

Selecting Committee Members and Beginning the CRM Process

Coordinated Resource Management (CRM) creates an environment of cooperation and promotes wise resource management decisions for Wyoming rangelands. CRM provides an opportunity for landowners, local entities, interest groups and agencies to take the initiative in establishing local planning groups and developing coordinated resource management plans. A landowner can initiate a coordinated plan by contacting their local conservation district or county extension agent and filing out a "Request for Coordinated Resource Planning." (See appendix B)

The most important consideration in setting up a CRM committee is to make sure that everyone who wants to participate is included or adequately represented. The effectiveness of the CRM process is limited unless all landowners, land management agencies and interest groups are involved. It is important that all participants have the authority to speak for the groups they represent. The local Conservation District or County Extension Agent can assist in forming local CRM Committees.

Members may also be appointed by the CRM committee consisting of special interest groups such as Ducks Unlimited, Trout Unlimited, animal rights advocates, weed and pest districts, etc., and given special assignments to do an in-field examination of a specific problem and then develop a consensus recommendation for the CRM committee. Developing these types of "subcommittees" have been very successful in the Sun Stewardship Program.

Selection criteria should be developed by local coordinating committees. The following guidelines may be considered:

1. The area is involved in resource management conflicts and/or improved resource management practices are needed or desired.
2. The area can be either private land or a mixture of landownership patterns such as private, BLM, FS, or state lands.
3. Participants must be willing to cooperate with each other and work towards finding solutions and common goals.
5. The area should provide a reasonable expectation of improving natural resource conditions or maintaining existing conditions.