

Custer County Weed Update 2-3-2016

Grants/ splits/ budget

The Grant reports were submitted and the money's have been received.

Grant writing and reporting are looking a lot different in 2016. Cecily Mui from the CDA spoke to our Upper Ark group about how we are writing our grants and each county is going to get a more specific and detailed grant proposal. I spoke to Cecily about Custer County and she gave me great ideas on how to move forward on our projects. She even said that I could hire someone to do the mapping through the grant! This has been a challenge for me, but now I can get some help. The grants were due on January 11th (there are 5 counties that participate in the grant).

Goat project – I spoke to Lani Malberg (aka – the goat lady) and she sent me an estimate on the Leafy spurge project at Sierra Mojada. It is a very unreasonable cost. I asked about her coming to talk to our community about her business, but again she wants to charge \$2500 just to speak. I did put livestock in the grants, I think we could check into local people to do this.

Leafy Spurge project – As you know, Larry Walker with Chaffee County was able to get out and spray the VB property. I went out a few weeks after it was sprayed and it looks good. There is more work to be done, but that will come. Now that we have the nucleus being managed, we should see better results in future seasons. We do need to decide what the cost share will be for the VB's and for Sierra Mojada, but I would like to discuss this in person.

CWSA – Colorado Weed Supervisor's Association meeting was at the end of October. I was impressed with the conversations that were had with about 14 other weed supervisors around the state. We talked about the noxious weed act and law compliance in other counties. The answers ranged from "we do nothing" to "we turn them over to the county attorney and collections". I will elaborate more in our next meeting.