



Table of Contents

**Packet Materials – February 28, 2018 Board Meeting**

Page 3-4                    January 28, 2018 Meeting Agenda

Page 5-23                    Minutes from the January 17, 2017 Regular TCD Meeting

Page 24-34                    December 2017 Treasurer’s Report

Page 35-48                    Staff Report for the January 17, 2017 TCD Board Meeting

*Information from Gary Blazejewski, NRCS District Conservationist:*

Page 49                    NRCS Report for the February Board Meeting

Page 50-52                    NRCS Snow Report

*Information from Emily Hagedorn, TCD Administrative Manager:*

Page 53-59                    USGS Snow Chemistry Project Contract

Page 60-62                    Updated Public Information Policy

*Information from Robb, TCD Land Resources Specialist:*

Page 63-68                    Snake River Ranch Fence Improvement Proposal

Page 69                    Jackson Hole Fire & EMS Reimbursement Invoice

Page 70-74                    Phase 2 of the Hidden Hills Wildfire Risk Reduction Project

*Information from Morgan Graham, TCD Natural Resources Specialist:*

Page 75-79                    WGFD Targhee Elk Herd Proposal

***Information from Carlin Girard, TCD Water Resource Specialist:***

- |             |  |
|-------------|--|
| Page 80-82  | Memo on the Alder Environmental Flat Creek Watershed Plan RFP Submission |
| Page 83- 88 | Alder Environmental, LLC Flat Creek Watershed Plan RFP Submission        |
| Page 89     | USGS Temperature Gaging Station Proposal                                 |
| Page 90-92  | EcoCompass Water Essay   |

***Information from Tom Segerstrom, TCD Executive Director:***

- |            |  |
|------------|--|
| Page 93    | County Commissioners Letter to Rep. Liz Cheney     |
| Page 94-97 | FCWID Letter Re: Karns Meadow Development Proposal |

# **Teton Conservation District Monthly Board Meeting**

**Meet at the TCD office at 420 W. Pearl Ave. Jackson, WY**

**February 28, 2018 at 1PM:**

## **Meeting Members:**

**TCD Board Members:** Dave Adams (*Chairman*), Steve Kallin (*Vice-Chairman*), Bob Lucas (*Supervisor*), Bailey Schreiber (*Treasurer*), and Sandy Shuptrine (*Secretary*)

**Associate TCD Members:** Tom Breen, and Michael Halloran

**TCD Staff Members:** Tom Segerstrom (*Executive Director*), Emily Hagedorn (*Administrative Manager*), Carlin Girard (*Water Resources Specialist*), Morgan Graham (*GIS & Wildlife Specialist*), Robb Sgroi (*Land Resources Specialist*), Chauncey Smith (*Natural Resources Specialist*) and Caroline Baker (*Communications Specialist*)

**Guests & Agency Partners:** Gary Blazejewski (*Natural Resources Conservation Service*), Paul Vogelheim (*Teton County Commissioner*), Stacy Kinsey and Peter Wright (*US Geological Survey*), Barbara Hauge (*Snake River Ranch*), and Aly Courtemanch (*Wyoming Game and Fish Department*)

## **Agenda:**

**Minutes & Treasurer’s Report:** 30 minutes  
January 17, 2018 TCD Regular Board Minutes  
January 2018 Treasurer’s Reports

**Agency Reports & Guests (including public comment):** 40 minutes  
Natural Resources Conservation Service Gary Blazejewski  
Teton County Commissioners Paul Vogelheim  
US Geological Survey Stacy Kinsey and Peter Wright  
Snake River Ranch Barbara Hauge

**Board Reports:** 15 minutes

**Staff Reports & Staff Action items:** 90 minutes

- Staff Reports from all Staff – which include the following Action Items:
  - USGS Snow Chemistry Contract for FY 2018 (runs calendar year 2018)
  - Public Information Request Policy Update for Review/Approval
  - Small Water Project Program (SWPP) approval of grants/TCD Funding
  - Small Water Project (SWPP) Marketing
  - Snake River Ranch fencing improvements, reallocation request-Barbara Hauge
  - Fire Risk Management Data Collection
  - Fire Risk Management Video Funds

Fire Risk Management Video Marketing  
Fire Risk Management Hidden Hills Chipper Event  
Targhee Elk Migration  
Flat Creek Watershed Plan RFP  
Mid-Cycle Strategic Plan Directives  
FY 2018 Budget Line Items Reallocations

**Old and New Business:**

Technical Assistance Cost Share (TAC) Grant Application Decisions

**Executive Session:**

15 minutes

*(Move to enter into executive session under Wyoming State Statute 15-1-1-5 and 16-4-405 for the purpose of discussing one or more of the following: legal consultation and matters, appointment and personnel matters, national security, licensing or examinations, real estate transactions, donations, or other information classified as confidential by law )*



**Teton Conservation District Monthly Board Meeting  
Meeting Minutes from January 17, 2018  
420 W. Pearl Ave., Jackson, WY**

**Attendees:**

TCD Board of Members: Dave Adams (*Chairman*), Bailey Schreiber (*Vice-Chair*), Bob Lucas (*Supervisor*), Steve Kallin (*Appointee*), Sandy Shuptrine (*Secretary*), and Tom Breen (*Associate Member*).

TCD Staff Members: Tom Segerstrom (*Executive Director*), Emily Hagedorn (*Administrative Manager*), Carlin Girard (*Water Resources Specialist*), Morgan Graham (*GIS & Wildlife Specialist*), Robb Sgroi (*Land Resources Specialist*), Chauncey Smith (*Natural Resources Specialist*) and Caroline Baker (*Communications Specialist*)

Guests: Alicia Cox (*Yellowstone Teton Clean Cities Coalition*), Orion Bellorado (*Beartrap Ciderworks*), Ian McGregor (*Beartrap Ciderworks*), Eric Steinman (*Beartrap Ciderworks*) and Michael Halloran (*Citizen*)

**Call to Order:** Dave Adams called the meeting to order at 1:02 PM.

**Minutes from the previous meetings:** Sandy had some edits to the minutes, specifically asking about the wildlife friendly fencing project at Munger Mountain, that TCD ended up not funding. Robb provided clarification. Sandy suggested adding language indicating the specific area the project was located in to the minutes for clarification and accuracy. Sandy also asked if there has been any further information about the Star Valley Energy Conservation District workshop, which there has not. On the fourth page, line 4, Sandy suggested adding “implementing defensible space projects.” On page 6 change Planning Commission to County Commission. On page 8, typo on Caroline’s name. **Bailey moved to approve the minutes. Sandy seconded. The motion passed.**

**Treasurer’s Report from the previous months:** Baily Schreiber, acting Treasurer, gave the Treasurer’s Report for December, 2017. The report of TCD’s financial condition as of December 31, 2017, included: Checks- \$186,216.61, Credit Card Charges - \$1,580.30, net Credits - \$334,127.81. The Operating Reserves Account balance was \$502,100.19, the Committed Funds Savings Account balance was \$117,424.87, Total Funds Invested was \$619,525.06, and the reconciled General Fund Checking Account balance was \$768,610.92.

**Voucher signature sheets:** Checks numbering #17,821 through #17,860 were presented for approval. All checks were dated between December 1, 2017 and December 31, 2017. They totaled \$186,216.61.

Sandy asked about the number of splits in the checks and Emily explained that it is something that happens when one check is split between different categories. **Sandy moved to accept the Treasurer’s Report as presented. Bob seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Board Reports:** Sandy attended the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board meeting about the Karns Meadow development plan. The result of the meeting was that the Parks & Recreation Department suspended funds until more research is completed and more information acquired,

and they will continue to gather information. Tom mentioned that the topic was written about in the Jackson Hole News & Guide on Wednesday, January 17, 2018, so that would be a good resource to learn more. Dave asked whether it is still up to Pete Karns as to what development happens and what he says, goes. Tom averred but insofar as the restrictions of the conservation easement allow, because the Town now owns the Meadow and has the final word. Sandy said there are some good ideas being put forth from various parties, and Dave replied that there were also some bad ideas including putting a pathway too close to a water body, and he suggested that TCD continue making suggestions with regards to the proposed development. Sandy mentioned Laurie Andrew's comment with regards to concerns about invasive species in the Meadow and indicated that might be a topic on which TCD could help. Dave said that goes along with TCD's general trend to remind the County to think about weed control in their planning. Tom said he intended to meet with Erika at Teton County Weed and Pest and would mention that topic as an area that might be in need of focus. Carlin indicated that, by February 5, 2018, the Town of Jackson is supposed to weigh in on whether an Environmental Assessment (EA) should be conducted with regards to the proposed development, and that he tried to explain that an EA isn't as thorough an assessment as the Town and many proponents of the development might think. Therefore, he feels it might be a good place for TCD to provide advice on what the Town ought to be asking with regards to the environmental impact of the proposed project. Dave stated that TCD needs to keep providing input and to encourage the Town to do something sooner than later.

#### **Agency Reports/Guests:**

Alicia Cox (Yellowstone Teton Clean Cities Coalition) – YTCC is a Memorandum of Agreement partner with TCD. Alicia discussed the Action Item in Tom's Staff Report to extend funding to YTCC that has previously been granted in years past, for projects in two categories: the installation of electric vehicle charging stations and the cost share incentive funds that were provided back in 2014-15 for those of the public wanting to buy electric cars. Alicia mentioned that the installation grants were awarded at the rate of \$5000 per charging station. YTCC is awaiting Grand Teton National Park's installation of a system in the spring, and a Bridger Teton national Forest station will go in later this year. The electric vehicle rebates are awarded at a rate of \$3000/vehicle. A grant was recently awarded with a second application pending. YTCC is also in talks with the airport and Lower Valley Energy to complete awards with them potentially. Alicia anticipates all of the funds being expended by Spring 2018. So far, twenty-nine Level Two stations have been installed in the region through funding provided by TCD among others. Tom asked if there was any way that TCD can help in publicizing the successes that YTCC has had, particularly as relates to the Airport installation of charging stations. Dave asked where the station is located at the airport, and Alicia indicated that it is in the middle of the public parking area.

Orion Bellorado & Ian McGregor (Beartrap Ciderworks) – Orion attended to present on his Beartrap Ciderworks project, which involved TCD funding to actively harvesting as many apples as possible to reduce human-bear conflicts from strategic areas throughout Teton County. Dave asked for a spring budget from Beartrap Cider by March so that it can be approved in May.

#### **Staff Reports/Action Items:**

Emily: Emily described the new Public Information Policy for TCD, and indicated that it was legal language that TCD needs to have on hand in order to know how to respond for requests from the public for information, in order to ensure compliance with the State statute. Sandy asked if there is a clear idea of what is contained in the language of the statute specifically as it relates to exempted information? Emily responded that the exempt information in that statute includes data from agricultural land and certain information contained in personnel files. Bailey asked if it was necessary to adopt a resolution to adopt the policy? Emily said that she could add the necessary language and have a hard copy for signature by the next Board Meeting. **Bailey moved to approve the Teton Conservation District Public Information Policy and implement the policy effective immediately and to authorize the Chair to sign the resolution adopting such policy as amended and advised. Sandy seconded. Motion passed.**

Emily introduced the minutes from the Flat Creek Water Improvement District Joint Quarterly Board Meetings to be approved and signed. **Sandy move to approve and sign the TCD & Flat Creek Watershed Improvement District Joint Quarterly Board Meeting Minutes for September 11, 2017 and December 11, 2017. Bailey seconded.** Sandy asked what the outcome of the lottery to determine which Board members would take the first 2-year terms, and Tom responded that Bill Wotkyns and Larry drew the 2-year term straws and the other Board members will have 4-year terms. **Motion passed.**

Emily mentioned that the Wyoming Board of Agriculture is meeting today (Wednesday, January 17, 2018) and will determine whether Steve Kallin's Board membership is approved.

Dave requested that the February Board Meeting be pushed back until Wednesday February 28, 2018, which everyone agreed upon.

There was discussion of the TAC Grant interview scheduling, and Bailey indicated that she would likely be able to call in on February 15, 2018, at least for a portion of the interview process. The interviews were scheduled for Thursday, February 15, 2018 at 1 PM.

Robb: Robb introduced two Small Water Project Program applications for two projects in Alta, WY that were submitted by TCD. Both projects are above the current cap for projects, but Larry Hicks indicated that he is submitting legislation to raise that cap, and so TCD is supporting the project in the hopes that the legislature will act and raise the cap. Sandy asked if these two projects were for updating pipelines that were from the 1950's. Robb indicated that one project is for a pipeline and the other is a head-gate infrastructure improvement project. He also mentioned that they are stamped as "Do Not Fund" for now, which will be changed should the proposed legislation move through. Bailey asked if the process in 2016 involved having the project presented and then voting on them, and whether it is different this time due to the abridged timeline? Robb said that in October this year, the operating criteria changed which opened up the Grants to projects from Alta, and in December last minute advice was received by TCD to move forward with the applications. Tom stated that if the Board wanted to see the applications, a decision on this motion could be made in February in the interest of maintaining consistency in the application review process. Dave asked if there is any advantage to approving the projects at this time, and Tom said no. Tom Breen asked if the head-gate is on the Caribou-Targhee National Forest, on Teton Creek, and Robb said it was. **Sandy moved to table the motion until**

**the next Board meeting scheduled for Wednesday, February 28, 2018. Bailey seconded. The motion passed.**

Dave asked if there was any word on where the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality is planning to set-up their air quality monitoring project, and Robb stated there has not been.

Bailey asked about progress regarding high-tunnels. Robb said that the previous response had been that planning would not be approved on private land. He indicated that there is not uniform answer through the Town, County and State as to whether review would be required for putting a high tunnel on public land, and that the County likely would not require review. The Building Department, however, might have to review and permit. The question is whether TCD should wade into the conversation on behalf of constituents, or point them to another agency or entity. The issue is that high tunnels construction requirements are based on the Uniform Building Code, and high tunnels generally won't meet those codes. Bailey asked who TCD talked to in December of 2016, and Robb responded it was to both the Planning and Building departments. The advice at that point was that a permit is required for constructions of more than 600 square feet but the Building Code applies to all structures.

Morgan: In regard to the Wyoming Game and Fish Department's (WGFD) request for trumpeter swan survey funding Morgan indicated that the data from WGFD is used by TCD, and the most recent data is from February 2015. **Sandy moved to support mid-winter trumpeter swan surveys conducted by the Wyoming Game and Fish Department in the amount of \$1,500. Bailey seconded. Motion passed.**

Morgan clarified that his second Action Item is dependent on adequate snow-cover and ability to obtain proper air craft usage, but during a meeting of the Upper Snake River Basin Local Working Group, WGFD Sage Grouse Program Coordinator, Tom Christiansen offered to contribute \$2,500 of his available budget as match if conditions permitted a flight to do an aerial survey of sage grouse. Morgan responded that he would request matching funds from TCD to support the aerial survey. **Bailey moved to allocate \$2,500 from the "Support Wildlife Data Collection" line of the TCD Wildlife Program budget for a mid-winter sage grouse aerial survey conducted by Wyoming Game and Fish Department. Funds will only be expended if appropriate survey conditions occur. Sandy seconded. Motion passed.**

Morgan indicated that the third Action Item is a professional development opportunity that was strongly recommended to him by the professor of his previous course, and felt it would behoove him to participate. Bailey asked what the costs would be if Morgan could volunteer, and Morgan indicated that it would remove the \$900 registration fee, and possibility of housing included, but would require him to work 5 hours/day as a volunteer. **Sandy moved to authorize the GIS & Wildlife Specialist's participation in the 2018 International Lidar Mapping Forum, with attendance costs covered by the Discretionary line item of the FY2018 TCD budget. Bailey seconded.** Dave asked about whether Morgan's attendance would affect his other workload, and Tom indicated it had been discussed and managed. **Motion passed.**

Chauncey: Chauncey defined a burn for the board as a line segment that is then burned (or erased) into the DEM (the digital elevation model). That allows for the flow through of a river under a bridge, for example.

Carlin: Carlin has been working with Nicole, the TCD attorney, and Nelson Engineering to iron out the details of the Septic/Sewer Mapping Project contract. Nicole flagged concerns related to proprietary use of tools as well as the relation with Alder Environmental, who TCD works with closely. Nelson Engineering responded with the changes suggested, and Nicole is currently reviewing that contract. She will likely have the review completed today or tomorrow. Sandy asked about Item 4 on page 4 of the contract, and whether the purview is beyond the Town including the Game Creek plateau? Dave mentioned that the West Bank has been mapped, and neither Kelly nor Buffalo Valley would be included in this current project. Carlin mentioned that the mapping is focused on areas with shallow water levels and/or known problem areas, so it is likely that Game Creek is not included. It relates to the question of whether there is a raised leech field or not, and focuses on areas that one would expect to see a raised leech field or shallow septic. The sewer mapping does include the entire County, however. **Bailey moved to authorize the Executive Director to sign the 'Agreement between Teton Conservation District and Nelson Engineering for Teton County Septic/Sewer Mapping Project' upon the satisfactory approval by legal counsel. Sandy seconded. Motion passed.**

Carlin indicated that Professor Kempema's visit was a successful one and he hopes he will have the opportunity to present to the Board at some point.

Sandy indicated that she thought the draft of the Trout Friendly Lawns and landscaping program looked good. Carlin replied that he's been working really hard to get the process moving along. Bailey asked about whether there would be a logo or something that certified partners in the program could put on their website? Carlin stated that there will be a logo/brand for Trout Friendly Lawns, and also a conversation about signage, but consistent brand identification will be a key element. Mike Halloran asked whether it would be a voluntary program? Carlin replied that it would be, although there is hope to potentially get the Town and County to adopt it as a resolution.

Caroline: Dave indicated he thought the website was more user friendly in its new incarnation. Sandy expressed she felt the proposed Communications Strategic Plan was a good template to begin with and see how it goes for the first year. **Bailey moved to approve the draft Strategic Plan for the Communications Program Area to be incorporated into the 2015-2020 Teton Conservation District Strategic Plan. Sandy seconded. Motion passed.**

Tom Segerstrom: Following on from the conversation with Alicia Cox from YTCC, **Sandy moved to extend funding granted to YTCC by TCD in FY 2014, FY 2015 and FY 2017 until August 2018 as follows: funds for five (5), \$5,000 cost-share grants for the completed installation of electric car charging stations, \$15,000 for cost-share grants to entities purchasing of electric or hybrid vehicles and \$580 for radio promotion of the vehicle purchase grant availability. Bailey seconded.** Bailey asked about whether there were any qualifications for an entity to qualify for the cost share grant, and Alicia said that anyone could qualify. **Motion passed.** Carlin asked whether there was a way to measure reductions in

emissions related to the installation of the charging stations, and Alicia said there was and the difference is measurable.

Dave asked how the Wyoming Public Lands Initiative (WPLI) is doing. Tom mentioned that in the most recent meeting, County representatives attended and indicated that they supported the WPLI purpose and mission. Progress was made, and the Ruckelshaus Institute contacted TCD to ask Morgan to digitize hand-drawn maps created by the WPLI. Morgan's presence was also requested at the next meeting to digitize lines in real-time. Representatives from WPLI came by the day after the meeting with two maps, and Morgan indicated that he thought it wouldn't take an extensive period of time to turn those maps into a Google Earth format. Tom furthered that the outdoor recreation community has a much better idea of what lines they need on a map versus the environmental community which has a less clear idea of what they are looking for. Morgan mentioned that it's a fine line between what was originally conceptualized when TCD was put forward to potentially help with mapping. Dave said to be careful about not over-committing, and Morgan indicated that it continues to evolve as a process. WPLI also appointed a sub-committee to work with Sublette County on the Shoal Creek area, which was very much appreciated. Tom mentioned that the most interesting point for him is that they want to preclude oil and gas from that area in Sublette County. Dave asked if there are any deadlines for this process? Tom said there needs to be a recommendation to the Wyoming County Commission Association by June. Bailey mentioned that Rep. Liz Cheney's proposed bill has thrown a wrench in the process, and the exact comments of that bill is still very much up in the air, including possibly releasing BLM wilderness study areas, as well as wilderness study areas on Forest Service land as well. Bailey indicated there is some frustration with the fact that the proposed bill is undermining the WPLI process.

Tom mentioned that in February staff will be approaching the Board about reallocation of funds in the budget. Sandy asked about the 12 miles/gallon amount for the Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) trucks. Tom said that is only the data from the Dodge, because the collection from the Chevy has been more challenging. Tom mentioned that the question for him is: how many miles per year are being put on the truck; and, what is the life expectancy for the truck?

Sandy wanted to thank Robb for looking into the mushroom situation. Sandy asked if TCD is looking for housing for the Teton Area Advisory Forum (TAAF) students, and Tom mentioned that they are currently being set-up at the Murie Center. Tom also mentioned to expect a TAC Grant related to TAAF.

Sandy also mentioned that she was alarmed to see hotels, etc., are being built in Town without any hook-up to the stormwater system.

Dave asked Tom about the berm regulation, and Tom indicated that the County stated they would not enforce a berm regulation that wasn't highly specific with regards to height, size, etc. Tom mentioned that as the Natural Resources Stakeholder Group gets involved they need to keep that in mind. Morgan mentioned that there was a suggestion that the ponds and berms be separated, and that with berms there hasn't been enforcement thus far with how the regulations related to them as written in the LDRs has not currently been enforced. Ponds, on the other hand, do not yet have any specific language as to their development, and require specific language in

order to minimize environmental impacts. County Engineering made it sound like they needed less regulation in order to match realism with regards to berms, because enforcing as written would mean there would be no berms. Bailey asked whether the existing non-conforming berms could be grandfathered in, and Carlin mentioned that it's more of an issue of the fact that enforcing the regulations as they now exist would virtually eliminate berms, because none would be in compliance. Sandy asked what the current issue with berms is? Morgan indicated it was rise over run, and the fact that they are generally located right on the property line.

Dave asked about the TCD role in the Natural Resources Stakeholder Group and the habitat mapping process. Tom indicated that Clarion and Alder Environmental chose to cease their working relationship with the County. Carlin said that it was made clear that TCD's engagement is dependent on the Board's approval. Dave suggested that it might be time to remind the County that they should hire someone full-time to work on this project, and then TCD would be willing to help out. Sandy indicated that she wondered if something like finite contracts for different projects and subjects could be something TCD could get involved while waiting for the County to hire someone would help get the process moving forward more efficiently. Dave mentioned that his concern wasn't about TCD being involved, but rather that whatever TCD produces will fall on deaf ears until someone is dedicated to the project to listen. Dave suggested it might be worthwhile for TCD to make a statement about the fact that nothing will be achieved with the Comprehensive Plan until the County hires someone to focus on it. Tom stated that it appeared to him that there needs to be some form of mitigation bank set-up within the County, but it is unclear who could run it.

Tom introduced the outline of the Strategic Plan and the process that TCD has made thus far. Tom asked for direction on the topic of Genetic Engineering (GE) and Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs). Dave indicated he did not feel that was something TCD wants to be involved in, with the exception of how it relates to pesticides, etc. He added that if there is real science about the impacts of GE crops he would be willing to discuss it, but as of now he doesn't feel it's something TCD should wade into. Sandy asked whether TCD even has the capacity to get involved in this conversation? Dave asked if anyone has asked TCD about GMOs? Sandy suggested maybe shifting the discussion to bio-controls as opposed to GEs and GMOs.

Dave asked whether it is known that there is a problem with the Flat Creek drinking water? Carlin mentioned that benzene has been found in the Karns Meadow well, but that he felt that topic area spoke more to the need to develop a closer relationship with the Town of Jackson drinking water people and becoming more knowledgeable about the issues that exist. Dave asked if TCD has gained access to the old plumes studies related to benzene, and Carlin mentioned he has asked around but hasn't been able to find anything concrete.

Bailey asked about Hoop House regulation, and stated that she would recommend TCD revisit the topic and continue working on it.

Sandy asked what Tom's thoughts on NRTAB were? Tom said that TCD had no role with NRTAB anymore and the relationship has been dissolved. Carlin indicated that the Board was not managed well and has been more or less abandoned by the County. Tom mentioned that he

thought TCD’s engagement with the Natural Resources Stakeholder Group sort of takes the place of the NRTAB role especially given the current status of NRTAB.

Tom reminded the Board that if there is something they notice next month in the Strategic Plan, they can report back to him.

**New Business:** The discussion as to Board officer positions was conducted. Dave opted to remain as Chair, Bailey volunteered to be Treasurer, and Sandy agreed to continue as Secretary. Steve was named as Vice-Chair. **Sandy moved to approve the slate of officers as described by Dave. Bailey seconded. Motion passed.**

**Executive Session:** **Sandy moved to enter into executive session under Wyoming State Statute 15-1-1-5 for the purpose of discussing personnel matters and other information classified as confidential by law. Bailey seconded. Motion passed at 4:49pm Sandy moved to resume the regular meeting, Bailey seconded and the regular board meeting resumed at 5:08pm.**

**Bailey moved and Sandy seconded to approve Michael Halloran as an Associate Board Member. The motion passed.**

**Sandy moved and Bailey seconded to adjourn the regular board meeting and the motion passed at 5:09pm.**

**Adjournment:**

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Emily Hagedorn Date

Chairman: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dave Adams Date

Acting Treasurer: \_\_\_\_\_  
Bailey Schreiber Date



## Emily Hagedorn, Administrative Manager

### Action Items:

**Program Area:** Administration

**Public Information Policy** – We have updated the previously presented public information policy with some additional language and the language regarding specific records which are exempt from requests including Agricultural based upon State statutes (See Supplemental Materials) . **Suggested Motion:**

*Move to approve the Teton Conservation District Public Information Policy and implement the policy effective immediately.*

**Program Area:** Water Resources

**Flat Creek Water Improvement District** – Just some housekeeping, the minutes from the last 2 joint Board Meetings need to be approved and signed in order to finalize and file these documents.

**Suggested Motion:** *Move to approve and sign the TCD & Flat Creek Watershed Improvement District Joint Quarterly Board Meeting Minutes for September 11, 2017 and December 11, 2017.*

### Information Items:

**Program Area:** Administration

**At-Large Director Position Replacement** – According to Michelle at Wyoming Department of Agriculture (WDA) and Bobbie at the Wyoming Association of Conservation Districts (WACD), the candidate will not be considered a voting member of the TCD Board until their approval is finalized at the January Board of WDP meeting on January 17, 2018. The topic is on their agenda and no difficulties are anticipated in having Steve Kallin approved to join the TCD Board.

**TCD Associate Supervisor Request** – Michael Halloran has asked to become an Associate Supervisor. He submitted an application for the open TCD Board seat in November, 2017, and that information will be used to consider as a candidate for an Associate Supervisor position (Executive Session).

**2018 TCD Board Officers** – Once the slate of officers has been approved for calendar year 2018, I can proceed with updating the 2018 Treasurer's Bond, updating the Wells Fargo Bank signature card. You will see this at the February, 2018, meeting for signatures. and completing and submitting the WACD 2018 reorganization form.

**Duplicate Records Shredding** – After checking with the proper person at the Wyoming State Archives, we got the okay to shred the duplicate hard copy program records for the now discontinued Noxious Weed Cost Share Program. These records were considered duplicate because of the copies of the records filed with each check generated for the program and the electronic copies of the records that reside in an access database. Western Records Destruction came to the office December 7, 2017 and shredded them onsite and took the shredding away for us.

### **Upcoming TCD Calendar:**

February 1, 2018	TAC Grant Applications Deadline, Review begins
February 12, 15 or 16, 2018	TAC Grant Applicant Interviews ( <b>Day &amp; Time TBD</b> )
February 21, 2018	1:00pm February Regular Board Meeting at TCD Office

## Robb Sgroi, Land Resources Specialist

### Action Items: (**New Business**):

**Program Area:** Agriculture and Water Program

**Wyoming Water Development Office Small Water Project Program applications-** TCD submitted two Small Water Project Program (SWPP) grants on January 01, 2018. The projects are titled the 'Mill Creek Irrigation Improvement', and 'Central Pipeline Irrigation Improvement (TCD has already contributed \$3,485 to the latter project in December 2017 from the Agriculture Cropland, Irrigation

Infrastructure Line Item). Similar to the four SWPP grants submitted in December 2016, staff recommends financial support from TCD towards these projects. If funds from FY 2018 are applied to these projects, there is \$20,000 available in the Program Area 'Ag Program- Cropland Projects', line item 'Irrigation Infrastructure'. The required approval of the grants by the Wyoming Water Development Commission and Select Water Committee is contingent upon; 1) the Select Water Committee's consideration of a bill on January 12, 2018, that removes the \$135,000 total project cost cap, 2) passage of the bill by the full legislature, 3) conditional approval of application(s) by the Wyoming Water Development Commission in March 2018, pending 4) the signing a bill into law by the Governor in July 2018.

**Recommended Motion:** *Move to authorize the TCD Executive Director to commit reimbursement funding for two Small Water Project Program (SWPP) grants, titled 'Central Pipeline Irrigation Improvement', and 'Mill Creek Irrigation Improvement', in the amount of the lesser of \$5,000 of actual project costs or 10% of actual project costs. TCD's funding is dependent upon the projects being successfully funded through the SWPP, but funds will be placed in the Committed Funds Reserve until FY 2019.*

Information Items:

**Program Area:** Administration

**TCD web site-** I reviewed content for my program areas on TCD's new web site. Improvements included repairing broken links, removing and editing content. Thanks to Caroline for describing overall goals and process to make edits on the web site.

**Program Area:** Agriculture

**Level I Watershed Study, Small Water Project Program (SWPP)-** As stated above in Action Item, TCD submitted two SWPP grants on January 01, 2018. The grants were developed and submitted at the actual deadline because we received word that a bill was being considered in committee to change the grant criteria including; 1) eligibility of grants in new areas including Alta, WY, and 2) eliminating the cap on the total project cost. The first project is the Mill Creek Irrigation Improvement Project located along Teton Canyon Road, in Alta, WY. The proposal is to replace the existing pipeline infrastructure and head gate, installed in 1958. The head gate and pipeline both leak. The system irrigates approximately 200 acres of barley, alfalfa hay, and pasture grass, serving seven landowners, represented by the Mill Creek Pipeline Company. The second project is located north of Alta Ski Hill Road. The proposal is to replace the existing pipeline infrastructure, installed in the 1950s. The system irrigates approximately 276 acres of hay and barley, and smaller areas of seed potatoes and garlic, and serves over 70 parcels, represented by Central Pipeline. TCD already provided \$3,485 in funds to replace the valves on this project at the December, 2017, board meeting from the Agriculture-Cropland, Irrigation Infrastructure budget line item.

I have reached out to several entities regarding the new SWPP priority of Rural Community Fire Suppression. This has varied from new fire hydrant infrastructure, to dry hydrant maintenance and development, to increasing existing tank capacity. Further, equitable outreach will be needed to let stakeholders know of this opportunity, however, the initial interest is encouraging.

**Irrigation Improvements-** A landowner in the Gros Ventre drainage, adjacent to the Goosewing Ranch, has completed mitigation of a ditch failure. TCD worked with stakeholders to determine if NRCS and SWPP could support the project, and worked with the landowner's contractor and BTNF to determine what would be required from the BTNF for a mitigation proposal. The ditch supplied by Breakneck Creek, on Bridger-Teton National Forest (BTNF) land, was breached in several locations, causing the development of an erosion gully five feet in depth. The BTNF required mitigation by the landowner (Etca White). Ultimately, the landowner, at their own cost, completed the project to the BTNF's satisfaction. The diversion was placed into a pipe, and the outflow and resulting erosion were eliminated.

**Small Acreage Agriculture, Full Circle Education (FCE)**- TCD worked with FCE to discuss programming, and vetted two films recommended by FCE. I am working with FCE to review their annual plan of work to then see where TCD's interests exist. I am also coordinating needs of the community gardens, owned by Teton County Jackson Parks & Recreation, with outreach provided by FCE.

**Rocky Mountain Mushrooms, LLC, (RMM)**- I spoke with co-owner Stan Doninar of the RMM in Shoshoni, following Tom Segerstrom, Sandy Shuptrine, and Dave Adams' visit to the mushroom farm. A primary question from TCD was why RMM was not distributing product within Wyoming. Stan explained he sells to produce wholesalers, in locations including Denver and Salt Lake City, who then redistribute to supermarkets or other entities, which *does* include Wyoming locations. Stan explained that if he was to speak with the Smith's supermarket in Jackson, for example, that he would be redirected to a corporate representative, who would direct sales to the produce wholesaler. Kroger, Albertsons, Safeway, and Wal-Mart are examples of entities that function by routing distribution through wholesale facilities. RMM previously serviced the Riverton/Lander area, and also sold mushrooms directly to a farmer's market in Cody, as a courtesy. This is generally a losing proposition to sell to entities in Wyoming due to operating economics including high transportation costs, small margins, and Wyoming's small population base. I connected the Lower Wind River CD, which recently established a mill levy revenue source and is seeking projects, and USDA-NRCS Community and Economic Development's Coordinator, with RMM. Both entities were interested in communicating with RMM.

#### **Program Area: Restoration and Sustainability**

**Air Quality**- Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) Air Resources Division is currently in search of a site, with landowner permission, for siting their mobile air quality station. The timeframe for the initiation of monitoring has shifted from January 2018 to February 2018. Patrick Wright reported that he has begun testing the hand-held air sampling equipment purchased with the TCD TAC grant funds awarded in August, 2017.

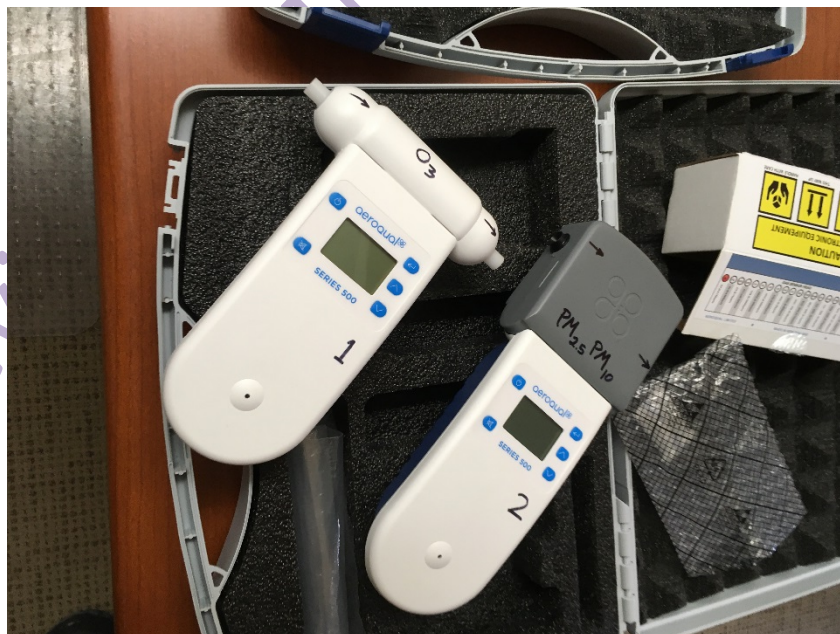


Figure 1. Instruments purchased with TAC grants for collection of particulate matter and ozone data.

**Wildfire Risk Reduction Program**- I submitted an additional report for the Western States Wildland Urban Interface (WSWUI) grant. This report summarized the five years of work completed under the umbrella of this grant, and mainly compared stated objectives with actual results. I am pursuing an

opportunity to amend the grant, allowing several marketing expenses to be reimbursed through the grant.

**Program Area:** Planning and Development

**Development reviews-** TCD received three requests for review of developments as of January 08, 2018. Those locations include Squaw Creek Road, Highland Park Loop Road in Kelly, and Horse Creek. Staff produced comment letters for the first two and the third is being coordinated with the Wyoming Game and Fish Department. I am managing the review of these requests.

The memorandum on seasonal high tunnels, produced by TCD in December, 2016, addressed permitting and development of high tunnels on private land. My recent discussions with several entities indicated interest in high tunnels but lack of knowledge of feasibility and permitting processes, while communication with Teton County Planning indicated opportunity may exist on public land for development (e.g. State School Lands). I am curious about the Supervisor's interest in TCD further exploring this opportunity.

## Morgan Graham, GIS Wildlife Specialist

Action Items:

**Program Area:** Wildlife

**Mid-winter Trumpeter Swan Survey-** Wyoming Game and Fish Department (WGFD) Nongame Biologist Susan Patla is requesting funds to help support winter aerial surveys of trumpeter swans in the Jackson area. Hundreds of swans winter on private lands in the Jackson area and no winter aerial surveys have been conducted since February, 2015. Susan would like to conduct one flight per month between January and April, 2018. She completed the first flight on January 8, 2018. Results will provide data on total numbers of wintering swans as well as status of winter use locations relative to past years. Surveys could also document how habitat use shifts through the winter. This request could be funded with the "Support Wildlife Data Collection" line item of the FY2018 TCD budget. Any allotted funds will be matched by WGFD.

**Recommended Motion:** *Move to support mid-winter trumpeter swan surveys conducted by the Wyoming Game and Fish Department in the amount of \$1,500.*

**Mid-winter Sage Grouse Survey-** During a meeting of the Upper Snake River Basin Local Working Group, we discussed the possibility of adding flight time to existing elk and bighorn sheep surveys conducted by WGFD, the week of February 20, 2018. The group agreed that an aerial survey would only be worthwhile if snow cover conditions were suitable. WGFD Sage Grouse Program Coordinator, Tom Christiansen offered to contribute \$2,500 of his available budget if conditions permitted a flight. I indicated I could request a matching \$2,500 from the "Support Wildlife Data Collection" line of the TCD Wildlife Program Budget. The flight may or may not occur, but waiting until the February, 2018, TCD Board meeting would be too late to consider allocating funds.

**Recommended Motion:** *Move to allocate \$2,500 from the "Support Wildlife Data Collection" line of the TCD Wildlife Program budget for a mid-winter sage grouse aerial survey conducted by Wyoming Game and Fish Department. Funds will only be expended if appropriate survey conditions occur.*

**Program Area:** GIS & Mapping / Information Technology

**International Lidar Mapping Forum-** Upon completion of the course, Topographic Mapping with Lidar, my instructor encouraged me to participate in an upcoming joint conference of the American Society of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing / International Lidar Mapping Forum. The conference will be held in Denver, CO, February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018 – February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018. My instructor indicated she could possibly comp my registration costs in exchange for volunteering. At this time, some volunteer positions require a minimum of five hours working per day. It is unclear whether this commitment would allow



me to fully participate in the conference sessions most pertinent to TCD and completion of the water layer. There are a number of presentations focused specifically on the extraction of surface water from lidar data (see Supplemental Materials). To date, I have expended my professional development line item for the remainder of the fiscal year. I am continuing to pursue ways to reduce costs of attending. If I am unable to volunteer, my current estimate for registration, fuel, lodging, and per diem is \$2,225. If deemed useful, my participation could be funded through Discretionary line of the FY2018 TCD Budget.

**Recommended Motion:** *Move to authorize the GIS & Wildlife Specialist's participation in the 2018 International Lidar Mapping Forum, with attendance costs covered by the Discretionary line item of the FY2018 TCD budget.*

Information Items:

**Program Area:** GIS & Mapping / Information Technology

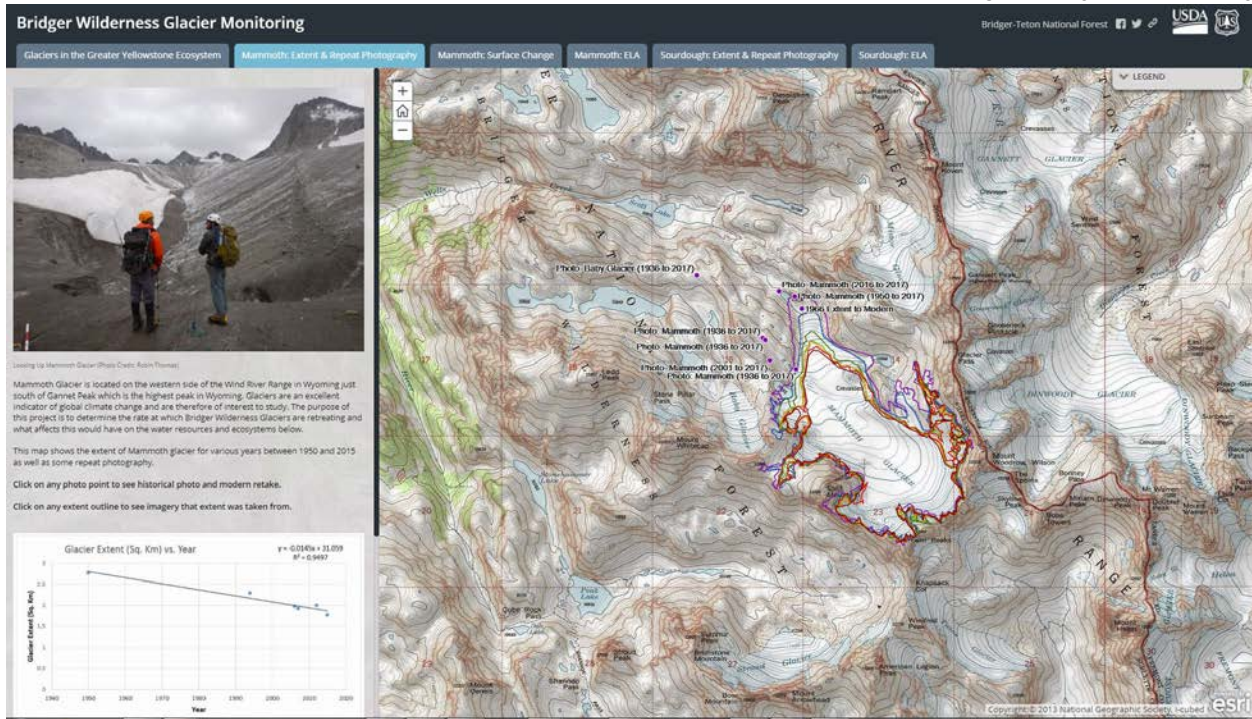
**Google Imagery-** I completed download of 1.7 terabytes of aerial imagery from Google. I am in the process of transforming raw data into a more manageable format. Rich Greenwood has been helpful in recommending viable open source solutions for file compression and manipulation. Simeon Caskey, of Grand Teton National Park (GTNP) is continuing to work with his Financial Assistance Agreements Officer to finalize an agreement for TCD review and signature. In the meantime, a sole source announcement for acquisition of aerial imagery must be posted on FedBizOpps.gov for 30 days prior to final execution of an agreement with TCD. Simeon estimated that TCD could anticipate receiving an agreement for review by the end of February or beginning of March, 2018. GTNP already paid \$3,000 towards the \$11,382 purchase cost on December 27, 2017. GTNP is also looking to leverage National Park Service resources for efficient data storage and distribution.

**IT Provider-** Factory IT has initiated their onboarding process. We are working to establish onsite/offsite server backups, anti-virus, and remote support according to their internal best management practices.

**Water Layer-** I've exchanged a number of emails with United State Geological Survey National Hydrography Dataset Hydrologist Al Rea regarding geoprocessing workflows for the water layer. Chauncey has incorporated some recommended steps into our workflow, and preliminary results show an improvement over our previous approach.

**Wyoming Public Lands Initiative-** I responded to a request from the Wyoming Public Lands Initiative facilitators, to create maps for stakeholders to delineate areas of desired use during their January, 2018 meeting.

**Bridger-Teton National Forest-** I met with Brian Goldberg of the Bridger-Teton National Forest to discuss the allocation of United States Forest Service (USFS) volunteer hours towards promotion of Mike Merigliano's photo retake project. We discussed the potential of a graduate student from Idaho State University constructing "viewshed" areas from Mike's photo locations, and conducting a variety of vegetation analyses. There is also the possibility of directing available USFS funds to a staffer with experience creating ArcGIS Story Maps. Story Maps are a combination of maps, narrative text, images, and multimedia content hosted on the web as an educational tool.



### **Program Area: Wildlife**

**Beartrap Ciderworks-** Orion Bellorado will be in attendance to summarize the results of the 2017 crab apple collection pilot project.

**Sage Grouse Local Working Group-** I attended an Upper Snake River Basin Sage Grouse Working Group meeting. We discussed local 2017 lek count results in relation to Wyoming Game and Fish Department's statewide results. We also covered results of the Spread Creek telemetry study. Depending on snow cover, there is a chance the group will look to conduct mid-winter aerial surveys.

### **Chauncey Smith, Natural Resources Technician**

#### Information Items:

**Program Area:** GIS & Mapping / Information Technology

**Water Layer** – Morgan and I have continued progress on the water layer. We have streamlined the procedure and incorporated the software program LP360 into the workflow. I updated our metadata document and Morgan and I have derived 8 best practices when digitizing burns. I am continuing to add burns for the main block of Jackson.

**Program Area:** Water Resources

**Data Entry** – I entered the September sampling Flat Creek macroinvertebrate results into the SQL database. The data came from the Rhithron Lab in an easy to enter digital format. I wish all data entry was this smooth.

**Quality Assurance / Quality Control (QA/QC)** – I investigated some QA/QC concerns that Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality (WDEQ) raised about the Fish Creek laboratory results. Our database matched WDEQ's data and the questions were addressed by Carlin and passed along to the laboratory. More database QA/QC is planned for this month.

### **Carlin Girard, Water Resource Specialist**

#### Action Items:

**Program Area:** Water Resources

**Septic/Sewer Mapping Request for Proposals-**TCD has met with Nelson Engineering to develop a contract for Septic and Sewer Mapping (see Supplemental Materials). The contract has been reviewed by staff and has been provided to TCD's lawyer. At this point, Teton County will be providing \$20,000 and Friends of Fish Creek \$10,000 towards this project. Staff hopes to begin this project as soon as possible.

**Recommended Motion:** *Authorize the Executive Director to sign the 'Agreement between Teton Conservation District and Nelson Engineering for Teton County Septic/Sewer Mapping Project' upon the satisfactory review by legal counsel.*

Information Items:**Program Area:** Water Resources

**Fish Creek Nutrient Reduction-** TCD has been meeting with Friends of Fish Creek and Flitner Strategies to forge a path forward on Landscape Fertilization and Wastewater programs. Next steps include developing marketing material for Trout Friendly Landscaping with TMBR (communications consultant) and presenting the hypothetical program to the Stakeholder Group (see Supplemental Materials).

**Flat Creek Watershed****Improvement District (FCWID),**

**Winter Ice Study-** The FCWID used heavy equipment to mitigate flooding just upstream of Garaman Park on January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018. This flooding event happened to coincide with a site visit by Ed Kempema, the University of Wyoming ice specialist completing data analysis for the FCWID. I was able to meet and walk the creek with him. He is very knowledgeable and passionate about this topic, and I believe that we are lucky to have him involved.



Flat Creek within 2 inches of overtopping sandbags before mitigation occurred.

He was very grateful for the funding TCD has provided to collect winter data on Flat Creek.

**Flat Creek Watershed Planning-** Following board and staff review of the Flat Creek Watershed Management Plan Revision Request for Proposals (RFP), the final draft will be published January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

**Bar BC Spring-** TCD Staff was contacted to discuss a potential fish passage barrier at the outlet of Bar BC Spring Creek to the Gros Ventre River. This issue resulted from a levee project on the Gros Ventre River. During levee work, the existing Bar BC culvert that passes through levee was extended in length. Fish Passage at this location has always been less than ideal, but this extension may have made this poor situation worse. This culvert is the entrance to this small spring, which annually hosts hundreds of spawning cutthroat trout. This stream is also used to procure fertilized Snake River cutthroat trout eggs, which are propagated and used to supply the statewide hatchery program. Fish passage experts are being consulted, because this levee is actually being assess for redevelopment and US Army Corps certification, further complicating this issue.

**Program Area:** Planning and Development

**Pond/Berm 90-Day Moratorium Extension-** Teton County extended its moratorium on Pond and Berm development applications. The County intends to revise the Land Development Regulations prior



to receiving new applications for these types of development actions. Morgan presented to the Commissioners to accurately describe the extent of pond development in the County.

## **Caroline Baker, Communications Specialist**

### Action Items

#### **Program Area: Communications**

**The Draft Strategic Plan-** The Draft Strategic Plan for the Communications Program Area has been developed for the next 2.5-years remaining in the over-all Strategic Plan period (See Supplemental Materials). Please review the draft.

**Recommended Motion:** *Move to approve the draft Strategic Plan for the Communications Program Area to be incorporated into the 2015-2020 Teton Conservation District Strategic Plan.*

### Information Items:

#### **Program Area: Water Resources**

**Trout Friendly Lawns-** I attended a joint meeting with Friends of Fish Creek at Flitner Strategies to further hammer out the overall design and framework of the Trout Friendly Lawns program, and to discuss potential ideas for addressing septic tanks on the West Bank.

**Flat Creek Watershed Improvement District-** I accompanied Carlin into the field to observe Flat Creek ice monitoring activities and wrote a blog post for the website related to the topic.

#### **Program Area: Restoration and Sustainability**

**Wildfire Adapted Community Film-** I provided Robb with feedback on the marketing proposal for distribution of the Hidden Hills Fire Film.

#### **Program Area: Communications**

**Website Redesign-** I continued to complete edits to the new website, and cross-trained staff on completing edits to content on the site.

**Communications Strategic Plan-** I completed the Communications Strategic Plan.

## **Tom Segerstrom, Executive Director**

### Action Items (**New Business**)

#### **Program Area: Restoration and Sustainability**

**Yellowstone -Teton Clean Cities (YTCC)-** As shown in the table below, YTCC is requesting that TCD provide an extension on \$20,000 in funding provided by TCD FY 2014 and FY 2015 and another \$5,000 in funding provided in FY 2017 in order to provide \$5,000 cost-share grants for the installation of 5 electric car charging stations (\$5,000 each). In the near term, two charging stations are scheduled to be installed at the Jackson Hole airport. In addition, YTCC is requesting extensions on \$15,580 granted in FY 2014 and FY 2015 for cost-share incentives for people purchasing electric or hybrid vehicles (\$15,000) and to advertise the grants on radio (\$580). The total extension request is for \$40,580.

**Suggested Motion:** *Move to extend funding granted to YTCC by TCD in FY 2014, FY 2015 and FY 2017 until August 2018 as follows: funds for five (5), \$5,000 cost-share grants for the completed installation of electric car charging stations, \$15,000 for cost-share grants to entities purchasing of electric or hybrid vehicles and \$580 for radio promotion of the vehicle purchase grant availability.*



TCD Technical Assistance Cost Share and Memorandum of Understanding Grant Reporting					Worksheet for Remaining Funds		
Grantee: Yellowstone Teton Clean Cities		Reporting Date: As of October 1, 2017		If there is unspent \$, select a grantee requested action below			
Report?	Task/Project	Grant \$	Spent \$	Unspent \$	Extension	Reallocate	Return
Extension amounts - FY 14 & FY 15 grants - reporting due 8-1-17							
no	2.1 Expand YTCC Fleet Contacts	\$300.00	\$300.00		\$	\$	\$
no	2.2 Provide Fleet Support for 5 New Fleets	\$2,820.00	\$2,820.00		\$	\$	\$
no	2.3 Develop and Distribute Case Studies	\$1,400.00	\$1,400.00		\$	\$	\$
no	2.4 Green Fleet Recognition Program	\$6,600.00	\$6,600.00		\$	\$	\$
no	3.1 Visit Gateway Communities to Educate	\$4,400.00	\$4,400.00		\$	\$	\$
no	3.2 Charging Station Cost Share Incentives	\$30,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$	\$
no	3.3 Work with Rental Car Companies on Evs	\$1,300.00	\$1,300.00		\$	\$	\$
		<b>\$46,820.00</b>	<b>\$26,820.00</b>	<b>\$20,000.00</b>	<b>\$20,000.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
Reallocation amounts - FY 14 & FY 15 grants - reporting due 8-1-17							
specify	1.1 Market Program to Citizens	\$2,800.00	\$2,800.00		\$	\$	\$
specify	1.2 Provide Cost Share Incentives-EV or Hybrid	\$17,625.00	\$2,625.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$	\$
specify	2.1 Work with JHNG on Ad Campaign	\$3,495.00	\$3,495.00		\$	\$	\$
specify	2.2 Radio Advertising with KMTN	\$580.00	\$0.00	\$580.00	\$580.00	\$	\$
specify	3.1 Plan 1 call/mo & 1 meeting/yr (staff time)	\$1,300.00	\$1,300.00		\$	\$	\$
specify	3.2 Execute 12 phone calls & 1 mtng (staff time)	\$1,300.00	\$1,300.00		\$	\$	\$
	<i>(\$12,000 reported spent as of 06/30/2017)</i>	<b>\$27,100.00</b>	<b>\$11,520.00</b>	<b>\$15,580.00</b>	<b>\$15,580.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
FY 16 MoA Partner Funding Grants - reporting due 8-1-16							
yes	Electric Vehicle Workshop - Ride & Drive	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
		<b>\$2,500.00</b>	<b>\$2,500.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
FY 17 MoA Partner Funding Grant - reporting due 8-1-17							
no	Electric Vehicle Charging Station	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$	\$
no	Renewable Energy	\$500.00	\$500.00		\$	\$	\$
		<b>\$5,500</b>	<b>\$500.00</b>	<b>\$5,000.00</b>	<b>\$5,000.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
FY 18 MoA Partner Funding Grant - reporting due 8-1-18							
n/a	No Partner Funding Requested this FY	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>Totals</b>		<b>\$81,920.00</b>	<b>\$41,340.00</b>	<b>\$40,580.00</b>	<b>\$40,580.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

Information Items

**Program Area:** Administration

**Office Facility-** Emily and I met with Frank Fanning and his staff (our Trilipiderm, neighbors upstairs) to discuss the building facilities, parking and working together. We confirmed our common understanding of the building, parties involved with maintenance, parking arrangements and general communications among ourselves.

**TCD Vehicles-** Staff kept daily mileage logs for each truck including fueling and maintenance expenses. I collected the records for the calendar year and summarized some of the information to provide the following characteristics of vehicle condition and use:

2013 Dodge Pickup:

1. Generally used for the Water Resource Program Area
2. Currently has roughly 25,000 miles on the odometer
3. Accrued approximately 5,700 additional miles in calendar year 2017
4. Based upon a single data point, the truck gets about 16 miles per gallon on gasoline
5. Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) mileage may be 12 mpg??
6. Tires replacement may be appropriate in FY 2019 (fall of 2018 or spring of 2019)
7. Replacement, under proper maintenance, should not be necessary until FY 2031 (13 years) after 100,000 miles have been accrued.

2015 Chevrolet Pickup:

1. Used for Multiple Program Areas including Administration
2. Currently has roughly 24,000 miles on the odometer

3. Accrued approximately 13,700 miles in calendar year 2017 (this included extensive administration training travel throughout the state)
4. Gasoline mileage is approximately 15.7 miles per gallon
5. CNG mileage is unknown because mixed fuels were used and Lower Valley Energy has not billed the trucks separately
6. Front tires were replaced in November 2017 and the rear tires will need replacement in FY 2019
7. Replacement, under proper maintenance, should not be necessary until FY 2023 (5 years) after 100,000 miles have been accrued

**Strategic Planning-** Staff assessed the Strategic Plan status at this, the Mid-Cycle Period of 2.5 years into the 5-year Plan (Supplemental Materials). In summary, TCD has adhered to the 2015-2020 Strategic Plan. In addition, TCD is well positioned to complete the remaining aspects of the Plan that are yet to be addressed while continuing to be successful at ongoing programs and projects. Please review the mid-cycle Strategic Plan assessment with particular attention to projects that are considered complete.

**FY 2018 Budget-** A mid-year review of the FY 2018 budget is provided in your packet (Supplemental Materials). Reallocations by the board will be considered at the February, 2018, TCD Supervisor's meeting.

**Program Area:** Restoration and Sustainability

**Integrated Solid Waste and Recycling (ISWR)-** Heather Overholser met with Emily and I to review the ISWR, Memorandum of Agreement funding needs for FY 2019. The details will be incorporated into the TCD draft budget for board review in the months ahead.

**Program Area:** Planning and Development

**Wyoming Public Lands Initiative (WPLI)-** The December meeting began with Len Carlman, who is not a member of the WPLI Committee, providing a "Straw-Man" alternative for potential land designation exchanges using TCD maps that Morgan had provided months prior. Following the presentation, the Committee members expressed a wide range of distrust and divergent interests. With the help of Steve Smutko, brought in from the Ruckelshaus Institute to assist, facilitators had the group resume breakout group exercises to further identify values and interests of the factions. This was the same exercise that was conducted at the previous meeting and members expressed their frustration. There was no foreseeable role for TCD pending so I left the meeting. Since the meeting several members have; 1) appeared in the news media, 2) initiated court actions and/or 3) approached the Wyoming Congressional delegation for legislative action regarding the Wilderness Study Areas. Those actions were something that all committed to abstain from at the beginning of the endeavor.

**Natural Resource Stakeholder Group (NRSG)-** Carlin, Morgan, Robb, and I met with Roby Hurley from Teton County Planning Department to discuss next steps for the NRSG as it enters Phase 4 of the Update Process. Roby informed us that the consultant group, Clarion and Alder Environmental Consulting are no longer engaged in the process. Our discussion was focused on the need to; 1) develop the water resources section, which is blank at this time, 2) create tiers of importance within the Focal Species Habitat Map (FSHM) and 3) blend the tiers with the already created zoning. Carlin will engage on behalf of TCD regarding water and Carlin and Morgan will explore 3-5 methods for binning habitat values for GIS analysis that could objectively divine tiers from the FSHM. This will all need to be approached with caution in regard to the TCD Plan of Work for the year.

**Teton County Pond and Berm Construction Moratorium-** The Teton County Board of County Commissioners extended the freeze until August, 2018, so that these topics can be addressed as part of the revision of the overall Land Development Regulations. The pond and berm discussions revealed that the Engineering Department will only adhere and enforce strictly quantifiable thresholds in regard to limits of disturbance and construction designs within the LDRs. For example: LDR 5.7.2.5: "Preserves Natural or Established Vegetation. The grading shall be designed to preserve natural or established

vegetation as much as is practically possible.” Or, 5.7.2.9, “Minimizes Cut and Fill. The plan shall minimize cut and fill on a site. An application for a grading and erosion control permit shall be denied if it is determined that its issuance would result in excessive cutting and filling and that the intended structure or use would be feasible with less alteration of the natural terrain.”

**Teton Area Advisory Forum (TAAF)-** TAAF members met once again with the Ruckelshaus Institute and will be crafting a TAC Grant proposal to derive funding for a coordinator and the groups of students that will be staying in Jackson. The four groups of four students and their local sponsor and University mentor will develop the Teton Regional Vision Plan status report. The Report is aimed at reinvigorating the Plan as a community framework for progress. I anticipate a TAC Grant proposal will be submitted by February 1, 2018.

**Program Area: Water Resources:**

**Fish Creek Stakeholders Group (FCSG)-** As reflected in Carlin’s staff report, Dave Adams and I have joined Carlin at a meeting with Friends of Fish Creek (FOFC) facilitated by Flitner Communications once again. Progress was made in moving forward with the lawn care and fertilizer aspects to present to the Fish Creek Stakeholder Group. I will be providing a review of the three papers that John Culbertson has produced, but further discussion in regard to the many difficult aspects of septic and sewer nutrients pollution will need to occur in order to work with the FCSG to develop the strategy moving forward.

There are important differences between TCD and FoFC regarding timelines and measures for success.

**Flat Creek Watershed Improvement District (FCWID)-** The third year of the Flat Creek Ice Study is underway. The University of Wyoming consultant was able to conduct a multiple day site visit to Flat Creek and witnessed an entire freeze-thaw cycle with a test run of Thaw well #2. A sub group of the FCWID combined with the Snake River Fund and Legacy Works (a private foundation) are focused on working with the Town of Jackson (ToJ) to move forward with the Storm-Water Master Plan for the center of ToJ (Cache Creek Tube), which was funded by the Special Purpose Excise Tax two years ago. Larry Pardee revealed there is an immediate need for the plan because hotels are currently being constructed with no storm water system hook up capacity. While the Master Plan effort may consist largely of larger pipes to get storm water into Flat Creek faster the group is interested in compelling the Town and developers to address storm water runoff quality as well as water quantity. A Master Plan from Durango, Colorado, was provided as an example. Members of the group will provide; 1) copies of the Durango Master Plan an example for the ToJ, 2) develop a list of “experts” that may be available to meet with the ToJ or be available for a storm-water workshop and 3) try to obtain a timeline for the completion of the Master Plan from the ToJ and subsequent projects that it will undoubtedly generate. In addition, TCD staff committed to obtaining previously related Request for Proposals from ToJ and to exploring how Storm Water Prevention Program workshops might dovetail with the topic along with future Candidate Forums, a white paper, etc.

**Program Area: Wildlife**

**Wyoming Game and Fish Department (WGFD) University of Wyoming Fish and Wildlife Cooperative Unit-** Staff was invited to participate in capturing bighorn sheep for the third year of a study comparing nutritional relationships to reproduction in three Wyoming herds with varying productivity. The preliminary findings of this research were provided at my December TCD Staff Report. I attended and spent the majority of the travel and down time with Roby Hurley and Susan Johnson from the Teton County Planning Department discussing the Regulation Update and I also got to know the Jackson District Biologist for the Forest Service.

## Teton Conservation District - Monthly Treasurer's Report

Treasurer's Report for: **January 31, 2018**

**Debits for the month:**

Checks written between

January 1 and January 31, 2018	\$95,455.48
January credit card charges of	\$1,936.43

**Credits for the month:**

regular income sources

Mill Levy from Teton County	\$253,165.64
General Fund Checking Interest from Wells Fargo Bank	\$6.99
Committed Funds Savings Interest - Wells Fargo Bank	\$2.99
Operating Reserve Account Income from First Interstate	\$181.58

other income sources

Friends of Fish Creek - Fish Creek Sampling reimbursed	\$18,601.00
State of WY - State Forestry WUI Grant reimbursement	\$9,280.00
State of WY - Small Water Project reimbursement	\$9,281.07
State of WY - State Forestry WUI Grant reimbursement	\$7,000.00
Well Test Kit Sales	\$99.99

**Total Credits for January** **\$297,619.26**

Investments and Maturity Dates	Initial Invested	% Income	% Return	
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Operating Reserves Account @ First Interstate Bank

Cash	\$0.00			\$0.00
Money Market	\$500,000.00	\$2,281.77	0.30%	\$502,281.77
<b>total</b>	<b>\$500,000.00</b>		<b>total</b>	<b>\$502,281.77</b>

Committed Funds Saving Account @ Wells Fargo Bank

Previous Committed Balance				\$117,424.87
Transfers in or out				\$0.00
Interest Income, prev\$+new%			0.03%	\$2.99
			<b>total</b>	<b>\$117,427.86</b>

**Total Funds in Investments** **\$619,709.63**

General Fund Checking Account Balance as of	01/31/18	0.01%	<b>\$931,563.89</b>
Outstanding Checks as of 01-31-18			<b>\$61,749.29</b>
Reconcilled QuickBooks Balance as of	1/31/2018		<b>\$869,949.02</b>
Mill Levy to be collected in February			<b>\$60,749.69</b>
Checks written so far for the month of February			<b>\$52,346.28</b>



<b>Addition to the Treasurer's Report:</b>		<b>Spent to Date &amp; Incc as of 2/20/2018</b>			<b>63% of FY</b>
<b><i>Income:</i></b>	<b><i>Budgeted:</i></b>	<b><i>Spent to Date:</i></b>	<b><i>Remaining:</i></b>	<b><i>Spent %</i></b>	
<u>Mill Levy</u>	\$1,291,615.00	\$1,153,314.41	\$138,300.59	89.3%	
<u>Project Grants to TCD</u>					
Wildland Urban (WUI) Interface	\$52,500.00	\$16,280.00	\$36,220.00	31.0%	
Fish Creek WQ Sampling Partnership	\$28,000.00	\$30,118.50	-\$2,118.50	107.6%	
Flat Creek WQ Sampling Reimb.	\$10,000.00	\$8,886.00	\$1,114.00	88.9%	
BTNF Historic Photo Point Reimb.	\$11,560.00	\$0.00	\$11,560.00	0.0%	
<u>Cooperative Projects</u>					
Well Test Kits to landowners	\$1,500.00	\$742.21	\$757.79	49.5%	
FY 2018 GTNP Gaging Stations	\$18,500.00	\$0.00	\$18,500.00	0.0%	
Wyoming Water Development Proj.	\$140,000.00	\$9,281.07	\$130,718.93	6.6%	
Boulder sale to Terra Firma Organics	\$17,600.00	\$17,600.00	\$0.00	100.0%	
<u>WDA Base Funding + WACD WQ</u>	\$12,705.50	\$8,823.50	\$3,882.00	69.4%	
<u>Miscellaneous &amp; Unanticipated Income</u>	\$4,000.00	\$7,343.64	-\$3,343.64	183.6%	
<u>Interest from Accounts</u>	\$1,000.00	\$1,279.81	-\$279.81	128.0%	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,588,980.50</b>	<b>\$1,253,669.14</b>	<b>\$335,311.36</b>	<b>78.9%</b>	
<b>Program Expenses:</b>					
<u>Agriculture Assistance-Cropland</u>	\$227,150.00	\$15,372.29	\$211,777.71	6.8%	
<u>Agriculture Assistance-Rangeland</u>	\$27,300.00	\$0.00	\$27,300.00	0.0%	
<u>Community Partnership Grants</u>					
TAC Grant \$ Available in FY 2018	\$80,000.00	\$25,023.00	\$54,977.00	31.3%	
TCD Project \$ Available in FY 2018	\$94,291.21	\$0.00	\$94,291.21	0.0%	
TCD Project Funds Committed	\$209,751.21	\$44,788.20	\$164,963.01	21.4%	
<u>Communications &amp; Outreach</u>	\$35,000.00	\$5,370.89	\$29,629.11	15.3%	
<u>Invasive Species Projects</u>					
JHWMA Cooperative Proj./Supplies	\$45,000.00	\$43,000.00	\$2,000.00	95.6%	
<u>Mapping Resources &amp; GIS</u>	\$12,000.00	\$2,125.37	\$9,874.63	17.7%	
<u>USGS Partnering Projects</u>	\$95,994.00	\$23,782.50	\$72,211.50	24.8%	
<u>Sustainability Projects</u>	\$47,600.00	\$22,250.00	\$25,350.00	46.7%	
<u>TAWPC/Wildland Urban Interface Grant</u>					
TCD's Grant Match + Other efforts	\$33,000.00	\$18,557.02	\$14,442.98	56.2%	
WUI Wildfire Mitigation Grant	\$52,500.00	\$7,180.00	\$45,320.00	13.7%	
<u>Water Quality Monitoring + Proj.</u>	\$161,250.00	\$27,515.15	\$133,734.85	17.1%	
Fish Creek WQ Projects	\$47,000.00	\$47,000.00	\$0.00	100.0%	
Flat Creek WQ Projects	\$36,250.00	\$3,477.96	\$32,772.04	9.6%	
Flat Creek Water Improvement Dist.	\$31,250.00	\$31,673.62	-\$423.62	101.4%	
<u>Wildlife Projects</u>	\$101,250.00	\$17,000.00	\$84,250.00	16.8%	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,336,586.42</b>	<b>\$334,116.00</b>	<b>\$1,002,470.42</b>	<b>25.0%</b>	
<b>Operation Expenses:</b>					
<u>General Office Expense</u>	\$61,700.00	\$36,464.95	\$25,235.05	59.1%	
<u>Supplies &amp; Equipment</u>	\$12,800.00	\$8,495.08	\$4,304.92	66.4%	
<u>Communications &amp; Travel</u>	\$18,500.00	\$7,120.39	\$11,379.61	38.5%	
<u>Professional Expenses</u>	\$66,550.00	\$45,269.47	\$21,280.53	68.0%	
<u>Payroll Expenses</u>	\$670,000.00	\$356,686.58	\$313,313.42	53.2%	
<u>Meeting Expenses</u>	\$4,600.00	\$2,990.46	\$1,609.54	65.0%	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$834,150.00</b>	<b>\$457,026.93</b>	<b>\$377,123.07</b>	<b>54.8%</b>	

## Income vs. Checks Written (per month) - FY16, FY17 + FY18 to date

<b>FY 2016</b>	<b>mill levy</b>	<b>other income</b>	<b>checks</b>	<b>difference</b>
July	\$27,055.47		\$182,584.27	
August	\$4,827.31		\$55,546.76	
September	\$90,417.20		\$100,677.70	
October	\$159,180.67		\$135,884.54	
November	\$183,925.82		\$103,567.16	
December	\$267,110.58		\$177,758.82	
January	\$181,931.47		\$193,612.49	
February	\$34,496.58		\$119,099.40	
March	\$12,141.17		\$80,041.41	
April	\$15,665.70		\$129,173.63	
May	\$86,830.88		\$164,626.40	
June	\$191,688.40		\$154,058.51	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,255,271.25</b>		<b>\$1,596,631.09</b>	<b>-\$341,359.84</b>

<b>FY 16</b>	average per mo.	<b>\$104,605.94</b>	<b>\$133,052.59</b>	<b>-\$28,446.65</b>
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<b>FY 2017</b>	<b>mill levy</b>	<b>other income</b>	<b>checks</b>	<b>difference</b>
July	\$20,038.78		\$83,991.70	
August	\$5,297.74		\$99,769.50	
September	\$94,013.59		\$73,005.65	
October	\$185,627.62		\$103,280.48	
November	\$192,474.28		\$228,382.97	
December	\$290,153.78		\$64,170.90	
January	\$193,846.84		\$211,959.70	
February	\$41,515.18		\$138,150.17	
March	\$12,022.80		\$136,747.43	
April	\$19,307.38		\$134,523.62	
May	\$83,033.42		\$103,105.06	
June	\$221,117.37		\$121,939.39	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,358,448.78</b>		<b>\$1,499,026.57</b>	<b>-\$140,577.79</b>

<b>FY 17</b>	average per mo.	<b>\$113,204.07</b>	<b>\$124,918.88</b>	<b>-\$11,714.82</b>
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<b>FY 2018</b>	<b>mill levy</b>	<b>other income</b>	<b>checks</b>	<b>difference</b>
July	\$17,210.78	\$9,215.51	\$79,576.53	-\$53,150.24
August	\$4,754.98	\$35,778.77	\$74,492.53	-\$33,958.78
September	\$96,218.14	\$153.78	\$133,770.61	-\$37,398.69
October	\$185,487.48	\$231.52	\$99,518.91	\$86,200.09
November	\$208,633.22	\$3,280.74	\$157,941.25	\$53,972.71
December	\$327,094.48	\$6,913.58	\$186,216.61	\$147,791.45
January	\$253,165.64	\$44,453.62	\$95,455.48	\$202,163.78
February	\$60,749.69			
March				
April				
May				
June				
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,153,314.41</b>	<b>\$100,027.52</b>	<b>\$826,971.92</b>	<b>\$426,370.01</b>

<b>FY 18</b>	average per mo.	<b>\$144,164.30</b>	<b>\$118,138.85</b>	<b>\$52,231.47</b>
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FY 2018 - Budget Line Items	Committed Funds Savings Account Items			<i>as of 2/14/2018</i>
Line Item Description	Budgeted Amt.	Paid Out	Check #	Amount Remaining
<b>Approved Within FY 2017</b>				
Fire Video with Open Range	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	ck#17839	\$0.00
Bear Conflict - Crab Apple Proj.	\$14,000.00	\$12,000.00	ck#17848	* \$0.00
WDC - Trail Creek Project	\$5,000.00	\$0.00		\$5,000.00
WDC - WY State Lands Irrigation	\$5,000.00	\$1,856.22	ck#17916	* \$0.00
WDC - Munger Mountain Proj.	\$5,000.00	\$0.00		\$5,000.00
WDC - State Land Stock Pond	\$5,000.00	\$0.00		\$5,000.00
Backyards & Barnyards - Year 3	\$750.00	\$750.00	ck# 17591	\$0.00
JHWMA - horseback + other	\$43,000.00	\$43,000.00	ck#17799	\$0.00
USGS - Snowpack Chem Proj.	\$4,600.00	\$0.00		\$4,600.00
<b>subtotal</b>	<b>\$84,350.00</b>	<b>\$59,606.22</b>		<b>\$19,600.00</b>
<b>Approved in Budget FY 18</b>				
ISWR HHW & E-Waste	\$22,250.00	\$22,250.00	ck#17866	\$0.00
Energy Conservation Works	\$24,500.00	\$0.00		\$24,500.00
GTNP Gaging Stations	\$18,500.00	\$0.00		\$18,500.00
JH Trout Unlimited KFD	\$500.00	\$0.00		\$500.00
Friends of the Teton River	\$11,000.00	\$0.00		\$11,000.00
<b>subtotal</b>	<b>\$76,750.00</b>	<b>\$22,250.00</b>		<b>\$54,500.00</b>
<b>Approved Within FY 2019</b>				
<i>none as of yet</i>				
<b>Grand total committed for FY 18</b>	<b>\$161,100.00</b>	<b>\$81,856.22</b>		<b>\$74,100.00</b>

*\*actual check amount was less than committed. Excess is transferred back to general checking.*

	<b>Account Interest to Date</b>	<b>\$74.87</b>
	<b>Interest this period</b>	<b>\$2.99</b>
<b>1/31/2018</b>	<b>Ending Account Balance</b>	<b>\$117,427.86</b>
<b>2/14/2018</b>	<b>Transfer of Funds Out</b>	<b>\$43,250.00</b>
<b>2/14/2018</b>	<b>Grand total in Account</b>	<b>\$74,177.86</b>

Teton Conservation District

2/13/2018 2:59 PM

Register: Wells Fargo Checking

From 01/01/2018 through 01/31/2018

Sorted by: Date and Order Entered

Date	Number	Payee	Account	Memo	Payment	C	Deposit	Balance
01/03/2018	17869	Wyoming Retirement System	-split-	Deposit		X	27,881.00	695,850.81
01/03/2018	17870	Western Records Destruction...	Office Supplies	Duplicate Records D...	5,347.08	X		690,503.73
01/03/2018	17871	MasterCard	-split-	December Credit Car...	150.00	X		690,353.73
01/03/2018	17872	CompuNet	-split-	January Web Domain...	1,580.30	X		688,773.43
01/03/2018	17873	West Bank Sanitation	Cleaning Contract & Supplies	December Sanitation	180.00	X		688,593.43
01/03/2018	17874	HUB Intl Mountain States Ltd	Liability Insurance & Bonds	Dave Adams' Bond 2...	33.17	X		688,560.26
01/03/2018	17875	Silver Star Communications	-split-		350.00	X		688,210.26
01/03/2018	17876	Lower Valley Energy	Electricity	December Office Ele...	235.72	X		687,974.54
01/03/2018	17877	Chauncey S. Smith	Telecommunications:Employee ...	Dec: Phone Reimbur...	140.43	X		687,834.11
01/03/2018	17878	Morgan W Graham	-split-	Dec: Phone and Clas...	50.00	X		687,784.11
01/03/2018	17879	Robert M Sgroi	Telecommunications:Employee ...	Dec: Phone Reimbur...	2,734.68	X		685,049.43
01/03/2018	17880	Tom Segerstrom	-split-	Dec: Phone & Milea...	50.00	X		684,999.43
01/08/2018			Mill Levy	Deposit	76.75	X		684,922.68
01/09/2018			Miscellaneous Expense			X	253,165.64	938,088.32
01/09/2018	17939	Wells Fargo Bank	Bank Service Charges	Monthly Service Fee	10.00	X		938,093.32
01/09/2018	17881	Carlin E Girard	Bank Service Charges	VOID: Monthly Fee		X		938,093.32
01/15/2018	17882	Caroline AM Baker	-split-		2,315.14	X		935,778.18
01/15/2018	17883	Chauncey S. Smith	-split-		1,986.71	X		933,791.47
01/15/2018	17884	Emily E Hagedorn	-split-		1,407.02	X		932,384.45
01/15/2018	17885	Morgan W Graham	-split-		1,841.32	X		930,543.13
01/15/2018	17886	Robert M Sgroi	-split-		2,097.67	X		928,445.46
01/15/2018	17887	Tom Segerstrom	-split-		1,986.35	X		926,459.11
01/15/2018	17888	Electronic Federal Tax Paym...	-split-		2,640.14	X		923,818.97
01/15/2018	17889	Central Pipeline	Project/Program Expenses:TAC...	83-0247879	4,866.77	X		918,952.20
01/15/2018	17890	W / S Holding #1, LLC	Rent	TAC Grant - Alta Irr...	3,485.00	X		915,467.20
01/15/2018	17891	Teton Media Works, Inc.	-split-	February TCD Office...	4,298.59	X		911,168.61
				Advertising Expense...	775.77	X		910,392.84

5



Teton Conservation District

2/13/2018 2:59 PM

Register: Wells Fargo Checking

From 01/01/2018 through 01/31/2018

Sorted by: Date and Order Entered

Board

Date	Number	Payee	Account	Memo	Payment	C	Deposit	Balance
01/15/2018	17892	Jim's Trophy Room	Office Supplies	TCD Name Tags & ...	25.00	X		910,367.84
01/15/2018	17893	AppRiver, LLC	Office Supplies:Computer Tech...	Account: C137244-1...	540.00	X		909,827.84
01/15/2018	17894	Filmer Strategies	Project/Program Expenses:Con...	Invoice# 2482 for De...	2,500.00	X		907,327.84
01/15/2018	17895	Factory IT	Project/Program Expenses:Con...	January 2017 IT Work	1,095.00	X		906,232.84
01/15/2018	17896	Teton County Solid Waste an...	Cleaning Contract & Supplies	Annual RRR Progra...	25.00	X		906,207.84
01/15/2018	17897	Jones-Sinkins, P.C.	Legal & Accounting Services	Final payment for FY...	1,497.00	X		904,710.84
01/15/2018	17898	Wyoming Dept. of Agricultu...	Project/Program Expenses:Lab ...	Sample Analysis	405.00	X		904,305.84
01/15/2018	17899	Lower Valley Energy	Vehicle Expense	CNG Fuel Charges F...	28.39	X		904,277.45
01/15/2018	17900	Brilliantly Done, Inc.	Cleaning Contract & Supplies	TCD Office Cleaning...	312.50	X		903,964.95
01/15/2018	17901	WACD	Payroll Expenses:Employer Me...	Dental Coverage for ...	529.20	X		903,435.75
01/15/2018	17902	Toran Accounting, LLC	Legal & Accounting Services	Cash Rec for Decem...	125.00	X		903,310.75
01/16/2018	17903	Filmer Strategies	Project/Program Expenses:Con...	Invoice #2440	2,500.00	X		900,810.75
01/26/2018			-split-	Project Grants to TCD		X	99.99	910,191.81
01/29/2018	17917	Rotary Club of Jackson Hole	Dues & Subscriptions	Quarterly Dues	295.00			909,896.81
01/29/2018	17918	HUB Int'l Mountain States Ltd	Liability Insurance & Bonds	Kallin, Shuptrine & ...	1,200.00			908,696.81
01/31/2018	17904	Carlin E Girard	-split-	Project Grants to TCD		X	7,000.00	915,696.81
01/31/2018	17905	Caroline AM Baker	-split-		2,315.14			913,381.67
01/31/2018	17906	Chauncey S. Smith	-split-		1,986.71			911,394.96
01/31/2018	17907	Emily E Hagedorn	-split-		1,407.02			909,987.94
01/31/2018	17908	Morgan W Graham	-split-		1,841.32			908,146.62
01/31/2018	17909	Robert M Sgroi	-split-		2,097.67			906,048.95
01/31/2018	17910	Tom Segerstrom	-split-		1,986.35			904,062.60
01/31/2018	17911	Electronic Federal Tax Paym...	-split-		2,640.14			901,422.46
01/31/2018	17912	Wyoming Dept. of Workforc...	Payroll Expenses: Worker's Co...	83-0247879	4,866.77			896,555.69
01/31/2018	17913	FlexShare Benefits	-split-		1,835.19	X		894,720.50
01/31/2018	17914	High Country RC & D, Inc.	Dues & Subscriptions	January FSA Contrib...	1,131.66			893,588.84
				2018 Annual Dues	150.00			893,438.84

9

Teton Conservation District

2/13/2018 2:59 PM

Register: Wells Fargo Checking

From 01/01/2018 through 01/31/2018

Sorted by: Date and Order Entered

Date	Number	Payee	Account	Memo	Payment	C	Deposit	Balance
01/31/2018	17915	Blue Cross Blue Shield of W...	Rent	February Medical Ins...	5,730.77			887,708.07
01/31/2018	17916	Snake River Ranch	Project/Program Expenses:Proi...	SWP State Land Irrig...	11,137.29			876,570.78
01/31/2018	17919	Morgan W Graham	Telecommunications:Employee ...	December Phone Rei...	50.00			876,520.78
01/31/2018	17920	Emily E Hagedorn	Telecommunications:Employee ...	December Phone Rei...	50.00			876,470.78
01/31/2018	17921	Carlin E Girard	Telecommunications:Employee ...	December Phone Rei...	50.00			876,420.78
01/31/2018	17922	Caroline AM Baker	Telecommunications:Employee ...	December Phone Rei...	50.00			876,370.78
01/31/2018	17923	Jim's Trophy Room	Office Supplies	Name tags and Plates	31.25			876,339.53
01/31/2018	17924	United States Geological Sur...	Project/Program Expenses:Proi...	Bill# 90603020 TCD...	6,382.50			869,957.03
01/31/2018			Interest Income	Deposit		X	6.99	869,964.02

\$ 95,455.48

2

**Teton Conservation District**  
**Deposit Detail**  
 January 2018

Type	Num	Date	Name	Account	Amount
Deposit		01/03/2018		Wells Fargo Chec...	27,881.00
			State of Wyoming	Project Grants to T...	-9,280.00
			Friends of Fish Creek	Project Grants to T...	-18,601.00
TOTAL					-27,881.00
Deposit		01/08/2018		Wells Fargo Chec...	253,165.64
			Teton County	Mill Levy	-253,165.64
TOTAL					-253,165.64
Deposit		01/16/2018		Wells Fargo Chec...	9,281.07
			State of Wyoming	Project Grants to T...	-9,281.07
TOTAL					-9,281.07
Deposit		01/26/2018		Wells Fargo Chec...	99.99
			Well Test Kit Partici...	Well Test Kit Sales	-50.00
			Well Test Kit Partici...	Well Test Kit Sales	-49.99
TOTAL					-99.99
Deposit		01/29/2018		Wells Fargo Chec...	7,000.00
			State of Wyoming	Project Grants to T...	-7,000.00
TOTAL					-7,000.00
Deposit		01/31/2018		Wells Fargo Chec...	6.99
			Wells Fargo Bank	Interest Income	-6.99
TOTAL					-6.99
Deposit		01/31/2018		Wells Fargo Savin...	2.99
			Wells Fargo Bank	Interest Income	-2.99
TOTAL					-2.99
Deposit		01/31/2018		First Interstate Bank	181.58
			First Interstate Bank	Interest Income	-181.58
TOTAL					-181.58

# Credit Card Record Sheet for the month of *January 2018*

	date	item	vendor	project	ref#	\$
TS	1-7	First Aid training	Teton Co.	Safety	5669	80.00
	1-12	22 in 21 whiskey	Charter	Spec. Mtng	1137	80.00
EH	1-7	extra keys	ACE Hdware	office exp	1412	21.66
	1-7	arsenic test	Zeele WQ	music exp.	7158	15.00
	1-14	22 in 21 whiskey	Charter	Board train	7780	80.00
RS	1-3	Host GIS Hosting	Amazon web	GIS Imagery	2624	1.59
	1-4	Supplies	Ben Meadows	office supplies	8074	47.49
MG	1-19	lodging	Air BNB	GIS-Denver	5990	514.67
	1-21	registration	Intnl LIDAR	GIS-Denver	3242	1075.00
CG	1-18	meeting food	Lucky's	Board Mtng	7874	18.89
CB	1-1	advertising	Facebook	communications	3424	2.13

\$1936.43



**BANK RECONCILIATION**

TCD Feb. 28 Board Packet 34

Name of Client: Teton Conservation District  
 Bank: Wells Fargo Bank

Statement Date: January 31, 2018  
 Account No: 000-0337175

DA  
 2/8/2018

Checks Outstanding - Continued		
Number	Amount	Name
17904	2,315.14	
17905	1,986.71	
17906	1,407.02	
17907	1,841.32	
17908	2,097.67	
17909	1,986.35	
17910	2,640.14	
17911	4,866.77	
17913	1,131.66	
17914	150.00	
17915	5,730.77	
17916	11,137.29	
17917	295.00	
17918	1,200.00	
17919	50.00	
17920	50.00	
17921	50.00	
17922	50.00	
17923	31.25	
17924	6,382.50	

Checks Outstanding - Continued		
Number	Amount	Name
page 2 Total: \$ <u>45,399.59</u>		

## **Emily Hagedorn, Administrative Manager**

### Action Items:

#### **Program Area:** Water Resources

**USGS Snow Chemistry Project Contract** – We have received the contract for the USGS Snow Chemistry Project for calendar year 2018. The contract is for \$4,600.00, (the same amount as this year) and would be paid in Fiscal Year 2019. The contract can be found in the supplemental materials section of the Board Packet. (See Supplemental Materials)

**Suggested Motion:** *Move to approve the USGS Snow Chemistry Project Contract and authorize Dave Adams to sign it on behalf of the Teton Conservation District.*

### Information Items:

#### **Program Area:** Administration

**Public Information Policy** – I have updated the previously presented public information policy with an amendment that ties the resolution to the first part of the policy. Bailey requested the language be inserted and is reviewing the change (See Supplemental Materials).

**Alta Representative** – Tom Segerstrom made contact with an Alta Resident, Earle Layser. Mr. Layser expressed an interest in learning more about TCD and considering becoming an Associate Board Member. I spoke to Mr. Layser on the phone on February 14, 2018 about the opportunity. It is anticipated that Mr. Layser will attend the February 28, 2018 Board Meeting. To note, all other leads pertaining to an Alta representative have dead ended at this point.

**Accounting** – All calendar year 2017 year-end reporting requirements have been completed. These included: W2s for Employees, the W3 Report for the Social Security Administration, 1095-C Health Insurance Reporting forms for Employees, 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2017 Worker's Compensation and Unemployment Insurance Reporting, and 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2017 Internal Revenue Service reporting.

**Wyoming Retirement System** – The TCD Board voted to approve TCD Staff Members to participate in the Wyoming Retirement System's 457 plan at the April, 2014 board meeting. No Staff members were interest in participating at that point, but now that someone is, we are completing the full enrollment process. **This requires a signature of the Board Chair.**

### **Upcoming TCD Calendar:**

March 12, 2018	9:30am	Joint TCD/Flat Creek WID Meeting
March 21, 2018	1:00pm	March Regular Board Meeting at the TCD Office
April 18, 2018	1:00pm	April Regular Board Meeting at the TCD Office

## **Robb Sgroi, Land Resources Specialist**

### Action Items:

#### **Program Area:** Agriculture

**Wyoming Water Development Office (WWDO) Small Water Project Program (SWPP) Applications-** TCD submitted two SWPP grants on January 01, 2018. Revisions to these grants were submitted to WWDO on February 15, 2018. These grants were provided to Supervisors either via email or at the February 15, 2018 TAC meeting. TCD guidelines are to provide financial support is provided towards these projects if they are funded by the WWDO. Funds budgeted for SWPP grant support in the amount of \$20,000 are in the FY 2018 budget, in the Program Area 'Ag Program -Cropland Projects', line item 'Irrigation Infrastructure'. Both grants have total project costs above current SWPP's cap of \$135,000, but were submitted due to pending legislation to remove that cap.

Approval of the grants by the Wyoming Water Development Commission and Select Water Committee are contingent upon 1) the legislature's approval of a bill titled SF0053, "An Act relating to water development; eliminating the maximum project cost limitation on small water projects..." (the bill has passed the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading in the Senate), and 2) conditional approval of application(s) by the Wyoming Water Development Commission in March 2018, then 3) signing a bill into law by the Governor in July, 2018.

**Recommended Motion:** *Move to authorize the commitment of reimbursement funding for two Small Water Project Program grants, titled 'Central Pipeline Irrigation Improvement', and 'Mill Creek Irrigation Improvement', in the amount of the lesser of \$5,000 of actual project costs or 10% of actual project costs for each project. TCD's funding is irrespective of the projects being successfully funded through the SWPP.*

**Wyoming Water Development Office Small Water Project Program Outreach (SWPP)** - In discussions with Orijin Media, design costs for development and distribution of materials targeted toward agricultural producers informing them of SWPP grant opportunities was developed.

**Recommended Motion-** *Move to allocate \$750 from the FY 2018, TCD "Discretionary Funds" to fund Origin Media's written cost estimate for outreach to agricultural producers regarding the Small Water Project Program.*

**Agricultural Fencing Grant-** Snake River Ranch (SRR), Jackson Hole Wildlife Foundation (JHWF), and TCD were stakeholders providing input into a proposal to replace the east and south boundary fences of SRR's Johnson Pasture, Moose-Wilson Road, in 2014. This led to a TAC proposal to TCD, from SRR, in May 2014. The request was denied. The July 15, 2014 minutes state: "*Barbara Hauge had submitted a TAC request for \$12,250 to create wildlife friendly fencing. They had also applied to the Jackson Hole Wildlife Foundation for funding assistance for the project, but didn't receive any money from the JHWF for the project because of design differences that couldn't be resolved. Currently, there is a lot of fence damage from elk and ongoing repair of the fence because of wildlife issues. Bob said that from a fencing point of view, electric fence is wonderful, but is not always effective due to trees falling on the fence and other issues. Bob can see why the SRR would want to have barbed wire as part of the fence. He wasn't sure that TCD should get into the fence building business. Scott asked if we want to encourage wildlife friendly fencing and perhaps we should figure out the costs to provide the wildlife friendly component. Bob said that he has elk in his hayfield every night (about 130), so he feels that the fence is elk permeable, if not entirely wildlife friendly. Tom Segerstrom agreed about seeing wildlife entanglement in fences, but saw more of this problem in the eastern part of Wyoming. He also said that TCD made funding available to the JHWF, and now they are unwilling to partner on this project even though it meets the intention of the funding we gave JHWF. Tom Campbell encouraged TCD staff to work with the JHWF on collaboration with partners, including the SRR, on fencing and being more flexible with wildlife friendly fence design. Robb added that the fencing guide publication we have available to landowners does have wildlife friendly fence designs that incorporate barbed wire. Randy asked if the Wildlife Natural Resource Trust Fund would fund this type of project. The Board Members weren't sure if this type of project would be funded by them. Bob made a motion to deny the request and was seconded by Tom Campbell. Scott added that from his point of view, TCD needs to figure out what it will or will not fund with regard to fencing and not give more money the JHWF for*



fencing projects. He suggested reaching out to ranchers with a cost share proposal percentage if this is something that TCD would like to do. Sandy agreed with Scott about helping to offset costs of fence upgrades. She clarified that this would be an incentive to create a more wildlife friendly fence, not to build new fence. Bob said that the top rail on a fence may be good for visibility in some cases, but in others it is not necessary. Bob suggested that having a top wire that comes down (like the Meads have) to improve wildlife passing through areas can be a consideration. **Upon a vote of the motion, there were 3 ayes and 2 nays. The motion passed.** Tom Campbell reiterated that he would like to see staff go back to the applicant and also talk to the JHWF to see if they can be more cooperative and flexible with their fence design. The Board Members discussed fence costs, and if we should enter into fence cost share and design projects.”

Subsequent to the Supervisor’s decision and recommendations described in these minutes; 1) I developed and have employed written guidelines for TCD support of fence improvements on private lands, and 2) continuously engaged in conversation with JHWF and SRR on this project. SRR is steadfast in their design specifications of two barbed strands and a top rail, which JHWF is amenable to (See Supplemental Materials). TCD’s FY 2018 “Agriculture Fencing” line item budget was set at only \$500 last spring in the absence of foreseeable projects.

**Recommended Motion-** *Move to allocate \$10,000 from the line item ‘TCD Discretionary Funds’ to support Snake River Ranch’s request for funding to support fence improvements, as described in their written proposal.*

**Program Area:** Restoration and Sustainability

**Wildfire Risk Reduction Program Data Collection-** I investigated options to purchase software and hardware for development of an electronic hand-held field data system for this program. This would support data collection and management, for wildfire risk assessments.

**Recommended Motion:** *Move to authorize the TCD Executive Director to allocate \$2,000.00 from the FY 2018 budget line item ‘TCD Discretionary Funds’ to support acquisition of software, equipment, and services to improve capacity for developing wildfire risk overviews.*

**Wildfire Risk Reduction Program Video Funds-** TCD and Jackson Hole Fire/Emergency Medical Services (JHFEMS) helped to finance the production of the Hidden Hills video. TCD contributed \$5,000.00, and JHFEMS contributed \$2,000.00, for a total cost of \$7,000.00. TCD used the Western States Wildland Urban Interface (WSWUI) grant to be fully reimbursed, in the amount of \$7,000.00, for the video’s production. TCD would like to fully reimburse JHFEMS for their original contribution. JHFEMS has provided an invoice (See Supplemental Information) for the proposed reimbursement.

**Recommended Motion:** *Move to authorize payment to Jackson Hole Fire/EMS, in the amount of \$2,000.00, for full reimbursement of their costs for development of the Hidden Hills video.*

**Wildfire Risk Reduction Program (WRRP) Video Marketing-** Teton Area Wildfire Protection Coalition (TAWPC) members developed and agreed upon a written marketing plan for the Hidden Hills video. TAWPC members have made personnel and financial commitments to marketing plan tasks. The plan’s tasks exceed TAWPC’s internal capacity and expertise. Specifically, there are plans to truncate and redistribute sections of the film, develop a pamphlet promoting the video and resources and services, support event planning, improve pieces of TCD’s web site, and rebrand TCD’s forms for the WRRP. **Recommended Motion-** *Move to*

*allocate \$5,125 from the line item 'TCD Discretionary Funds' in the FY 2018 budget, to fund Orijin Media's written cost estimate for services. This will fund components of the Hidden Hills video marketing plan, and Small Water Project Program outreach.*

**Wildfire Risk Reduction Program (WRRP) Chipper Event-** The Hidden Hills Ranches Homeowners Association is planning a second phase wildfire risk reduction project (See Supplemental Information) to address the ingress and egress safety of their road corridor. TCD has \$3,000.00, in the budget line item, 'Chipper Event', in the TAWPC/National Fire Plan Grant category, for support of subdivision-scale wildfire risk reduction projects.

**Recommended Motion-** *Move to approve the submitted written request from Sven Roehrig, Hidden Hills Subdivision Treasurer, in the amount of \$1,960.00, to provide a chipper event for the wildfire risk reduction project work.*

Information Items:

**Program Area:** Agriculture

**Level I Watershed Study, Small Water Project Program (SWPP)-** Two SWPP grants were revised and resubmitted. The revisions accounted for reduced participation by landowners and hence reduced project scopes. In addition, NRCS's ongoing design work produced specific cost estimates and project specifications that were inserted in the applications. NRCS has been a tremendous partner in providing information critical to the SWPP grants.

**Indoor Agriculture-** Collaboration is occurring between Steve Ashworth, Teton County/Jackson Parks and Recreation (TCPR), Mary Martin, UW Extension (UW), and myself on how existing community gardens will be managed in 2018. Both TCPR and UW have seen key staff turnover, reducing capacity and delaying the ability for TCD's role to be defined. Extension's 4-H Educator vacated the position, and Steve will delegate this duty upon staff restructuring, following a retirement.

Per Supervisor's request, I sought additional information on permitting high tunnels. My conversation with Teton County Building Official Kelly Sluder can be summarized as a proposed seasonal high tunnel on non-federal public land would be subject to his department's review and would need to meet building code. His department would not have a review or permitting role, and would not apply Teton County Building Code for a structure such as WYDOT's sand storage at the base of Teton Pass on Forest Service land. Note that WYDOT's sand storage structure on S Hwy 89 is on state land. Teton County Planning and Development stated they would have no review over a proposed high tunnel on public land.

**Jackson Hole Weed Management Association (JHWMA)-** The Bridger-Teton National Forest (BTNF) has released a scoping notice, stating they have published a Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for invasive plant management on the BTNF. The EIS will address impacts of invasive plants on natural resources, the use of various control methods (i.e. aerial spraying), and potential effects of unutilized herbicides. Tom and I met with JHWMA representatives as Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) partners to discuss opportunities for JHWMA's annual MOA request. Prescribed burns are planned for Red Top Meadows and Taylor Creek; additional pre- and post-monitoring for invasive plants could take place, similar to monitoring for permitted development. Additional spot treatment is planned for the Snake River Canyon, South Teton Pass, Snow King, Fall Creek, and front country areas. Treatment of invasive plants in Karns Meadow was discussed. That area has biocontrol for

Canada thistle currently in place. The willows and riparian setting make treatment challenging. A line item in the JHWMA budget would likely solidify treatment of that area.

**Program Area:** Restoration and Sustainability

**Wildfire Risk Reduction Program-** A final reimbursement request was submitted and fully funded through the Western States Wildland Urban Interface (WSWUI) grant for all of the 2017 State Grant projects that TCD sponsored. The reimbursement included \$7,000 cover to the entire cost of production of the Hidden Hills video. Wyoming State Forestry Division encourages and fully supported this request.

Staff is vetting two alternatives to incentivize additional wildfire risk reduction by landowners. Alternative 1- Offer a second year of additional financial and technical support for successive year of wildfire risk reduction project implementation. This would require a second contract to provide dollars in the amount of not to exceed \$1,000.00, as a 50% match if not all of the actions recommended are taken during the first contract, to implement work described in the Wildfire Risk Overview. Alternative 2- Offer tiered financial assistance for a single year of project implementation. Offer a 50% match, not to exceed \$2,000.00, for projects making progress towards vegetation management tasks in the Wildfire Risk Overview. Then Offers a 50% match, not to exceed \$3,000.00, for projects that complete all vegetation management tasks in the Wildfire Risk Overview. Staff will present an Action Item for the March 2018 Regular Meeting, on this topic, but board feedback would be welcome now.

In the interest of supporting Teton Science Schools' (TSS) implementation of their wildfire management plans, I have cooperated with TSS and the land management agency, Grand Teton National Park (GTNP), to seek review of the plans by GTNP. Bill Mayer, GTNP Deputy Fire Management Office, reviewed and approved the assessments, providing a path forward for TSS. Bill's review provided affirmation that TCD's assessments are in alignment with public land manager's strategies.

Teton Area Wildfire Protection Coalition (TAWPC) had a productive quarterly meeting on January 25, 2018. Highlights included discussion of the concept of a full time Fuels Coordinator position for Teton County, with Jackson Hole Fire and Emergency Medical Services (JHFEMS) providing key verbal backing to the concept. This position would coordinate grants, and provide a single point of contact for the public. JHFEMS Chief Brady Hansen stated his interest in JHFEMS stepping to the forefront of prevention in wildfire risk reduction. He stated that adequate infrastructure does not exist for large scale fire response, hence emphasis must be placed on prevention.

Obstacles appear to exist in implementing wildfire risk reduction, in reviewing covenants (also described as CCRs) of homeowners' associations. I reached out to the Teton Village Architectural Committee (TVAC), whose covenants restrict tree removal unless for construction purposes. Chairman Bill Schreiber stated a goal of TVAC is wildfire risk reduction. He will offer a broader presentation to their board, and they are reviewing the Hidden Hills video. The concept of developing wildfire risk reduction language for voluntary use in CCRs is being contemplated. Without success in 2017, I reached out to Jim Green, Town Building Official, to better understand proposed regulations for building materials that would reduce fire risk. Recently, the JHFEMS Marshal, the Planning Director, and Jim met and discussed code adoption this year, and agreed this is the opportunity to propose eliminating the use of wood shakes for roof construction in the Town and County. Further discussion will take place late summer 2018. TCD can monitor this process or could collect additional information and consider a letter of support.

**Program Area:** Planning and Development

**Development reviews-** TCD received four requests for review of developments, as of February 20, 2018. Those locations included Grand Targhee Resort, Wenzel Lane, 660 West Broadway, and Spring Creek Road in Alta. Staff produced comment letters for the Grand Targhee Resort, to date. I am managing review of these requests.

## **Morgan Graham, GIS Wildlife Specialist**

Action Items:

**Program Area:** Wildlife

**Long-Distance Migrations of the Targhee Elk Herd-** Wyoming Game and Fish Department (WGFD) is requesting support to map migration routes and seasonal habitat selection in the Targhee elk herd. Of the 10 elk herds within the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, the seasonal habitat utilization and migration timing of the Targhee herd is the least well understood. The project is a collaboration between WGFD, Idaho Fish and Game Department, Yellowstone National Park, and University of California Berkeley. Captures will take place on private lands, including some within Alta, WY. The Project Leaders have raised \$50,000, in addition to \$20,610 of in kind match. WGFD is requesting \$10,000 from TCD to cover a portion of helicopter net-gunning costs (See Supplemental Materials). This request could be funded from the Support Wildlife Data Collection line of the FY18 TCD Budget. If the TCD Board is supportive of this request, payment would be made directly to the helicopter contractor.

**Recommended Motion:** *Move to award Wyoming Game and Fish Department \$10,000 for GPS collar deployment costs associated with mapping and analysis of long-distance migration and seasonal habitat use of the Targhee elk herd.*

Information Items:

**Program Area:** GIS & Mapping / Information Technology

**International Lidar Mapping Forum (ILMF)-** I participated in the Quality Assurance of Lidar Point Clouds for Floodplain Modeling workshop of the ILMF. Dr. Alvin Karlin of the Southwest Florida Water Management District led the workshop and was very generous in sharing documents and specifications he has created over the past several years. I spoke with employees of the United States Geological Survey National Geospatial Technical Operations Center regarding their lidar acquisition programs. Additionally, I established contacts with ESRI, Dewberry, and Quantum Spatial employees who are all working on leveraging lidar data for hydrographic mapping purposes.

**Google Imagery-** I completed compression and mosaicking of all Google Imagery and am now working with Factory IT to increase the available space on the TCD server. Simeon Caskey, of Grand Teton National Park (GTNP) has been diligent in keeping TCD informed of progress towards reimbursement of aerial imagery costs. Working around actual or anticipated government shutdowns, in addition to a Department of Interior decision to implement new agreement review policies have delayed the park's ability to complete their agreement with TCD. Simeon is still committed to the partnership with TCD, and will provide an updated timeline in approximately two weeks.

**IT Provider-** Factory IT has completed their onboarding. They have deployed a remote access solution, allowing staff with laptops to access their office desktops when necessary. We continue to discuss optimization of TCD email protocols, and upgrades to the server.

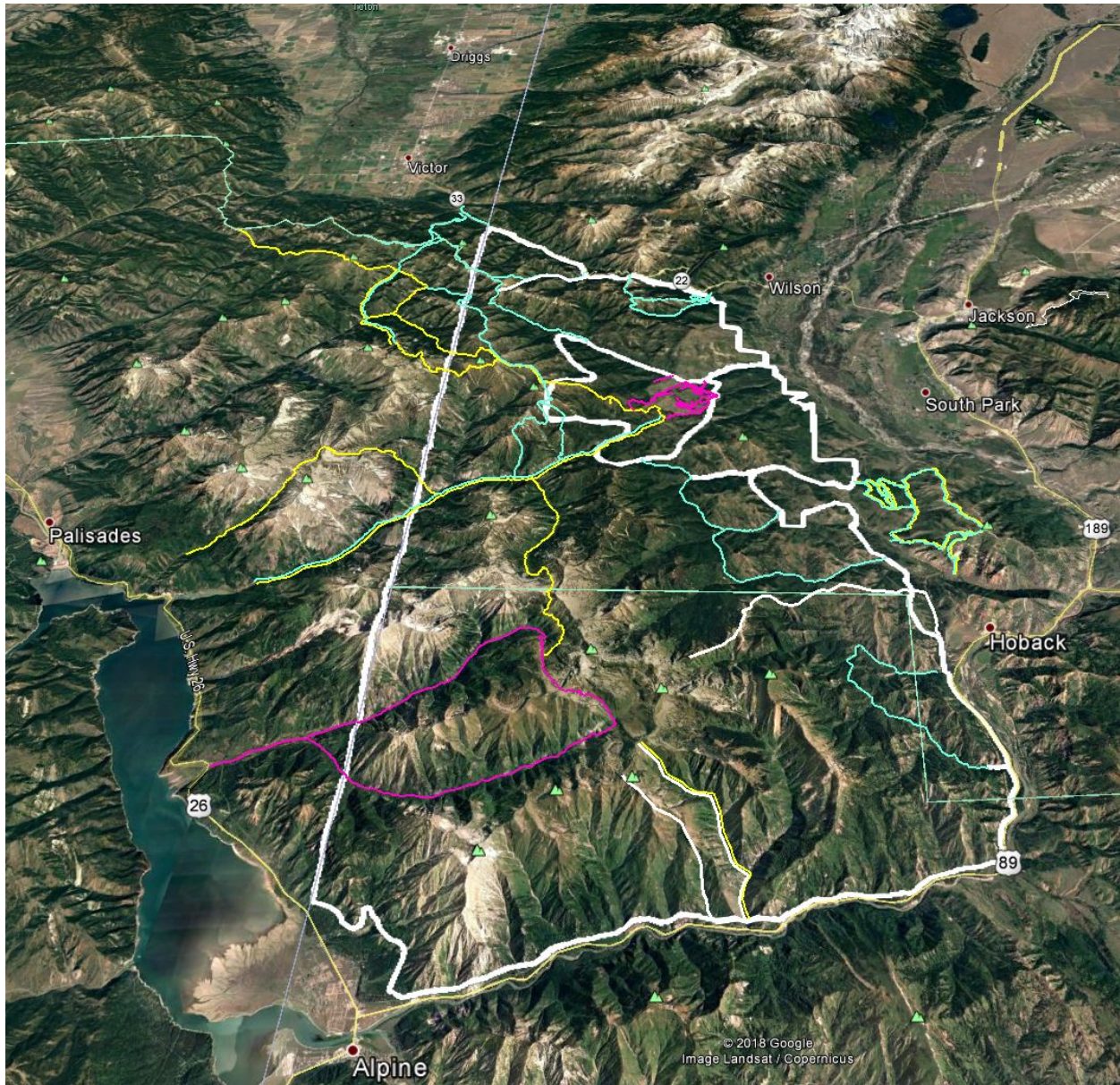
**Program Area:** Water Resources

**Water Layer-** I have focused efforts on Buffalo Valley ditches and tying Teton County development permits to water bodies on the ground.

**Program Area:** Planning and Development

**Wyoming Public Lands Initiative (WPLI)-** I converted drawings of proposed recreational use areas (heli-skiing, snowmobiling, etc.), existing/proposed mountain bike and motorized single-track, and wildlife seasonal use areas within Palisades Wilderness Study Area (WSA). These boundaries were displayed to the Teton County WPLI Advisory Committee. Teton County Commissioner Paul Vogelheim addressed the group regarding a conference call with Congresswoman Elizabeth Cheyney. He indicated that Cheyney's office would take Teton County's WSA recommendations under consideration in her proposed legislation, if they were delivered by March or April. The group continued to debate whether recommendations should be constrained to the Teton County boundary, or the whole of the Palisades and Shoal Creek WSAs.





Proposed and existing mountain bike/motorized singletrack within the Palisades Wilderness Study Area.

## **Chauncey Smith, Natural Resources Technician**

### Information Items:

**Program Area:** GIS & Mapping / Information Technology

**Water Layer** – Morgan and I continue progress on the water layer. I am continuing to digitize water features and basins to inform flow direction through culverts and other blockages. I am starting to think the end of this stage is within sight. Currently, I am working on the Wilson area, which has many ponds and is very tricky to discern directional flow. I briefly met with Amy Verbeten, Friends of Teton River (FTR), about FTR's interest in the Alta portion of the water layer. FTR is about to undertake a similar process in Teton County, Idaho and saw huge utility in learning about our process before getting started.

**Program Area:** Planning & Development

**Focal Species Habitat Mapping Tier Maps** – Carlin and I worked with Teton County Planning and Building Department (TCPBD) to test options for creating a tiered Focal Species Habitat Mapping (FSHM) surface. Working with Hamilton Smith and Carlin, I made visuals to illustrate the various ways of modifying the FSHM surface for tier categorization. The overall goal is to inform the final stages of the TCPBD FSHM development process.

**Program Area:** Water Resources

**Quality Assurance / Quality Control (QA/QC)** – Carlin and I ran QA/QC checks on Flat Creek field and lab data paper records and the SQL database records for the past two years. I corrected all mistakes and prepared Fish Creek data for future QA/QC checks.

## **Carlin Girard, Water Resource Specialist**

Action Items:

**Program Area:** Water Resources

**Flat Creek Watershed Plan Request for Proposals (RFP)**- The RFP for the Flat Creek Watershed Management Plan Revision was met with only one proposal, submitted by Alder Environmental (Alder Env.). Staff's opinion is that this single proposal does meet the needs of TCD for the purpose of the watershed plan revision (see the memo provided in Supplemental Materials). Because there was only one proposal submitted, and based on a directive from the Board Chair, staff has worked with Alder Env. to draft a contract to be considered at the same time the Board decides whether to award this contract (See both in Supplemental Materials). In no way does this draft contract indicate that TCD has awarded this contract to Alder Environmental; however, it is staff's recommendation that that Alder Env. is hired for this purpose.

**Recommended Motion:** *Move to award the 'Flat Creek Watershed Management Plan Revision, Teton County, WY' contract to Alder Environmental, LLC following Teton Conservation District's request for proposals, and authorize the Executive Director to sign the 'Agreement & Contract for Services' between Teton Conservation District and Alder Environmental, LLC, upon the satisfactory review by legal counsel.*

Information Items:

**Program Area:** Water Resources

**USGS Temperature Monitoring Proposal**- USGS has submitted a proposal to TCD which outlines the proposed costs of installing continuous temperature monitoring stations at existing USGS stream gages in Teton County, Wyoming. The cost for year-round temperature monitoring per gage is roughly \$1,600 annually, and to instrument all of the 13 stream gages roughly \$20,000 (see Supplemental Materials). I have contacted local partners to better understand their interest and cost-sharing potential. There is both interest and potential funding assistance available. This dataset would initiate a long-term water temperature dataset, and provide real-time data that could inform fisherman about the potential detriment of catch and release fishing. There is not a rush on this, and could be considered in the FY19 budgeting process.

**USGS Hotspring Pathogen Research**- USGS will be attending TCD's February 28<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting to present a proposal for further monitoring, using TCD's existing FY 2018, line item

budget. I do not have many details on their proposal, and will look to their presentation to fill in information gaps.

**Fish Creek Nutrient Reduction-** TCD is working with Friends of Fish Creek, Trout Unlimited and Flitner Strategies on multiple nutrient mitigation fronts: 1) The Trout Friendly Lawn program is getting fleshed out, and written material is being generated for professional marketing material generation; 2) The Septic System Pumping Cost-Share program is being ramped up again, but will be cheaper and easier this year because it will follow the same framework as last year; 3) There has been a discussion about a centralized webpage for partnership efforts dealing with water quality in Teton County, Wyoming. This website would be something like the Clean Water Coalition of Jackson Hole. This would provide a central platform for programs like Trout Friendly Lawns, the Septic Cost Share, and the Water Candidate Forum; 4) A Fish Creek Stakeholder Group meeting will be held sometime in mid-March to bring the Stakeholders into the fold on upcoming programs, and to continue advocating for their corporate voluntary efforts.

**Septic and Sewer Mapping Contract-** I have been working with Nelson Engineering and Teton County in the first steps in this mapping effort. Contract development took some time, but provides a solid footing for TCD and the Contractor to move forward from. We will be seeing the beginning of their data consolidation work shortly.

**Stream Habitat Enhancement Webinar-** I attended a free webinar on stream habitat enhancement at Teton County Engineering. This webinar focused on what does and does not work. I attended the webinar to remain up-to-speed on what information was being conveyed to the County and local consultants, but in the end, it was a learning experience.



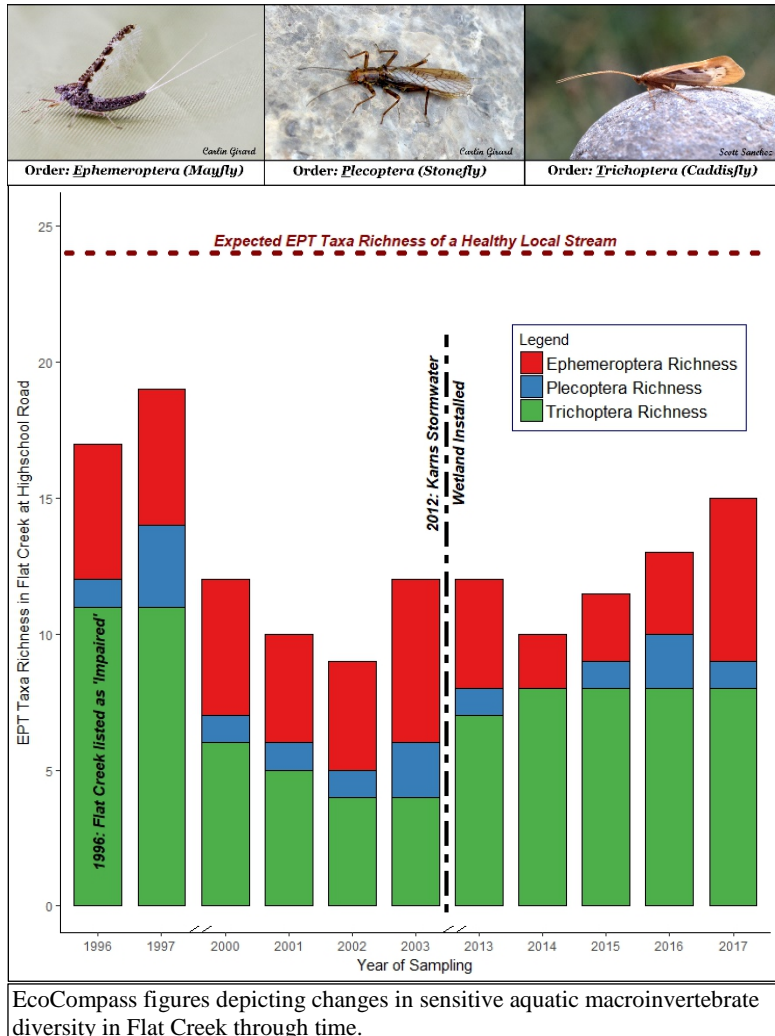
**Program Area: Administration Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) Meetings-** I have been working with Tom and water related MOA partners to develop their FY19 requests. Friends of the Teton River plans to complete monitoring along the lines of their preexisting program, with the exception of having an approved Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality Sampling and Analysis Plan in place. We also met with Trout Unlimited, and learned about their upcoming projects.

**Program Area: Education and Outreach**  
**EcoCompass Water Essay-** I drafted an essay on water issues for the EcoCompass Magazine publication. Tom and Caroline both provided input and edits (See Supplemental Materials).

**Program Area: Planning and Development**  
**Snake River Sporting Club**

**Water Monitoring-** The Sporting Club put a request into Teton County, WY to eliminate their required water quality monitoring, to make their requirements more consistent with other golf courses in the County. I had worked with the Sporting Club to develop a more efficient and effective sampling plan, and had hoped that their request would be to change their requirements to be more useful, but instead they moved forward with a request to eliminate their requirements entirely. In a recent Teton County Commissioner meeting this request was denied.

**Focal Habitat Feature Next Steps-** I worked with Chauncey and County Planning Staff to explore steps and considerations for the ‘Tiering’ of the Focal Habitat Feature. This was an informal process that was aimed at creating tangible steps to overcome the paralysis that had overtaken the further development of this process. At this point in time, I am in communication with Alder Environmental, who are developing a contract to move forward with ‘Tiering’. I believe that we were successful in jump starting the County, and that we learned valuable lessons from different approaches that could be taken. In concert with Megan Smith at Alder Environmental, I am assessing the most productive way to present lessons learned from TCD’s ‘Tiering’ exploration to the Natural Resources Stakeholder Group.



## **Caroline Baker, Communications Specialist**

### Information Items:

**Program Area:** Administration

**TAC Grants-** Administrated the TAC Grant process through receiving applications, compiling packets for the Board, and scheduling the TAC Grant Presentations on February 15, 2018.

**Program Area:** Restoration and Sustainability

**Hidden Hills Marketing Plan** – Continued to work with Robb to further hone the marketing strategy for the Hidden Hills fire risk mitigation video.

**Teton Area Wildfire Protection Coalition (TCWPC)** – Attended the TAWPC meeting at Jackson Hole Fire and Emergency Management Services with Robb and Tom. Further discussed the Hidden Hills fire film as well as possibly opportunities for enabling charitable contributions to TAWPC.

**Program Area:** Water Resources

**Trout Friendly Lawns-** I continued meeting with Carlin, Leslie Steen from Trout Unlimited, and Dan Leemon from Friends of Fish Creek (FoFC), to flesh out details surrounding our request for content from TIMBR, which is the Communications firm employed by FoFC. Attended a lunch meeting with FoFC and Flitner Strategies to further refine the underlying concept of the Clean Water Initiative and to move Trout Friendly Lawns forward.

**EcoCompass Article-** Worked with Carlin to develop and article for EcoCompass Magazine about water quality in Jackson Hole, and levels of the different species of aquatic invertebrates present in the waterbody

**Program Area:** Communications

**Riverwind Foundation-** Attended a meeting with the World Travel and Tourism Council to discuss the nomination of the Riverwind Foundation, and Jackson, as a sustainable tourism destination.

**Green Matters-** Attended a Steering Committee meeting to plan the next issue of the Green Matters newsletter due to be published in March, 2018.

## **Tom Segerstrom, Executive Director**

### Action Items

**Program Area:** Administration

**Strategic Planning- Mid-Cycle Review Spreadsheet from the January 17, 2018, board meeting:** Other than program areas noted for additional attention on specific strategies does the Board have any directives in the form of a motion in regard to staff's progress in any particular Program Area of the Strategic Plan?

**Recommended Motion:** *Move to further direct staff to emphasize \_\_\_\_\_ goals within the TCD 2015-2020 Strategic Plan during the remaining period of the Plan.*

**FY 2018, Budget Reallocations:** Tom will lead the board through the FY2018 TCD Budget line by line to allow discussion of proposed reallocations between individual line items. The purpose of the proposals is to allow underspent funds to be reassigned to programs and projects that will be more likely to be expended for the public purposes identified in June of 2017.

**Recommended Motion:** *Move to accept the proposed FY 2018 budget line item reallocations funds as reviewed, discussed and assigned by the board.*

Information Items

**Program Area:** Administration

**Office Facility-** We are in the process of changing the florescent lighting in the office to LED bulbs as the florescent bulbs expire.

Mark Daluge was present on behalf of the Teton County Weed and Pest District (TCWP) and as directed by the Board, I brought up weed control at Karns Meadow. Mark noted that it was largely Canada thistle but said that TCWP would give it some priority next fall. I told him to apply for TCD assistance if needed.

Program Area: Agriculture

**Jackson Hole Weed Management Association (JHWMA)-** Jason McDannold from Grand Teton National Park and Mark Daluge from Teton County Weed and Pest met with Robb and I to discuss FY 2019 potential funding for JHWMA projects. The details will be incorporated into the TCD draft budget for board review in March 2018. Mark Daluge and as directed by the Board I brought up weed control at Karns Meadow. Mark noted that it was largely Canada thistle but said that TCWP would give it some priority next fall. I told him to apply for TCD assistance if needed.

**Program Area:** Restoration and Sustainability

**Integrated Solid Waste and Recycling (ISWR)-** Heather Overholser met with Emily and I to review the ISWR, Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) funding needs for FY 2019. The details will be incorporated into the TCD draft budget for board review in March, 2018.

**Energy Conservation Works-** Met with Emily and I as an MOA Partner regarding the extension of some of their past funding and their request for TCD cost share funding in FY 2019. The details will be incorporated into the TCD draft budget for board review in March 2018.

**Yellowstone-Teton Clean Cities (YTCC)-** Met with me as an MOA Partner regarding their request for TCD cost-share funding in FY 2019. The details will be incorporated into the TCD draft budget for board review in March 2018.

**Program Area:** Planning and Development

**Wyoming Public Lands Initiative (WPLI)-** Commissioner Paul Vogelheim spoke to support the group and submitted that the County Commissioners were crafting a letter to Representative Liz Cheney about her pending legislation to release WSA areas in Wyoming. (see Supplemental Materials). Morgan worked with committee members to map their proposals and presented and compared them during the meeting. Committee subgroups presented their alternative proposals. Three committee members/subgroups called for full wilderness designation and an expansion of Wilderness throughout roadless areas in much of the county as well as Grand Teton National Park. One group, the motorized recreation group, presented a collaborative alternative with both conservation and recreation benefits. The mountain bike group did not have an alternative completed. The next meeting will bring discussion of the presented alternatives, which appear to be very different from each other.

**Natural Resource Stakeholder Group (NRSNG)-** Through a facilitated discussion designed by the Teton County Planners, the NRSNG met to make choices regarding the derivation of habitat value tiering of lands in Teton County. Three alternative schemes were presented by planning

developed from the mapped components of the Focal Species Habitat Map (FSHM). The NRSNG selected the more complex alternative for planners, but one that is more in line with the purpose and ecological reflection of the FSHM. Teton County will now have Alder Environmental (Alder) complete the GIS derived tiers. TCD offered to work with Alder in a constructive manner to illustrate the GIS process for members of the NRSNG that are curious in a collaborative manner. The NRSNG recommendations will be presented to the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission's independent recommendations will be presented to the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) in tandem with the NRSNG recommendations and the BCC will make final decisions. The next NRSNG meeting will give recommendations on county-wide fencing regulations and exemptions from them. From my personal perspective, community members and County Commissioners are looking for some type of "fall-back" limitations on agricultural fencing exemptions if for some reason an operator blatantly attempts to block an officially identified big game migration route in the future. Any ideas or suggestions would be welcome. Suggestions may need to take into account wildlife exclusionary fencing that may become desirable if a disease becomes present.

**Program Area:** Water Resources

**Fish Creek Stakeholders Group (FCSG)-** I reviewed the Friends of Fish Creek position papers on fertilizing and converting lawns to native vegetation. The comments were considered by Friends of Fish Creek for posting on their website. Flitner Strategies is proposing to TCD and Friends of Fish Creek to re-evaluate the current agreement as the relation has matured and often changes between facilitating meeting and moderating between members of the group. Flitner Strategies desires more flexibility in way they are assisting the Stakeholder Group with perhaps financial savings. Discussions among the parties will be forthcoming.

**Flat Creek Watershed Improvement District (FCWID)-** The FCWID and the Snake River Fund has applied for a TCD TAC grant for funding to bring a speaker regarding the Storm Water Master Plan from Durango, Colorado for the benefit of all concerned. Alder Environmental will be removing the TCD monitoring equipment from Flat Creek in the weeks ahead. Their Annual Report will be provided to TCD by March 1, 2018. The FCWID will be providing scoping comments to the Town of Jackson regarding the pending Karns Meadow Environmental Assessment (See Supplemental Materials). They ask that proposed park and pathway infrastructure avoid requiring any further flood protection on Flat Creek by retaining wetland values and creek structures and their role in mitigating flooding downstream of the town property.

**NRCS Update:**

**Program Status Update:**

- We currently have preapproved 2 Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) applications in Teton County for 2018. One is a 40 ac pivot in Alta, and 1 is a headgate in Wilson, WY.
- The 2018 distribution of EQIP funds for NRCS Wyoming thus far for 2018 is attached. Listening to local work group suggestions from the past few years, more funds were distributed through local divisions, and less funds were distributed through statewide accounts.
- An application has been submitted to the Agricultural Land Easement (ALE) Program for an easement up in Moran. The parcel is approximately 98 acres in size. NRCS will be ranking the applications over the next month to see which qualify for funding.

**Other items:**

- I would like to thank Robb and the TCD for their work on WY Water Development Commission applications. I appreciate their enthusiasm to pursue the grant given the short turnaround time.
- Attached is the NRCS partner responsibilities regarding civil rights packet, as well as numerous NRCS statements regarding civil rights. As you are aware, I am required to review this information with the districts each year.
- The most recent snow report is attached (Feb 12, 2018).

Respectfully submitted,



Gary Blazejewski  
District Conservationist  
USDA-NRCS, PO Box 1606, Afton, WY 83110  
Office (307-226-3037)  
[gary.blazejewski@wy.usda.gov](mailto:gary.blazejewski@wy.usda.gov)

# Wyoming – NRCS

## Monday Snow Report

TCD Feb. 28 Board Packet 50

### Report #12

**Feb 12, 2018**

A good day to everyone! This is the 12th Snow Report for Water Year 2018 (2017-2018 snow season). Currently the state's SNOTELs are reading 114% of median with a basin high of 167% and a basin low of 72%. Last year at this time the state was at 150%, and at 88% in 2016. The map may differ slightly from the table depending upon how many stations were reporting at the time. This report and a map displaying basin SWE percentages of median for the state may be found at: <http://www.wrds.uwyo.edu/wrds/nrcs/nrcs.html>. The westwide map on the last page is provide for reference. For information on the use of median vs. average go to [http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov/normal/median\\_average.htm](http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov/normal/median_average.htm)

**Figure 1 -- SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT AS PERCENT OF MEDIAN.** The following table shows the percent of median for today, the 2 previous weeks, one year ago, and two years ago for Wyoming basins. Normal (median) is based on all reporting SNOTEL sites in the basin with calculated medians (newer SNOTEL sites do not have medians figured), but does not include manually measured snow courses. The statewide SNOTEL percent of median is a percent of median using all SNOTEL sites in Wyoming with calculated medians. The weighted state average is figured using the area of basins (square miles). The reference period for computing medians is 1981-2010.

Basin	2/12/2018	2/5/2018	1/29/2018	2/12/2017	2/12/2016
Snake	118	123	117	156	91
Madison	114	123	116	123	89
Yellowstone	163	160	152	151	87
Wind	124	125	124	186	77
Bighorn	139	136	123	117	70
Shoshone	167	161	150	174	86
Powder	131	129	112	90	68
Tongue	108	106	89	108	55
Belle Fourche	122	129	112	83	88
Cheyenne	113	111	105	86	70
Upper North Platte	85	86	81	133	95
Sweetwater	82	81	82	219	66
Lower North Platte	76	80	80	119	113
Laramie	107	105	104	126	106
South Platte	93	90	89	119	105
Little Snake	72	75	74	129	98
Upper Green	120	124	116	193	87
Lower Green	85	89	92	162	104
Upper Bear	75	80	83	176	97
Statewide SNOTEL Percent of Median	114	116	110	150	88
Weighted State Average (Area)	111	112	106	137	87

red = down

blue = up

green = same

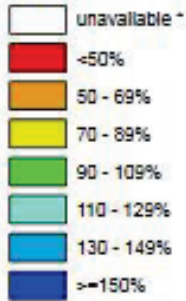
\* data is suspect



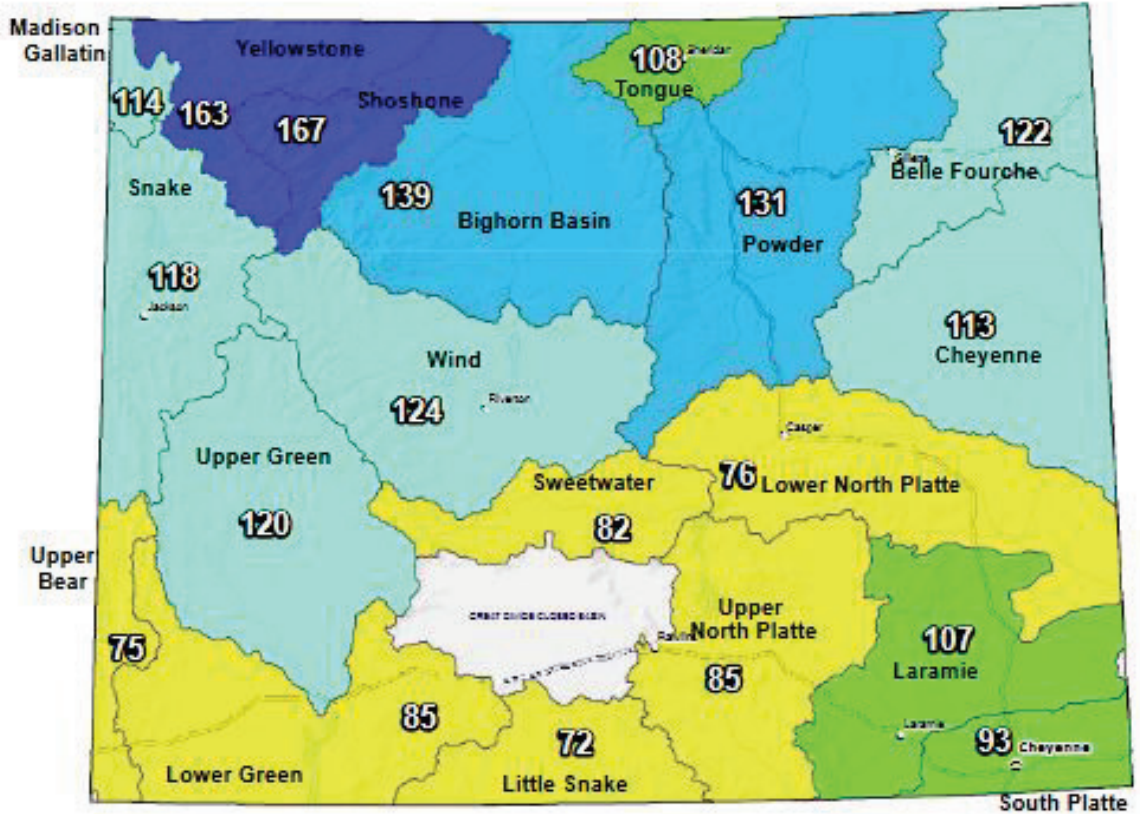
### Wyoming SNOTEL Current Snow Water Equivalent (SWE) % of Normal

Feb 12, 2018

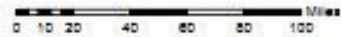
Current Snow Water Equivalent (SWE) Basin-wide Percent of 1981-2010 Median



Provisional Data  
Subject to Revision



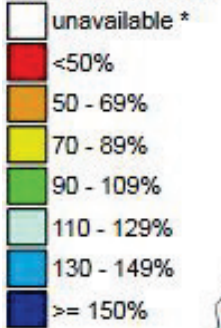
The snow water equivalent percent of normal represents the current snow water equivalent found at selected SNOTEL sites in or near the basin compared to the average value for those sites on this day. Data based on the first reading of the day (typically 00.00).



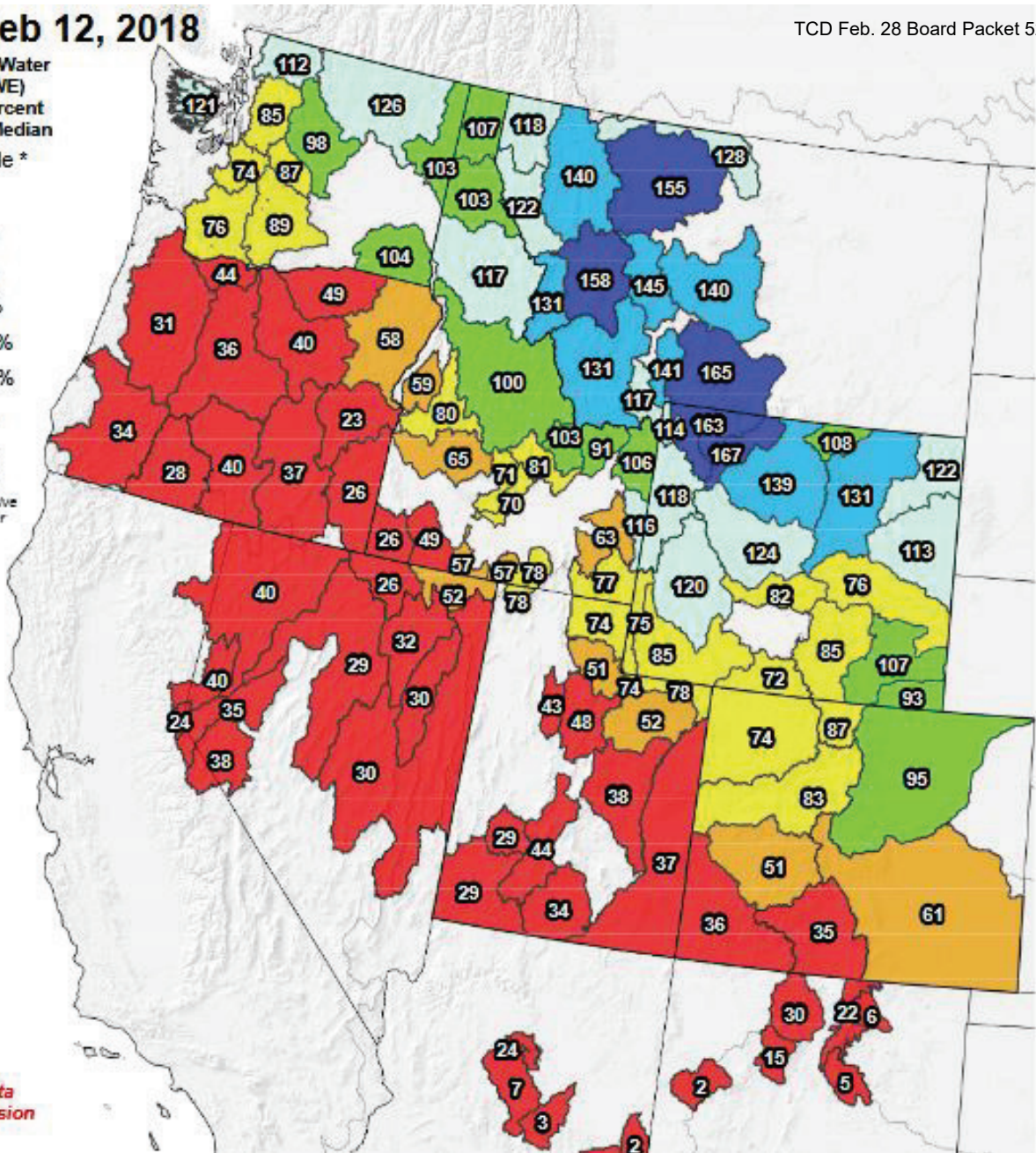
Prepared by:  
USDA/NRCS National Water and Climate Center  
Portland, Oregon  
<http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov>

Feb 12, 2018

Current Snow Water Equivalent (SWE)  
Basin-wide Percent  
of 1981-2010 Median



\* Data unavailable at time of posting or measurement is not representative at this time of year



Provisional data  
subject to revision

For more info contact:

Ken Von Buettner  
[kenneth.vonbuettner@wy.usda.gov](mailto:kenneth.vonbuettner@wy.usda.gov)  
(307) 233-6743

NRCS Snow Survey  
100 East B St., Room 3124  
Casper, WY 82601





United States Department of the Interior TCD Feb. 28 Board Packet 53

U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY  
Colorado Water Science Center  
Box 25046 MS 415  
Denver Federal Center  
Denver, CO 80225

*For signature  
at Feb Board  
Meeting*

Dave Adams  
Chairman, Board of Supervisors  
Teton Conservation District  
PO Box 1070  
Jackson, Wyoming 83001

January 18, 2018

Dear Mr. Adams:

Enclosed are two originals of the Joint Funding Agreement between the Teton Conservation District and the U.S. Geological Survey for the period of January 1, 2018 to December 31, 2018. The agreement, which covers the annual snowpack chemistry monitoring, is in the amount of \$7,075 -- \$4,600 to be provided by the Teton Conservation District and \$2,475 provided in Federal Matching Funds by the U.S. Geological Survey.

If the agreement is satisfactory, please sign both originals; keep one for your records and return one to the Colorado Water Science Center Director at the address shown below. USGS policy requires us to get approval from our Regional Director to conduct work without a signed agreement. To assist us in complying with this policy, we request that you return the signed agreement within two weeks. If this presents a hardship, please contact us. Work performed with funds from this agreement will be conducted on a fixed-price basis. The results of all work under this agreement will be available for publication by the U.S. Geological Survey (DUNS number 176138964).

USGS, Colorado Water Science Center  
David Mau, Director  
Denver Federal Center  
PO Box 25046, MS 415  
Lakewood, CO 80225

If you have questions, please call me at 303-236-6904.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Paschke  
Associate Director for Hydrologic Studies  
USGS, Colorado Water Science Center

Enclosures

Cc: Emily Hagedorn (emily@tetonconservation.org)

**U.S. Department of the Interior  
U.S. Geological Survey  
Joint Funding Agreement  
FOR WATER RESOURCES INVESTIGATIONS**

Customer No: 6000000863  
TCD Feb 28 Board Packet 54  
Agreement No: 18CMCC180430000  
Project No:  
TIN #: 830247879  
Fixed Cost Agreement  Yes  No

THIS AGREEMENT is entered into as of the **1<sup>ST</sup> day of January, 2018** by the U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, party of the first part, and the **Teton Conservation District**, party of the second part.

1. The parties hereto agree that subject to the availability of appropriations and in accordance with their respective authorities there shall be maintained in cooperation **annual snowpack chemistry monitoring**, herein called the program. The USGS legal authority is 43 USC 36C; 43 USC 50; and 43 USC 50b.
2. The following amounts shall be contributed to cover all of the cost of the necessary field and analytical work directly related to this program. 2(b) includes In-Kind Services in the amount of **\$0.00**.
  - (a) **\$2,475.00** by the party of the first part during the period **January 1, 2018 to December 31, 2018**
  - (b) **\$4,600.00\*** by the party of the second part during the period **January 1, 2018 to December 31, 2018**  
\*\$2,125.00 Unmatched
  - (c) Contributions are provided by the party of the first part through other USGS regional or national programs, in the amount of:  
**\$(insert amount)** Description of USGS regional/national program: **(insert or NA)**
  - (d) Additional or reduced amounts by each party during the above period or succeeding periods as may be determined by mutual agreement and set forth in an exchange of letters between the parties.
  - (e) The performance period may be changed by mutual agreement and set forth in an exchange of letters between the parties.
3. The costs of this program may be paid by either party in conformity with the laws and regulations respectively governing each party.
4. The field and analytical work pertaining to this program shall be under the direction of or subject to periodic review by an authorized representative of the party of the first part.
5. The areas to be included in the program shall be determined by mutual agreement between the parties hereto or their authorized representatives. The methods employed in the field and office shall be those adopted by the party of the first part to insure the required standards of accuracy subject to modification by mutual agreement.
6. During the course of this program, all field and analytical work of either party pertaining to this program shall be open to the inspection of the other party, and if the work is not being carried on in a mutually satisfactory manner, either party may terminate this agreement upon 60 days written notice to the other party.
7. The original records resulting from this program will be deposited in the office of origin of those records. Upon request, copies of the original records will be provided to the office of the other party.
8. The maps, records or reports resulting from this program shall be made available to the public as promptly as possible. The maps, records or reports normally will be published by the party of the first part. However, the party of the second part reserves the right to publish the results of this program and, if already published by the party of the first part shall, upon request, be furnished by the party of the first part, at cost, impressions suitable for purposes of reproduction similar to that for which the original copy was prepared. The maps, records or reports published by either party shall contain a statement of the cooperative relations between the parties.
9. USGS will issue billings utilizing Department of the Interior Bill for Collection (Form DI-1040). Billing documents are to be rendered **annually in September, 2018**. Payments of bills are due within 60 days after the billing date. If not paid by the due date, interest will be charged at the current Treasury rate for each 30 day period, or portion thereof, that the payment is delayed beyond the due date. (31USC 3717; Comptroller General File B-212222, August 23, 1983).

USGS Point of Contact

Name: Suzanne Paschke, Assoc. Dir. for Hydrologic Studies  
Address: PO Box 25046, MS 415  
Denver, CO 80225  
Telephone: 303-236-6904  
Email: spaschke@usgs.gov

Customer Point of Contact

Name: Dave Adams, Chair, TCD Board of Supervisors  
Address: PO Box 1070 (420 W. Pearl Street)  
Jackson, WY 83001  
Telephone: (307) 733-2110  
Email: emily@tetonconservation.org

By *David Mau* Date 1/18/18  
Name: David Mau  
Title: Director

By \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_



## United States Department of the Interior

U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY  
 Colorado Water Science Center  
 One Denver Federal Center  
 Bldg 810, Mail Stop 415  
 Denver, Colorado 80225

January 18, 2018

**Title:** Long-term Monitoring of Atmospheric Deposition in Teton County, Wyoming, 2018

**Investigator:** Graham A. Sexstone, Research Hydrologist, Colorado Water Science Center  
 ([sexstone@usgs.gov](mailto:sexstone@usgs.gov))

**Background:** The Rocky Mountain Snowpack (RMS) Network has been maintained by the USGS, National Park Service, USDA-Forest Service, the State of Colorado, and Teton Conservation District since 1993. The purpose of the snowpack network is to determine annual concentrations and depositional amounts of pollutants and other constituents in snow resulting from atmospheric deposition. The annual snowpack chemistry monitoring informs long-term regional and sub-regional trends of atmospheric deposition (e.g., Ingersoll and others, 2016) and continues to support investigations of the effects of atmospheric deposition on local and regional ecological systems (e.g., Nanus and others, 2017).

**Statement of Work:** The USGS will collect annual snow samples during March, 2018 at 5 sites in Teton County (Four Mile Meadow, Garnet Canyon, Rendezvous Mountain, Teton Pass, and Togwotee Pass) during the same period as for samples from other network sites around the Rocky Mountain region. Full-snowpack samples from each of 5 sites, representative of most of the annual snowfall, will be collected and analyzed for major ions (including ammonium, nitrate and sulfate), pH, mercury, and other constituents using analytical procedures by the USGS. Results will be combined with similar data from snowpack sites throughout the Rocky Mountain region will be published online at USGS National Information System Web site (NWISWeb) by December 2018, and an annual Executive Summary also will be provided by that time.

**Budget:** The total project cost for monitoring snowpack chemistry at five sites in Teton County, Wyoming is \$14,575 (includes USGS assessments). Project funding for these five sites is being requested from Teton Conservation District, National Park Service Greater Yellowstone Network (GRYN) and USGS cooperative matching funds as follows:

Funding cooperator	Funding request	Funding percentage of total project cost
<b>Teton Conservation District</b>	<b>\$4,600</b>	<b>32%</b>
USGS cooperative matching funds	\$2,475	17%
National Park Service GRYN	\$7,500	51%

**Requested Staff Time:** The USGS is requesting snow sampling assistance from the Teton Conservation District at 2 of the Teton County snow chemistry sites in 2018. One Teton Conservation District staff member would accompany the USGS to the Rendezvous Mountain (1 day) and Garnet Canyon (1 day) snow chemistry sites to assist with sample collection.

**References:**

Ingersoll, G.P., Miller, D.C., Morris, K.H., McMurray, J.A., Port, G., and Caruso, B.S., 2016, Changing Regional Emissions of Airborne Pollutants Reflected in the Chemistry of Snowpacks and Wetfall in the Rocky Mountain Region, USA, 1993–2012: *Water Air Soil Pollution*, v. 227: 94, doi:10.1007/s11270-016-2784-4.

Nanus, L., McMurray, J.A., Clow, D.W., Saros, J.E., Blett, T., and Gurdak J.J., 2017, Spatial variation of atmospheric nitrogen deposition and critical loads for aquatic ecosystems in the Greater Yellowstone Area: *Environmental Pollution*, v. 223, p. 644-656.





**USGS Rocky Mountain Snowpack Monitoring:  
2017 Summary and 2018 Work Plan – Internal Use Only**  
prepared for *Teton Conservation District (TCD)*

Graham A. Sexstone  
Colorado Water Science Center, U.S. Geological Survey  
November 20, 2017

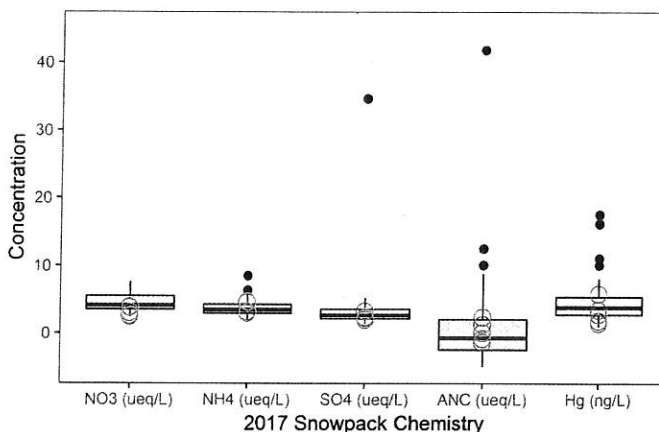
In cooperation with the National Park Service (NPS), USDA Forest Service (USFS), the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE), and the Teton Conservation District (TCD), the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) continued long-term monitoring of the chemistry of snowpacks in National Parks and National Forests across the Rocky Mountain Region during 2017. Since 1993, our interagency partnership has maintained a network of 48 or more snowpack-sampling sites across the region. As regional population and energy development continue to expand and regulations on pollution emissions become more stringent, annual snowpack chemistry continues to reflect spatial patterns and temporal trends in changing atmospheric deposition on public lands.

### Summary of results from 2017

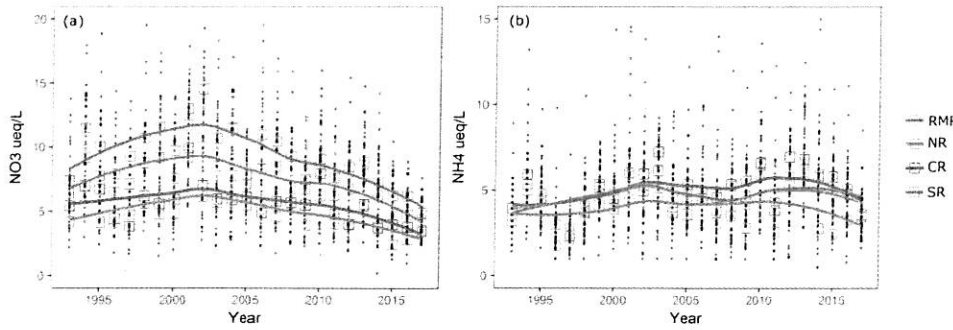
During 2017, snowpack samples from 57 regional network sites, including 5 sites in Teton County, Wyoming supported by TCD (Four-Mile Meadow, Garnet Canyon, Rendezvous Peak, Teton Pass, and Togwotee Pass), were analyzed for the 25th consecutive year. All results from 1993-2017 are currently available to the public on the USGS National Water Information System web site (NWISWeb): <http://waterdata.usgs.gov/nwis>. Additionally, an interactive USGS web site serving the chemical time-series data and other products and publications can be found at: [http://co.water.usgs.gov/projects/RM\\_snowpack/](http://co.water.usgs.gov/projects/RM_snowpack/).

Snowpack chemistry results for 2017 show very dilute chemical concentrations of dissolved nitrate ( $\text{NO}_3^-$ ), dissolved ammonium ( $\text{NH}_4^+$ ), dissolved sulfate ( $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$ ), acid neutralizing capacity (ANC), and total mercury (Hg) across the Rocky Mountain Region. The sites supported by TCD show average snowpack concentrations of  $\text{NH}_4^+$  and ANC that are greater than the regional median and average  $\text{NO}_3^-$ ,  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$ , and Hg concentrations less than the regional median (Figure 1).

Spatial patterns in snowpack chemistry continue to exhibit the greatest concentrations of  $\text{NO}_3^-$  (Figure 2a) and  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  (not shown) in the Southern Rockies subregion, particularly at sites in northwestern Colorado, southern Wyoming, and surrounding areas (not shown). Snowpack chemistry sites in the Northern Rockies subregion generally had the smallest concentrations of  $\text{NO}_3^-$  and  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  but also the most negative concentrations of ANC, suggesting snowmelt runoff in this region has little buffering capacity. Concentrations of  $\text{NH}_4^+$  were greatest in areas across the Rocky Mountain Region (Figure 2b), including the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, southern Montana, southern Wyoming, and surrounding areas (not shown). Elevated Hg concentrations relative to the 2017 Rocky Mountain Region median (3.8 ng/L) tended to be concentrated in the Southern Rockies subregion in 2017 (not shown).



**Figure 1.** Boxplots showing the outliers (black circles), 10<sup>th</sup> and 90<sup>th</sup> percentiles (whiskers), 25<sup>th</sup> and 75<sup>th</sup> percentiles (box) and median (black horizontal line) concentrations for the 2017 Rocky Mountain Region snowpack chemistry data. The red open circles show the concentrations for the sites supported by TCD. Concentrations are reported in microequivalents per liter ( $\mu\text{eq/L}$ ) or nanograms per liter (ng/L).

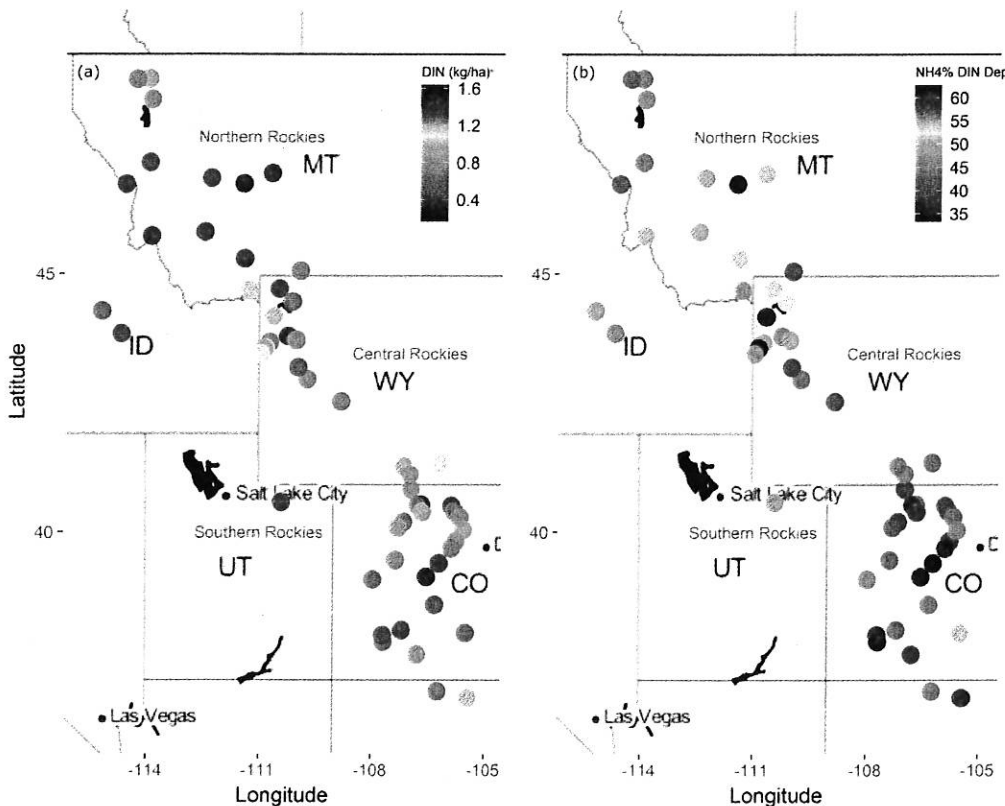


**Figure 2.** Annual snowpack chemistry sample concentrations of (a)  $\text{NO}_3^-$  and (b)  $\text{NH}_4^+$  within the Rocky Mountain Region. The median annual concentrations for the Rocky Mountain Region, Northern subregion, Central subregion, and Southern subregion are represented by the red, green, blue, and purple squares, respectively. The trend line for each subregion is a LOESS smooth of the median concentrations.

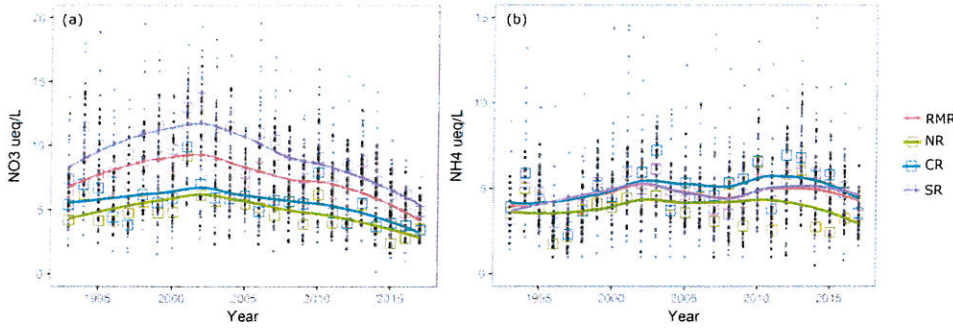
Deposition of dissolved inorganic nitrogen (DIN), which includes nitrogen from both  $\text{NO}_3^-$  and  $\text{NH}_4^+$  ions, ranged from 0.20 to 1.6 kilograms N per hectare (kg-N/ha) in 2017, with the greatest deposition occurring in northern Colorado, southern Wyoming, and the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem at sites with deep snowpacks and above average nitrate and/or ammonium concentrations. Figure 3 highlights the spatial patterns of DIN deposition in 2017 (Figure 3a) and also the percentage of DIN deposition from  $\text{NH}_4^+$  (Figure 3b), which shows the variability of the dominant source of N between the Southern Rockies subregion ( $\text{NO}_3^-$  dominated) and the Central and Northern Rockies subregion ( $\text{NH}_4^+$  dominated).

**Funding and Work Plan for 2018 Sampling**

In 2018, the total project cost for monitoring snowpack chemistry at five sites in Teton County, Wyoming is \$14,575 (includes USGS assessments). We are requesting \$4,600 from TCD for continued support of long-term monitoring of snowpack chemistry at five sites in Teton County, Wyoming. The USGS will provide \$2,475 (35 percent of the total project) in USGS cooperative matching funds (subject to availability). Grand Teton National Park will provide \$7,500 for monitoring these sites. Samples of the full depth of snowpack will be collected according to established protocols at each site once during March or April 2018, and analytical work will be completed and posted online by December 2018.



**Figure 3.** (a) Regional snow season atmospheric deposition of DIN in the Rocky Mountain Region during 2017, and (b) the percentage of DIN deposition as  $\text{NH}_4^+$  deposition across the study area.

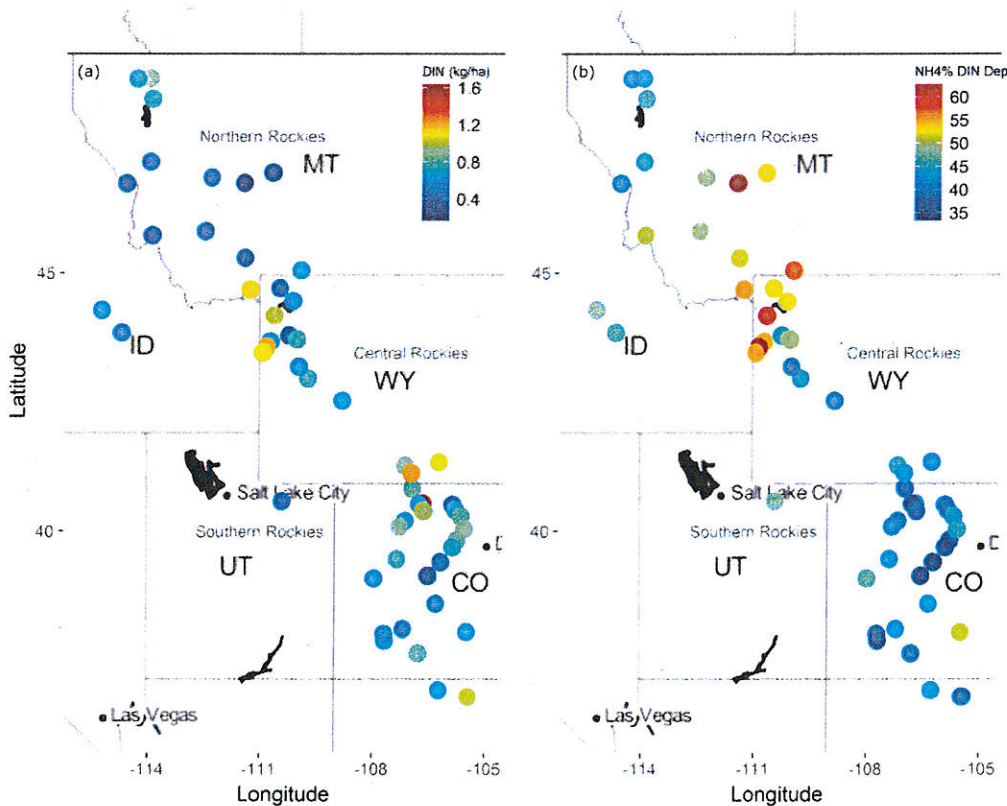


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# TETON CONSERVATION DISTRICT PUBLIC INFORMATION AND DATA RELEASE POLICY

## ACCESSING DISTRICT INFORMATION/DATA

The Teton Conservation District (TCD) has implemented a policy for the request of any kind of information that the District maintains in their possession at the District Office in Jackson, Wyoming. This policy allows for the District to meet the information release requirements and needs of the public by having a consistent process that fulfills requests in an official manner.

If you are interested in reviewing the public information files, please note the following:

1. Send your signed letter of request to the Teton Conservation District Board at:

Teton Conservation District  
P.O. Box 1070  
Jackson, WY 83001

2. Please provide specific information and details as to what you would like to request, a proposed date by which you would like to receive the information, and the preferred format (ex. hard copy or electronic).
3. Pursuant to Wyoming Public Records Act (Wyo. Stat. §16-4-201 *et. seq.*), you have the right to inspect legally available public records housed at the TCD District Office during regular business hours. TCD's office hours are Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
4. TCD is not required to create or collect new data in response to a data request if we do not already have the data, or to provide data in a specific form or arrangement if we do not keep the data in that form or arrangement. (For example, if the data you request are on paper only, we are not required to create electronic documents to respond to your request.) We will try to work with you to satisfy the specifics of your request. If you desire to inspect records during business hours, please contact the office to make an appointment, as the records you seek will require staff time to identify.
5. Please note that certain District records or data files may be prohibited from disclosure under Wyo. Stat. §16-4-203(d)(xiv) or other exclusion, in the case of protected data.
6. In addition, pursuant to Wyo. Stat. § 16-4-204(a), the District may charge reasonable fees for copying of records. Copies will be made at a minimal fee of \$0.25 per single sided, or \$0.50 per double sided black and white page, with \$0.50 single and \$1.00 per double sided color page. Photo reprints and scans of colored products will be \$5.00 each, and done only if time allows.
7. A non-refundable fee may be charged for information requests requiring extensive amounts of TCD staff time. If an extensive amounts of staff time is required to fulfill a request, TCD, at its discretion, may charge \$75.00/hr to cover staff time expenses.

**The Public Records Act statutes state:**

**16-4-204. Right of inspection; copies, printouts or photographs; fees.**

(a) In all cases in which a person has the right to inspect and copy any public records he may request that he be furnished copies, printouts or photographs for a reasonable fee to be set by the official custodian. Where fees for certified copies or other copies, printouts or photographs of the record are specifically prescribed by law, the specific fees shall apply. Nothing in this section shall be construed as authorizing a fee to be charged as a condition of making a public record available for inspection.

(b) If the custodian does not have the facilities for making copies, printouts or photographs of records which the applicant has the right to inspect, then the applicant shall be granted access to the records for the purpose of making copies, printouts or photographs. The copies, printouts or photographs shall be made while the records are in the possession, custody and control of the custodian thereof and are subject to the supervision of the custodian. When practical the copy work shall be made in the place where the records are kept, but if it is impractical to do so, the custodian may allow arrangements to be made for this purpose. If other facilities are necessary the cost of providing them shall be paid by the person desiring a copy, printout or photograph of the records. The official custodian may establish a reasonable schedule of time for making copies, printouts or photographs and may charge a reasonable fee for the services rendered by him or his deputy in supervising the copying, printing out or photographing as he may charge for furnishing copies under this section.

**(c) After July 1, 2003, any fees or charges assessed by a custodian of a public record shall first be authorized by duly enacted or adopted statute, rule, resolution, ordinance, executive order or other like authority.**

The Teton Conservation District is a sub-division of the state of Wyoming and therefore subject to the public disclosure requirements of the Wyoming Public Records Act. Guidelines for the release of Public Records, including those exempted from these requests, are noted by Wyoming State Statutes 16-4-201 through 16-4-205. This information can be found at <http://legisweb.state.wy.us/NXT/gateway.dll?f=templates&fn=default.htm&vid=Publish:10.1048/Enu>.

The Teton Conservation District Board of Supervisors reserves the right in its sole discretion, to modify, supplement, amend or delete any provisions set forth by this policy, as they deem necessary.



**ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE  
TETON CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

This Resolution is adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the Teton Conservation District (the “District”), during a regularly scheduled meeting held on February 28, 2018

WHEREAS the Teton Conservation District (the “District”), is a political subdivision of the State of Wyoming, and is a depository of public records as those records are defined in Wyo. Stat. § 16-4-201(a)(v); and

WHEREAS the District allows public records in its possession that are not deemed privileged to be inspected by members of the public in accordance with the provisions of the Wyoming Public Records Act, Wyo. Stat. §16-4-201, *et seq.* (the “Act”); and

WHEREAS the District desires to have a uniform policy regarding its response to requests for public records, and desires to authorize a formal schedule of fees and charges to be assessed for the production and/or copying of public records in accordance with Wyo. Stat. § 16-4-204(c).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the District hereby adopts the Teton Conservation District Public Information and Data Release Policy (the “Policy”) in the same form as attached hereto; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this District reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to modify, supplement, amend or delete any provisions set forth by the Policy, as the District deems necessary.

APPROVED, PASSED, AND ADOPTED this 28th day of February, 2018.

---

Dave Adams, Chairman  
Teton Conservation District Board of Supervisors





# Teton Conservation District

## Budget Line Item Application Form

**Project Title:** Johnson Meadow Wildlife-Friendly Fence

**Amount Requested:** \$14,000      **Project Start Date:** 4-10-18

**Applicant Entity/Contact Name:** Snake River Ranch LLC

**Mailing Address:** 5700 Snake River Ranch Road, Wilson, WY 83014

**Phone:** 307-733-2864 699-2000(cell)

**Email:** haugebar@cs.com

**Authorized Applicant Representative (Print Name):** Barbara Hauge

**Authorized Representative Signature:** Barbara Hauge **Date:** 2-16-18

The TCD Strategic Plan can be found at [www.tetonconservation.org](http://www.tetonconservation.org)

**Check which TCD Strategic Plan Program category(s) that the proposed project addresses:**

- Agriculture (Strategic Plan pages 6-11)
- Mapping Resources & GIS (Strategic Plan pages 12-14)
- Restoration & Sustainability (Strategic Plan pages 14-17)
- Teton County Planning and Development: LDR's (Strategic Plan pages 18-23)
- Water Resources (Strategic Plan pages 24-34)
- Wildlife (Strategic Plan pages 35-38)

### **Part I – Project Summary**

We propose to replace a 25-year old electric fence with a wildlife-friendly fence on the south and east portion of a pasture that is irrigated then grazed by steers, so is popular with elk.

The Johnson Meadow is a 72-acre grass pasture that neighbors a large treed pasture that is favored by 50-150 resident and 400-600 migrating elk. The current fence shorts out every other day in summer and fall by elk traffic that either breaks a wire or knocks it down.

The current wire fence modified an historic fence by re-aligning the wire fence along the edge of the trees in order to separate the grass portion of the pasture from the part that had more woody vegetation. By doing this, and by modifying our grazing program with shorter, more intensive grazing periods, we have been able to do a better job of grazing the pasture, while also protecting the adjacent trees and shrubs that provide important cover for wildlife. The electric fence however, though it made better economic sense at the time, was not ever able to handle the elk activity in the area successfully.

The public gets great enjoyment from watching the elk graze in the Johnson Meadow, which borders Highway #390. It's common to see 8 or 10 cars at a time pulled over near the Meadow in the evening, so visitors can watch and photograph

the elk munching the grass that is maintained by the Ranch’s irrigators and steers that keep it fresh.

We propose to build a fence that matches the fence we built on the north side of the Johnson Meadow (see the attached scanned photo). It is 47’ high at the top of the rail, and there are 2 strands of barbed wire below. The lower wire is 22” off the ground The second wire is 34” off the ground. Wildlife of all ages are able to negotiate this fence.

This project supports TCD’s goal to support agriculture grazing utilization through fence infrastructure projects that improve effects on wildlife.

The project also supports the TCD’s wildlife goal of maintaining healthy populations by promoting conservation of wildlife resources through improvement of wildlife permeability while reducing the conflict for agriculture and wildlife caused by their use of our pasture.

TCD Strategic Plan Goal: AGRICULTURE Strategy 1.1.0 Task 1.1.2  
TCD Strategic Plan Goal: WILDLIFE Strategy 1.4.0 Task 1.4.4

- Project Objective: Removal of old fence
  - Task 1.1 Removal of existing wire by Jackson Hole Wildlife Foundation
  - Task 1.2 Removal of posts by Snake River Ranch crew

- Project Objective: Construction of Wildlife-Friendly Fence
  - Task 2.1 Construction of new fence by Rocky Mountain Fence Company
  - Task 2.2 Supervision by Ranch manager

**Part 2 – Budget Spreadsheet**

Objective Task	Applicant	JH W Fdn	TCD Requested	Total
1.1		\$2,880	0	\$ 2,880
1.2	\$ 1,560			1,560
2.1	14,000		14,000	28,000
2.2	1,500			1,500
TOTAL	\$ 17,060	\$2,880	\$14,000	\$ 33,940

**Part 3 -- Budget Narrative**

Jon Mobeck, the executive director of he JH Wildlife Foundation estimates that 20 people, working for 6 hours, can remove the 5,900 feet of old wire and haul it off to

recycle it. Using the USFS volunteer rate of \$24/hour, they total their contribution at \$2,880. (Jon has been to the Ranch and seen the location.)

The Ranch crew will use 2 guys and a backhoe to haul off the old posts at a labor cost of 1 man @ \$24/hour for 15 hours, or \$360, plus one backhoe and operator for 15 hours @ \$80 or \$1,200 for a total of \$1,560).

Rocky Mountain Fence estimates their costs for new fence at \$5.80/foot. The fence will run about 4,650 feet, so we estimate the cost at \$26,970 or \$27,000, plus 8 gates at \$125/gate for a total of \$28,000. If shared 50-50 by the Ranch and a TCD grant, each would pay \$13,875. Having said that, of course the Ranch would appreciate any contribution, up to \$14,000 that might be available, as we have other fence work to do this spring as well.

Supervision by the Ranch Manager is assumed to total 15 hours over the project at \$100/hour.

**Additional Material (2 scanned attachments)**

Map of proposed fence: Snake River Ranch, Johnson Meadow Fence Project 2018

Scanned page of photos from 2014 proposal showing:

View south over Meadow, showing grass pasture and background of two generations of aspen trees

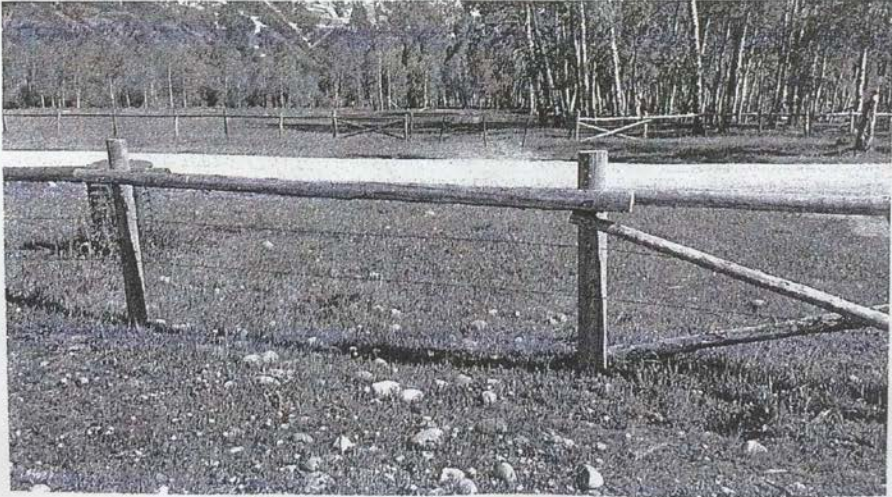
View of fence on north side of Johnson Meadow, which is proposed here for east and south sides

This is a photo of the view of the south edge of the meadow, where younger aspen are also thriving.



View of south side of the Johnson Meadow

Finally, here is a photo of the type of fence we propose building. This is the fence on the north side of the Johnson Meadow. It is 47" high at the top of the rail, and there are 2 strands of barbed wire below. The lowest is 22" off the ground. The second wire is 34" off the ground. Wildlife are able to negotiate this fence.



Fence on north side of Johnson Meadow – proposed for east and south sides





Snake River Ranch

Johnson Meadow Fence Project, 2018

-  Meadow perimeter
-  New fence



Invoice



Jackson Hole Fire/EMS

P.O. Box 901  
 40 East Pearl Ave  
 Jackson, WY 83001

Phone # 307-733-4732  
 Fax # 307-739-9856

Date	Invoice #
2/5/2018	102

Bill To
Teton Counsevation District PO Box 1070 Jackson, WY 83001

Terms

Date	Item Code	Description	Rate	Hours	Amount
2/5/2018	Donation	Hidden Hills Video Grant Reimbursement	2,000.00	1	2,000.00
				<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,000.00</b>

Project Title: HIDDEN HILLS RANCHES SUBDIVISION  
FUELS MITIGATION WORK

Amount Requested: \$ 1,960

Project Start Date: MAY-1, 2018

Applicant Entity/Contact Name: HIDDEN HILLS RANCHES HOA  
SVEN ROEHRIG

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 165  
WILSON, WY 83014

Phone: 734-255-3991

Email: shroehrig@gmail.com

Authorized Applicant Representative (Print Name):

SVEN ROEHRIG (TREASURER)

Authorized Representative Signature:

Date:



2/20/18

The TCD Strategic Plan can be found at [www.tetonconservation.org](http://www.tetonconservation.org)

Check which TCD Strategic Plan Program category(s) that the proposed project addresses:

[ ] Agriculture (Strategic Plan pages 6-11)

[ ] Mapping Resources & GIS (Strategic Plan pages 12-14)

[ X ] Restoration & Sustainability (Strategic Plan pages 14-17)

[ ] Teton County Planning and Development: LDR's (Strategic Plan pages 18-23) [ ] Water Resources (Strategic Plan pages 24-34)

[ ] Wildlife (Strategic Plan pages 35-38)

**Part 1 – Project Summary:** Briefly describe, in measurable terms, the natural resource public benefit of the project. You must also show how the project addresses specific TCD Strategic Plan Goals and associated Strategies, and Tasks. Below each, state the Project's Objectives & Tasks w/measurable attributes using the following format example and denote responsible entities:

TCD Strategic Plan Goal, Strategy, Task

**Project Objective 1.0**

Task 1.1

- SEE ATTACHED SHEET -

Task 1.2

TCD Strategic Plan Goal, Strategy, Task

**Project Objective 2.0**

Task 2.1

Task 2.2

**Part 2 - Budget Spreadsheet (use the following spreadsheet format example):** Build a table using the one below, adding columns for additional partners or match type to illustrate how the project funding is distributed between the applicant, TCD and any other partners. Failure to use the format below will invalidate the application.

**Objective Task Applicant \$ Partners \$ TCD \$ requested Task Total**

Task 1.1					
Task 1.2					
Task 1.3					
Task 2.1					
Task 2.2					
Task 2.3					
Etc.					
<b>Total</b>					

- SEE ATTACHED SHEET -

**Part 3 – Budget Narrative:** Describe the relationship between the tasks and amounts in the budget spreadsheet by providing explanations of estimates, equipment costs, other details, etc. Numerical inconsistencies with the budget table will invalidate the application.

**HIDDEN HILLS RANCHES HOA  
FUELS MITIGATION WORK PROPOSAL**

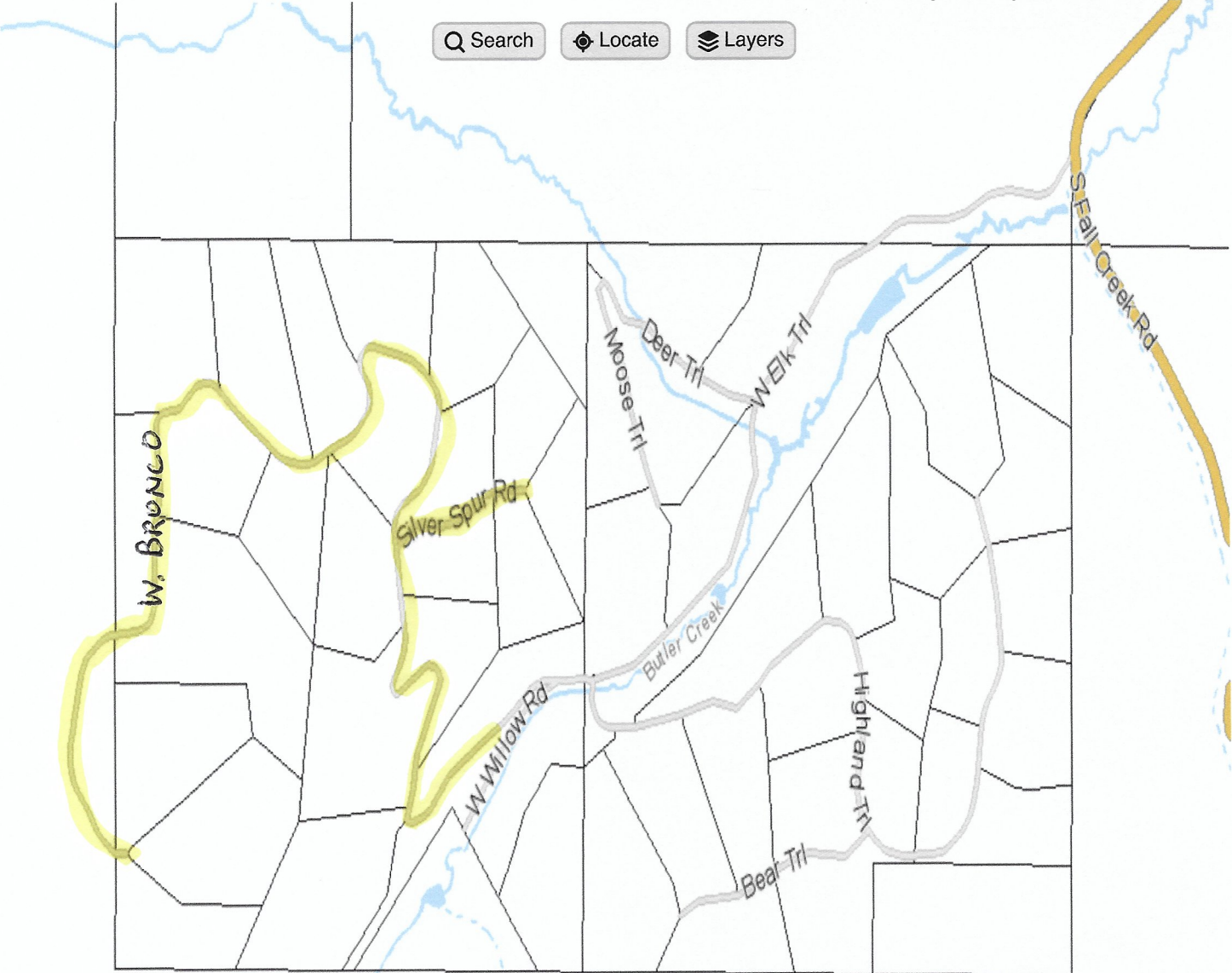
Project Objective 1.0	Fuels Mitigation on W Bronco and Silver Spur Roads
Task 1.1	Chainsaw Operation - Cut deadfall and intrusive chokecherry within W Bronco and Silver Spur right-of-way
Task 1.2	Chainsaw Operation - Cut deadfall and intrusive chokecherry within home structures defensible space
Task 1.3	Stack deadfall/slash at entrance of each driveway along W Bronco and Silver Spur
Task 1.4	Contractor to Shred deadfall/slash
Task 1.5	Disposal to be handled by Contractor

<u>Objective Task</u>	<u>Applicant \$</u>	<u>Partner \$</u>	<u>ICD \$ Requested</u>	<u>Task Total</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Task 1.1 & 1.2	\$560		\$560	\$1,120	2 chainsaws@\$35/hr for 2 days@ 8 hours/day
Task 1.3	400		400	800	2 people@\$25/hr for 2 days@ 8 hours/day
Task 1.4	1,000		1,000	2,000	Shredder Contractor @\$200/hr for 10 hours
Task 1.5 - Cost included with Contractor Bid (Task 1.4)					
Totals	<u>\$1,960</u>		<u>\$1,960</u>	<u>\$3,920</u>	



**You may include additional supporting information for the project (maps or diagrams, letters of support, etc.), that will provide a better understanding of the project.**

- SEE ATTACHED MAP -



W. BRONCO & SILVER SPUR RIGHT-OF-WAY  
 TO BE CLEANED UP



## **Identifying Long-Distance Migrations of the Targhee Elk Herd**

Alyson Courtemanch, Wyoming Game and Fish Department

Paul Atwood, Idaho Fish and Game Department

P.J. White, Yellowstone National Park

Arthur Middleton, University of California, Berkeley

Greg Rickbeil, University of California, Berkeley

### **Abstract**

Long-distance elk migrations are iconic to the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem (GYE). These migrations have immense ecological value, in addition to cultural, economical, and recreational value. The Targhee Elk Herd, which straddles the Idaho-Wyoming state line is the one remaining elk herd in the GYE whose migrations paths are unknown. This project aims to map those migration paths using GPS satellite collars, as well as increase our understanding of this herd's seasonal habitat use, health, and survival and reproduction rates. Information gained from this project would fill a critical knowledge gap for understanding the big picture of long-distance elk migrations in the GYE and also provide local managers with better knowledge to manage the herd.

### **Background and Need**

Long-distance elk migrations are iconic to the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem (GYE). At least 10 different elk herds, representing tens of thousands of animals, utilize public and private lands during their annual migration cycle. In addition, some herds cross state lines. These migrations have immense ecological value, in addition to cultural, economical, and recreational value. Elk migrations support local economies through hunting, tourism, and viewing opportunities. They also fundamentally support large carnivore numbers and distributions, such as grizzly bears and wolves, species which draw international interest and public regard for the GYE.

Robust data on elk migration corridors, patterns, and timing have been gathered for nearly all elk herds in the GYE (see attached map). The one remaining herd where data are completely non-existent is the Targhee Elk Herd. Very little is known about the migratory patterns of this herd, which straddles the state line between Wyoming and Idaho. Wildlife managers do know that the herd depends almost exclusively on private lands in Idaho (and to a small extent in Wyoming) during the winter. Elk are thought to migrate from winter ranges to higher elevation summer ranges in Wyoming on public lands in southwest Yellowstone National Park, Caribou-Targhee National Forest (Winegar Hole and Jedediah Smith Wilderness Areas), and possibly Grand Teton National Park. However, migration routes and seasonal ranges are not currently mapped or well understood. Therefore, wildlife managers lack the

basic information needed to manage this herd and identify possible threats to the long-term persistence of its migration corridors. Putting these migrations on the map is a necessary first step in order to identify management and conservation strategies.

We are proposing to delineate migration corridors and gather data to learn about migration, timing, and demography for the herd by capturing elk and outfitting them with GPS satellite collars. This project would be the first time that elk from the Targhee Herd have been tracked using GPS technology. It is the result of collaboration between two state agencies, a national park, and university researchers. Information gained from this project would fill a critical knowledge gap for understanding the big picture of long-distance elk migrations in the GYE (see attached map). In addition, the project would provide basic information for both Wyoming and Idaho managers on elk seasonal habitat use, movements, and impacts of current hunting season structures on the herd.

### **Goals and Objectives**

Our main goal is to map elk migration corridors and evaluate the patterns and timing of migration for the Targhee Elk Herd. Related to this, we aim to evaluate elk use of private lands and public lands (National Parks and National Forest) throughout the year. Secondary objectives include evaluating elk pregnancy rates, calf survival, and adult survival for the herd, which will help assess the need for management and conservation actions (e.g. habitat improvements on winter ranges or in migration corridors, working with private landowners to reduce conflicts, restructuring hunting seasons across state lines, etc.).

Additionally, this project would complete the data set of elk migrations in the GYE. This data set is perhaps one of the largest in the world for terrestrial ungulate migrations and therefore has high scientific and conservation importance. These data will contribute to research, management, and conservation questions put forth by a recently formed Interagency Elk Migrations Working Group (with representatives from multiple federal land management agencies, state agencies, and universities in the GYE).

### **Methods**

In order to obtain data on elk migration for the Targhee Elk Herd, the best method is to capture elk and deploy GPS-collars. We propose to capture 30 elk on winter ranges on private lands in Idaho using helicopter net-gunning (see attached map). Based on current relationships, we are confident that permissions from private landowners can be attained by Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) personnel. Capturing elk during the winter instead of the summer is preferred for several reasons: 1) elk are congregated in larger groups, resulting in faster search times and more efficient captures, 2) elk are less susceptible to hyperthermia and stress when captured in colder temperatures, and 3) captures on private lands in Idaho and Wyoming will be less logistically challenging and will not require federal

permits that would be needed to capture elk on summer ranges in Yellowstone National Park and the Winegar Hole Wilderness on Caribou-Targhee National Forest.

Collars would be distributed among several large wintering groups of elk in order to obtain an adequate sampling distribution of the herd. After being captured, each elk would be immobilized using leg hobbles, fitted with a GPS collar, have blood drawn to test for pregnancy, disease, and genetics, and have an ultrasound completed to survey for pregnancy and body condition (rump fat depth). Samples for all elk will be analyzed by the IDFG lab. Each elk will be fitted with a Telonics RECON GPS collar (Telonics, Inc., Mesa, AZ, USA) that will be programmed to collect a GPS fix every 2 hours. The collars will collect data for 3 years before dropping off the animals. These collars transmit data to a satellite on a daily basis and can be retrieved by WGFD and IDFG biologists while the collar is deployed on the elk. Therefore, migration data can be gathered and analyzed continuously during the study period. We have partnered with Dr. Arthur Middleton (professor) and Dr. Greg Rickbeil (post-doc researcher) at University of California - Berkeley to help lead the data analysis. Preliminary data will be available for media releases and public outreach before the end of the study.

Since very little is known about the movements of the Targhee Elk Herd, we are proposing to target elk on winter ranges during the first year of the project since captures would be logistically straightforward. We are hoping that these elk will migrate to summer ranges in southwest Yellowstone National Park, northern Grand Teton National Park, and the Winegar Hole and Jedediah Smith Wilderness Areas and fill in missing migration data. However, if they migrate elsewhere, we may expand the project to capture additional elk on summer ranges in Yellowstone National Park in future years (pending appropriate permits). Additional funding would need to be acquired at that time for a second capture effort.

## **Budget**

### Telonics RECON GPS collars (30 collars)

\$700 per collar + \$30 activation fee \* 30 collars = \$21,900

\$60 per collar per year for satellite uplink fees \* 30 collars \* 3 years = \$5,400

TOTAL COLLAR COST: \$27,300

### Helicopter Net-Gunning (Sky Aviation helicopter with IDFG capture crew)

\$1275 per hour flight time \* 28 hours (3 days of capture plus ferry time) = \$35,700

\$400 per elk fee \* 30 elk = \$12,000

TOTAL CAPTURE COSTS: \$47,700

### In-Kind Costs

IDGF personnel time for elk captures = \$6,000

WGFD personnel time for elk captures (3 ppl. \* \$30/hr \* 20 hrs) = \$1800

WGFD personnel time for logistics, organization, data organization, reports over 6 years (1 pers. \* \$30/hr \* avg 40 hrs per year \* 6 years) = \$7,200

Capture kits and lab analysis costs (\$187/elk \* 30 elk) = \$5,610

TOTAL IN-KIND: \$20,610

**TOTAL PROJECT COST: \$95,610**

**TOTAL CASH NEED (not counting in-kind contributions): \$75,000**

FUNDING SOURCES:

National Geographic - \$20,000 (secured)

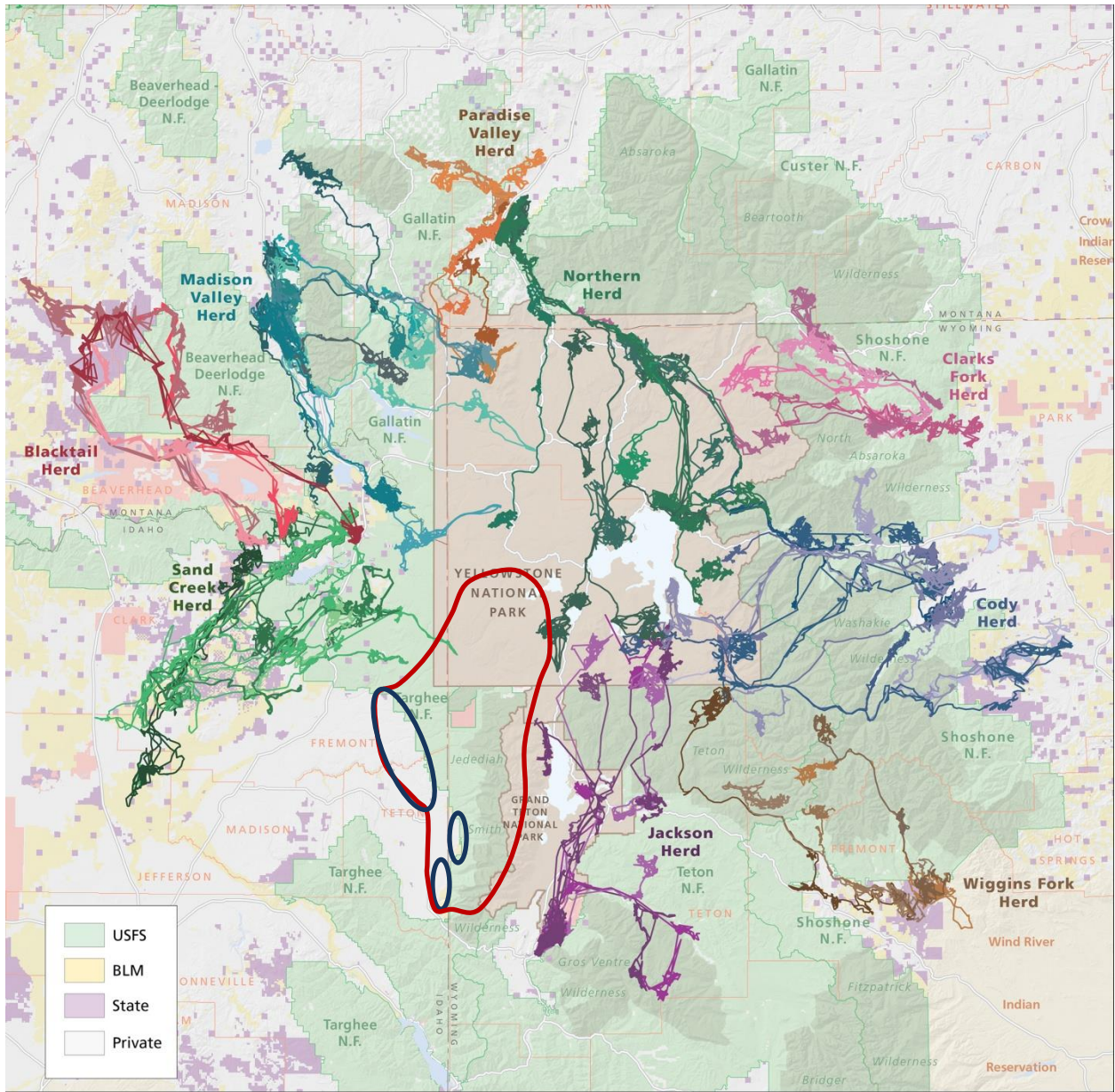
Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (National) - \$20,000 (secured)

Knobloch Foundation - \$10,000 (secured)

Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (Wyoming Chapter) - \$15,000 (requested, pending)

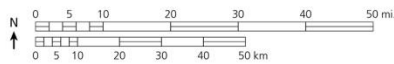
**REMAINING CASH NEEDED: 10,000**

**REQUEST FROM TETON CONSERVATION DISTRICT: \$10,000**



### Elk Migrations of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem

- Blacktail Herd
- Clarks Fork Herd
- Jackson Herd
- Madison Valley Herd
- Northern Herd
- Paradise Valley Herd
- Sand Creek Herd
- Wiggins Fork Herd



September 18, 2015 DRAFT



© 2015 University of Wyoming  
 Source: Atlas of Wildlife Migration: Wyoming's Ungulates (in production)  
 Cartography: University of Oregon InfoGraphics Lab  
 Elk data contributed by: Wyoming Game and Fish Department, Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks; Idaho Fish and Game, National Park Service, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Wildlife Conservation Society, Wyoming Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, Iowa State University, and Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies

Figure 1. Map of existing elk migrations data in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. Red polygon indicates approximate area of the Targhee Elk Herd. Smaller blue polygons represent approximate planned capture locations on winter ranges.





**Teton  
Conservation  
District  
Est. 1946**

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** TCD Staff and Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Carlin Girard, TCD Water Resource Specialist  
**DATE:** 02/08/2018  
**SUBJECT:** Flat Creek Watershed Management Plan Revision Proposal, following RFP

### Introduction

The purpose of this memo is to record the Request for Proposal (RFP) process that TCD has undertaken for the Revision of the Flat Creek Watershed Management Plan, and propose a path forward for hiring. TCD solicited proposals from environmental consultants for the revision of the Flat Creek Watershed Management Plan (2006) on 01/10/2018, with the closing date being 02/08/2018. This RFP asked for consultants to submit proposals for this revision process, within the constraint of a \$15,000 budget. Although, TCD fielded several phone calls from interested parties, TCD received only one proposal.

### Proposal Review

TCD's typical review of proposals following an RFP process within the Water Resources Program, would be to score and rank proposals based upon an established scoring system. The consultant with the highest scoring proposal would then become the staff recommended consultant, to be brought before the Board for their consideration.

Because there was only one consultant that submitted a proposal, the scoring and ranking becomes moot. Instead, TCD staff has reviewed the single proposal in terms of the proposal's ability meet the needs of the District for the purpose of the Flat Creek Watershed Management Plan revision. In short, TCD staff has reviewed this proposal to see if it is sufficient.

### Staff Recommendation

TCD staff has reviewed the Alder Environmental LLC proposal to complete the Watershed Management Plan, and has found it sufficient. Staff recommends proceeding with contract development and hiring of Alder Environmental for the revision of the Flat Creek Watershed Plan, as is outlined in TCD's RFP, and Alder Environmental LLC's proposal.

## AGREEMENT & CONTRACT FOR SERVICES

**Date:** February 28, 2018

**Project Name/ Location:** Flat Creek Watershed Management Plan Revision, Teton County, WY

**Collaborators:** Teton Conservation District and WY Department of Environmental Quality

**Client Name/ Contact:** Teton Conservation District, Jackson, WY/ Carlin Girard

**Alder Environmental, LLC agrees to perform the following services for the above named Client:**

Alder Environmental LLC is responsible for revising and updating the 2006 Flat Creek Watershed Management Plan as described in the Teton Conservation District *Request for Proposals (RFP): Flat Creek Watershed Management Plan (1/11/2018)* and the Alder Environmental *Proposal - Flat Creek Watershed Management Plan Revision (2/7/18)* included as Exhibit A of this contract.

This “Not to Exceed” Contract is for anticipated services as follows:

TASK [1] Stakeholder Group (March/April 2018):	\$11,155
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facilitate a single meeting, collaboration, documentation of input</li> </ul>	
TASK [2] Revision of 2006 Plan (May/June 2018):	\$3,790
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Research new data and projects, update and edit text, update content</li> </ul>	

**Not to Exceed Fee for Services: \$14,945**

**Conditions:**

- Total payment will be paid out in two equal increments; one payment will occur at 50% project completion, and the second at 100% completion of the deliverables.
- Total payment shall not exceed \$15,000.
- \$900 within Task [1] is budgeted for meeting expenses (advertising, space acquisition, materials, etc.)

**Acceptance & Authorization**

- Acceptance: To accept this agreement, please sign and return this form via email to [brian@alderenvironmental.com](mailto:brian@alderenvironmental.com) or mail to P.O. Box 6519, Jackson, WY 83002.
- Services in addition to those described in this proposal either requested by the Client or necessitated by a change in requirements of any governmental agency shall be considered as additional work and shall be paid by the Client. The Client understands and agrees that all work not specifically delineated within the services described herein shall be billed on a time and materials basis in accordance with our 2018 rate schedule shown in Exhibit A. This payment shall be in addition to any budget, bid, or maximum price agreement for the above-described scope of work. Wherever practical, changes, additions, or modifications to the scope of work shall be authorized by written change request.
- In the event that all or any portion of the work prepared or partially prepared by Alder Environmental, LLC is suspended, abandoned, or terminated by the Client, the client shall pay Alder Environmental, LLC for work performed, plus any required project documentation.

- Alder Environmental, LLC shall not be responsible for delays in completing the work described herein which cannot reasonably be foreseen on the date of this proposal, or for delays which are caused by factors beyond their control or delays resulting from the action or inaction of any governmental agency.
- To the fullest extent permissible by law, Alder Environmental, LLC hereby indemnifies and holds harmless the Teton Conservation District, its officers, directors, affiliates, agents, and employees, from any damage, claims, liens, liabilities, costs, and losses, including but not limited to reasonable attorney’s fees and costs of court or arbitration or other dispute resolution, caused solely by the negligent acts or omissions of Alder Environmental LLC, its agents, directors, partners, employees, subcontractors or consultants in performance and furnishing of the services under this Agreement. Alder Environmental, LLC will cooperate with the Teton Conservation District and provide reasonable assistance in defending any such claim.
- To the fullest extent permitted by law, the Teton Conservation District shall indemnify and hold harmless Alder Environmental LLC and its officers, directors, partners, employees, and agents from and against any damage, claims, liens, liabilities, costs, and losses, including but not limited to reasonable attorney’s fees and costs of court or arbitration or other dispute resolution, caused solely by the negligent acts or omissions of the Teton Conservation District or the District’s officers, directors, partners, employees, agents and consultants with respect to this Agreement.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Client Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Alder Environmental, LLC signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**PROPOSAL**

---

**FLAT CREEK WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN  
REVISION**

February 7, 2018



**Submitted to:**

Teton Conservation District  
Attn: Carlin Girard, Water Resources Specialist  
carlin@tetonconservation.org

**Submitted by:**

**ALDER**ENVIRONMENTAL  
water | wetlands | ecological consulting

Brian Remlinger, Principal  
P.O. Box 6519, Jackson, Wyoming 83002  
(307) 733-5031, brian@alderenvironmental.com

---

February 7, 2018

Teton Conservation District  
Carlin Girard, Water Resources Specialist  
carlin@tetonconservation.org

Dear Mr. Girard,

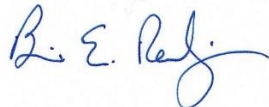
I am pleased to see Teton Conservation District once again taking the lead in the Watershed Management Planning process for the Flat Creek Watershed. The numerous implemented BMPs such as the Karns Meadow Stormwater Treatment Wetland, expanded and improved street sweeping, additional stormwater treatment vaults and the development of the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) Guide have all contributed to reducing the pollutant load to Flat Creek and thus improving aquatic habitat. As you know, I have been involved with the Flat Creek Watershed Management Planning process for 18 years and have been regularly brainstorming with stakeholders on potential improvements to the watershed that would result in enhanced aquatic and riparian habitat as well as improved stormwater runoff quality.

The scope of work, deliverables and budget you have proposed have been adhered to in this proposal and are appropriate for a revision and update to the 2006 Plan. The following narrative demonstrates my professional qualifications and the capabilities of Alder Environmental, LLC to successfully complete the requested scope of services. I live and work in the Flat Creek watershed and have formed lasting relationships with all the Stakeholders listed in the RFP. If selected to revise and update the 2006 FCWMP, Alder Environmental's primary responsibilities would be to:

- ensure all stakeholders are given a fair opportunity to participate, and their input and ideas would be considered and accurately documented,
- revise the Plan with attention to detail and reflect the stakeholders' proposed watershed improvements and BMPs,
- incorporate realistic, small scale management practices that are feasible to implement,
- incorporate new watershed information and scientific research into the updated Plan, and
- collaborate closely with TCD and WDEQ but not rely on them to complete the scope of services.

I look forward to your questions regarding our proposal. Thanks.

Sincerely,



Brian E. Remlinger  
*Principal*



# 1. EXPERIENCE & ABILITIES

## WATERSHED PLANNING & IMPLEMENTATION

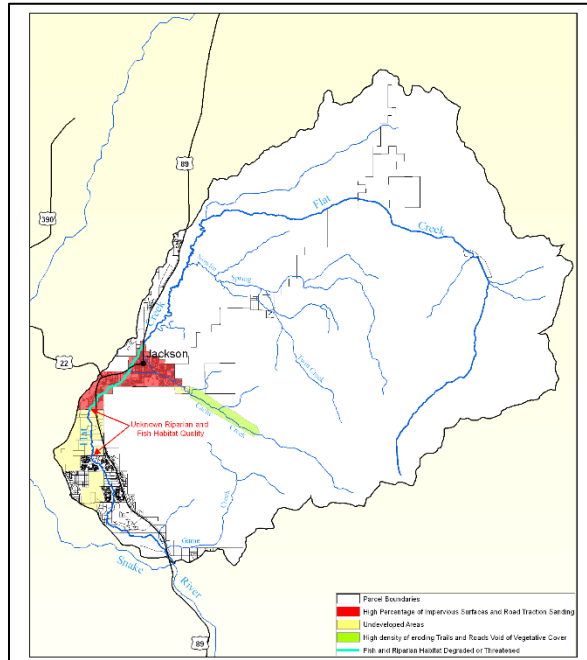
Brian Remlinger, Principal at Alder Environmental, LLC was the lead author for the 2006 Flat Creek Watershed Management Plan (FCWMP, Plan). His experiences coordinating meetings, collaborating with landowners and regulatory agencies, and preparing the content of the Plan make him ideally suited to revise and update the document and coordinate the Stakeholder Group participation. Mr. Remlinger was also the lead author for the *SNAKE RIVER VALLEY (JACKSON) WETLAND COMPLEX, REGIONAL WETLANDS CONSERVATION PLAN (2015)* prepared for WGFD, TCD and DU.

Mr. Remlinger has 18 years of experience working in the Flat Creek Watershed developing best management practices (BMPs) for water quality improvement and aquatic and riparian habitat enhancements as well as implementing and monitoring the effectiveness of the BMPs, such as the Karns Meadow Stormwater Treatment Wetland.

Brooke Stallings, Watershed Scientist at Alder Environmental, will be assisting Mr. Remlinger with the Plan revision process. Ms. Stallings has a Professional Science Master’s degree in Ecohydrological Science and Management, with an emphasis in water resources, watershed management, and restoration planning. Through her master’s degree coursework, she developed a portfolio on watershed planning and management, focusing on strategies for engaging communities and stakeholders in discussion around water resource management. Her education and professional experiences with the US Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management and Alder Environmental will greatly enrich the process.

## FLAT CREEK STAKEHOLDER COLLABORATION

Mr. Remlinger has been working with Flat Creek Watershed Stakeholders since 2000 when employed by Teton Conservation District. He has organized and facilitated dozens of public meetings and collaborated directly with individual Stakeholders. The Flat Creek Watershed has a diversity of landownership and land uses; Mr. Remlinger has collaborated with and/or provided consulting services for most of these Stakeholders in the past and has good working relationships with all.



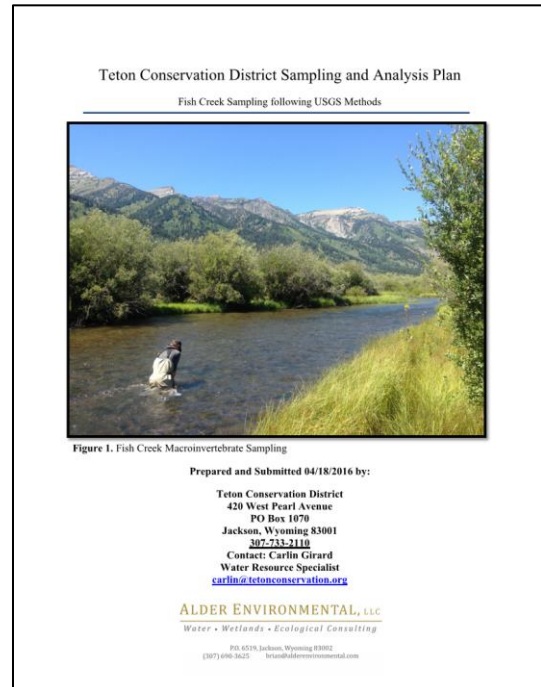
## TETON CONSERVATION DISTRICT COLLABORATION

Mr. Remlinger and Ms. Stallings have worked collaboratively with Teton Conservation District on two planning documents.

*Flat Creek Watershed Management Plan, 2006*

*Fish Creek Sampling and Analysis Plan, 2016*

Alder Environmental has also worked closely with TCD staff to implement the Fish Creek Water Quality Monitoring Program as well as the Flat Creek Winter Monitoring and Characterization Project facilitated by the Flat Creek Water Improvement District.



## 2. STAKEHOLDER MEETING TOPICS & SCHEDULE

Alder Environmental will seek out participation from Stakeholders throughout the watershed to help restore the surface water within the watershed so that it meets water quality standards and fully supports its designated uses. To achieve this, local stakeholders will be asked to participate through public involvement at a single Stakeholders Group meeting in April and individually through a public comment period and online survey. Potential meeting and survey topics include:

### 1. INTRODUCTION/REVIEW

- a) Meet & greet, introductions
- b) Introduction to watershed planning and purpose within Flat Creek Watershed
- c) Review of 2006 FCWMP process, goals, objectives and proposed actions
- d) Summary of implemented management practices since 2006 and measurements of progress
- e) State the revision process and scope

### 2. SOLICIT STAKEHOLDER INPUT

- a) Future potential projects, data collection and relevant happenings within the watershed
- b) Identification of causes and sources of pollution affecting water quality that need to be controlled or critical areas in need of assessment
- c) Potential management practices to improve water quality and aquatic/riparian habitat (stay focused on realistic, small scale management practices that are feasible to implement)
- d) Potential data collection needs to identify pollutants or causes of degradation or data necessary to implement management practices
- e) Potential partnerships and sources of funding to implement identified management practices and data collection activities

### 3. FORSEEABLE PROBLEMS & SOLUTIONS

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Two foreseeable problems are (1) possible lack of participation to develop meaningful Plan updates and (2) that a particular group may feel they are being left out and/or not being heard.

In order to ensure all Stakeholders have the opportunity to participate, a single Stakeholder meeting will be held and a public comment period with online survey will be made available. Both of these participation opportunities will be advertised in traditional media formats such as the newspaper as well as appropriate Social Media outlets. The 2006 FCWMP process and other public participation projects we have been involved in revealed that each individual/Stakeholder group prefers providing input in different formats. Not everyone is comfortable voicing their opinions in a public meeting.

There will be challenges with any collaborative project where multiple organizations and individuals are involved, and their participation and input are an integral part of the process. During the 2006 FCWMP Stakeholder Group process, there were two very well attended public forum type meetings. At times there were a few passionate individuals who felt their concerns, however not relevant, should be included in the final Plan. The solution and compromise were to ensure them that all written comment would be considered and included as part of the Plan.

### 4. REFERENCES

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Alder Environmental, LLC has successfully completed work for the following references:

**Dan Leemon, Executive Director**  
**Friends of Fish Creek, Wilson, WY**

(307) 413-5264

dan@fishcreekfriends.org

Projects:           2006 Flat Creek Watershed Management Plan  
                           2008 – 2010 Karns Meadow Stormwater Treatment Wetland  
                           2014 – 2015 Fish Creek Water & Biological Sampling

**Susan Patla, Non-Game Biologist**  
**Wyoming Game and Fish Department, Jackson, WY**

(307) 733-2383 ext. 229

susan.patla@wyo.gov

Projects:           2012 Upper Green Watershed, Wetland, Riparian & Bird Habitat Synopsis  
                           2012 Upper Green Watershed, North American Wetlands Conservation Act  
                           (NAWCA) Proposal  
                           2015 Snake River Valley Wetland Complex Regional Wetlands Conservation Plan

## 5. SCOPE OF SERVICES, TIMELINE & BUDGET

<b>SCOPE OF WORK</b>	<b>TIMELINE</b>	<b>Project Manager/ Principal</b> (B. Remlinger)	<b>Watershed Scientist</b> (B. Stallings)	<b>Cost</b>
<b>TASK [1] Stakeholder Group</b>	<b>March-April 2018</b>	\$120	\$95	
<b>A) Pre-Stakeholder Meeting Preparation</b>				
Review 2006 FCWMP, collaboration with TCD & WDEQ on detailed scope		3	3	\$ 645
Prepare outreach material & advertising; Stakeholder networking		5	12	\$ 1,740
Prepare and set up online survey/questionnaire		2	4	\$ 620
Meeting space reservation and materials preparation		4	6	\$ 1,050
<b>B) Stakeholder Meeting</b>				
Facilitate Stakeholder Meeting (includes day of preparation and post meeting)		6	6	\$ 2,265
<b>C) Post-Stakeholder Meeting Input Compilation</b>				
Compile meeting minutes		1	2	\$ 310
Compile and record online survey/questionnaire		1	2	\$ 310
Compile and scan all written input, comments & notes		2	4	\$ 620
Prepare meeting summary and submit to TCD & WDEQ		2	2	\$ 430
<b>D) Expenses</b>				
Procurement of meeting space, meeting materials, advertising, overhead				\$900
			<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 11,155</b>
<b>TASK [2] Revision of FCWMP Text &amp; Data Collection</b>	<b>MAY-JUNE 2018</b>			
<b>A) Update Outdated Text</b>				
General update and editing of document (dates, names, headings, etc.)		2	5	\$ 715
<b>B) Update Content</b>				
Compile new data collection activities, implemented projects, Stakeholder input		2	8	\$ 1,000
Review new content with TCD & WDEQ prior to incorporation into document		2	2	\$ 430
Incorporate new content into document		2	6	\$ 810
<b>C) Review and Edits</b>				
Submit draft of document to TCD & WDEQ for review		1	1	\$ 215
Make edits and finalize document per TCD & WDEQ review		2	4	\$ 620
			<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 3,790</b>
			<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 14,945</b>

**COOPERATIVE WATER RESOURCES PROGRAM**  
**Teton Conservation District**  
**USGS Wyoming-Montana Water Science Center**  
**Federal Fiscal Year 2019 (20181001 - 20190930)**

Station	Name	USGS-CMF	USGS-NWQN	TCD
<u>Annual Water Temperature</u>				
- Collect, compute, review, and publish continuous <b>annual</b> water-temperature record				
- Provide real-time data				
<a href="#">13010065</a>	Snake R ab Jackson Lk at Flagg Ranch WY	\$1,060		\$1,590
<a href="#">13011000</a>	Snake R nr Moran WY	\$1,060		\$1,590
<a href="#">13011500</a>	Pacific Cr at Moran WY	\$1,060		\$1,590
<a href="#">13011820</a>	Blackrock Cr bel Split Rock Cr nr Moran WY	\$1,060		\$1,590
<a href="#">13011900</a>	Buffalo Fork ab Lava Cr nr Moran WY	\$1,060		\$1,590
<a href="#">13013650</a>	Snake R at Moose WY*	\$640		\$970
<a href="#">13014300</a>	Gros Ventre R ab Upper Slide Lk nr Kelly WY	\$1,060		\$1,590
<a href="#">13014500</a>	Gros Ventre R at Kelly WY	\$1,060		\$1,590
<a href="#">13015000</a>	Gros Ventre R at Zenith WY**	\$640		\$970
<a href="#">13016305</a>	Granite Cr ab Granite Creek Supplemental nr Moose WY	\$1,060		\$1,590
<a href="#">13016450</a>	Fish Cr at Wilson WY***	\$1,060		\$1,590
<a href="#">13018300</a>	Cache Cr nr Jackson WY****		\$2,650	
<a href="#">13018350</a>	Flat Cr bel Cache Cr nr Jackson WY***	\$1,060		\$1,590
<a href="#">13018750</a>	Snake R bel Flat Cr nr Jackson WY	\$1,060		\$1,590

**Annual Water Temperature SUBTOTAL** USGS: \$12,940    USGS-NWQN: \$2,650    TCD: \$19,430

<b>USGS</b>	<b>TCD</b>
<b>\$15,590</b>	<b>\$19,430</b>

**Water Temperature TOTAL**

Performance Period  
 Annual: Oct 1 2018 through Sep 30 2019 (data collection)

Funding Period  
 Oct 1 2018 through Sep 30 2019

Status

Notes  
 \* Apr-Sep water temperature funded through separate agreement  
 \*\* Streamgage only operated Apr-Sep  
 \*\*\* Funding ended Sep 30 2018  
 \*\*\*\* Existing water temperature funded through USGS National Water Quality Network



## EcoCompass Essay: Water

Teton Conservation District: Carlin Girard (01/29/2018)

In Teton County WY, water is an abundant natural resource. Streams originating in Teton County form the headwaters of many of the largest waterbodies in the country, including the Columbia, Colorado and even the Mississippi River. Much of the water within the County is protected by virtue of originating on Park lands, or in remote high elevation wilderness areas. This image of pristine high alpine streams and rivers flowing in and through the Valley, coupled with water abundance has created local perception that water within Teton County is immune from many of the problems facing the rest of the country. Unfortunately, this perception paints a naïve and incomplete picture of the reality surrounding water quality within Teton County. Robust data collection on the private lands of Teton County has demonstrated the toll human development is taking on our water resources.

The Teton Conservation District (TCD), a local scale natural resource agency, is actively working on a wide array of water related environmental and human health issues. Our challenge is to maintain the high standard for stewardship commonly held in Jackson Hole. TCD also serves as a partnering agency, collaborating extensively with the United States Geological Survey and the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality (WDEQ) to monitor local water quality and aquatic ecosystem health. Through this work, TCD has collected a large body of physical, chemical and biological data indicating that the residents and visitors of Teton County, and the infrastructure we all rely upon has had a negative impact on our aquatic ecosystem.

One of the primary biological indicators TCD and its partners use to assess aquatic ecosystem health are aquatic macroinvertebrates- bugs that live in the water. The high diversity of invertebrates found in streams and rivers have adapted to fill the many niches provided by different stream habitats and available food resources. And, they truly are diverse- among bug samples collected from both Flat and Fish Creeks, a square meter of stream bed averages 36 unique macroinvertebrate taxa (genetically unique kinds of macroinvertebrates). The species assemblage that is found within that square meter of stream is strongly indicative of conditions found at that site. For instance, many aquatic macroinvertebrates have very narrow tolerances for pollutants, to the extent that their presence or absence can even indicate specific types of pollution. Aquatic macroinvertebrate sample results integrate the effects of a variety of watershed conditions over time. One of the most common aquatic macroinvertebrate indicators used to evaluate water quality, and ecosystem and watershed health is the diversity within the insect Orders: Ephemeroptera (Mayflies), Plecoptera (Caddisflies) and Tricoptera (Stoneflies). This metric is commonly referred to as EPT Richness, an acronym using the first letters from the Order names. EPT species are used because they are known to be sensitive to human disturbance, such as sediment and chemical contamination.

Within the Town of Jackson, aquatic macroinvertebrate samples have been used to quantify the level of ecological degradation that has occurred from habitat alteration and run-off from the surrounding impervious surfaces. Run-off from developed areas, also called stormwater runoff, has contributed to above normal suspended sediment concentrations in Flat Creek, which has led to decreased diversity of EPT taxa. Aquatic macroinvertebrate sampling translates directly from the sediment load that has polluted our water and stream bed to ecological effects. The results from sediment and invertebrate sampling prompted the WDEQ to designate the aquatic life in the reach of Flat Creek in and below the Town of Jackson as 'impaired'. But, the current trend of increasing EPT richness may be showing that the large efforts of local partners to reduce stormwater pollution may also be helping.

An emerging issue on the west side of the Snake River (the Westbank), nutrient contamination, is beginning to alter biological communities in Fish Creek. Nutrients in the Fish Creek watershed are being contributed by residential landscaping, human wastewater and livestock are causing nuisance levels of algae growth. When algae begin to proliferate in a stream system, the aquatic insect assemblage shifts away from the EPT taxa commonly found in our local waterways, towards herbivorous insects that eat algae. Nationally, nutrient enrichment, also known as eutrophication, first became problematic in ocean estuaries of large river systems. In recent years, eutrophication has quickly become a local Jackson Hole issue. Eutrophication can cause fish kills when prolific algae dies, and in the process, removes oxygen from the water column. The Wind River, Henry's Lake and Island Park Reservoir have all experienced large fish kills in very recent years. The nutrient issues we are seeing in Fish Creek are a warning flag of things to come. Thankfully, these warning are being heeded, and a stakeholder group has convened, and as a collaboration, began taking meaningful actions towards nutrient reduction in our communities.

The protection of water quality and aquatic ecosystem health has significant support from everyone in Jackson Hole, as well as from the vision of the Teton County Comprehensive Plan. Ecologically, waterways within the developable land in Jackson Hole are buffered by the high level of connectivity they share with extremely high-quality aquatic ecosystems that surround them. For example, both Fish Creek and Flat Creek are suffering from human caused water quality issues. Yet, in the Town of Wilson or the Town of Jackson the presence of an intact native fish assemblage, river otters, great blue heron and beavers demonstrate the high level of ecosystem health that is still found throughout Teton County, Wyoming. Overall, the aquatic ecosystem in Jackson Hole remains robust. In other places, it is not uncommon for streams to suffer degradation to the point that they no longer respond to extensive, and even mandated mitigation actions. The streams in Jackson Hole have not reached that point, and at this early stage, improvement remains a worthwhile investment of time and resources.

Still, the threats remain. Teton County residents, businesses, and public servants have work to do. While the focus of this essay is on the health of aquatic ecosystems, water resource issues are also affecting human health. Some water quality issues will continue to get worse as our residential and tourist populations increase. Wastewater effluent already contaminates drinking water wells in isolated instances throughout the County, and especially in certain areas, like Hoback Junction. The prolific groundwater that flows just beneath our feet, our vehicles, and our leach fields not only supports our aquatic ecosystem, but also our personal drinking water. To simply maintain the level of contamination we currently generate, we must decrease our contaminant load as our population and visitation increases.

The type of water quality issues in Teton County are, for the most part, the most common water resource issues nation-wide. The community's personal and collective prioritization of environmental stewardship has not enabled us to avoid these pitfalls. Water resources need to be protected at multiple scales. Our municipalities hold a high level of responsibility, guiding our development to protect our shared natural resources. But, as individuals we all need to take part. There are simple steps we all can take to lessen our impact. For example, our landscaping practices need to change. The 'out of sight, out of mind' approach we have towards human wastewater treatment needs to end. We need to minimize food waste, coffee grounds, chemicals and drugs we put down our drains. We need to store our snow away from streams.

A coalition of water resource agencies and not-for-profits are joining forces to help spread the word about lessening our impact on water quality. This spring, each person should consider adopting landscaping Best Management Practices as described in Jackson Hole's forthcoming 'Trout Friendly Landscaping Program.' As a community, we can do a much better job of protecting the water resources and aquatic ecosystems we cherish and use. Your help is needed to initiate personal actions, and to look to our community leadership to take progressive, meaningful steps towards protecting and improving our water

resources. The Teton Conservation District will be there to constructively partner with everyone, including you, to ensure success.

Aquatic ecosystems on public lands get a +9.5 overall score for health. In many cases, they remain intact highly functional, and protections are in place to keep them that way.

Aquatic ecosystems on private lands get a +5.5 overall score for health. Our vision for continued growth does not have a coinciding plan that caps our negative effects to water resources and aquatic ecosystems. There are local examples of successful improvements to aquatic ecosystem health, and inversely examples of local continued degradation. This will ultimately lead to the degradation of our community resources and values. A community-wide approach is needed to make substantive improvements. Significant motivation, support and planning towards a community-wide approach is underway and is building momentum.

DRAFT

Re: **Karns Meadow Development Proposal**

February 20, 2018

Mayor Pete Muldoon and Councilmen  
Town of Jackson

Submitted electronically: Council@jacksonwy.gov

Dear Mayor and Councilmen,

The Flat Creek Water Improvement District Board of Directors (FCWID) would like to share with you the following insights regarding Karns Meadow and Flat Creek. We hope that we can be of assistance during your efforts to plan the future of Karns Meadow.

The FCWID was formed in late in 2014 with the mission to “*...explore and implement ways to prevent damage to private property due to winter flooding of Flat Creek ... while maintaining and improving water and habitat quality within the stream corridor.*” To fulfill this mission, we have been working closely with the Town of Jackson, Teton Conservation District, private contractors and the landowners along the creek.

The FCWID recognizes the Karns Meadow stretch of Flat Creek as the most natural segment within the District’s boundaries, and within all of Jackson. Part of its natural value is witnessed in its ability to accommodate winter flooding by “storing” significant water (in the form of ice) which during the spring melt, enhances the riparian community beyond the reach of the creek itself.

In addition, recent mitigation and habitat enhancement efforts have produced noticeable improvements to water quality and fisheries habitat. They have also contributed to the overall increase in the vitality of the meadow’s riparian and willow-shrub communities. For example, the construction of the storm water retention ponds in the southeastern portion of the meadow along with their meandering outlet streams have raised the ground water levels in that portion of the meadow which in turn has stimulated willow production. Second, the installation of rock weirs have created pooling, resulting in a rise in the surrounding ground water table again, contributing to improved health of the adjacent willow community.

Recognizing the success of the recent mitigation efforts, the Town of Jackson went to great effort to successfully argue to maintain these structures when FEMA’s preference was to have them removed.

In all, the FCWID views the Karns Meadow portion of Flat Creek as an asset to the community, a benefit to its surrounding habitats and a positive factor in our efforts to minimize the detrimental aspects of winter icing and subsequent flooding that threatens downstream private property. To maintain these positive aspects of the work already completed in Flat Creek and to assist you with your long-term planning efforts for the meadow, we offer you our assistance and whatever information our research consultants have gathered thus far.

In closing, we wish you well in your planning process and ask that whenever possible the FCWID be kept informed of the decision-making process, the work time-lines and pertinent events as you move forward.

Respectfully,

Bill Wotkyns  
Flat Creek Water Improvement District Board President  
[bill@wotkyns.com](mailto:bill@wotkyns.com)



[www.tetonwyo.org](http://www.tetonwyo.org)

Mark Newcomb, Chair  
Natalia D. Macker, Vice Chair  
Greg Epstein  
Smokey Rhea  
Paul Vogelheim

PO Box 3594  
200 South Willow Street  
Jackson, Wyoming 83001

ph: 307.733.8094  
fax: 307.733.4451

February 20, 2018

The Honorable Liz Cheney  
2120 Capital Avenue Suite 8005  
Cheyenne, WY 82002

Re: H.R. 4697

Congresswoman Cheney,

As you know, Teton County is home to some of our nation's most stunning and iconic natural resources, and these resources are a critical component of the quality of life in Teton County, as well as extremely important drivers of our local and regional economy. Aside from the incredible recreational value of these assets, they provide critical wildlife habitat and ecological value, as well.

In 2012, our community adopted the Jackson/Teton County Comprehensive Plan. This plan was crafted with extensive outreach and effort and is a testament to the level of engagement of Teton County residents and stakeholders. Focused on ecosystem stewardship, growth management, and quality of life, the vision statement of the plan is to "Preserve and protect the area's ecosystem in order to ensure a healthy environment, community, and economy for current and future generations." This plan and vision guide all our efforts, including the management of public lands.

Teton County's Wyoming Public Lands Initiative (WPLI) committee has been diligently working to find a balance between access, use and environmental protection on our County's public lands. An incredible amount of work has gone into determining the appropriate type and amount of human traffic and congestion and the associated effects on game populations, fisheries, and critical habitats.

We are concerned that H.R. 4697 does not adequately incorporate the local knowledge and efforts that are embedded in the WPLI process. Our goal is to facilitate the efficient and responsible management of our public lands in a way that reflects local values and consensus as much as possible.

We believe a more long-lasting, durable resolution to the question of how to manage public lands in Teton County - lands that include substantial portions of the Palisades and Shoal Creek Wilderness Study Areas - will be generated by the WPLI committee. We believe this process will lead to a resolution rooted in consensus and compromise that will honor the perspectives and interests of all stakeholders, and ultimately provide the highest benefit for our community. Please find the enclosed January 12, 2018 letter to the Wyoming County Commissioners Association from 18 members of our WPLI committee. The County Commission does not have a position for or against the specific provisions of H.R. 4697 at this time. We do believe the introduction of this bill seriously discourages our community effort. We respectfully request that you withdraw this bill and let the WPLI process provide a local community recommendation.





[www.tetonwyo.org](http://www.tetonwyo.org)

With gratitude for your hard work and efforts on behalf of Teton County and Wyoming,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mark Newcomb, Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Smokey Rhea

\_\_\_\_\_  
Natalia D. Macker, Vice Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Paul Vogelheim

\_\_\_\_\_  
Greg Epstein

Cc: Senator Mike Enzi  
Senator John Barasso  
Pete Obermueller, Executive Director, WCCA  
Rob Hendry, President, WCCA

Attachment: Wyoming Public Lands Initiative letter to Wyoming County  
Commissioners Association

January 12, 2018

Mr. Pete Obermueller  
408 W. 23<sup>rd</sup> Street  
Cheyenne, WY 82001

Dear Mr. Obermueller,

As members of the citizen advisory group for the Wyoming Public Lands Initiative (WPLI) in Teton County, we write to ask for your help in encouraging other organizations and elected officials to give the WPLI process time and space to complete its work. We are aware that outside actions—e.g. a lawsuit about winter travel rules, or Representative Cheney’s proposed WSA bills—could have some impact on the work our advisory group has invested in the Wyoming County Commission Association’s initiative. We believe additional WCCA leadership can strengthen the resolve of citizens participating in these county-specific groups and increase the likelihood of success; we ask that WCCA communicate in writing or in person, to Representative Cheney and perhaps others, encouraging them to await the outcome of the WPLI process.

Nearly two years ago, the WCCA invited any interested county to develop and oversee a multi-year, collaborative process in which diverse stakeholders would work together in good faith toward a set of consensus recommendations to address future management of wilderness study areas, and any other public lands in that county. The WCCA developed guidelines and encouraged counties to consider best practices that, if adopted, offered the best chance of success for the citizens and counties involved. No single interest group was to have any more influence than any other.

In Teton County, our commissioners have faithfully adhered to all of the WCCA’s guidelines. They solicited applications, conducted interviews, selected some twenty residents to participate in its process, and committed to spending a significant amount of money for professional facilitation.

Our group first met in October 2016. Since this initial meeting 16 months ago, we have made assumptions about one another that at times have led to misunderstandings and mistrust. We have been frustrated and impatient with the process, and uncertain whether it was worthwhile. We have been worried that what we value will be lost. But recently it feels like we’re beginning to make progress. Our conversations of late have been honest and challenging. We’re starting to trust each other more. We continue to defend the process to our constituencies, some of whom accuse us of selling out just because we agreed to participate in the initiative at all. None of this is easy, but the potential to arrive at a consensus set of recommendations for public lands in our county is a worthwhile goal.

It is because we all love our public lands—and love how we use and experience them—that we remain committed to the process. We will continue to work diligently not only in the formal

meetings, but also outside of the meetings in ongoing conversations with each other and our constituents to try to find consensus on recommendations for future management of Palisades and Shoal Creek WSAs, and other public lands in Teton County.

We realize you have no control over the actions of various interest groups—whether they be wilderness advocates or snow machine enthusiasts—and you have no control over Representative Cheney’s decision to introduce legislation. But WCCA’s role cannot be overstated.

We ask for your leadership and support in defending the process you initiated. We look to the WCCA to advocate a fair process, one that provides adequate time for groups to come to consensus. We ask that no stakeholder group be singled out or disparaged. We ask you to communicate the challenges, obstacles and small successes being made in counties across the state to any interested parties, including Representative Cheney. These steps can unite and empower the citizens involved, and will support us in our desire to reach recommendations all stakeholders can support.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Mike Brennan (general public)  
Gregory Buchko (summer motorized recreation)  
Amanda Carey (mountain bike recreation)  
Lloyd Dorsey (national conservation)  
Bruce Hayse (general public)  
John Heberger, Jr. (oil and gas)  
Steve Kilpatrick (wildlife/sportsmen)  
Lisa McGee (statewide conservation)  
Abby Moore (general public)  
Mike Mielke (winter motorized recreation)  
Don Saner (backcountry horsemen)  
Rob Shaul (general public)  
Dan Smitherman (national conservation)  
Dave Sollitt (tourism)  
Harry Statter (firewise)  
Siva Sundaresan (regional conservation)  
Tom Turiano (non-motorized recreation)  
Jim Woodmency (heli-skiing)