

# **CHRIS WEYDEVELD, Forester**

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## **EDUCATION**

B.S., Forestry, University of Montana, 1987

## **SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS**

General areas of emphasis are forest management, wildland-urban interface fire planning, tree and timber damage appraisals and community forestry planning. Common tasks include: timber cruising and sale layout, stage II stand exam, forest treatment prescriptions, and mapping. Projects completed have required expertise in vegetation inventory, fire ecology, road layout, GPS, GIS, state environmental regulations, the NEPA process, negotiation and communication.

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

### **2004 to Present - Owner, Technical Forestry Services, LLC**

#### 2016 and 2017 Projects

- Contract position as the Washakie County Firewise Coordinator from 2013 to 2017. Served under the direction of the Washakie County Fire Warden as project manager for the U.S. Forest Service grant funded Firewise program. Responsibilities involved public outreach in wildfire prevention, defensible space planning and hazardous fuels reduction planning, grant application development and project administration activities.
- Contracted with the Big Horn County Fire Warden to secure funding for timber stand improvement on 35.5 acres of lodgepole pine regeneration. Developed RFP and Scope of Work, solicited bids, selected contractor, and oversaw the successful completion of project. Applied for and received a 2018 grant which funds an additional 42 acres of timber stand improvement in lodgepole pine regeneration on the west slope of the Big Horn Mountains, Wyoming.
- Developed the successful award of a 2017 U.S. Forest Service CAFA Grant to be used for the implementation of a 100 acre fuels reduction project on private forest land adjacent to a 30 home high priority fire risk sub-division in the Big Horn Mountain community of Canyon Creek Country.

#### 2014 and 2015 Projects

- Served as a Consulting Forester in the investigation of forest resources following the 2012 Oil Creek Fire in Weston County, Wyoming. Served as Project Manager on the Timber Cruise in the burned forest areas on State and private lands comprising 16,523 acres and covering 36 ownerships. A total of 1,208 cruise plots were sampled on approximately 775 burned timber stands.
- Provided a preliminary estimate of forest damages resulting from the 2012 Sawmill Canyon Fire in Platte County, Wyoming.

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*Chris Weydeveld*

- Conducting field investigations on the 2012 Arapaho Fire in Laramie and Carbon County, Wyoming to gather data for the preparation of a Burned Area Restoration Plan, Wildfire Mitigation Plan and Landowner Forest Stewardship Plan for the client.
- Firewise Coordinator for Big Horn County, Wyoming.
- Firewise Coordinator for Washakie County, Wyoming.

#### 2013 Projects

- Conducted an investigation and appraisal of the BKS Hunting Club property on which an escaped prescribed fire burned from an adjacent property onto the BKS ownership. The fire damaged or destroyed approximately 1,600 of the 2,200 total mature trees growing in a ten-row shelterbelt. The final delivered appraisal document provided a monetary value for the trees lost or damaged in the fire and the associated costs in restoration of the damaged shelterbelt. The defendant and the plaintiff reached a settlement agreement and I was neither deposed nor served as an expert witness.
- Firewise Coordinator for Big Horn County, Wyoming.
- Firewise Coordinator for Washakie County, Wyoming.

#### 2012 Projects

- Prepared several Forest Management and Wildfire Mitigation Plans for properties on Casper Mountain in Natrona County, and Big Horn County, Wyoming.
- Ongoing Big Horn County Firewise Coordinator - assisting the County Fire Warden with public outreach in wildfire prevention, defensible space planning and hazardous fuels reduction planning and project administration activities.

#### 2011 Projects

- Developed a Landowner Forest Management Plan and Wildfire Mitigation Plan for the Hogadon Ski Resort on Casper Mountain, Natrona County, Wyoming.
- 2011 Hot Springs County Community Wildfire Protection Plan. Collaborated with local government, local fire authorities, and state and federal government, to develop a comprehensive plan for the protection of life, property, and critical infrastructure from catastrophic fire in the wildland-urban interface (WUI). Facilitated local discussions, identified key community treatment priorities, collected scientific forest and fuels data, collected structure ignitability data, and provided recommendations for reducing the hazard of destructive wildfire to homes and essential infrastructure. The final document provides a platform to initiate fuels treatments designed to mitigate against wildfire destroying life, structures and essential infrastructure.

#### 2010 Projects

- Reconciliation and Refinement of Biomass Availability Estimates in the Black Hills Region. Several independent estimates of biomass availability in the Black Hills have been made with widely differing accounts. This project resulted in a report aimed at reconciling the differences in the various estimates to derive a more accurate estimate of likely biomass availability.
- 2010 Big Horn County Community Wildfire Protection Plan – Addendum to 2005 BH County Mountain CWPP. This Addendum identifies 40 at-risk communities with a land area

of over 275,000 acres. This study addresses the wildland-urban interface (WUI) in the low lands or “river bottom” areas within Big Horn County.

#### 2009 Projects

- Conducted a tree appraisal of 22 casualty trees removed during power line corridor clearance activities. Trees had been growing west of the landowner’s home in a naturally wooded area in the Black Hills of South Dakota and had helped form a visual screen and provide aesthetic values. A value for the loss was determined using the Guide for Plant Appraisal, Ninth Edition trunk formula method.
- Conducted a tree appraisal of 39 casualty trees killed or otherwise damaged from the application of an herbicide to the soil surface. A value of the loss was determined using the Guide for Plant Appraisal, Ninth Edition trunk formula method. Appraised value included costs associated with removal of dead and dying trees and stumps, pruning of herbicide damaged limbs, cleanup activities, and the purchase of replacement trees.
- Conducted a timber cruise and damage assessment of a timber trespass on a private landowner’s forest property in the Black Hills of Wyoming. The final report included: a description of forestland and historical forest management activities, methodology for appraising loss of timber value and other resources, and mapping of casualty tree locations.
- Fire and Fuels Specialist, East Deer Lodge Valley EIS, Fire and Fuels Report. Environmental analysis of 39,700 acres of National Forest System lands. Worked cooperatively with and under the direction of the U. S. Forest Service to prepare environmental documents meeting the standards set forth in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), 40 CFR §1500-1508. Contact: Dave Fletcher, [dfletcher@fs.fed.us](mailto:dfletcher@fs.fed.us), (406) 494-0235.
- Silviculturist, East Deer Lodge Valley EIS, Silviculturists’ Report. Developed forest management alternatives aimed at the salvage harvest of dead and dying mountain pine beetle infested lodgepole pine on the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest in west central Montana. ArcMAP, MS Access, Fire and Fuels Extension (FFE) and Forest Vegetation Simulator (FVS) software was used to model fire effects and forest growth and yield, and to make comparisons of management scenarios. Contact: Dave Fletcher, [dfletcher@fs.fed.us](mailto:dfletcher@fs.fed.us), (406) 494-0235.
- Big Horn County Firewise Coordinator, Big Horn County Wyoming. Responsible for the development of project and programmatic level planning addressing hazardous fuels and the threat of catastrophic fire destroying life, property and infrastructure. This two-year National Fire Plan grant also includes public outreach programs providing education on Firewise standards and includes the development of an addendum to the 2005 BH County CWPP addressing hazardous fuels in the river bottoms.

#### 2008 Projects

- Project Manager, Park County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) –Collaborated with local government, local fire authorities, and state and federal government, to develop a comprehensive plan for the protection of life, property, and critical infrastructure from catastrophic fire in the wildland-urban interface (WUI) within Park County, Wyoming. Facilitated local discussions, identified key community treatment priorities, collected scientific forest and fuels data, collected structure ignitability data, and provided recommendations for reducing the hazard of destructive wildfire to homes and essential

infrastructure. The final document provides a platform to initiate fuels treatments designed to mitigate against wildfire destroying life, structures and essential infrastructure. Contact: Russell Wenke, Park County Fire Warden, [rwenke@parkcounty.us](mailto:rwenke@parkcounty.us), (307) 527-8551.

#### 2007 Projects

- Project Manager, Leavitt Landowner Forest Stewardship Plan Amendment (private) (ongoing). Timber sale preparation and administration on adverse slopes in the Battle Creek drainage, Bighorn Mountains, Wyoming. ArcMAP GIS software used to identify topographic conditions acceptable for the use of a cable yarding system to harvest timber. Trimble GeoExplorer GPS used to traverse harvest units. Contact: Richard Leavitt [rleavitt@remax.net](mailto:rleavitt@remax.net), (307) 635-0303.
- Project Manager, Town of Greybull Street Tree Inventory. ArcGIS and i-Tree software used to inventory tree and planting spaces on Town property. A Trimble GeoExplorer with Pocket PC used for data collection in field. A management plan and complete GIS database provided to Town. Contact: Rodney Ross, [greybull@tctwest.net](mailto:greybull@tctwest.net), (307) 272-2272.
- Project Manager, Black Mountain Layout II. Pre-sale timber marking, cruise design, timber cruise, volume determination, road layout, property boundary determination, GPS traversing and unit boundary marking. Contact: Jim Gates, [j2gates@blm.gov](mailto:j2gates@blm.gov), (307) 347-5211.

#### 2006 Projects

- Project Manager: Blucher Creek TSI. Pre-commercial thinning of 70 acres of lodgepole pine in the South Pass area of the Wind River Mountains, Wyoming. Contact: Jim Glennon, [jim\\_glennon@blm.gov](mailto:jim_glennon@blm.gov), (307) 352-0256 or (307)-352-0336
- Project Manager, Black Mountain Layout I. Forest reconnaissance of all Bureau of Land Management (BLM) administered forest lands in the Black Mountain area (west slope of the Bighorn Mountains, Wyoming). Forest health assessments, harvest unit layout, pre-sale timber marking, cruise design, timber cruise, volume determination, road layout, property boundary determination, GPS traversing and unit boundary marking. Approximately four million board feet (mmbf) of sawtimber prepared for sale (forest management occurred in response to a severe infestation of Douglas fir and spruce bark beetle). Contact: Jim Gates, [j2gates@blm.gov](mailto:j2gates@blm.gov), (307) 347-5211.
- Project Manager, Medicine Lodge State Archaeological Site. Historic Apple Orchard tree planting. Site investigation of existing environmental conditions for the proper installation of 25 apple trees, including planting, staking, and mulching. To avoid destruction of cultural resources, soil disturbance activities occurred in cooperation with an archaeologist from the State Historic Preservation Office. Furnished labor, equipment, supplies, and materials. Contact Dave Taylor, [dtaylo@state.wy.us](mailto:dtaylo@state.wy.us), (307) 469-2234.

#### 2005 Projects

- Fuels Specialist, Burner Environmental Assessment, Fire and Fuels Report. Environmental analysis of 17,801 acres of National Forest System (NFS) lands. Worked cooperatively with and under the direction of the Forest Service to prepare environmental documents meeting the standards set forth in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), 40 CFR §1500-

1508. Contact: Elizabeth Krueger, [ekrueger@fs.fed.us](mailto:ekrueger@fs.fed.us), (605) 642-4622. [http://www.fs.fed.us/r2/blackhills/projects/nepa/public\\_docs/burner/burner\\_final\\_ea.pdf](http://www.fs.fed.us/r2/blackhills/projects/nepa/public_docs/burner/burner_final_ea.pdf).

- Silviculturist, Burner Environmental Assessment, Silviculturists' Report. Developed forest management alternatives aimed at improving forest health in project area located in the Bearlodge Mountains north of Sundance, Wyoming. ArcGIS, MS Access, and Forest Vegetation Simulator (FVS) software used to analyze forest inventory data and make comparisons of management scenarios. Contact: Elizabeth Krueger, [ekrueger@fs.fed.us](mailto:ekrueger@fs.fed.us), (605) 642-4622.
- Project Manager, North Fork Bear Gulch Timber Sale (private): Timber sale preparation and administration. 700 thousand board feet (mbf) sawtimber prepared for sale and harvested. Contact: David or Greg Flitner [flitner@aol.com](mailto:flitner@aol.com), (307) 765-2961.
- Project Manager, Hudson Falls Pipeline Biological Evaluation. Analysis area consists of a one-mile water pipeline corridor through USFS and BLM administered lands ending on private property. Identified all listed, proposed, and sensitive species known or expected in the analysis area and those species the project could potentially affect; analyzed cumulative effects resulting from the planned project in relationship to existing conditions and other related projects; made recommendations for removing, avoiding, or compensating for any adverse effects; maintained project file in accordance with NEPA guidelines. Contact: Dr. Meredith Scott, [mlscott1@earthlink.net](mailto:mlscott1@earthlink.net), (307) 765-9516.
- Project Manager, Flitner Ranch Landowner Forest Stewardship Plan development. Plan includes forest management recommendations for the 1,100 forested acres within the ownership. Contact: David or Greg Flitner [flitner@aol.com](mailto:flitner@aol.com), (307) 765-2961.

#### 2004 Projects

- Project Manager South Fork Bear Gulch Timber Sale (private): Timber sale preparation and administration. 1.2 million board feet (mmbf) sawtimber prepared for sale and harvested. Contact: David or Greg Flitner [flitner@aol.com](mailto:flitner@aol.com), (307) 765-2961.
- Project Manager, Scab Creek Timber Sale Preparation and Cruise. Marked and cruised 29 acres of Douglas fir sawtimber on the west slope of the Wind River Mountains, Wyoming, Pinedale BLM Field Office. Contact: Neil Schiche, [neil\\_schiche@blm.gov](mailto:neil_schiche@blm.gov), (307) 631-0438.
- Project Manager, Big Horn County Mountain Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) <http://www.wyftfs.com/PDF%20files/BHCWPP.pdf>. Collaborated with local government, local fire authorities, and state and federal government, to develop a comprehensive plan for the protection of life, property, and critical infrastructure from catastrophic fire in the wildland-urban interface (WUI) within the 220,000 acre project area. Facilitated local discussions, identified key community treatment priorities, collected scientific forest and fuels data, collected structure ignitability data, and provided recommendations for reducing the hazard of destructive wildfire to homes and essential infrastructure. The final document provides a platform to initiate fuels treatments designed to mitigate against wildfire destroying life, structures and essential infrastructure.
- Project Manager, Bartlett Creek Timber Sale Preparation and Cruise. Marked and cruised 155 acres of primarily Douglas fir sawtimber on the southern end of Commissary Ridge in

southwest Wyoming, Kemmerer BLM Field Office. Contact: Neil Schiche, [neil\\_schiche@blm.gov](mailto:neil_schiche@blm.gov), (307) 631-0438.

- Project Manager, Kaycee Community Forest Assessment. Tasks included: an assessment of the public trees, an assessment of the current municipal program in place for the management of the community forest, and recommendations for strategies aimed at maintaining and improving the Community Forest Program. Contact: Tom Knapp, [tomstire@rtconnect.net](mailto:tomstire@rtconnect.net), (307) 738-2626.
- Project Manager, Leavitt Timber Sale (private): Timber sale preparation and administration. Approximately two million board feet (mmbf) of sawtimber prepared (one mmbf harvested in 2006). Contact: Richard Leavitt [rleavitt@remax.net](mailto:rleavitt@remax.net), (307) 635-0303.
- Project Manager, Greybull Library and Museum Xeriscape Project. surveying the site; increasing the amount of shade to the existing buildings, railroad car museum, and picnic areas; planting healthy trees; pruning, removing and/or replacing overgrown, unhealthy, and/or potentially hazardous existing trees; reducing the current amount of grass/weeds, thereby cutting down on maintenance and water usage; developing a educational, botanic garden using native, and low water use shrubs; improving the quality of the soil with the addition of organic matter and an improved irrigation system.

#### **2001-2004 Wyoming Operations Manager, North Wind Environmental, Inc.**

Supervised a staff of four engineering and natural resource professionals in day-to-day operations on a variety of projects. Duties included coordination of budgets, schedules and scopes of work.

##### Projects included:

Developed survey design plans for the collection, processing and interpretation of forest/fuels data for the BLM Lewistown and Butte-Dillon Montana Field Offices. The Forest Vegetation Information System (FORVIS) methodology was used to conduct stand exam and walkthrough surveys on forestland in central and northern Montana. Work on this project also involved the development of a methodology for aerial photograph interpretation and the input and storage of data in electronic formats.

Assisted in the permitting process of National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) in the coal bed methane production fields in the Powder River Basin in north central Wyoming. Tasks included permit application procedures; maintaining a database of permitted outfalls; periodic sampling of water quality constituents; reporting laboratory results to the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). Mapping software, GPS, water quality measurement devices and Auto CAD drawing software were used.

Project manager for the planning and design of permanent trout/recreation ponds on a private ownership in northeast Wyoming. Duties included the oversight of staff and sub-contractor operations, coordination with interested private and governmental entities, and compliance with state and federal permitting regulations, which required surveys of soils, wetlands, vegetation, fisheries and threatened and endangered species.

Environmental scientist, Stewart River Floristic Inventory. Tasks included field verification, delineation and classification of local flora present on the Stewart River Local Training Area on the Seward Peninsula, Alaska.

Environmental scientist, state and federal permitting and bond release requirements for bentonite mining operations in the Bighorn Basin, Wyoming. Tasks included vegetation, wildlife, soils, hydrology and cultural surveys; report writing; and natural resource management recommendations.

### **1999-2001 Self Employed, Natural Resources Consultant**

Mr. Weydeveld specialized in forest management, aquatic habitat management, wildlife and vegetation sampling, insect and disease detection, forest landscape design plans, mapping, surveying and mining reclamation.

### **1991-1999 Wyoming State Forestry Division, Forester**

Mr. Weydeveld duties involved the management of state and private forest lands including: Forest Stewardship Plan preparation for private forest land ownerships; reforestation; timber sale preparation; timber sale administration; stand exams; community forestry planning; vegetation sampling; wildlife habitat improvement projects; wetland delineation; prescribed fire; wild land fire suppression and prevention, (Crew Boss red card certified); plant propagation; trail construction and maintenance; conservation education activities; and insect and disease control.

### **1987-1989 U.S.D.A. Forest Service, Forestry Technician**

Mr. Weydeveld worked as a crew supervisor on a trail construction and maintenance crew. Duties included public contracts and fire prevention and control in the Bob Marshal Wilderness, Flathead National Forest, Montana.

### **1985 U.S.D.A. Forest Service, Recreation Technician**

Mr. Weydeveld worked in Saratoga, Wyoming as Recreation Technician. He was responsible for the maintenance and administration of the recreation facilities (campgrounds and picnic areas) on the Brush Creek Ranger District, including compliance checking, trail maintenance and public contacts.

### **1984 U.S.D.A. Forest Service, Forestry Technician**

Mr. Weydeveld worked in Saratoga, Wyoming as a Forestry Technician. He participated in timber sale preparation, fire prevention and control; insect and disease detection and control; and boundary determination.

### **1983 U.S.D.I. Fish and Wildlife Service/University of Wyoming CO-Op Unit, Field Technician**

Mr. Weydeveld assisted as a field technician on a bird and small mammal survey in third order stream riparian zones. Project specifics included identification of bird species; live mammal

trapping, identification and toe clipping; vegetation sampling; and data entry. Medicine Bow National Forest, Wyoming.

**1982 University of Wyoming, Field Technician**

Mr. Weydeveld worked as a Field Technician at the Grand Teton National Park/University of Wyoming Research Station in Moran Wyoming. He assisted in a baseline survey of high alpine lakes in Grand Teton National Park. Parameters surveyed included: water conductivity, pH, temperature, dissolved oxygen, lake depth, inflow, outflow, aquatic insects and vegetation.

**QUALIFICATIONS AND CERTIFICATIONS**

International Society of Arboriculture, Certified Arborist 1999 – Present; RM-1046A  
Society of American Foresters, Professional Member and Certified Forester 1997-Present; CF-2670