

## **EXHIBIT A ~ Public Survey Results**

*Beginning in 1999 the Medicine Bow Conservation District conducted a public survey as part of the scoping process for the development of the MBCD Natural Resource and Land Use Plan. 140 urban and 70 rural public surveys were mailed with 55 surveys returned. The top five conservation issues identified through the results of this survey are listed below, categorized by our three major watersheds and an urban component.*

### **LITTLE MEDICINE BOW RIVER**

#### **Natural Resource Issues**

1. Water Quality
2. Ag Land Conversion
3. Irrigation / Water Management
4. Grazing Lands
5. Recreation

#### **Customer Groups**

1. Agribusiness
2. Environmental Groups
3. Federal & State Agencies
4. Business Communities
5. Full time Ranchers

#### **Products, Services, & Programs**

1. Conservation Planning
2. Cost Share Programs
3. Soil Survey & Soil Information
4. Information (*i.e.* databases)
5. Resource Inventory

### **URBAN**

#### **Natural Resource Issues**

1. Water Quality
2. Grazing Lands
3. Irrigation / Water Management
4. Ag Productivity
5. Ag Land Conversion

### **MEDICINE BOW RIVER**

#### **Natural Resource Issues**

1. Irrigation / Water Management
2. Grazing Lands
3. Water Quality
4. Water Availability
5. Ag Land Conversion

#### **Customer Groups**

1. Full Time Ranchers
2. Environmental Groups
3. Schools
4. Agribusiness
5. Federal & State Agencies

#### **Products, Services, & Programs**

1. Educational Programs
2. Conservation Planning
3. Cost Share Programs
4. Soil Survey & Soil Information
5. Land Use Planning

#### **Customer Groups**

1. Full Time Ranchers
2. Schools
3. Business Community
4. Agribusiness
5. Urban / Suburban Citizens

### **ROCK CREEK**

#### **Natural Resource Issues**

1. Weed & Pest Management
2. Ag Land Conversion
3. Irrigation / Water Management
4. Ag Productivity
5. Water Availability

#### **Customer Groups**

1. Full Time Ranchers
2. State & Federal Politicians
3. Federal & State Agencies
4. Agribusiness
5. Schools

#### **Products, Services, & Programs**

1. Conservation Planning
2. Educational Programs
3. Cost Share Programs
4. Land Use Planning
5. Information (*i.e.* databases)

#### **Products, Services, & Programs**

1. Educational Programs
2. Wildlife Management
3. Cost Share Programs
4. Public Land Access
5. Erosion & Sediment Control

## **EXHIBIT B ~ Interviews**

*Following the public survey and identification of the key issues within the MBCD, an in-depth interview was conducted with 22 individuals from various sectors within the district. There were two interviews conducted with the Business sector, four interviews conducted with the Urban sector, and eight interviews conducted with both the Rural and Government Sector. The interview consisted of issues, solutions, and knowledge of current issues. These Interviews were conducted either in person or via telephone. The following are the questions and topics as well as the results of this process.*

### **Issues & Solutions:**

What is the most important natural resource issue MBCD faces today?

What can be done to improve this issue?

### **Knowledge of Current Issues:**

#### **WATER RESOURCES:**

##### **A. Animal Feeding Operations (AFO)**

-Do you know the current regulations?

-Do you know the options for the landowner?

##### **B. Water Quality**

-Did you know Conservation Districts are currently assessing our streams?

-Would you attend watershed meetings to help determine what is being done in your watershed?

-Would you be willing to serve on a committee for you watershed?

##### **C. Water Quantity**

-Do you understand your water rights?

-Would you like the Conservation District to assist you in this area?

#### **CONSERVATION TREES:**

##### **A. Tree Sales**

-Do you purchase seedling trees?

-Do you purchase large trees?

##### **B. Windbreak Design**

PRIVATE, STATE, & FEDERAL LANDS:

A. Ag Land Conversion

- Should we be working more with federal agencies?
- Should we try to cooperate on all issues?
- Would you be willing to assist with this effort?

B. Range Monitoring

- Would you be interested in utilizing HRM in your operation?
- Could the district assist you in monitoring?

EDUCATION – Importance of each

A. School Programs

B. Public Meetings

- Information gathering
- Long range planning

WILDLIFE:

- A. Should we work more with the Wyoming Game & Fish Partnership?

ENVIRONMENT:

A. Endangered Species

- Programs available
- Inventory & Population

B. Coalbed Methane Development

C. Noxious Weed Control

**EXHIBIT C ~ Results**

**Business Sector - 2 Interviews**

**Issues & Solutions:**

1. Water Quality. The laws and statues must be changed to make improvements.
2. Preserving what natural resources we have left. Get residents to work with both each other and the conservation district.

**Knowledge of Current Issues:**

Water Resources:	AFO:	YES <u>  1  </u>	NO <u>  1  </u>	N/A <u>      </u>
	Quality:	YES <u>  1  </u>	NO <u>  1  </u>	N/A <u>      </u>
	Quantity:	YES <u>      </u>	NO <u>  2  </u>	N/A <u>      </u>
Conservation Trees:	Tree Sales:	YES <u>  1  </u>	NO <u>  1  </u>	N/A <u>      </u>
	Windbreaks:	YES <u>  1  </u>	NO <u>  1  </u>	N/A <u>      </u>
Private, State, & Federal Lands:	Ag Land Conversion:	YES <u>  1  </u>	NO <u>  1  </u>	N/A <u>      </u>
	Range Monitoring:	YES <u>      </u>	NO <u>  2  </u>	N/A <u>      </u>
Education:	Public Meetings:	YES <u>  2  </u>	NO <u>      </u>	N/A <u>      </u>
	School Programs:	YES <u>  2  </u>	NO <u>      </u>	N/A <u>      </u>
Wildlife:	WYG&F Partnership:	YES <u>  1  </u>	NO <u>  1  </u>	N/A <u>      </u>
Environment:	Endangered Species:	YES <u>      </u>	NO <u>  2  </u>	N/A <u>      </u>
	Coalbed Methane:	YES <u>  1  </u>	NO <u>  1  </u>	N/A <u>      </u>
	Noxious Weeds:	YES <u>  1  </u>	NO <u>  1  </u>	N/A <u>      </u>

**Urban Sector - 4 Interviews**

**Issues & Solutions:**

1. Long term sustainable agriculture industry and protect our ecosystems. Proper land management – protect water quality and riparian areas, carrying capacities and good water use.
2. Rural residents need to improve and promote watershed. Also windbreaks along I-80. Plant trees and have some kind of incentive program.
3. Water resources and better range management. Use sustainability as a goal.
4. The overall condition of our environment and water quality. Make the general public aware of what is being done, not just ranchers.

**Knowledge of Current Issues:**

Water Resources:	AFO:	YES <u>  1  </u>	NO <u>  2  </u>	N/A <u>  1  </u>
	Quality:	YES <u>  4  </u>	NO <u>      </u>	N/A <u>      </u>
	Quantity:	YES <u>  3  </u>	NO <u>  1  </u>	N/A <u>      </u>
Conservation Trees:	Tree Sales:	YES <u>  2  </u>	NO <u>  2  </u>	N/A <u>      </u>
	Windbreaks:	YES <u>  2  </u>	NO <u>  1  </u>	N/A <u>  1  </u>
Private, State, & Federal Lands:	Ag Land Conversion:	YES <u>      </u>	NO <u>  2  </u>	N/A <u>  2  </u>
	Range Monitoring:	YES <u>  1  </u>	NO <u>  1  </u>	N/A <u>  2  </u>
Education:	Public Meetings:	YES <u>  3  </u>	NO <u>  1  </u>	N/A <u>      </u>
	School Programs:	YES <u>  4  </u>	NO <u>      </u>	N/A <u>      </u>
Wildlife:	WYG&F Partnership:	YES <u>  2  </u>	NO <u>  1  </u>	N/A <u>  1  </u>
Environment:	Endangered Species:	YES <u>  1  </u>	NO <u>  2  </u>	N/A <u>  1  </u>
	Coalbed Methane:	YES <u>  2  </u>	NO <u>  1  </u>	N/A <u>  1  </u>
	Noxious Weeds:	YES <u>  4  </u>	NO <u>      </u>	N/A <u>      </u>

## **Rural Sector - 8 Interviews**

### **Issues & Solutions:**

1. Water. Making sure there is enough for the future.
2. Cleaning up unsightly junk (old cars, equipment etc.) Give the county authority to enforce a law.
3. Water quantity issues and private land rights. Spend more time talking with residents and read a wider variety of Ag related periodicals.
4. Water issues and wildlife. Continue to offer assistance.
5. Private land rights. Work with the ranching community on a regular basis.
6. Rangeland condition for managing the land. Demonstrate to other landowners the benefit of monitoring. Teach different management techniques.
7. Water development and keeping government out of the landowner's lives. Help landowners to improve their resources.
8. Private land rights. Act as interface between landowner and agencies and don't play politics.

### **Knowledge of Current Issues:**

Water Resources:	AFO:	YES <u>4</u>	NO <u>2</u>	N/A <u>1</u>
	Quality:	YES <u>6</u>	NO <u>1</u>	N/A <u>1</u>
	Quantity:	YES <u>6</u>	NO <u>2</u>	N/A <u>    </u>
Conservation Trees:	Tree Sales:	YES <u>5</u>	NO <u>3</u>	N/A <u>    </u>
	Windbreaks:	YES <u>6</u>	NO <u>1</u>	N/A <u>1</u>
Private, State, & Federal Lands:	Ag Land Conversion:	YES <u>5</u>	NO <u>1</u>	N/A <u>2</u>
	Range Monitoring:	YES <u>4</u>	NO <u>2</u>	N/A <u>2</u>
Education:	Public Meetings:	YES <u>5</u>	NO <u>2</u>	N/A <u>1</u>
	School Programs:	YES <u>7</u>	NO <u>    </u>	N/A <u>1</u>
Wildlife:	WYG&F Partnership:	YES <u>3</u>	NO <u>3</u>	N/A <u>2</u>
Environment:	Endangered Species:	YES <u>5</u>	NO <u>2</u>	N/A <u>1</u>
	Coalbed Methane:	YES <u>6</u>	NO <u>1</u>	N/A <u>1</u>
	Noxious Weeds:	YES <u>7</u>	NO <u>1</u>	N/A <u>    </u>

## **Government Sector - 8 Interviews**

### **Issues & Solutions:**

1. Slumping hill and its effect on the water quality of the Bow River. Look at revegetation as a slowing process and also monitor the movement.
2. Trees and keeping wildlife from damaging them. Continue what you are doing.
3. Streambank protection and weeds on track in Med Bow. Use tire donuts and conservation district should help out.
4. Water quality and private land issues, and wildlife regulation. Better communications between government and public. More water regulation.  
Needs access to private lands for hunting.
5. Balancing your resources with development. Working together to set goals and then accomplish them.
6. Water quality / quantity and educating the public on environmental issues. Act as liaison between landowner and federal agencies.
7. Water quality and trees. No Suggestions.
8. Water quality and trees. More public information. Advertise CD meetings. More windbreaks.

### **Knowledge of Current Issues:**

Water Resources:	AFO:	YES <u>3</u>	NO <u>3</u>	N/A <u>2</u>
	Quality:	YES <u>6</u>	NO <u>2</u>	N/A <u>    </u>
	Quantity:	YES <u>5</u>	NO <u>3</u>	N/A <u>    </u>
Conservation Trees:	Tree Sales:	YES <u>3</u>	NO <u>5</u>	N/A <u>    </u>
	Windbreaks:	YES <u>7</u>	NO <u>1</u>	N/A <u>    </u>
Private, State, & Federal Lands:	Ag Land Conversion:	YES <u>3</u>	NO <u>4</u>	N/A <u>1</u>
	Range Monitoring:	YES <u>4</u>	NO <u>    </u>	N/A <u>4</u>
Education:	Public Meetings:	YES <u>7</u>	NO <u>    </u>	N/A <u>1</u>
	School Programs:	YES <u>8</u>	NO <u>    </u>	N/A <u>    </u>
Wildlife:	WYG&F Partnership:	YES <u>2</u>	NO <u>5</u>	N/A <u>1</u>
Environment:	Endangered Species:	YES <u>3</u>	NO <u>4</u>	N/A <u>1</u>
	Coalbed Methane:	YES <u>5</u>	NO <u>1</u>	N/A <u>2</u>
	Noxious Weeds:	YES <u>7</u>	NO <u>1</u>	N/A <u>    </u>