

FY2019-20 ONE PAGE SUMMARY of HIGHLIGHTS

Summer of 2019

Monolith Ranch Committee - Participation in the Monolith Ranch Advisory Committee that evaluates current and future uses of the Monolith Ranch for the City of Laramie, Wyoming, regarding preserving water rights, agricultural practices, and other ranch issues.

Gutter Bin® - began a conversation with Brian Deurloo about his patented Gutter Bin® stormwater filtration system that removes pollution from flowing water within a catch basin storm drain. Laramie stormwater drains directly into the river and does have high TMDL's downstream of Laramie. Preventing pollution before it reaches the river is a good step toward addressing the problem. Laramie City decided to install two test Gutter Bins® near downtown bars where many cigarette filters are on the ground. The UW is interested in trialing in a few areas on campus. LRCD will continue following these projects and assisting with education and funding where needed.

Fall of 2019

Toltec Watershed Improvement District - this dam was built in 1985 on the flood protection, agricultural water supply, and recreation on the Laramie River in the far northern part of Albany County. LRCD has management responsibility for the Toltec Watershed Improvement District and has worked with them on improving record-keeping and reporting requirements. The annual inspection includes NRCS, LRCD, and a member of TWID.

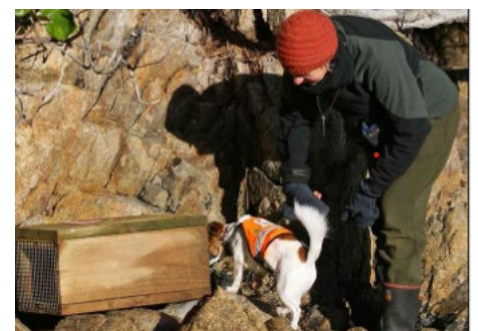
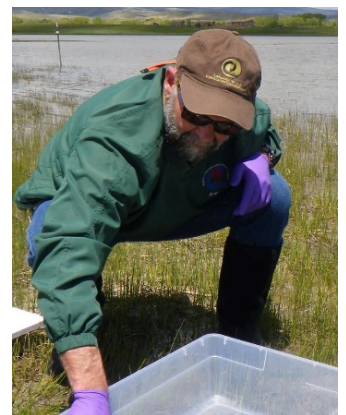
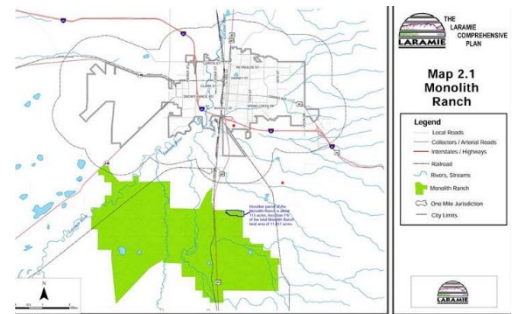
BLM Grant for Wyoming Toad -The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is establishing a volunteer handler and detection dog team to assist with population surveys of the elusive Wyoming toad. The Wyoming toad is a critically endangered species found only in the Laramie Basin. Surveys are difficult because the toads are hard for people to find. LRCD submitted a grant to BLM for funds that will go toward dog training.

Winter of 2020

Rail Tie Wind Project - LRCD attended the scoping meetings for this project. The Western Area Power Administration held public meetings to present their environmental impact statement for the proposed wind project per the National Environmental Policy Act. LRCD supplied input on foreseeable impacts on the land and made recommendations for reclamation after construction.

Spring 2020

Youth Support - LRCD board of Supervisors believes supporting youth ag is one of the most important ways to support the community in areas important to conservation. The Wyoming Science fair, Albany County Ag Expo, LHS Rodeo Team, Society of Range Management (SRM), K-12 rangeland education, 4-H activities, and FFA are all eligible for financial assistance and educational expertise upon request.



Lake Hattie Reservoir -Wyoming, the 10th Circuit Court ruled that the Pioneer Canal Irrigation District was trespassing on homeowners' properties when they began filling the lake to capacity in 2016. The ruling reduces the amount of water from 96,000acre-feet of water storage to only 12,000. The Albany County Commissioners had concerns about the impact this could have on the City of Laramie. Albany County's Emergency Management has a plan in place for diverting water from the Laramie River into Lake Hattie Reservoir in a high-water runoff event. WACD asked LRCD to follow this court case and weigh-in when needed. LRCD contacted homeowners about cost-share grants for seawalls to protect their property. Three-hundred feet of flood barrier systems, valued at \$5000, were also donated to Albany County's Emergency Management to help the county be better prepared in case of a significant flood event.



Rooted in Laramie -established in 2018 this groups mission is to create and maintain a long-term tree planting program that: Supports a more diverse and resilient tree canopy, cultivates greener, healthier, and more livable neighborhoods, builds neighborhood involvement and community pride through volunteerism and environmental stewardship and helps educate the community about proper planting and care of trees, and the benefits they provide. LRCD participates on the board of supervisors, provides financial assistance, and helps plant trees.

