

**ANNUAL REPORT TO THE  
WYOMING BOARD OF AGRICULTURE  
FISCAL YEAR 2017  
July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2017**



**MEETEETSE  
CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

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### **Introduction**

The Meeteetse Conservation District (MCD) Annual Report has been prepared in partial fulfillment of the requirements for Wyoming Conservation District funding through the Wyoming Department of Agriculture. It is also intended to assist the MCD Board of Supervisors in keeping the general public, other governmental entities, and non-governmental organizations informed of the activities and accomplishments of the MCD through fiscal year 2017 (FY 17). The MCD encourages public comments, which will help the District effectively plan its future.

### **Supervisors**

Steve Jones did not run for re-election at the end of his term and Joe Thomas was newly elected. Kathy Gilbreath was elected to finish a four year term.

MCD Board of Supervisors as of July 1, 2016

Office	Name	Position
Chairman	George (Tracy) Renner	Rural
Vice-Chairman	Lionel Ostrander	Rural
Treasurer	Steve Jones	Rural
Secretary	Tim Morrison	Urban
Member	Vacant	At-large

MCD Board of Supervisors as of June 30, 2017

Office	Name	Position
Chairman	Tim Morrison	Urban
Vice-Chairman	George (Tracy) Renner	Rural
Treasurer	Merilee (Kathy) Gilbreath	At-Large
Secretary	Lionel Ostrander	Rural
Member	Joe Thomas	Rural

### **Staff**

MCD Staff as of July 1, 2016

Name	Position	Status
Steffen Cornell	District Manager (DM)	FT, Hourly
Gary Mizer	Resource Specialist (RS)	FT, Seasonal
Virginia Davis	District Clerk	FT, Hourly
Bernie Spanogle	Firewise Coordinator	PT, Hourly
Wilson Renner	Resource Technician (RT)	FT, Seasonal

MCD Staff as of June 30, 2017

Name	Position	Status
Steffen Cornell	District Manager (DM)	FT, Hourly
Josh Kiple	Resource Specialist (RS)	FT, Hourly
Bernie Spanogle	Firewise Coordinator	PT, Hourly

### **Budgeting**

The MCD Board of Supervisors and staff developed the budget for FY 17 according to the Wyoming Uniform Municipal Fiscal Procedures Act. The budget was approved following the public budget hearing on July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016. All FY 17 activities were within the constraints of the budget. Reserve funding in the amount of \$95,000.00 was carried into FY 17 from FY 16, used to fund the District through December 2016, when the first mill levy check arrived.

### **Finances (financial references within this report are unaudited)**

In FY 17, the MCD maintained checking accounts at First National Bank in Powell and at Pinnacle Bank in Cody, as well as investment accounts for both cash and reserve funds with the Wyoming Government Investment Fund (WGIF). Big Horn Federal S&L certificates of deposit were used for certain reserve accounts.

The MCD operated on a cash basis and had no debt. The MCD used a VISA account through Pinnacle Bank to simplify purchasing. QuickBooks Pro 2016 was the accounting software used by MCD. MCD used an outside contractor, Schatz Accounting Services, for managing payroll and certain other bookkeeping responsibilities.

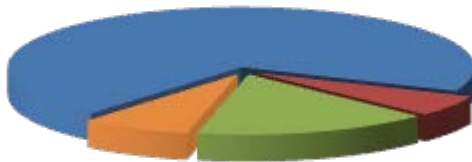
## Balance Sheet Comparison of FY 17 & FY 16

	Jun 30, 17	Jun 30, 16
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current Assets</b>		
<b>Checking/Savings</b>		
1000 · First Bank of Wyoming	2,495.71	-1,147.03
1001 · Pinnacle Bank Chk - xx01	3,365.85	77,914.25
1004 · Firewise - Pinn Bank	14,472.88	22,472.09
1050 · WGIF Local xx00	21.43	45,092.66
1052 · WGIF Mixed xx65	0.32	14,448.41
1060 · WGIF- SGPP xx76	30,447.48	8.90
1061 · WGIF-Wyo-Ben xx52	3.44	3.44
1910 · WGIF Dep Reserve xx73	61.97	61.66
1910.03 · BHFC D DepRes xx96	2,840.52	2,829.89
1920 · WGIF NRM&P Reserv xx74	92.18	91.73
1920.03 · BHFC D-NRM&P Res xx88	28,557.37	28,450.48
1930 · WGIF Emerg Res Mixed xx75	70.79	70.45
1930.03 · BHFC D Emerg Res Mxd xx70	49,430.21	49,245.20
1931 · WGIF Emerg Res Local xx77	64.57	64.25
1931.02 · BHFC D Emerg Res Local Fnds xx38	10,973.59	10,928.75
1990 · WGIF Startup Res xx72	45,020.26	13.75
<b>Total Checking/Savings</b>	<b>187,918.57</b>	<b>250,548.88</b>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>187,918.57</b>	<b>250,548.88</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>187,918.57</b>	<b>250,548.88</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>		
<b>Liabilities</b>		
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
<b>Credit Cards</b>		
2400 · Pinnacle Bank Credit Card		
2452 · VISA 2752 - Virginia L Davis	-2,408.49	-335.29
<b>Total 2400 · Pinnacle Bank Credit Card</b>	<b>-2,408.49</b>	<b>-335.29</b>
<b>Total Credit Cards</b>	<b>-2,408.49</b>	<b>-335.29</b>
<b>Other Current Liabilities</b>		
2101 · Payroll Liabilities		
2101.01 · Payroll Liabilities-Summer Hire	870.73	1,783.28
2101 · Payroll Liabilities - Other	180.56	180.56
<b>Total 2101 · Payroll Liabilities</b>	<b>1,051.29</b>	<b>1,963.84</b>
2120 · Employee Share Benefits	-1,143.38	6,472.28
<b>Total Other Current Liabilities</b>	<b>-92.09</b>	<b>8,436.12</b>
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>-2,500.58</b>	<b>8,100.83</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>-2,500.58</b>	<b>8,100.83</b>
<b>Equity</b>		
3000 · Opening Bal Equity	279,444.00	452,185.65
3900 · Retained Earnings	-24,875.44	-174,605.36
Net Income	-64,149.41	-35,132.24
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>190,419.15</b>	<b>242,448.05</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>187,918.57</b>	<b>250,548.88</b>

## Revenues

The MCD FY 17 total revenues of \$154,980 consisted of \$108,988 (70%) from its Mill Levy, \$8,824 (6%) from WDA Base Funding, \$25,400 (16%) from Competitive Grants, and \$11,769 (8%) from Interest and Other Income.

### FY 2017 Revenues = \$154,980.38

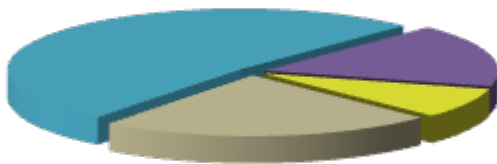


■ Mill Levy	108,987.50 = 70%
■ WDA Base Funding	\$8,823.50 = 6%
■ Competitive Grants	\$25,400.00 = 16%
■ Interest & other income	\$11,769.38 = 8%

## Expenditures

The MCD FY 17 total expenditures were \$219,130. Administration total expenditures were \$50,999 (23% of total expenditures); Operations total expenditures, including project contribution pass-throughs were \$113,482 (52%). Indirect expenditures were \$36,911 (17%). Total Capital Outlay for equipment and software was \$17,738 (8%).

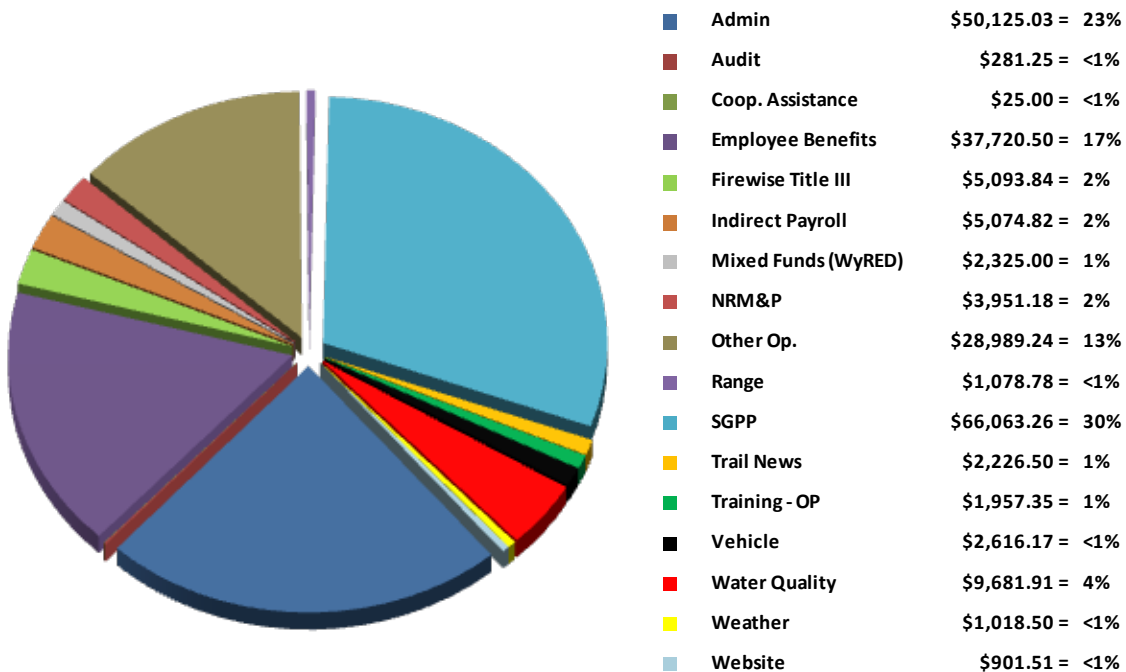
### FY 2017 Expenses = \$219,129.79



■ Administration	\$50,998.80 = 23%
■ Operations	113,481.73 = 52%
■ Indirect	\$36,911.26 = 17%
■ Equipment & Software	\$17,738.00 = 8%

23% of the MCD's direct expenditures were for administration and 77% for operations.

### FY 2017 Direct Expenditures by Class



# FY 17 Revenues and Expenditures

## Income

3100 · Operating Revenues	
3150 · Mill Levy	108,987.50
Total 3100 · Operating Revenues	108,987.50
3200 · Grants	
3220 · Dept of Ag Base Funding Grant	8,823.50
3250 · Competitive Grants	25,400.00
Total 3200 · Grants	34,223.50
3300 · Misc.	
3320 · Interest - C.D.s & Bank Accts	625.26
3330 · Refunds	30.89
3340 · Building Use	25.00
3390 · Other income	11,088.23
Total 3300 · Misc.	11,769.38
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>154,980.38</b>

## Expense

4100 · Admin Personnel Services	
4105 · DM Admin	24,787.50
4110 · RS Admin	4,868.45
4115 · RT Admin	2,419.00
4120 · Clerk	5,598.60
4190 · Other Admin	0.00
Total 4100 · Admin Personnel Services	37,673.55
4200 · Board & Employee Expenses	
4205 · Travel (Meals, Lodging, Fuel)	656.88
4215 · Bonds	297.00
4290 · Other Board Expenses	200.00
Total 4200 · Board & Employee Expenses	1,153.88
4300 · Contractual Services	
4310 · Accounting/auditing/Technical	1,950.00
4315 · Contract Labor	520.00
Total 4300 · Contractual Services	2,470.00
4800 · Office	
4810 · Admin Supplies/Postage	594.75
4830 · Office Bldg- Maintenance/Repairs	219.06
4850 · Office Utilities	6,350.60
Total 4800 · Office	7,164.41
4900 · Other Admin	
4910 ·	
Dues/Memberships/Subscriptions	1,608.50
4925 · Registrations/Tuition/Apps	463.00
4990 · Other Misc.	465.46
Total 4900 · Other Admin	2,536.96

## Expense (cont.)

5100 · OP Personnel Services	
5105 · DM Wages	27,651.47
5110 · RS Wages	20,887.15
5115 · RT & Other Wages OP	8,479.32
5125 · Firewise Coordinator Wages	2,656.50
Total 5100 · OP Personnel Services	59,674.44
5200 · Travel	
5205 · Travel (Fuel, Meals, Lodging)	2,675.49
5210 · Mileage	1,563.33
Total 5200 · Travel	4,238.82
5300 · General Operating Expenses	
5310 · Freight/Postage/Shipping	60.22
5320 · Printing and Repro	43.24
5330 · Rentals - Equip	31.00
5350 · Supplies - Operations/Office	3,743.29
5370 · Dues, Memberships, Registrations	5,671.32
5380 · Advertising & Promotion	135.00
5390 · Other	1,155.92
Total 5300 · General Operating Expenses	10,839.99
5400 · Vehicle Expenses	
5410 · Passenger Vehicles Expenses	1,004.06
5420 · Trailer Expenses	80.86
5430 · ATV / UTV Vehicle Expenses	994.16
Total 5400 · Vehicle Expenses	2,079.08
5500 · Professional Services	
5520 · Tech Cons NRM&P, WQM, Web	1,847.50
Total 5500 · Professional Services	1,847.50
5600 · Special Expenses - Operations	
5610 · Contrib. to Outside Programs	2,775.00
5690 · Other Special Ops incl SGPP	32,026.90
Total 5600 · Special Expenses - Operations	34,801.90
6100 · Insurance	
6101 · Automobile Insurance	1,370.00
6105 · Liability	1,145.00
6110 · Property Insurance	720.00
Total 6100 · Insurance	3,235.00
6200 · Indirect Payroll Costs	
6206 · Social Security - MCD	978.80
6210 · Workers Comp	2,463.58
6215 · Unemployment Taxes	220.88
6220 · Retirement	7,160.64
6226 · Medicare - MCD	1,411.56
6250 · Health Insurance/Life Insurance	21,440.86
Total 6200 · Indirect Payroll Costs	33,676.32
6999 · Uncategorized Expenses	-0.06
7000 · Capital Outlay	
7010 · Admin equipment and software	338.00
7020 · Operations Equipment and software	400.00
7040 · Vehicle	17,000.00
Total 7000 · Capital Outlay	17,738.00
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>219,129.79</b>

## Net Income

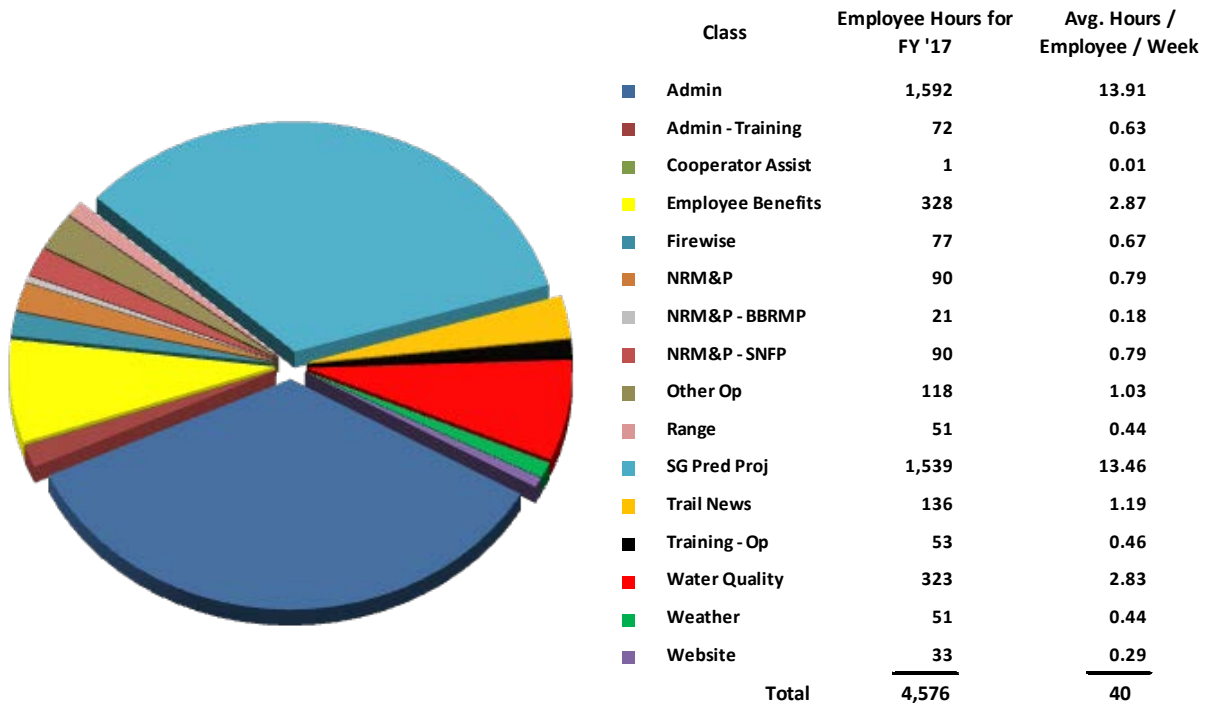
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**64,149.41**

## District Activities

Activities (employee work time) are referenced in budgeting and tracked in the accounting system as *classes*. The chart below illustrates a breakdown of all employees' time spent on administration activities or any of the fourteen operations activities.

FY 2017 District Activities by Class



In order to better evaluate its accomplishments and attainment of objectives, MCD continued to differentiate between District administration and District operations.

### Administration

MCD defines *administration* activities as those activities that primarily keep the office and District functioning.

Administrative activities (including training) required an average of 14.54 staff-hours per week over 52 weeks. Normally, the bulk of administration activities have been performed by the District Clerk, however, unusual circumstances during the year necessitated an increase and shift in administrative work load from the Clerk's position to both the District Manager (DM) and Resource Specialist (RS). The DM took over the bookkeeping, banking, financial reporting and other responsibilities while the RS inherited the clerical duties such as scheduling, reception, recording of meeting minutes, information dissemination, cleaning and others. The DM also performed tasks requiring direction, oversight and review of various administration-type activities, comprising approximately 59% of the total while the RS performed approximately 23% of the total administrative activities by staff.

- 39% of total salary and wages were for administrative activities. This is a 17% increase from the previous year, mostly due to an extensive self-audit of the District's financials for previous years.
- Salary and wages for administrative duties were 71% of total administrative expenditures (50% in FY 16).
- Non-payroll expenses, such as office building repairs, insurance, utilities, dues, and supplies accounted for 29% of total administrative expenditures (50% in FY 16).

### Meetings:

MCD's Board of Supervisors and staff regularly met on the second Wednesday of each month of FY 17, at the District office located at 1906 State Street in Meeteetse, as scheduled. All regular meetings, special meetings, work sessions, and the annual budget hearing were held as provided for under Wyoming Statute.

The MCD actively participated at the Area and State level meetings as a member of the Wyoming Association of Conservation Districts (WACD), hosting the WACD Area III meeting in Meeteetse, and attending the 2017 WACD Annual Convention in Riverton.

### **Administrative Training:**

The new Resource Specialist, Josh Kipley, completed the employee certification training administered by WACD with speakers from WY Dept. of Agriculture, WY Dept. of Audit, WY LGLP and others. Two MCD Board supervisors also attended the training which was hosted remotely by MCD at its office. This training was also offered to Board supervisors of other special districts and employees outside of conservation districts and will likely continue to be the case in the future as more training is provided to special districts and the formation of a special districts association continues.

Additionally, the MCD maintained a close working relationship with the Wyoming Department of Agriculture, which has statutory oversight of certain conservation district activities as well as WACD.

### **Operations**

MCD defines services and associated activities for which the District was formed as *operations*. MCD operations include natural resource management and planning, educational seminars and workshops, monitoring and reporting of water quality, soil moisture monitoring, range monitoring, reporting local weather conditions, natural resource education, and other natural resource related activities of value to the community. The MCD assisted other entities or Conservation Districts in providing similar activities. Participation in certain technical training activities and workshops were usually considered part of operations.

On a cost basis, the District Manager and Resource Specialist (RS) worked on independent projects and were responsible for approximately 92% of operations activities. The Firewise Title III Coordinator's duties comprised 2.2% of operations activities based on time.

- 61% of total salary and wages were for operations activities.
- Salary and wages for operations duties accounted for 37% of total operations expenditures and 27% of total MCD expenditures.
- Non-payroll operations expenses, such as consulting, capital equipment, supplies, mileage, and travel accounted for 63% of total operations expenditures.

### **Cooperator Assistance:**

In FY 17 seven NRCS conservation contracts, incorporating various certified practices were completed and paid in MCD.

- 2,754 acres of Upland Wildlife Habitat Management was completed under WHIP 2008.
- \$113.50 was paid on 2,754 acres for Herbaceous Weed Control under WHIP 2008.
- \$3,159 was paid for Cropland Annual Payment under CSP (Conservation Stewardship Program) 2008.
- \$5,546 was paid for Rangeland Annual Payment under CSP 2008.
- \$104,666.74 was paid on 16,227.4 acres for Prescribed Grazing under EQIP 2014.
- \$1,105.18 was paid on 23.4 acres for Cover Crop under EQIP 2014.
- \$632.27 was paid on 23.4 acres for Nutrient Management under EQIP 2014.

Twelve NRCS planned conservation projects were obligated in (federal) FY 17 in MCD.

- \$34,145 was obligated for 6,125 feet of Irrigation Pipeline under EQIP 2014.
- \$6,673 was obligated for 23.2 acres of Irrigation System, Surface and Subsurface under EQIP 2014.
- \$542 was obligated for 1.5 acres of Conservation Cover under EQIP 2014.
- \$8,038 was obligated for 289.2 acres of Irrigation Water Management under EQIP 2014.
- \$31,020 was obligated for 6 Structures for Water Control under EQIP 2014.
- \$97,284 was obligated for 12.4 acres of Sprinkler System under EQIP 2014.
- \$4,738 was obligated for a Pumping Plant under EQIP 2014.
- \$46 was obligated for Nutrient Management under EQIP 2014.
- \$2,763 was obligated for Cropland Annual Payment under CSP (Conservation Stewardship Program) 2014.
- \$13,996 was obligated for Rangeland Annual Payment under CSP 2014.

MCD plans to continue its efforts in helping local producers implement adaptive management and cooperative rangeland management.

## **Education:**

### Youth Education:

- Tim Morrison volunteered as a judge for the Meeteetse High School student science fair.
- MCD Resource Specialist attended mandatory meetings for participation in the Meeteetse Youth Work Program.

### Community Education:

- The District continued to provide educational information on the MCD website.
- In addition to the District's website as an educational outreach tool, the MCD continued its publication of the "Trail News" and distributed it via its website, email and free hard copies at local businesses. The electronic version of "Trail News" is also sent to the other Wyoming conservation districts, as well as to local, state, and federal government entities. Distribution frequency of the newsletter was vastly improved in FY 17 with the hiring of a new full-time Resource Specialist.

### Elected Officials and Government Agencies Education:

It has been obvious that many County Commissioners and state legislators are in need of direct contact and information from local folks who use and rely on natural resources. The MCD continued to provide information on an ongoing basis to local and State governmental entities as well as to the Wyoming Congressional Delegation, helping to keep the Delegation one of the best informed, responsive, engaged, and effective at addressing local needs.

- MCD presented its FY 16 Annual Report summary to the Park County Commissioners during FY 17.
- MCD submitted support letters to Legislators for Bark Beetle project funding.

### Firewise Title III:

The Park County Firewise program was initiated in 2011 from a USDA Forest Service Title III Firewise Communities Grant to the Park County Board of County Commissioners. The Board originally assigned the grant to the Cody Conservation District for implementation. In January, 2014 MCD began administration of the Park County Firewise Program and associated grant funds. The objectives of the Park County Firewise programs are: to educate, advise, and assist landowners about the problems and solutions related to hazard fuels; fuels mitigation measures and activities; defensible space principles, and also distribute information on Firewise landscaping, as well as Firewise home design and construction.

- Received two requests for Firewise Assessments in FY 17.
  - One assessment was done in the North Fork area (Whit Creek).
  - One assessment was done in the South Fork area for a subdivision (HOA).
- Revised and updated the Park County Firewise website after previous web provider went out of business.
- The Coordinator met with a group of Crandall residents concerned about the future of fire protection.
- Completed a review of the Whit Creek Emergency Watershed Protection Protocol proposal.
- The Coordinator completed a Fire Effects Evaluation of the Whit Fire Impacts on a private Ranch.
- Constructed a display for the annual Park County Fire District 2 Open House.
- Met with residents in Crandall following the Hunter Peak fire September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016.
- Wrote and submitted a "controlled burn" planning article for the April issue of WREN magazine.
- Completed a Firewise assessment of a subdivision with 16 lots in the South Fork area.
- Other activities completed can be found in the Monthly Firewise Reports on file at the MCD office.

## **Natural Resource Management and Planning (NRM&P):**

The MCD was actively involved in a multitude of natural resource-related issues. Participation included reviewing documents, attending public meetings, submitting formal comments, and keeping MCD cooperators informed regarding natural resource management and planning issues.

Sage Grouse: The MCD is cognizant of the implications of endangered species protections on its community and takes a special interest in working on special projects to ensure that candidate species remain off that list. In 2015, the US Fish and Wildlife Service determined that the Sage Grouse was not warranted for listing.

Steve continued to represent Area III conservation districts as a member of the Big Horn Basin Sage-Grouse Local Working Group through the first half of FY 17. The MCD also continued facilitating the Big Horn Basin Sage Grouse Predation Project (SGPP). The SGPP was brought to fruition through action by all seven Area III Districts at the 2010 Area III meeting. It has garnered broad support including funding and in-kind contributions from other conservation



districts, predator management districts, individual ranches, oil and gas industry, grazing interests, plus other entities including the Wyoming Game & Fish Department, Wyoming Animal Damage Management Board, Wyoming Wool Growers Association, Wyoming Wildlife Services and the Big Horn Basin RC&D.

During the second half of FY 16, the focus of the project shifted to a more focused examination of Common Ravens as a major predator of sage grouse nests. In FY 17 research continued under the joint direction of MCD personnel and professional wildlife consultant, HWA Wildlife Consultants out of Laramie. MCD staff conducted a variety of field investigations and surveys and performed management actions in order to collect data for analysis. These field activities included:

- Capturing and GPS-tagging additional sage-grouse as part of the adaptive study objectives for the field season.
- Establishing grids of motion-triggered cameras within the study areas in order to identify and quantify mammalian predator density.
- Removing eggs or chicks from active common raven nests to measure adult response to a novel management approach and also to measure associated rates in sage-grouse nest success/failure as a result of raven nest treatments. Analysis of the camera data will quantify variation in mammalian predator presence and relative occurrence frequency across the study areas.

Interim reports are available upon request and the study will continue at least into the first half of FY 18 and possibly further, depending on funding.

Forest Issues: The MCD actively supported renewing Shoshone National Forest (SNF) grazing permits for operations within the District and its cooperators and permittees. The MCD also has an MOU for joint cooperative monitoring with the SNF. Steffen, Steve, Bernie, Josh and Tracy each attended meetings for the SNF Travel Management Compliance Working Group to continue in collaboration with other committee members to draft recommendations to the forest supervisor for an improved Travel Management system. The MCD also composed letters to local legislators requesting consideration for supporting House Bill 26 “Bark Beetle Program Funding” to improve forest health, reduce large scale fire potential, and increase overall forage production.

Greybull River Level I Watershed Study: The MCD in conjunction with the South Big Horn Conservation District sought technical and financial support from the Wyoming Water Development Office for a Level I Watershed Study of the Greybull River Watershed. The level I Watershed study will evaluate current watershed function and provide baseline information from which the districts can pursue implementation of management practices that address the natural resource issues within the drainage. The level I Watershed study fulfills the requirement of demonstration of public benefit so that landowners can take advantage of funding through the WWDO Small Water Projects program.

Subdivision Reviews: The MCD will continue to review subdivisions when they occur. No subdivision reviews were completed in FY 17.

### **Networking and Participation in Outside Activities:**

In FY17, MCD was a member of the Wyoming Association of Conservation Districts, the National Association of Conservation Districts, the National Watershed Coalition, the Wyoming Wolf Coalition, the Meeteetse Visitor Center, and American Stewards. MCD pays dues for its employees to be members of the Wyoming Conservation Districts Employees’ Association (WCDEA).

Steffen was an Area III employee rep and served on the Scholarship Committee for WCDEA.

Steve Jones represented the AREA III Conservation Districts on the WGF D Big Horn Basin Sage Grouse Local Working Group until he resigned from his Board position with the MCD at the end of December, 2016. He also continued as a member of the Meeteetse Local Planning Area Advisory Committee for Park County Planning and Zoning, appointed by the Park County Board of County Commissioners.

MCD hosted the annual NRCS Local Work Group Division 1 meeting in 2017, an attempt to bring Conservation Districts back into their designated roles within the LWG structure. Tim represented Area III Conservation Districts at the STC meeting in Casper.

MCD staff presented the FY ‘16 annual report to the Park County Board of County Commissioner’s in December 2016 as part of the District requirements for funding by the WY Dept. of Audit.

MCD staff contributed in-kind support to the WY G&F Non-game division for annual Black-footed ferret trapping surveys at the Meeteetse reintroduction site for 3 days in the fall of 2016.

### **Range:**

MCD works with the University of Wyoming, and Department of Ecosystem Science and Management in order to help producers predict forage quality and quantity available for livestock based on range and precipitation monitoring at two soil moisture sites. The soil moisture, forage, and precipitation monitoring is an evolving long-term study to acquire baseline data and define the interrelationships between rangeland soil moisture, precipitation, and forage yield.

The Little Buffalo Basin (LBB) site is located on private rangeland seventeen miles southwest of Meeteetse. The Spring Creek (SC) site is located on private rangeland about four miles northwest of Meeteetse. Throughout FY 17, data was collected by an automated, solar-powered logger throughout each day. Periodically, data files were downloaded on site by district personnel and sent to appropriate UW personnel for analysis of the total water saturation of the soil. Precipitation data was collected yearlong, but the sites are too remote to properly monitor snowfall details.

### **Surface Water Quality Monitoring and Watershed Planning:**

The MCD continued monitoring surface water quality on the Greybull River watershed in accordance with the MCD Sampling and Analysis Plan (SAP) which is updated in accordance with updated WDEQ regulations.

The MCD measured conductivity, pH, temperature, and turbidity and sampled for *E. coli* in accordance with requirements of Wyoming law and WDEQ regulations. The MCD used the “5 in 60” protocol for *E. coli*, collecting a minimum of 5 samples representing separate 24 hour periods within 60 days.

### **Training:**

Training (including attendance of educational programs) continued to be of great importance to the MCD.

- Staff attended WCDEA winter training in Casper.
- Josh completed the WACD Employee Certification.

MCD staff also attended WESTI Ag Days in Worland, hosted by University of Wyoming Washakie County Extension, which held educational programs on various agricultural topics.

### **Weather:**

MCD employs a Davis Instruments Wireless Vantage Pro2 Plus Weather Station in order to continue to collect and log data on a real-time basis in an effort to keep its cooperators up-to-date on local weather conditions. Temperature, wind speed, barometric pressure, relative humidity, dew point, wind chill, wind direction, UV & solar radiation, and precipitation were parameters collected by the weather station and automatically uploaded to MCD’s website as well as the National Weather Service and Citizen Weather Observation Program (CWOP, station #DW0465) using the Davis WeatherLink Network. MCD also submitted Meeteetse precipitation data to the national Community Collaborative Rain and Hail Study (CoCoRaHS, #WY-PK-22). Combined with soil moisture information, Meeteetse weather data helped Wyoming’s State Climatologist with drought forecasting and reports. Our weather data also helps the National Weather Service in Riverton, Wyoming with “watches and warnings” and forecasting.

Links for information on MCD’s weather data are:

- [www.meeteetse-conservey.net/weather-information/](http://www.meeteetse-conservey.net/weather-information/)
- [www.weatherlink.com/user/meeteetsecd](http://www.weatherlink.com/user/meeteetsecd)
- [www.wxqa.com](http://www.wxqa.com)
- [www.weather.gladstonefamily.net/site/D0465](http://www.weather.gladstonefamily.net/site/D0465)
- [www.findu.com/cgi-bin/wxpage.cgi?call=DW0465!Meeteetse&last=120](http://www.findu.com/cgi-bin/wxpage.cgi?call=DW0465!Meeteetse&last=120)

### **Website:**

[www.meeteetse-conservey.net](http://www.meeteetse-conservey.net)

The MCD website went online in 2005 and changed to a new website developer in 2013, and through regular updates by staff, continues to be one of the District’s primary communication tools, providing information on:

- Weather, including real-time data from the weather station located at the MCD office
- Current topics and events
- Greybull River Watershed Steering Committee information
- Soil moisture information from the Little Buffalo Basin and Spring Creek stations
- Education

- MCD work and project reports
- Water quality monitoring and related information
- Regulations
- MCD's Land Use Management and Resource Conservation Plan
- MCD's Goals and Policies
- Links to agencies, regulations, and sites of interest
- Information regarding assistance MCD can provide to the public
- MCD's Annual Report and Plan of Work
- Meeting, conference, and workshop dates that may be of interest to the public
- MCD News/Information, including the latest version of the Trail News
- Fire Information
- Range Management
- NRCS Information

**Conclusion:**

In conclusion, MCD respectfully submits the MCD FY 17 Annual Report to the Wyoming Department of Agriculture and the Wyoming Association of Conservation Districts pursuant to requirements of law and applicable annual and biennium funding requests, and to the United States Department of Agricultural, Natural Resource Conservation Service, in accordance with our Memorandum of Understanding.

For the Meeteetse Conservation District Board of Supervisors,

ss/ Timothy J. Morrison  
Timothy J. Morrison, Chairman

12-13-17  
Date