



Wyoming News

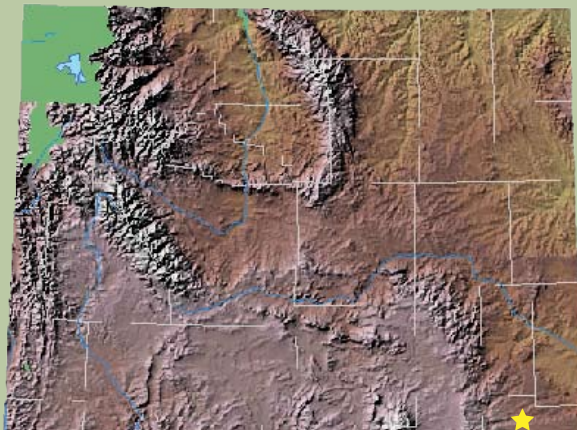


Wyoming Youth Congress, Photo credit: Neal Henderson

Recent Successes

First Youth Congress Succeeds

With RTCA support, WY Outside supported the Teton Science Schools of Jackson, Wyoming in hosting the first Wyoming Youth Congress. The Congress, the first of its kind in the U.S., was a smashing success. Two eighth-grade students from each of the state's 48 school districts attended the three-day event. Its goal was to give Wyoming youth a place to brainstorm how to connect kids with the state's vast natural resources, and how to put those ideas into action back home.



■ NPS Unit
★ State Capital

PROJECTS AND PARTNERS 2010

CURRENT PROJECT

Wyoming Parks and Youth - Statewide

Wyoming Department of State Parks and Cultural Resources

Wyoming Department of Game and Fish

National Park Service

Find out more about this project on page 2.

ABOUT US

The Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) Program is the community assistance arm of the National Park Service. RTCA staff provide technical assistance to community groups and local, state, and federal government agencies working to protect natural areas and water resources and enhance close-to-home outdoor recreation opportunities. We help communities plan, organize partnerships, and achieve on-the-ground success on projects they initiate.



Girl at archery class, by Mark Gocke, WY Game and Fish

We're Here For You.

Could your project benefit from RTCA Staff Assistance? Contact us to find out.



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2009 Nationwide Partnership Success

3,411 Miles of Trail Developed
2,664 Miles of River Conserved
87,385 Acres of Open Space and Parkland Protected
97% Percentage of Community Partners Satisfied

Find more information online at
www.nps.gov/rtca



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Current Projects

1. Wyoming Parks and Youth

Project Partner: Wyoming Department of State Parks and Cultural Resources, Wyoming Department of Game and Fish, National Park Service
RTCA Contact: Hugh Osborne
Location: Statewide

Project Goal

This project will result in programs and partnerships that enhance the state and national parks' connection with the youth of Wyoming. The new programs and facilities will make the parks more relevant to younger and future generations. The hoped-for results will get more young people to the parks to learn of, appreciate, and help protect the resources of the parks. Other benefits are increased levels of physical activities to help reduce current levels of childhood obesity and diabetes. RTCA has led the strategic planning sessions that resulted in the creation of WY Outside, a group of agency representatives and other interested parties. WY Outside works to make experiencing the natural world more attractive and relevant to the young people of Wyoming and their families.



Girl rappelling
Photo credit: Mark Gocke, WY Game & Fish



Young canoers
Photo credit: Mark Gocke, WY Game & Fish

RTCA Role

The Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance program will continue to provide coordination, facilitation, and technical assistance to the partners involved in the WY Outside project. RTCA staff will also help the participants finalize their strategic plan and long-range goals; with the idea to help create a sustainable organization that will continue to connect Wyoming's youth and families with the natural resources of the state.

“Thanks to help from RTCA, we were able to convene a diverse group of stakeholders that led to a new statewide movement called WY Outside. RTCA has been instrumental in getting the WY Outside initiative off the ground and moving forward with focus and resolve.”

- Milward Simpson, Director WY Department of State Parks and Cultural Resources