

Rangeland & Watershed Resource Specialist Report

Holly Dyer

October 15, 2024

1. Program Updates:

- Living Snow Fence Program:
 - Completed cost estimates, designs for several community members and sent out applications
 - Continued to conduct site visits
 - LSF tree inventory to count how many replants will be needed next year

Withdrawn Application – Catherine Coudray (Wild Horse Ranch)

New Applications – none

- Rural Cost Share Program
 - Completed Cost Shares –
 - a. Branson/Widhelm → complete but voucher pending given NRCS sign off. Engineer shortages causing delays
 - b. Bell-Otte → complete but voucher pending given NRCS sign off. Engineer shortages causing delays.

New Applications (*\$24,000 remaining in budget*) – **Board Approval Needed**

- a. Rebel Ranch (Joshua St. Jeor)
 - i. Installation of solar well pump and tire tank for bison
 - ii. Project Estimated Cost - \$16,276.77; Requesting \$7,500 Cost Share Amount
- b. Linda Croonberg – application pending
 - i. Rehabilitate spring development (old NRCS project)
 - ii. Project Estimated Cost - \$28,350; Requesting \$7,500 Cost Share Amount

2. County Notices for Review (subdivision, zoning, use change requests):

- Conway Zoning District Amendment Application (ZDA-05-24)
 - a. Request to change 630 acres from Rural Residential to Agricultural
 - b. No change in parcel use (kids camp facility), better compliance in Ag zone
 - c. No comment submitted
 - d. **Question for Board:** what level of review or comment would you like me to do on zoning or land use change requests? It is not statutorily required for conservation districts to comment on anything other than subdivision requests impacting more than 35 acres.

3. Water:

- Coordinating interest, application process, necessary steps for submitting 4 potential Small Water Project applications
 - a. Info from partners, landowners, other involved parties will be Oct 31 to ensure that I have enough time to compile applications & documentation by Nov 15th program deadline.

4. Technical Assistance:

- Short-term rangeland monitoring clippings 9/30
- 2 Seed mix recommendations

5. Community Outreach & Involvement:

- USFS Cooperator Meeting and Tour 10/2 – Savery, Battle Mountain
- Pilot Hill Liaison Updates
 - a. Pilot Hill connector trail to Happy Jack complete as of 10/2/24
- Presented at SRM University of WY Chapter ("Range") Club meeting 10/1

6. Other Notes

- ARS Webinar Series "Grazing Land Management and Soil Carbon"
 - 20 minutes, monthly or bi-monthly, USDA Climate Hubs
 - Webinar 5: "Challenges and opportunities to increase soil carbon in subtropical grazing lands." Dr. Maria Silveira, University of Florida

Current Time
(as of Sep 2024)

Vacation: 49.5 hours

Sick: 84.1 hours

Comp: 0.75

Straight: 11.5