

Scoping meetings set for Ten Sleep, Hyattville to discuss water storage

By Lee Lockhart
Publisher

TEN SLEEP — The process of defining the opportunities for water storage and development along the Nowood River begins in earnest Monday and Tuesday evenings in Ten Sleep and Hyattville.

Landowners along the Upper and Lower Nowood River have been invited to a scoping meeting in order to determine the most likely and desired water storage locations and water control methods, including irrigation concerns, according to Jay Schug of Anderson Consulting Engineers.

Both meetings are scheduled to begin at 7 p.m. Monday's Hyattville meeting is slated for the Hyattville Community Center and Tuesday's meeting will be at the Ten Sleep Senior Center, according to a press release from Schug.

Representatives of the Wyoming Water Development Office will also be in attendance to listen and offer comments about the process and how landowners may want to participate in the study.

"The study is intended to be a comprehensive assessment of the watershed conditions, needs and opportunities," Schug said in his letter to landowners.

The letter went on, "The project will include field investigations, development of a Geographic Information System (GIS), and development of a prioritized list of potential projects (water storage, irrigation rehabilitation, upland water sources, channel restoration, etc.) and funding opportunities.

Project proponent and chairman of the committee, Cecil Mullins, stressed that the meeting will show individual landowners how they can benefit by participating in the study.

Mullins also said there is no further financial investment necessary unless the project is deemed worthy to pursue and evolves to a Level 3 Study.

In his letter of invitation to landowners, Schug said, "this is the first opportunity to share your local knowledge of the watershed and to provide input regarding potential reservoir storage sites, stream channel conditions, sign up to participate in the irrigation system inventory and assessment, water quality concerns, or upland grazing issues."