with USDA NRCS – Empowering partnerships for climate resilience</p> <p><i>Facilitated by Michael Robotham, USDA NRCS, with:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Luis Tupas, USDA NRCS ● Tom Watson, USDA NRCS Montana
3:00 - 3:30 pm	<p>Closing Remarks and Safe Travels Dannele Peck and Windy Kelley, USDA NPCH</p> <p><i>On behalf of the Steering Committee:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Alex Dado, USDA NRCS ● Susan Tallman, USDA NRCS ● Julie Elliott, USDA NRCS (retired) ● Hayes Goosey, MSU Extension ● Zane Not Afraid, Intertribal Agriculture Council ● Craig Harry, Intertribal Agriculture Council ● Rebecca Boslough-King, MACD

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