

UYWB – 2006 in Review

January 2006 (21 present)

- Coordinator attended the MWCC Quarterly meeting in Helena.
- Discussion about stop-work order from DEQ on the Paradise TMDL Planning Area project.
- FWP update and discussion about Mill Creek leasing.
- Presentation by Debbie Zarnt, Montana Watercourse about Know Your Watershed workshops and tours.
- Reviewed results of December survey regarding the mission, educational needs and resource issues of the group.
- Yellowstone River Conservation District Council, Resource Advisory Committee position announcement and nomination of UYWB member Jerry O'Hair.

March 2006 (43 present)

- ATTRA workshop for Irrigation Efficiency Project (AM400 - Soil Moisture Data Logger).
- Began planning the Stewardship Trail Ride fundraiser.
- Coordinator attended a Watershed Planning meeting hosted by DNRC in Helena.
- Coordinator attended an Area VI Administrator meeting in Bozeman to discuss grants and contracts management.
- Created UYWB Brochure and Weed Display mock-up field unit.
- Department of Agriculture, Noxious Weed Trust Fund grant hearing in Lewistown attended by Dave Molebash, Chairman, Roger Nelson, and Nicole McClain (project was fully funded).
- Gallatin National Forest update on the Food Storage Order and Cinnabar Restoration Project by Chauntelle Rock.
- Montana Department of Justice, Division of Criminal Investigation update on meth labs by Duane Neal.
- Presentation by Dr. Peter Kolb, Montana State University Extension Forestry Specialist entitled "Active forest management and its role in conserving ecosystem function".
- Range workshop discussion with Charlie Orchard, Land EKG.
- Wrote and submitted a grant application to the Mountain Sky Guest Ranch fund of the Arthur M. Blank Family Foundation for Capacity Building among Park County Watershed Groups.

April 2006 (40 present)

- Cottonwood Reestablishment Project - applied for and received special one-time Yellowstone River funding through DNRC Conservation Districts Bureau for \$9,000.
- E/T Species/Wildlife Update on brucellosis by Rich Kinkie, and discussion about a proposed 5 week hunting season led by Justin O'Hair.
- Held leadership elections for 2006/2007: Mark Rose, Chairman and Bert Otis, Vice-Chairman.
- MACD Area VI Watershed Training in Whitehall attended by Amy, Nicole, and Gayleen Malone & Daryl Stutterheim.
- Presentation by Barbara Hall (MT Water Trust) and Laura Zeimer (MT Water Project) on Western Water Law Basics.
- Presentation entitled "Exploring options for community-based fisheries and water conservation in the Upper Yellowstone River basin." by Pat Byorth, Fisheries Biologist, and Mr. Scott Opitz, Area Biologist, with Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks.
- Range Days update by Alan Redfield.
- Received AM400 Soil Moisture data loggers for the Irrigation Efficiency Project and held an installation at Deer Haven Ranch.
- Weed Fair 2006/Know Your Watershed tour planning meeting; update by Eleanor Bossert.
- Wind energy update by Marty Malone, Park County Extension Agent.

May 2006 (49 present)

- A briefing on HB22 and Water rights adjudication in Montana – the roles of the Montana Water Court and DNRC by the Honorable Chief Water Judge Bruce Loble, and Mr. Scott Compton – Regional Manager of the Bozeman DNRC Regional Office.
- Action/Work plan review and update.
- Alan Steinle, Army Corps of Engineers, and DNRC re: Special Area Management Plan (SAMP) & Cumulative Effects studies update.
- Mountain Sky Guest Ranch fund grant application - site visit.
- No-Till project update by Alvin Pierce and season kick-off.
- Scott Schuler, Gallatin National Forest re: West Pine Creek Yellowstone Cutthroat Trout Habitat Restoration Project.
- Seal-It project update by Bert Otis and season kick-off.
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Establishes Rocky Mountain Front Conservation Area, update by Marty Malone.
- UYWB Spotted Knapweed Project - Noxious Weed Trust Fund grant update and season kick-off.
- Weed Fair 2006/Montana Watercourse – Know Your Watershed tour planning meeting; update by Eleanor Bossert.

June 2006 (106 present)

- Held an Executive Committee meeting on June 9th, decided to no longer mail out copies of minutes to save resources.
- Paradise Valley Weed Fair & Know Your Watershed Workshop, Rolling Rivers Stream Trailer demonstration on June 3rd.

July 2006 (21 present)

- Coordinator participated in the Corporation for the Northern Rockies – Sustainability Fair with Park CD and the Rolling Rivers Stream Trailer.
- Decision Notice and Finding of No Significant Impact, Bison Quarantine Feasibility Study Phase II/III - update by Bert Otis.
- Irrigation Efficiency project update by Marty Malone.
- MACD – CD Academy, Coordinator attended this training in Helena sponsored by the Montana Association of Conservation Districts.
- PowerPoint presentation by Sunni Knapton, Confluence Consulting regarding the UYWB 2006 Yellowstone River Cottonwood Restoration project.
- Ron Archuleta, Livingston District Ranger, Gallatin National Forest update on the Gallatin National Forest Expanded Food Storage Order (FSO), Fire Suppression Preparedness for Summer 2006, Travel Plan and Program of Work.

- Scott Opitz, Fish Wildlife & Parks update on Locke Creek Fish Passage and Floating Hazard Debris Removal project on Yellowstone River.

August 2006 (no meeting)

- Conducted Mill Creek Flush and received update from Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks - Scott Opitz.
- Issued a press release on the UYWB Spotted Knapweed Project (Livingston Enterprise).
- MWCC Fall Training Retreat – planning committee (Coordinator participation).
- Rolling Rivers Stream Trailer demonstration at the Park County Fair with the Park CD (booth).
- Rolling Rivers Stream Trailer demonstration at the Sustainability Fair with the Park CD (booth).
- Site visit at Mountain Sky Guest Ranch re: Park CD/watershed group grant application to the Mountain Sky Guest Ranch fund (project funded).
- Stewardship Trail Ride planning meeting.
- Submitted the Mill Creek Flush project – MACD Local Empowerment Project grant application (fully funded).
- Watershed planning meeting with DNRC and Boulder River Watershed Group.

September 2006 (27 present)

- Combined UYWB meeting with the Paradise Valley Complex Update from Gallatin National Forest.
- Coordinator attended and participated in the MWCC Fall Training Retreat at the B-Bar Ranch, Tom Miner Basin.
- Irrigation Efficiency Project update by Jerry O'Hair.
- Range Monitoring Workshop with Charlie Orchard sponsored by a Conservation Initiative Grant; update by Alvin Pierce.
- Stewardship Trail Ride planning meeting and update.
- Update from Scott Opitz about the Center for Biodiversity appealing the decision on Yellowstone Cutthroat Trout listing.
- UYWB 2006 Yellowstone River Cottonwood Restoration project update.
- UYWB Spotted Knapweed Project update by Eleanor Bossert.

October 2006 (28 present)

- 2006 UYWB Spotted Knapweed project update – Eleanor Bossert.
- Army Corps of Engineers update on the Special Area Management.
- Cottonwood Reestablishment Project – update.
- Discussion about Mill Creek Flush project and report, letter to Mill Creek Water Users.
- EPA Targeted Watershed Grants program – project and application review (discovery).
- Mountain Sky Guest Ranch fund award of \$8,000 in unrestricted funds for coordination and \$5,000 to retain the services of a professional fundraiser.
- Northern Rocky Mountain RC&D wind energy workshop update by Marty Malone.
- Organized "hay-drive" for Derby fire victims.
- Program: Can I Survive In Agriculture? Duane Griffith, Montana State University, Extension Farm Management Specialist.
- UYWB Mentoring Project – project development and 223 grant application.
- Weber Irrigation project – update from Bob Weber.

November 2006 (80 present including Forum)

- Cottonwood Reestablishment Project – update.
- Formation of UYWB Grant Review committee.
- Mill Creek water leasing, discussion led by Marty Malone.
- Presentation about Pre-and-Post Fire Management & Forest Change by Mr. Dennis Davaz, Forestry Expert.
- Sponsored a Candidate's Forum for local candidates for public office.
- USFS, Ron Archuleta, Livingston District Ranger. Update on the wildfire recovery.
- UYWB Pilot Peer Mentoring Project, HB-223 Grant proposal and hearing at the MACD Annual Convention (funded at 64%).
- UYWB Spotted Knapweed Project update by Eleanor Bossert.

December 2006 (25 present)

- Christina Staten, DEQ – Watershed Planner, Paradise TMDL Planning Area project update.
- Comprehensive UYWB project & funding updates.
- Coordinator resignation and appointment of interim Coordinator – Marty Malone.
- Cottonwood Reestablishment Project – update.
- MWCA Annual Conference/NWTF grant, call for letters of support. Update by Eleanor Bossert.
- Paradise Valley Sanitation Project, update by Bert Otis – UYWB Wildlife Committee.
- Park Conservation District update – suspension of Amy Miller.
- Program: Annual Business Meeting: Education and Resource Need, Mission Statement Review – led by Marty Malone.
- Ron Archuleta, Livingston District Ranger update on Travel Plan, Passage Creek timber salvage, and cost recovery.
- Watershed Symposium in Great Falls, December 5-7, 2006.

2006 Meeting/Workshop Attendance: 440

2005 Meeting Attendance: 332