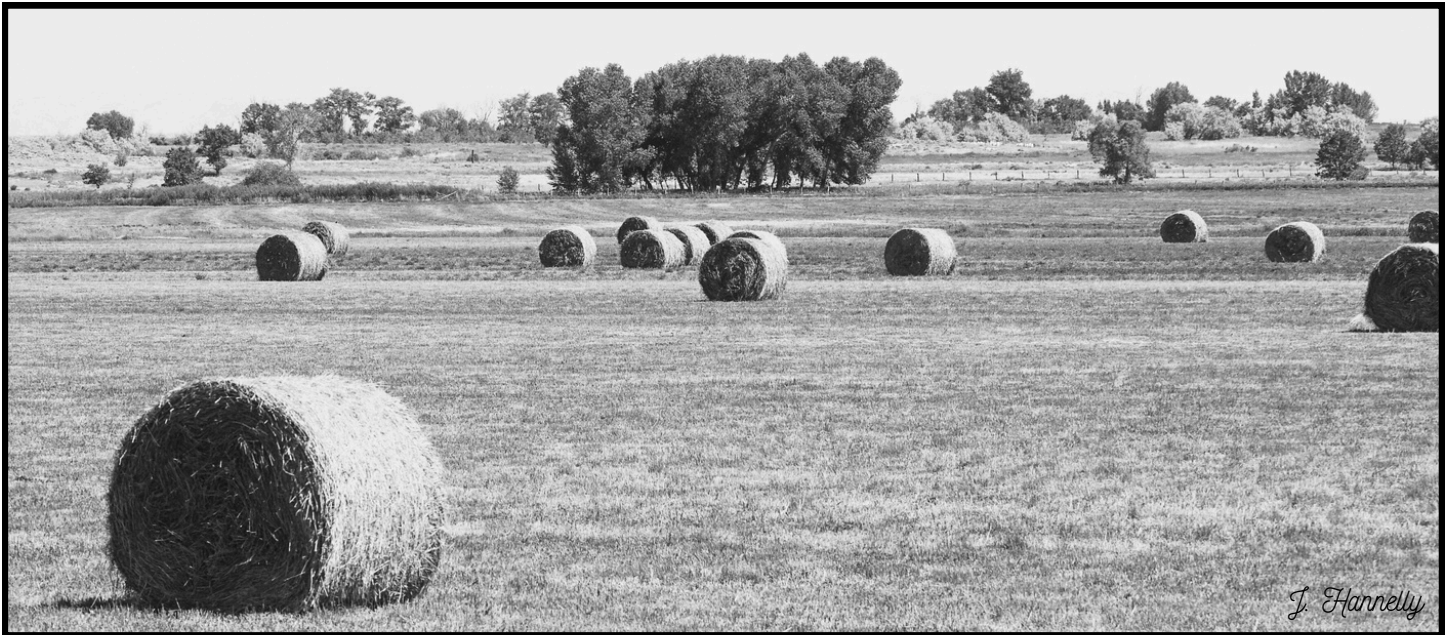




SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION FOR THE UPPER WIND RIVER COUNTRY



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 4:00 p.m. at the District office on the second floor of the Dubois Town Hall. Visitors welcome.



SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION FOR THE UPPER WIND RIVER COUNTRY

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
- purchase new water testing gear
- write a new Sampling Analysis Plan in cooperation with WY DEQ 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



SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION FOR THE UPPER WIND RIVER COUNTRY

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 cooperator 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, WGFD, and DAWGS to improve "Kids Fishing Day"



ADMINISTRATIVE PLAN

July 2024

- 3 Set out bat boxes for WDFG; Tabled a booth at National Bighorn Sheep Center**
- 4 Independence Day - Office closed**
- 5 Camp Bighorn - taught water ecology lessons**
- 8 Emailed Energy Labs water test results to customers**
- 10 Regular monthly Board meeting followed by Budget Hearing**
- 16 Led interpretive hike to Jade Lake with the Dubois Museum**
- 19 Tested soil samples (N, P, K, pH) for District resident**
- 31 Approved 2024-25 budget sent to Dept of Audit, County Clerk, WDA WACD
Quarterly Payroll report due**

August 2024

- 1 Site visit to landowner with newly planted native grass seed yard**
- 16 Regular Board meeting; Final budget sent**
- 19 Used Milestone on Canada thistle (5 landowners)**
- 20 Discussed re-seeding options with Town of Dubois; obtained quotes**
- 29 Used Milestone on Canada thistle at Dennison Lodge and Sheep Museum**
- 30 Site visit to landowner with newly planted native grass seed yard**
- 30 WDA funding criteria due**

September 2024

- 5 Met with Sara Bridge, Ag in the Classroom, to discuss partnership**
- 6 Met with DCCD volunteer, Maria Sage, to discuss beautification of Dennison**
- 9 Zoomed with WDA to discuss Water Quality grant and SAP**
- 11 Regular monthly Board meeting**
- 12 Nature Conservancy dinner**
- 13 Beautification of Dennison property (weeds, flowers, native grass seed)**
- 23 Area IV meeting in Lander**
- 30 Budget publication notice due**



ADMINISTRATIVE PLAN

October 2024

- 9 Regular Board meeting**
- 15 Site visit to Crowheart (weed ID)**
- 18 New email addresses for Board members + Zoom account**
- 20,21 Wyoming Association of Environmental Educators workshop**
- 31 Department of Audit reports due - Proof of Cash, Local Government Annual Report, Summary
Quarterly Payroll report due**

November 2024

- 11,12 Wyoming Association of Irrigation Districts conference**
- 13 Regular monthly Board meeting**
- 14 Submitted signed contract for WDA WQ grant**
- 19-22 WACD Annual Convention in Casper**
- 28,29 Thanksgiving - Office closed**

December 2024

- 2 Finalized WCDEA grant for Convention**
- 9 Met with Dubois Mayor for Education for Elected Officials requirement**
- 11 Regular monthly Board meeting**
- 25 Christmas Day - Office closed**
- 30 Final reports for State funding due to WDA and WACD**

January 2025

- 1 New Year's Day - Office closed
Application period open for local cost share program**
- 8 Regular Board meeting**
- 15 Martin Luther King Jr. Day - Office closed**
- ** Newsletter and tree order form mailed to District residents**
- ** Quarterly and Annual Payroll +Annual Sales Tax reports due**
- ** Begin writing new Sampling Analysis Plan in conjunction with WY DEQ**



ADMINISTRATIVE PLAN

February 2025

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

March 2025

- 1 Submit Sampling Analysis Plan to WY DEQ**
- 12 Regular Board meeting**

April 2025

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

MAY 2025

- 14 Regular Board meeting**
- 26 Memorial Day - Office closed**
- 31 Proposed budget due to Department of Audit, County Clerk, and WDA**

June 2025

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