

CROOK COUNTY NATURAL RESOURCE DISTRICT

1996 Two segments of the Belle Fourche River, one from Arch Creek to the town of Hulett and the other from Keyhole Reservoir upstream an undetermined distance above Rush Creek, were listed as impaired for fecal coliform.

2000 Donkey Creek, from the confluence with the Belle Fourche River upstream an undetermined distance above Antelope Butte Creek, was listed due to fecal coliform bacteria.

2002 – 2007 The district initiated monitoring on the Belle Fourche River in 2002 and also started monitoring Donkey Creek in 2003. A number of sites have been monitored and beginning in 2006, monitoring is conducted once per week throughout the recreation season.

2004 The Belle Fourche Watershed plan was approved and signed by DEQ in April.

On the ground implementation

Since 2004, 13 septic rehabilitation, three animal feeding operation and three grazing management projects, which include fencing and offsite water developments have been implemented.

Information & Education Outreach

Since 1998, outreach has consisted of the development of a website. Brochures were also created and distributed to over 100 people at

10 locations on proper RV/camp and pet waste disposal and management, and 150 urban storm water drains were stenciled in Hulett, Moorcroft and Sundance.

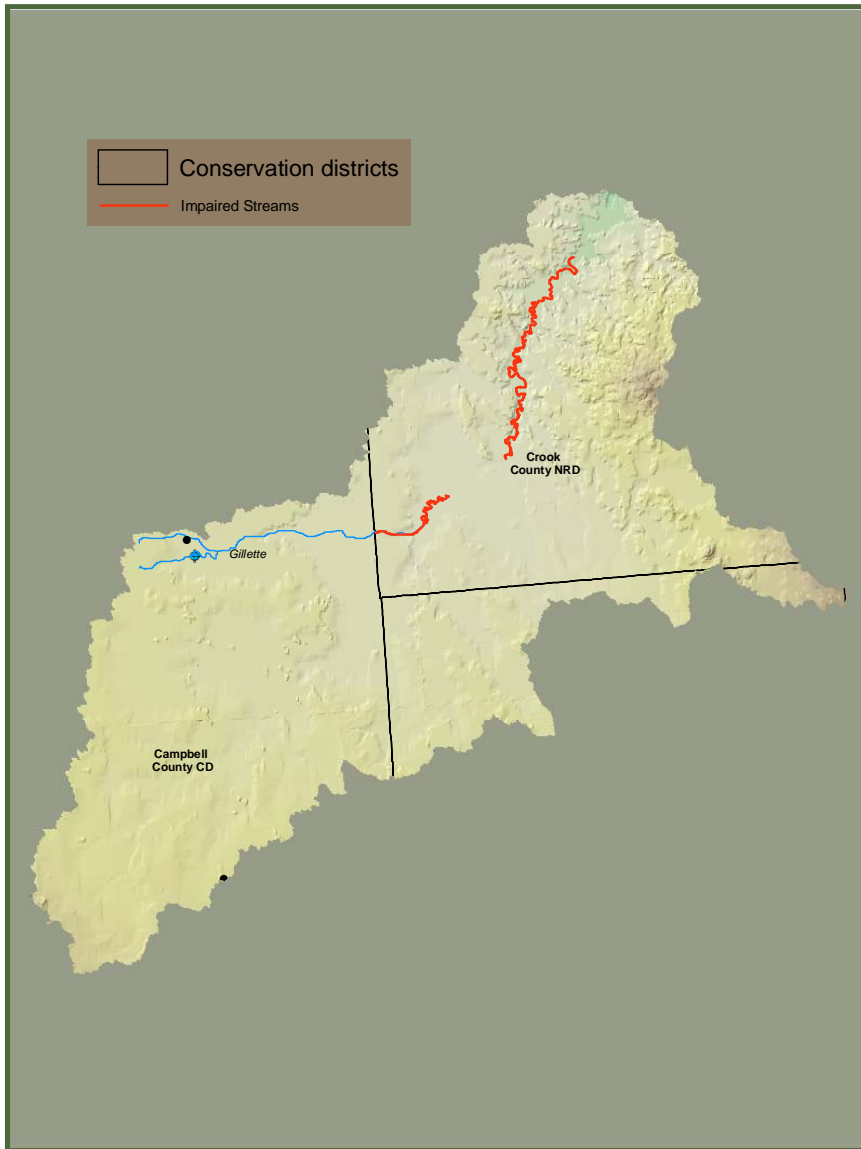
Four public meetings were held in the communities of Pine Haven, Sundance, Moorcroft and Hulett. Landowner outreach included a letter for two consecutive years to approximately 800 landowners, two tours of projects demonstrating best management practices with 30 tour participants, and four Septic System Workshops, held in Sundance and Hulett, with 120 attendees.

Weekly articles regarding water quality were published in three county-wide newspapers and the district's bi-monthly newsletter. A poster display was presented during John Deere Days and County Fair.

Youth education efforts included Day of Monitoring activities with 200 students, Enviroscape presentations to 75 students, and Soil & Water Stewardship activities conducted with over 100 students, grades 2 - 6 participating in the annual poster contest. The district presented water quality monitoring to over 60 students at the Ranch A environmental education day.



BELLE FOURCHE WATERSHED



Watershed Investment

Local	\$ 15,100
State	\$ 105,059
Federal	\$1,256,007
Private	\$ 278,535

Total **\$1,654,701**

Contributors

Local Landowners & Homeowners
 Conservation District
 DEQ/EPA
 USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
 Kenney Foundation

Partners

The Belle Fourche Watershed effort has included participation of local landowners, the National Park Service, Crook County Commissioners, Crook County Growth & Development Department, Crook County Land Use Planning and Zoning Commission USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, USDA Resource Conservation & Development, Cooperative Extension Service, and several volunteers.

