



**Who We Are**



**Chairman**  
Todd Hirsch  
*Rural*



**Vice Chairman**  
Reg Phillips  
*Urban*



**Secretary**  
Eric Thompson  
*At-Large*



**Treasurer**  
Ashlynn Eastman  
*Rural*



**Supervisor**  
Bob Finley  
*Rural*



**District Manager**  
Erin Hannelly



**NRCS**  
*Tribal Liaison*  
Jake Hogan



**Mission Statement**

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

**Meeting Dates**

*Regular monthly meetings are held at the DCCD in the Dubois Town Hall every second Wednesday of the month at 12:00 noon  
Everyone is welcome*



## **Year in Review**

**A quick year in review, a lot of things new  
Three fresh Board members  
Welcomed to the crew**

**Master Gardener inspired, much transpired  
We held local gardening classes  
With no fees required**

**Plant native seeds, control those weeds!  
Enjoy your new landscape  
With our seedling trees**

**Students tested the stream, water a gleam  
D.O., pH, turbidity  
What does it all mean?**

**They found quite the array of insects those days  
That prove our water is clean  
And we want to keep it that way**

**Appreciate a mayfly, a hawk in the sky  
The different trees in a forest  
And a beautiful sunrise**





**Continuing Education** *Food Security*



Erin completed the online Master Gardener series. She attended PACD's Garden Expo, the Wyoming Growers and Groundskeepers conference, and Havest Wyoming. These classes and symposiums teach gardening skills, soil health, tree care, and are a great way to meet folks from around the state. An eclectic group of people offer 600 year-old sourdough starters, handground einkorn flour, and kits to start your own backyard mushroom garden.

**Continuing Education** *2023 WCDEA Training (erosion, wildlife)*



The training took place in Pinedale and included several fieldtrips. We learned about small, yet effective erosion control structures such as the zuni bowls in the first photo. And we witnessed the devastating loss of soil when erosion goes unchecked. A rancher demonstrates how his virtual cattle fence works in hopes of eventually eliminating the ranch's interior fences to allow easier and safer passage for wildlife. This region of Wyoming has pioneered wildlife crossings, which minimize vehicle strikes. The underpass is just one of many safe crossings for pronghorn, mule deer, and elk to avoid busy highways.

**Continuing Education** *Fire Wise, Habitat Enhancement*



Fire Wise expert, Ron Wempen, and the WY State Forester, Brian Russel, visited with rural residents to explain how to identify dying conifers, the importance of their removal, and how to encourage the growth of aspen groves. Aspens provide excellent wildlife habitat and a natural fire break, but will be outcompeted by evergreen trees where no natural fire regime exists.

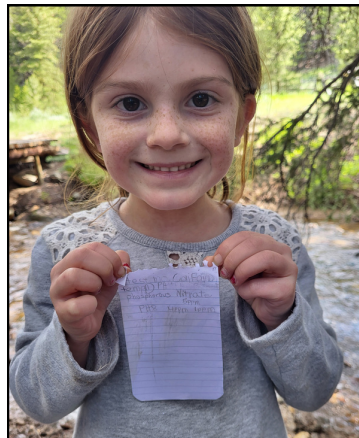


### Outreach and Education *Food Security*



DCCD partnered with CWC in Dubois to host a gardening series, “Gardening with Altitude. In April, guest speaker, Donna Hoffman (UW Extension), lectured on plant diseases and Dirk Gosnell, owner of Lakeview Gardens, demonstrated how to build container gardens. Our next trip was to Dirk’s business operation in Pavillion where we toured many of his greenhouses and learned the various techniques he has developed to be a successful year-round producer. In June, we supplied students with all the materials to make their own container gardens: empty livestock protein tubs, locally sourced soil from 307 Soil, and starter plants from Sprouts Greenhouse in Hudson. The series continued through September.

### Outreach and Education *Water Quality*



Using Earthworks water monitoring kits, Erin worked with students from the National Bighorn Sheep Center, Dubois k-12 school, and Dubois Museum to test pH, dissolved oxygen, nitrogen, phosphorus, and turbidity in nearby streams. Based on their findings, students hypothesized we would find sensitive macroinvertebrates that only occur in cold, clean water. They learned that these taxa are bioindicators of healthy water, though other critters like beetle larvae, fly larvae, and leeches are a natural part of the stream’s biodiversity.



### Outreach and Education *Wildlife*

DCCD hosted a fun night walk with Wyoming Department of Game and Fish and UW Extension at our local pond. Specialized acoustic equipment allowed us to identify the fluttering bats by their vocalizations. We found 5 species present.



### **Cost Share** *Well Water Test Day*



In June, DCCD offered its annual free well water test day. 26 coliform tests were paid for by the District. 7 people opted to pay for additional tests. This important program is utilized by many long-term residents, as well as people who have recently built a home and drilled a new well. The courier for the Town of Dubois delivers the samples to Energy Labs in Casper.

### **Cost Share** *Greenhouses and Bank Stabilization*



With inflated prices of goods and services, DCCD elected to increase the maximum payout for a greenhouse cost share from \$1,000 to \$2,500 not to exceed 50% of the total project cost. We received 5 greenhouse applications; 4 were completed and awarded. The amount for other cost shares, including stock watering tanks and gated pipe, was also increased from \$3,500 to \$4,500. One bank stabilization project was funded the full allotted amount.

### **Annual Tree Sale and Native Seed Program**

We used the Lincoln Oakes nursery in North Dakota for our seedling tree program. We sold 10 bundles of trees to District residents. Our ongoing native grass and wildflower seed sales remain a success. We sold roughly 70 lbs of seed and received wonderful feedback about their propagation. We are adding to our preexisting free seed collection, where people donate their vegetable and flower seeds and are welcome to sample others'.

### **A Bigger Project**

DCCD partnered with Wyoming Wildlife Natural Resources Trust and US Fish and Wildlife Services to help fund a riparian fence and an off-site stock water development for Bull Lake



Ranch. Unrestricted livestock access to Bull Lake Creek caused significant resource damage. The stock exclusion project will improve the woody riparian habitat and local upland forage conditions for a variety of wildlife, and will all around enhance experiences for anglers or hikers who enjoy that beautiful part of Wyoming.



**Trainings and Meetings**

September 14	Area IV meeting in Dubois
November 15	EPA Toxic Plant seminar online
December 3	Legislative meeting at Dubois Town Hall
December 5-7	WACD Annual Convention w// Stockgrowers and Woolgrowers in Casper
February 6	Records Destruction Committee meeting in Riverton
February 15-17	Wyoming Growers and Groundskeeper convention in Casper
March 9	Fremont Co. Weed and Pest pesticide applicator's course in Dubois
March 10-11	Harvest Wyoming at CWC in Riverton
March 27	Records Destruction Committee meeting in Riverton
April 20	Interagency Big Game meeting via Zoom
April 22	Lander Garden Expo
May 9	Dubois-Crowheart Weed Management Area meeting in Dubois
June 26-27	NRCS Pollinator workshop in Powell
June 29	Jackson Hole Land Trust dinner and mixer in Dubois

**WORKING PARTNERS**

**Bureau of Indian Affairs**  
**Bureau of Land Management**  
**Dubois Anglers and Wildlife Group**  
**Dubois Museum**  
**Fremont County School District #2**  
**Fremont County Weed and Pest**  
**Jackson Hole Land Trust**  
**National Bighorn Sheep Center**  
**The Nature Conservancy of Wyoming**  
**Northern Arapaho Tribe**  
**Shoshone National Forest Wind River Ranger District Town of Doi**  
**Water for Wildlife**  
**Wyoming Association of Conservation Districts**  
**Wyoming Department of Game and Fish**  
**Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality**  
**Wyoming Wildlife and Natural Resources Trust**  
**UW Fremont County Extension**