

WASHAKIE COUNTY  
CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
*Annual Plan*  
FISCAL YEAR 2024



Presented to:  
Wyoming Department of Agriculture  
& Wyoming Association of Conservation Districts







# *Table of Contents*

History	3
Board & Staff	4
Agency Cooperation	5
Planning Process	6
Public Information & Education	7
Tree & Landscaping Program	10
Recycling & Waste Management	11
Special Projects & Cost Share	12
Water Quality & Quantity	13
Range & Irrigated Lands	14
Wildlife & Habitat	15
Recreation	16
Agency Interaction & Coordination	17
Internal District Operations	19
Board Signatures	21

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# *History of Conservation Districts*

A number of factors contributed to the rapid deterioration of western agricultural lands during the early 1930's. The application of poor farming procedures, misuse of range, and extreme lack of moisture were probably foremost in creating these adverse conditions.

Recognizing the need to stop further degradation of these valuable lands, Senator Earl Bower, of Washakie County, introduced a bill establishing the Wyoming Soil Conservation Act in February 1941. This Act authorized the establishment of Soil Conservation Districts. These newly formed bodies were given the responsibility of natural resource conservation within their respective districts.

On December 31, 1941, the Nowood Soil Conservation District at Ten Sleep became one of the first four Districts in Wyoming. Washakie Conservation District was established in 1943, and in 1990, the two were consolidated to form the Washakie County Conservation District (WCCD).

The Washakie County Conservation District holds regular monthly meetings on the third Monday of the month alternating meeting locations between Worland and Ten Sleep.



# *Board of Supervisors & Staff*

Conservation district supervisors serve on a five-member board that develops and implements programs to protect and conserve natural resources, stabilize farming and ranching, protect the tax base and the health, safety, and general welfare of the people.

## **WCCD Board of Supervisors**



From left to right: Charley Orchard, Jaci Harkink - Secretary/Treasurer, Daniel Greet - Chairman, Susan Pennington - Vice Chairwoman, Keith Bower

### **WCCD STAFF**

Amanda O'Keefe, District Manager  
 Janet Hofmann, Education Coordinator  
 Ben Vega, Seasonal Outdoor Maintenance

### **NRCS WORLAND TEAM**

Emma Allen, District Conservationist • Allen Croft, Civil Engineer  
 Blaise Allen, Multi-County Range Management Specialist  
 Kaile Brant, Natural Resource Specialist • Errick Hayes, Soil Conservationist  
 Caleb Salzman, Range Management Specialist



# Agency Cooperation

## LOCAL

- Washakie County Commissioners
- Washakie County Clerks Office
- Washakie County Planner
- Washakie County Assessors Office
- Washakie County Weed & Pest Control
- City of Worland
- Town of Ten Sleep
- University of Wyoming Extension Services
- Washakie County School District #1 and #2
- Ten Sleep National Honor Society
- Chief Washakie FFA
- Ten Sleep FFA
- Washakie County 4-H Clubs
- Washakie Museum & Cultural Center
- Worland Garden Club
- Worland Community Garden
- Rotary Club of Worland
- Kiwanis Club of Worland
- Worland and Ten Sleep Library
- Worland/Ten Sleep Chamber of Commerce
- Washakie County Farm Bureau
- Washakie County Public Health
- Washakie County Emergency Management
- Worland Irrigation, Drainage, & Canal Districts
- Washakie County Solid Waste Disposal District
- Children's Resource Center
- Absaroka Headstart

## STATE

- Wyoming Association of Conservation Districts
- Wyoming Conservation District Employee Association
- Wyoming Department of Agriculture
- Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality
- Wyoming Game & Fish Department
- Wyoming Water Development Commission
- Wyoming Water Association
- Wyoming Department of Transportation
- Wyoming Stock Growers Association
- Wyoming Ag in the Classroom
- Wyoming Audubon Society
- Big Horn National Forest
- Bighorn Basin Outdoor Recreation Collaborative
- Wyoming State Forestry
- Wyoming Community Foundation
- Wyoming Art Council

## NATIONAL

- National Association of Conservation Districts
- National Watershed Coalition
- USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service
- USDA Farm Service Agency
- USDA Rural Development
- USDA Forest Service
- USDI Bureau of Land Management
- Army Corps of Engineers
- The Nature Conservancy
- US Fish & Wildlife Services
- US Environmental Protection Agency





# Planning Process

In 1999, the WCCD initiated a collaborative planning process in order to implement the policy of the Wyoming Legislature. In 2001, WCCD implemented the initial WCCD Natural Resource Land Use Plan, which was submitted to and filed with the Washakie County Clerk. Since 2001, the WCCD Natural Resource Land Use Plan was updated in 2005, 2010, 2017 and most recently, 2021. The WCCD Annual Plan Goals and Objectives are derived from the WCCD Natural Resource Land Use Plan.

## GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Public Information and Education, Tree Program, Water Quality/Quantity, Habitat/Wildlife, Waste Management, Government Agency Interaction and Coordination, Range and Irrigated Land Management, Internal District Operations, Special Projects, and Recreation.

Additional goals identified in the WCCD's Natural Resource Land Use Plan, where our involvement varies according to agency actions and may be in the form of comments, are as follows:

## MINERALS AND OIL AND GAS DEVELOPMENT

- WCCD supports minerals and oil and gas production and will provide information and education on the importance of natural resource conservation.

## WATER RIGHTS AND USE

- WCCD supports the development, adoption, implementation of water storage, and water distribution that benefits individual, irrigators, irrigation and canal companies, industrial users, aquatic recreation users, municipalities, public land managers, and private landowners.

## ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT

- WCCD will be involved in the review of federal actions regarding ESA listings, delisting, and management plans.

## SPECIAL DESIGNATION AREAS

- WCCD supports special land use designations only when they are consistent with surrounding conservation management; do not preclude future conservation options for rangeland resources, soil conservation, and conservation, development and utilization of water resources; and contribute to sound policy of multiple use, economic viability and community stability.

## TRAVEL MANAGEMENT/ACCESS

- WCCD supports the historic right to travel over federal and state lands.

## WILD HORSES, BURROW, AND ESTRAY LIVESTOCK

- WCCD supports wild horse management for viable healthy herds that will not adversely impact the rangeland resource, wildlife habitat or wildlife, soil resources or other approved multiple uses.

## FOREST MANAGEMENT

- WCCD encourages proper rangeland, forest, and woodland management to ensure healthy and vibrant watersheds for current and future generations and to sustain the stability of ranching and agriculture.

## AIR QUALITY

- WCCD supports an air quality monitoring plan, as it is critical to the health and well-being of our residents.



# *Public Information & Education*

## GOAL

To share information and educate the public about natural resources.

## OBJECTIVES

- Promotes agricultural and natural resource conservation education to public school students, youth organizations, and in other venues where youth and children receive formal education.
- Provides education and information to the general public on natural resource issues and topics.
- Promotes viable farming, ranching and business opportunities and operations.
- Ensures that stakeholders are made aware of technical assistance and funding programs that are available.
- Recognizes natural resource and agricultural success stories through district programs and local media.
- Promotes the development and application of Best Management Practices (BMP).
- Provides guidance, information, and education to elected government officials and decision makers on conservation and natural resource management issues, and the impacts, and outcomes related to policies initiated by government.
- Promote a healthy community through conservation practices that have a public benefit.

## YOUTH EDUCATION

### ACTIONS, GOALS, AND DELEGATION

ACTION: Work with 4-H and FFA Advisors to provide any educational program opportunities or sponsorship.

- GOAL: 1 to 3 4H Cloverbud activities, 1 FFA activity, and sponsorship for WyRED event annually.
  - DELEGATION: Education Coordinator

ACTION: Provide sponsorship to Ten Sleep Schools for Teton Science School field trip

- GOAL: Provide sponsorship for annual field trip.
  - DELEGATION: Education Coordinator

ACTION: Provide natural resource education to students utilizing the Outdoor Classroom or Worland Community Garden, focusing on water quality, plants, animals, birds, fish, insects, bats, pollinators, alternative energy, soils, and other related topics. Utilize Wyoming Ag in The Classroom, Project Learning Tree or other materials on hand or available online.

- GOAL: Workshop or Camp Program consisting of 1 to 3 sessions
  - DELEGATION: Education Coordinator

ACTION: Create a kid-friendly social media posts incorporating a natural resource topic that includes a lesson, activity, and links for resources.

- GOAL: Post monthly to social media Kid's Corner with topics relevant to the season or current events.
  - DELEGATION: Education Coordinator

ACTION: Collaborate with the Washakie Museum to provide educational workshop to students regarding natural resource management.

- GOAL: 4th Grader Day at Museum and Washakie Museum STEAM event.
  - DELEGATION: Education Coordinator



# Public Information & Education

## YOUTH EDUCATION, continued

ACTION: Involve WCSD#1 and WCSD#2 in participating in the NACD Stewardship Poster and Photo Contest and PLT Arbor Day Contest.

- GOAL: Facilitate contests with teachers to have a brief lesson to the classrooms and provide materials and prizes. Make sure teachers and students are familiar with contest rules.
  - DELEGATION: Education Coordinator

ACTION: Work with WCSD#1 and City of Worland to design and paint a natural resource/ag mural that relates to Washakie County on the Newell Sergeant restroom facility at the ballpark.

- GOAL: Secure Wyoming Arts Council grant and successful design and paint the mural.
  - DELEGATION: Education Coordinator

ACTION: Conduct National Water Quality Monitoring Day with WCSD #1 and WCSD#2 elementary students and provide lesson on water quality/quantity.

- GOAL: 1 to 2 field trips in Fall 2023 to collect and sample water.
  - DELEGATION: Education Coordinator

ACTION: Collaborate with the Wyoming Boys School and Worland Community Garden to have boys come out for an educational workshop that includes a lesson and assisting with tasks at the Outdoor Classroom and Community Garden.

- GOAL: 3 to 4 trips during Spring/Summer 2024.
  - DELEGATION: Education Coordinator

ACTION: Provide conservation related educational experiences for preschool aged children.

- GOAL: Host a series of lessons in both the spring & fall to area preschools.
  - DELEGATION: Education Coordinator

ACTION: Work with the schools to provide supplemental programming for field trips and activity days.

- GOAL: 3 to 4 educational experiences at events like WMS Medicine Lodge Field Day, West Side STEM Week, and more.
  - DELEGATION: Education Coordinator

## GENERAL PUBLIC

### ACTIONS, GOALS, AND DELEGATION

ACTION: Provide natural resource, agriculture and urban conservation related information and events to the public by utilizing the Northern Wyoming News, Ten Sleep Tribute, Big Horn Radio Community Connections, Informational flyers or newsletters, and Facebook posts.

- GOAL: Share information about current events and other natural resource related articles through social media to including posts from other pages related to conservation practices. Post a quarterly Newsletter. Promote events and cost share opportunities through radio and print ads.
  - DELEGATION: Education Coordinator & District Manager



# *Public Information & Education*

## GENERAL PUBLIC, continued

ACTION: Participation and sponsorship of Washakie County Fair and 4H.

- GOAL: Set up a themed display table with a giveaway and provide resource materials. Provide sponsorship for 4H.
  - DELEGATION: Education Coordinator

ACTION: Grow Washakie Rural Workshop to include guest speakers sharing information about natural resources, food preservation, livestock and other relevant topics that provide resources for Small Acreage and Urban Conservation efforts.

- GOAL: Securing funding through Barnyards & Backyards and host the event at the Washakie Museum. Registration fees would cover lunch.
  - DELEGATION: Education Coordinator & District Manager

ACTION: Fall Sales Barn display table to promote current Cost Share Programs offered through the District, and through the WDEQ 319 Implementation Program.

- GOAL: Set up a display table and have personnel available to answer questions.
  - DELEGATION: District Manager

ACTION: Coordinate with the University of Wyoming Extension office for any community related education program needs or workshop opportunities.

- GOAL: On-going and as needed.
  - DELEGATION: Education Coordinator & District Manager

ACTION: Encourage food production, procurement, preparation and preservation in Washakie County through the Full Campaign: Hearts, Bellies, Pantries.

- GOAL: Disseminate promotional materials to encourage foodscaping, work with families in a season long garden mentoring program, initiate a winter gardening book club and group, and educate the public about creative ways to reduce chicken feed costs.
  - DELEGATION: Education Coordinator

ACTION: Provide scholarship opportunities for the public to attend workshops or other educational events.

- GOAL: Create scholarship application and ranking system with Board. Promote scholarship through social media, radio and newspaper.
  - DELEGATION: District Manager

# *Tree & Landscaping Program*

## GOAL

To alleviate and manage soil erosion, improve energy flow, improve the water and water nutrient cycle, all by providing education to the public on the benefit of trees.

## OBJECTIVES

- Support the use of tree planting and the use of other plant materials to provide for improved natural resource conditions and community aesthetics.
- Offer bareroot tree seedlings or plugs, bushes, native plants and weed barrier for sale at a competitive price.
- Provide stakeholders with information regarding the selection of appropriate varieties of trees for their intended use, proper techniques of tree planting and maintenance, irrigation systems, program funding, wildlife interactions, and sources of trees through the website, printed materials, educational workshops, and other available methods.
- Provide technical assistance and cost share for tree planting projects.

## ACTIONS, GOALS, AND DELEGATION

ACTION: Compile inventory list for bareroot tree seedlings, plugs, native plants and bushes and offer to community for purchase. Coordinate with the nursery on inventory, invoicing and shipping. Coordinate with buyers for payment and delivery.

- GOAL: Market to community and provide deliverables.
  - DELEGATION: Education Coordinator & District Manager

ACTION: Make weed barrier and staples available to the community to purchase.

- GOAL: Minimum 20 rolls of weed barrier and 5 boxes of staples.
  - DELEGATION: Education Coordinator & District Manager

ACTION: Complete active outreach and marketing on trees to include Northern Wyoming News, Big Horn Radio Community Connections, Facebook posts, Informational flyers and Newsletters.

- GOAL: Quarterly outreach with heavy emphasis during peak season for planting and planning.
  - DELEGATION: Education Coordinator & District Manager

ACTION: Provide technical assistance for tree planting projects, to include wind breaks.

- GOAL: Upon request. Utilize other agency resources when needed, like Wyoming State Forestry.
  - DELEGATION: Education Coordinator & District Manager



# *Recycling & Waste Management*

## GOAL

Coordinate, support and implement recycling, waste reduction, and proper waste disposal systems.

## OBJECTIVES

- Promote, maintain and enhance recycling efforts.
- Provide educational and informational outreach regarding recycling awareness.
- Promote awareness of new technology and resources associated with waste management and recycling.
- Research urban recycling programs and effectiveness.
- Promote food waste reduction.

## ACTIONS, GOALS, AND DELEGATION

ACTION: Continue to work and support Ten Sleep National Honor Society as stewards of the Monthly Recycling Event and the 55-gallon drum Event Recycling program in Ten Sleep.

- GOAL: Provide mileage reimbursement and trailer maintenance, monthly promotion for the event, and special event promotion. Highlight newly painted recycling trailer and conservation message with parade participation.
  - DELEGATION: Education Coordinator

ACTION: Create a community based compost bin program, offering composting bins and education on composting and food waste reduction.

- GOAL: Purchase bins through Recycling Connections and sell to the community. Offer resource materials or a workshop on composting.
  - DELEGATION: Education Coordinator & District Manager

ACTION: Host the 29th Annual Christmas Tree Recycling Event in Worland and Ten Sleep.

- GOAL: January 6, 2024, recruit volunteers to collect trees and utilize Big Horn REA to chip trees for mulch.
  - DELEGATION: Education Coordinator & District Manager

ACTION: Maintain dog waste stations in coordination with City of Worland.

- GOAL: Check bags monthly for any maintenance needs and bag refills.
  - DELEGATION: Seasonal Maintenance & Education Coordinator

ACTION: Adopt-A-Highway, 2-mile stretch between Worland and Ten Sleep.

- GOAL: Recruit volunteers, complete Spring and Fall pick ups.
  - DELEGATION: Education Coordinator

ACTION: Promote food waste reduction through education, composting and community efforts.

- GOAL: Start a pilot program with school district or other local food waste producers to address the benefits and challenges of a community food waste reduction effort.
  - DELEGATION: Education Coordinator

# *Special Projects & Cost Share*

## GOAL

Strive to meet the rural and urban public natural resource conservation needs through assistance and special project efforts to promote a healthy community through conservation practices that have a public benefit.

## OBJECTIVES

- Promote and implement urban conservation and beautification projects.
- Provide cost-share funding for On-The-Ground natural resource conservation BMP projects.
- Promote the use of renewable alternative energy sources.

## ACTIONS, GOALS, AND DELEGATION

ACTION: Provide funding for On-The-Ground projects that benefit and protect our natural resources and provide a benefit to the public. Utilize all outreach and networking means to connect with landowners and producers.

- GOAL: Ongoing, goal 2 to 4 projects annually.
  - DELEGATION: District Manager & Board of Supervisors

ACTION: Identify urban conservation programs that would benefit the community. Network and coordinate with Extension, Community Garden, City of Worland and Washakie County.

- GOAL: Create Urban Special Discretionary application and ranking forms and promote. Research and network to identify 2 to 3 potential new projects.
  - DELEGATION: Education Coordinator & District Manager

ACTION: Continue to oversee the Nowood and Cottonwood Grass Creek Watershed Improvement Districts and assure all requirements are being met.

- GOAL: Attend monthly or quarterly meetings, get signed minutes and financial and annual reports from WID Board of Directors.
  - DELGATION: District Manager & Board of Supervisors

ACTION: Hold our Annual Photo Contest in which the winning photo will be used for the WCCD Calendar and distributed around Washakie County.

- GOAL: Promote contest, select winner and develop and distribute calendar.
  - DELEGATION: Education Coordinator & District Manager

ACTION: Install a composting toilet at the Outdoor Classroom with the dual purpose of replacing existing port-a-john that was destroyed, and as a source to educate the public on the benefits of a composting toilet system.

- GOAL: Bid out project components, place orders and oversee installation. Once completed, provide educational resource materials on composting toilets.
  - DELEGATION: Education Coordinator



# Water Quality & Quantity

## GOAL

Increase the efficient usage, maintain, and improve the quality and quantity of waters through education, technical assistance and best management practices (BMPs).

## OBJECTIVES

- Promote BMPs that reduce non-point source pollution and promote water conservation.
- Support water development projects that increase water quantities for beneficial use, while considering the traditional customs, culture, ecology and economy within the district.
- Oppose any federal government control over individual water rights within the boundaries of the district and within the boundaries of the State of Wyoming.
- Support Wyoming's beneficial uses of water as defined under administrative policy of the State Engineer's office.

## ACTIONS, GOALS, AND DELEGATION

ACTION: Continue program management and implementation of the Upper Big Horn Sub-Basin Watershed Implementation Program.

- GOAL: Identify projects that qualify, work with Steering Committee to rank projects, Board to approve projects, and landowners to implement projects. Complete all required grant reporting requirements.
  - DELEGATION: District Manager

ACTION: Sampling and Analysis Plan for the Upper Big Horn Sub-Basin Watershed Implementation Program water quality monitoring program utilizing the WDA Water Quality Grant.

- GOAL: Complete and get approved through WDEQ the SAP prior to December 31, 2023. Complete all required reporting requirements.
  - DELEGATION: District Manager

ACTION: Promote Well Water Testing Day with Cost-Share assistance through WDA Lab Funds.

- GOAL: 1 event in Spring 2024.
  - DELEGATION: District Manager

ACTION: Promote the WCCD Cost Share Programs and secure voluntary based landowner projects that will improve water quality.

- GOAL: Identify projects through landowners and get approval through Board of Supervisors.
  - DELEGATION: District Manager

ACTION: Implement the Water Monitoring Program per the Upper Big Horn Sub-Basin Watershed Implement program SAP.

- GOAL: Secure lab equipment and supplies as needed. Schedule 2024 monitoring season dates and successfully go out and start collecting and analyzing samples.
  - DELEGATION: District Manager, Education Coordinator & Board of Supervisors

# *Range & Irrigated Lands*

## GOAL

Promote Best Management Practices (BMPs) for the improvement and continued use of all rangelands and irrigated cropland to sustain agriculture productivity.

## OBJECTIVES

- Support stakeholders in the pursuit of utilizing agriculture by-products.
- Assist and promote local stakeholders' continued use of BMPs for erosion control and vegetation management.
- Work to increase productivity of land to increase and/or maintain Active Preference Animal Unit Months (AUMs) to maximum sustainable levels within the district.
- Discourage any action that results in a net loss of irrigated lands which produce food and fiber and affects the economic return of those lands within the district.
- Discourage any action that results in a net loss of open space which is beneficial to wildlife, and vital to maintaining the viewshed and water quality.
- Support the development and use of new technology in range and irrigation management practices.
- Maintain partnerships with local, state and federal agencies to provide technical assistance and/or funding for district residents.

## ACTIONS, GOALS, AND DELEGATION

ACTION: Promote the WCCD Cost Share Programs to complete projects that improve agricultural production and rangeland health.

- GOAL: Identify and get approval through Board of Supervisors for 2-4 projects.
  - DELEGATION: District Manager

ACTION: Stay informed and active in the EIS process for BLM Grazing Regulations.

- GOAL: Provide comment on any rulings that may not align with District Objectives and Goals.
  - DELEGATION: District Manager and Board of Supervisors

ACTION: Collaborate with local and state organizations to educate the public on BMP implementations that will improve overall soil health conditions.

- GOAL: As needed. On-going outreach to identify opportunities.
  - DELGATION: District Manager & Board of Supervisors



# Wildlife & Habitat

## GOAL

Encourage the control of predatory animals to reduce property damage, protect wildlife, the local economy and tax base which includes the viability of the agriculture community. WCCD is committed to proper habitat management by incorporating science in planning, programs, and projects.

## OBJECTIVES

- Work with government agencies, local cooperators, and other interested parties in the management, maintenance and improvement of habitat, emphasizing voluntary and incentive based programs.
- Encourage the use of tools such as grazing, plantings, water development, fire, chemical and aerial application, and other BMPs to improve habitat.
- Support the development and use of new technologies in land use management that are alternatives to permanent reductions in stocking rates.
- Support cooperative effort with state, federal and private land managers to enhance cooperative weed management efforts countywide coordinated with and primarily managed by the Washakie County Weed and Pest Control District.
- Support predator control efforts as a way to protect private property, human health, and achieve state directed wildlife population goals.
- Support and strongly encourage the control of noxious weeds, invasive species, and pests by owners, managers, and users of all private, state and federal lands including easements, right-of-way, and municipalities.
- Support wildlife management objectives and numbers based on what the range conditions and habitat can support.
- Support reasonable and science-based protection and restoration of critical winter range habitat, while respecting private property and considering the economic effects.
- Support game herd population objectives and management decisions that will benefit the wildlife resource, while taking into consideration competition between wildlife species and domestic livestock.

## ACTIONS, GOALS, AND DELEGATION

**ACTION:** Identify and work with landowners on cost-share opportunities to improve wildlife habitat on their private property through voluntary participation.

- **GOAL:** Ongoing.
  - **DELEGATION:** District Manager & Board of Supervisors

**ACTION:** Stay informed and active in any legislation regarding new rules or revisions to the Endangered Species Act and Greater Sage Grouse Management.

- **GOAL:** Provide comment on any rulings that may not align with District Objectives and Goals.
  - **DELEGATION:** District Manager & Board of Supervisors

# Recreation

## GOAL

Encourage recreational activities that enhance opportunities for economic development while maintaining the custom and culture of the district and ensuring the conservation of rangeland, water and soil resources.

## OBJECTIVES

- Recognize that recreation is multiple use of state and federal lands and the district supports the historical access of these lands.
- Promote the value of natural resources through education of multiple use ethics and good stewardship by recreational users.

## ACTIONS, GOALS, AND DELEGATION

ACTION: Supply the WCCD brochure "Respect the Land" to the public during events.

- GOAL: 3-4 events annually.
  - DELEGATION: Education Coordinator & District Manager

ACTION: Stay informed and actively participate in the development of the Big Horn National Forest Ten Sleep Canyon Climbing Management Plan and Dispersed Camping Regulations.

- GOAL: Ongoing.
  - DELEGATION: District Manager

ACTION: Work in collaboration with BBORC, Washakie County Commissioners and other involved agencies in the potential development access points within Washakie County, as part of the Blueway Trails program.

- GOAL: Participate in Blueway Trail Committee meetings when time permits. Follow social media and BBORC website for updates.
  - DELEGATION: District Manager

ACTION: Work with the Ten Sleep Climbers Coalition and the Big Horn National Forest on the Climbing regulations scheduled to be released in late 2023, and installation of dog waste stations at designated sites.

- GOAL: Provide comment on any policies that may not align with District Objectives and Goals, and purchase and provide dog station for installation by Park Rangers or Climbers Coalition.
  - DELEGATION: District Manager



# *Agency Interaction & Cooperation*

## GOAL

Continue to represent local natural resource interests in the planning and implementation efforts of local, state, and federal government agencies within the district boundaries. Facilitate efforts to participate in natural resource management planning in order to protect the natural resources, provide for the economic stability, and to protect local customs and cultures.

## OBJECTIVES

- Participate with cooperators and government agencies in making sound natural resource decisions that are scientifically-based, legally defensible, sensitive to natural resource health, and responsive to multiple-interest users.
- Work with local, state and federal government to encourage and support state control of water rights and to maintain opportunities for future water right allocations.
- Coordinate with local, state and federal government on educating about the eradication of introduced invasive species.
- Work to ensure local input on state and federal land management issues to promote multiple use of public lands (grazing – wildlife and domestic, logging, minerals, recreation) and protect private property rights.
- Maintain partnerships with local, state and federal agencies to provide technical assistance and/or funding to local residents.
- Develop, promote and defend viable alternatives to the proposed actions of other government agencies where the proposed action would adversely impact any of the resource or economic bases.
- Provide comment, coordinate, and/or seek to become a Cooperating Agency for federal land use planning affecting the district.
- Provide local land use policy or plan for consistency review purposes.
- Support traditional multiple land uses as a means to maintain continuity in the local economy and assure the sustainability of existing agricultural, recreational, and industrial interests while maintaining or improving the present environmental quality of life.

## ACTIONS, GOALS, AND DELEGATION

ACTION: Facilitate open dialog on natural resource issues with the general public by continuing to be involved as cooperating agency with state and federal agencies.

- GOAL: Ongoing.
  - DELEGATION: District Manager & Board of Supervisors

ACTION: Develop, promote and defend viable alternatives to the proposed actions of government agencies where the proposed action would adversely affect the district.

- GOAL: Ongoing.
  - DELEGATION: District Manager & Board of Supervisors

# *Agency Interaction & Cooperation*

## ACTIONS, GOALS, AND DELEGATION, cont.

ACTION: Coordinate, cooperate and consult with BLM and Forest Service regarding any proposed federal action, environmental planning process, and resource management actions.

- GOAL: Ongoing.
  - DELEGATION: District Manager & Board of Supervisors

ACTION: Work with local, state and federal governments to encourage and support state control of water rights and to maintain potential future water right allocations.

- GOAL: Ongoing.
  - DELEGATION: District Manager & Board of Supervisors

ACTION: Coordinate with local, state and federal governments on educating the public about the identification and eradication of noxious weeds.

- GOAL: Ongoing.
  - DELEGATION: District Manager

ACTION: As a member, participate in Big Horn National Forest Steering Committee meetings and tours, and stay informed on BNF management, issues, strategies and projects.

- GOAL: 1 Annual Tour, meetings as indicated.
  - DELEGATION: Education Coordinator, District Manager & Board of Supervisors

ACTION: Continue involvement in NRCS Division I Local Work Group meetings.

- GOAL: Host meeting in March 2024.
  - DELEGATION: Education Coordinator, District Manager & Board of Supervisors

ACTION: Coordinate and support other Big Horn Basin cooperators regarding Cooperating Agency status.

- GOAL: Ongoing.
  - DELEGATION: District Manager & Board of Supervisors

ACTION: Host the Annual Legislative Luncheon, inviting local & state government officials.

- GOAL: Annually.
  - DELEGATION: District Manager

ACTION: Coordinate with Washakie Emergency Planning Committee by attending THIRA & LEPC meetings and obtain updated emergency planning changes and strategies in case of local emergency.

- GOAL: Quarterly.
  - DELEGATION: Education Coordinator & District Manager



# *Internal District Operations*

## GOAL

Carry out duties established by statutes, the local public and Board of Supervisors to maintain a structural, stable and functioning Conservation District.

## OBJECTIVES

- Employ personnel to effectively carry out goals and objectives.
- Analyze District Supervisor and staff needs and secure assistance and/or training from private, local, state and federal sources.
- Review the powers and duties of conservation districts and supervisors annually, as clarified in 11-16-122 of the Conservation District Law.
- Complete annual budget, strategically reviewing expenses, income and anticipated needs.
- Review the development and/or revision of conservation plans and the implementation of those scheduled conservation practices.
- Complete and maintain an up-to-date Natural Resource Land Use Plan.
- Increase capacity of the Board of Supervisors by utilizing associate board members and steering committees.
- Convene monthly board meetings in addition to special or emergency meetings as needed.
- Participate actively at meeting of organizations of which the Board of Supervisors is a member.
- Seek funding for natural resource and conservation projects.
- Strive to improve the ability to provide services and operational programs and to work with cooperating agencies, partners, and associates.
- Review subdivision site areas and plans and makes recommendations on soil suitability, potential soil erosion during and after construction, potential flooding or wetland concerns to the Washakie County Commissioners/Washakie County Planning Office as clarified in 18-5-306 (a)(xii)(B) (b) of the Wyoming State Statutes.
- Completed all requirements for WDA Appropriation Funding annually.

## ACTIONS, GOALS, AND DELEGATION

ACTION: Analyze district supervisor and staff training needs and make sure every effort is made to secure assistance and/or training from private, local, state and federal sources.

- GOAL: Make sure all Board Supervisors are certified by state requirements in July 2024.
  - DELEGATION: District Manager & Board of Supervisors

ACTION: Review subdivision plans and provide information on soil suitability for buildings, sewage disposal, road and streets, shallow excavations, lawns and landscaping and unpaved road construction, as per state statute.

- GOAL: Ongoing.
  - DELEGATION: District Manager & Board of Supervisors

# *Internal District Operations*

## ACTIONS, GOALS, AND DELEGATION cont...

ACTION: Review the powers and duties of conservation districts and supervisors annually, as clarified in 11-16-122 of the Conservation District Law.

- GOAL: Annually.
  - DELEGATION: Education Coordinator, District Manager & Board of Supervisors

ACTION: Prepare annual budget to carry out goals and objectives.

- GOAL: Fiscally responsible budget to be approved in May (draft) and final approval at budget hearing in July.
  - DELEGATION: District Manager & Board of Supervisors

ACTION: Complete WDA Appropriation Funding Requirements .

- GOAL: Annually. August 31st and December 31st deadline requirements.
  - DELEGATION: District Manager & Board of Supervisors

ACTION: Maintain and update the district website and social media pages.

- GOAL: Ongoing.
  - DELEGATION: Education Coordinator & District Manager

ACTION: Provide support to WNRF and WACD at the Annual Convention through convention sponsorship and contribution of auction items.

- GOAL: Annual Convention, December 3-8, 2022.
  - DELEGATION: District Manager & Board of Supervisors

ACTION: Review and approve the development and/or revision of NRCS conservation plans.

- GOAL: Upon request by District Conservationist.
  - DELEGATION: Board of Supervisors

ACTION: Prepare and distribute the signed Board of Supervisor meeting minutes.

- GOAL: Monthly.
  - DELEGATION: District Manager

ACTION: Work in partnership with NRCS, Washakie Co. Weed & Pest, Landis Benson, Wyoming Boys School, and Bridger Plant Materials Center to improve and maintain WCCD's Outdoor Classroom.

- GOAL: As needed.
  - DELEGATION: Education Coordinator & Seasonal Maintenance



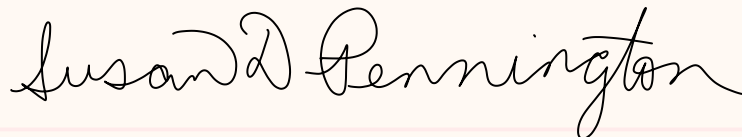
# Washakie County Conservation District

We, the Supervisors of the Washakie County Conservation District, as duly authorized by Wyoming Conservation District Law, hereby adopt and accept this Annual Plan of Work for Fiscal Year 2024 on August 21, 2023 as the guideline for work priorities in the District.

Daniel Greet, Chairman



Susan Pennington, Vice Chairwoman



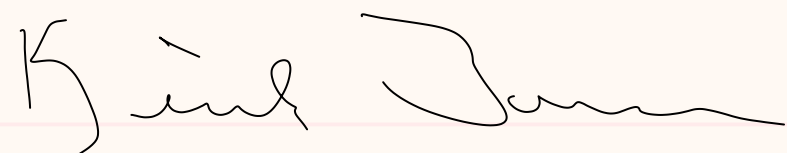
Jaci Harkink, Secretary/Treasurer



Charley Orchard, Member



Keith Bower, Member







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