

GREATER YELLOWSTONE  
COORDINATING COMMITTEE



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# 2014 Annual Report



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Photo: USFS

50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Wilderness Act Event  
Jackson WY

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Greater Yellowstone Coordinating Committee

2015

On the cover: Snake River, Eastern Idaho. Photo by Leland Howard

For additional information visit the GYCC Website at <http://www.fedgycc.org/>

Photos and maps are from GYCC files or as indicated.

# INTRODUCTION

The Greater Yellowstone Area (GYA) is a unique and special place. Home to the world's first National Park and to our nation's first National Forest, the GYA is widely viewed as the largest intact ecosystem in the lower 48 United States.

Nearly all of the native animals still roam. Headwaters to the Missouri, Snake, and Green Rivers remain a stronghold for genetically pure native fish. The 23 million acre ecosystem includes over 15 million acres of largely contiguous federal land.

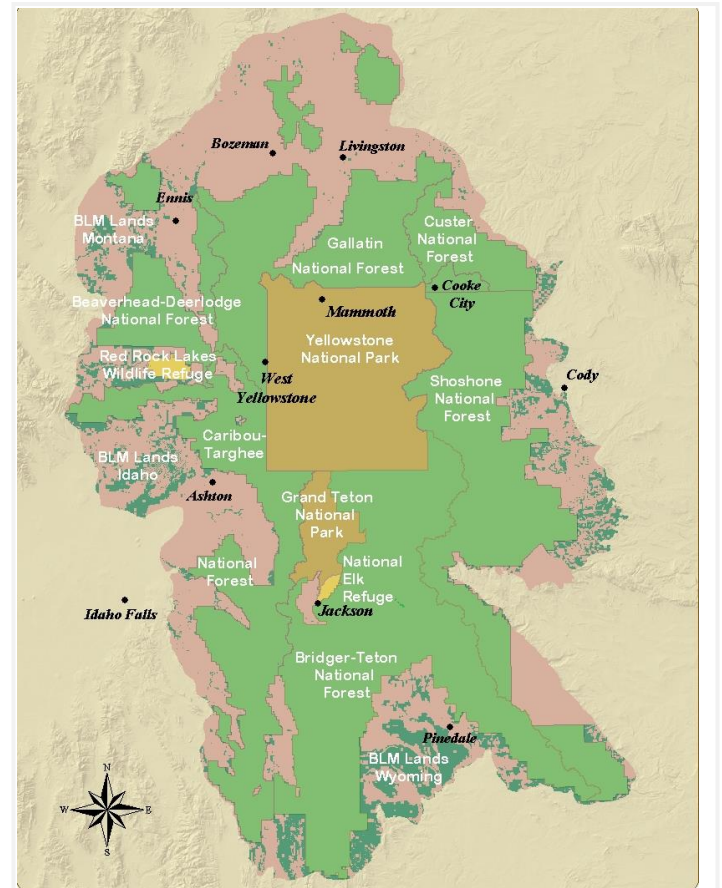
The Greater Yellowstone Coordinating Committee (GYCC) formed in 1964 between the National Park Service and the U.S. Forest Service. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service joined the committee in 2000, and the GYCC welcomed the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in 2012. The GYCC celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2014.



The GYCC fosters communication, coordination and cooperation in GYA federal land management. The four agency partners affirmed their intentions for mutual cooperation through a 2012 MOU.

The GYCC consists of top leaders of the GYA federal land management units:

- Two Park Superintendents; of Yellowstone National Park and of Grand Teton National Park and the John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Memorial Parkway
- Forest Supervisors of five National Forests: Beaverhead-Deerlodge, Bridger-Teton,



- Caribou-Targhee, Custer Gallatin, and Shoshone National Forests
- Refuge Managers of Red Rock Lakes National Wildlife Refuge and the National Elk Refuge
- BLM Western Montana District Manager and the Cody Field Office Manager (represents BLM Idaho and Wyoming)

At a strategic retreat late in 2013, the GYCC developed a vision statement and defined goals for 2014 and 2015.

## *Greater Yellowstone Coordinating Committee*

### *Vision*

*Working together and with others to preserve and conserve the globally recognized Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem for the benefit of current and future generations.*

Goals articulated by the GYCC included:

- Raise the visibility of the GYA
- Speak with one voice about the importance of the GYA
- Advance ecosystem resiliency and restoration.

The GYCC began to advance these goals by initiating a series of three “Public Conversations” to:

- Provide the public and stakeholders an opportunity to express their hopes, goals and aspirations regarding the GYA
- Elevate the public’s awareness and understanding of the role and function of the GYCC
- Improve existing relationships and create new relationships between the GYCC and the public and stakeholders
- Enhance land management effectiveness (capacity, collaboration, communication, cooperation, strategic thinking) on GYA-scale issues



*March 2014 Jackson WY Public Conversation*

The first Public Conversation was held in Jackson, WY in March 2014, the second in Bozeman, MT in October 2014 and the third in Cody, WY in spring of 2015. The sessions were well attended and the GYCC appreciate the diversity of participants and their comments.



*October 2014 Bozeman MT Public Conversation*

## Priorities

GYCC managers set regional level priorities for coordination, and assign financial and staff resources to achieve those priorities. The GYCC units pool funds for coordinated work addressing these resource priorities.

In response to continued reductions in agency resources, the GYCC managers focus most of their financial resources on a subset of these priorities (Tier 1), while continuing to support Tier 2 priorities.

### Tier 1 Priorities

- Sustainable operations
- Invasive species
- Species on the brink
- Water quality and flow
- Greater Yellowstone landscape integrity

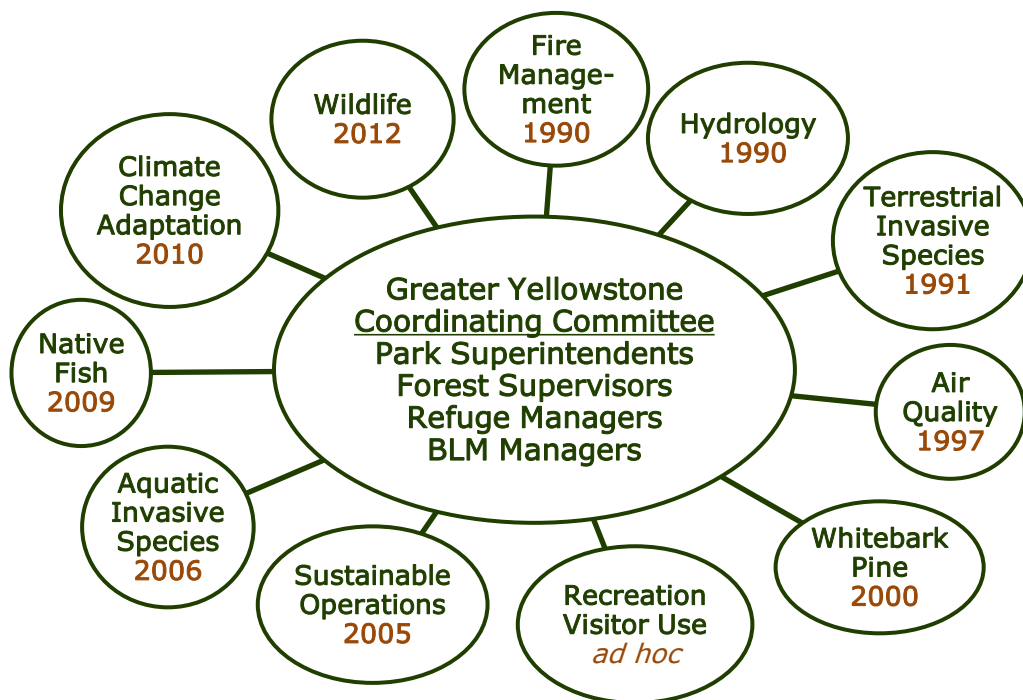
### Tier 2 Priorities

- Air quality
- Climate change adaptation
- Disease
- Connect people to the land

This report summarizes 2014 accomplishments of the GYCC, their staff and many GYA-wide subcommittees. The GYCC allocated \$257,000 to projects advancing their priorities. Appendix A describes 2014 GYCC projects.

## GYCC Subcommittees

The GYCC subcommittees carry out the on-going coordination of GYA management activities. Subcommittees include agency staff and partners. More subcommittee detail can be found at: [http://www.fedgycc.org/gycc\\_subcommittees.htm](http://www.fedgycc.org/gycc_subcommittees.htm)



## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

### Sustainable Operations

The Sustainable Operations Subcommittee (SOS) facilitates coordination of water and energy conservation, waste prevention and recycling throughout GYA public lands.

Subcommittee members implemented a number of water, solid waste and energy reduction projects. The Beaverhead-Deerlodge NF replaced windows in a historic structure, implementing a design piloted in Grand Teton NP. Recycling containers will be placed at a Bridger-Teton NF campground. Members strategized improving the collection of propane camping canisters.

Three Forest Service offices installed water filling stations to reduce bottled water use.

See more SOS information at: <http://www.fedgycc.org/SOSOverview.htm>



## Ecosystem Health

The Ecosystem Health priority includes the air, water, soil, plant, fish and wildlife resources of the GYA. The GYCC focused this priority on climate change, air quality, invasive species and disease, water quality and flow, and species on the brink (native fish, wildlife, whitebark pine).

## Climate Change

The GYCC seeks to understand potential effects of climate change on GYA resources, and to manage resources considering the possible impacts. The Climate Change Adaptation Subcommittee promotes agency employee awareness, fills information gaps and facilitates climate informed management.

As temperatures rise in the high GYA mountains, ice patches thousands of years old are melting. Ancient cultural artifacts bound in the ice are then released, and the organic artifacts quickly rot when exposed to the air.

In 2013, the GYCC funded Dr. Craig Lee to inventory ice patches and determine probability of cultural material. The project continued in 2014 with outreach to Tribes, agency archaeologists, articles and public presentations.



At 10,400 years old, a complete wooden dart foreshaft made from a birch sapling is the oldest artifact recovered in GYA ice patches.

Grand Teton NP established a protocol to monitor long term effects of climate on glacier growth or melting.

In 2012 and 2013, Park staff installed temperature loggers and established photo points for three glaciers.



In 2014, elevation surface survey methods to establish a baseline elevation surface were tested in the field. A full elevation survey was completed of Schoolroom Glacier.



## Air Quality

The Greater Yellowstone Area Clean Air Partnership (GYACAP) includes federal and state air resource program specialists. The GYACAP advises the GYCC on air quality issues, shares air quality information and regulatory issues, and coordinates air quality monitoring between state and federal agencies. See: <http://www.fedgycc.org/GYACAPOverview.htm>

The GYACAP's current priority is to understand the effects of air pollution on GYA ecosystems, determine if change is occurring, establish whether thresholds have been exceeded, and identify information gaps in establishing critical loads of air pollution deposition in the GYA.

Committee work continues on the top two information priorities; 1) develop GYA nitrogen deposition maps; and 2) a macro invertebrate analysis to clarify the link and trends between atmospheric deposition, lake and adjacent stream chemistry, and macro invertebrates.

## Water Quality and Flow

Three mighty rivers flow from GYA mountains; the Missouri, Snake and Green rivers. The Greater Yellowstone Hydrologists (GYH) developed an interagency watershed management strategy with focus on:

- Watershed scale interagency coordination
- Watershed, riparian area, and geomorphic integrity
- Water quality protection and enhancement
- Water flow, water supply, and water rights

See the subcommittee's webpage at: <http://www.fedgycc.org/HydrologistsOverview.htm>

In 2012, the GYH applied the Forest Service watershed condition classification (WCC) to the GYA National Parks and Wildlife Refuges. In 2013, the hydrologists discussed incorporating the GYA BLM lands into the assessment. The hydrologists then plan to prioritize watersheds GYA-wide for targeted restoration efforts.

Building on a 2012 GYCC project, the hydrologists continued *Reference Multiple Indicator Monitoring (MIM) Stream Surveys* to identify stream reference conditions. Fifteen surveys were completed in 2014 on six units representing national forests, a national park and a national wildlife refuge.

An interagency team of hydrologists, soil scientists and GIS specialists continued the GYA-wide watershed vulnerability analysis process. The intent is to inform land management actions considering both the inherent sensitivity of the complex GYA landscape and climate projections.

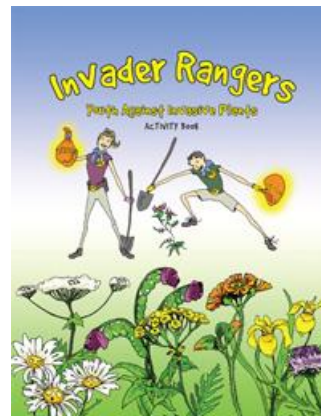
The GYH finalized an inventory of existing information on potential dam impoundment sites that began in 2012, available at: [Greater Yellowstone Potential Dam Site Inventory 2014](#)

## Invasive Species and Disease

Invasive species and disease pose a serious threat to the GYA. Two GYCC subcommittees address terrestrial and aquatic invasive species.

### Terrestrial Invasive Plant Species

The Terrestrial Invasive Species Committee brings together a broad base of cooperators in the fight against invasive terrestrial plant species. See the subcommittee's webpage at: <http://www.fedgycc.org/WeedOverview.htm>



The GYCC supported the printing of a new activity book for kids, *Invader Rangers Activity Book*. With partner matching, approximately 10,000 books were printed and distributed around the GYA.

The subcommittee continued to maintain its GYA weed occurrence database.

Over 65 volunteers from a dozen federal, county and local agencies in three states tackled weeds at the third annual GYA terrestrial invasive species work day at Mammoth WY and Gardiner MT.



*Third annual GYA terrestrial invasive plant control event  
Mammoth WY and Gardiner MT*

### Aquatic Invasive Species

The GYA Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Cooperative includes federal, state and county agencies and non-profit organizations. In 2014 the Cooperative initiated three new efforts.

Numerous years of AIS survey data from multiple jurisdictions in three states was organized into a database. The information will help the Cooperative identify survey gaps as well as areas of survey redundancy.

To date, most AIS survey effort focused on waterways with higher public use. In 2014, USGS and NPS researchers began a two-year effort to develop a protocol for surveying more remote, less used waterways. The pilot effort focused on Yellowstone NP, Grand-Teton NP, and the Bridger-Teton NF.

The AIS Cooperative engaged the *Invasive Species Action Network* to begin integrated GYA AIS communication and response planning in the event of a mussel introduction. At a GYA workshop, participants identified existing protocols and communication gaps. AIS partners pledged to continue the rapid response planning effort.

## Species on the Brink

### Native Fish

In 2012, the GYCC funded an investigation into how climate influences stream temperature and stream flow at fine spatial scales. The project identified stream temperature monitoring gaps, collected climate data in a small field study, and identified additional data needs for accurate modeling.

In 2014, GYCC funding helped fill the identified data gaps with 119 sensors deployed on 4 units. The data was submitted to USGS and USFS to incorporate into the NorWeST Stream Temperature Model.

The Upper Boulder Yellowstone Cutthroat Trout (YCT) restoration project (Gallatin NF) removed non-native trout and stocked native YCT. Because project costs were lower than projected, some GYCC funds also supported a nearby high priority YCT restoration action – relocation of the Placer Gulch trail to prevent sedimentation into the primary spawning tributary to Lower Deer Creek.

### Wildlife

For decades biologists have coordinated on individual wildlife species (e.g. bald eagle, trumpeter swans, various ungulates, etc.). Late in 2012, agency wildlife biologists formed a wildlife subcommittee to address GYA wildlife as a whole.

The Committee's conservation goal focuses on rare, sensitive, or declining wildlife species; the "species on the brink". In 2014, the committee initiated an ecosystem-scale species on the brink assessment, compiling information from various sources.

One of the Committee's first GYCC projects was installation of vent pipe screens on vault toilets to prevent wildlife entrapment. Thousands of cavity-nesters are trapped each year.

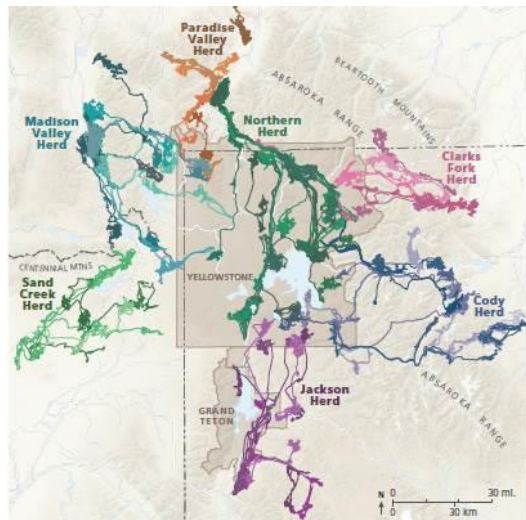
The pipes particularly pose a problem for smaller owls because they mimic natural cavities preferred by some species for nesting and roosting.

Northern Saw-whet owl rescued from vault toilet Sequoia NF, CA  
Photo: Diane Diebold



In partnership with the Teton Raptor Center, the wildlife committee plans to install vent screens on all federal vault toilets in the GYA by fall 2015. By 2014 over half of the needed screens were installed. Agency staff and the Teton Raptor Center won the 2014 Forest Service International *“Wings Across the Americas”* Award for this project.

The GYCC is one partner supporting the *Atlas of Wildlife Migration* undertaken by the Wyoming Migration Initiative. The Atlas will provide a comprehensive review of ungulate migrations in Wyoming with both a large format Atlas and on-line content.



GYA Elk Migrations from the Wyoming Migration Initiative

The GYCC supported a study to determine which successional stages of forest cover types

are used by grizzly bears, and for which activities; feeding, traveling, or resting. The Island Park, Idaho case study may serve as a model of how bears may use multiple use forests. Results are expected in 2015.

## Whitebark Pine

Whitebark pine is a GYA “keystone” species. Its seeds feed wildlife, including grizzly bears and Clark’s nutcracker. The tree holds snow at high elevations, thus continuing snow melt longer into the summer. The tree is impacted by native mountain pine beetles, changes in fire regime, a warming climate and the introduced white pine blister rust.

The Whitebark Pine Committee involves GYCC agency staff, university and agency researchers, and works to ensure the long-term viability and function of whitebark pine in the GYA. See: <http://www.fedgycc.org/WhitebarkPineOverview.htm>

A key component to whitebark pine’s future is fostering resistance to the introduced blister rust. Cones are collected from trees that do not show signs of blister rust, and then seedlings are grown at the Forest Service Coeur d’Alene nursery. The GYCC supported collections of cones and genetic material.



Mule train packing seedlings to remote site, Shoshone NF  
(Photo: Leianna Jo Raadt Smith, Shoshone NF)

Over 175,000 seedlings were planted on about 950 acres on six GYCC units. Most seedlings were planted in recently burned areas, taking advantage of nature’s site preparation.

Montana State University researchers continued developing bioclimatic envelop models to predict suitable future “climate space” for whitebark pine, publishing in 2014:

*Patterns and Variability of Projected Bioclimatic Habitat for Pinus albicaulis in the Greater Yellowstone Area* by Tony Chang, Andrew J. Hansen, and Nathan Piekielek in PLoS ONE 9(11): e111669.

## Protect Landscape Integrity

Development patterns on private lands near public lands can affect wildlife migration, water resources, public access and firefighting on federal lands. In the context of rapid land development over the past several decades, the landscape integrity priority looks at land ownership patterns with attention to ecological integrity, retention of public access, and management efficiencies.

The Caribou-Targhee NF acquired the McCoy Creek property; 315 acres about two miles west of Palisades Reservoir near Alpine, Wyoming. The property includes Yellowstone cutthroat trout habitat and 25 acres of wetlands. Public acquisition maintains public access for hunting, fishing and snowmobiling.

## Connect People to the Land

In 2014 the GYCC supported for the fifth year the Bear Creek Natural Resources Field Camp on the Beaverhead-Deerlodge NF. Over 450 students in grades 3 - 8 spent a day learning about fish, wildlife, plants, fly-fishing and other topics geared to each grade level.

The GYCC supported Wilderness Act 50th Anniversary events with the *Wild Connections - Expanding Wilderness Constituency in Western Wyoming* project. The Bridger-Teton NF and 26 partners completed a full year of activities ranging from youth events, community events, stewardship projects, and hikes.

Wilderness Rangers taught wilderness, Leave No Trace, map & compass, and survival strategies at events in the southern GYA.



## Fire Management Advisory Group

The Fire Management Officers began a coordination committee in the early 1990s. They meet twice a year; in spring to coordinate fire resources, and in fall to review the previous season. They hold weekly conference calls in the fire season.

## Public Outreach and Communication

The GYCC public affairs staff coordinated press releases announcing the GYCC Public Conversations. Periodic GYCC newsletters are posted to: [http://fedgycc.org/gycc\\_maps.htm](http://fedgycc.org/gycc_maps.htm)

## For More Information

The GYCC’s website at [www.fedgycc.org](http://www.fedgycc.org) provides information on the GYCC’s roles, participants, history, subcommittees, projects, and meetings and events.

Many of the projects mentioned in this document have a more comprehensive report with project methods, findings and reference materials, available on the GYCC website; [http://www.fedgycc.org/gycc\\_projects.htm](http://www.fedgycc.org/gycc_projects.htm)

A brief summary of each project is included in Appendix A.

## APPENDIX A. Summary of 25 FY 2014 GYCC Projects – In Order of Project Type

Project Reports are available at [http://www.fedgycc.org/gycc\\_projects.htm](http://www.fedgycc.org/gycc_projects.htm)

Project Type: Sustainable Operations. Four Projects.				
Proponent	Project	Description	Accomplishments	External Partnerships
SOS Committee GYA	Propane Cylinder Recycling Partnership Development	Investigate appropriate recycling bin locations, new recycling device design.	Reviewed the program and formed new partnerships.	Coleman/Worthington, solid waste & recycling managers, private contractors
SOS Committee Caribou-Targhee, Custer NFs	Water Filling Stations	Install water filling stations at two Ranger Stations with high visitor use to discourage the purchase of bottled water.	Water filling stations installed at Red Lodge MT, Idaho Falls, ID. Third station installed at Dubois, ID.	Sylvan Peak Enterprises discount coupons for durable water bottles purchase
SOS Committee Bridger-Teton NF	Bear-Proof Recycling	Purchase and install two, 3 bin bear-proof recycling receptacles at Fremont Lake Campground, Pinedale RD.	Delayed campground construction prevented completion in 2014. Containers to be installed in 2015.	Sublette Citizens for Recycling (Pinedale Recycling Center)
SOS Committee Beaverhead- Deerlodge NF	Historic Window Replacement	Replace/retrofit windows/doors to meet historic standards on historically significant CCC era building at Sheridan Work Center.	Energy use 25% lower in first 3 months after project completion.	
Project Type: Ecosystem Health - Climate Change Adaptation. Two Projects.				
Proponent	Project	Description	Accomplishments	External Partnerships
GYA - Climate Change Comm.	Melting Snow and Ice -Crossroads of Culture and Climate Change	Phase 2/3: Unit specific training, sample validation, initial mitigation, targeted outreach to Tribes, science community	Outreach to Tribes, agency archaeologists; articles and public presentations. Snow delayed overflights and field training.	INSTARR radiocarbon lab, USGS, NOAA, Project Archaeology
Grand Teton NP	Establish and Implement GYA Glacier Monitoring	Grand Teton NP pilot to define objectives, develop and implement simple methodology to monitor change in glaciers.	Tested methods for elevation surface surveys. Full elevation survey of Schoolroom Glacier.	Greater Yellowstone Network, North Cascades NP
Project Type: Ecosystem Health – Healthy Water Quality and Flow. Two Projects.				
Proponent	Project	Description	Accomplishments	External Partnerships
GYA - Hydrologists	Prioritize Watersheds for Targeted Improvement	Use the GYA watershed condition classification and prioritize a small number of priority watersheds.	Funding directed to exploring adding BLM lands to the GYA watershed classification effort.	None
GYA - Hydrologists	Develop and Implement Watershed Action Plans	Develop and implement watershed action plans for priority GYA watersheds identified in the prioritization step.	Re-directed \$5,000 to Reference Reach MIMs monitoring.	None

<b>Project Type: Ecosystem Health - Invasive Species. Seven Projects.</b>				
<b>Terrestrial Invasive Species Four Projects</b>				
<b>Proponent</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Accomplishments</b>	<b>External Partnerships</b>
GYA - TIS Committee	GYA EDRR Weed Map and Database Support	Keep database current for GYA weed occurrence.	Over 1 million records in database	Fremont Co, WY Weed and Pest Dept., 17 contributors
GYA - TIS Committee	GYA Education Publications / Printing	Support for development and printing of Terrestrial Invasive Committee publications.	Published and distributed 10,000 "Invader Ranger" youth booklets.	Cost-sharing by committee member agencies
GYA - TIS Committee	Cooperative Weed Control Project	Cooperative effort in one GYA location.	Over 65 volunteers from a dozen agencies treated over 500 acres at Mammoth YNP and Gardiner MT.	County Weed/Pest Depts in 3 states, Hold the Line , GYCC agencies.,
TIS Committee BLM Idaho	Rush Skeletonweed unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) mapping	Pilot potentially cost effective new technology to detect new invader Rush skeletonweed in the Big Desert, Idaho.	Project was not completed due to timing issues.	
<b>Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Three Projects</b>				
<b>Proponent</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Accomplishments</b>	<b>External Partnerships</b>
GYA - AIS Committee	GYE Aquatic Surveying Database	Develop database for several years of survey data. Collect, organize, and standardize existing surveying data and results	Database developed; allows partners to identify survey gaps, redundancies, standard surveying techniques.	Wyo Game & Fish Teton Co Weed & Pest, Bureau of Rec ID National Fish Hatchery
GYA - AIS Committee	Integrated GYA AIS Communication and Response Planning	Multi-Agency and partner workshop to address partner roles / coordination in response to potential high risk AIS discovery.	Workshop completed, report completed which identified potential follow-up actions.	States of ID, MT, WY, BOR Invasive Species Action Network
Southern GYA - AIS Committee	Investigation of aquatic invasive species in GYA pristine waters.	Pilot early detection AIS survey program for alpine lakes and headwater streams in GTNP, YNP, and Bridger-Teton NF	Surveyed 24 sites in the three units. Year one completed of a two year effort.	NPS Greater Yellowstone I&M Network, USGS /NOROCK USGS /CERC- Jackson Field Research Station
<b>Project Type: Ecosystem Health - Species on the Brink; Native Cutthroat Trout Conservation. Two Projects.</b>				
<b>Proponent</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Accomplishments</b>	<b>External Partnerships</b>
Gallatin NF	Upper Boulder River Yellowstone Cutthroat Population Restoration	Remove non-native trout from over 25 miles and 65 lakes acres.	Removed rainbow trout, restocked YCT. Spawning habitat stabilized and restored by trail reroute on Placer Cr.	Montana FWP (Future Fisheries Initiative, Western Native Trout Initiative), Backcountry Horsemen
GYA - Fish Committee	GYA High Elevation Stream Temperature Monitoring	Fill identified regional gaps in stream temperature data. Prioritize locations and initiate stream temperature data collection	119 sensors deployed on 4 units. Data submitted to USGS and USFS to incorporate into NorWeST Stream Temperature Model.	USGS /NOROCK

<b>Project Type: Ecosystem Health - Species on the Brink; Wildlife. Four Projects.</b>				
<b>Proponent</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Accomplishments</b>	<b>External Partnerships</b>
GYA - Wildlife Committee	Species on the Brink Report	Update and finalize species on the brink assessment to aid Subcommittee refine its goals, outcomes and focus future projects and funding especially for rare, sensitive, or declining species.	Draft assessment completed, undergoing committee review.	
GYA – Wildlife Committee	Campground Wildlife Mitigation	Screen vault toilet vent pipes to keep birds and mammals from going down pipes and getting stuck and/or dying.	About half the needed 750 vents purchased and installed.	Teton Raptor center; other volunteers
Caribou-Targhee NF	Grizzly Bear Use of Forest Successional Stages	Determine which successional stages of forest cover types are used by grizzly bears in Island Park, Idaho.	Field work complete; some analysis complete and some analysis underway. Resulted expected 2015.	MSU, IDFG, USFWS, IGBST, IDT, Idaho Master Naturalists, Wildlife Conservation Society
BTNF, CTNF	Wyoming Atlas of Wildlife Migration	Publish Atlas as a large format reference book, with content available online in interactive format	About half the Atlas production work completed by the end of 2014.	UWyo, WY Governor, G&F, Transp. Big Game License Coalition, USGS, Knobloch Found., Rocky Mountain Elk Found., Wyoming Wild Sheep Found.
<b>Project Type: Ecosystem Health - Species on the Brink; Whitebark Pine Conservation. Two Projects.</b>				
<b>Proponent</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Accomplishments</b>	<b>External Partnerships</b>
GYA - WBP Committee	Tree Improvement	Collect plus tree cones, pollen, scion, aeciospores.	-Pollen: 15 collections (25 visits) -Aeciospores: 6 collections -Scion: 9 donors collected; -Cones: 5 plus, 44 operational 17 gene conv.	Forest Service gene conservation program
WBP Committee 6 units	Plant Whitebark Pine Seedlings	Whitebark Pine Planting: Plant 124,000 seedlings over 1,200 acres on 5 Forests and BLM Dillon.	-Bridger-Teton NF: 73,000 seedlings, 402 ac -Caribou-Targhee NF: 35,000 seedlings, 270 ac -Gallatin NF: 21,600 seedlings, 69 ac -Shoshone NF: 41,000 seedlings, 191 ac -BLM Dillon / BDNF: 5,000 seedlings, 20ac	American Forests, Arbor Day, Plant a Tree
<b>Project Type: Connect People to the Land. Two Projects.</b>				
<b>Proponent</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Accomplishments</b>	<b>External Partnerships</b>
Bridger-Teton NF / Southern GYA	Wild Connections – Expanding Wilderness Constituency in Western WY with 50th Anniv. Wilderness Act events	Full year of activities; youth and community events, stewardship projects, hikes, book readings, day-long celebration as part of the SHIFT festival.	Eleven youth events, over six months in three towns. GYCC funding supported seasonal wilderness 50 <sup>th</sup> coordinator who developed events, youth activities, and stewardship projects with partners.	Wilderness Soc, Murie Center, , NOLS WY Wilderness Assc, Backcountry Horsemen-Teton Chapter, GYC, Teton and Sublette County Libraries, JH Weed Mgmt Assc, WY Travel/ Tourism
Beaverhead - Deerlodge Gallatin NF	Bear Creek Natural Resources Field Camp	Place-based learning for 3rd-8th graders from 6 small area schools. Wildlife, fish, plants, geology, etc.	Fifth year of operation. Approx. 450 students from 6 small schools attended a day long camp with topics geared to each grade level.	MOSS, Madison Valley Ranchlands, Madison River Found, Madison Valley Cons District, Volunteers