



Trail News

April 5th, 2019

From the

Meeteetse Conservation District

www.meeteetse-conservery.net

P.O. Box 237 • 1906 State Street • Meeteetse, WY 82433

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Firewise Coordinator:

Joshua Kiple

NRCS:

District Conservationist:

Rory Karhu

PLANNING A CONTROLLED BURN!

- Make sure firefighting resources (hose, water sources, sprayer, hand tools, fire breaks) are in place and working. Wear proper clothing to prevent personal injury.
- Notify neighbors and have them standing by if necessary.
- Notify the sheriff's office (dispatch in most cases) of burn time, burn purpose and place. In case of a wildfire the fire department will know where to go and what to expect. This may also prevent the fire department from responding to a false alarm called in by a passerby. Be sure to call back when your fire is out.
- Review the weather forecast for the day and incorporate that into the local weather observations. Use this weather information to predict fire weather and ignition methods for the burn. Do not burn on days when winds or thunderstorms are predicted.
- Break target fuels into small manageable burns so the fire can be shut down if conditions change. Do not let them burn into the late morning or afternoon burn periods. If the burn cannot be completed in a day, wait and finish it up when the right burn conditions exist.
- Use wind direction to reduce risks when lighting the burn. Starting your burn next to a fire break forcing the flames to burn back into the wind (backing fire). This black lining will reduce the chances of it growing to a large uncontrollable fire and will also increase the size of the fire

break as the fire backs away from the fire break.

- Never light a fire where a head wind can carry it across a large area of fuel unless there are adequate fire breaks at the other end. A head fire is very difficult to suppress and it will create embers that can cross fire breaks.
- Maintain situational awareness of weather changes during the burn. Any changes in wind speed, wind direction and fire behavior is an indication that things could get out of hand.
- Do not be afraid to call the fire department if the situation seems to be getting out of hand. For more information contact the Meeteetse Conservation District 307-868-2484 or visit <https://parkcountyfirewise.com/toolbox/planning-your-controlled-burn/> or <https://parkcountyfirewise.com/park-county-burning-guidelines/>

CAUTION URGED ON PUBLIC ROADS

The Bureau of Land Management advises travelers on roads crossing public land to use caution as spring snowmelt and precipitation have resulted in muddy conditions throughout the area. In the spirit of shared conservation stewardship, BLM Worland Field Manager Mike Phillips asks the public to steer clear of muddy roads to avoid damaging the roads and resources. Driving on wet roads and two-tracks can cause resource damage including soil erosion and degradation, damage to vegetation or archaeological sites, and ruts. Additionally, beware of driving or parking on passable icy roads in the morning—the road may become a muddy disaster when the ice melts during the day. Phillips points out that waiting for roads to dry up is also the best way to avoid becoming stranded. He also cautions drivers before heading out for a drive, to let someone know where you're going in case you do become stranded.



RANCH SEMINAR – REPRODUCTION AND NUTRITION

April 15 @ 12:15 pm - 2:30 pm

Ten Sleep Community Center

204 2nd Street Ten Sleep, WY

Spring ranch seminar: nutrition and management to improve breeding success. Steve Paisley UW Extension Beef Specialist and Chance Marshall UW Extension Area Educator. Lunch provided courtesy of Nutra-Lix. Call 347-3431 to register.

!Visit our Website! <https://meeteetse-conservery.net/>

!Visit our Facebook page! <https://www.facebook.com/MeeteetseCD/>

WOOD RIVER CAMPGROUND WILLOW HARVEST

What: Wood River Willow Cutting Harvest - **When:** April 10th. Meet at 9 AM. - **Who:** USFS Personnel and volunteers



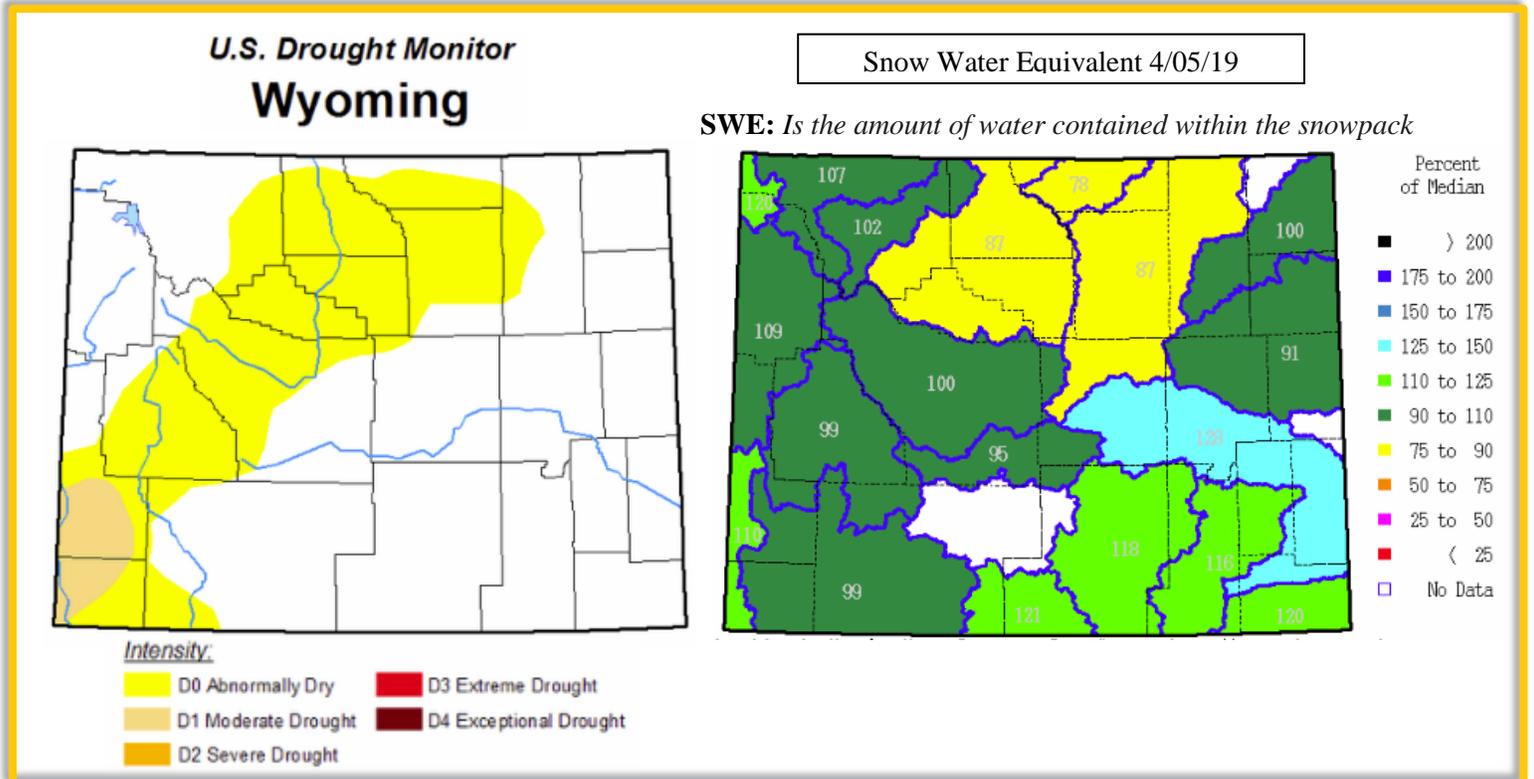
Details: We will be cutting 300 - 600 willow cuttings in preparation for the streambank stabilization and campground rehabilitation project slated to begin late this summer. This will require using pruners/loppers to cut appropriately sized willows and package them for transport. We will meet at the Wea Market in Meeteetse at 9 AM on April 10th. We'll caravan from the Wea Market to the campground vicinity. Our work site will primarily be downstream from the campground. After a short introduction, demo, and safety talk, we'll get started collecting. We'll go until we finish or until 3 PM, whichever comes first. We'll take a break for lunch, which you should bring with you. USFS personnel will transport the willows back to Cody for storage until the project is ready to implement.

Come prepared with: Lunch and snacks for yourself, personal gear to stay warm and slog through some potentially wet ground conditions, large bypass pruners/loppers if you've got them (see photo attached for example), gloves, sun/safety glasses, and bear spray if you've got it. Personal gear may include warm coats, hats, muck boots or similar waterproof boot, water bottle, warm pants and socks, etc. This event is not oriented towards kids – but we will have something during the planting phase of the project that will be appropriate for kids to participate in in the fall.

Contact: Kassy Skeen, Forest Ecologist (307-578-5165) with questions and to sign up. We're looking for approximately 10-12 people to help.

PRESCRIBED BURNS POSSIBLE

The Bureau of Land Management Wind River Big Horn Basin District tentatively plans to conduct four prescribed fire projects within Lander and Worland field office areas this spring. These projects are contingent upon fuel moisture and weather meeting optimal treatment conditions. The projects may be conducted in April and May in a number of location including Hooligan Springs, Medicine Lodge, Noon Point and Philip. **Noon Point:** The project will include mosaic sagebrush burning, encroaching conifer reduction and aspen enhancement on 200-400 acres of BLM-managed, State of Wyoming and private lands. The 1,400-acre project area lies approximately 20 miles southwest of Meeteetse. Treatments will continue for the next two years or until completion. Removing over-story shrubs and trees through the use of prescribed fire opens up areas for grasses and forbs, and provides for new growth with more palatable and nutritious forage. Removing understory vegetation through prescribed fire reduces encroaching, competing species and clears the area. For more information on prescribed fire and vegetation management on public lands, visit: www.forestandrangelands.gov.



NEXT MCD BOARD MEETING - WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10TH @ 3:00 P.M. 1906 STATE STREET IN MEETEETSE ~PUBLIC IS WELCOME~