

Powder River Conservation District



Annual Plan of Work FY 2011-2012

Mission Statement

The Powder River Conservation District's mission is to provide education and leadership for the conservation of our natural resources, the wise use of Wyoming's waters, the improvement of our environment, and the preservation of our agricultural heritage through a responsible conservation ethic.

ADMINISTRATION & OPERATIONS

ADMINISTRATION AND OPERATIONS GOAL: To be accountable for all public funds and ensure all District programs are carried out in a responsible manner.

- Maintain a legal and balanced District budget.
- Attend board meetings and keep an official record of all board meeting decisions.
- Complete Financial Reviews and Audits as required by law.
- Comply with Chapter 1, Wyoming Conservation Districts Financial Policies in order to receive state funding.
- Complete all state and federal reports.
- Continue to seek alternative funding sources through available grants.
- Meet the public needs by providing information or referral.
- Participate in all meetings required and pertinent to District operations.
- Continue to develop and maintain partnerships between the Natural Resources Conservation Service, University of Wyoming Extension Service, Wyoming Game & Fish, United States Fish & Wildlife Service, Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality, Wyoming Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management and other entities.
- Provide opportunities for professional development of staff and board members.
- Address local concerns and planning through cooperative efforts with the Town of Kaycee.
- Assure that the District's Mission Statement is being met.
- Continued administration of the Kaycee Stock Trail Users CRM program.
- Facilitate Emergency Watershed Protection projects in conjunction with the Natural Resources Conservation Service



INFORMATION DISSEMINATION

INFORMATION DISSEMINATION GOAL: Provide information to the local community, and local, state, and federal agencies to increase natural resource awareness through a comprehensive media plan.



- Continue to publish the quarterly District Newsletter-”Powder River News” which is sent out to approximately 300 Southern Johnson County Residents.
- Continue to maintain and update the District website: www.powderrivercd.org.
- Promote information about conservation programs and activities to the community through local newspapers, and the District newsletter.
- Involve the agricultural and urban communities in the District’s Long Range Planning efforts.
- Photograph District activities and events.

TREE PROGRAM

TREE PROGRAM GOAL: Promote tree plantings to reduce erosion, improve aesthetic values, enhance wildlife habitat cover, enhance energy conservation, and protect livestock.

- Hold the annual seedling tree sale.
- Hold the annual large stock tree/shrub sale.
- Prepare and offer application for tree orders to qualified applicants.
- Assist customers with species selections for their area and soil type.
- Provide information for proper tree planting, care, and maintenance.
- Provide outreach materials and hands-on programs with the local schools and youth organizations concerning the importance of trees.
- Provide technical assistance in the design of windbreaks, stream bank stabilization, other conservation plantings and drip irrigation systems.
- Maintain existing living snow fence projects.



EDUCATION/OUTREACH

EDUCATION/OUTREACH GOAL: Will strive to strengthen, expand, and build a strong public education and outreach program that will create an understanding of natural resource conservation through a variety of youth and adult education opportunities.

- Work with local school administrators and teachers to promote and implement Ag-in-the-Classroom projects, such as:



- * World Water Monitoring Day
- * Ecology Camp
- * Adopt a Tree Program
- * Earth Day
- * National Ag Day
- * Rainfall Simulator
- * Minerals
- * Wildlife Habitats
- * Germination & Transplanting
- * Colonial Day

- Sponsor the Conservation Poster Contest with the Kaycee Elementary School.
- Support the Johnson County 4-H Program and the Kaycee FFA.
- Promote the Wyoming Ag in the Classroom Toolboxes to area schools, Boys and Girls Clubs, and scout groups.
- Continue to sponsor and participate in the Black Hills Natural Resources Youth Camp.
- Sponsor and assist educational workshops targeted towards natural resource issues.
- Continue outreach efforts by providing educational presentations on District projects and activities to the residents of Southern Johnson County, natural resource managers and agencies, and elected officials.

SPECIAL PROJECTS

SPECIAL PROJECTS GOAL: The PRCD will strive to ensure that all aspects of both rural and urban conservation project efforts are achieved.

- Host the Annual Well Water Testing Program to insure the health and quality of private water wells.
- Continue the Russian Olive Removal Projects along the Middle Fork of Powder River within the Kaycee city limits.
- Work with the Town of Kaycee to put on the Annual Arbor Day Celebration.
- Work with Johnson County Weed & Pest and the Lake DeSmet Conservation District to start a county wide Noxious/Invasive Species Removal Program
- Work with Lake DeSmet Conservation District to put on the annual Johnson County Hazardous/Household Waste Collection Day.
- Continue the sale of irrigation dam material, drip irrigation supplies, rain barrels, and weed barrier.
- Be an active member of the steering committee for the BLM's Resource Management Plan Revision.
- Work with the Town of Kaycee to prune and mulch trees within city limits.
- The PRCD will continue to fund it's Cost Share Programs offered to rural and urban residents to support conservation practices that will preserve our natural resources.
- Complete a Stream bank assessment for a portion of the Middle Fork of Powder River & complete a design to repair damages to the Irrigation Diversion just west of Kaycee.
- Work with the Town of Kaycee and the Buffalo Recycling Board to start a recycling program in Kaycee.
- Work with Wyoming State Forestry and the Town of Kaycee to develop a Town Tree Plan for trees on public property in Kaycee.



NATURAL RESOURCES

NATURAL RESOURCES GOAL: The Powder River Conservation District will strive to improve the condition of Southern Johnson County's private, state, and federal range, pasture, and crop acreage.

- Work Cooperatively with the BLM & Stock Trail Users CRM to improve the stock trail through the following projects:
 - * Developing and improving water sources on stock trail.
 - * Maintaining fences.
 - * Continue to control noxious weeds.
- Work Cooperatively with the NRCS on the following projects:
 - * Red Fork EWP (Emergency Watershed Protection)
 - * EQIP Contracts
 - * Sage Grouse Initiative Program
 - * Conservation Plans
 - * Town of Kaycee Flood Project
 - * Dull Knife Reservoir
 - * Prescribed Grazing Plans
 - * Irrigation Water Management Plans
- Continue to be a member of the Johnson County Local Work Group.



WATERSHED PLANNING

WATERSHED PLANNING GOAL: The Powder River Conservation District will strive to promote, protect and improve the quality and quantity of Wyoming's waters, reduce siltation of stream channels and reservoirs, promote the wise use of Wyoming's water for use now and for future generations.

Water Quality

- Voluntarily address water quality issues for streams listed on the 303(d) Threatened & Impaired Waterbody List.
- Continue to work towards removing impaired streams from the 303(d) Threatened & Impaired Waterbody list.
- Continue water quality monitoring on South Fork of Powder River, Willow Creek, and Murphy Creek to establish baseline data and measure water quality trends over time.
- Continue winter water quality monitoring to determine trends of selenium based on season of use.
- Communicate with other government agencies to improve the water resources within our district.
- Cooperate with local landowners to provide guidance and information on water quality assessment efforts.
- Provide technical assistance on Best Management Practices aimed at improving water quality.
- Provide activities to local schools and youth organizations targeting the importance of water quality.
- Work with WACD & WDEQ to field verify the WDEQ's Use Attainability Analysis (UAA) Model for Contact Recreation .

Implementation of the Powder River Watersheds Water Quality Management Plan

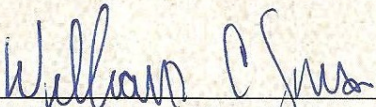
- Write a Use Attainability Analysis to address Site Specific Criteria for the Selenium Standard on Murphy Creek.
- Provide technical assistance to complete AFO projects.
- Provide technical assistance for the installation of irrigation systems to enhance the water quality of the watershed.
- Continue water quality monitoring programs.
- Provide DEQ an annual progress report of the watershed plan.
- Maintain local partnerships to coordinated watershed planning efforts.
- Secure the funding to successfully implement items outlined in the watershed plan.
- Work with the NRCS to provide landowners with recommended Best Management Practices to help reduce non-point source pollution.
- Utilize USDA incentive programs and alternative funding sources for new and continued water conservation projects
- Meet annually to update the Powder River Watersheds Steering Committee on the progress of the watershed plan.



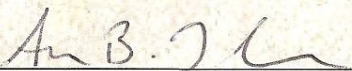
We, the Supervisors of the Powder River Conservation District, as duly authorized by the Wyoming Conservation District Law, hereby adopt this 2011-2012 Annual Plan of Work as the guide for work priorities in the Conservation District.


George Renkert, Chair

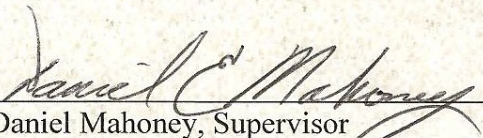
9/8/11
Date


William Jones, Vice-Chair

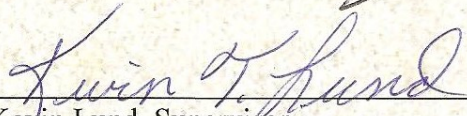
9/09/11
Date


Amy Icanberry, Secretary/Treasurer

9.8.11
Date


Daniel Mahoney, Supervisor

9-8-11
Date


Kevin Lund, Supervisor

9-8-11
Date