

September 13, 2021

Stock Watering Pond Maintenance is Critical During Drought

The White River and Douglas Creek Conservation Districts (Districts) recognize the severe need for additional water for livestock and crops during this prolonged drought. Therefore, the Districts will utilize a \$15,000 drought assistance grant from the Colorado State Conservation Board to provide financial assistance to help landowners implement pond maintenance so they will hold water for the upcoming years.

The Districts are offering a \$500 stipend for each pond cleaned with a maximum of four ponds per landowner while funds last. The Districts are seeking additional grant funds to help more landowners with these types of projects.

The funds can be used to conduct pond maintenance on private or public land with appropriate approval. Requirements for funding include completion and approval of a simple two-page application and pictures of before and after maintenance.

Rio Blanco County landowners are encouraged to apply for funding before implementing a pond maintenance project to determine if there are funds available and they qualify. If a landowner has already conducted maintenance this year, they are still encouraged to contact the office to discuss the possibility of reimbursement.

Please contact the White River and Douglas Creek Conservation Districts at 970-878-9838 or at callie.districts@gmail.com.