

**Natural Resources Conservation Service
Written Report To
Papio-Missouri River NRD Board
Thursday August 11, 2022
Andy Bohnenkamp, District Conservationist**

My report is abbreviated this month as I am leaving on a much-needed vacation to do some fishing and relaxing with family in Minnesota this week. I plan to be back next week, unless the fishing is really good or the weather is too nice!

NRCS Activities

We are officially back into our training season where many of our in-person field days and workshops are being held throughout the state. Many of the local NRCS staff have been attending prescribed grazing workshops in the last few weeks, as well as some cover crop field days, prescribed burning training. Typically this time of the year we have made it past program deadlines and we are in-between harvest and field work, so it's a time for NRCS employees and partners alike to sharpen their knowledge, skills and abilities attending various program, administrative and technical workshops.

NRCS staff are also busy balancing training with planning duties to get ready for the upcoming program sign-ups and fall field work. Promoting conservation and programs to our customers is essential to the success of our mission and the planning process is a big part of that so although this time of year can be slow it's also quite important.

Staffing Update

We have made a tentative job offer for our Soil Conservation Technician position in the Tekamah Field Office to Ben Anderson of Onawa Iowa and he has accepted! Just a few minor hoops to jump through, administratively, to finalize the job offer and lock-in a start date for Ben! I'm very excited about this recent hire since it will fully staff the Tekamah Field Office for NRCS! We have not had a fully staffed Tekamah FO since sometime before the year 2000!

With the pending addition of Ben to Tekamah, my NRCS staff has grown from 5 to 11 FO employees in our 4 offices including myself. In addition to the local NRCS FO staff we also currently have 2 retired NRCS employees working as Federal Contractors to help with our workload and 4 members of the NRCS Wetland Compliance Team working in the Omaha and Blair Field offices who support a major portion of our compliance workload.

Have a great August!

Respectfully Submitted,
Andy Bohnenkamp - DC

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