



Wyoming Landscape Conservation Initiative

*Conserving world-class wildlife resources
Facilitating responsible development*

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Public Meeting in Saratoga for Wyoming Landscape Conservation Initiative

*****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*****

The Executive Committee of the Wyoming Landscape Conservation Initiative (WLCI) will meet Thursday, October 14, 2010, at the Platte Valley Convention Center in Saratoga, Wyo. The meeting will follow a field tour of WLCI projects to be held on October 13, 2010.

The meeting will begin at 8 a.m. and is scheduled to adjourn by 1 p.m. During the meeting, the WLCI Executive Committee will discuss a conservation plan, conservation leases and management of contributed funds. The committee will hear presentations on Natural Resources Conservation Service programs, bark beetles and long-term trends of sage-grouse. The meeting is open to the public, and visitors will have the opportunity to comment.

During the tour, the Executive Committee will visit several sites in the area, with the public welcome to attend. They will meet at the Platte Valley Convention Center at 7:45 a.m. or Medicine Bow Conservation District office at 9:00 a.m. The tour will likely include a wind farm, potential projects to benefit sage-grouse, vegetation treatments and river restoration projects. The tour will end around 5:15 p.m.

The WLCI Executive Committee is comprised of representatives from the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, U.S. Geological Survey, U.S. Forest Service, Wyoming Game & Fish Department, Wyoming Department of Agriculture, U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM), county commissioners and conservation districts. Wyoming Game and Fish Director Steve Ferrell is currently serving as chairman of the committee. Sweetwater County Conservation District Chair Mary Thoman and BLM Wyoming State Director Don Simpson are serving respectively as first vice chair and second vice chair.

The WLCI is a long-term science-based effort to assess and enhance aquatic and terrestrial habitats at a landscape scale in Southwest Wyoming, while facilitating responsible development of the region's valuable energy resources.

The Platte Valley Convention Center is in Saratoga, Wyo. at 210 W. Elm Ave. More information on the WLCI, as well as a draft agenda for the meeting, can be found at: <http://www.wlci.gov/>.