

2007 University of Wyoming Combined Research and Extension Plan of Work

(SMRR) Natural Resource Conservation and Management

V(B). Program Knowledge Area(s)

1. Program Knowledge Areas and Percentage

- 101 10% Appraisal of Soil Resources
- 102 10% Soil, Plant, Water, Nutrient Relationships
- 103 5% Management of Saline and Sodic Soils and Salinity
- 111 10% Conservation and Efficient Use of Water
- 121 20% Management of Range Resources
- 123 10% Management and Sustainability of Forest Resources
- 132 5% Weather and Climate
- 135 15% Aquatic and Terrestrial Wildlife
- 314 10% Toxic Chemicals, Poisonous Plants, Naturally Occuring Toxins, and Other Hazards Affecting Animals
- 605 5% Natural Resource and Environmental Economics

V(C). Planned Program (Situation and Scope)

1. Situation and priorities

Wyoming has abundant natural resources. A variety of ecosystems and agroecosystems from near pristine wilderness to well managed forests, rangelands, and urban landscapes make Wyoming a unique and inviting place. Wyoming's economy is based on use of its natural resources (minerals, energy, and agricultural products) by U.S. and global economies. The state is characterized by rural areas and wildlife resources and serves as a national and international travel destination. Management of natural resources and associated environmental issues permeate nearly every aspect of life in the state. A compilation of advisory board input from several areas of the state recommended a focused effort to educate the general public on natural resource topics and issues. To raise awareness and knowledge regarding natural resources, educational programs are needed that target the general public and non-traditional audiences for Cooperative Extension. This knowledge and awareness is expected to increase the ability of Wyoming citizens to make informed decisions that will improve public policy, reduce conflict and contribute to the economic and ecological sustainability of Wyoming communities.

V(D). Planned Program (Assumptions and Goals)

1. Assumptions made for the Program

1. The program effects cannot be achieved without the partnership and collaboration of Federal agencies, industry, and state agencies. 2. The necessary resource will be available. 3. The college is capable of providing the leadership along with the scientific information. 4. Public is interested and open to information on natural resources. 5. Informed citizens need knowledge of natural resources and their management to participate in public policy formation.

2. Ultimate goal(s) of this Program

The vision is that decision makers will gain scientific information to make sound environmental decisions on ecosystem management. Knowledge and awareness is expected to increase the ability of Wyoming citizens to make informed decisions that will improve public policy, reduce conflict and contribute to the economic and ecological sustainability of Wyoming communities.

V(F). Planned Program (Activity)

1. Activity for the Program

Natural resource programs will reach out to a broad spectrum of constituents throughout Wyoming using a variety of sources. Outputs include methods such as workshops, short courses, publications, meetings, media releases, and feature articles.