

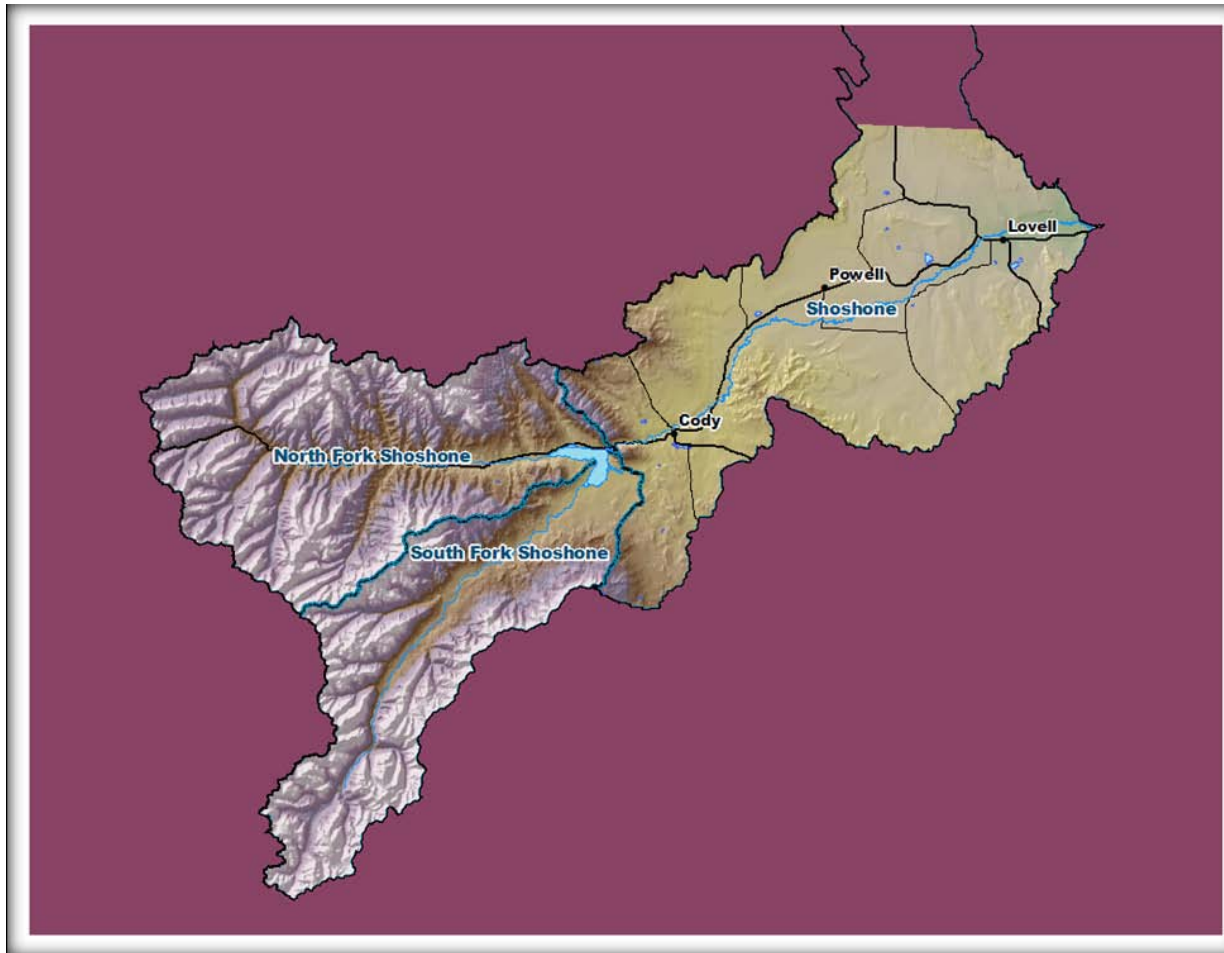
Shoshone River/Bitter Creek Watershed Plan

Bitter Creek Original - 2005

Shoshone River Original – 2008

Combined draft - 2012

Shoshone River Watershed



Steering Committee Membership

- Sterling Hansen – Chairman – sterlingh@tctwest.net
- Floyd Derry – fmderry@directairnet.com
- Bryant Startin – shoshoneid@bresnan.net
- Dan Laursen – htmtn@tritel.net
- Jerry Jech – jjech@blm.gov
- Jason Burckhardt – Jason.Burckhardt@wyo.gov
- Lora Startin – shoshoneid@bresnan.net
- Cathy Rosenthal - WACD Watershed Coordinator
- Ann Trosper – ann.trosper@wy.nacdnet.net

Where can you find the plans

- Powell Clarks Fork Conservation District website – pcfcd.org
 - Watershed plans/maps

What is a watershed plan

- **Locally** led assessment of a watershed
- Survey of both assets and detriments
- Plan to maintain or enhance assets
- Plan to minimize or maintain detriments
- Plan to study specific components
- Plan to address funding
- Provides measurement opportunity
- Working document subject to periodic reviews and revisions
- All remediation efforts are voluntary – no enforcement
- Watershed plan is not a TMDL and cannot be substituted for a TMDL

TMDL – The term

- TMDL – Total Maximum Daily Load
- How much of a particular substance can a water body handle on a daily basis and maintain quality
- For example – e. coli bacteria
 - How much can the Shoshone River handle on a daily basis from all sources and still maintain quality

TMDL – The Study

- **Mandated (Clean Water Act)** formal assessment of a watershed
- Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality will hire a consulting firm to perform the TMDL study
- Scientific survey of both assets and detriments
- Plan to maintain or enhance assets
- Plan to minimize or maintain detriments
- Plan to study specific components
- Plan to address funding
- Provides measurement opportunity
- Enforcement can enter into remediation efforts

TMDL – The Process

Wyoming DEQ has developed a timeline to address the various watersheds around the state. The Shoshone River watershed including Bitter Creek is scheduled to begin in the fall of 2012.

The Wyoming DEQ will compile a list of requirements for potential contractors to review and set a deadline for bids. (Request for Proposals) The RFP's will be sent to various contractors based on prior experience, availability, expertise.

The Wyoming DEQ will also ask for a task force of interested parties to review those proposals and participate in the final selection of the contractor.

TMDL – The Process, cont.

- Contractor will review available data and **existing** plans
- Contractor will complete study, make recommendations
 - Public meetings
 - Work with steering committee
- DEQ responsible for enforcement, Federal funding (319 funding)

Why do we care?

- Watershed steering committee – locally led – open to public involvement
 - Task force for contractor selection to make sure the elements that we need to make a living are considered. For example, in Park County it is imperative that any contractor selected for a TMDL on the Shoshone/Bitter Creek watershed should have verified expertise regarding irrigation.
 - Task force for developing future plans needs to have real world knowledge of the resources

Where are we now?

- Working on the updated version of the Shoshone River/Bitter Creek watershed plan
 - Our goal is to have this completed by April 1, 2012 so that it is firmly in place prior to the beginning of the TMDL process
- Evaluated progress made to date (scorecard)
- Continually seeking opportunities
- Continually seeking local involvement
- Waiting for TMDL process to begin this fall