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SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION FOR THE UPPER WIND RIVER COUNTRY

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In 1935, Congress passed a permanent Soil Conservation Act creating the Soil Conservation Service (SCS), which later became known as the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). To coordinate their efforts and set local priorities, USDA drafted a Standard State Soil Conservation District Law implementing local conservation districts, which are established as legal subdivisions of their state. Conservation Districts were formed for the specific purposes of:

- conservation of water resources
- flood protection
- stabilizing ranching and farming operations
- preserving natural resources
- protecting the tax base
- prevent impairment of dams, reservoirs, lakes, streams
- wildlife
- protect and promote the health, safety, and general welfare of the citizens of Wyoming

**DCCD Mission Statement:**

Advocate for the education, research, cooperative projects, protection, and conservation practices that promote the long term viability of the land, water, vegetation, wildlife, and air quality resources.

*Regular monthly board meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month at 12:00 noon at the District office on the second floor of the Dubois Town Hall. Visitors welcome.*



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**WATER QUALITY**

- continue to help monitor for harmful cyanobacteria
- offer cost share for clean water programs
- seek grant funding for watershed improvements when needed
- sponsor Emergency Watershed Projects (EWP)
- continue free well water test day
- provide water quality education to the public and schools
- write a new Sampling Analysis Plan for testing surface waters

**WATERSHED PLANNING**

- encourage the use of gated pipe, pivots, pipelines, and other efficient irrigation practices to: conserve water, achieve desired results based on voluntary, incentive-driven opportunities, and promote practices for erosion control

**IRRIGATION MANAGEMENT**

- offer and promote educational publications that address water stewardship
- provide irrigation system(s) technical support
- provide landowner consultations and support
- promote District's cost share programs to encourage best practices for irrigation and water conservation

**RANGE/SOIL MANAGEMENT**

- work with residents, public land management agencies, and cooperators to offer solutions to soil and range issues
- host county-wide soil health and range management workshops
- provide and promote educational publications that address land stewardship
- encourage soil testing and use of practices such as no till farming, cover crops, and livestock rotation to improve soil quality

**THE URBAN COMMUNITY**

- offer ideas and solutions to property owners as their resource needs develop
- review subdivisions as required
- work with Fremont County Planning Commission to address natural resource concerns
- educate property owners about the identification and control of noxious weeds
- support annual Weed Spray Day
- support annual Household Hazardous Waste Cleanup
- encourage beautification
- promote and enhance recycling efforts of chemicals and e-waste
- encourage the use of the community hoop house for local residents to grow and harvest fresh vegetables for personal use



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**TREE PROGRAM**

- promote the planting of trees and shrubs to: reduce wind, soil, and water erosion; reduce energy use; provide shelter for livestock and habitat for wildlife
- promote District cost share programs
- assist in public and community landscape projects
- provide education, materials, and workshops to landowners
- offer tree planting tips, native wildflower and grass seed

**FOOD SECURITY**

- educate and encourage residents to plant and grow their own food
- offer cost share programs for hoop houses, greenhouses, hydroponic, and aquaponic systems
- provide gardening workshops
- provide educational materials free to the public

**PUBLIC LAND POLICY/PROTOCOL**

- participate more as an active cooperators with the Shoshone National Forest operations and planning
- continue as an active participant with the BLM, WGFD, and WDEQ

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

- assist with expansion of the local Farmer's Market
- create and strengthen partnerships for economic development

**STUDENT EDUCATION SUPPORT**

- maintain a working outdoor classroom for student education
- offer classroom and field trip assistance for conservation education
- share equipment and expertise as requested
- partner in community natural resources education
- offer "Adopt a Rancher" program
- offer and assist with "World Water Monitoring Day"
- work with USFS to improve "Kids Fishing Day"



## **ADMINISTRATIVE PLAN**

### **July 2023**

- 4 Independence Day - Office Closed**
- 5 Water Quality lesson at k-12 school**
- 12 Budget Hearing followed by regular monthly Board meeting**
- 19 Water quality monitoring with DEQ at Brooks Lake**
- 21 Aquatic ecology trek recon with Dubois Museum**
- 24 Budget hearing ad sent to Dept of Audit, County Clerk, WDA, WACD**
- 29 DCCD/CWC greenhouse tour**
- 31 Approved 2023-24 budget sent to Dept of Audit, County Clerk, WDA WACD**  
**Quarterly Payroll report due**

### **August 2023**

- 7 Camp Bighorn**
- 9 Regular Board meeting**
- 10 Install Anabat boxes**
- 11 Medicinal plant walk**
- 15 WWNRT field trip in Dubois**
- 16 WWNRT business meeting in Dubois**
- 19 DCCD/CWC gardening class #5**
- 23 HCB testing with DEQ, WGFD, USFS**
- 24 Amended budget hearing**
- 25 Hydrology trip with USFS**
- 29 DCCD/Dubois Museum hike (aquatic macroinvertebrates)**

### **September 2023**

- 7 Site visit to Bitterroot Ranch (completed project)**
- 13 Regular Board meeting**
- 19 Area IV meeting in Saratoga**
- 25 Holly Kennedy and Triston Rice to Dubois for Convention recon**
- 30 Budget ad publication due**



## **ADMINISTRATIVE PLAN**

### **October 2023**

- 11 Regular Board meeting**
- 31 Department of Audit reports due - Proof of Cash, Local Government Annual Report, Summary  
Quarterly Payroll report due**

### **November 2023**

- 6 Fremont County Association of Governments meeting in Dubois**
- 8 Regular Board meeting**
- 14-16 WACD Annual Convention in Dubois**

### **December 2023**

- 9 Legislative meeting in Dubois**
- 13 Regular Board meeting**
- 25 Christmas Day - Office closed**
- 30 Final reports for State funding due to WDA and WACD**

### **January 2024**

- 1 New Year's Day - Office closed  
Application period open for local cost share program**
- 10 Regular Board meeting**
- 15 Martin Luther King Jr. Day - Office closed**
- \*\* Newsletter and tree order form mailed to District residents**
- \*\* Quarterly and Annual Payroll reports due**
- \*\* Annual sales tax due**
- \*\* Write new Sampling Analysis Plan**



## **ADMINISTRATIVE PLAN**

### **February 2024**

- 7-8 Farm and Ranch Days in Riverton**
- 14 Regular Board meeting**
- 19 President's Day - Office closed**
- \*\* Purchase water sampling gear**

### **March 2024**

- 13 Regular Board meeting**

### **April 2024**

- 10 Regular Board meeting**
- 14 Last day to order seedling trees**
- 26 Seedling trees available for pick up in Dubois**
- 30 Quarterly Payroll report due**
- \*\* Deadline for cost share**
- \*\* Prepare draft budget for Board review**

### **MAY 2024**

- 8 Regular Board meeting**
- 31 Proposed budget due to Department of Audit, County Clerk, and WDA**

### **June 2024**

- 11 Annual free well water test day**
- 12 Regular Board meeting**
- \*\* Begin water testing field season**