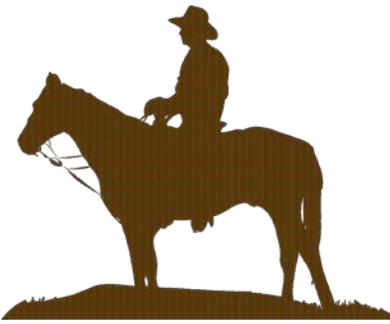


Trail News

January 22, 2015

From the *Meeteetse Conservation District*

P.O. Box 237 • 1906 State Street • Meeteetse, WY 82433
307-868-2484 • Fax 307-868-2489 • mcd@tctwest.net • www.meeteetsecd-wy.gov



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NRCS:

Rory Karhu, *District Conservationist*



USDA Reminds Producers of Upcoming Livestock Disaster Assistance Deadline

Livestock producers are reminded that the Jan. 30, 2015, deadline to request assistance for losses suffered from Oct. 1, 2011 through Dec. 31, 2014, is fast approaching. Applications for the Livestock Indemnity Program and the Livestock Forage Disaster Program, were restored by the 2014 Farm Bill and resumed in April 2014.

Local FSA county offices can provide additional information on the types of records producers will need to apply for assistance. Producers are encouraged to contact their county office ahead of time to schedule an appointment. Producers who already have appointments don't need to take any additional action to meet the deadline. FSA offices can be found at <http://offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app>. To learn more about these FSA disaster programs, visit: www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/webapp?area=home&subject=diap&topic=landing



Upcoming Public Information Meetings: The Black-Footed Ferret & Proposed 10(j) Rule in WY

The first meeting will be held in Cheyenne ~ Monday, Jan. 26, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.
WY Game & Fish Dept. Headquarters - 5400 Bishop Blvd.

Scheduled Meetings: Feb. 3, 7 p.m., Gillette ~~~ **Feb. 10, 7 p.m., Cody** ~~~ Feb. 24, 7 p.m., Green River

The Fish and Wildlife Service is proposing to designate black-footed ferrets in Wyoming as a nonessential-experimental population under section 10(j) of the Endangered Species Act. This approach provides increased management flexibility for reintroductions. The regulatory relief and the management flexibility of a 10(j) rule should facilitate new reintroductions of the black-footed ferret in Wyoming, thereby contributing significantly to the conservation and recovery of one of the most imperiled mammals in North America. When species are reintroduced as nonessential populations, both the take prohibitions and consultation requirements are relaxed, easing regulatory burden associated with endangered species. The Service and the Wyoming Game and Fish Department will conduct a number of public information meetings throughout the state to discuss the history of ferret management in Wyoming and the proposed 10(j) rule for ferrets in Wyoming.



Wyoming Livestock Board Chapters 12, 23, & 16, Chapter 1 Rabies rules Available For Comment

The Wyoming Livestock Board's Chapters 12, 23, 16 and Chapter 1 Rabies Rules are now available for public comment. To read or download copies, visit their website located at:

<http://wlsb.state.wy.us/rules.htm> or contact the MCD office.



***** NOTICE – REQUEST FOR BIDS *****

Sealed Bids will be received by the Meeteetse Conservation District, PO Box 237, Meeteetse, WY 82433 until 5:00pm, Monday, February 9th, 2015, for the purchase of four (4) MCD-owned lots located in the Original Town of Meeteetse, WY, Lots 9, 10, 11 & 12, Blk. 4 (3500 SF EA). Details are available at the MCD office 307-868-2484. The MCD Board of Supervisors reserves the right to reject any and all bids and waive irregularities.

--- What Conservation Compliance means to Your Operation ---

Highly Erodible Land Conservation and Wetland Conservation provisions aim to reduce soil loss on erosion-prone lands and to protect wetlands for the multiple benefits they provide. These provisions apply to all land that is considered highly erodible or a wetland and that is owned or farmed by persons voluntarily participating in USDA programs (unless USDA determines an exemption). NRCS will hold two more outreach sessions on this topic:

- **Jan. 26**, 10 a.m. to noon, Main Fire Station community room, **Gillette**
- **Jan. 27**, 10 a.m. to noon, First State Bank conference room, **Wheatland**

For more information on conservation compliance, visit the NRCS website at:

<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detailfull/national/programs/farmbill/?cid=stelprdb1257899>

IWJV Announces ConocoPhillips Project Funding for Sage Grouse Habitat Conservation

Virgil Moore, director of Idaho Department of Fish and Game, Noreen Walsh, mountain-prairie regional director for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and management board members of the IntermountainWest Joint Venture (IWJV) announced that ConocoPhillips Company is providing \$1 million to support implementation of the Sage Grouse Initiative and benefit sage grouse conservation projects in the West through 2019. "Conservation of the sage-steppe ecosystem is a critical goal in the western states," said Michael Hatfield, vice president, ConocoPhillips Rockies Business Unit. "ConocoPhillips believes that the IWJV, in collaboration with USFWS and the National Resources Conservation Service effectively accomplish this conservation objective through science-based, voluntary partnerships with states, landowners and NGOs." For the rest of the story, follow the link to:



<http://campaign.djcase.com/t/ViewEmail/r/0E5FFC9CC309A00C2540EF23F30FEDED/1D45B3A4D14BF968A2432AF2E34A2A5F>



University of Wyoming Extension, Big Horn County Office
PO Box 587 • 4782 Highway 310 • Greybull, WY 82426
(307) 765-2868 • fax (307) 765-2235 • maep@uwyo.edu

There are many upcoming educational programs that may be of interest. If you have any questions about these events please contact me. In addition, if you have ideas for future educational events, I would love to hear from you! See below* for a list of what is coming up and feel free to contact our office at 307-765-2868.

Wyoming – NRCS

Monday Morning Snow Report

Report #11

Jan. 19th, 2015



Good morning everyone: this is the 11th Monday Snow

Report for the 2014-2015 snow season. Last year at this time, the state median was 121%, with a low of 79% and a high of 157%.

This year, the state median is 101%, with a low of 79% and a high of 135% of median. A report and map showing SWE

percentages for the state is at: www.wrds.uwyo.edu/wrds/nrcs/nrcs.html". Go to: www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov/normals/median_average.htm

for median. For more information, contact: Lee Hackleman or Ken Von Buettner (307) 233-6744, 6743

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

-----Reminders and Updates-----

*Feb 3rd ~ 8:00am – noon - Pesticide Applicator Trainings – Worland Community Center during WESTI Ag Days

*Feb 3rd and 4th ~ WESTI Ag Days - Worland Community Center

*Feb 9th ~ 5:30pm-8:30pm - Annie's Project: Educational program for Women in Agriculture - Washakie County Ext Ofc

February 11th ~ 12:00 Noon – MCD Regular Board Meeting, 1906 State Street, Meeteetse

*Feb 11th & 12th ~ 10:00am – 4:00pm - Farm & Ranch Days ~ County Armory Building on the Fairgrounds in So. Riverton

*Feb 18th ~ 8:30am-noon – Pesticide Applicator Training – Big Horn County Weed & Pest office, Greybull

*Feb 19th ~ 8:30am-noon – Pesticide Applicator Training – Park County Weed & Pest in Ralston

*Feb 25th ~ 8:30am-noon – Pesticide Applicator Training – Lovell Annex

Happy Trails to You! Bernie, Blaise, Ginny, & Steffen