

State Specific Training Module for Wyoming

Purpose of this Module

This module will provide some general information that TSPs need to conduct conservation planning in Wyoming. This information is general in nature so the TSP may need to follow up with additional reading or training to make sure they have the knowledge, skill, licenses and certifications to conduct conservation planning in this state.

Wyoming Office Locations



Review of State Laws

Wyoming statutes are available for viewing on the Wyoming Legislative Services Office website at:

<http://legisweb.state.wy.us/statutes/statutes.aspx>

Specific titles within state statute that are more relevant to TSP activities are:

Title 11 - Agriculture, Livestock and other Animals

Title 41 - Water

Review of State FOTG Requirements

The Wyoming electronic Field Office Technical Guide (eFOTG) is the official source of information used in conservation planning and application.

- Updates to the eFOTG happen regularly and should always be the source of current information. Use of copied information may not be the most up to date and is discouraged.
- If you experience difficulties in locating information within the eFOTG, contact the State Resource Conservationist (SRC) at 307-233-6768.

Review of Important Resource Issues

Typical resource concerns treated:

- Degraded Plant Condition - Undesirable Plant Productivity and Health
- Insufficient Water - Inefficient Use of Irrigation Water
- Inadequate Habitat for Fish and Wildlife - Habitat Degradation
- Livestock Production Limitation - Inadequate Livestock Water
- Soil Erosion - Concentrated Flow Erosion
- Water Quality Degradation - Excess nutrients in surface and groundwater
- Livestock Production Limitation - Inadequate Feed and Forage
- Water Quality Degradation - Excessive Sediment in Surface Waters
- Excess Water - Ponding, Flooding, Seasonal High Water Table, Seeps, and Drifted Snow
- Degraded Plant Condition - Excessive Plant Pest Pressure
- Soil Erosion - Sheet, Rill, and Wind Erosion

Review of Important Resource Issues

Practices used to treat typical resource concerns:

- Herbaceous Weed Control-315
- Conservation Crop Rotation-328
- Residue and Tillage Management, Reduced Till-345
- Fence-382
- Irrigation Pipeline-430
- Sprinkler System-442
- Irrigation Water Management-449
- Livestock Pipeline-516
- Prescribed Grazing-528
- Pumping Plant-533
- Structure for Water Control-587
- Watering Facility-614
- Water Well-642
- Upland Wildlife Habitat Management-645

Review of Important Resource Issues

The Greater Sage Grouse:

- is an upland bird that has been federally listed as warranted for listing under the Endangered Species Act, but precluded by higher priority species.
- WY has the largest populations of Greater Sage Grouse in the nation, with the bird inhabiting approximately 2/3 of the state.
- To prevent the need for full ESA protection, the State of WY has enacted unprecedented sagebrush/sage grouse habitat protections to the highest density sage grouse population areas (Core Areas).

Review of Important Resource Issues

The Greater Sage Grouse (continued):

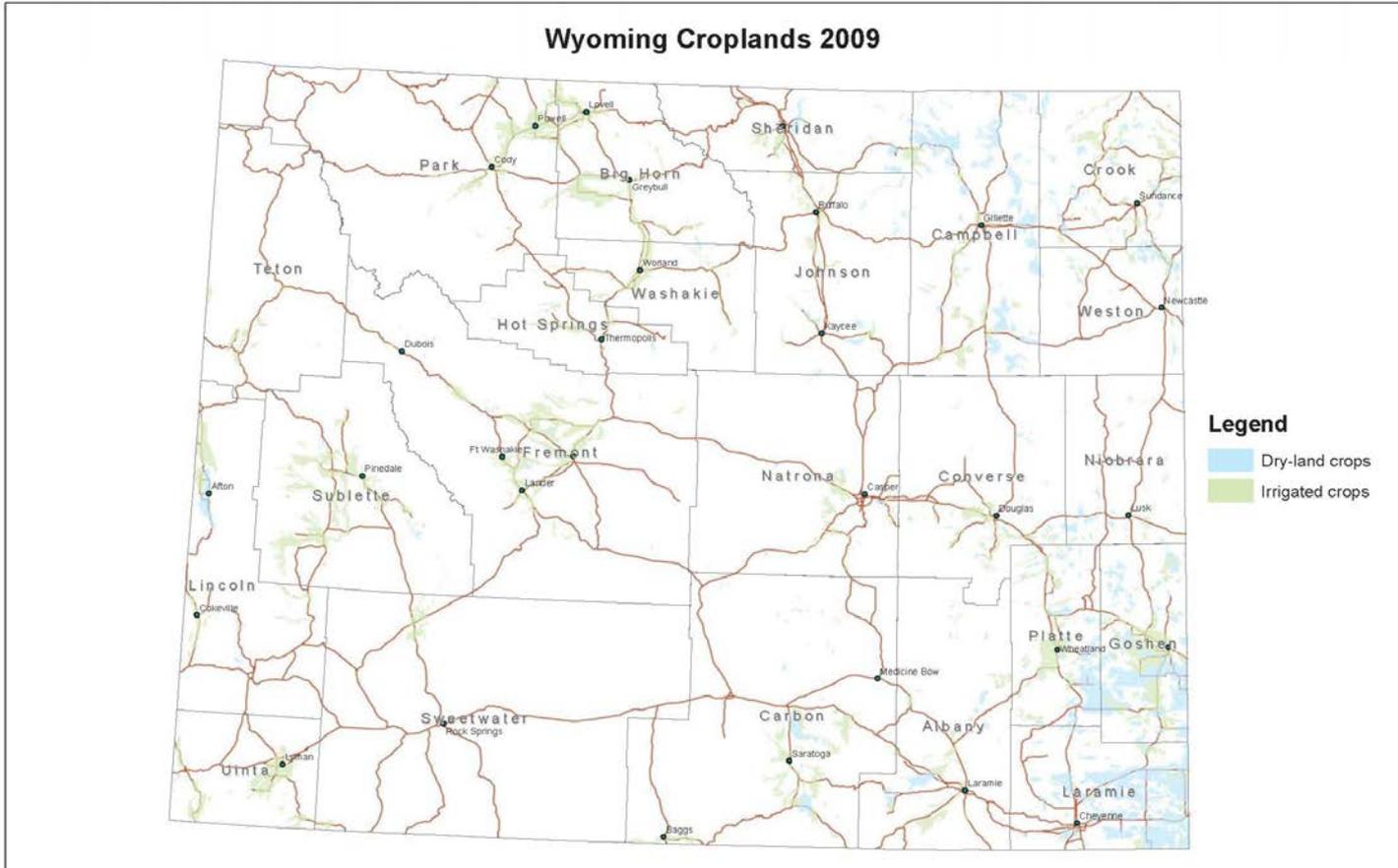
- Restrictions generally target industrial developments, but some do apply to agricultural activities and WY NRCS conservation practices.
- Planners working within the sagebrush-steppe ecosystem of WY should be aware of the Governor's Executive Order 2011-5 and contact the NRCS State Biologist or the Wyoming Game and Fish Department for additional planning considerations.
- The Governor's Executive Order 2011-5 is available at:

<https://wgfd.wyo.gov/web2011/wildlife-1000817.aspx>

Review of Major Land Uses

The state is dominated by native rangeland utilized for grazing with areas of cropland dominating specific geographic areas. The map on the next slide shows those areas of cropland.

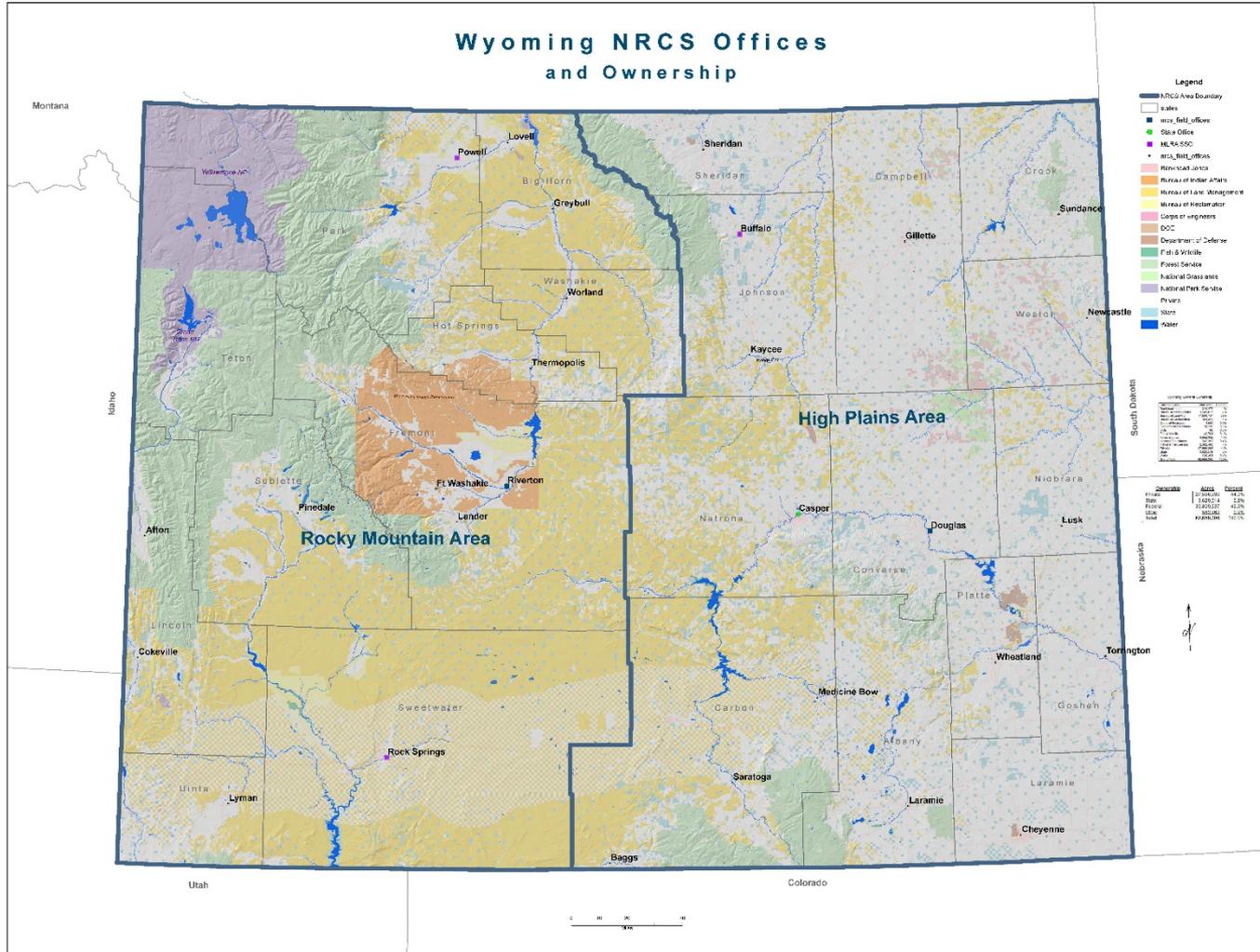
Cropland Areas within Wyoming



Review of Major Land Ownership

Approximately 55% of this state is public lands. Most of the public land is managed for multiple use, and leases by individual ranchers is common. Conservation planning on private land may include a public component, however the opportunity for private individuals to construct permanent conservation practices on public lands is possible after consultation with the public land management agency.

Land Ownership



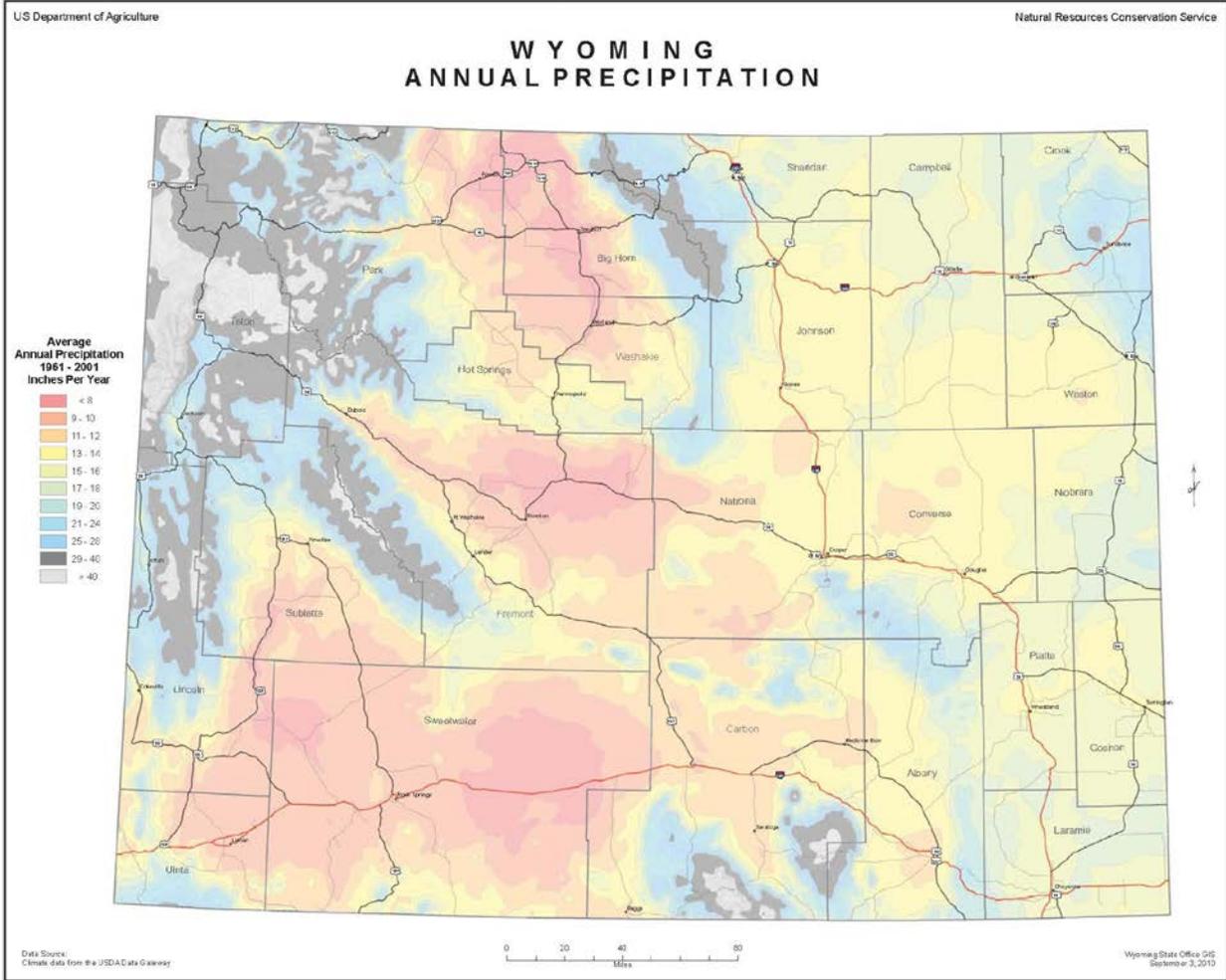
Land Ownership

Wyoming General Ownership

<u>Ownership</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Private	27,566,293	44.0%
State	3,629,514	5.8%
Federal	30,899,537	49.3%
<u>Other</u>	<u>563,963</u>	<u>0.9%</u>
Total	62,659,306	100.0%

Surface Owner	Total Acres	Percent
Bankhead Jones	314,472	1%
Bureau of Indian Affairs	1,549,677	2%
Bureau of Land Mgt	17,530,747	28%
Bureau of Reclamation	501,422	1%
Corps of Engineers	1,000	0.0%
Department of Defense	76,219	0.1%
DOE	88	0.0%
Fish & Wildlife	42,701	0.1%
Forest Service	8,652,802	14%
National Grasslands	242,393	0.4%
National Park Service	2,302,469	4%
Private	27,566,293	44%
State	3,629,514	6%
Water	249,491	0.4%
Grand Total	62,659,306	100%

Precipitation



Use of Soils Information in Planning

- Soils information is available at:
<http://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/App/HomePage.htm>
- Soil survey development continues in Wyoming. There are places in the state with incomplete data. For the current status of data availability, visit:
<http://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/DataAvailability/SoilDataAvailabilityMap.pdf>
- If data is unavailable, contact the Wyoming State Soil Scientist (SSS) at 307-233-6750.

Expected TSP Workflow

- The State Resource Conservationist (SRC) will be responsible for reviewing TSP conservation planning for the National Planner Certification.
- Subsequent conservation plans will be reviewed by the District Conservationist (DC) at the local USDA Service Center.
- The SRC will conduct plan reviews for TSP planner certification renewals.
- TSPs will work with the local District Conservationist to make sure the proper environmental evaluations (NRCS-CPA-52) are completed and that Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act has been addressed.

Additional References or Training

- State Field Office Technical Guide at www.nrcs.usda.gov
- State Training on CNMP Development – contact SRC at 307-233-6768
- State Training on IPM – contact SRC

Certificate of Completion

After viewing the State Specific Training module, please print and sign the completion certificate on the following slide.

The certificate is your acknowledgement that based on the information provided in this module, you have the proper knowledge, skills and ability to conduct planning in this state.

Send the signed certificate to the State TSP Coordinator. Copy the below link to your browser for a list of State TSP Coordinators.

<https://techreg.sc.egov.usda.gov/RptStateContact4Admin.aspx>

STATE SPECIFIC TRAINING MODULE COMPLETION CERTIFICATE

I, _____, hereby verify I have viewed and understand the
TSP Name
content of the Wyoming State Specific Training Module and affirm I have the
knowledge, skills and ability to conduct conservation planning services in that
state.

TSP signature

Date

Non-Discrimination Statement

Non-Discrimination Policy

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To File an Employment Complaint

If you wish to file an employment complaint, you must contact your agency's EEO Counselor within 45 days of the date of the alleged discriminatory act, event, or in the case of a personnel action. Additional information can be found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_file.html

To File a Program Complaint

If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9419, by fax at (202) 690-7442, or email at program.intake@usda.gov

Persons with Disabilities

Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities and you wish to file either an EEO or program complaint please contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339 or (800) 845-6136 (in Spanish).

Persons with disabilities, who wish to file a program complaint, please see information above on how to contact us by mail or by email. If you require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, etc.), please contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

For any other information dealing with Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) issues, persons should either contact the USDA SNAP Hotline Number at (800) 221-5689, which is also in Spanish, or call the State Information/Hotline Numbers.

All Other Inquiries

For any other information not pertaining to civil rights, please refer to the listing of the USDA Agencies and Offices.