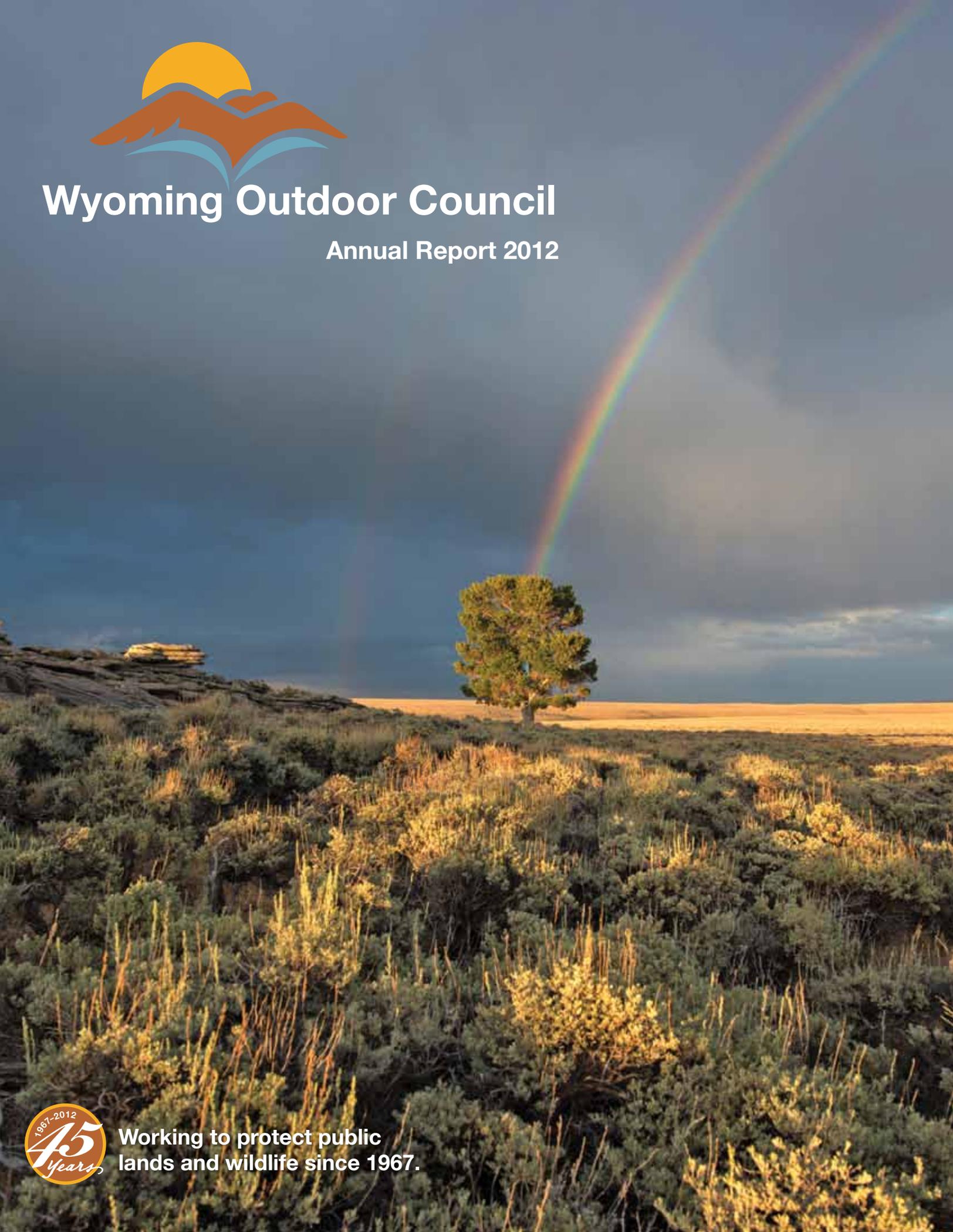




Wyoming Outdoor Council

Annual Report 2012



Working to protect public
lands and wildlife since 1967.



Wyoming Outdoor Council

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Robert Cochran

p4
Protecting
Our Land &
Wildlife



Chris Merrill

p6
Protecting
People &
Our Quality
of Life



Chris Merrill

p11
People &
Politics

Dear Members of the Wyoming Outdoor Council,

We marked the Wyoming Outdoor Council's 45th year with an extraordinary victory for Wyoming's people and wildlife—the permanent protection of nearly 60 thousand acres in the Upper Hoback basin of the Wyoming Range.

Our work to prevent the proposed, and wholly inappropriate, large-scale oil and gas development in this important part of the Bridger-Teton National Forest took years. Getting the job done required thousands of hours by Council staff, dedicated legal expertise, numerous field trips, countless meetings, grassroots efforts to get people involved, targeted exchanges with decision makers, consistent outreach to funders and the media, and much more. This Hoback campaign was successful because our members and supporters—many of whom are listed in the pages of this annual report—sustained our unwavering effort for almost a decade. Thank you.

Most people agree that there are special places in this state—including the Wyoming Range—that should never be industrialized, that should be allowed to stay the way they are for the sake of wildlife and habitat, hunting and angling, recreation, the environment, and our quality of life. If that's true, and at the Outdoor Council we believe it is, then how does a place as special as the Hoback come so close to being changed forever by energy development?

The answer is not simple, but at its core is a 1990 decision by the U.S. Forest Service to designate most of the Wyoming Range as available for oil and gas development. A diverse and broad range of Wyoming citizens and leaders have since come together to protect the Wyoming Range—because they all agree that making this landscape available for drilling was a very bad decision, and that the Wyoming Range is too special to drill. But this decision was made in the agency's highly influential forest plan, which 23 years later still guides land management on the Bridger-Teton National Forest.

These planning documents, whether for Forest Service or Bureau of Land Management lands, are critically important. In fact, had the Forest Service withdrawn the Wyoming Range from drilling in its 1990 forest plan, we wouldn't have had to spend a decade defending it. And that protective administrative decision would still be in effect today.

As you read this, the same kind of long-term planning processes are in the works for more than 13 million acres of Wyoming public lands, including the northern Red Desert,

the Shoshone National Forest, the Absaroka, Beartooth, Wind River, and Big Horn mountain fronts, 15-Mile Basin, Adobe Town, the Dubois badlands, vast sections of the National Historic Trails, and more.

Over the past three years and probably into the next two, our work has been and will continue to be about the future of these places and the incredible opportunity before us to help the BLM and Forest Service provide visionary, long-term stewardship for nearly half of Wyoming's public lands. The land-use plans finalized over the next 24 months could protect—or endanger—some of our most treasured landscapes for 20 to 30 years.

It's hard to overstate the significance of these plans or their implications for Wyoming's environment, and the people, wildlife, and local economies that rely on these areas.

Our work to protect the Wyoming Range isn't done. Next up is preventing the issuance of 44,000 acres of contested oil and gas leases that are directly adjacent to the now-protected Hoback area. The contested leases stretch across the eastern front of the range, and just about everyone agrees they never should have been put on the auction block.

The Bridger-Teton National Forest didn't get it right back in 1990—but today, with the help of citizens and groups like ours, the BLM and the Shoshone National Forest can do better. This is why the Outdoor Council is fully committed to shaping these forthcoming long-term plans so they protect what our members and Wyoming citizens hold most dear. Our achievements years from now will be rooted in our advocacy today.

The Outdoor Council is an institution that's built to last. Its mission—to protect Wyoming's environment and quality of life for future generations—is as relevant today, if not more so, as it was when the Council was founded 45 years ago. As you read this annual report, and you pore over the names of supporters who made this work possible, please give a special tip-of-the-hat to those who established our Council in 1967. In the coming years, let's thank those pioneers by doing what we can to keep this outfit going for a long, long time.

Sincerely,

Janice Harris
President, Board of Directors

Gary Wilmot
Executive Director

Protecting Our Land & Wildlife

Permanent Protection for the Upper Hoback

It would have been one of the worst places possible for an industrial gas field. The headwaters of the Hoback River in the Bridger-Teton National Forest—just south of Jackson Hole—is an irreplaceable part of the Greater Yellowstone ecosystem. It's a landscape that the Wyoming Game and Fish Department regards as one of the most important wildlife migratory crossroads in the Northern Rockies, if not the entire nation.

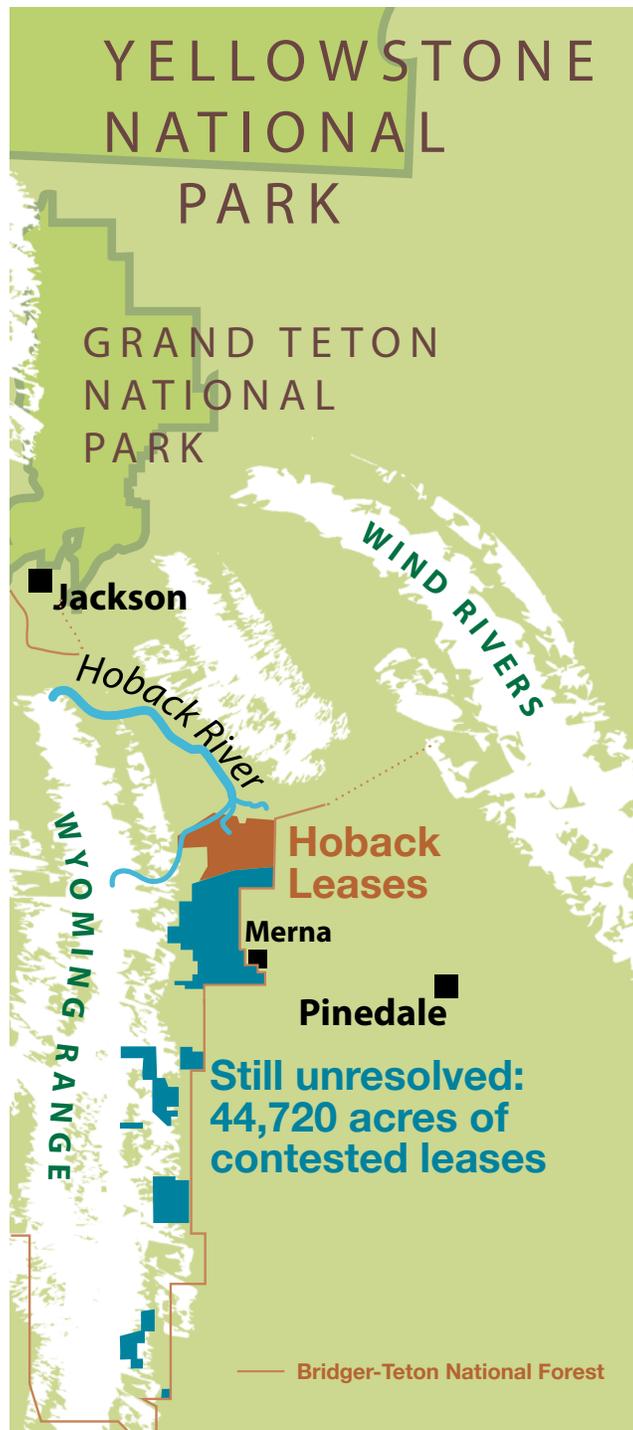
And it's a place so treasured for its hunting and recreation that every public meeting held on the gas field proposed for this area brought out scores of passionate, articulate, often angry, and sometimes tearful citizens. In fact, we weren't aware of anybody aside from representatives of the company that owned the oil and gas leases who wanted to see this landscape turned into a gas field.

It's for these reasons, and many others, that we identify the majority of the Wyoming Range as a heritage landscape, a unique place wholly inappropriate for energy development.

But it's fair to say that most observers thought the effort to stop the Upper Hoback development was a lost cause. So it was with both joy and relief that we were able to announce in October of 2012 that a deal had been struck to purchase and permanently retire 58,000 acres of valid oil and gas leases in this cherished part of the Wyoming Range.

"I am so proud of the Outdoor Council's work in the Hoback," said Terry Jones, Wheatland farmer and Outdoor Council board member. "I hunt in the Wyoming Range every year. And when the Upper Hoback was threatened by development many folks that could have helped—and should have probably helped—wrote the place off. But thank God the Outdoor Council dug in its heels. We couldn't have gotten to this deal without that kind of leadership."

For the extraordinarily diverse assembly of citizens, groups, and civic leaders who have worked for more than seven years to protect the Wyoming Range, this was a historic moment and a long-sought, hard-won achievement.





“This victory is a testament to sheer doggedness and dedication—and to the power of assembling a diverse group of allies to get the job done,” Jones said.

Scott Kane, former Wyoming Outdoor Council board president, was on the board several years ago when we kicked off our engagement in the still-ongoing movement to protect the Wyoming Range.

“When a landscape this important is threatened, the Wyoming Outdoor Council is committed, long term, with its staff and resources, to prevent development,” Kane said. “We have been all in on this campaign for more than seven years, and that dedication has paid off.”

Although the proposed development would have been within the boundary of the landscape withdrawn from future leasing by the 2009 Wyoming Range Legacy Act, the law did not affect these particular leases. Because the leases had been purchased and issued prior to passage of the Wyoming Range law, the company’s leases were “grandfathered” in—as part of a compromise that was essential to getting the act through Congress.

This is why we and our partners determined years ago that the only viable and permanent solution was to purchase the leases if possible. Such a buyout was always at the heart of our campaign.

When this historic deal was announced in October 2012 in Jackson, Governor Matt Mead, former Governor Dave Freudenthal, state legislators, and about

100 Wyoming residents—including hunters, anglers, ranchers, and mineral industry workers—all celebrated.

“This is an outstanding outcome for the people of Wyoming,” Gov. Mead said during his address to the crowd. “It respects both the wishes of local residents and the legal rights of leaseholders.”

The \$8.75 million buyout was a win-win business deal that fulfills the spirit of the Wyoming Range Legacy Act—it respects the interests of the company and the interests of local hunters and anglers, labor groups, ranchers, and other private citizens.

Proposed Drilling on the Shoshone

We made good progress in 2012 in our campaign to protect the Shoshone—the country’s first national forest—from proposed oil and gas development. The Shoshone National Forest borders Yellowstone National Park to the east and includes parts of the Wind River, Beartooth, and Absaroka mountain ranges. Mixed terrain—from sagebrush steppe to forested foothills leading to snow-capped alpine peaks—provides habitat to a great array of wildlife species. It is one of the wildest forests left in the nation. Because of its niche as a wild, largely undeveloped forest, there is much to protect on the Shoshone and so we are vigilant in our oversight of proposals—such as new oil and gas development—

that could harm or permanently alter this world-class forest.

In April of 2012 we submitted an official request for state director review of a flawed Bureau of Land Management decision to allow drilling on the Shoshone near Dubois. The drilling would have taken place in an important hunting, wildlife, and recreation area.

We echoed the concerns of more than 75 Dubois residents who signed a petition asking the BLM for greater assurances that drilling wouldn’t pollute the town’s drinking water. In response to our request, the state director put a halt to the drilling proposal and ultimately upheld our claim that the BLM’s original “finding of no significant impact” was improper without a more robust disclosure and analysis of the company’s drilling plans.

The BLM state office has sent the issue back to the Lander field office for this additional analysis. This is the outcome we’d hoped for. It will give the public more information and likely another opportunity to comment—and influence the project. The time needed for this additional analysis means drilling will not likely move forward for at least another year. Also, given the extra protections we anticipate the BLM will incorporate in its conditions of approval, the lease could potentially expire without the company following through on its intention to drill. This would be the best possible outcome for the forest and the nation.

continued on page 8

Protecting People and Our Quality of Life

Fixing the Ozone Problem in Western Wyoming

In September of 2012, a citizens' advisory task force, established by the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality, made 10 recommendations for ways to reduce the dangerous ozone pollution—sometimes called smog—that has plagued the Pinedale area for several years.

These recommendations should guide the DEQ as it acts to reduce ozone pollution and better protect the people that live and work in the Upper Green River Basin.

We participated as a member of this task force with the express goal of helping the state fix the ozone problem and do a better job of protecting public health as quickly as possible.

“This is an important first step,” said Bruce Pendery, Outdoor Council program director, when the recommendations were released. He represented the Wyoming Outdoor Council and its members on the task force and was a key participant. “Local citizens have suffered for too long from ozone problems that threaten public health and the environment and that are bad for economic development. The DEQ has been offered an outline that, if implemented quickly and completely, will help put us on the path toward cleaner, healthier air.”

Bruce worked hard for nine months to help improve the quality and the

scope of the final product. When the process was completed, he wrote: “Arriving at consensus recommendations was no mean feat for this group of 26 representatives of divergent interest groups—oil and gas industry, county government officials, city government officials, the Governor’s office, the U.S. Forest Service, the federal Bureau of Land Management, the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality, local citizens, and environmental groups.”

Exposure to ground-level ozone, even in relatively low concentrations, can lead to serious health problems. It is widely known to cause a host of respiratory ailments, and it is a toxic air pollutant that can permanently damage the lungs. The unhealthy ozone levels experienced in the Upper Green River Basin in recent years are unacceptable. This pollution must be reduced to ensure public health is protected.

Moreover, since the EPA has formally designated the Upper Green River Basin (which includes Sublette County and portions of Sweetwater and Lincoln Counties) in “nonattainment” of the national ozone standard, if the state does not bring the area back into compliance with the ozone standard by the end of 2015, even more severe pollution controls could be required by the Clean Air Act, which is something the energy industry, and others in Wyoming, do not want to face.

Air pollution principally from oil and gas development operations has been

shown to be the major contributor to ozone pollution in the Pinedale area, and therefore the task force recommendations appropriately focus on the oil and gas industry.

For more details on the specifics of these recommendations visit our blog at wyomingoutdoorcouncil.org/blog.

“Overall, these are strong recommendations, and we have worked since their release to encourage the DEQ to implement them quickly,” Pendery said. “This is a public health issue that can and should be corrected as soon as possible.”

Progress on Reducing Regional Haze

Pursuant to the Clean Air Act, the Environmental Protection Agency has proposed important regulations to restore visibility in what are called “Class I” areas—which include many of our national parks and wilderness areas.

Wyoming has seven iconic places that are designated Class I airsheds—Yellowstone National Park, Grand Teton National Park, and the Washakie, North Absaroka, Teton, Fitzpatrick, and Bridger Wilderness Areas.

Throughout 2012, the Wyoming Outdoor Council continued its multiyear effort to help improve the state’s regional haze rule and ultimately ensure that this portion of the Clean Air Act is fully and faithfully implemented in Wyoming.



Scott Copeland Images

We moved closer to achieving this goal in 2012. We engaged heavily throughout the year with regional and national EPA officials and we provided input to Wyoming Governor Matt Mead as well, highlighting ways the state could improve its plan for managing haze.

Wyoming was required to have a final plan approved by the EPA by October 2012, which the state failed to accomplish. As a result, the EPA has stepped in with its own proposal for several aspects of haze control—as it is required to do. We’re happy to report that this proposal is generally sound.

While we do see some room for improvement with certain elements of these proposed rules—and will provide the EPA with constructive feedback and seek improvements in 2013—we are confident that, if adopted, the EPA’s proposed plan will allow all of us to once again enjoy the broad, sweeping vistas in protected areas that are part of our nation’s heritage.

What is Haze?

We all know it when we see it, and we see too much of it in Wyoming. It’s that smudge that dulls the blue sky and dims the stars. Landmarks and mountains, once easily seen off in the distance, all but disappear from view. The cause? Many sources of pollution contribute to haze. But over time it is largely the result of pollution from coal-fired power plants, which, in Wyoming, ship most of their power out of state.

What is the Proposal?

Under the terms of the Clean Air Act and the EPA’s subsequent regional haze regulations, our nation’s important wilderness areas and national parks cannot be made hazy by industrial pollution. The EPA is working to meet this legal requirement with these proposed regulations.

Contrary to the claims of a few industry representatives and some Wyoming leaders, these regulations are not a surprise: Wyoming, the EPA, and industry have known for more than 15 years that these pollution improvements are required by the Clean Air Act and would need to be implemented here.

The EPA’s proposed haze regulations are achievable and will be phased in gradually. If adopted, coal-fired power plants wouldn’t have to completely eliminate haze-producing emissions for decades.

There is a potential bonus, too—while not the focus of this action, the new pollution control requirements will greatly reduce air pollution in the forms of nitrogen oxides and particulate matter all over the state, something that would have significant public health benefits for all of us.

We recognize that some in Wyoming, including Governor Mead, have spoken out against these proposed regulations. And the coal-fired power plant industry, particularly Basin Electric and Rocky Mountain Power (PacifiCorp), have engaged in a massive opposition

campaign that has included full-page newspaper advertisements.

But the law mandates these regulations, and they are strongly supported by the vast majority of citizens in Wyoming and the West. These regulations would serve the public interest and meet EPA’s legal obligations.

Public Support for Clean Air

In 2012 Colorado College released its annual State of the Rockies west-wide poll. This is a scientifically rigorous assessment of public attitudes and opinions toward environmental protection among voters in six western states, including Wyoming.

The poll found that Wyoming voters support continued implementation of the Clean Air Act—by updating standards for air quality, “including for smog, dust, and emissions from power plants, factories and cars based on the latest science”—by a 62 percent margin. And by the same margin Wyoming voters also said that laws governing environmental protection, including clean air, were more likely to be “important safeguards to protect private property owners, public health, and taxpayers from toxic pollution and costly clean-ups” with less than a third of respondents saying these efforts are burdensome constraints on economic development.

Overall, throughout the West, the poll found that a strong majority of voters of all political stripes want the

continued on page 10

Land & Wildlife (continued)

New Shoshone Land-Use Plan: Fixing a Major Flaw

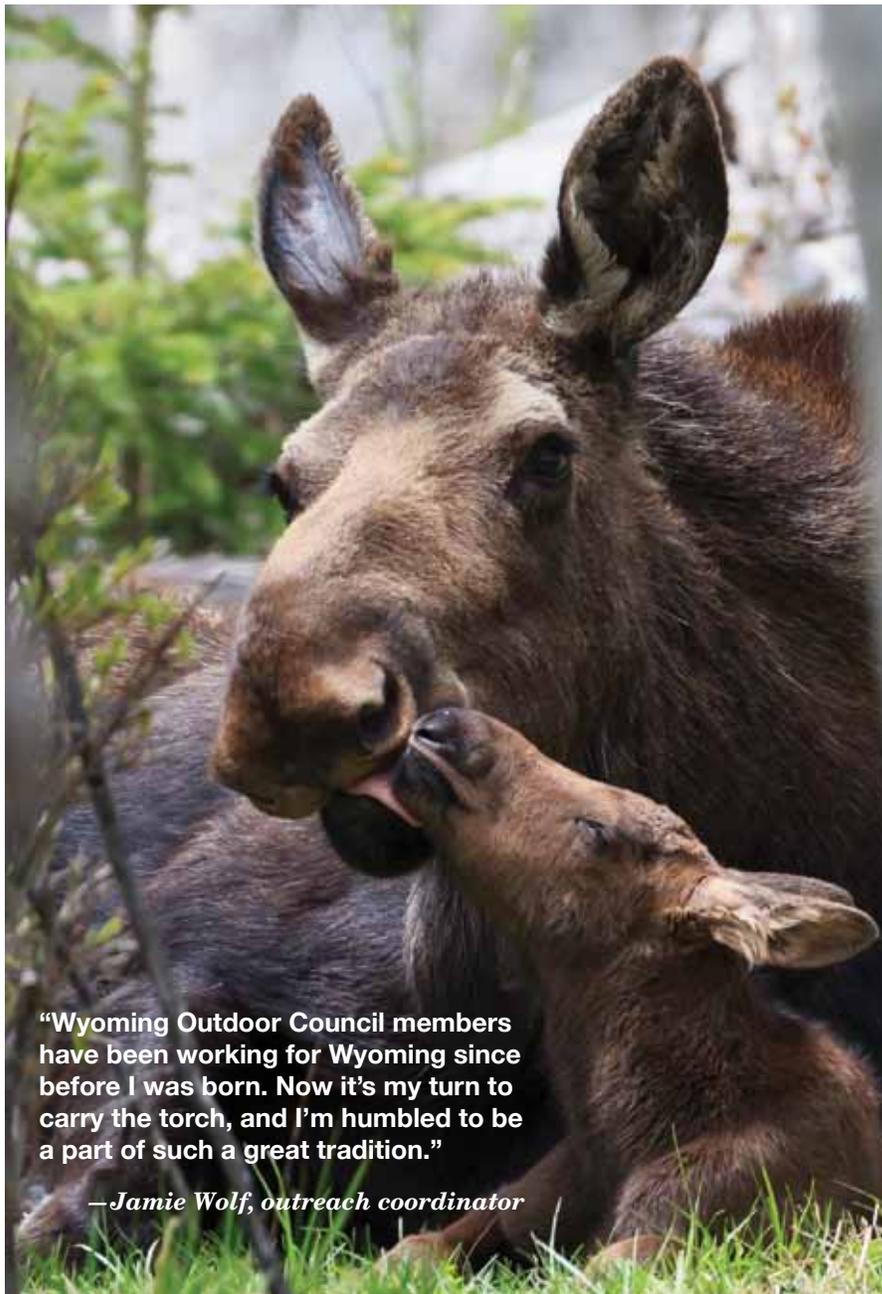
The Forest Service released a draft long-term land-use plan for the Shoshone National Forest in July 2012. Prior to its release we engaged in significant outreach and organizing efforts highlighting the economic benefits of keeping the Shoshone wild.

Unfortunately, the draft forest plan had a clear shortcoming regarding the land it proposed to make available for oil and gas drilling. Although the plan's preferred alternative prescribed some new "no-surface-occupancy" stipulations for 400,000 acres of backcountry-non-motorized roadless areas, it made other lands, including important recreation areas on the forest front country (lands adjacent to towns and communities, including the Lander Front) available to industrial-scale energy development without any surface protection.

In response, we and our partners, along with a local citizens' group, launched a game-changing campaign to encourage and convince key decision makers to support expanding "no-surface-occupancy" protections for these areas and to change the Forest Service's position.

In response to our advocacy efforts and the "conservation economy" message, several influential stakeholders came out in support of our position to protect more of these forestlands with "no-surface-occupancy" oil and gas stipulations.

The Shoshone forest supervisor then announced publicly that there were, indeed, inconsistencies that needed to be addressed regarding oil and gas development on the forest and pledged to re-evaluate and improve



"Wyoming Outdoor Council members have been working for Wyoming since before I was born. Now it's my turn to carry the torch, and I'm humbled to be a part of such a great tradition."

—Jamie Wolf, outreach coordinator

surface protections along the forest's front country.

We believe that our swift response to this issue will yield significant improvement in the final plan and we expect to see important landscapes withdrawn from oil and gas surface development. This would be a major success since oil and gas development is one of the largest threats to wild lands and wildlife in our forests.

Although we may not see more formal recommendations for wilderness in the final plan, we were successful in

convincing both the state and local governments of the necessity of protecting the Shoshone's large, intact landscape, and of securing further protections for roadless and non-wilderness lands to assure ecological resilience and connectivity.

The Red Desert and Oil and Gas Lease Sales

We and our partner organizations responded to all of the BLM oil and gas

Robert Cochran

lease sales in 2012, and at least in part because of our tenacious opposition to leasing in crucial habitats and our heritage areas, the BLM removed more than 125,000 acres of important Red Desert landscapes and wildlife habitat from its sales.

Throughout 2012 we continued our multiyear endeavor to prevent industrial development in our highly targeted group of Red Desert landscapes, which include the Jack Morrow Hills and Adobe Town areas, as well as the Little Mountain ecosystem along the western edge of the desert. Because of our dedicated efforts, a lease has not been issued in the Jack Morrow Hills area since the 1990s, and by continuing this advocacy only 26,800 acres of leases will remain in the Jack Morrow Hills by 2018, down from a high of 225,775 leased acres in 2006.

The BLM continues to be responsive to our requests to defer leases nominated in the Jack Morrow Hills during its quarterly lease sales. At the same time, the BLM has offered and sold some Adobe Town parcels, denying our protests of those lease sales. Along with our national partners, we have requested the BLM Washington, D.C., office to provide greater oversight of leasing in the Adobe Town area, and the national office has informed us it is considering our request.

Successful Legal Action

In 2011, we intervened as local counsel on behalf of the BLM in a lawsuit brought by the Western Energy Alliance, an industry group, before the U.S. District Court of Wyoming. The industry group argued that the Mineral Leasing Act requires the BLM to issue oil and gas leases within 60 days of sale, even if an unresolved lease protest is in place. The court ruled favorably, from our perspective, although we do believe the outcome is actually win-win for the environment and industry. The ruling still provides the Interior Department the discretion to make informed decisions about whether to issue an oil and gas lease—which we see as key—and it also gives the energy industry certainty that such decisions will happen by a pre-determined deadline. The industry group appealed but the case was dismissed, which leaves the favorable decision in place.

Good Stewardship of Wyoming's Wildlife

We remained focused in 2012 on conserving Wyoming's rich wildlife heritage as industrial-scale energy development encroaches on critical

habitat. We are making progress. Utility-scale wind energy companies have begun to adopt our recommendations to protect birds at proposed wind energy development sites. The BLM is citing our arguments to support its decisions not to lease important wildlife areas for oil and gas development.

We also won a significant victory for wildlife by influencing the state's long-term wildlife action plan. This five-year management plan outlines strategies for maintaining the health and diversity of the state's wildlife—particularly those species with small or declining populations. To improve the process, we asked the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission to reassess yearly, rather than every five years, the listing for threatened species. The commission agreed, and the annual review will now make it more likely that agency biologists will identify species that need protection before it is too late.

We continued to engage significantly in the implementation of the Interior Department's greater sage-grouse amendment for resource management plans. The amendment covers nearly 11 million acres. We expect a draft plan in 2013 and we will continue to help the agency develop sound improvements. 🏞️



“The Outdoor Council’s work is forward-looking. For me, as a parent and a member, that’s what means the most.”

—Gary Wilmot, executive director

People and Quality of Life (continued)

government to uphold and strengthen protections for our environment. Wholly 80 percent of western voters view having a good economy and protecting the environment as compatible with each other, and 99 percent feel that public lands such as national parks, forests, and wildlife areas are “an essential part” of the economies of these states. Thus, there is strong public support for controlling haze that mars the air in our national parks and wilderness areas.

Legal Action: Seeking Disclosure of the Chemicals Used in Fracking

In 2012 we continued our work to ensure compliance with the state’s groundbreaking rule requiring the disclosure of the chemicals used during hydraulic fracturing.

As part of this work, we filed a lawsuit with the goal of securing the full disclosure of fracking chemicals that the state has withheld from the public, at the request of industry, under an exemption for “trade secrets.”

This case, which is now before the Wyoming Supreme Court, could have nationwide implications for the validity of trade secret claims in fracking cases. We do not expect a decision until 2014.

Under regulations approved in 2010, Wyoming became the first state in the nation to require well operators to disclose the chemicals that are mixed with water and sand and injected into the ground to break up rock in the process of hydraulic fracturing.

But since the regulations were adopted, the Wyoming Oil and Gas Conservation Commission has approved more than 50 secrecy requests, shielding identifying information for more than 190 different chemicals that are being used by Halliburton and other oil and gas service companies in hydraulic fracturing.

It is our position that with very few exceptions companies should be required to reveal the identities of all of the chemicals that are injected underground during fracking.

Citizens and landowners have a right to know what chemicals are transported across, stored on, and disposed of on and below their properties.

In Wyoming, nearly all new and ongoing oil and gas production involves fracking. Transport, use, and disposal of fracking chemicals could potentially affect ground and surface water, which is—or could be in the future—used for drinking water, livestock, irrigation, or other important uses.

When it comes to fracking chemicals and the potential harm to landowners and residents, the interests of public health and

the public good should outweigh the interests of protecting companies’ so-called trade secrets.

We also believe the state can still protect companies’ trade secrets by simply requiring disclosure of the chemical ingredients, not the specific formulas of those fracking constituents.

“The recipe for Coca-Cola is a trade secret,” said Bruce Pendery, Outdoor Council program director. “But the ingredients are not, and they’re all listed on the back of the can. A similar approach should be taken for fracking fluids used in Wyoming.”

Federal Fracking Rules

We also engaged in 2012 in the separate, but complementary, proposed federal regulations for hydraulic fracturing, with the hopes of improving these rules as well. These are rules the Bureau of Land Management would adopt with the goal of protecting public lands from the potential dangers of transporting, handling, and using hydraulic fracturing fluids in the fracking process. This work is ongoing.



Scott Copeland Images

Reducing Air Pollution from Oil and Gas Development

We engaged heavily with EPA officials in 2012 as the agency worked to improve national and ultimately state rules to reduce air pollution from the oil and gas sector.

We submitted detailed comments and advocated our positions in face-to-face meetings with regional and national EPA officials.

The agency issued the final plan in April 2012, and we are happy to report it includes strong controls on air pollution emissions from oil and gas drilling and production.

An important benefit of these regulations will be significant reductions in methane emissions. This will help improve local air quality and it will also help reduce pollution that is contributing to global climate change. Methane is a particularly potent greenhouse gas. We expect the state will adopt these national regulations in 2013. 🌿

People and Politics

Scott Kane

Every year we represent our members throughout the entire state legislative session in Cheyenne.

During the session, we encourage our members and supporters to follow our blog for important news and time-sensitive requests in an effort to ensure that our values become the policies that keep Wyoming the place we know and love.

In the interim, we also engage—in person and year-round—with Wyoming's elected officials and decision makers at committee meetings, hearings, and gatherings, both in public and behind the scenes—everywhere important decisions and policies are discussed.

Highlights from the 2012 Legislature

Senate File 85, General Permits

This bill, which passed and was signed into law, and was hastily sponsored by a joint interim committee just two days before the session began, was an environmental rollback.

It was authored to undo our successful lawsuit against the state and its Department of Environmental Quality for the manner in which the agency had issued general, watershed-wide permits for dumping coalbed methane water.

Senate File 86, Greenhouse Gas Air Quality Regulation

The Wyoming Outdoor Council not only supported this bill during the session but also was a consistent and early voice in advocating its consideration.

In September 2010 we heard an executive with the parent company of Rocky Mountain Power suggest to a

legislative interim committee that the state might consider the development of a greenhouse gas permitting process.

Seizing this opportunity, we engaged with various stakeholders over the course of the next 18 months and urged lawmakers to discuss the topic.

With the passage of this bill, the state had, for the first time, officially linked greenhouse gases to regulation—a rather remarkable feat.

As is often the case, a great deal of work remains. The state's regulation will be no more stringent than the federal government's (which will simply allow the state to maintain its primacy). We argue that the state should take a more forward-looking approach and if only by the smallest of increments regulate greenhouse gases more closely than the federal government will. We see this approach as offering the state a real chance to differentiate itself in a way that could prove to have important competitive advantages. Wyoming could be viewed as among the healthiest of states, one where clean air is valued as highly as open space, clean water resources, and natural resource development.

Senate File 42, Large Project Funding

Since its creation in 2005, Wyoming's Wildlife and Natural Resource Trust has helped conserve natural habitat and is rightfully seen as one of the Wyoming Legislature's signature achievements.

In 2012 the trust sought approval from the Legislature for 13 conservation easements. The governor asked us to support this bill, and we were glad to.

The bill was ultimately successful but its passage was never certain, particularly since so many in the

Legislature oppose conservation easements. It is fair to say that we played an important role in getting this legislation passed.

House Bill 47, Omnibus Water Bill Construction

This bill includes \$750,000 in funding for a domestic water supply for residents outside of Pavillion, where a number of water wells have been contaminated, possibly as a result of gas drilling operations in the area.

This bill acknowledges the groundwater contamination and the responsibility of the state to offer affected citizens access to clean water, reliably and affordably delivered. This is a principle that we have advocated and a challenge that Governor Mead embraced.

This bill served as one small step forward in a complicated process that will, we hope, ultimately reveal how groundwater in rural Pavillion has been contaminated.

House Bill 90, Baseline Scientific Assessments

The Wyoming Outdoor Council has long advocated that the state require baseline testing of groundwater prior to, during, and after oil and gas development. While this bill does not specifically establish a requirement for groundwater tests, it serves as an indicator that there is a growing awareness that the state has a fundamental responsibility to make sure that industrial scale development does not impair resources belonging to Wyoming's current and future generations. We supported this bill when others did not and we believe it lays an important foundation for stronger protections of all of our state's resources. 

The members of the Wyoming Outdoor Council come together to protect our environment and quality of life for future generations.

Foundations

1002 Foundation
 American Endowment Foundation
 Blue Ridge Fund
 The Brooks Foundation
 Burdick Faulkner Charitable Fund
 Burlington Northern Santa Fe Foundation
 Cinnabar Foundation
 Community Foundation of Jackson Hole
 Confluence Fund
 The Conservation Alliance
 Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund
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 Cedar Mountain Tree Care
 Columbia Sportswear CO
 Cony Corporation
 Crane Creek Graphics
 Dan Winninger Agency
 Four Seasons Anglers

Gannett Peak Sports
 Glacier View Mechanical, Inc.
 Gourmet Catering
 Holiday Lodge
 Hydro Hounds
 Intermountain Combined Federal Campaign
 Izaak Walton League, Charles E. Piersall Chapter
 Izaak Walton League, Travelle Chapter
 Jackson Hole Llamas
 Jackson Hole Mountain Resorts
 Kister Eyecare, PC
 Laramie Plains Civic Center
 Laramie Spinal Care Center
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 Dan Smitherman
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 Larry Swanson
 Stacy Wells
 Wild Iris Mountain Sports
 Mary Lynn Worl

In Memory of

Edwin L. Guenzel
 Charles Levendosky
 Jane and Dave Love
 Sally Swift
 Chris Walburgh and Patti Saurman

Statement of Financial Position

As of December 31, 2012

Assets	2012
Cash and Savings	\$568,369
Donations Receivable	29,231
Property and Equipment	85,889
Endowment / Investments	2,996,568
Prepaid Expenses	1,564
Total Assets	\$3,681,621

Liabilities and Net Assets	
Accounts Payable	\$54,337
Net Assets	
Unrestricted	1,901,803
Temporarily Restricted	951,532
Permanently Restricted	773,949
Total Net Assets	\$3,627,284
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$3,681,621

Statement of Activities

Year Ended December 31, 2012

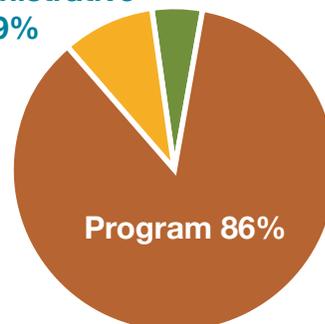
Support and Revenues	
Individual Contributions	\$259,447
Foundation Contributions	810,602
Memberships	15,515
Other Support	7,751
Interest and Dividend Income	184,722
Total Revenue and Support	\$1,278,037*

Expenses by Activity	
Program Services	\$759,840
Management and Administration	84,503
Fundraising	42,043
Total Expenses	\$886,386

* During the year ended December 31, 2012, the Council received early payment of a large long-term pledge. While the pledge was recognized as income in the current year, it is restricted for distribution to operations over the next four years.

Expenses by Activity

General and Administrative 9% Fundraising 5%





Wyoming Outdoor Council

wyomingoutdoorcouncil.org

262 Lincoln Street
Lander, WY 82520
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Our mission endures.

Join us at our annual meeting and then explore the Red Desert

Sunday, September 8

8–9:30 a.m. Annual Meeting in Rock Springs

Get the latest conservation news, as well as updates on our Red Desert work. After that, explore the Red Desert with Outdoor Council staff, board, and area experts.

10 a.m.–3 p.m. Red Desert Expedition

We will visit the White Mountain petroglyphs and Boar's Tusk, and hike the Killpecker Sand Dunes.

For details on the hike or the annual meeting, and to RSVP, please contact Julia Stuble, Land Conservation Coordinator, (307) 332-7031 ext. 11 or julia@wyomingoutdoorcouncil.org

Please join, renew, or give a gift today to help us fulfill our mission at wyomingoutdoorcouncil.org

Scott Copeland Images

Front Cover: Scott Copeland Images