

***Powder River  
Conservation District***

***2016-2020  
Long Range Natural  
Resource Management Plan***

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## *Introduction*

The Powder River Conservation District (PRCD) is committed to representing the people of Southern Johnson County at the local level. Through this plan, the district will provide the leadership to initiate the necessary programs that will meet the peoples' needs for the conservation of natural resources.

The Long Range and Natural Resource Management Plan identifies the goals and objectives of the Conservation District, relevant to present and future needs of the Powder River Conservation District for the five year period beginning January 1, 2016 and ending December 31, 2020. This plan gives an overview of what the PRCD plans to accomplish during this time.

A Conservation District is responsible for providing leadership for the conservation of natural resources within its boundaries. District Supervisors are responsible for determining workload priorities, annual plans, annual reports, budgets, and long range programs to meet natural resource needs. Conservation Districts work with farmers, ranchers, towns, counties, cities, and government agencies at all levels. The Conservation Districts are responsible for setting local priorities for natural resources concerns.

## *Legislative Authority*

Conservation Districts are local subdivisions of state government organized under the Wyoming Department of Agriculture under Wyoming Statutes (11-16-101 through 11-16-134: Conservation District Law). This statute charges Conservation Districts to:

*provide for the conservation of the soil, and soil and water resources of this state, and for the control and prevention of soil erosion and for flood prevention or the conservation, development, utilization, and disposal of water, and thereby to stabilize ranching and farming operations, to preserve natural resources, protect the tax base, control floods, prevent impairment of dams and reservoirs, preserve wildlife, protect public lands, and protect and promote the health, safety and general welfare of the people of this state (11-16-103).*

Each Conservation District is under the direction of a locally-elected volunteer Board of Supervisors. Supervisors are local residents, elected by local citizens, to serve staggered four year terms. Under Wyoming State Statute, three positions are rural (residing outside city limits), one position is urban (residing within city limits), and one is at-large (residing anywhere within the district). Elected supervisors may appoint Associate Supervisors for their expertise and interest in specific areas. Associate Supervisors provide valuable input, but are not voting members of the Board.



## *Mission Statement*

*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.*

## *History & Description of the PRC D*

The Powder River Conservation District was established in November of 1955. Petitions for the organization of a Soil Conservation District, were circulated at various organization meetings at Barnum, Kaycee, Sussex, and Mayoworth, and signed by ranchers located in the southern end of Johnson County.

Many changes have been made in the past sixty years and the district continues to grow and provide services to the citizens of Southern Johnson County. There are approximately 1,220,528 acres within the jurisdictional boundaries of the Powder River Conservation District. Of the total area of the PRC D, approximately 910,510.20 acres are privately owned; approximately 312,422 acres are administered by the Bureau of Land Management; approximately 104,468.10 acres are owned by the State of Wyoming; approximately 3,454.80 are owned by the U.S. Forest Service and approximately 546.90 acres are owned by Johnson County. The main drainages in the District are the North Fork, Middle Fork, Red Fork, and South Fork of Powder River. The majority of the district is composed of native rangeland, both private and government.

The district has one incorporated municipality, the Town of Kaycee, with a current population of 270. There is an elementary, middle and high school located in Kaycee. The Town of Kaycee is located 70 miles north of Casper and 45 miles south of Buffalo, traveling Interstate 25, which runs nearly through the center of the district.

The agriculture of the Powder River Conservation District is centered around livestock operations. Irrigated areas are used primarily for the production of hay and small grain as supplemental food for livestock. The mineral industry includes oil and gas production, Bentonite, uranium, and coal reserves. This scenic ranching community is rich in heritage and history.

## *District Contact Information*

### **Office Location**

350 Nolan Avenue  
Kaycee, WY 82639

### **Mailing Address**

P.O. Box 48  
Kaycee, WY 82639



### **Website**

[www.powderrivercd.org](http://www.powderrivercd.org)

### **Telephone Number**

(307) 738-2321

### **Fax Number**

(307) 738-2107

### **E-mail Address**

[anita.bartlett@wy.nacdnet.net](mailto:anita.bartlett@wy.nacdnet.net)

## *PRCD Board of Supervisors*

The Powder River Conservation District is governed by a five member Board of Supervisors. Three supervisors are rural, one is urban, and one is designated as at-large. They are elected by the residents of Southern Johnson County during the general election. They serve staggered four year terms, with two positions available at a general election one year and three positions available at the next general election. Supervisors are unpaid, elected volunteers who attend monthly board meetings and are actively involved in overseeing the activities of the conservation district. Board meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at the PRCD office and are open to the public.

### ***PRCD Chair***

*William Jones*  
*Urban*

### ***PRCD Supervisor***

*Dan Mahoney*  
*Rural*

### ***PRCD Vice-Chair***

*George Renkert*  
*Rural*

### ***PRCD Supervisor***

*Kevin Lund*  
*At-Large*

### ***PRCD Secretary/Treasurer***

*Amy Icanberry*  
*Rural*



## *PRCD Staff*

Anita Bartlett, the District Manager for the PRCD began working with the district in April of 2006. She received her Bachelors of Science Degree in Range Management with options in Range Livestock Production and Rangeland Business from Chadron State College in 2005. She currently serves as the Wyoming Conservation District Employees Association's President.



## *Natural Resources Conservation Service Staff*



### ***District Conservationist***

Allison McKenzie, began her career with the NRCS in June of 1994. She has worked in Southern Johnson County as the District Conservationist since May of 2002 and became the District Conservationist for all of Johnson County in June of 2010. She received her Bachelors of Science Degree in Rangeland Ecology and Watershed Management from the University of Wyoming in 1996.



### ***Rangeland Management Specialist***

Katie Schade began working with the NRCS in May of 2013 in the Worland Field Office and transferred to the Kaycee Field Office in May of 2015. She attended the University of Wyoming where she double majored in Rangeland Ecology and Watershed Management / Environment and Natural Resources in 2012. Then received her masters in Rangeland Ecology and Watershed Management as well as a certification in Reclamation and Restoration Ecology in 2013.

## *Wyoming Association of Conservation Districts*

In March 1941, the State Legislature passed an enabling act which established conservation districts in Wyoming. Conservation districts were to direct programs protecting local renewable natural resources. Formed in 1945, the WACD is a non-profit, non-governmental organization made up of the 34 conservation districts in 23 Wyoming counties. An executive director maintains an office in Cheyenne and oversees the direction and coordination of all districts. The WACD is made up of five areas and serves as a state voice for conservation districts on state and national policy, legislation, communication, and funding for conservation activities. Each area elects two supervisors to serve as area directors on the WACD Board. The Powder River Conservation District sits within Area I, along with five other conservation districts located within Campbell County, Crook County, Johnson County, Sheridan County and Weston County.



**Mission Statement:** The Wyoming Association of Conservation District's provides leadership for the conservation of Wyoming's soil and water resources, promotes the control of soil erosion, promotes and protects the quality of Wyoming's waters, reduce siltation of stream channels and reservoirs, promote wise use of Wyoming's water, and all other natural resources, preserve and enhance wildlife habitat, protect the tax base and promote the health, safety and general welfare of the citizens of this state through a responsible conservation ethic.

## *National Association of Conservation Districts*



The National Association of Conservation Districts is a non-profit, non-governmental organization representing over three thousand conservation districts and their state associations in the fifty U.S. States, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. The NACD lobbies for federal conservation legislation and funding in Congress.

## *Wyoming Department of Agriculture*

In 1987, the Wyoming Legislature abolished the State Conservation Commission and transferred their responsibilities to the Wyoming Board of Agriculture. Those responsibilities include: assisting and guiding districts in the preparation and carrying out of programs for resource conservation, reviewing and coordinating district programs, distributing state funds to the districts and disseminating information concerning the activities and programs of the conservation districts. The Wyoming Board of Agriculture has designated the Natural Resources Section to administer Wyoming Conservation District Law W.S. 11-16-101 et seq.



## *Natural Resources Conservation Service*



The Natural Resources Conservation Service has a long extensive tradition of work with conservation districts. The NRCS is authorized to cooperate and furnish assistance in the conservation of natural resources through an approved Cooperative Working Agreement with the Powder River Conservation District. A full-time District Conservationist is stationed at the PRCO Office.

## *Goals and Objectives*

***Administration and Operations Goal: To be accountable for all public funds and ensure all District programs are carried out in a responsible manner.***

***Objectives:***

1. Employ personnel to effectively carry out the PRCD goals.
2. Continue to seek other funding sources, in addition to current support, to fulfill conservation needs in Southern Johnson County.
3. Budget funds appropriately to carry out PRCD goals.
4. Provide subdivision reviews as required by law.
5. Promote and assist with Coordinated Resources Management Plans (CRM's).
6. Recognize opportunities to support and partner with local government, state and federal agencies, and other entities.
7. Provide adequate information, training, and professional development to enable Supervisors and Staff to make informed decisions.

***Information Dissemination Goal: The PRCD will provide information to the local community, local, state and federal agencies to increase natural resource awareness through a comprehensive media plan.***

***Objectives:***

1. Provide news and information through newsletters, newsprints, internet, brochures, etc.
2. Encourage and recognize community volunteer efforts.
3. Carry out educational programs for Cooperators of the PRCD on natural resources issues.
4. Provide citizens with information on the technical assistance available to them through the natural resource agencies in Johnson County.
5. Inform residents of local, state, and national conservation issues.

***Tree Program Goal: The PRCD will promote tree plantings to reduce erosion, improve aesthetic values, enhance wildlife habitat cover, enhance energy conservation and protect livestock.***

***Objectives:***

1. Promote tree planting for conservation purposes (windbreaks, erosion control, wildlife habitat) through partnerships with Wyoming State Forestry, Wyoming Game and Fish, and Wyoming Department of Transportation.
2. Make seedling and large stock trees available to the local community.
3. Cooperate/partner in community beautification projects.
4. Provide technical assistance for tree planting projects.

## *Goals and Objectives*

***Watershed Planning Goal: The PRC D will strive to promote, protect and improve the quality and quantity of Wyoming’s waters, reduce siltation of streams channels and reservoirs, promote wise use of Wyoming’s water for use now and for future generations.***

### ***Objectives***

1. Work in cooperation with landowners, industry, and public land agencies to address EPA/DEQ water quality impairments on 303(d) listed water bodies.
2. Promote private well water testing.
3. Address septic system risks.
4. Promote the education of water conservation and water quality.
5. Keep the public informed of the status of water bodies and streams within the district.
6. Promote Best Management Practices to reduce non-point source pollution by promoting irrigation water management, water erosion control, pesticide and fertilizer management, integrated pest management, riparian area management and other conservation practices.
7. Support water development projects to increase water quantity for livestock management and wildlife.
8. Work with landowners and local, state, and federal agencies on water quality monitoring programs.

***Natural Resource Management Goal: The PRC D will strive to improve the condition of Southern Johnson County’s private, state, and federal rangelands, pastures and crop acreage.***

### ***Objectives:***

1. Provide information and direction for assistance on range, pasture and cropland management.
2. Cooperate with the Johnson County Weed and Pest Control District for the control of noxious weeds and pests.
3. Promote Best Management Practices for erosion control on rangeland and irrigated cropland.
4. Work to sustain the agriculture resource base.
5. Provide published Soil Survey information in order to prevent soil erosion by mining, construction, and rangeland improvements.
6. Encourage proper grazing management planning and water storage development for livestock.
7. Support appropriate fire suppression efforts for the safety of people, livestock, wildlife and range.
8. Provide cost-share assistance on range/irrigation projects that improve ecological condition, range/irrigation land health/productivity, and native plant communities.

## *Goals and Objectives*

***Education/Outreach Goal: The PRC D 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.***

### ***Objectives:***

1. Teach and promote natural resource conservation education programs in the local school systems through presentations and hands-on experiences.
2. Teach and promote natural resource conservation education programs with the local 4-H and FFA organizations through presentations and hands-on experiences..
3. Obtain grants to purchase conservation educational materials and to send educators to natural resource seminars and workshops.
5. Provide educational opportunities to the community on water quality, water policy, land management practices, improvement opportunities, and other conservation topics through seminars, events, workshops, tours and hands-on experiences.
6. Identify and address specific education needs for small acreage landowners and urban residents.

***Government Agency Interaction and Cooperation Goal: The PRC D will continue to represent local interests in the planning and implementation efforts of local, state, and federal government agencies to promote the betterment of our natural resources.***

### ***Objectives:***

1. Work towards the maintenance of private property rights.
2. Act as a liaison between federal, state, and county agencies and the citizens of Southern Johnson County on natural resource issues.
3. Participate in decision making on public lands and other issues affecting our community and environment.
4. Increase awareness of the need for more local control and fewer blanket rules and regulations.
5. Continue to collaborate and communicate with local, state and federal elected officials.
6. Maintain partnerships with local, state and federal agencies to provide technical assistance and/or funding to local landowners.
7. Support the Town of Kaycee by cooperating on conservations programs/projects benefiting both the community and the district.

## *Goals and Objectives*

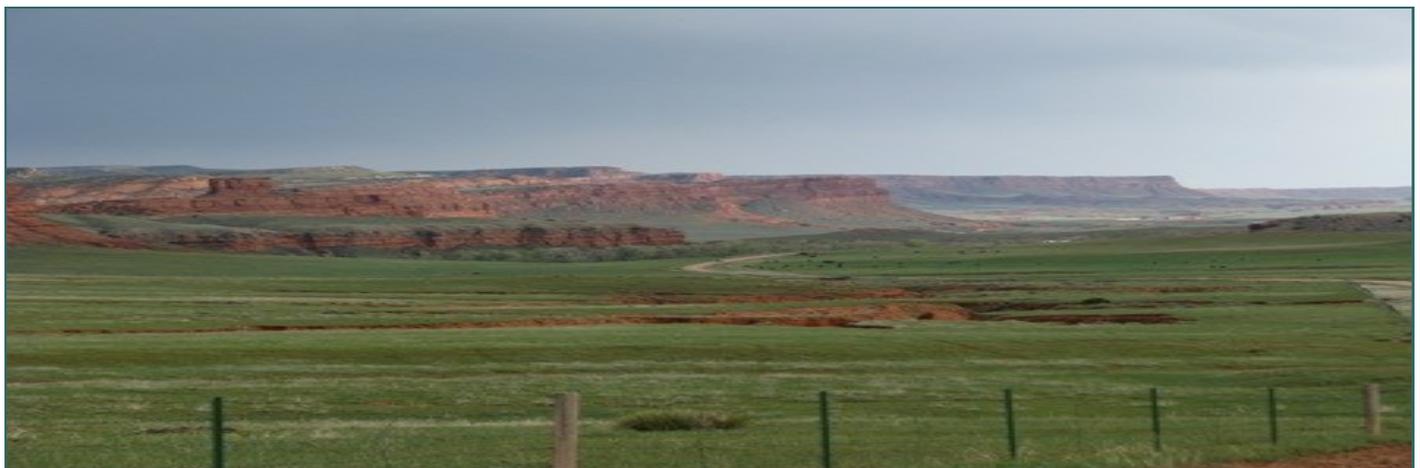
***Special Projects Goal: The PRCD will strive to ensure that all aspects of both rural and urban conservation project efforts are achieved.***

### ***Objectives***

1. Promote and implement urban conservation and beautification projects.
2. Promote and implement on-the ground natural resource conservation projects.
3. Promote a healthy community through urban and rural conservation practices.
4. Promote, maintain and enhance recycling efforts in the PRCD.
5. Promote and implement wildlife habitat conservation, development, and management (rural and urban).
6. Promote the control of invasive and noxious pest and weed species.
7. Provide input on threatened and endangered species that affect Southern Johnson County.
8. Provide the sale of drip irrigation, irrigation dams, weed barrier, recycling bins, composters and rain barrels.
9. Identify and provide assistance for emergency conservation issues that threaten the natural resources or health, safety, and general welfare of our constituents.

## *Partnerships*

Bureau of Land Management	Private Industry
Chamber of Commerce-Kaycee	State of Wyoming House Representatives
Corp. of Engineers	State of Wyoming Senators
Environmental Protection Agency	University of Wyoming
Farm Service Agency	U. S. Department of Agriculture
Governor of Wyoming	U. S. Department of Interior
Harold Jarrard Park Board	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Hoof Prints of the Past Museum	U.S. Forest Service
Johnson County 4-H	U.S. Representative
Johnson County Commissioners	U.S. Senators
Johnson County Cooperative Extension Service	Wyoming Agriculture in the Classroom
Johnson County School District	Wyoming Association of Conservation Districts
Johnson County Weed & Pest	Wyoming Department of Agriculture
Kaycee Boys and Girls Club	Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality
Kaycee FFA	Wyoming Department of Transportation
Kaycee Ladies Auxiliary	Wyoming Game & Fish Department
Kaycee Town Council	Wyoming Homeland Security/Emergency Management
Landowners and Producers	Wyoming section Society for Range Management
National Association of Conservation Districts	Wyoming State Forestry
Natural Resources Conservation Service	
Northeast Wyoming RC&D	



## *Past Board Supervisors*

## *Years of Service*

Peter Meike Sr. ....	1955-1966
K. Harrison Roberts.....	1955-1960
C.H. DeCoursey .....	1955-1957
Elmer Gosney .....	1955-1959
Norris Graves.....	1955-1978
Kenneth Christensen.....	1957-1971
Domingo Goyhenex .....	1958-1968
August Chabot.....	1960-1978
Kenneth Mathew .....	1966-1967
Peter Meike Jr. ....	1967-2008
Domingo Martirena .....	1968-1977
Dave Kuiper.....	1971-1977
John Kinchen.....	1977-1978
Wayne Graves.....	1978-1986
Royden L. James .....	1978-1986
Roger Koch.....	1979-1981
Glen Lohse.....	1979-1986
Allen Perry.....	1982-1984
Kelly Christensen .....	1984-1986
Mark Gordon .....	1987-1988
Jim Schiermiester .....	1986-1990
	2010-2011
Dale Koch.....	1986-1987

## *Past Board Supervisors Continued....*

## *Years of Service*

Sandy Perry.....	1986-1990 1999-2002
Lisa Keeler.....	1987-1990
Larry Smith.....	1989-1994
Robert Trent.....	1992
Ray Winsor.....	1990-1998 2001-2008
Begona Ibarra.....	1992
Velma Streeter.....	1993-1996
Ralph Streeter.....	1993-1996
Greg Cunningham.....	1995-2009
Joe Pierson.....	1997-2004
Patti Konkell.....	1997-2000
Jason Williams.....	2003-2010
Amy Icanberry.....	2005-Present
Judy Novakovich.....	2008-2010
George Renkert.....	2009-Present
Daniel Mahoney.....	2009-Present
Kevin Lund.....	2011-Present
William Jones.....	2011-Present



# Public Comments

## Public Notice

### Powder River Conservation District Long Range Natural Resource Management Plan

The Powder River Conservation District will accept written comments on the Long Range Natural Resource Management Plan beginning Tuesday, September 22, 2015 and will continue through Friday, November 6, 2015. There will be a Public Hearing to approve the Long Range Natural Resource Management Plan in conjunction with our November 12, 2015 Board Meeting. Copies of the document are available at the Powder River Conservation District office located at 350 Nolan Avenue, Kaycee, WY 82639. For more information contact the Powder River Conservation District at (307) 738-2321.

/s/ Anita M. Bartlett  
PRCD Manager

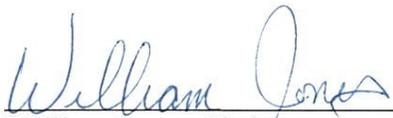
**No Public Comments were submitted.**

## *Resolution of Adoption*

This Long Range Natural Resource Management Plan, as developed and prepared by the Powder River Conservation District Board of Supervisors in cooperation with individuals and other organizations, is hereby adopted as the official work program of the Powder River Conservation District.

We believe that this plan will provide a comprehensive means of coordinating the efforts of the District, landowners, operators to improve the natural resources in Southern Johnson County.

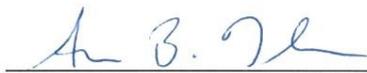
Thus, we hope to obtain maximum and proper use of all lands and natural resources to meet these objectives through the application of proper conservation principles and practices.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
William Jones, Chair

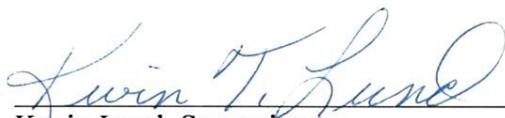
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Date

  
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George Renkert, Vice-Chair

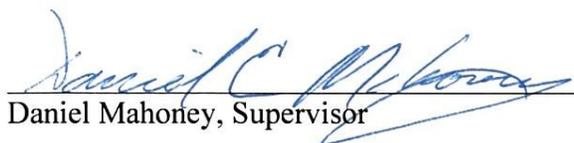
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Date

  
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Amy Icanberry, Secretary/Treasurer

11/17/15  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kevin Lund, Supervisor

11-17-15  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Daniel Mahoney, Supervisor

11-17-15  
Date