

Summer 2017

Powder River News

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WY Public Lands Initiative

In September 2016, nine members were selected by the Johnson County Commissioners to serve on a county-led WY Public Land Initiative (WPLI) Committee charged with the task of determining a designation and management option for the two Wilderness Study Areas (WSAs) in Southern Johnson County. Those WSAs include the North Fork of Powder River WSA and Gardner Mountain WSA. The JC Collaborative has been meeting since October and has been gathering background information and current data on the two WSAs in order to make the most informed decision possible. Speakers so far have included resource specialists from the BLM, Tara Kuiper discussing how collaboration works, Angus Macintosh speaking on private rights on public lands, and WY Game and Fish to discuss wildlife in the areas.

On June 19th the committee had the opportunity to tour the North Fork WSA and has plans to tour the Gardner Mountain WSA in July. During their June meeting collaborative members began to generate options for future management of North Fork WSA. This process will likely take several meetings though a final recommendation will need to be advanced to the JC Board of County Commissioners by the Spring of 2018.

The WPLI is an open process and we encourage the community to attend the meetings and provide public comment. If you have been unable to attend and would like to know what has been occurring, minutes are taken and posted along with any documentation produced by or circulated among the Committee on the WPLI Information Hub; (<https://wcca.wygisc.org/wpli/hub/index.html>)

If you have any questions please feel free to contact any of the other collaborative members or myself. (That list can be found in the Information Hub.)

“Conservation: We’re All In”

Area youth gathered once again at Mallo Camp north of Newcastle, WY to participate in the Black Hills Natural Resource Youth Camp June 14-16th. The purpose of this camp is to give youth the opportunity to experience a wide variety of activities and educational sessions teaching them about the natural world and its resources. Other activities included fishing, the Wildman Hike teaches kids about predators and prey relationships, a talent show, and various games.

Each child participated in six educational sessions they included: “Animal Adaptations”, “Fire!”, “Trees, Trees, Trees”, “Casting for Food”, “Stream Detectives” and “Target Practice”.



“Animal Adaptations”, presented by Lacey Sloan with the Weston County Natural Resource District taught campers about adaptations that animals have in order to survive in their environments. Kids had the opportunity to see hides and body parts that showed these adaptations.

Jessie Halverson, with Project Learning Tree presented “Trees, Trees, Trees” where campers learned how to age and measure a tree, to identify different parts and types of trees, and what trees need in order to survive.

In the session “Fire!” Jeremy Dedic and Jonathon Sloan with Wyoming State Forestry and Jake Shook with Shook Logging explained to the youth the importance of removing trees to keep forest healthy and reduce the risk of fire. They gave the kids the opportunity to see tree



removal equipment in action and even allowed many of them to use a cross cut saw.



Mike Locatelli & Dyllon Lincoln with Wyoming Game and Fish and John Marshall taught campers all about “Casting for Food”. This activity taught campers how to cast, fish, and properly care for caught fish. Campers were allowed to practice their casting skills and catch fish.

“Stream Detectives” presented by Jason Martineau, Chad Reiger and Ben Wollenzien from Wyoming DEQ gave a demonstration how to take a few simple water samples to test the health of a stream and how to collect Macroinvertebrates. Both the samples and the type of Macroinvertebrates found in the stream help them to determine if a stream is healthy or not.

Finally, Bob Pollo, Paul Connelly, Steve Miller, and Karson Kellebrew had “Target Practice”. They taught youth how the correct way to shoot a bow and arrow, safety while shooting and let the kids do a little “target practice”.

Sponsors for the Black Hills Natural Resource Youth Camp were Weston County Natural Resource District, the Campbell County Conservation District, and the Powder River Conservation District, Campbell County Community Public Recreation District Grant



The Beginning of the End

EWP Update

It has been a long road repairing damages from the record flooding seen in Johnson County in May of 2015, but this summer will see the last of those flood projects completed. On approximately July 5th, Barnum Inc. will break ground on the construction of the last EWP projects located at the Harold Jarrard Park. Through this project the contractor will install toe wood to stabilize the banks and cross vanes to keep the river in the center of the channel causing a natural ripple pool effect desirable to streams. The Middle Fork of Powder River will also find itself moved into the HJP grounds to return it to its original channel. This project will take all summer and into the fall, we expect a completion date of early November. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to stop in and chat with us.

The Powder River CD would like to take a moment to recap the EWP projects that have been completed to date:

- Sussex EWP– This project was completed in the fall of 2015 and reconstructed the streambank eroded by flood waters. L&L Oilfield Service worked to repair 514 feet of stream bank by installing 16 log vanes and 4 log sills for improved bank stability. The movement of soil, cobble, and gravel was necessary to construct a 15 foot wide flood prone bench, and a 3:1 transition slope to the upper terrace. The total project cost was \$131,102.12 and was split 75/25% with the NRCS (\$98,326.59) and the PRCD (\$32,775.53).



- Sahara Diversion EWP-This project was completed in the fall of 2016 and repaired erosion occurring around the Sahara Diversion. L&L Oilfield Service placed concrete blocks and rock to stabilize the streambank on both sides of the diversion to keep additional flooding from eroding the banks around the Sahara Diversion which could have eventually led to the breaching of the diversion. The total project cost was \$233,309.05 and was split 75/25% with the NRCS (\$175,205.55) and the PRCD/Other (\$58,103.50).



- Nolan Diversion EWP-This project was completed in the spring of 2017, the removal and replacement of this diversion was done to ensure the safety of the I25 bridge and the Town of Kaycee. Barnum Inc. removed the damage Nolan Diversion and replaced it with a double cross vane diversion structure and stabilized the eroded streambanks caused by flood waters. The total project cost was \$360,640.34 and was split 75/25% with the NRCS (\$270,697.40) and the PRCD/Other (\$89,942.86).

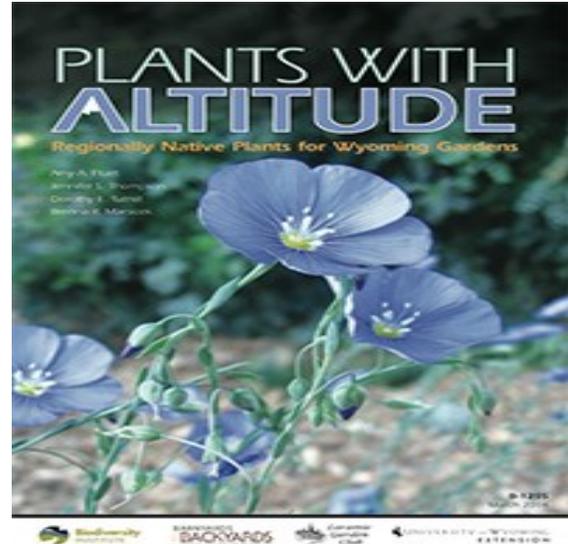
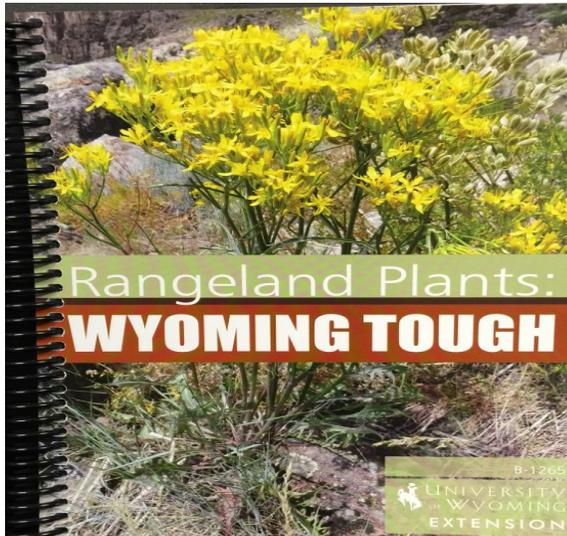


We would like to thank everyone for their patience as we work through these projects. Once again if you have any questions or concerns please feel free to stop by the office or give us a call.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

Summer 2017

Stop in and get your Free copy of these great plant books!!!



Twelfth Annual Arbor Day Celebration

This year to celebrate Arbor Day the Powder River Conservation District worked with the Town of Kaycee, Wyoming State Forestry, Boys and Girls Club of Kaycee, and community members to plant a Narrow Leaf Poplar and a Green Ash at the Kaycee, Wyoming sign, in addition to their annual Adopt a Tree Program with the KES students.

Kaycee's official Arbor Day Celebration occurred on Monday, May 8, 2017, when



Council Member Audry Davis and the kids from the Boys and Girls Club joined PRCD District Manager Anita Bartlett and Kelly Norris and Jacob McCarthy with Wyoming State Forestry to plant the 2 trees and listen to Council Member Davis read the Arbor Day proclamation.

Following the reading of the proclamation Ms. Davis was presented with an award for the Town of Kaycee as they have completed 11 years as a Tree City USA Town.

The PRCD would like to send out our Thanks to the following people: the Town of Kaycee, the Boys and Girls Club, and all of the community members for all of their help, support and efforts on this project. It is because of people like you we are able to do projects like this to help continually improve our community. Thank You.



**Public Notice
Proposed Budget for:
Powder River Conservation District
Fiscal Year 2017-2018**

<u>Expenditures:</u>	
Administration:	\$ 71,239
Operations:	\$1,001,841
Indirect Costs:	\$ 16,556
Capital Outlay:	\$ <u>0</u>
Total Expenditures:	\$1,089,636

Funds to be added to Reserves: \$ 0

Total Cash Required \$1,089,636

<u>Revenue:</u>	
Anticipated Cash and Revenue:	\$ 695,051
Total General Fund:	\$ 249,559
Estimated Mil Levy:	\$ <u>145,026</u>
Total Anticipated Revenue:	\$1,089,636

<u>Reserves:</u>	
Reserves:	\$ <u>705,000</u>
Current total in Reserves:	\$ 705,000

The Powder River Conservation District will conduct its Annual Public Hearing for the proposed FY2017-2018 Budget on Thursday, July 13, 2017 at 6:30pm at the PRCO Office located at 350 Nolan Avenue in Kaycee, WY. This Budget Hearing will be held in conjunction with our monthly board meeting. Interested residents are encouraged to attend.

/s/ Anita M. Bartlett
PRCO Manager

PRCO's E-Waste Program

The Powder River Conservation District wants to thank everyone who has brought in their E-Waste and encourage anyone who has E-Waste to please bring it in to us. **Remember we are no longer accepting TV's.** They can be recycled at the Buffalo Recycling Center. We are sorry for any inconveniences this may cause.



For a complete list of items that can be recycled please contact the PRCO Office.

Please feel free to drop off your E-waste at the District Office located at 350 Nolan Avenue in Kaycee, WY.

*Powder River Conservation District
P.O. Box 48
Kaycee, WY 82639*

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PRCD Board Meeting: Thursday, July 13, 2017 at 6:30 PM PRCD Office

WPLI Meeting: Tuesday, June 26, 2017 1pm at the Fire Hall

PRCD Budget Hearing: Thursday July 13, 2017 at 6:30 pm at the District Office

Office Closed Tuesday, July 3-4th in observance of Independence Day



The PRCD is an equal opportunity employer.

Find us on the web: www.powderrivercd.org