



# THE DIRT

*The Dirt is intended to provide a monthly summary of recent activities and inform you of upcoming events and important information. We have other mailing lists that target specific land uses or topics and communications are sent throughout the year. If you are interested in receiving additional information from ACCD, please contact us at [info@asotincd.org](mailto:info@asotincd.org) or 509-552-8117.*

## ❖ NEW EMPLOYEES – CREW MEMBERS

We are excited to have formed our very own Restoration Crew. The Crew Members are responsible for the implementation of restoration projects, including tree/shrub/grass plantings and maintenance, low tech process-based instream restoration and adaptive management, forestry, weed control, and non-commercial best management practices.

- My name is Lorena Teegan Tucker. I am originally from Lapwai, Idaho and recently returned to the area from working in Yosemite National Park as a full time Forest Restoration worker with the National Park Service. I was trained as a full-time sawyer, along with receiving an arduous red card and providing support in prescription and pile burning throughout the off season. Before that, I received my first opportunity in restoration work in Yosemite as well with the Great Basin Institute that partnered with AmeriCorps and the National Park Service as a restoration crew member. I graduated from Lapwai High School and currently attend Walla Walla Community College. I am very passionate about restoration work, and I look forward to joining the Asotin County Conservation District team as a new Restoration Crew Member.

\*In this picture I am standing next to the recently measured and documented biggest sugar pine in the world. I was tasked with preparing this tree for fire danger, in hopes to ensure longevity and protect it from severe burn damage.





- My name is Carson Sanders. I am from Lewiston, Idaho and attended Clarkston High School where I graduated in 2024. I have lived in the Valley my whole life, where I am an avid fisherman and hunter and have been since I was very young. I've spent most of my career doing trades such as construction and HVAC. No matter what I am doing I would like to be the hardest worker on site, this is something I have picked up from my father and working trade jobs. I live to be outside whether I am fishing hunting, backpacking, riding my motorcycle or kayaking. I have tons of experience doing mechanical work because of my '70s Jeep pickup, which breaks down about once a week, so I am tasked with solving problems and fixing things very often.

- Amanda Schmidt, who already has been with the District for over eight years, has also transitioned to a crew member role. She had previously been the ACCD riparian specialist. Amanda is excited to have the opportunity to get her hands dirty implementing the projects.



#### ❖ **NOXIOUS WEED CONTROL COST-SHARE PROGRAM 2025**

Cost-share is available for all class B and C noxious weed treatment. Acres enrolled in CRP, CREP and CCRP or acres in a cropping rotation are not eligible for the program. (Please submit your applications soon, available cost-share funds are limited this year.)

The following are two options available:  
(landowners may only participate in one of the options)

Ground application will be 50% cost-share not to exceed a payment of \$25 per acre with a cap of \$500 per landowner. Landowners may do the work themselves or hire a contractor to do the spraying. (See the ACCD Contractor's List for licensed contractors in the area, other licensed contractors may be used as well.)

Aerial applications will be 50% cost-share not to exceed a payment of \$25 per acre with a cap of \$500 per landowner.

Please contact Kodie Wight at (509) 552-8119 [kodie@asotin.cd.org](mailto:kodie@asotin.cd.org) for more information.

#### ❖ **EQUIPMENT RENTAL**

Even though the mornings are now snowy, it is the perfect time to plan for spring chores. Whether your project is big or small, ACCD has the right size equipment available to rent! The goal is to assist livestock producers with manure management projects.

- Large-scale manure trowel
- Large-scale manure spreader
- Small-scale manure spreader

To learn more about our equipment, rental program, and to schedule spring manure spreading, contact ACCD at (509) 552-8117 or [info@asotin.cd.org](mailto:info@asotin.cd.org)

## ❖ ANNUAL MEETING

The District's annual meeting was a great success! We had a large attendance made up of cooperators/landowners, agency partners, county commissioners, and staff. Program updates were given by NRCS, FSA and ACCD. Afterwards everyone engaged in social conversations over a delicious dinner catered by Gram's Kitchen.

Special thank you to the sponsors that helped make our event extraordinary!

- Ag Pro Manufacturing and Marketing
- Alpha Services
- GeoEngineers
- Casey & Gail Hagenah
- River to Ridge Fence
- Roosters Waterfront Restaurant
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- Wilson Banner Ranch



## ❖ NOXIOUS WEED SPOTLIGHT

Bull thistle is a class C biennial herbaceous plant with one upright branched stem. It has a shallow taproot and grows as a rosette in the first year. In the second year, it grows up to five feet tall with sharp spines on stem and leaf edges. Dark green alternate, coarsely lobed leaves are wooly on the underside and have stiff hair on the upper surface. Flowers are pink to purple and bloom from July through September. Bull thistle reproduces only by seed. The seeds are dandelion-like pappus that disperse by wind.



Bull thistle is common throughout Asotin County and typically grows in pastures, roadsides, and disturbed areas. Small populations can be dug out before they seed. Biological control agents are available for long-term control of established populations. Use a selective broadleaf herbicide for areas with grass. Dicamba, triclopyr, aminopyralid or 2,4-D work best applied in spring before stem elongate and in the fall to control rosettes. Clopyralid can be applied up to bud stage. Always read and follow the herbicide label instructions. If you have any questions, please contact Kodie Wight at (509) 552-8119 or [kodie@asotincd.org](mailto:kodie@asotincd.org).

## ❖ TREE & SHRUB SALE

Were you unable to stop by our tree and shrub sale last week?

You're in luck! We still have some species available to purchase for an exceptional deal. For this week only (March 24-28) all remaining species are buy one, get one for free!

- American Plum
- Amur Maple
- Chokecherry
- Douglas Fir
- Golden Currant
- Mock Orange
- Nanking Cherry
- Oceanspray
- Ponderosa Pine
- Serviceberry
- Tall Oregon Grape
- Western Sand Cherry

## FUN FACT

The first spring flowers are typically lilacs, irises, lilies, tulips, daffodils, and dandelions.

## UPCOMING DATES

- **ACCD Board Meeting: April 10<sup>th</sup> at 6pm**
- **ACNWCB Board Meeting: April 15<sup>th</sup> at 6pm**