

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
STATE OF MONTANA

STEVE BULLOCK  
GOVERNOR



MIKE COONEY  
LT. GOVERNOR

August 28, 2020

The Honorable Corey Stapleton  
Secretary of State  
State Capitol  
Helena, MT 59620

Dear Secretary of State Stapleton:

The following Advisory Council is renewed and submitted according to Montana Code Annotated 2-15-122 guiding the creation of Advisory Councils by Agency Directors.

**Council's Name and Agency**

Resource Conservation Advisory Council, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation

**Council's Composition**

The composition of the Council shall be seven (7) members with one (1) from western Montana, one (1) from south central Montana, one (1) from northwestern Montana, two (2) from eastern Montana and two (2) from north central Montana.

**Appointed Members with name and address**

Mr. Doug Bonsell, Eastern Montana  
PO Box 53  
Ekalaka, MT 59234

Mr. Bob Breipohl, Eastern Montana  
PO Box 313  
Saco, MT 59261

Ms. Kathleen Johnson  
PO Box 343  
Fortine, MT 59918

Ms. Judi Knapp, South Central Montana  
PO Box 8  
Hysham, MT 59803

Mr. O. Ramsey Offerdal, North Central Montana  
14483 Midway Road East  
Conrad, MT 59425

Mr. Robert Schroeder, Western Montana  
21545 Lower Woodchuck Road  
Florence, MT 59833

Ms. Gayla Wortman, North Central Montana  
341 Klock Road  
Cascade, MT 59421

### **Council's Purpose**

1. Advise and assist the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation on all programs and advise activities relating to conservation entities, including programs and activities relating to the:
  - a. Formation, organization, and operation of districts;
  - b. Control and prevention of soil erosion;
  - c. Conservation, development, utilization and disposal of all water resources;
  - d. Prevention of floodwater and sediment damage
  - e. Conservation, protection, restoration, and proper utilization of soil and vegetative resources of the state; and
  - f. Cooperation with other state, federal, and local agencies and citizens groups, in land uses related to natural resources and the environment.
2. Advise and assist the Department in approving applications for assistance under PL 566 (Watershed Act) prior to submission to the Department.
3. Recommend changes, if necessary, in existing state or federal laws or regulations to protect and conserve soil, vegetation, and water resources of the state.
4. Provide a liaison between the Department, conservation districts, grazing districts, the Montana Association of Conservation Districts, and the Montana Association of State Grazing Districts.
5. Advise and assist the Department in reviewing grant guidelines and applications to qualify conservation districts under the conservation district grant program.
6. Serve as Soil Survey Advisory Committee in accordance with Section 2-15-3306. The director of the Department shall serve as chair when the Council serves in this capacity.
7. Advise on other issues as deemed necessary by the Council or as requested by the Department.

**Council's Term of Existence**

The council is effective as of July 1, 2020 and will expire or be renewed by July 1, 2022.

If you need additional information, please call Stacey Otterstrom, Boards and Appointments Advisor at (406) 444-4405.

Sincerely,



STEVE BULLOCK  
Governor

CC: Ms. Celia Senrud, Secretary of State  
Director John Tubbs, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation