

Shoshone River Watershed Plan Implementation - Scorecard

<i>Plan Management</i>	Continue the formal existence of the Shoshone River Watershed Steering Committee, and continue the cooperative working relationship between the committee and the Conservation Districts within the watershed, holding semi-annual meetings to conduct business and review plan performance	Met 11/8/11 – decided to merge Bitter Creek and Shoshone River plans into 1 plan. Reviewed tasks and progress. Sterling Hansen agreed to continue as committee chairperson. Cathy Rosenthal and Ann Trosper will begin draft of combined document for board to review.
Water quality	Conduct or participate in a thorough evaluation of the water quality data, as well as other associated relevant data, that has been collected over time within the watershed	In progress, Ann and Cathy to determine methodology for mapping data and develop improved data plots.
Water quality	Maintain an up to date Sampling and Analysis Plan (SAP) for impaired streams within the watershed as well as other streams that are deemed significant by the districts watershed steering committee or other partners.	Ann to update and submit to DEQ to acknowledge sites that have been changed slightly and that are no longer in use.
Water quality	Develop a secure system of records for the capture and long term maintenance of water quality and related data within the watershed utilizing best available geospatial and database	MS Access database developed and populated with sample data. Photographs remain to be inserted into db. Working on improving output.
Soil conservation	Support NRCS efforts to finish the detailed soil survey of Park County	Project in Park County ?? complete. Our subdivision process is now using the newest soil survey data available to us
Soil conservation	Support the Conservation Districts within the watershed as they participate in a review of developments and subdivisions that will occur within the watershed, providing information that might be of importance to county planning on items such as water table, soils, weed control, erosion	Continuing – we have added language into our subdivision review letters to Park County Planning and Zoning asking that they require both a weed and irrigation management plan that is reviewed by Park County Weed and Pest and the appropriate irrigation district before allowing any subdivision

	control, etc	request.
Stream Classification	Review streams within the watershed, and where appropriate, petition for a change of classification or designation if needed	Participated in the Wyoming DEQ/WACD stream model verification. Status report 11/8/11 indicated the Wyoming DEQ is reviewing the results of the model with EPA. Stream re-classification will be deferred until EAP review of model is complete.
Loss of contact recreation	Sponsor an informational workshop on recreational issues within the watershed, targeting private land owners, local, state and federal government, recreationists, outfitters, and others that have a vested stake in recreational activities and their impacts on watershed; seeking opportunities to educate and network on common issues. A long term goal of the workshop will be to develop lasting partnerships	Need to work on this task if the steering committee desires. Have visited directly with North Fork Angler - Wade. Trout Unlimited representation on steering committee.
Fish Consumption Safety	As part of a recreational workshop, invite a qualified representative to present on the issues of fish consumption within the watershed	Wyoming Game and Fish – Jason Burckhardt reported that they are in the process of surveying fish, primarily predator fish for consumption safety. If a problem occurs they work through Wyoming Department of Health to broadcast information. Need to add this topic to future workshops – two places to add this are Ballinger Retreat – Responsible Recreation Workshop
<i>Storm Drain Marking</i>	Identify and partner with individuals or groups to develop storm drain awareness, identification, and marking, possibly using volunteers to mark storm drains with educational symbols.	Have the templates for marking storm drains. 2011 plans failed when students identified to do this project changed their minds. Matthew Poto has expressed an interest in the project for 2012. Need to get with WVNRT to see if a small grant can be obtained to take care of this project. Need to firm up project again with Chuck Hewitt. Need to pass

		information to Dianne Russel I to see if Cody CD is interested.
<i>Tillage Workshop</i>	Work the University of Wyoming Cooperative Extension Service, NRCS, and other interested parties to develop an educational workshop detailing low tillage operations and the economic and environmental benefits of those practices.	Two separate workshops have occurred. One was at the U. W. Experiment Station. Problems were with the size of equipment needed to demonstrate the no-tillage planter. The second workshop was at the Lyle Evelo farm. NRCS does have an Energy Conservation program available to cooperators that are interested in this technology. At this time there is 1 application for the program.
<i>Soil Conservation BMP Implementation</i>	Work with private land owners and partners to develop conservation best management practices that address soil erosion on their lands or on federal leases that they hold	Ongoing – Ann has developed database to track projects, resource concerns, and costs by watershed and district. Information is forward to WACD
<i>Soil Erosion Construction Talk</i>	Develop a presentation for local and regional workshops detailing the importance of soil erosion protection in construction areas as well as showing best management practices that can be used to preserve soil during construction activities	No action complete at this time
<i>Ground Water Monitoring Program</i>	Develop a ground water monitoring program that centers on quick and simple sampling of local drinking water wells for common contaminants that are of risk to human or animal health, work with conservation districts in the state that have had a similarly successful program (i.e. Converse County) giving the community an opportunity to test their water. This could be done in conjunction with world water monitoring day or some other annual event	Process in place, investigating a reliable method of delivering samples to lab in Laramie
<i>WDEQ Staffing</i>	Encourage and support WDEQ in their efforts to	Have not conducted a review of the 305(b) report. Need to

	maintain an adequate and accurate inventory of point sources of pollution within the watershed and conduct a thorough review of the 305(b) report	develop a solid link to this report – attach it to pcfcd.org website so the PCFCD board and Shoshone/Bitter Creek watershed steering committee members have easier access. Develop process with Cathy to review report
<i>Sedimentation BMP Implementation</i>	In cooperation with NRCS and other partners, develop a program that encourages conservation practices, working to identify opportunities for best management practices for sedimentation, and make cost share available to prevent increased sedimentation where appropriate. Specific BMP such as buffer strips, engineered wetlands, irrigation efficiency projects, and other projects that serve to slow the input of nonpoint sources of input into streams. (See “soil erosion” above)	Participate in local work group meetings. Maintain database for projects. Need to work to have surge valve workshop information included in large acreage and small acreage workshops. Have included drip irrigation in small acreage workshops
<i>BLM Resource Management Plan Development</i>	Encourage conservation districts to fully participate in the Resource Management Plan (RMP) revision process with the BLM, actively working to ensure that the public land management agencies work to address the implementation of BMPs on public lands. If necessary, partner with other groups or conservation districts to ensure representation in that process	MOU is signed with BLM. PCFCD does not participate directly in meetings due to limited funds. We do however partner with Park County Commissioners, MCD to receive reports and we do comment as appropriate.
<i>Water Conservation Presentation</i>	Promote efficient use of irrigation, showing projects that have been successful in increasing the efficiency of irrigation. This should be done in conjunction with workshops planned by the districts	Small acreage workshops have demonstrated drip irrigation techniques. We have participated in the IRRIGATION 101 project with U. W. Extension
<i>Increased Grazing Management Planning -</i>	Continue to encourage the application of grazing management plans on larger	In progress. NRCS Sage grouse initiative program is an enhanced grazing management

	operations, maintaining current levels and increasing the application of plans by 25 percent over the next 5 years	program benefitting sage grouse habitat Ann – need to determine grazing management rate in 2008 and compare that to programs in place 2009 - 2011
<i>Grazing Workshop -</i>	Develop and promote a workshop on the use of grazing management monitoring, working to make tools and knowledge available to land managers and leases	Complete – participated in grazing management workshop in 2010 where Sample Point was demonstrated. Will continue to develop grazing management workshops as appropriate.
<i>State Lands Management</i>	It appears that there is opportunity for improved management of resources on state lands. In some instances resource management on these lands may receives less attention than federally and privately managed lands. Request the participation of the state in giving a presentation on the states management strategies related to grazing	No work on this task has been done.
<i>Industry</i>	The steering committee recognizes that the regulation of industrial activities is the job of the WDEQ. It is the responsibility of that agency to monitor those activities for compliance. There seems to be significant opportunity for the development of BMPs and their application within industry and construction, especially related to sedimentation. In order to have valid information on activities, issues and concerns in the basin, WDEQ needs to have a more active presence and it is recommended that they have staff dedicated to working in the area. A letter will be drafted encouraging the development of a WDEQ position in the basin	Participated and presented comments regarding agriculture use of produced water in the Big Horn Basin
<i>Industry Participation and Representation</i>	Seek to obtain industry participation at 50% of watershed meetings and to have active industry participation in	Have not been successful in getting industry participation on watershed committee. We are actively participating with

	conservation activities within the watershed	industry on a sage grouse predation project that is a cooperative effort between all Big Horn Basin Conservation Districts, USDA animal control, Park County Predator Management Board, and industry
<i>Riparian Management Education</i>	Program education, targeted mailing, and on website, to people who have riparian, show funding sources, Trout Unlimited, Conservation Districts	No work done on this – Ann work on Website to highlight these programs
<i>Road Development Education -</i>	Managing the need for different road types and locations falls under the authority of counties and municipalities. The steering committee believes that it is important that planners and other local government take an active role in working to ensure that roads are designed and used in a manner consistent with BMPs. The steering committee and district will work with Game and Fish and the local chapter of Trout Unlimited to develop educational materials and/or a workshop for public and private managers	No work done on this topic -
<i>Continued Participation in Forest Planning - agencies</i>	The steering committee recognizes that management of national forest resources falls into the realm of responsibility of the Forest Service. The steering committee supports the process used to develop the Shoshone Forest plan. It is important that the local public have advisory input in planning the management of these resources. The steering committee feels that it is important to support the local conservation districts, as Local Cooperators in the forest revision planning process, and encourage standardization of	Do not participate with Forest Service Land plan - this has gone on for 7 years now – not in budget. Do submit comments if aware of needs.

	consistent policies with other federal land management	
<i>Standardization of Policies (RMP development) –</i>	The steering committee feels that the choices and management plans developed by local stakeholders and resource professionals should shape the guidance documents for management decisions on BLM lands. The committee will support local entities that participate as Local Cooperators in the planning process, and encourage standardization of consistent policies with other federal land management agencies. <i>See BLM Resource Management Plan Development</i>	Do have MOU signed with BLM and do submit comments – do not attend the meetings due to budget restrictions
<i>Pesticide Management -</i>	The steering committee supports the Weed and Pest District in their efforts to educate on pesticides and their proper use, storage, and disposal. It is important to continue to use them as a resource in workshops and educational opportunities on an ongoing basis	Ongoing – actively participate with PCWP in workshops
<i>Small Acreage Land use Management Workshop –</i>	It is important to assist small acreages holders with understanding their unique natural resource issues. The Steering Committee will work with Conservation Districts, Weed and Pest, NRCS, University of Wyoming Cooperative Extension, and others, to develop a series of annual workshops targeted at small acreage issues	Ongoing – Common Sense Conservation workshops are aimed at small acreage owners, participation in these workshop has improved over the last several years. Partners are Cody, Meeteetse CD's, UW, PCWP, and Park County Master Gardeners. Workshops include land use, water use, water quality, and livestock management/health
<i>Small Acreage Livestock Management -</i>	Make an annual session available in a small acreage workshop dealing with livestock issues	See above
Septic Systems) Septic System Rehabilitation -	Initial results from septic remediation programs have shown demonstrable good within the watershed. The committee will work with the	Continuing to address septic health in workshops – waiting on completion of TMDL on Shoshone River to allow future 319 funding

	conservation district to expand remediation activities and make the rehabilitation of antiquated or failing systems a priority. Addressing an additional 40 systems (23 have been remediated) on bitter creek will be a priority pending funding	
<i>Septic Suitability Map</i>	- Work with the conservation districts, county planning and zoning, and other entities to develop an area-wide septic suitability map, and to make a set of guides for design and management of systems	No work done on this – Ann check with Cory Cole and Park County Planner to see what has been done and what is possible for this project
<i>Animal Feeding Operations</i>	Work with the NRCS and local conservation districts to locate and correct at least 3 AFO projects that have unacceptable conditions per year	Workshops have been held – Projects are not coming in – 2012 – plan another workshop and work with NRCS to help locate candidate projects
<i>Feeding Operations Education –</i>	Make one presentation per year at workshops in the watershed detailing Animal Feeding Operations, their nature, and programs to remediate those that may have unacceptable conditions	See above
<i>Invasive Species Control –</i>	Invasive species control activities are under the direction of the Park County Weed and Pest District. The Steering Committee and local conservation districts will work with the local weed and pest to increase invasive species control activities in the watershed by identifying at least one major project per year to work on cooperatively, and to showcase management activities	Russian Olive remediation is underway – district participates on CRM board. Project spending is pushing \$1 million - Working with PCWP to present the Back Country Weed Control to Sportsmen and ATV users
<i>Financial Assistance Education -</i>	The local conservation districts and NRCS will work to make awareness on cost share opportunities a priority. At least 3 times per year information will be made available through meetings, articles or other means to the public and land	Ongoing - Local work group meeting – news paper/radio articles – Need to include funding opportunities in workshops

	owners and managers within the watershed	
<i>Public Education –</i>	As part of the watershed plan implementation activities workshops, tours and other informational meetings have been identified. Pending the necessary support and funding, a minimum of three of these per year will be supported	No work on this topic
<i>Irrigation Efficiency Improvements –</i>	The Shoshone watershed is one of the most important agriculturally in the northwestern corner of the state, and depends largely on the success of irrigated agriculture and the use and development of those resources. Some of the infrastructure is quite old, and delivery and use systems show significant opportunity for improvement. The steering committee and districts will work with the NRCS to identify and develop 10 irrigation efficiency projects per year	ongoing
<i>Pet Waste Disposal</i>	– Pet waste on recreational areas is an issue in the watershed. The committee and districts will work with the pertinent local government to expand pet waste bag dispensers along walking trails in Cody and Powell, putting up one new project in each community over the first 5 years	City of Powell has this project within city limits. Public access areas on the Shoshone have been identified. Need to work with steering committee to try to develop a workable plan for PCFCD. City of Cody has pet disposal on river walk – disposal is not well used by public – need to work up a good education program
<i>Access Information –</i>	Managed public access is important. After development of the necessary partnerships, districts and the steering committee will work with partners to support efforts to increase levels of signage and general information on the locations of access to waters for recreational purposes within the	Ongoing – ran by Game and Fish – Ann review current signage - look for additional needs

	watershed	
<i>Sanitary Facilities for Recreationists –</i>	With increasing numbers of recreationists there is a need for increasing the facilities available for proper disposal of human waste. The committee and districts will work with Game and Fish to identify locations for facilities and develop funding options and/or alternatives along recreational waters	Wyoming Game and Fish, BLM control – work with them to identify suitable sites and try to find funding
Sediment Loading) <i>Issue Identification, Implementation and Funding –</i>	As recreation continues to increase in the watershed it will be necessary to develop increased management and stewardship. The committee and districts will work with partners to identify issues and concerns and develop BMPs on high use recreational areas, as well as develop some permanent funding mechanism for implementation of activities and maintenance of a staff capable of assisting in implementation and educational activities	No work on this project
Spreading of Invasive Species) <i>Invasive Species and Recreation –</i>	As use of recreation continues and grows, invasive species in the form of plants and animals have been introduced into the watershed. These pose a significant threat to the system. Districts, the steering committee, and their partners will work with to make information available through the development of a responsible recreation workshop	See invasive species comments
<i>Tread Lightly –</i> Information will be disseminated by leaving pamphlets at locations where off road vehicles and/or permits are sold	The recreational riding of ATVs and other vehicles is becoming more and more popular. Many users are new to off road motorsports and the rules of use and conduct of these vehicles on public land. To help increase the information available the districts, steering committee and partners will make the “Tread	No work on this project - Ann add TREAD LIGHTLY link to website and work on adding Tread Lightly to Back Country workshop

	Lightly” program available along with its associated educational material within the watershed.	
<i>Economics of Remediation –</i>	The costs of maintaining a world class river systems are both public and private. It is important that there is a better understanding of the value of the work and assets that go into watershed conservation activities. As part of education the districts, steering committee, and their partners will make a presentation on economics advantages of implementing BMPs, as well as the need to prioritize funding, efficiency, and the likely effects of remediation activities at one or more workshops	No work on this topic