GREATER YELLOWSTONE
COORDINATING COMMITTEE

2013 Annual Report

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Photo: USFS

Bear Creek Field Camp 2013 Participants
Beaverhead-Deerlodge NF, Montana

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Greater Yellowstone Coordinating Committee

2014

On the cover: Prairie Crocus and Centennial Mountains, Red Rock Lakes National Wildlife Refuge
Photo by James Perdue

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Visit the GYCC Website at http://www.fedgycc.org/

Photos and maps are from GYCC files or as indicated.

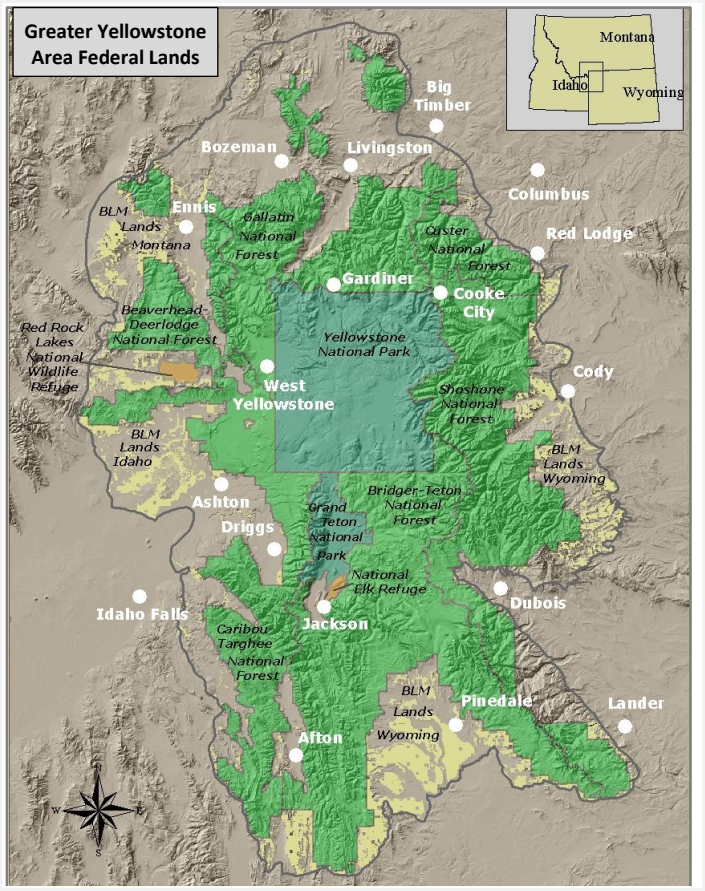
INTRODUCTION

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 nearly intact ecosystem in the lower 48 United States.

Almost all of the native animals still roam. Headwaters to the Missouri, Snake, and Green Rivers remain a stronghold for genetically pure native fish. With over 15 million acres of largely contiguous federal land, the GYA is an island of high elevation protected lands.

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



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.

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)

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 2013 accomplishments of the GYCC, their staff and many GYA-wide subcommittees. The GYCC allocated $267,000 to projects advancing their priorities. Appendix A describes 2013 GYCC projects.

GYCC Subcommittees

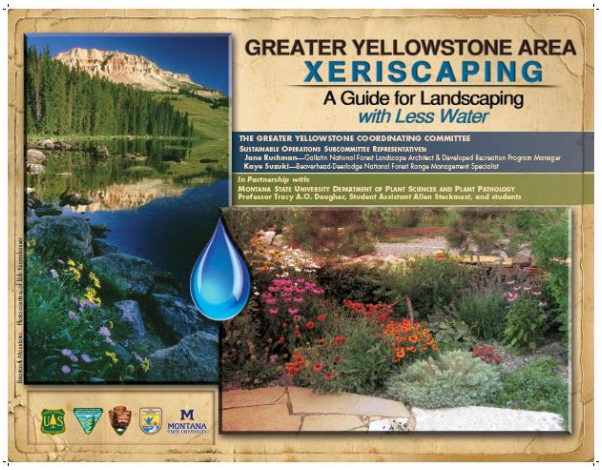
The GYCC subcommittees displayed below carry out the on-going coordination of GYA management activities. Subcommittees are arranged by their date of origination and include agency staff and partners. More subcommittee detail can be found at:
http://www.fedgycc.org/gycc_subcommittees.htm

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Sustainable Operations

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

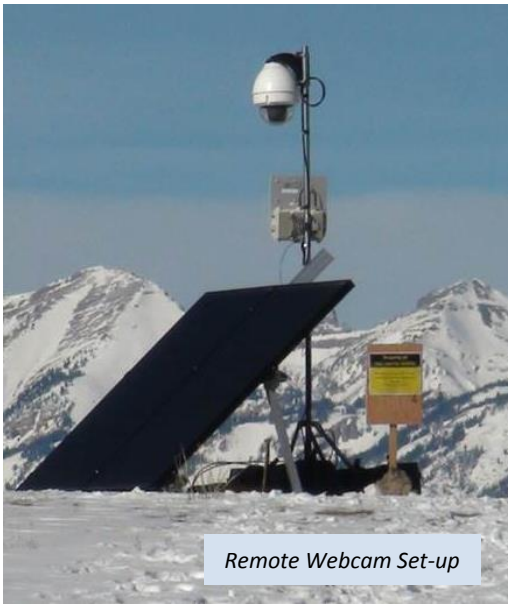
Subcommittee members created a *GYA Xeriscaping Guide* to encourage water conservation with information specific to GYA plant hardiness zones.



Bridger-Teton NF fire managers piloted webcam use to monitor fire behavior. Wildfire detection, management and monitoring often require helicopters to access isolated areas. The equipment is expensive, noisy, exposes people to risk, and contributes to greenhouse gas emissions.


Wildfire Remote Monitoring

Unlike fixed aim webcams, remotely operated web-linked cameras allow an operator to change the camera view from the office, and stream live video over a website. Webcams can give managers a view into inaccessible landscapes while saving time, personnel exposure, fuel, and carbon emissions.


Remote Webcam Set-up

In summer 2012 with two cameras, Forest staff estimate saving about 50 hours of helicopter flight time at a cost savings of about $46,750, a jet fuel savings of 1,750 gallons, and a reduction of approximately 18.5 tons of CO_2. The reduced flight hours also reduced exposure for pilots and fire personnel.

The SOS and a partner piloted a window design to improve energy efficiency while retaining the integrity of historic buildings. Other projects included solar lighting at a remote guard station, a site specific plan to implement the xeriscaping guide, and improving the collection of propane canisters.

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. A Climate Change Adaptation Subcommittee formed in 2010 to promote agency employee awareness, fill information gaps and facilitate climate informed land and resource management.

Subcommittee members and the Forest Service Rocky Mountain Research Station created a short GYA-focused climate change educational presentation, *Climate Change in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem*. It included agency policy, climate trends, and GYA climate examples. Agency staff presented it at employee meetings and seasonal employee orientations.

Agency employees were queried to identify key resources and management questions from a management perspective. Subcommittee members worked with the National Forest Service Library to respond with existing information where possible, and then created a list of potential research questions for questions with no existing information.

A GYCC supported climate change watershed sensitively analysis process piloted on the Gallatin NF was completed in 2012. In 2013, the Greater Yellowstone Hydrologists applied this process GYA-wide. See the Water Quality and Flow section for more information.

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

Big horn sheep horn cores

To date, recovered artifacts include ancient butchered animal remains, wooden dart shafts, and chipped stone artifacts ranging in age from over 10,000 years to 200 years old.

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

In 2013, the GYCC funded Dr. Craig Lee to inventory ice patches and determine probability of cultural material. The inventory identified 456 prospective ice patches with potential for cultural artifacts. Of those, 167 ice patches have high probably of artifacts.

Aerial ice patch reconnaissance

Another 25 ice patches are already considered "extinct"; meaning any artifacts once held in them are completely free from their protective ice and subject to decay.

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*

In 2011, the GYACAP sponsored a workshop with scientists and multi-agency staff to begin 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. Participants identified key needed information and the GYACAP advanced the top two information priorities.

In 2012, the GYACAP secured GYCC funding to develop GYA nitrogen deposition maps; the mapping is expected to be completed in 2014. In 2013, GYCC funds contracted 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

Greater Yellowstone Hydrologists (GYH) began coordinating in the early 1990's. Their interagency watershed management strategy focuses on:

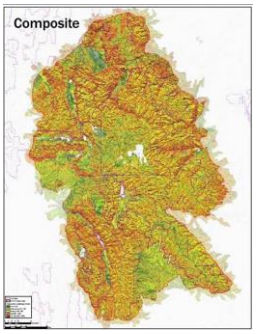
- Watershed scale interagency coordination
- Watershed, riparian area, and geomorphic integrity
- Water quality protection and enhancement
- Water flow, water supply, and water rights

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

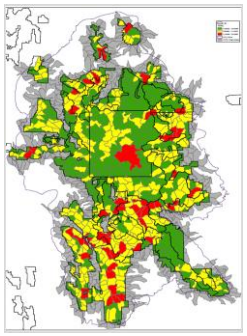
In 2012, the GYH applied the Forest Service watershed condition classification (WCC) to the GYA National Parks and Wildlife Refuges. In 2013, the hydrologists discussed incorporating the GYA BLM lands into the assessment. The hydrologists then plan to prioritize watersheds GYA-wide for targeted restoration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

Building on a 2012 GYCC project, the hydrologists continued *Reference Multiple Indicator Monitoring (MIM) Stream Surveys*. The intent is to identify stream reference conditions. Field surveys are planned for 2014.

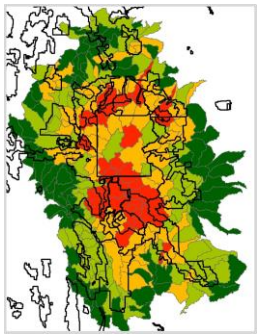
An interagency team of hydrologists, soil scientists and GIS specialists applied GYA-wide the Gallatin NF climate change watershed sensitively analysis process. The intent is to inform land management actions considering both the inherent sensitivity of the complex GYA landscape and climate projections.



1. Terrain Sensitivity



2. Combined Infrastructure Value at Risk



3. Combined Flow Percent Change to Mid-Century (2030-2050)

The maps display
1) land sensitivity using slope, aspect and elevation
2) relative quantity of roads, trails, facilities per watershed
3) projected changes in combined flow by watershed

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

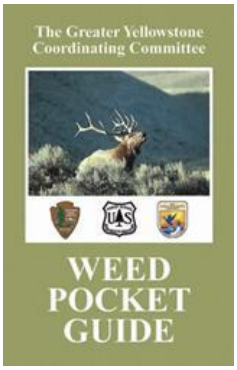
The Terrestrial Invasive Species Committee brings together a broad base of cooperators in the fight against invasive terrestrial plant species. See the subcommittee's webpage at: *http://www.fedgycc.org/WeedOverview.htm*

The Subcommittee initiated a GYA terrestrial invasive species work day in 2012 and conducted a second successful event in 2013. Over 70 volunteers from a dozen federal, county and local agencies from three states tackled weeds at Cooke City, Montana and the North Fork Shoshone River in Wyoming.

Second annual GYA terrestrial invasive plant control event Beartooth Mountains, MT and WY

Workers treated the usual suspects and eradicated a few surprise invaders: common tansy, spotted knapweed and tall buttercup.

An updated GYA "Weed Pocket Guide" added two aquatic and one terrestrial invasive species; 10,000 copies were purchased.



The subcommittee added 2013 records to its GYA weed occurrence database.

Aquatic Invasive Species

The GYA Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Cooperative includes federal, state and county agencies and non-profit organizations. With GYCC and partner assistance, the AIS Cooperative in 2013 continued area-wide outreach, and stream and lake inventory and monitoring surveys.

Idaho surveys found new sites of New Zealand mudsnails; in Antelope Creek, an upper Henrys Fork tributary, and in Fall Creek, a tributary of the South Fork of the Snake River. Curly leaf pondweed continues expanding in southeast Idaho and southwest Montana. No quagga or zebra mussels have been found in GYA waters.

In partnership with the Invasive Species Action Network (ISAN), the AIS Cooperative developed easy to use boot washing stations to encourage anglers to clean their boots and waders. ISAN installed 46 cleaning stations at fly shops in and near the GYA. Locations are mapped on the *ISAN Cleaning Station Directory*.

Boot cleaning station

ISAN prepared an assessment of motorized watercraft inspection programs for Yellowstone National Park.

Species on the Brink

Native Fish

GYCC funding supported fish surveys, genetics evaluations and restoration actions around the GYA. Surveys found some streams no longer support native fish, while some headwater streams support a higher density and broader distribution. While successful, restoration projects are expensive and labor intensive.

Caribou-Targhee NF inventoried streams for Northern Leatherside Chub

Wildlife

Late in 2012, agency wildlife biologists formed a GYCC wildlife subcommittee. For decades biologists coordinated on individual species (e.g. bald eagle, trumpeter swans, various ungulates). The GYCC committee formed to address wildlife as a whole. In spring 2013 the committee developed a Charter and Strategy.

Committee members defined their mission as:

"Sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of native and desirable non-native species across the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem."

The Committee's conservation goal focuses on rare, sensitive, or declining wildlife species; the "species on the brink". Desired outcomes:

- Develop an ecosystem species on the brink assessment and framework
- Restore, secure, protect, and/or enhance populations and habitat
- Develop a wildlife linkage assessment
- Provide wildlife conservation education programs

Initial committee focal areas include:

1. Campground improvements for wildlife safety
2. Linkage assessment
3. Wolverine distribution and winter recreation
4. Bat assessment
5. Habitat restoration or improvement

The GYCC financially supported two wildlife projects. Because GYA wildlife and management personnel are rapidly changing, long-tenured grizzly bear biologists held training sessions in four locations to impart decades of history and data to newer employees. The National Forests undertook an inventory of wildlife infrastructure in campgrounds (e.g. bear boxes, signs). The GYCC supported data management and report preparation.

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*

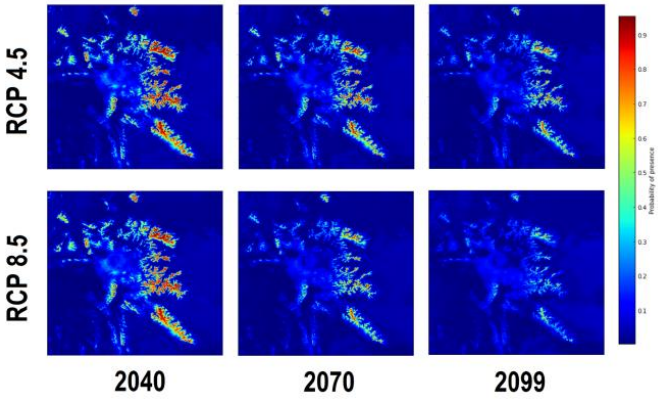
A key component to whitebark pine's future is fostering resistance to the introduced blister rust. Cones are collected from trees that do not show signs of blister rust, and then seedlings are grown at the Forest Service Coeur

d'Alene nursery. To reduce this time consuming activity, a GYA seed orchard was located on the Gallatin NF.

Seed orchard tree planting summer 2013

Whitebark Pine seedling planted next to log.

The subcommittee and Montana State University (MSU) researchers are investigating the potential effects of a warming climate. Researchers developed bioclimatic envelop models to predict the future suitable climate for whitebark pine.



Future modeled whitebark pine climate suitability for two emission scenarios (red is highest probability). Chang et. al., 2014.

Agency staff and MSU researchers will evaluate whitebark pine's adaptive capacity considering germination, survival, competition, etc. and use the information to inform the *2011 GYA Whitebark Pine Strategy.*

The GYCC supported several whitebark pine projects, including planting over 20,000 seedlings, tree improvement collections, obligating funding for future cone collections, and data and mapping support.

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.

Red Rock Lakes National Wildlife Refuge continues a robust land conservation program. In 2013, the USFWS acquired 1,500 acres in fee and associated State grazing leases on over 6,000 acres adjacent to Red Rock Lakes NWR and along Odell Creek. The Refuge plans grayling recovery on the acquired land.

The Bridger-Teton NF acquired the 37 acre "Poison Creek" tract, the Forest's first land purchase since 2009. The Jackson Hole Land Trust purchased the land in 1997 and held it until a public entity could buy it. About 15 miles south of Jackson, WY, the parcel is important winter habitat for bighorn sheep, elk and mule deer.

Grand Teton NP acquired the "Snake River Parcel", an 86-acre inholding of Wyoming school trust lands in late 2012.

Connect People to the Land

In 2013, the GYCC supported for the fourth 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.

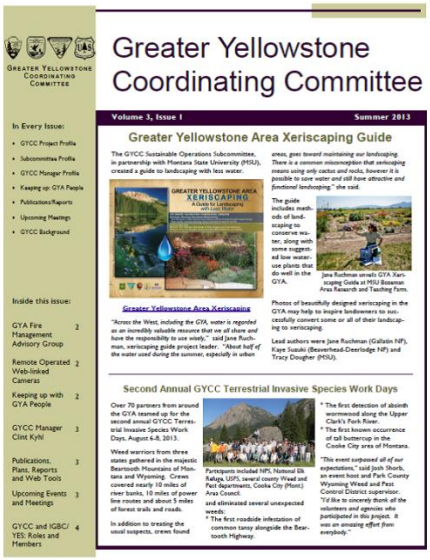
Tree Ring Sampling

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. Webcam use is spreading throughout the GYA.

Public Outreach and Communication

The GYCC public affairs staff coordinated a GYA press release announcing the GYA Xeriscape Guide. GYCC newsletters are released twice a year, and posted to: *http://fedgycc.org/gycc_maps.htm*



Greater Yellowstone Coordinating Committee

Volume 3, Issue 1 — Summer 2013

Greater Yellowstone Area Xeriscaping Guide

Second Annual GYCC Terrestrial Invasive Species Work Days

September 2013 GYCC Newsletter

For More Information:

The GYCC's website at *www.fedgycc.org* provides information on the GYCC's roles, participants, history, subcommittees, projects, and meetings and events.

More comprehensive reports of many projects mentioned in this document are posted to: http://www.fedgycc.org/2013ProjectReports.htm A brief summary of each 2013 project is included in Appendix A.

For additional information please contact GYCC Executive Coordinator Virginia Kelly at vkelly@fs.fed.us 406-587-6704.

Sources

Chang T, Hansen AJ, Piekielek N. 2014. *Patterns and Variability of Projected Bioclimatic Habitat for* Pinus albicaulis *in the Greater Yellowstone Area*. PLoS ONE 9(11): e111669. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.011166

Utah Division of Wildlife Resources. 2009. *Rangewide Conservation Agreement and Strategy for Northern Leatherside (Lepidomeda copei)*. Publication Number 09-11. Cover photograph by Eric Wagner

APPENDIX A. Summary of 23 FY 2013 GYCC Projects – In Order of Project Type

Project Reports are available at http://www.fedgycc.org/2013ProjectReports.htm

Project Type: Sustainable Operations. Five Projects.				
Proponent	**Project**	**Description**	**Accomplishments**	**External Partnerships**
SOS Committee Grand Teton NP	Energy Efficient Window Retrofits for Historic Buildings	Pilot the design and install high-efficiency storm windows while retaining historic integrity of 1908 park headquarters building.	Prototype window to Yellowstone NP; Grand Teton NP installation planned for May 2014.	Phoenix Window Restoration
SOS Committee	Propane Cylinder Recycling	Purchase more bins; transport in southern GYA.	Purchased four small bins; obligated funds for four more bins. Contracted two transports of cylinders to Mammoth for processing.	Yellowstone Park Foundation
SOS Committee Shoshone NF	Wind River District Xeriscape Plan	Plan xeriscaping at 3 dwellings and work center at Wind River Ranger District, Shoshone NF, in Dubois, WY.	Site surveys completed. Preliminary designs underway.	
SOS Committee Caribou-Targhee NF	Johnson Guard Station Solar Lighting	Install photovoltaic (PV) system to eliminate need to install propane generator. PV system may power small water pump.	Installation in 2014 with additional Forest funding.	
SOS Committee Bridger-Teton NF	Virtual Resource Stewardship thru Webcams	Pilot webcams to monitor backcountry fires; to save helicopter flight time and jet fuel, reduce personnel exposure and avoid CO2 emissions.	Purchased and established one permanent webcam set up at the Pow Wow MTN communication site. Results shared across GYA.	WY Game & Fish, U of Mont, WY Wildlife and Natural Resource Trust, WY Wild Sheep Foundation, Sustain-able Microgrant Proposal
Project Type: Ecosystem Health – Air Quality. One Project.				
Proponent	**Project**	**Description**	**Accomplishments**	**External Partnerships**
GYA - Air Quality Committee	Air Pollution Critical Load - Macro Invertebrate Analysis	Clarify the link and trends between atmospheric deposition, lake and adjacent stream chemistry, and macro invertebrates.	In 2013, funding was obligated to contractor.	University scientists (expected)
Project Type: Ecosystem Health - Climate Change Adaptation. One Project.				
Proponent	**Project**	**Description**	**Accomplishments**	**External Partnerships**
GYA - Climate Change Comm.	Melting Snow and Ice at the Crossroads of Culture and Climate Change	Identify sites threatened by melting ice. Develop report. Share results, including with Native American tribes.	GYA remote sensing inventory completed; aerial flights done in northern GYA.	INSTARR radiocarbon lab, USGS, NOAA, Project Archaeology

Project Type: Ecosystem Health - Invasive Species. Five Projects.				
Terrestrial Invasive Species				
Proponent	**Project**	**Description**	**Accomplishments**	**External Partnerships**
GYA - TIS Committee	GYA EDRR Weed Mapping and Database Support	Keep database current for GYA weed occurrence.	Over 500,000 records, tracking 132 weed species. Used for EDRR.	Fremont Co, WY Weed and Pest Dept., 24 contributors
GYA - TIS Committee	GYA Education Publications Printing	Support for development and printing of Terrestrial Invasive Committee publications.	Published and distributed 10,000 updated "Noxious Weed Pocket Guide".	Cost-sharing by committee member agencies
GYA - TIS Committee	Cooperative Weed Control Project	Cooperative effort in one GYA location.	Over 70 volunteers from a dozen agencies at Cooke City MT and North Fork Shoshone River WY.	3 Weed/Pest Depts., Cooke City Area Council, GYCC agencies
Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)				
Proponent	**Project**	**Description**	**Accomplishments**	**External Partnerships**
GYA - AIS Committee	Targeted Angler Outreach	Install boot cleaning stations at GYA fly shops; encourage guides / outfitters to clean clients' boots prior to every fishing trip.	Boot cleaning stations: 46 manufactured and installed at fly shops in and near GYA.	Invasive Species Action Network, Trout Unlimited
GYA - AIS Committee	Monitor identified high priority waters for AIS	Survey high priority waters for AIS infestations around GYA.	Surveys, prevention, outreach activities. Motorized watercraft inspection assessment for YNP.	Idaho Dept. Agriculture, Montana Fish Wildlife Parks, Wyoming Game and Fish
Project Type: Ecosystem Health - Species on the Brink; Native Cutthroat Trout Conservation. One Project.				
Proponent	**Project**	**Description**	**Accomplishments**	**External Partnerships**
GYA - Fish Committee	GYA-Wide Native Fish Distribution / Status Surveys and Response Actions	Assess status of native fish species populations around GYA, response actions.	Fish population surveys, genetics evaluations and restoration actions on streams throughout GYA.	Wyoming Fish and Game, MT FWP, Pacific Power &Light
Project Type: Ecosystem Health - Species on the Brink; Wildlife. Two Projects.				
Proponent	**Project**	**Description**	**Accomplishments**	**External Partnerships**
GYA Forests Gallatin NF	GYA National Forest Campground Assessment Report	Printing/ assembly/production of hard copies and CDs of the database and associated reports.	Prepared 3-year implementation plan using site data, costs, unit recommendations.	Dick Ohman Foundation Volunteers
GYA Gallatin NF	GYA Grizzly Bear Management Training for Agency Personnel	Support for four training sessions; reference manual, meeting rooms, travel costs, honorariums.	Four training sessions held in four GYA locations.	Wyoming, Idaho, Montana, USGS, IGBST USFWS, retired federal employees, Dick Ohman Foundation

Project Type: Ecosystem Health - Species on the Brink; Whitebark Pine Conservation. Four Projects.				
Proponent	**Project**	**Description**	**Accomplishments**	**External Partnerships**
GYA - WBP Committee	Tree Improvement	Collect plus tree cones, pollen, scion, aeciospores.	-Pollen: 18 collections; -Aeciospores: 6 collections -Scion: 10 donors collected; -Cones: No cones; low cone year	
WBP Committee 4 units	Plant Whitebark Pine Seedlings	Plant 50,000 wbp seedlings on 253 acres on 4 units.	-Gallatin NF: 15,000 seedlings planted -Shoshone NF: 7,200 seedlings planted -Grand Teton NP Regeneration Trial: 1,500 of 2,500 seedlings planted; remainder in 2014. -Bridger-Teton NF: no planting due to early snow and government shutdown. Seedlings held over for 2014.	
GYA - WBP Committee	Operational Seed Collection	Approx. 15 tree collections; each yields ~3500 seeds; 1281 seedlings, to plant about 6.4 acres.	No cones collected; poor cone year. Funds carried over to 2014.	
GYA - WBP Committee	Whitebark Pine Strategy Data Support	GIS and mapping support, database development for WBP projects, annotated bibliography.	Compile data to assist: Update fire perimeters, add BLM polygons to map, project specific maps, prioritize restoration project sites, resolve spatial data / field discrepancies, regeneration data, annotated bibliography.	

Project Type: Ecosystem Health – Healthy Water Quality and Flow. Three Projects.				
Proponent	**Project**	**Description**	**Accomplishments**	**External Partnerships**
GYA - Hydrologists	Prioritize Watersheds for Targeted Improvement	Adjust watershed condition classification for BLM - new GYCC member.	On hold. Funds redirected to Reference Multiple Indicator Monitoring Stream Surveys	
GYA - Caribou-Targhee NF	Reference Multiple Indicator Monitoring (MIM) Stream Surveys	Conduct surveys on reference streams across GYA using the MIM technique and analyze data.	Contract awarded; sites identified for field MIM surveys in 2014.	
GYA - Hydrologists	GYA Watershed Vulner-ability Assessment for Climate Change	Create GYA WVA based on process pioneered by Gallatin NF.	Analysis underway	Forest Service Washington Climate Change Office

Project Type: Connect People to the Land. One Project.				
Proponent	**Project**	**Description**	**Accomplishments**	**External Partnerships**
Beaverhead-Deerlodge NF	Bear Creek Natural Resources Field Camp	Place-based learning for 3rd-8th graders from 6 small area schools. Wildlife, fish, plants, geology, fire ecology, archery, etc.	Fourth 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