

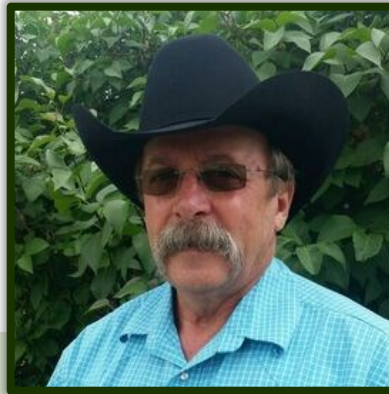
2022 - 2023 ANNUAL REPORT



MISSION STATEMENT

“To provide leadership for the conservation of Campbell County’s soils and water, protect the agricultural resource base, promote the control of soil erosion, promote and protect the quality and quantity of Campbell County’s water and all other natural resources, preserve and enhance wildlife habitat, protect the tax base and promote the health, safety, and general welfare of the citizens of this county through a responsible conservation ethic.”

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



The Campbell County Conservation District’s five-member volunteer Board of Supervisors is key to the District’s success. The Board is comprised of three rural (living outside of a municipality), one urban (living inside of a municipality), and one at-large (either rural or urban) individuals.

The residents of Campbell County elect the members of the Board during the general election, with each member serving a staggered four-year term.

Top Row (Left to Right): Brandon Price, Chair; Richard Hauber, Vice-Chair; Kim Kretschman, Secretary/Treasurer

Bottom Row (Left to Right): Jeffrey Boardman, Supervisor; John Daly, Supervisor

STAFF



Cheyenne Love, District Manager



Crystal Kellebrew, Education Coordinator

USDA - NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE



The Campbell County Conservation District is proud to work closely with the NRCS - Gillette Field Office to expand District operations and provide more opportunity for “on the ground” conservation practices to be implemented throughout Campbell County.

Top Row (Left to Right):

Tim Kellogg, District Conservationist

*Jessica VanWoerkom, Time Systems
Administrative Assistant*

Bottom Row (Left to Right)

*Brandon Elkins, Rangeland Management
Specialist*

*Harold Campbell, Private Lands Wildlife
Biologist*

DISTRICT OPERATIONS

Professional Development

Continued professional development opportunities for District staff and Board of Supervisors members are of the utmost importance for the continued success of CCCD. Conferences, trainings, and meetings were attended throughout the year to enable staff to make informed decisions, develop policy, convey a consistent message, and expand natural resources skillsets.

Conferences

- ◇ WY Natural Resource Rendezvous
- ◇ WY Association of Rural Water Systems (WARWS) Spring Training Conference
- ◇ WY Watershed Conference



Meetings, Field Days, and Seminars

- ◇ Area I Meeting
- ◇ WY State Forestry Division (WSFD) V Field Day
- ◇ Small Acreage Issue Team (SAIT) Meeting
- ◇ WY Conditions Monitoring Team (WCMT) Monthly Administrative Meetings
- ◇ WY Department of Environmental Quality (WDEQ) Dead Animal Composting Seminar

Presentations

- ◇ Surface Water Quality Monitoring in Drought Conditions: An “On-the-Ground” Perspective
- ◇ Northeastern WY Conservation District Joint Monitoring Efforts
- ◇ Water Quality Education Ideas with Students and Measuring Outreach Effectiveness

Trainings and Certifications

- ◇ WY Conservation District Employees Association (WCDEA) Annual Training
- ◇ WY Association of Conservation Districts (WACD) Supervisor Training
- ◇ WACD Principles of Water Quality Training
- ◇ University of Wyoming (UW) Master Gardener Training
- ◇ Oregon State University (OSU) School Garden Coordinator Certification

CCCD recognized and placed high value on the continuation of partnerships both within and outside of Campbell County. Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) established official means of collaboration in project implementation, while outreach events allowed for an increase in community involvement in conservation activities.

Memorandums of Understanding

- ◇ Black Hills Natural Resource Youth Camp (BHNRYC)
- ◇ United States Forest Service (USFS) Thunder Basin National Grassland (TBNG) Working Group
- ◇ Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Resource Management Plan & Land Use Plan Amendments
- ◇ Campbell County Subdivision Reviews
- ◇ Belle Fourche River Watershed Collaborative with Crook County Natural Resource District (CCNRD)

Partnerships

- ◇ Campbell County, WY
 - ◇ Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP)
 - ◇ Natural Resources Land Use Plan (NRLUP)
- ◇ WY County Commissioners Association (WCCA)
 - ◇ Thunder Basin National Grassland (TBNG) Working Group
 - ◇ Plague Management Plan (PMP) Subcommittee



Outreach

- ◇ Legislative Breakfast
- ◇ Little Powder River & Donkey-Stonepile Creek Watershed Steering Committees
- ◇ Quarterly, In-House Newsletters
- ◇ Barnyards & Backyards
- ◇ Program Updates
- ◇ Social & Local Media Communications
- ◇ WY NRCS Division V Local Working Group
- ◇ Project Learning Tree (PLT) Workshops
- ◇ WY Collaborative for Healthy Soils (WCHS) Working Group

WATER RESOURCES

CCCD staff sampled at 14 sites across two 303(d) listed impaired waterways during 2022 - 2023;

- ◇ Little Powder River (LPR)
- ◇ Donkey-Stonepile Creek (DC-SC)

The District is able to conduct water quality monitoring on both LPR and DC-SC thanks to the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality's (WDEQ) Clean Water Act Section 319 grant funding. Work conducted on DC-SC is a collaborative effort with the Crook County Natural Resource District (CCNRD).

A variety of factors have been identified as contributors to the impairments, including;

- ◇ Wildlife
- ◇ Livestock
- ◇ Domestic Animals
- ◇ Urban & Stormwater Runoff
- ◇ Septic Systems



Both the Little Powder River and Donkey-Stonepile Creek are impaired for *Escherichia coli*.

In addition to *E. coli*, CCCD also sampled for a suite of other water quality parameters to assess the overall health of LPR and DC-SC;



- ◇ Nitrate - Nitrite as N
- ◇ Total Phosphorus
- ◇ Conductivity
- ◇ Chloride
- ◇ Sulfate
- ◇ Ammonia
- ◇ Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)
- ◇ Total Suspended Solids (TSS)



CCCD has set an aggressive goal of a 5% reduction in bacterial concentrations in LPR by 2024.

BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES



7,810 Feet

Wildlife-Friendly
Fencing

5,152 Feet

Livestock Pipeline



4

Steel Gates

1

Septic Tank Remediation



1

2,200 Gallon Stock Tank



Through various funding pathways, CCCD provided cost-share opportunities to landowners for Best Management Practices (BMPs) to be implemented on both private and public lands throughout Campbell County.

Funds for BMP opportunities were allocated through grant opportunities provided by;

- ◇ Wyoming Department of Agriculture (WDA)
- ◇ Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality (WDEQ)
- ◇ United States Forest Service (USFS)
- ◇ Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
- ◇ Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

Most of the BMPs executed through the District are focused on the improvement of surface water quality while supporting the development of the landowner's operation.

CCCD believes the application of relevant practices along the impaired waterways of Campbell County will assist in reducing *E. coli* concentrations and attaining primary contact recreation standards set forth by the WDEQ.



RANGELAND RESOURCES

CCCD was a recipient of funding for the first time from WDA's 2022 Rangeland Health Assessment Program (RHAP).

Working with a private contractor, CCCD staff assisted with the inventory of 8,658 acres across dual-purpose (private and livestock operation) properties North of Gillette.

Employing methods described in *Interpreting Indicators of Rangeland Health (1734-6)*, staff collected the following data at each site;

- ◇ Soil & Site Stability
- ◇ Hydrologic Function
- ◇ Biotic Integrity
- ◇ Foliar Canopy
- ◇ Basal Cover
- ◇ Abiotic Features
- ◇ Vegetation Height
- ◇ Production
- ◇ Key Species Ocular Utilization
- ◇ Photo Points
- ◇ Species Lists



SEEDLING TREES

2023 Tree Sale

CCCD held its annual tree sale to promote the importance of trees for conservation planting efforts within Campbell County.

Perennials were also sold for the first time in 2022 to expand District sale offerings and encourage the cultivation of pollinator-friendly species.



775 Seedling Trees

12 Species (Bur Oak, Caragana, Chokecherry, Cottonwood, Elm, Hackberry, Lilac, Linden, Nanking Cherry, Maple, Sumac, Woods Rose)



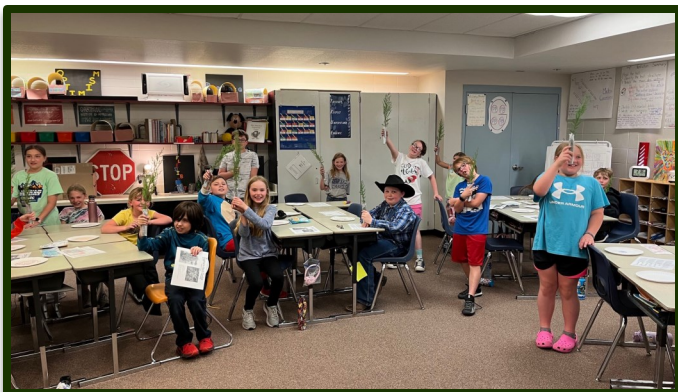
105 Perennials

5 Species (Beebalm, Blanket Flower, Rocky Mountain Penstemon, Smooth Blue Aster, Western Yarrow)



5 Rolls of Weed Barrier

1 500-Count Box of Fabric Pins



Under a grant from Campbell County Parks and Recreation (CCPR), CCCD continued its annual “4th Grade Seedling Tree Program,” where 460 4th grade students received a free Ponderosa Pine seedling, tree care guide, and tree educational activity.

NATURAL RESOURCE OUTREACH & EDUCATION

CCCD provided valuable natural resource educational opportunities utilizing multiple educational tools at a variety of events to both youth and adult audiences throughout Campbell County.

Water Resources

Storm Drain Stickers
EarthEcho Water Testing Kits
Macroinvertebrate ID
Pollution Plinko
Water Quality Newsletter
Enviroscape Watershed Model
Stream Trailer

Land Use Management

Ag Expo
4th Grade Seedling Tree Program
Small Acreage Issue Team
Black Hills Natural Resources Youth Camp
CCSD#1 Ecology Units
CCPL Summer Reading Kick-Off
“Tracks and Scats”

From July 2022 to June 2023, CCCD staff served
3,178 Youth & 972 Adults
through educational opportunities within Campbell County.

CCCD was awarded grant funding in both 2022 and 2023 to increase educational capacity through two projects;

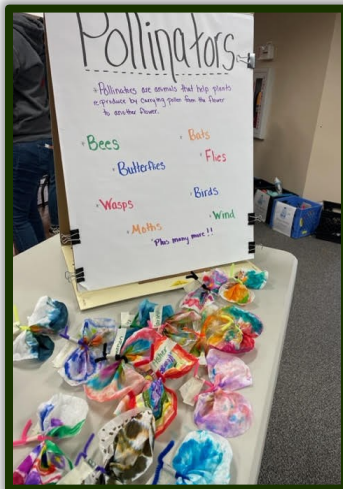
“Growth Through Growth” *Y.E.S. House Learning Garden*

Funded under the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) Urban Agriculture Conservation (UAC) grant program, CCCD expanded upon an established garden space and coordinated workshops on a variety of urban agriculture-related topics such as tree planting and native bird population support.

“WY Roots Run Deep” *CCCD Soil Trailer*

Funded under the 2023 Friends of NACD and Wyoming Community Foundation grant programs, as well as partner funding, CCCD began the development of a mobile, inclusively designed educational trailer to promote the importance and awareness of soil health. This project will focus on the Wyoming geographic area and be intended to educate both youth and adult audiences.





FUNDING

CCCD utilized a variety of funding via grants and appropriations from several partners throughout FY23 to increase District capacity;

WDA

Water Quality Program
Rangeland Health Assessment Program (RHAP)
Base Funding

NACD

Urban Agriculture Conservation (UAC) Initiative
Friend's of NACD

WDEQ

Clean Water Act Section 319

**NRCS
BLM
USFS**

Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)
Agreements

WYCF

Wyoming Community Foundation (WYCF) Competitive Grant - Spring 2023



FINANCIALS

July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023

Income

County Funding	\$275,000
City Funding	\$30,000
State Funding & Grants	\$27,657
Federal Funding & Grants	\$79,165
Sale of Goods & Services - Program Revenues	\$7,460
Sponsorships	\$700
Interest	\$10,616
Total Income	\$433,698

Expenses

Administration	\$165,445
Operations	\$80,953
Indirect Costs	\$59,787
Total Expenses	\$306,186

Total Emergency Reserves **\$180,470**

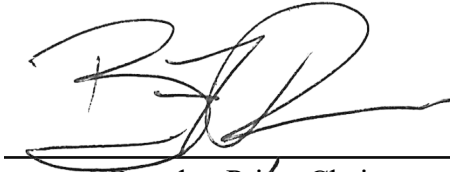
CCCD increased reserves to ensure the stability and longevity of the District by pursuing additional funding sources;

- ◇ WACD Financial Policies and State-Base Funding
- ◇ WY Department of Audit (DOA) Reporting
- ◇ Optional 1% Sales Tax Funding
 - ◇ Campbell County
 - ◇ City of Gillette
- ◇ WACD, WDA, WDEQ Reporting Requirements

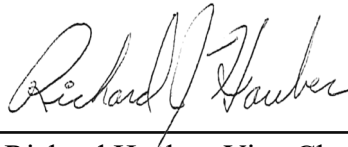
The 2022 - 2023 Annual Report Summarizes the work which was completed by the Campbell County Conservation District (CCCD) within the past fiscal year.

CCCD Staff and the Board of Supervisors are committed to conducting activities that best suit the changing natural resource needs within Campbell County, while reflecting the concerns of the local community.

We, the Supervisors of the Campbell County Conservation District, as duly authorized by the Wyoming Conservation District Law, hereby adopt this 2022 - 2023 Annual Report.



Brandon Price, Chair



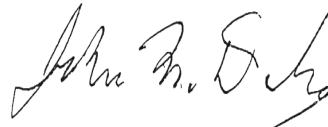
Richard Hauber, Vice-Chair



Kim Kretschman, Sec/Treasurer



Jeff Boardman, Supervisor



John Daly, Supervisor

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