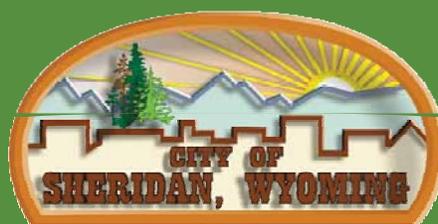




# “South Park” Concept Master Plan

A Community Visioning Process

August 21, 2009



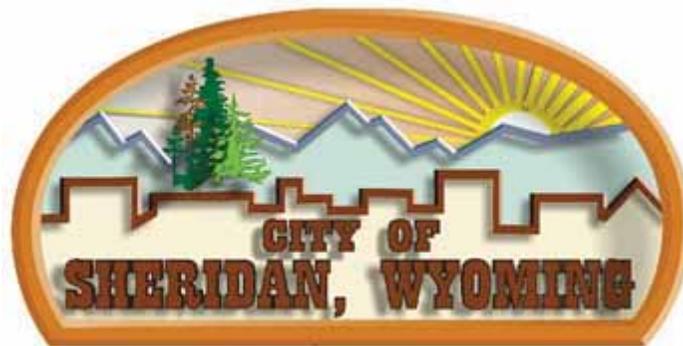




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A Community Visioning Process

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# Acknowledgements

## Project Steering Committee

- Bruce Pryde, Chairman - Transportation Alternatives Coalition (TRAC)
- Bill Bradshaw and Paul Mavrakis – Wyoming Game & Fish Dept.
- Richard Bridger - Sheridan Recreation District
- Dave Engels - Entech, Inc.
- Jeff Foster and Catherine Johnson - RENEW
- Edith Heyward
- Emily Emond - Holy Name School
- Patricia Ellis - Fort MacKenzie High School/The Wright Place
- Bob Krumm
- Doug and Pam Moore - Colony South Residents
- Ken Mellinger - Colony South Resident
- Jim Wilson - TRAC
- Tod Windsor - Colony South Resident

## City Staff

- Dave Kinskey, Mayor
- Nic Bateson, Public Works Director
- Robert Briggs, City Planner
- Tom O'Leary, Engineering Project Manager
- Lane Thompson, City Engineer



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## Introduction

In November 2008, the City of Sheridan acquired a 40+-acre undeveloped property along Little Goose Creek between Sheltered Acres Park to the north and Brundage Lane to the south. The vast majority of the property lies within a natural flood plain immediately prior to the start of the Sheridan flood control channel, making the property unsuitable for most types of development without significant impact to the overall flood control system.

In March 2009, the City of Sheridan commissioned a public outreach and visioning process to identify potential development of a new City park on the purchased property. This public process was an outgrowth of two related overarching processes, the North Main Master Plan and the Parks and Recreation Master Plan.



The Parks and Recreation (P&R) Master Plan referred to the purchased property as the “South Park Open Space” and identified it as a potential “natural area” within the overall context of the P&R Master Plan. The P&R Master Plan identifies a natural area as a site “primarily left in a natural state and intended for nature-oriented leisure activities...natural areas may serve as trail corridors, and generally support only passive recreation. Active recreation is usually a secondary use.”

The Sheridan Pathways Master Plan identifies a pathway connection in the area of the purchased property as a “Tier 1”, or high priority, project.

For purposes of this public outreach and visioning process, the purchased property was given the working title “South Park,” and is referred to as such throughout this report.

This report is intended to provide the Sheridan City Council and staff with:

- An understanding of public perspectives regarding South Park uses and design; and
- Recommendations for park usage, enhancements, conceptual design, potential funding sources, and project prioritization.



## Project Overview

### Key Stakeholders

The following entities have ownership, maintenance, access, educational, or related interests in the area currently known as “South Park”:

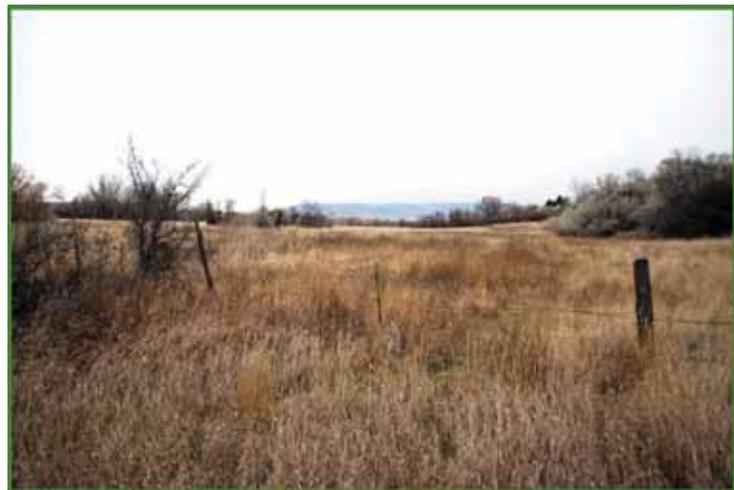
- City of Sheridan
- Transportation Alternatives Coalition (TRAC)
- Sheridan County School District #2
- Colony South Subdivision Residents
- Rehabilitation Enterprises of Northeastern Wyoming (RENEW)

These key stakeholders contributed information, guidance and suggestions throughout the public visioning process.

### Existing Facility



**"South Park"**



**South Park looking south from Colony South Open Space**

South Park is comprised of more than forty contiguous and undeveloped acres situated entirely within the City of Sheridan limits. The site currently supports a wide range of wildlife, including mule and whitetail deer, wild turkeys, pheasant, a variety of ducks, and literally dozens of species of birds. Habitat varies from upland grasses to stream bank sedges and from wetlands to active riparian areas. While a portion of the property has been used for livestock grazing in the past, those activities have now ceased and it is anticipated that the grazed area will quickly return to its natural state.

South Park is naturally bounded on the east by Little Goose Creek and on the west by a steep slope below the Colony South Subdivision. To the north lies the Colony South Open Space, a public area designated as a part of the subdivision plat, and to the south lies a small plot of private land and Brundage Lane. The City pathway system currently ends at Sheltered Acres Park,



just north of the Colony South Open Space. Access to the property on the south end is via an access easement off Brundage Lane, through the aforementioned private land.

Nearly one mile of Little Goose Creek passes through the property. The City of Sheridan flood control channel begins where Little Goose Creek flows into Sheltered Acres Park, and the South Park area is almost entirely comprised of active flood plain. Much of the property lies underwater for a portion of the year. Permanent structures of any kind erected on the property could have a direct impact on flood plain capacity and flow.

## Opportunity

### Natural Park

Because of its size, condition and location, South Park presents a unique opportunity to promote appreciation and protection of wildlife and natural habitat. If preserved as a natural park, South Park would nearly double the amount of natural area acreage included within the community's parks inventory.

### Learning Landscapes and Habitat Interpretation

The relatively undisturbed nature of the property, as well as the diversity of wildlife and habitat present on the site, makes it ideal for incorporation into learning landscapes and habitat interpretation curriculum at the local schools.

### Vegetation Enhancement

In recent years, invasive species such as Russian olive have begun to encroach into the area. Management of the property as a natural park would allow such species to be managed or eradicated to enhance wildlife habitat and protect native species.

### Fisheries Enhancement

Little Goose Creek flows through the South Park area and has the potential to provide significant fisheries, recreational, and riparian opportunities. There are currently reaches along Little Goose Creek within the park area where excessive lateral migration of the stream is causing active bank erosion and excess sediment input to the system. This disequilibrium is limiting the fisheries habitat by filling pools and depositing fine sediments over the channel bed material. There are multiple opportunities for stream channel stabilization and enhancement that would meet multiple goals such as stream stability, increasing fish habitat, riparian stability and enhancement, improved aesthetics and sounds of moving water, and water quality improvements.



# Public Involvement Process

## Steering Committee

Working with City of Sheridan staff and the Chairman of the Transportation Alternatives Coalition (TRAC), the project team invited key stakeholders to participate in the visioning process as members of a project steering committee. The steering committee provided oversight and feedback throughout the public process, attending public workshops, reviewing design drawings and recommendations, and developing solutions to address conflicting recommendations for development or use of the property.

## Outreach Methods

A range of outreach methods were used to notify the community about project-related events and to encourage public comment:

### Project Web Page

Throughout the visioning process, the project team maintained a web page on the City of Sheridan web site. Public comments received throughout the process were updated on the web page as received so that community members could see what their friends and neighbors were saying about their vision for South Park. Conceptual design drawings were posted for review as they became available, as was a summary of this report as presented to City Council in late June. An email link to City staff allowed web page visitors to submit additional comments and suggestions, which were then posted to the project web page.

### Public Workshops

The project steering committee hosted two workshops to gather public input into potential improvements or enhancements to South Park. Notification of these workshops was advertised in the Sheridan Press and placed on the community calendar for two weeks prior to the events. Postcard notification was sent to mailing addresses surrounding the proposed park area. Media coverage was good for all public workshop events.

Using an open dialogue format, participants were asked the following questions to prompt discussion and brainstorming:

- What kinds of recreational uses would you like to see in the previously undeveloped “South Park” area?
- What kinds of educational uses do you think would be appropriate for the area?
- How would you propose to incorporate the recreational and educational uses you have described while still preserving the South Park area as an active flood plain?
- The South Park area is home to a variety of wildlife species. How would you propose to accommodate additional recreational and educational uses while maintaining wildlife habitat?
- What kinds of recreational uses would you *not* like to see in the South Park area?



Workshop participants were asked to share their comments with the group, and comments were written on large posters for all to see and respond to.

Workshop comments were posted to the project web page for public review within 48 hours of each meeting.

### Compilation of Public Comment

Public comment received at the public workshops were compiled into matrices by topic to identify areas of agreement and to assess where additional work was needed to resolve conflicting uses or interests. The matrix of comments received at the public workshops is included in Appendix A to this report. Individual comments received through the project web page are included as Appendix B.

### Conceptual Design Drawings

The project team conducted a walk-through of the South Park area to assess current conditions and to take photos of the area for use in the development of concept drawings to visually represent input received from the public. The team endeavored to incorporate public comments and suggestions for park features into the concept drawings wherever practicable, working with the steering committee and key stakeholders to resolve conflicting priorities.

### Public Design Workshop

Upon completion of the initial draft of the concept drawings, a public design workshop was held to present the drawings and facilitate their revision as necessary to accurately reflect the community's desires for the park. Workshop participants worked in breakout groups to edit the drawings and compile a list of additional comments and suggested revisions. The concept drawings were then revised for incorporation into this report. Comments received during the concept design review process are included in Appendix C to this report.

## Comment Summary

### Strengths

Public process participants described the primary strengths of South Park as follows:

- Large contiguous acreage
- Natural state
- Diversity of habitat
- Diversity of wildlife
- Location in southern part of community
- Little Goose Creek
- Wetland area



*Abandoned oxbow supports wetland species*



## Challenges

Primary challenges include:

- Allowing public access while preserving property in a natural state as much as possible
- Invasive species
- Topography related to potential pathway location at the north end of property
- Bank erosion along Little Goose Creek
- Access
- Vagrancy and delinquency concerns



*Streambank erosion into upland area*

## Public Process Recommendations

In general, public support was strong for improvements and enhancements in the following areas:

- Establishment of South Park as a City Park “natural area” as defined by the P&R Master Plan
- Concrete pathway north to south in accordance with Pathways Master Plan
- Concrete pathway connecting to Sheridan Avenue/RENEW via pedestrian bridge
- Gravel or bark pathway loop near oxbow area
- Unimproved “adventure trails” to access other interpretive areas
- Parking area at south end - initially gravel
- Raised boardwalk viewing platform near wetland
- Picnic pavilion and restrooms adjacent to parking area
- Outdoor classroom/interpretive nodes
- Active management of invasive species
- Bank stabilization and streambed enhancements
- Creek access at north and south ends



# Project Recommendations

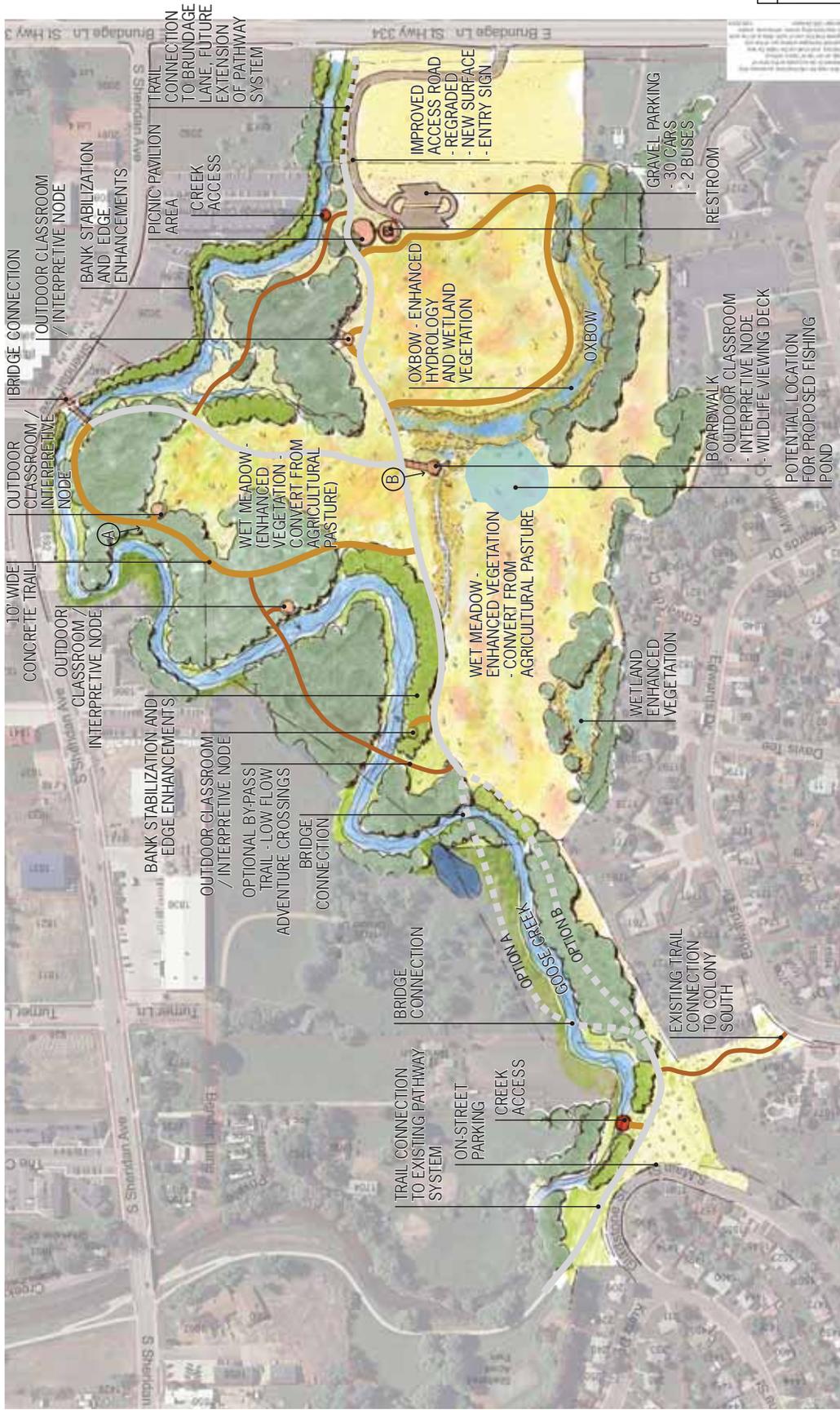
## Concept Overview

The following conceptual design drawings are intended to visually capture and combine the public comment received throughout the public visioning process. The specific location of recommended improvements will be determined through a construction design process beyond the scope of this visioning process. Alternatives have been presented for the location of some design elements, including specific locations of concrete pathways and connecting bridges. Selection of specific locations for these elements will be dependent upon several factors, including funding, neighborhood support, and right-of-way acquisition.

## Technical Considerations

There are several areas within the park in which specific criteria must be adhered to during design development, including:

- Trail access must meet ADA standards
- Flood capacity along Goose Creek must be maintained
- Diversity of habitat and wildlife must be maintained
- Permitting must be secured for any wetland or stream work, or for trail or structure placement



**LEGEND**

- 10' Concrete Trail
- 10' Gravel, Bark, or Similar Trail
- Adventure Trail



**SOUTH PARK**  
**OVERALL CONCEPT PLAN**



PROJECT: SOUTH PARK  
 DATE: 10/15/2015  
 DRAWN BY: [Name]  
 CHECKED BY: [Name]

OUTDOOR CLASSROOM WITH LOG SEATING

INTERPRETIVE NODE ON CRUSHED GRAVEL SURFACE

RIPIARIAN TREES - AUGMENT EXISTING

BOULDER WEIRS FOR HYDROLOGIC IMPROVEMENT: BANK STABILIZATION AND HABITAT

10' CONCRETE TRAIL

STREAM BANK VEGETATION ENHANCEMENTS

REMOVE MIDDLESTORY VEGETATION WHERE POSSIBLE



**SOUTH PARK**  
**VIEW LOOKING SOUTH AT NORTH END OF GOOSE CREEK (A)**

ENHANCED WETLAND VEGETATION

10' BOARDWALK WITH CURB

10' CONCRETE TRAIL

OXBOW WITH ENHANCED HYDROLOGY

COLONY SOUTH

INTERPRETIVE NODE

WETLAND MEADOW WITH ENHANCED VEGETATION, RECLAIM PROMINENCE OF PASTURE

OUTDOOR CLASSROOM WITH LOG SEATING



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## Design Elements

### Pathways and Trails

The Sheridan Pathways Master Plan calls for the concrete pathway ending at Sheltered Acres Park to extend through the South Park area, continuing on to points south. It is recommended that an ADA-compliant concrete pathway be constructed along the length of the South Park property in keeping with the design of similar concrete pathways in the existing system. Visioning process participants also recommended that a section of ADA-compliant concrete pathway be extended to the east to connect via bridge with Sheridan Avenue near the current RENEW location. This would allow persons walking on Sheridan Avenue, as well as mobility-impaired clients of RENEW, to access South Park without having to travel to the north or south entrances.

In order to preserve as the natural properties of South Park as much as possible while making the area accessible for educational and recreational uses, public process participants recommended that remaining pathways identified in the concept drawings be constructed of gravel, bark or similar materials.

A third category of trail included in the conceptual plan is “adventure trail”, which is intended to be allow adventurous persons or educators to access more remote areas of the site with minimal disruption of habitat. These adventure trails could be encouraged in the designated areas and discouraged in other areas by selective thinning of understory vegetation.

### Outdoor Classroom/Interpretive Nodes

Public comment received throughout the visioning process strongly supported the placement of classroom seating and interpretive signing at viewing points for the different types of habitat found within the property. It is recommended that these “nodes” consist of a cleared instructional space with a bark or gravel floor, with seating for 25-30 students on benches constructed of half-logs or similar natural materials. Each node should feature interpretive signing to accommodate both active (classroom) and passive (passerby) interaction.

### Wetland Enhancement and Viewing Area

Public process participants encouraged the enhancement and preservation of wetland areas within the park. Wetland areas currently exist in the center of the park and along the western edge where “spur trails” could be constructed and lead to viewing areas adjacent to the wetland areas. These areas could be used as educational nodes and as locations for bird watching, reading, and wildlife observation. In areas of stagnant standing water, opportunities may exist to increase the flow of live water through the area.

Many public process participants also supported the idea of constructing a deep water pond for fishing adjacent to the wetland area.



## Vegetation Management

Thinning and other vegetation management in South Park must be balanced with preservation of habitat to maintain viable populations of the numerous bird and wildlife species in the area. It is recommended such vegetation management be conducted in consultation with Audubon, Wyoming Game and Fish, Wyoming State Forestry, and other habitat preservation groups.

Grant opportunities for vegetation management are described in this report under “Potential Funding Sources.”

One of the most cost-effective ways to accomplish this work if no grants are available is to hire the Conservation Camp inmates from the Honor Farm in Newcastle. A combination of the work that could be completed by the Conservation Camp and grants for invasive species and defensible space (fire) would significantly lower the costs associated with this work.

The Natural Resources Conservation Service has several programs for control of noxious weeds and non-native species that can be done under agreements that typically have matches from 60/40 to 75/25.

## Little Goose Creek

Public comment received during the South Park visioning process called for bank stabilization and streambed enhancements in the area to preserve and enhance existing habitat

Enhancement of Little Goose Creek would require coordination and permitting with the US Army Corps of Engineers (COE). Permitting for this reach of Little Goose Creek would likely be done under Nationwide Permit 27 similar to the work completed in Kendrick Park in 2008 to enhance fisheries habitat, provide diverse habitat features such as pools and riffles, and improve channel and bank stability while maintaining the riparian corridor.

It is anticipated that the Downtown Sheridan Association will be retaining a firm to coordinate on behalf of the City with the COE for additional enhancement work within Big Goose Creek, Little Goose Creek, and Goose Creek in the near future. This coordination effort would serve to initiate the process of stream channel enhancement options within South Park.

Public comment also supported the establishment of creek access points at the north and south ends of South Park in order to minimize streambed traffic impacts while allowing access to kayakers, tubers and fisherpersons.



*Goose Creek in Kendrick Park as construction was completed in 2008*



These enhancements to Little Goose Creek and additional access points will provide a means for the public to utilize the creek in many ways.

## Parking

Formal parking areas will need to be developed to serve educators and recreationists using the South Park facility. Based on public comment received and estimation of park usage, it was the consensus of the project steering committee that adequate on-street parking exists for those accessing the park from the north at the junction of South Main Street and Gladstone. At the south end, however, a portion of the park property will need to be graded and improved to provide parking for 30 cars and 2 buses, as shown in the concept drawings. It is recommended that the parking lot be initially constructed of gravel or similar material so that the area could be easily reclaimed should parking become available adjacent to Brundage Lane at some point in the future.

## Picnic Pavilion and Restrooms

While public support was mixed for the installation of picnic pavilions on the property, the steering committee concluded that the construction of a picnic pavilion and restrooms near the south parking lot would help to discourage off-trail picnicking and waste disposal elsewhere on the property. It is recommended that the footprint of restrooms and picnic facilities be kept to a minimum and constructed in such a way as to minimize impact to the flood plain.

## Signing

Public support was strong for incorporating a strong interpretive element into the concept design for South Park facility to promote public appreciation and protection of wildlife and habitat. It is therefore recommended that the City of Sheridan contract a design firm to develop a series of way-finder and interpretive signs for South Park. As the need for such signing has been identified in conjunction with other planning processes such as the North Main Master Plan, the City might consider a broader scope of work that encompasses way-finder signs for the entire community.

# Implementation Steps

This report is intended to serve as an appendix to the recently completed P&R Master Plan.

In order to proceed from this public input phase to the design and permitting phase, the following action items are suggested in order of recommended priority:

1. Funding applications for specific improvements for 2010 funding cycle (DEQ 319, WWRNRF and other grant opportunities as described below)
2. Designate task force to oversee project coordination
3. Pathway connectivity and construction design
4. Work with local habitat preservation groups to coordinate smaller projects and secure available funding
5. Streambed and wetland enhancement coordination and pre-permitting



## Permitting Needs

Specific permitting will depend on the final design that is developed to incorporate the concepts in this report. The following is a summary of the permitting typically associated with various types of activities that may occur within South Park as the final design is developed.

### Wetland Enhancement, Pond Design, and Stream Channel Enhancement

Permits from the Army Corps of Engineers (COE) will be needed for any potential filling and/or dredging within the floodplain adjacent to Little Goose Creek. Depending on the project purpose, the COE may include other connected actions. All independent actions within the South Park property, such as excavation for the proposed pond, pathway fill, educational node impacts, trails, and other actions may cumulatively be included in the scope of analysis required by the COE.

A wetland mitigation area would potentially need to be designed as part of the enhancement. Some of the goals of enhancement in this area include concentrating the water flow to provide a moving water feature within the trail area and providing fishing opportunities.

Little Goose Creek inside the South Park property does not lie within the COE Flood Control Project; therefore, a Nationwide Permit 27 would likely be utilized for any enhancement work in the channel. During the construction phase, a permit for a temporary increase in turbidity may be required from the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality. Additionally, Sheridan Municipal Code for Flood Damage Prevention may need to be assessed for any design within the Flood Channel.

## Project Integration

### Parks & Recreation Master Plan

Care has been taken throughout the public visioning process to maintain consistency with the recommendations of the P&R Master plan adopted by the Sheridan City Council in May 2009. In a community survey conducted in conjunction with the P&R Master Plan, Sheridan residents identified the ability to view wildlife and wildlife habitat as an important component of the park system.

While the acquisition and limited development of South Park meets many of the goals identified in the P&R Master Plan, it most clearly accomplishes Goal No. 1.5:

“Preserve critical or unique natural features by protecting areas such as stream corridors, wildlife habitat, and wetlands.”

Specific recommendations of the P&R Master Plan as they relate to South Park are included as Appendix D to this report.



## Sheridan Pathways Master Plan

Members of the Transportation Alternatives Coalition (TRAC), which oversees implementation of the Sheridan Pathways Master Plan, played a significant role in the development of the recommendations contained in this report. Care was taken to ensure that the goals and priorities of the Pathways Master Plan were communicated to the public throughout the visioning process. The provision of this overarching framework encouraged creative dialogue and generation of solutions with regard to potential conflicts.

## Educational Curricula Integration

South Park provides a unique learning landscape opportunity congruent with conclusions of P&R Master Plan that support the development of learning landscape areas “incorporating a naturalistic design with ample space provided for both unstructured play and organized sports.”

Through this visioning process, contact has been made with all the local science teachers regarding use of this area as a living classroom. Educators serving on the project steering committee have expressed interest in working with the City of Sheridan to establish an educational outdoor environment within the park area. There are numerous grant applications available for educational purposes that could be evaluated to help establish this type of curriculum. One such program is the Clean Water Act 319 Program that is administered by the Department of Environmental Quality. This program is discussed in greater detail in the potential funding section of this report.

The very active local chapters of the Audubon Society, Ducks Unlimited, Pheasants Forever and similar habitat preservation groups present another opportunity for educational curriculum development. Funding from the national organizations for these groups could potentially be utilized to aid program development.

## Habitat Preservation Groups

Several local groups have expressed interest in being involved in the development and long-term management of the natural areas within the parks of Sheridan. South Park contains habitat for a variety of wildlife species, opening the door to potential partnerships with groups that support habitat education, preservation and rehabilitation. It would advantageous to continue to support the efforts of these groups and potentially solicit funding and support on a national level.

Habitat preservation groups with whom collaborative partnerships might be formed with regard to the South Park property include, but are not limited to:

- Wyoming Game & Fish
- Sheridan Wildlife Alliance for Youth (SWAY)
- Ducks Unlimited
- Pheasants Forever
- Trout Unlimited
- The Audubon Society
- National Wild Turkey Federation



## Cost Estimate

Cost estimates for this project will be dependent upon specific alternatives selected for pathway location. The project team is working with City staff to identify specific items for cost estimating.

## Potential Funding Sources

### Stream and Wetland Enhancements

#### Wyoming Wildlife and Natural Resources Trust Fund

The Wyoming Wildlife and Natural Resources Trust Fund (WWNRTF) presents a unique opportunity for funding of the wetland, oxbow, vegetation, and stream enhancement concepts in South Park. Funded by interest earned on a permanent account, donations, and legislative appropriation, the purpose of the program is to enhance and conserve wildlife habitat and natural resource values throughout the state. Any project designed to improve wildlife habitat or natural resource values is eligible for funding. The Kendrick Park Phase I Stream Enhancement Project was partially funded through the WWNRTF.

One of the goals of the WWNRTF is the improvement and maintenance of aquatic habitats, including wetland creation or enhancement, stream restoration, water management or other methods. Expansion of stream enhancement within the City of Sheridan would likely be largely supported by the WWNRTF.

Application deadlines are March 31 and September 30 of each year. It is recommended that the City of Sheridan initiate the application process in the near future in order to meet the September 30th deadline for this year.

Application guidelines for WWNRTF funding are described in detail in Appendix E to this report.

#### Wyoming DEQ 319 Program

The Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality administers a Nonpoint Source Pollution Control (Section 319) Fund Program. Under Section 319 of the federal Clean Water Act, funds can be made available to State and local agencies, non-profit organizations, and private individuals to deliver a product having outcomes and targets that will result in reducing the impacts of nonpoint source pollution and improving water quality.

The Sheridan County Conservation District (SCCD) has implemented numerous projects to provide a basis for a watershed assessment for Goose Creek. The watershed assessment becomes the foundation for a successful watershed planning effort. Watershed planning is a locally led, voluntary, and dynamic process driven by the expectations of the stakeholders and developed through active, public participation. The planning process builds upon the education efforts initiated with the assessment and uses voluntary, incentive-based measures developed and applied locally.



As part of overall watershed planning, Little Goose Creek through South Park could play a substantial role in maintaining water quality and decreasing non point source pollution. Because the work already undertaken by the SCCD has established the overall water quality and impairments within Goose Creek, a DEQ 319 grant application from the City of Sheridan would likely meet the vision of the Wyoming Nonpoint Source Program. The program goal is to sponsor projects that reduce or eliminate nonpoint source pollution in threatened, impaired, and high quality waters of the state so that all designated uses are fully supported for the benefit of all Wyoming citizens.

An entire description and required criteria for proposals is included in Appendix F to this report.

## Vegetation Thinning and Enhancement

### Western Wildland Urban Interface Grant

The Western Wildland Urban Interface Grant focuses on hazard fuel reduction, information and education, and community and homeowner action. The Johnson County Fire District has been working under this grant in Buffalo and has completed thinning along Clear Creek above and through town. Jim Shell with the Fire District is willing to offer advice with regard to similar thinning along Little Goose Creek in South Park. The criteria, instructions, and application for the 2010 Western Wildland Urban Interface Grant Program are attached as Appendix G to this report. Grant funding ranges from a 50/50 match to a 60/40 match if the county is involved.

Prior to application for a WWUI grant, the application must be submitted to the Wyoming State Forestry Division in Cheyenne for review. Locally, State Forestry representative Paul Wright is based in Buffalo and has offered to conduct a walk-through of “South Park” and provide an assessment. He is also willing to speak to the City Council on thinning and funding options. This work would need to be coordinated with the Sheridan County Fire Coordinator, Bill Biastock, who may have Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) needed to apply for the grants.

## Additional Potential Funding Sources

### National Park Service - Land & Water Conservation Fund

The NPS website describes the LWCF program as providing “matching grants to States and local governments for the acquisition and development of public outdoor recreation areas and facilities. The program is intended to create and maintain a nationwide legacy of high quality recreation areas and facilities and to stimulate non-federal investments in the protection and maintenance of recreation resources across the United States.”

Grant types include planning grants to states to develop a Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, acquisition grants for the acquisition of lands or interests in land, development or redevelopment grants to enhance projects with new or rebuilt recreation facilities, or combination grants which include both acquisition and site development.



Sheridan County has received numerous grants under this program dating back to a 1967 grant for the Sheridan County Fairgrounds.

### National Park Service - Other Programs

The National Park Service also has programs for Conservation and Outdoor Recreation, Rivers and Trails, and National Trails System that may be sources for additional funding and/or planning assistance. These programs are described on the NPS website (<http://www.nps.gov/ncrc/programs>).

### Habitat Preservation Groups

The local chapters of Ducks Unlimited and Pheasants Forever have expressed an interest in participating in projects and in potentially serving as a conduit for grants and/or matching funds from those organizations on a national level.

### Bikes Belong Grants Program

The Bikes Belong website (<http://www.bikesbelong.org/grants>) states that “The Bikes Beyond Grants Program strives to put more people on bicycles more often by funding important and influential projects that leverage federal funding and build momentum for bicycling in communities across the U.S. These projects include bike paths, lanes, and routes, as well as bike parks, mountain bike trails, BMX facilities, and large scale bicycle advocacy initiatives.”

Bikes Belong has funded three projects in Wyoming (all near Jackson Hole) and will accept requests for funding up to \$10,000.00 for facility and advocacy projects. The “Grant Seekers Guide” and other information about this program is included in Appendix H to this report. The next application deadline for this year is November 23, 2009.

### Federal Highway Administration Recreational Trails Program

The Recreational Trails Program provides funds to the states to develop and maintain recreational trails and trail related facilities for both non-motorized and motorized recreational trail uses. The program is administered by the Wyoming State Trails Program, which offers an annual grant application period for these funds. Applications and guidelines are available on the Wyoming State Trails website at <http://wyotrails.state.wy.us/Grants/index.asp>.

### Natural Resources Conservation Service

The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service offers several programs that may provide funding for enhancements to “South Park”. Three specific programs are as follows:

- Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention
  - Watershed surveys and planning
  - Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Operations
  - Watershed Rehabilitation
- Wetlands Reserve Program
- Wildlife Habitat Improvement Program



Information on these programs is available on the USDA NRCS website (<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/>), and information sheets for these three programs are included in Appendix I.

## National Recreation and Park Association and Other Potential Funding Sources

Included in Appendix J of this report is the National Recreation and Park Association's description and guide to federal funding sources for transportation, conservation, health and youth. Additional sources of funding that need further investigation are also included, such as the EPA 5 Star Restoration Program information.

Funding from the North American Wetlands Conservation Act Grants (<http://www.fws.gov/birdhabitat/Grants/NAWCA/index.shtm> ) and National Fish & Wildlife (<http://www.nfwf.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Grants>) may also be applicable to portions of this project.

# Additional Considerations

## Use Restrictions

Based on comments received during the public visioning process, as well as subsequent discussions of the project steering committee, it is recommended that the City Council adopt the following restrictions regarding public use of the South Park property:

### Dogs

While some comments supported the designation of a portion of South Park for an off-leash dog park, the steering committee concluded that such use would be inconsistent with the public vision of a wildlife viewing area. It is therefore recommended that dogs be required to be leashed within the park, as they are in other parks throughout the community.

### Archery Hunting

Wyoming Game & Fish representatives expressed concern about the growing deer population in the area, citing increasing vehicle conflicts and damage to residential landscaping. G&F encouraged the project steering committee to consider allowing a limited archery hunt in the South Park area. The hunt could be advertised and the park closed for the designated time period. Public process participants were divided with regard to whether hunting should be allowed, with residents in the Colony South area expressing strong opposition to hunting. It is recommended that the City Council explore this topic further by conducting a special session to hear public comment with regard to allowing archery hunting in the South Park area.

### Camping and Fires

While some process participants suggested allowing limited, permitted camping in the area for church groups, Boy and Girl Scouts, etc., the steering committee concluded that the



potential risk of fire and difficulty of enforcing permits would outweigh the benefits of such use. It is therefore recommended that camping and fires *not* be allowed within South Park.

## Conclusion

South Park presents a unique opportunity to preserve a large tract of open space within the city limits, to make the natural outdoors more accessible to those who might not otherwise have the opportunity to experience it, and to buffer the community's flood control system from encroaching development. The broad range of wildlife and habitat within the park boundaries make the natural wealth of the Sheridan area accessible to people of all ages, abilities and means.

Developing public access to South Park while maintaining and enhancing its natural attributes will take a concerted effort and commitment on the part of the City of Sheridan, the Transportation Alternatives Coalition, and many other concerned individuals and organizations. It will take time and effort to see the concepts presented here come to fruition. Through the public visioning process that led to this report, it became clear that the community has the interest and the will to see these concepts become reality. It will be up to the key stakeholders mentioned above to provide the organization and direction to keep things moving forward.





## Sources Cited

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MIG, Inc. (2009). *City of Sheridan, Wyoming Parks and Recreation Master Plan*. Sheridan, WY: City of Sheridan, Wyoming.

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# Appendices

# Appendix A - Comment Matrices from 3/3 and 3/5/09 Public Workshops

Category	Comment	Yes	No	Notes on Conflicting Comments	
Access	Emergency vehicles	1			
	Motorized vehicles		9		
	Motorized wheelchairs	1			
	Disabled access	3			
	Access at Sheltered Acres	1			
	Bridge from Sheridan Avenue	3			
	Multiple access points (Sheridan Avenue and Brundage Lane)	1			
	Brundage Street access	1			
	Parking at south end	4			
	Consider vacant lot across from RENEW for parking	1			
	Access to Colony South	2			
	Wildlife viewing at a distance - keep people on trails (controlled access)	3			
	Recreational Uses	Competitive sports/large turf areas		5	
		Dog/Bark Park	3		4 3/12/09 - Steering committee concluded that a bark park might not be a compatible use considering the number of wildlife species in the area.
		Dogs on leash	3		1 3/12/09 - Steering committee concluded that it was impractical to expect the public to not walk their dogs in the area, if the pathway is to connect through this area, as dogs are allowed on leash elsewhere on the pathway.
		Hiking/walking	2		
		Fishing pond	2		
Fishing		5			
Tubing, rafting, kayaking, canoeing		3		1 3/12/09 - Steering committee concluded that boating should be allowed, as it would be difficult to regulate use on public waterways.	
Jet skis			1		
Archery hunting		1		3 3/12/09 - Steering committee concluded that archery hunting did not seem practical in this area of public use, surrounded as it is on three sides by residential and business properties. Recommend Council hearing.	

# Appendix A - Comment Matrices from 3/3 and 3/5/09 Public Workshops

Category	Comment	Yes	No	Notes on Conflicting Comments
	Skateboards		1	
	Bicycles	4		
	Running	1		
	Picnicking		2	
	XC skiing	1		
	Paintball		1	
	Frisbee park	1		
	Kayak rental	1		
	Fires, barbecue, smoking, fireworks		3	
	Alcohol		1	
	Camping w/permit	1	1	1 3/12/09 - Steering committee expressed concern about the ability to monitor camping use, allowing some use while simultaneously discouraging vagrancy.
	Duplication of other parks		1	
<b>Pathways</b>	Walking path	3		
	Cement walkways	1		
	2 pathways - concrete path below hill w/natural pathway along creek	2		
	Elevated walkways	1		
	Looped trails	1		
	Asphalt trail surface	1		
	Keep pathways out of prime habitat areas	2		
	Path along creek - preserve open areas as natural	1		
	Path along creek to keep people away from residences	1		
	Satellite pathways in addition to main path	2		1 3/12/09 - Steering committee members agreed that additional discussion and consideration is needed before making a determination on whether "satellite" pathways should be allowed in addition to a main pathway.
	Pathway extension in keeping with pathways master plan	2		
	No mosquito spraying along pathways to preserve food source for birds/bats	1		
	All-weather, maintainable surface	1		

# Appendix A - Comment Matrices from 3/3 and 3/5/09 Public Workshops

Category	Comment	Yes	No	Notes on Conflicting Comments
<b>Educational Uses</b>				
	Wildlife viewing/observation (decks, pathways, viewing towers)	5		
	Learning lab (ecological, environmental, wildlife)	7		
	Field trips	2		
	All-ages education	1		
	Long-term studies	1		
	Interpretive pathway	1		
	All school districts access	1		
	Promote naturalist recreation	1		
<b>Facilities</b>				
	Keep permanent structures to a minimum	5		
	Portable structures	1		
	Picnic pavilions	1	1	
	Picnic pavilions - north only	1		
	Benches	1		
	Planters	1		
	Lights		5	
	Solar lighting to discourage vagrancy	1		
	Trash cans and trash pickup	2		
	Bathrooms	2		
	Bathroom at south end	1		
	Playground		1	
	Educational pavilion	1		
	Music platform	1		
	Interpretive signs	3		
	Rock or buck & pole fences to discourage traffic into habitat areas	1		
<b>Hours/Seasons of Use</b>				
	Day use only	3		
	Close during flooding	2		
	Restrict access during nesting/breeding	1		
	Year-round access	1		
<b>Enforcement</b>				
	Discourage vagrants	1		
	Designate as a City park	1		
	Signs- do not remove wildlife	1		

# Appendix A - Comment Matrices from 3/3 and 3/5/09 Public Workshops

Category	Comment	Yes	No	Notes on Conflicting Comments
<b>Habitat and Environment</b>	Attract songbirds	1		
	Creek restoration	6		
	Russian olive mitigation	2		
	Soil considerations relative to vegetation	1		
	Maintain/enhance fish habitat	2		
	As natural as possible (including walkways)	4		
	Leave as is	1		
	Maximize/develop wildlife	2		
	Edible landscape	1		
	Wildlife population management	1		
	Add more vegetation (berries, edible landscapes)	1		
	Limit disturbance of riparian areas	2		
	Address fire hazard of taller grass w/elimination of grazing	1		
	Remove existing fencing to allow wildlife to move freely	1		
	Consider soil stability in construction of pathways or removal of Russian Olives	2		
	Maintain flood plain	1		
	Maintain/improve stability of stream channel	1		
	Maintain diversity in vegetation as a food source for animals	1		
Consider improving/preserving stream flow	1			
Avoid fragmentation of ecosystems	1			
<b>Financing</b>	Wildlife Trust Fund	1		

## Appendix B - Detailed Public Comment Received

2/28/09

How nice to hear the City has acquired such a nice property. My suggestion would be for some portion to be a dog park along the line of Morad Park in Casper.

3/12/2009

I feel that there is no need for any major stream modifications on Little Goose Creek. The stream is in its natural course, meanders well, has good pools, riffles and runs, and is well shaded. Leave a natural stream alone!

Second, why not construct a fishing pond in the oxbow? The pond could be dug fairly inexpensively, would hold water year round and offer fishing year round. If the depth of the pond were 15 feet or more, it wouldn't run the risk of winter kill, either and trout could survive in it year round.

I look forward to a vital and vibrant South Park with lots of natural benefits!

3/12/2009

I heard several comments at the South Park meeting I attended about a general interest for a fishing pond on the South Park property. We came up with an idea to dig out the oxbow channel in the middle of the floodplain and make that a fishing pond. There are hurdles with the Army Corps of Engineers that would have to be negotiated but we don't think they are insurmountable. A pond like the one we are thinking of would likely be able to support a program of stocking catchable sized trout. In addition, sunfish and/or rock bass could be introduced to the pond to provide an additional fishery.

We plan to sample Little Goose within the park property next week to see what fishery is there. After this sampling, we will be able to make an informed recommendation if stream habitat structures are necessary or if the stream is in good shape as is it is now. We will keep you (so you can disseminate information to the group) updated on what we find.

Paul Mavrakis  
Wyoming Game & Fish

3/25/2009

Following are some comments to follow-up suggestions already provided by Paul Mavrakis. Bank stabilization work along segments of Little Goose Creek would enhance the property. Vegetation may be adequate to maintain most low banks, though it is hard to tell this time of year if smooth brome dominates the composition. If so, the root mass to stabilize these bank may also be limited. Some vertical banks along upland terraces and lack of floodplain interface were problems that should be targeted for rehabilitation work. Also, removal of the coffer dam at the diversion behind the DEQ office, and replacement with an improved structure would help stabilize this segment of the stream.

Regarding stream fish habitat values, physical habitat features are not the primary factors limiting the fisheries resource and angling opportunities in this stream segment. Rather, late season flow limitations and water temperatures are the primary bottlenecks. The fishery will have limited opportunity to improve unless these factors are resolved (increased flows), but will probably continue to support very limited trout numbers seasonally. Due to these limitations, I suggest any

## Appendix B - Detailed Public Comment Received

physical habitat manipulation instream emphasize stream function and bank stabilization to improve water quality, rather than physical habitat alone.

Russian Olive control along the corridor should also be considered, for it has a tendency to develop to the point it can exclude other native plants and limit habitat diversity. This doesn't necessarily mean it should be eliminated completely, however. It has value for wildlife and stream shading as well provided it doesn't become the primary overhead canopy component.

Please consider these comments, and holler if you have any questions. Thanks.

Travis Cundy  
Habitat Biologist  
Wyoming Game and Fish Department

4/24/09

It's fantastic that the City acquired the 40+ acres along Little Goose Creek between the Colony South Open Space to the north and Brundage Lane to the south. What a great opportunity; we sorely need the additional recreation space. Deb and I lived in this neighborhood between 1980 and 1989, and at that time, the Marshall family still owned most of the valley south of Brundage Lane. Nearly every day I took our dogs down along Little Goose and we enjoyed the native wildlife (i.e., pheasants) and vegetation (i.e., wild asparagus) a lot!

Because this reach of Little Goose has not been channelized for flood protection and development within its valley floor has not occurred, this area has great potential for providing public access to a relatively undisturbed, natural riparian ecosystem...and all within the City Limits! This fits perfectly with the community's response to the "Parks and Recreation Questionnaire". (The questionnaire was a great idea by the way!) Wildlife and their natural habitat is what this area is all about.

As you know, much of this area is comprised of jurisdictional wetland areas that cannot be disturbed without much ado with the Corps of Engineers. Should development cause an impact to these wetlands, the costs that would incur for mitigation measures is even more reason to leave the area as natural as possible with as little disturbance as possible. Of course, that isn't to say some careful development and improvements can't take place in order to make the area accessible for the public to enjoy and appreciate. A large percentage of the P&R questionnaire's respondents expressed a need for more natural areas that are accessed by linear trail corridors. The South Park Open Space obviously fits that need to a "T".

My suggestions are pretty basic: South Park should remain a "Natural Area", as defined in Sheridan's P&R Master Plan. It should be accessed by a single, pedestrian/bicycle pathway that meanders through the area, avoiding the sensitive areas (i.e., wetlands, stream banks, heavily vegetated, etc.) to the extent possible. The pathway would connect up with the existing pathway on the north end (by either keeping it on the west side of the creek, which might not be possible without much disturbance to the steep slope on the west side, or by crossing the creek via foot bridge(s)). The pathway could terminate at a paved parking lot located on the south end that is accessed off Brundage Lane. Eventually, the pathway could extend farther south beyond this area toward the college, if that is the long-range plan. Restroom facilities and access to a potable water source could be provided near or at the parking area. No camping, no fires, no smoking, no alcohol, no hunting, no vehicular access, and no vagrancy allowed. The area would need to be strictly policed and maintained.

Most importantly: the South Park Open Space would provide for a MUCH needed off-lease dog park. (NOTE: Calling an off-leash dog park a "bark park" has a very negative connotation, so please lose that name. Dogs do not bark once they're among other dogs. If they're kept

## Appendix B - Detailed Public Comment Received

separated from the fun, then they'll bark. You'll get nothing but resistance to the idea, especially from Colony South residents, if the "bark park" description continues to be used and people are allowed to imagine that dogs are taken there just to bark at each other.) The dog park should be completely fenced and all dogs must be kept on leash until released within the fenced area. Its exact location and size would obviously be restricted by avoiding any environmentally sensitive areas, although should be no less than 5 acres in area (preferably twice that size, but that may not be possible). The dog park would be located adjacent to, and accessed by the pathway. Within the fenced area, seating and picnic tables for the dogs' owners should be provided and possibly even some playground equipment for the kids.

Dog parks are a wonderful way to give dogs the exercise and socialization that they so desperately need. They're also a great place for the dogs' owners to meet and socialize. Other cities provide off-leash parks for dogs; they're becoming more and more common, and they're wonderful! Rapid City, for example, has a least 6 of them. We have friends that have been to some of them and they rave about how cool they are.

I gave Cheryl Harrelson an 8½" x 11" schematic map of my suggestions at the March 5 public workshop that was held at RENEW. I hope it reached your desk, but if not, this letter probably explains my suggestions better anyway.

According to the P&R questionnaire results, 59% of the respondents own dogs and 69% of the respondents feel there should be an off leash facility. I am the biggest advocate for keeping dogs on leash within the city limits (outside of their owner's yard that is) and our leash law must be strictly enforced, especially while using the pathway/trail system. That is exactly why an off-leash park, which can be accessed immediately off of a pathway, is desperately needed.

I've perused through the "South Park" Public Comments that have been received to date and it appears that most folks have the same basic concerns and suggestions. However, it would seem that the 4 "NO" votes for a "Bark Park" are either Colony South residents, or those 4 respondents have the incorrect perception that the entire South Park area would be developed as one big open free-for-all for dogs running around off leash... barking and biting people. Another puzzling comment comes under the Habitat and Environment category and it says 6 respondents are in favor of "Creek restoration." Huh? What's to restore? It's a natural, live stream channel free to meander (and flood) within its floodplain. I hope what they mean is, there's a need to clean up deadfall and debris that has accumulated along the stream bank in order to provide easier access to the edge of water by pedestrians. The channel itself is in no need of restoration.

These suggestions are shared by many other city residents that I have visited with and we're all encouraging the City to consider these suggestions. We'll be watching for further notification of future public workshops, etc. concerning the South Park Open Space. We're all very excited and concerned about its future prospects.

5/20/09

1. The plan shows an 8' wide trail. The City has been using 10' wide pathways for most of its pathways, particularly the main ones - which this one will be.
2. I hope that the connection south to Brundage Lane is considered more than just future. With the plan to continue the pathway south through Teal Ponds, then to the College, then to the proposed pathway in the Adams Ranch area, this connection would be invaluable in providing for a long, continuous section of pathway - from Woodland Park School all the way to Fort Road.
3. I am not sure that the Corps of Engineers will allow for a concrete pathway through the wetland areas. It may require that the entire pathway be located on something like a raised boardwalk.

## Appendix B - Detailed Public Comment Received

4. I still think it would be important for everyone to see the section beneath Colony South. That would be a very tough location to build a standard pathway.
5. In order to be ADA compliant, the connection up the hill to Colony South will have to have some switchbacks and related encroachments onto adjacent properties. If there are no plans to be ADA compliant, it's possible to use the existing right-of-way

5/21/09

I'm still out of town but had a chance to look at the pictures of the plan, which look good; it's an exciting project. My concerns are the ones I've mentioned in the past: the surface of the walkway, and lighting.

My daughter, who is also a jogger and just finished her engineering degree, confirms that there are alternatives to concrete that would be a suitable trail for this area. Coach Art Bauers at the high school may have some suggestions for making the trail more jogger-friendly, perhaps even leaving a foot or two unpaved on the sides. And the city has moved forward with a night-sky and neighbor friendly lighting ordinance; perhaps this park, if lit, could showcase good lighting.

Thanks so much for inviting our involvement on this park plan. I look forward to the day when it will connect us to the college!

6/9/09

Thanks for the chance to review the plans for South Park.

I have some questions about the plan.

How will the concrete trail be built from Sheltered Acres?? Have you seen that hillside? There is a vertical drop off on a steep, clay hillside. I doubt a mountain goat can get through there. I would suggest putting in a bridge so that the trail can go on the east side of the creek until that hillside is passed and then another bridge back.

I think the Game & Fish proposed building a fishing pond in the oxbow. Why was that suggestion ignored? A fishing pond would be a sure bet for planted fish. The creek is a hit or miss proposition.

What constitutes "vegetation enhancement?" What species will be used? What will be done to protect the plants from the deer that will surely browse them as they have grubbed down the chokecherry shrubs that are there.

What is to be done with the Russian olives? They should be eliminated from the pasture areas as soon as possible and the stumps treated with a killer. Why the need to eliminate understory vegetation? If you want to have as diverse an ecosystem as possible in the park, all layers should be left intact! There are species of birds that thrive in the understory.

The outdoor classroom is a good idea!

I wish I could be at the meeting to hear the public input. I think that the initial desire was to keep the park natural. I hope that it will turn out that way.

## Appendix B - Detailed Public Comment Received

6/10/09

Melissa, you and Cheryl have done a marvelous job throughout this whole process in allowing all of us to have a say and keeping everyone informed. Congratulations and thanks.

6/20/09

Regarding the fishing pond, I believe that if the city were to work with the Wyoming Game & Fish, the Game & Fish could acquire a grant to build the pond. I have CC'd this message to Paul Mavrakis so perhaps the two of you could discuss the cost.

Thanks for answering my comments, your response made me feel as though I did have some input. I am really excited about this park!

6/23/09

My wife and I are excited about the South Park project and look forward to its completion.

We would like to express reservations about allowing camping since the area is so close to a residential neighborhood. My family had a disturbing experience 2 years ago visiting Washington Park off Coffeen Ave. My wife and 2 children got some Wendy's for dinner and decided to have a nice family picnic at that park. As we were walking up the embankment we noticed a man sitting in the creek immersed in the water. We stopped to see what he was doing and then he stood up, completely nude. He was bathing in the park. As you can imagine, we were disgusted that my 8 year old little girl and 10 year old son had to see that.

So, we have concerns about how vagrancy can be mitigated without the kind of on-site supervision we see at a park like Whitney Commons.

Thank you for listening to our concerns. We look forward to hearing what you think.

Thanks,

6/23/09

I believe South Park is a great opportunity for community recreation. In addition to public access for boating, floating, fishing, walking, and bike riding, there should be areas out of the current for wading.

Putting some riffles in the stream would make boaters & floaters happy.

Making the banks climbable would improve public safety. Planting some shade trees along the path with well placed benches would make the area more inviting for families.

This is a very exciting development. River walks have put more than one community on the map.

## Appendix B - Detailed Public Comment Received

6/24/09

I notice there is no mention of the drop structure south of the DEQ building. Since all options appear to have boating as a part of the design, you may want to consider a design that incorporates portage or a safer drop structure.

Also, I would like to see some of the debris such as tires, concrete and old cars taken out of the stream. I realize that these items were all placed for bank stabilization, however it would be nice to remove as much as the eyesores as possible.

I think both designs are excellent. I am looking forward to seeing the finished product. I grew up fishing and catching frogs at this property.

6/25/09

I live in Sheltered Acres and I run/walk through this area, I would like to see a simple concrete trail like the rest of the trail system with occasional benches, if people want amenities; i.e. interpretive signage, ponds etc, these should be installed through "Private" donations.

6/26/09

I, like many other dog owners, would like to see a section for the dogs to be able to play and socialize without a lot of children that may or may not be scared of dogs. I believe that this may help the dog owners of the community with the training of their pet to be social and fit from the exercise. I see that this would involve at minimum fencing, access route and parking. I feel that this could be kept very natural in setting. Thank you for the consideration of a dog play area.

6/27/09

I am particularly interested in a dog bark park--those of us with large breed dogs would welcome an area where they could be off the leash to run, sniff and explore.

6/29/09

I noticed with the latest map that the kayak/canoe put in/out was changed to creek access. Was that just a wording change or a change to the actual plan?

My wife is an avid kayaker and loved that part of the plan. We're all for it :)

## Appendix B - Detailed Public Comment Received

7/3/09

Another opportunity if possible is Target archery outdoor area. I'm a competitive target archer living in Sheridan. There are several others like me living in our community. I took 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the Wyoming state shoot and placed well at the national level with in the National field archery assn. Our biggest challenge is having a place to shoot close by. Gillette has a excellent archery area near the complex just for this purpose. I teach archery, volunteer, to anyone who is interested. It's a great sport and not all archers hunt. Some do it for the sport of archery. Also a area for people to get their dogs out is a great idea. I'm a pet owner also and have to travel outside of Sheridan to enjoy this time off leash with my pets. Anything to get people outdoors in any fashion is a good idea. I'm sure the city will figure something out and maintain this area and keep the area as natural as possible.

7/16/09

Personally I am in favor of allowing archery hunting on the South Park property for deer consistent with whatever program the City and WGFD work out the rest of the Sheridan area. If the City wants to get serious about controlling deer numbers then it needs to work towards creating more opportunity for archery hunting not less.

# Appendix C - Public Design Workshop Comments

Category	Comment	# of Occurrences
<b>Concept</b>	Generally support doing something Like the plan for large percentage of concept - very finite issues and concerns	
<b>Creek</b>	Don't try to straighten the creek channel	
<b>Dogs</b>	Allow dogs on leash only	2
<b>Hours of Use</b>	No nighttime use	
<b>Hunting</b>	No archery hunting - area should be more of a refuge. Favor short hunting season (mid-November to December); removal from area before dressing G&F supports archery hunting. Area serves as a refuge and will become more so can create more pressure on neighborhoods, etc. Can tailor season to specific dates, number of hunters, can restrict to tree stands only, etc. Post as hunting area during season. App. 80 participants in in-town hunting last year, with 30 animals harvested.  Park should serve the community, not hunters or the G&F.	3
<b>Fencing</b>	Consider fencing along west side along residential area Don't like idea of fencing	
<b>Fire</b>	No fires or fireworks	
<b>Fishing Pond</b>	Would like to see a fishing pond incorporated No pond Concerned about hauling activity to remove excavated soils Concerned about cost of pond - use \$\$ elsewhere (channel stabilization, etc.) No excavation for enhanced hydrology in oxbow area Call out pond more specifically on plan Place pond adjacent to wetland to avoid wetland mitigation (replacement) issue	2
<b>Lighting</b>	No nighttime lighting	
<b>Name</b>	Consider naming facility in a way that reinforces its natural focus ("open space", "natural area", etc.)	
<b>Parking</b>	Consider moving parking closer to Brundage Recycling facilities at parking area Consider non-permanent surface to allow for opportunity to move parking closer to Brundage No parking lot on north end - plenty of street parking on South Main No more parking than now planned Improve water quality and flow if possible (improved septic/sewer upstream) Fishing in creek is seasonal due to low flow, warm temperatures	2
<b>Signing</b>	Signage at airport to encourage people to use the park; advising of pathway and park access points  Signs reminding visitors to stay on path Interpretive signs along trail	
<b>Structures</b>	Distribute benches throughout	
<b>Pathways</b>	Broom or plow for winter use Proposed pathway too close to homes at north end - consider bridging creek to avoid steep slope and discourage cutting through yards in Colony South Question the need for a trail connection to Colony South - could it be eliminated? Like adventure trail idea Consider how pathway will ultimately connect to the south - over/under Brundage? Consider crossing Little Goose at parking area and continuing south on east side (would require property acquisition) Compare costs of bridging creek at north end vs. construction of retaining walls, etc.	4
<b>Picnicking</b>	Picnic tables near parking lot only Place picnic area on same side of trail as parking lot - no trail crossing to get to picnic area	
<b>Playgrounds</b>	No playgrounds or other "park" activities or structures Consider small playground next to parking lot on south end	2
<b>Vegetation</b>	Control of poison ivy and nettles?	

# Appendix C - Public Design Workshop Comments

Category	Comment	# of Occurrences
	Leave all lands as natural or as close to current condition as possible	5
	Propose less aggressive vegetation management than elsewhere along pathway (less weed spraying, leaving grasses longer, etc.)	
	Consider chokecherries, etc. as replacement for Russian olives (food for wildlife)	
	Find compromise between leaving vegetation in a native state and minimization of fire hazard	
<b>Wildlife</b>	Minimize impacts to wildlife wherever possible	2
	Concerned about deer eating vegetation	
<b>Other Issues</b>	City needs to look into culvert cave-in between 1765 and 1741 Edwards Dr.	

# Appendix D - Parks & Recreation Master Plan Recommendations

## South Park Open Space

Sheridan's most recent addition to the park system, South Park Open Space, connects directly to the south of Colony South Open Space. The undeveloped property borders a portion of Little Goose Creek to the east and will have access through the southern portion of Colony South Open Space.

### Recommendations

- Develop a pedestrian trail that connects to the multi-use pathway system and Colony South Open Space.
- Provide educational opportunities

## Pedestrian Trails

Pedestrian trails are generally found within existing natural areas. These trails can be hard-surfaced or soft-surfaced. Examples of soft surfaces include soil, crushed rock, and wood chips. Most soft surfaces do not provide accessibility for people with disabilities, but are preferable for some recreation activities, such as running and hiking. These types of trails exist within most of Sheridan's natural areas but have not been inventoried.

### Recommendations

- Increase the amount of multi-use trail miles as opportunities allow.
- Increase the amount of pedestrian trail miles that offer scenic and wildlife viewing as opportunities allow.
- Provide consistent signage at trail heads and street crossings

# Appendix E - Wyoming Wildlife and Natural Resources Trust Fund

The following application steps are taken directly from the WWNRTF website and describe the application process:

## Applications for Funding

Applicants for funding should use the form attached to these guidelines, along with ten (10) copies of the form and all pertinent material. Other forms of application will be accepted in draft form, but all final applications must use the standard application form. Supporting documentation is encouraged, will be used by staff to evaluate initial applications, and may or may not be used in the final selection process.

## Project Size

Projects are designated legally as either "large" or "small" in scale. Large projects are defined as individual projects which require \$200,000.00 or more in funding from the WWNRT and projects spanning multiple years will be considered as a single project. Applicants should understand that approval of large projects will require a sufficient amount of time for both board and subsequent legislative review prior to approval.

## Public Benefit

Projects are required to provide a public benefit. Applicants are encouraged to fully document all public benefits, such as continued agricultural production to maintain open space and healthy ecosystems; enhanced opportunities for outdoor recreation; enhancements to air, land, or water quality; maintenance or enhancement of wildlife habitat; preclusion of soil loss or disease; or other perceived public benefits.

## Eligible Applicants

The Board may grant funds only to non-profit and governmental organizations, but may participate with for-profit entities to enhance wildlife habitat, the environment, and Wyoming's natural resource heritage provided there is no allocation of financial resources to any for-profit entity. Funds may be used for planning, development, and monitoring programs at the sole discretion of the Board.

## Eligible Projects

By statute and rule, the following types of projects are allowed:

1. Improvement and maintenance of existing terrestrial habitat necessary to maintain optimum wildlife populations.
2. Preservation of open space by purchase or acquisition of development rights.
3. Improvement and maintenance of existing aquatic habitat necessary to maintain optimum fish populations.
4. Acquisition of terrestrial or aquatic habitat when existing habitat is determined crucial/critical, or is present in minimal amounts, and acquisition presents the necessary factor in attaining or preserving desired wildlife or fish population levels.

## Appendix E - Wyoming Wildlife and Natural Resources Trust Fund (continued)

5. Conservation, maintenance, protection and development of wildlife resources, the environment, and Wyoming's natural resource heritage.
6. Participation in water enhancement projects to benefit aquatic habitat for fish populations and allow for other watershed enhancements that benefit wildlife.
7. To address and mitigate impacts detrimental to wildlife habitat, the environment and the multiple use of renewable natural resources attributable to residential, mineral and industrial development.
8. To mitigate conflicts and reduce potential for disease transmission between wildlife and domestic livestock.

# Appendix F - Wyoming DEQ 319 Program

## Request For Proposals

**Clean Water Act (Section 319)  
Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Funds  
And  
Clean Water Act (Section 205(j))  
Water Quality Planning Funds**

**Final Proposals Due September 15, 2009  
Pre-Submittal Review Due Date August 1, 2009**

Clean Water Act Sections 319 and 205(j) funds for federal fiscal year 2010 will be allocated in the Fall of 2009. There will be an optional pre-submittal review (submittal due date August 1, 2009) available to help improve the quality of proposals and the chances of securing requested funding.

Clean Water Act Section 319 funds to effectively and efficiently address nonpoint source pollution are available to State and local agencies, nonprofit organizations, and private individuals on a competitive basis. Nonpoint source pollution is pollution which results from runoff of contaminants into surface waters or percolation of contaminants into groundwater. It is generally associated with human land use activities such as agriculture, construction, mineral exploration, recreation, silviculture, urban development, etc.

Clean Water Act Section 205(j) funds to address water quality planning and assessment are available to cities, counties, and conservation districts on a competitive basis. The State of Wyoming has approximately \$40,000 in Section 205(j) funds available to local planning agencies for the purpose of water quality planning and assessment.

Essential information on program requirements, how to take advantage of the pre-submittal review process, proposal guidelines, downloadable copies of required forms, and contact information are available on the Department of Environmental Quality website in the Water Quality Division, Watershed Section.

<http://deq.state.wy.us/wqd/watershed/index.asp>

Additional information can also be obtained by contacting Jennifer Zygmunt, Nonpoint Source Program and Grants Coordinator at (307) 777-6080. Both Section 319 and 205(j) funds are made available to the State of Wyoming through a grant from the United States Environmental Protection Agency.



# Appendix F - Wyoming DEQ 319 Program

## Department of Environmental Quality



To protect, conserve and enhance the quality of Wyoming's environment for the benefit of current and future generations.

Dave Freudenthal, Governor

John Corra, Director

### MEMORANDUM

TO: All Interested Parties

FROM: Jennifer Zygmunt, Nonpoint Source Program Coordinator

DATE: June 15, 2009

RE: Request for Proposals for 2010 Nonpoint Source Pollution Control (Section 319) Funds

**PRE-SUBMITTAL REVIEW DUE DATE: August 1, 2009**

**FINAL PROPOSAL DUE DATE: September 15, 2009**

Nonpoint source pollution is pollution which results from runoff of contaminants into surface waters or percolation of contaminants into groundwater. It is generally associated with human land disturbing activities such as urban development; construction, agriculture, recreation, silviculture, mineral exploration, etc. Under Section 319 of the federal Clean Water Act, funds can be made available to State and local agencies, non profit organizations, and private individuals to deliver a product having Outcomes and Targets that will result in reducing the impacts of nonpoint source pollution and improving water quality.

The Vision for the Wyoming Nonpoint Source Program is to sponsor projects that reduce or eliminate nonpoint source pollution in threatened, impaired, and high quality waters of the state so that all designated uses are fully supported for the benefit of all Wyoming citizens. All Wyoming citizens want to see threatened and impaired waters brought back to full support of all designated uses as quickly as possible. Projects designed to accomplish this goal in an efficient and effective manner will be given the highest priority for funding.

Nonpoint source pollution control funds are available each year on a competitive basis. Funds are awarded as reimbursement grants, meaning that funds can be issued to the recipient only after proof of expenditure on eligible costs identified to deliver the approved product. All proposals submitted for these funds must identify at least 40% of the total project cost as **non-federal** cash or in-kind services match.

**NOTE:** The Wyoming DEQ is offering the applicant the opportunity to pre-submit their proposal for departmental review prior to the final submittal date of September 15, 2009. Applicants that elect to take this opportunity can modify their proposal to address the pre-submittal comments from the DEQ. Failure by the applicant to take advantage of the pre-submittal review opportunity can be a distinct disadvantage in securing this funding. Proposal pre-submittals may be done electronically.



## Appendix F - Wyoming DEQ 319 Program

### WHAT IS ELIGIBLE AND WHAT IS NOT ELIGIBLE?

Generally, all projects that demonstrate the real potential of improving water quality by addressing nonpoint source pollution are eligible. Nonpoint Source Pollution can be addressed through projects that focus on: Best Management Practice (BMP) Implementation; Information and Education; Watershed Assessment; Water Quality Monitoring; Technical Assistance; Planning; and Groundwater. Projects focusing on more than one of the above categories are best. The key linkage is effective and efficient activities resulting in measurable **Nonpoint Source Water Quality Improvement** and **Full Support of Designated Uses** on listed waters.

There are some categories of projects and project components that are **not eligible** for these funds. Some of the more common ineligible projects and project components include:

- Projects that focus on research. These funds are targeted for projects that see direct results in water quality improvement and research projects are not eligible;
- Projects that are in response to a regulatory action. Projects required as part of a regulatory settlement, order, stipulation, or permit condition are not eligible for these funds;
- Projects designed to address point source pollution issues are not eligible;
- Projects where the primary benefit is increased production (crop, livestock, etc.), even when water quality improvement might be a secondary benefit, are not eligible;
- Any project components that involve the purchase or of real property are not eligible. Real property is defined as real estate (land) and permanent structures (buildings); and
- Any project components that are in direct violation of any local, state, or federal regulation are not eligible.

EPA has additional detailed guidance for project eligibility under 319 incremental funding at: <http://www.epa.gov/owow/nps/cwact.html>.

### HOW MUCH AND WHAT TYPES OF FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE?

The 2009 Section 319 funds will be separated into two funding categories: incremental funds and base funds and the applicant will need to identify the funding category that best suits their proposal.

Incremental funds are supplemental program monies targeted to develop and implement watershed-based plans that address nonpoint source impairments in watersheds that contain Section 303(d) listed waters. The exception to this requirement is the state may recommend up to 20% of the incremental funds to be used to develop: nonpoint source TMDLs; watershed-based plans to implement nonpoint source TMDLs; and watershed-based plans in the absence of TMDLs. Funding to do monitoring and assessment work to help in the development of any of the above items is also included in this 20% maximum allocation. Additional information on the required components of a watershed-based plan can be found in REQUIRED CRITERIA, Item No. 10 in this document. Incremental funds comprise the majority of the available funds in this request with the 2009 allocation of Incremental funds for the State of Wyoming being \$976,600.

## Appendix F - Wyoming DEQ 319 Program

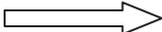
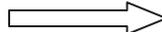
Base funds are those monies that can be utilized for the full range of activities addressed in the state's Nonpoint Source Management Plan. These funds can be used both for protection of unimpaired waters and the restoration of impaired waters. These funds can also be used to conduct strict Information and Education projects and address Groundwater projects. Up to 20% of these base funds can be used for the development of nonpoint source TMDLs, watershed-based planning on threatened or unimpaired waters, and nonpoint source water quality monitoring and program assessment/development activities. Groundwater projects can not account for more than \$150,000 of the base fund allocation. Base funds comprise the lesser amount of the available funds in this request with the 2009 allocation of Base funds for the State of Wyoming being \$231,900.

### PRODUCTS

This request is seeking projects delivering final products that result in the effective and efficient reduction of nonpoint source pollution loading to waters of the state. In order to best compete for these funds, the applicant must clearly demonstrate how the products derived from their efforts will accomplish this overarching goal.

Therefore, the project proposals sought under this request must be “product oriented” and not “process oriented.” An example of a “process oriented” project objective would be: *“relocate 5 animal feeding operations in the Rainy Creek watershed.”* The problem with this process-oriented goal is that the project could meet the process goal of physically relocating 5 animal feeding operations in the watershed, but these relocations may not having any significant impact in addressing actual water quality goal of reducing nutrients or pathogens to Rainy Creek. Converting this example of a “process oriented” objective into a “product oriented” could be: *“relocate 5 high priority animal feeding operations in the Rainy Creek watershed. High priority operations have been determined to be those where nutrient and pathogen loading directly into Rainy Creek or an immediate tributary to Rainy Creek is high under dry conditions or normal precipitation events.”*

The ultimate success of a project is the delivery of the approved, final product, called the project Outcome(s). The achievement of the project Outcome(s) depends upon the achievement of various Target products, each of which is achieved from the delivery of the Outputs obtained from the completion of various, individual Tasks.

Task Outputs  Targets  Outcome(s) = Successful Project

Project Outcomes and Targets may be short or long term, but funding cannot be extended beyond four years.

### REQUIRED CRITERIA – THE RULES

What are the “rules” for securing funding for your proposal?

1. Final proposals must be received by the

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Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality  
Water Quality Division, Attention: Jennifer Zygmunt  
Herschler Building, 4W  
122 W. 25<sup>th</sup> Street  
Cheyenne, WY 82002

by close of business (5:00 p.m.), **September 15, 2009**. FAX copies or proposals received after the deadline **cannot** be considered. Ensure that enough time is allowed for postal service delivery on or before the deadline.

2. Project proposal **pre-submittals** (a single copy) can be sent to the WDEQ at the above address, via FAX (307-777-7610) or electronically (to [jzygmu@wyo.gov](mailto:jzygmu@wyo.gov)), and received no later than **August 1, 2009**. WDEQ comments can then be incorporated by the applicant into a final project proposal submittal package. All prospective project sponsors electing to use this pre-submittal review option must still meet all final deadline, format, and content requirements with their final project submittal.
3. Project narrative must be **twelve** (12) pages or less. Budget forms, maps, milestone tables, and the project summary sheet **are not** counted as part of the ten page narrative. No covers bindings or folders should be used.
4. Project packages must include a summary sheet, narrative, milestone table(s), budget justification, and budget table(s). These must be in the format given on the Nonpoint Source Planning and Grants link on WDEQ website (<http://deq.state.wy.us/wqd/watershed/index.asp#Grants>). Incomplete final packages will not be considered for funding. If all information is not available for a requested content item, the proposal must describe how the needed information will be collected and used. An explanation should be provided for items that are not applicable to the particular proposed project.
5. Fifteen copies of the proposal must be submitted. One copy must be unbound and single-sided. The remaining copies should be double-sided. Proposals should be submitted on recycled paper. **Note:** All pages of the proposal must be on 8.5" x 11" paper. If colored or larger sized maps or large tables are submitted with the proposal, an additional 5 copies of the maps or tables must be included with the application.
6. Project administration, including indirect costs, for funding or use as match, must be included as a separate task (Task 1) in the proposal. Federal 319 money requested for administration **must not exceed 10%** of the total federal (319) funding requested and total administration **must not exceed 10%** of the total project amount. Administrative costs must be accounted for and documented separate from other project work activities.
7. If the project is going to utilize funds or staff contributed by other agencies or organizations, written commitments must be included with the proposal documenting the amount of money and/or the number of hours of effort expected from those agencies. We cannot award the sub-grant until written commitments are received from all supporting

## Appendix F - Wyoming DEQ 319 Program

agencies/organizations identified in the proposal. If “Other Federal Funds” are to be used in the project, these need to be reported in a separate budget column (far right of table) in the project budget tables. “Other Federal Funds” are treated separately and can not be accounted for as part of the match component and are not included as part of the total project cost.

8. Costs for travel and expenses incidental to travel shall be reimbursed or accrue as match at rates not to exceed Recipient's usual and customary rates for recipient's employees and agents, not to exceed the actual cost to the Recipient.
9. The proposed budget must have a minimum match of 40% non-federal resources (40% of the total project budget). However, any agreement signed as a result of this request may require a higher rate based on the respondent's proposed budget, negotiations, and DEQ and EPA approval. Matching funds or in-kind services utilized to meet the 40% match must be clearly identified as **non-federal**.
10. Components of a Watershed-based Plan. Beginning in FY2004, the following information must be included in watershed-based plans to restore waters impaired by nonpoint source pollution using incremental Section 319 funds. These requirements are not retroactive to watershed plans developed in accordance with FY 2002 or FY 2003 Section 319 guidelines. Complete information on the FY 2004 guidelines can be found in the Thursday, October 23, 2003 Federal Register, Vol. 68, No. 205.
  - a. An identification of the causes and sources or groups of similar sources that will need to be controlled to achieve the load reductions estimated in this watershed-based plan (and to achieve any other watershed goals identified in the watershed-based plan), as discussed in item (b) immediately below. Sources that need to be controlled should be identified at the significant subcategory level with estimates of the extent to which they are present in the watershed (e.g., “X” number of dairy cattle feedlots needing upgrading, including a rough estimate of the number of cattle per facility; “Y” acres of row crops needing improved nutrient management or sediment control; or “Z” linear miles of eroded streambank stabilized).
  - b. An estimate of the load reductions expected for the management measures described under paragraph (c) below (recognizing the natural variability and the difficulty in precisely predicting the performance of management measures over time). Estimates should be provided at the same level as in item (a) above (e.g., the total load reduction expected for the dairy cattle feedlots upgraded, acreage of row crops with management, or number of linear miles of streambank remediated).
  - c. A description of the NPS management measures that will need to be implemented to achieve the load reductions estimated under (b) above (as well as to achieve other watershed goals identified in this watershed-based plan), and an identification (using a map or a description) of the critical areas in which those

## Appendix F - Wyoming DEQ 319 Program

measures will be needed to implement this plan.

- d. An estimate of the amounts of technical and financial assistance needed, associated costs, and/or the sources and authorities that will be relied upon, to implement this plan.
- e. An information/education component that will be used to enhance public understanding of the project and encourage their early and continued participation in selecting, designing, and implementing the NPS management measures that will be implemented.
- f. A schedule for implementing the NPS management measures identified in this plan that is reasonably expeditious.
- g. A description of interim, measurable milestones for determining whether NPS management measures or other control actions are being implemented.
- h. A set of criteria that can be used to determine whether loading reductions are being achieved over time and substantial progress is being made towards attaining water quality standards and, if not, the criteria for determining whether this watershed-based plan needs to be revised or, if a NPS TMDL has been established, whether the NPS TMDL needs to be revised.
- i. A monitoring component to evaluate the effectiveness of the implementation efforts over time, measured against the criteria established under item (h) immediately above.

### **WHAT DOES THE NONPOINT SOURCE PROGRAM LOOK AT IN SELECTING PROJECTS FOR FUNDING?**

1. Demonstrated Water Quality Need. What is the nonpoint source pollution issue that needs to be addressed? Is it excessive nonpoint source loading of a pollutant to a waterbody, the absence of Credible Data to develop a Watershed-based plan, lack of public awareness on certain nonpoint source pollution issues, etc.? The applicant must make a strong demonstration that there is a nonpoint source water quality need justifying their proposal.
2. State Strategy and Priority. Does the project's Outcomes and Targets comply with the State strategy as reflected in the NPS Management Plan and Nonpoint Source Strategic Plan? Implementation projects in support of Watershed-based plans on streams shown to be impaired from the analysis of Credible Data will be considered top priority for funding. Watershed-based planning, watershed assessment monitoring and/or water quality improvement projects in support of watershed-based planning on Clean Water Act section 303d listed stream segments will also be considered top priorities for funding. Other projects including implementation on non-listed waters, information and education, groundwater, watershed planning, wellhead protection, pesticide management, and development of Best Management Practices (BMPs) will be lower priority projects.

## Appendix F - Wyoming DEQ 319 Program

3. Project Products. What are the specific projects to be delivered to the Wyoming Nonpoint Source Program? Are the products delivered from this project clearly identified? Are they adequately quantified? Will these specific products adequately address the “Demonstrated Water Quality Need” and “State Strategy and Priority” information presented?
4. Efficient/Effective Funding. Are the costs associated with delivering these products the most efficient and effective use of funds? Do the project costs justify the degree to which the products from this project will address the demonstrated water quality need? For example, streambank rip-rap may be relatively expensive and not provide additional values that can be derived from restoration techniques such as streambank stabilization with plant materials and improved land use practices. Can products that are expensive to deliver but will only represent a minor fraction in addressing the demonstrated water quality need be adequately justified? For example, an expensive reservoir construction project funded as an alternative livestock water supply to reduce bacteria loading in a listed stream would not be justified if the project only reduces the bacteria load by a minor amount.
5. Program Coordination and Commitment. Are all the right cooperators involved in a comprehensive, integrated fashion? Have cooperators demonstrated serious commitment to the project?
6. Reasonable Costs/Justifiable. Are the proposed costs reasonable and justifiable? Can all items in the budget be found in the project description? The budget justification is the place to make this demonstration. Is 319 the appropriate source of funding for this project? If this project is the continuation of an existing project, a progress report and status of the current project should be included with the proposal.
7. Information and Education Component. Technology transfer and education is an important component of the program. Each proposal for a watershed project should include a specific effort to educate the public on the results of the project and transfer technology to potential users. Does the project have an effective and adequate I&E component relative to its scope?
8. Evaluation and Monitoring Component. Monitoring is an important component of all implementation programs. Each proposal for a watershed project should include an explanation of the evaluation and monitoring plan. The monitoring plan would be fully developed in the Project Implementation Plan. All monitoring must be done in accordance with appropriate Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), an approved Sampling and Analysis Plan (SAP), and Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP). Data collected as part of these grants must be incorporated into the EPA data base. Data must be provided to DEQ in ACCESS<sup>7</sup> database format, a template can be requested from the DEQ. A volunteer monitoring task can be an effective evaluation and monitoring component of a watershed-based project. The development of a citizen’s volunteer monitoring program in your project has the potential to also be an effective Information and Education component for citizens in the watershed. Such a program can also improve citizen buy-in to nonpoint source pollution control implementations and also assist the project sponsor in the collection of data to assess the effectiveness of their project.

## Appendix F - Wyoming DEQ 319 Program

9. Project Proponent's Past Performance with Section 319 Projects. The DEQ will complete a past performance assessment for each project proponent for review by EPA and the Nonpoint Source Task Force to help determine project funding. This performance assessment will include the proponent's quality of product, compliance with time schedules, project administration, and reporting. A "Did Not Meet Expectations" report may result in a lower consideration in the competitive standing for funds. A lower consideration may result in the proponent's project either not receiving funding or receiving a reduced amount of funding with conditions that the proponent return with an additional request for funds along with providing the demonstration that their past performance issues have been addressed.

### **WHAT HAPPENS DURING THE FUNDING SELECTION PROCESS?**

If the applicant elects to participate in the pre-submittal review process, they will receive a set of review comments from DEQ on any deficiencies relating to eligibility, required criteria, format, and content. The applicant can elect to incorporate those comments into their final submittal package. Those packages still need to be submitted to DEQ prior to the deadline for final project proposal submittal.

The Wyoming DEQ and U.S. EPA will review all final proposals and formulate comments with respect to the selection items presented above. A copy of the applicant's final proposal, review comments, and applicant past performance evaluation will be sent to each Nonpoint Source Task Force member for their review. The sponsor of each eligible project will be allowed time for an in-person presentation at the November 2009 Task Force meeting. The Task Force will review each project's merits, the DEQ/EPA evaluations, and the applicant's past performance and will make recommendations for funding. Upon recommendation by the Task Force, DEQ will negotiate detailed Project Implementation Plans (PIP) with the proponent of the selected projects. EPA will work with DEQ and the project implementer to develop an acceptable PIP and perform Section 7 consultation under the Endangered Species Act. Funds are subject to the Congressional and Presidential federal budget approval process and Wyoming's actual FY2010 amount and the timing of the release of those funds are contingent upon those approvals.

Guidance for submitting proposals for the FY2010 funds, along with templates for the Project Summary Sheet, Milestone Table, and Budget Tables are provided on the Nonpoint Source Planning and Grants link on the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality website:

<http://deq.state.wy.us/wqd/watershed/index.asp#Grants>

Following this guidance will be paramount in obtaining this funding. Persons wishing to apply for funding should visit the website or contact the Water Quality Division, Nonpoint Source (NPS) Program at (307) 777-6080 as soon as possible.

# Appendix G - Western Wildlife Urban Interface Grant

## Criteria and Instructions to States 2010 Western Wildland Urban Interface Grant Program

Congress has provided increased funding assistance to states through the USDA Forest Service State and Private Forestry programs since 2001. The focus of much of this additional funding was mitigating risk in Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) areas. In the West, the State Fire Assistance (SFA) funding is available and awarded through a competitive process with emphasis on hazard fuel reduction, information and education, and community and homeowner action. This portion of the National Fire Plan was developed to assist interface communities manage the unique hazards they find around them. Long-term solutions to interface challenges require informing and educating people who live in these areas about what they and their local organizations can do to mitigate these hazards.

The 10-Year Comprehensive Strategy focuses on assisting people and communities in the WUI to moderate the threat of catastrophic fire through the four National Fire Plan goals of improving prevention and suppression, reducing hazardous fuels, restoring fire-adapted ecosystems, and promoting community assistance.

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### Grant Criteria:

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#### 1) Reduce Hazardous Fuels / Restore Fire-adapted Ecosystems:

Recipients may facilitate and implement mitigating fuel treatments in or adjacent to identified fire prone communities to reduce the threat of wildfire to communities. Fuel reduction projects and vegetation treatments have been identified as a means of mitigating wildfire hazards. These are projects that remove or modify fuels in and/or adjacent to WUI development. Effective fuels mitigation treatments can be implemented across jurisdictional boundaries, on adjoining private lands, or within the respective communities. Projects of this type include fuel breaks, thinning, pruning, landscape modifications, etc. The overall purpose is to modify or break up the fuels in such a way as to lessen catastrophic fire and its threat to public and firefighter safety and damage to property. Another way to prevent future large, catastrophic wildfires from threatening communities is by carrying out appropriate treatments (such as prescribed burning or thinning) to restore and rehabilitate forest and grassland health in and adjacent to the WUI. Such treatments have reduced the severity of wildfires, and may have additional desirable outcomes, such as providing sustainable environmental, social and economic benefits. Project proposals should consider all elements required to implement treatments on the ground, which includes acquiring the necessary permits and consultations needed to complete plans and assessments.

##### Examples of projects that qualify (not all inclusive):

- Defensible space around homes and structures
- Shaded fuel breaks
- Fuels reduction beyond defensible space
- Removal of slash including piling and burning; mulching; grinding; etc.
- Prescribed fire
- Thinning

#### 2) Improve Prevention/Education in the Interface:

Recipients can provide leadership to coordinate, develop, and distribute wildland urban interface education programs in association with insurance companies, communities, local government agencies, and other partners. Informational and educational projects must target mitigation of risk and prevention of loss. Projects should lead to the use or establishment of one or more fire program elements such as fire safety codes, implementation of Firewise safety practices, establishing local fire safe councils, fuels treatments within fire prone communities, or community planning to define fire safe actions suited to the local ecosystem.

# Appendix G - Western Wildlife Urban Interface Grant

## Examples of projects that qualify (not all inclusive):

- Firewise or similar programs
- Living with Fire newspaper inserts
- Fire education components to Project Learning Tree
- Pamphlets, brochures, handouts

### 3) Planning:

Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPP's) are created by local communities and may address issues such as wildfire response, hazard mitigation, community preparedness, structure protection, or a combination of the above. The process of developing these plans can help a community clarify and refine its priorities for the protection of life, property, and critical infrastructure in the wildland-urban interface. The Healthy Forest Restoration Act (HFRA) minimum requirements for a CWPP are: 1) Collaboration (must be developed with community members, local and state government representatives in collaboration with federal agencies and other interested stakeholders, 2) Prioritized Fuel Reduction (plan must identify and prioritize areas for hazardous fuel reduction treatments and recommend the types and methods of treatment), and 3) Treatment of Structural Ignitability (must recommend measures that homeowners and communities can take to reduce the ignitability of structures throughout the area addressed in the plan). A copy of the CWPP Handbook can be found at <http://www.safnet.org/policyandpress/cwpphandbook.pdf>

## Examples of projects that qualify (not all inclusive):

- Creation of CWPP/or equivalent document
- Priority projects listed in existing CWPPs covering the above criteria

### 4) Examples of Projects that DO NOT Qualify (not all inclusive):

- Preparedness and suppression capacity building; such as purchase of fire department equipment (try VFA, RFA, DHS and FEMA grant programs)
- Small business start-up funding
- Research and development projects (try Economic Action Program)
- GIS and database systems
- Infrastructure (building remodel, bridges, road maintenance/infrastructure, water development)

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## Grant Considerations:

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- Meets the grant criteria.
- Meets the 50/50 match requirement\*.
- Each grant request will be limited to a maximum of \$300,000.
- No state will receive more than 15% of the funds available in the west.
- At least 25% of all available grant funds must be awarded to new projects.
- All grants will be scored based on the following:

Meets the grant criteria*		Yes = Eligible for scoring	No = Ineligible
Meets the 50/50 match requirement**		Yes = Eligible for scoring	No = Ineligible
<b>1</b>	<b>Is this project achievable? (time, goals, budget, etc.)</b>		
	Yes clearly = 2	Yes but needs more info/inaccurate budget/etc. = 1	No = 0
<b>2</b>	<b>Is this project measurable? (# of acres treated, # of education/outreach programs, etc.)</b>		
	Clearly defined outputs = 2	Mentioned but no clear #s/measurables = 1	Not measurable = 0
<b>3</b>	<b>Is the applicant clearly showing collaborative elements and partners? (confidence level)</b>		
a	Collaborators input is clearly defined = 2	Collaborators listed but roles not defined = 1	Not there = 0
b	Is this a landscape scale project (adjacent to treatments on other jurisdictions)?	Yes = 1	No = 0
<b>4</b>	<b>Is this project implemented from an existing community plan or is the request to develop the plan? (Note: preference will be given to those projects that are incorporated in a completed plan)</b>		
	Plan completed = 2	Plan in progress = 1	No plan = 0
<b>5</b>	<b>Is the applicant clearly demonstrating project longevity? (Note: preference will be given to those projects clearly showing how it will remain effective over time)</b>		
	Clearly Defined = 2	Mentioned not defined = 1	None = 0

## Appendix G - Western Wildlife Urban Interface Grant

\*A 50/50 match. The allocated grant amount must be matched in full by the recipient using a **non-federal source**. Exception: Title III funds under the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000, PL 106-393 are not considered federal dollars and may be used as match. The matching share can be soft match (which includes training hours valued at an accepted rate, donated labor/equipment, etc) and/or hard match (which is actual dollars spent other than federal grant funds within the specified scope of work.)

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### **Application Instructions:**

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The application is in adobe pdf format. It is fill in enabled in any form of Adobe Reader 5.0 or higher. If you do not have Adobe Reader, go to <http://get.adobe.com/reader/> and download Reader 9.1.

1) All blocks are fill-in enabled and character locked. Applicants must fit all information into the allotted character space. **Applications that have been modified for any reason will be considered ineligible by the review committee. Any attachments or additional documents that are not removed at the state level will not be considered by the review committee.**

2) Application guidelines by box number: (All boxes must be filled in on the application. If a box does not apply to your project fill in that space with NA.)

- **Box 1 & 2-** Basic applicant and community at risk information.
- **Box 3 & 4-** The totals in these boxes will add automatically when all data is entered into the fields. It is recommended you check all numbers add up correctly. See description of hard vs. soft match.
- **Box 5-** Answer the specific questions. Under the three Project Category fields fill in only if they apply to your project. If, for example, Planning is not a part of your project fill in NA.
- **Box 6-** The project area description should give a brief overview of the project to point out the hazards and clearly show the need for work in this area. If applying for a fuels reduction project, describe the vegetation types.
- **Box 7-** The scope of work should explain exactly how the grant dollars will be spent on this project. Unlike the overview, this will provide the specific details of the project using measurable units where applicable. Be concise, say exactly what will be done with grant funds not what you expect the reviewer wants to hear. Use this block to explain any additional budget detail.
- **Box 8-** Describe the contributions each partner will make to the project by stating the collaborating partners name and what they will be contributing to the project such as manpower, equipment, matching funds, etc.
- **Box 9-** The **Project Timeline** should include such things as: begin/end dates, milestones, quarterly accomplishments, etc.

**Maintenance** should clearly show the who, what, when, where and why of how this project will remain effective over time. The four main points to be included for fuels projects are:

1) Environmental Factors: describe the maintenance requirements unique to this project based on site characteristics i.e., present and future vegetation occupying the site, growth rates, returned natural fire intervals or any other environmental factor that affects the continued maintenance of this project.

2) Education: describe how key players have been trained and educated to maintain the project and explain their understanding of the needs and expectations of the project's maintenance

3) Commitment: clearly demonstrate a commitment by the individual/community to maintain this project into the future, i.e. state laws, CWPP terms, signed landowner agreements or other documents or agreements that hold the sub-grantee accountable for project maintenance over time

4) Monitoring: describe who will be responsible for monitoring the project, what qualifications they have if they are not obvious (i.e. State Forestry personnel, Fire Safe Council member, Fire Department personnel, etc.), and at what intervals they will be checking (i.e. yearly, quarterly, etc); clearly describe timelines, milestones, and measurables

**Sustainability** should clearly describe how the project will be sustained over time.

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## Application Due Dates:

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The standard application form for 2010 must be used. This form should be filled out and submitted electronically to the appropriate state agency by their posted deadline.

### **ATTENTION: Western Wildland Fire Protection Committee (WSFM)**

**All applications must be received by Diane Denenberg by 4:00 p.m., MDT on **September 8, 2009**. The email address to send the applications to is: [ddenen@lamar.colostate.edu](mailto:ddenen@lamar.colostate.edu). This deadline applies to prioritized applications from the states. Individuals must submit the application to the appropriate state agency for prioritization, they may not submit directly to the address above. The applications will then be posted to the WFLC website for review. When submitting prioritized applications to Diane, name the files by state and priority number (ex. Nevada01, Nevada02, etc...).**

Each state should set its own internal deadlines for its cooperators, partners, and client's applications so they may be reviewed and prioritized at the state level before submission to Diane Denenberg by the deadline above. Please remember to remove all additional state specific information you requested and any attachments before posting them to the website.

## Appendix H - Bikes Belong Program



Published on *Bikes Belong* (<http://www.bikesbelong.org>)

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# Grant Seeker's Guide

By *superadmin*

Created 05/23/2007 - 20:39

This guide is designed to help you navigate our application process and better understand our funding requirements. It also outlines our evaluation process.

**Bikes Belong will accept requests for funding of up to \$10,000 for facility and advocacy projects.** We do not require a specific percentage match, but we do look at leverage and funding partnerships very carefully. We will not consider grant requests in which we are listed as the sole funder.

### All proposals must:

- Address the goals of the grants program strategic plan
  - Encourage ridership growth
  - Support bicycle advocacy
  - Promote bicycling
  - Build political support
  - Leverage funding
  - Serve diverse regions/populations
- Address the project objectives of the facility or advocacy funding categories (following).
- Propose a specific program or project that is measurable. **Bikes Belong will not fund general operating costs.**

Priority is given to:

- Bicycle organizations, coalitions, and associations—particularly those that have not received Bikes Belong funding in the past.
- Projects that build coalitions for bicycling by collaborating the efforts of bicycle industry and advocacy.

Because of our limited funds, we rarely award grants to organizations and communities that have received Bikes Belong funding within the past three years.

Please review the following specifics of the facility and advocacy programs to ensure that your proposal meets our guidelines.

### Facility Project Objectives

## Appendix H - Bikes Belong Program

"To connect existing facilities or create new opportunities; leverage federal, state, and private funds; influence policy; and generate economic activity."

Eligible facility projects include:

- Bike paths, trails, and bridges
- Mountain bike facilities
- Bike parks
- BMX facilities

Generally, Bikes Belong will consider funding construction costs and matching funds for facilities projects. We will also consider funding advocacy work for bike facilities on a case-by-case basis. (Please call our office before submitting an application of this nature.)

Projects with a limited impact, such as the installation of a small number of bike racks, are unlikely to be funded through our program.

Bikes Belong will **NOT** consider facility applications that request funding for:

- Master plans and other policy documents or litigation
- Signs, maps, and travel
- Trailheads, information kiosks, benches, and restroom facilities
- Bicycles, helmets, tools, and other accessories or equipment
- Events or bicycle rodeos
- Bike recycling, repair, or earn-a-bike programs
- Bike-share programs
- Projects in which Bikes Belong is the sole funder. However, Bikes Belong will consider being the initial funder.

### Advocacy Project Objectives

"To build the strength of bicycle advocacy organizations that have the potential to increase bicycle ridership and form coalitions with the bicycle industry."

Eligible advocacy projects include:

- Programs that significantly increase ridership
- Innovative pilot projects
- Programs that have a significant political impact

Generally, Bikes Belong will consider funding projects that have a reasonable degree of measurable success and future sustainability. Bikes Belong will only fund advocacy projects where the applicant's primary purpose is **bicycle advocacy**.

Bikes Belong will **NOT** consider advocacy project applications that request funding for:

- General operating costs
- Staff salaries

## Appendix H - Bikes Belong Program

- Rides and event sponsorships
- Planning and retreats
- Bicycles, helmets, tools, and accessories or equipment
- Bike-share programs
- Organizations whose primary mission is not expressly related to bicycle advocacy

### Evaluation Process

Applications received by Bikes Belong will be initially reviewed by the Grants & Research Director to determine eligibility.

All grant applicants will receive an e-mail acknowledgement confirming receipt and letting them know if the proposal is complete, eligible, and when it will be reviewed.

Applications that are complete and eligible will be considered by the Bikes Belong Grants Committee on a quarterly basis. The committee will either recommend approval, rejection, or request more information. If the committee:

- *Approves* the application, it is sent to the full Board of Directors for final approval. The applicant will be notified of the proposal's outcome shortly afterward.
- *Rejects* the application, the proposal is denied and the applicant will be notified.
- *Requests more information*, the Grants & Research Director will contact the applicant to resolve outstanding issues, then re-submit the proposal to the committee.

Please bear in mind that the Bikes Belong application and review process is fairly rigorous, and we are only able to fund 15–20% of the applications we receive.

If your proposal is denied, it is not likely to be funded in a future cycle. **Please do not resubmit a rejected proposal unless asked to do so.**

Grants Committee members are volunteers from the Bikes Belong Board of Directors. Applicants who attempt to lobby individual members of the committee will hurt their proposal's chance of success.

Only e-mailed applications are accepted. Mailed or faxed applications will not be considered.

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**Source URL:** <http://www.bikesbelong.org/node/42>

## Appendix I - Natural Resources Conservation Service



### Wetlands Reserve Program

*Updated June 23, 2009*

The Wetlands Reserve Program is a voluntary program offering landowners the opportunity to protect, restore, and enhance wetlands on their property. The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) provides technical and financial support to help landowners with their wetland restoration efforts. The NRCS goal is to achieve the greatest wetland functions and values, along with optimum wildlife habitat, on every acre enrolled in the program. This program offers landowners an opportunity to establish long-term conservation and wildlife practices and protection.

### Program Information

These documents require [Adobe Acrobat Reader](#).

[Farm Bill 2008 At a Glance: Wetlands Reserve Program](#) (PDF, 53KB)

[2008 Farm Bill WRP Interim Final Rule, amended](#) (PDF, 64KB) is available, extending the public comment period until **July 2, 2009**.

[Final Rule, 1996 Farm Bill](#)

The following forms are available on the [USDA Service Center e-Forms web site](#):

- Form AD-1153, Application for Long-Term Contracted Assistance
- Form AD-1159, Notice of Intent to Continue
- Form AD-1161, Application for Payment

For other easement forms, please contact your local [USDA Service Center](#).

### WRP Contract and Funding Information

- [FY 2008 Cumulative Contract Information](#)
- [FY 2007 Allocations by Program](#)
- [FY 2007 Contract Information](#)
- [FY 2007 Cumulative Contract Information](#)
- [FY-2006 Allocations by Program](#)
- [FY-2006 Contract Information](#)
- [Cumulative Contract Information](#)
- [FY-2005 Allocations by Program](#)
- [FY-2005 Contract Information](#)
- [FY-2005 Unfunded Application Information](#)
- [FY-2004 Allocation Information](#)
- [FY-2004 Contract Information](#)

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- [FY-2004 Unfunded Application Information](#)
- [FY-2003 Allocation Information](#)
- [FY-2003 Contract Information](#)
- [FY-2003 Unfunded Application Information](#)

### Additional Information

- [Photo Gallery](#)
- [Publications](#)
- [Association of State Wetland Managers](#)
- [Wetland Science](#)

### Program Contact

[David Howard](#), 202-720-1067

## Appendix I - Natural Resources Conservation Service



### Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention

*Updated March 26, 2009*

#### Introduction

The Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act (PL 83-566), August 4, 1954, as amended, authorized NRCS to cooperate with States and local agencies to carry out works of improvement for soil conservation and for other purposes including flood prevention; conservation, development, utilization and disposal of water; and conservation and proper utilization of land.

NRCS implements the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act through three programs:

- Watershed Surveys and Planning
- Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Operations
- Watershed Rehabilitation

#### Watershed Surveys and Planning

P.L. 83-566 provides the authority for NRCS to cooperate with other Federal, State, and local agencies in making investigations and surveys of river basins as a basis for the development of coordinated water resource programs, floodplain management studies, and flood insurance studies. NRCS also assists public sponsors to develop watershed plans to mitigate flood damages; conservation, development, utilization and disposal of water; and conservation and proper utilization of land. The focus of these plans is to identify solutions that use conservation practices, including nonstructural measures, to solve problems. [More Information](#)

#### Watershed Operations

Watershed Operations is a voluntary program which provides assistance to sponsoring local organizations of authorized watershed projects, planned and approved under the authority of the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act of 1954 (P.L. 83-566), and 11 designated watershed authorized by the Flood Control Act of 1944 (P.L. 78-534). NRCS provides technical and financial assistance to States, local governments and Tribes (project sponsors) to implement authorized watershed project plans for the purpose of watershed protection; flood mitigation; water quality improvements; soil erosion reduction; rural, municipal and industrial water supply; irrigation water management; sediment control; fish and wildlife enhancement; and wetlands and wetland function creation and restoration.

There are over 1,500 active or completed watershed projects. [More Information](#)

#### Flood Prevention Program (PL 78-534)

## Appendix I - Natural Resources Conservation Service

The Flood Control Act of December 22, 1944 authorized the Secretary of Agriculture to install watershed improvement measures to reduce flood, sedimentation, and erosion damages; further the conservation, development, utilization, and disposal of water; and the conservation and proper utilization of land. [More Information](#)

### Watershed Rehabilitation

Local communities, with USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) assistance, have constructed over 11,000 dams in 47 states since 1948. [More Information](#)

### A Locally Led Program

Project sponsors are provided assistance in installing planned land treatment measures when plans are approved. Surveys and investigations are made and detailed designs, specifications, and engineering cost estimates are prepared for construction of structural measures. Areas where sponsors need to obtain land rights, easements, and rights-of-way are delineated. Technical assistance is also furnished to landowners and operators to accelerate planning and application of needed conservation measures on their individual land units. There are presently over 1600 projects in operation. [More Information](#)

### State Watershed Web Pages

The following states have information about their watersheds available online:

<a href="#">Arizona</a>	<a href="#">California</a>	<a href="#">Colorado</a>	<a href="#">Connecticut</a>	<a href="#">Florida</a>	
<a href="#">Hawaii</a>	<a href="#">Iowa</a>	<a href="#">Kansas</a>	<a href="#">Louisiana</a>	<a href="#">Maine</a>	
<a href="#">Minnesota</a>	<a href="#">Missouri</a>	<a href="#">Nebraska</a>	<a href="#">New York</a>	<a href="#">North Dakota</a>	
<a href="#">Pennsylvania</a>	<a href="#">Texas</a>	<a href="#">Utah</a>	<a href="#">Wisconsin</a>	<a href="#">Wyoming</a>	<a href="#">Virginia</a>

### Additional Program Information

[Watershed Project Locations and Status Report](#) (2005 data)

[Watershed Program Success Stories](#): Spillman and Salt Creeks, Mitchell and Lincoln Counties, KS

The documents below require [Adobe Acrobat Reader](#)

[Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act, P.L. 83-566](#) (PDF, 42KB)

## Appendix I - Natural Resources Conservation Service

[National Watershed Manual](#) (PDF, various sizes)

- [Circular 7, October 23, 2001](#) (PDF, 17KB)
- [Section 508, Post Installation Assistance](#) (PDF, 183KB)

[Unfunded Federal Commitments](#) (PDF, 19KB)

[Watershed Operations Historical Appropriations, 1947 - 2006](#) (PDF, 10KB)

[FY-2006 Watershed Operations Funding Requests](#) (PDF, 8KB)

[FY-2006 Watershed Operations Funding Allocations](#) (PDF, 10KB)

[Wildlife Benefits from Watershed Projects- Fact Sheet](#) (PDF, 2.6MB)

[Watershed Benefit Fact Sheet](#) (PDF, 3MB)

### Program Contact

[Marvin Brown](#), National Watershed Program Leader, 202-690-2819

## Appendix I - Natural Resources Conservation Service



### Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP)

*Updated April 17, 2009*

#### Introduction

The Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program (WHIP) is a voluntary program for conservation-minded landowners who want to develop and improve wildlife habitat on agricultural land, nonindustrial private forest land, and Indian land.

#### Program Description

The Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 reauthorized WHIP as a voluntary approach to improving wildlife habitat in our Nation. The Natural Resources Conservation Service administers WHIP to provide both technical assistance and up to 75 percent cost-share assistance to establish and improve fish and wildlife habitat. WHIP cost-share agreements between NRCS and the participant generally last from one year after the last conservation practice is implemented but not more than 10 years from the date the agreement is signed.

#### WHIP Priorities for Fiscal Year 2009

In order to provide direction to the State and local levels for implementing WHIP to achieve its objective, NRCS has established the following national priorities:

- Promote the restoration of declining or important native fish and wildlife habitats.
- Protect, restore, develop or enhance fish and wildlife habitat to benefit at-risk species
- Reduce the impacts of invasive species on fish and wildlife habitats; and
- Protect, restore, develop or enhance declining or important aquatic wildlife species' habitats

#### WHIP Documents and Sign-up Information

The following two documents require [Adobe Acrobat Reader](#)

[2008 Farm Bill WHIP Fact Sheet](#) (PDF, 44KB)

[NRCS-CPA-1200 WHIP Signup Form](#) (PDF, 33KB)

[USDA Service Center EForms Website](#) hosts forms which can be submitted electronically.

[Links to State Programs pages](#) which contain links to each State's WHIP page.

#### WHIP Contract and Funding Information by Fiscal Year

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## Fiscal Year 2008

[FY-2008 Allocation, Contract and Funding Information](#)

## Fiscal Year 2007

[FY-2007 Allocation Information](#)

[FY-2007 Contract Information](#)

[FY-2007 Unfunded Application Information](#)

## Fiscal Year 2006

[FY-2006 Allocation Information](#)

[FY-2006 Contract Information](#)

[FY-2006 Unfunded Application Information](#)

## Fiscal Year 2005

[FY-2005 Allocation Information](#)

[FY-2005 Contract Information](#)

[FY-2005 Unfunded Application Information](#)

## Fiscal Year 2004

[FY-2004 Allocation Information](#)

[FY-2004 Contract Information](#)

[FY-2004 Unfunded Application Information](#)

## Fiscal Year 2003

[FY-2003 Allocation Information](#)

[FY-2003 Contract Information](#)

[FY-2003 Unfunded Application Information](#)

## Fiscal Year 2002

[FY-2002 Contract Information](#)

[FY-2002 Unfunded Application Information](#)

## Program Contact

[Albert Cerna](#), 202-720-9358

## Appendix J - National Recreation and Park Association



### Program Description

Provides modest financial assistance on a competitive basis to support community-based wetland, riparian, and coastal habitat restoration projects that build diverse partnerships and foster local natural resource stewardship through education, outreach and training activities.

### Application Information

[Overview - FSRMGP](#) - *Last Updated: 11/11/2008*

[Five Star Applicant Webinar Information](#) - *Last Updated: 11/11/2008*

[FAQ - FSRMGP](#) - *Last Updated: 03/05/2009*

[Request for Proposal - Five Star/NRT 2009](#) - *Last Updated: 03/05/2009*

### Program Information

[Southern Company's Five-Star Website](#) - *Last Updated: 11/27/2007*

[Environmental Protection Agency's Five-Star Website](#) - *Last Updated: 11/27/2007*

[Nature Restoration Trust Grant Program](#) - *Last Updated: 11/28/2007*

[Pacific Gas and Electric Company](#) - *Last Updated: 12/19/2007*

[Nearly \\$900,000 Awarded to Help Restore America's Wetlands](#) - *Last Updated: 07/27/2008*

[2008 Five Star Grants Awarded](#) - *Last Updated: 03/05/2009*

[Five Star Program Brochure](#) - *Last Updated: 03/05/2009*

[Five Star Restoration Program Announces Almost \\$800K in Grants to Support America's Wetlands](#) - *Last Updated: 05/20/2009*

[2009 Five Star/NRT Grants Awarded](#) - *Last Updated: 05/21/2009*

### Program Photos



## Partners

# Appendix J - National Recreation and Park Association



### Staff Representatives

**Lacy Reimer Alison**  
Assistant Program Director  
[Lacy.Alison@nfwf.org](mailto:Lacy.Alison@nfwf.org)

**For active grants administration, please contact:**

**Constantinos 'Dean' Economides**  
Project Administrator  
[Dean.Economides@nfwf.org](mailto:Dean.Economides@nfwf.org)

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## Appendix J - National Recreation and Park Association

### Steps for Implementing a Restoration Project

1. **Determine goals for restoration** – what do you want to restore, (habitat, water quality, natural processes, etc.) And for whom or what (single species approach or ecosystem approach)?
2. **Identify restoration priorities** in the watershed of interest. This can be done by determining the factors that limit the existence of the particular feature you would like to restore and addressing those factors. For example, if fish populations in a watershed are limited by the availability of cool water temperatures, a major restoration priority may be to provide shade and more water to the stream, which in turn will help cool the water.
3. **Form a Watershed Group** -- Meet with local landowners and area residents to exchange ideas and determine who may be interested in participating in watershed monitoring, historic and scientific background research and restoration projects
4. **Start a citizen monitoring program.** Monitor the parameters of interest to you and your community. This will help you identify limiting factors and establish a baseline for determining success of future restoration projects.
5. **Develop a detailed restoration plan** conceptually, and then in writing – draw upon the expertise of individuals within your watershed group. Once a plan is in writing, it is much easier to prepare grant proposals for specific funding opportunities. The restoration plan can be pasted into all grant proposals and the surrounding text can be modified to fit the particular requirements of the particular funding source.
6. **Determine the permits that must be obtained** to do the work. Check with local, state and federal agencies that have jurisdiction over the area and obtain permit applications early. This will help you determine what work, studies or analyses are required by the permitting agencies before they can process the application. Resource Conservation Districts (RCD's) usually have reference material that can guide you in this process.
7. **Survey available funding opportunities** and funding cycles that are specific to your project type. Avoid submitting grant proposal applications to funding sources that do not identify your project type as a funding priority.
8. **Contact the appropriate funding source representative** and discuss project ideas and their suitability to that funding source. Invite funding source representatives out to the project site and solicit suggestions and comments from them on how the project can be improved.

## Appendix J - National Recreation and Park Association

9. **Develop a realistic project timeline**, taking into consideration:
  - Application deadlines
  - Duration of funding source (1yr, 2yrs, etc.)
  - Time required to obtain permits (if needed)
  - Work window for in-stream work (if applicable). In Alaska, this generally runs from midsummer to late winter. Check with permitting resource agencies.
  - Work window for outdoor work (based on seasonal weather conditions)
10. **Identify and plan for potential problems** and determine what actions will be taken to prevent or address them. (ie. “If \_\_\_\_\_ happens, then we will \_\_\_\_\_”)
11. **Prepare a detailed grant proposal** for a funding opportunity that fits into your timeline and project type. Include in the proposal:
  - Detailed project description
  - Detailed line item budget which identifies matching and requested funds
  - Maps, diagrams and GPS coordinates for the proposed project
  - Identification of project partnerships and applicant expertise
12. **Submit your proposal** on or before the application deadline. Have the proposal finished well before the due date so any last minute problems can be addressed without missing the deadline. Do not expect the funding source representative to be at their office the day before the application is due. Allow sufficient time to leave a message with your questions and wait for an answer.
13. **If your project receives funding, implement the restoration!!** Be sure to use best management practices and follow **all** requirements and recommendations from permitting agencies.
14. **Acknowledge and involve all of your funding sources.** This will help you obtain more funding for restoration projects in the future.
15. **Monitor the success of the restoration.** Over time, compare monitored parameters to pre- project conditions to help determine whether or not your project was successful. Report this success to your funding source.
16. **Consider what can be done next time to make your restoration work even better.** Restoration projects work differently depending on technique and location. It’s a learning process. Use adaptive management to refine restoration techniques