

Conservation Report Given; Annual Meeting Tuesday

CONSERVATION: WHAT DOES IT MEAN?
—AND WHOM DOES IT CONCERN?

When we see the words Soil Conservation Service our first thought is that someone is working to save the soil. This is true but it is really more than that. The work of any conservation district is the saving of all natural resources in the district. That work includes soil, water, range, watersheds, dams, parks, recreation areas, beautification, pollution, flood control, irrigation and anything else that might be done to save and improve the land we have that it might produce more food for our ever increasing population. It should be of the utmost concern to every person living on this earth.

In Morrow county the work runs more to conserving soil and water and to land leveling but all the others mentioned can be worked in if the need arises. We know the land in Morrow county has only been farmed for about one hundred years, and we know that with the same type farming and at the rate it is eroding, there will be many an acre that will not have enough top soil left to last another decade unless we seriously consider and practice some type of erosion control. Whenever we have severe water erosion storms it is not only a cost to the landowner but a cost to every taxpayer in the district. They wash down over the crop and pasture lands, and collect on the lowlands destroying bridges and roads in their path. Then the county and state road crews have to spend much time and money restoring these facilities.

The Soil Conservation Service and most of the land owners are now adopting more methods to help them control such damage and are using such practices as diversion ditches, strip cropping, sod waterways, stubble mulch and grass seedings. Statistics show that Morrow county has more strip cropping than all of the rest of the state put together; one third of the diversion ditches in the state and one half of the stubble mulch tillage. Last year the Conservation Service surveyed over fifty-one miles of diversion ditches in Morrow county.

Most of us can remember a few years ago when the big problem in the northern end of our county was wind erosion and sand blows. The farmers

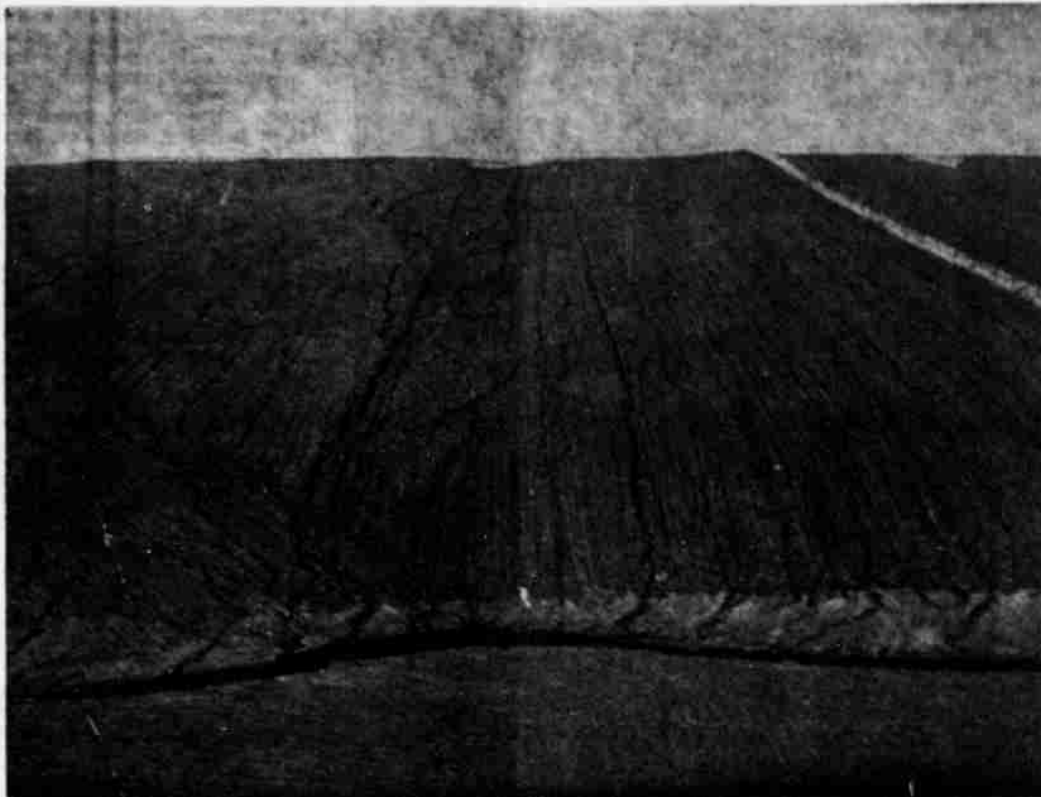
living in that section adopted stubble mulching and strip cropping practices which have greatly helped to solve their problems and have made this land easier and more profitable to farm. These things have been done with the help of the Conservation Service.

Each year the Oregon Wheat Growers League and the Conservation Service give a trophy award to the winner of the Conservation Man of the Year in each county in the Columbia Basin and a special award to the state winner. These winners do not do this conservation work to win honor for themselves. They do it because they know that they are stewards of a natural resource that has been given into their keeping to be used during their time on this earth and preserved to the best of their ability so that future generations may have the same heritage.

A good project in this county would be for all land owners and operators in large watershed or drainage areas to form a group and work together toward conserving this area. A technician would be available to help them map out their work. This is something to think and study about. The Soil Conservation districts are not here to tell anyone what he MUST do, but to advise and assist him with the job he wants done. The district does a good many things to put conservation thought in the schools so young people growing up can be aware of the tremendous responsibility and heritage that is theirs in future years. In this district there is a speech contest in the high schools on a conservation subject, a grade school tour to see and discuss the problems and answers of erosion, a forestry and soils tour for the sixth grades, a soil judging contest for the FFA students. This past summer a film was made of conservation work in Morrow county. The most of this film was taken from the air and has been shown on television. This film will be shown at the annual meeting and later will be available to schools and other organizations who want to use it.

Only some of the problems confronting Morrow county have been discussed here but they can well apply to every county in the state and nation.

Here's What Erosion Can Do to Your Farm



THIS PICTURE, taken on a ranch near Dufur several years ago, shows what damage soil erosion can do if left unchecked. Good conservation practices can keep such erosion to a minimum.

Morrow Farmers Sustain Interest In Conservation

The farmers of Morrow county have always been aware of their erosion problems. This was shown by their interest in getting a CCC Camp stationed here at Heppner. When it became apparent they were losing the camp they began organization for a Soil Conservation District which had just become possible by the passing of the State Enabling Act.

They have continued their interest in conserving their natural resources as shown by having in the Heppner District: One half of all the stubble mulch fallow in the state, two thirds of all the contour strip cropping and a third of all the diversion ditches in the state.

It was only natural when the Soil Conservation Service State Office was asked to furnish conservation practices for a TV film that the cameras came to this District for their pictures. While this speaks highly of the farmers of this District, it is by no means a reason, but only a way of showing the progressive-ness of the farmers. It proves the continuing love of the people here for their farms, their homes and their children. They try to follow the objective set by the late H. H. Bennett, Founder of the Soil Conservation Service, "Treat every acre according to its needs".

The following supervisors are the governing board of the Heppner District: Raymond French, Chairman; Kenneth Turner, Vice Chairman; W. C. Rosewall, Treasurer; Vernon Munkers, Supervisor; Roger Palmer; Supervisor; Gene Winters, Secretary; Ralph Richards, Work Unit Conservationist.

Strip Cropping Protects Your Soil



THIS AERIAL view of a portion of the Heppner Soil and Water Conservation district shows the fine job of strip cropping done in the district. Morrow county leads the state in strip cropping.

Annual Report Shows 333 Cooperators

Heppner District has 333 cooperators which includes 793,356 acres. 17 new cooperators signed district agreement sheets covering 33,281 acres. 12 basic conservation plans were written on 10,816 acres. 7231 acres soil surveyed this year bring the total surveyed to 912,482 acres. 860 acres of contour strip cropping, 173 acres of field strips and 336 acres of wind strip cropping total in the district 24,138 acres of strips. 272,110 linear feet of diversion ditches (51 1/2 miles), making a total of 208 miles. 258.5 acres of land leveling bring the total to 4,856 acres leveled to date. Completed 28,823 linear feet of channel improvement and 2,450 linear feet of dikes for flood protection. 15,450 linear feet of irrigation ditch and 23 irrigation structures installed. Five were large irrigation diversions. We assisted 20 farmers for 1609 acres of grass and grass-legume seedings. One-half the stubble mulch fallow—2/3 of all contour strips—and 1/3 of all the diversion in the state are here in the Heppner District.

Program

TWENTY-THIRD
ANNUAL MEETING
HEPPNER SOIL AND WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Tuesday—February 7, 1967
7:30 P.M.—Lexington Grange Hall

Film on "Conservation of Soil", Filmed
in our own District

Business Meeting
Minutes of 1966 Annual Meeting
Financial Report
Annual Report

Introduction of Guests

Speech—Donel J. Lane, Administrative
Officer of Water Resources Board,
Columbia River Water

Refreshments—Compliments of
Central Market
Lexington Implement Company

Heppner District Lists Objectives for 1967

Encourage continuation of strip-cropping, stubble mulch fallow, diversion ditches, grass-legume rotations and other needed conservation practices.

Continue to maintain and operate conservation equipment now owned for use by District cooperators.

Bring to attention of all people the importance of conservation of our natural resources and its effect on their economics.

Continue to encourage and cooperate with Oregon Wheat League in selecting the Conservation Man of the Year.

Affiliate with and be represented at the State and National Conservation Associations.

Carry out a well-rounded Conservation program through participation in Goodyear Conservation Award Contest.

Continue to sponsor activities to better acquaint Youth with conservation of our natural resources—Conservation speech contest—Trophies by Morrow County Grain Growers, Soil workshop and judging contest—Prizes by Inland Chemical Company and provide scholarships for boys to attend Conservation Range Camp.

Encourage observance of Soil Stewardship Week with every Church in the District.

MANY ACTIVITIES MARK YEAR 1966

1. Held ten regular monthly meetings—one special meeting. Meeting held the first Tuesday of each month, except August.
2. One annual meeting—held on regular meeting date in February. Annual report circulated through local paper.
3. Conservation week—Educational meetings and tours.
4. Observe Soil Stewardship Week—"Crisis in the Countryside".
5. Adult Conservation Tour—Lunch at Conservation Man of Year's Farm, Mr. and Mrs. Bill McKinlock.
6. Co-sponsored—Application for Resource Conservation and Development Project; Development of Columbia Plateau Resource Council; Small Watershed (PL-566) Project on Buttercreek.
7. Continued the push for a study made of Rhea Creek Small Watershed project.
8. School sixth grade Forestry-Soils Tour—Nine Schools from four counties attending.
9. Sponsored a boy to the Conservation Range Youth Camp.
10. Sponsored soil, workshop and judging contest—Received high individual in State Contest.
11. Sponsored the Soil and Water Conservation Speech Contest—Fourth in State out of 1500 contestants.
12. Host for the area supervisors workshop.
13. Attendance and committee chairman at OASWCD Annual Meeting.
14. Co-sponsored Farm-City Week and annual banquet.
15. Recognition and award to Morrow County Conservation Man of the Year.
16. Own and rent equipment to district cooperators. 114 cooperators used district equipment and staker.
17. Contested in the Goodyear award program.

ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 1966	
Bank balance January 4, 1966	\$1,652.38
Received from cooperators on account	\$892.77
Donations	60.00
Subsidies	72.00
Bank deposits during 1966	1,024.77
Total bank balance including 1966 deposits	\$2,677.15
Disbursements during 1966	
Office supplies	\$ 5.42
Dues and memberships	150.00
Audit report	5.00
Stakes purchased	247.50
Awards	35.00
Machinery repairs	11.00
Advertising	115.35
Bonds and insurance	45.00
County-City banquet	48.54
Annual Meeting	15.00
Stewardship material	10.75
Postage material	49.00
Range camp scholarship	30.00
Traveling expense	140.00
Paid by checks	907.56
Bank balance January 3, 1967	\$1,769.59
Value of equipment	1,164.84
Total cash and equipment assets as of January 3, 1967	\$2,934.43

Soil Conservation Methods Can Stop This Enemy

THIS CONSERVATION PAGE
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ING—ALL KEENLY INTEREST-
ED IN CONSERVATION:

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Morrow County

GRAIN GROWERS, Inc.



WE URGE YOUR SUPPORT OF
GOOD CONSERVATION PRAC-
TICES TO PRESEVRE OUR RE-
SOURCES.

PADBERG MACHINERY Co.

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Heppner District

SOIL CONSERVATION
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