

Lander resident is Wyoming's Outstanding Small Acreage Cooperator

A small-acreage owner near Lander has been selected Outstanding Small Acreage Cooperator by the Wyoming Association of Conservation Districts (WACD).

Scott Fluer, who received the honor in November, has been an effective ambassador for small agriculture, according to the WACD.

He has worked closely with the Natural Resources Conservation Service to manage his family's 30-acre property five miles north of Lander (along with some small parcels of land they lease), with a close eye on conservation,



Scott Fluer

including water development, cross fencing, and improved irrigation practices.

The Small Acreage Issue Team, which produces *Barnyards&Backyards* magazine, helped develop

criteria for the award.

Fluer has been very successful at knitting together numerous small-acreage landowners around Lander with small grazing leases to make his cattle and sheep operation profitable, according to the WACD. In doing so, he has created agricultural viability where there otherwise would not be. While working with each of these landowners, he has helped them improve their own productivity and provide a conservation ethic to their land management.

Fluer has worked closely with Popo Agie Conservation District to

plan and implement a series of Barnyards&Backyards workshops to provide small-acreage landowners with critical tools and knowledge to manage their small parcels. In 2007, Fluer hosted a workshop on his property to provide an example of an effective way of managing a small acreage in an agriculturally viable way.

Fluer says his wife, Kelly, and their four children take a lot of credit for the success of their operation.

In his professional life, Fluer is a Bureau of Land Management range specialist in the Lander Field Office.