



Private Land Public Wildlife (PLPW) Access Program 2015 Landowner Survey



Regional Access Coordinators

Matt Withroder - Casper

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Andy Countryman - Green River

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PLPW Landowner Survey History

Wyoming Game & Fish Department

Private Lands Public Wildlife Evaluation
Participating Landowners

WYOMING
GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

2010 Private Land Public Wildlife
Survey:

PLPW Access Coordinators completed the
2015 survey internally!

Saving money while building relationships with
landowners.

July 2000

May 2011

1

PLPW Survey Implementation



Surveys returned by the
end of August: 118

Dear Landowner,

The Wyoming Game and Fish Department is seeking your feedback on your involvement with the Department's Private Land Public Wildlife Access Program (Walk-in Area or Hunter Management Area) to use as a tool to improve the access program. By completing the survey online you are helping WGFD reduce printing and postage expenses. Please go to the website below and use the survey code below to complete the survey. It should only take a short amount of time, and your feedback is greatly appreciated.

The website for the survey: <http://tinyurl.com/PLPW-Landowner>

Your Survey Code is: LSCY0943

If you have any questions or need further assistance, or prefer a printed version of the survey, please contact me at dan.smith1@wyo.gov or at 307-527-7125.

Thank you!

Dan Smith
Regional Access Coordinator / Survey Administrator



2/24/2015

Private Land Public Wildlife Access Program Survey

Private Land Public Wildlife Access Program Survey

2015 survey of participating landowners involved in the Hunter Management Area, Walk-In Hunting and Walk-in Fishing access programs.

* Required

1. Please enter your survey code: *

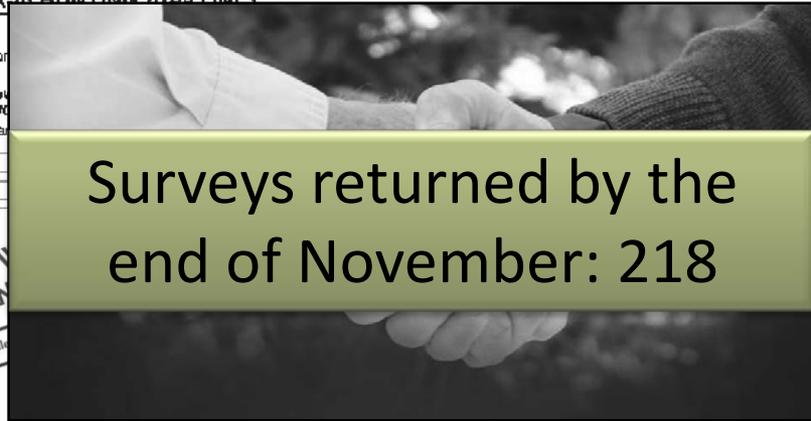
Walk-in HUNTING Area ONLY

This part

2. How

(W)

(M)



Surveys returned by the end of November: 218

GAME AN

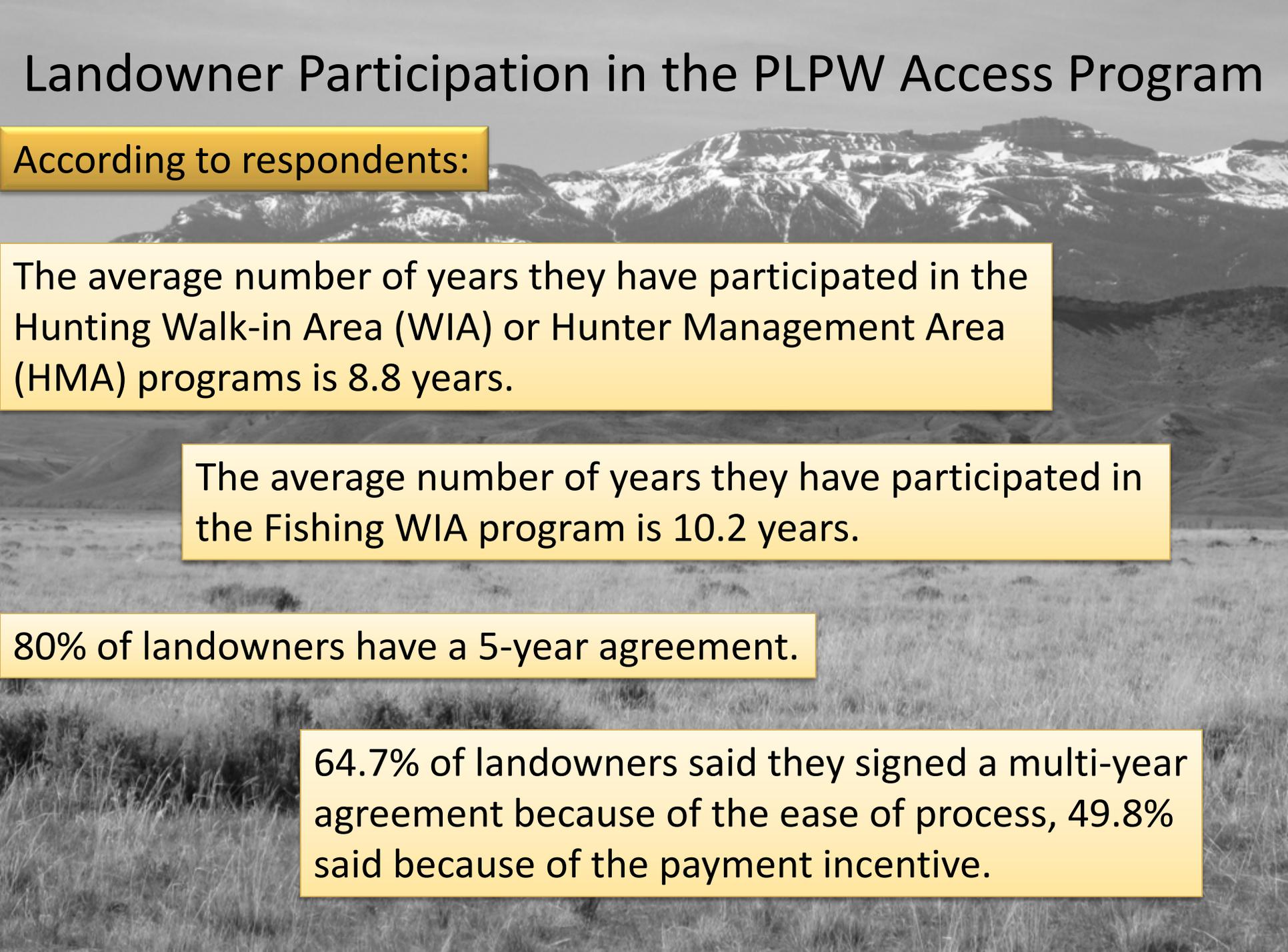
5400 Bishop Boul



Summary of the Landowner Survey

2015 Surveys by Coordinator					
Coordinator Region	No. of Landowners	Surveys Issued	% Surveyed	Surveys Returned	% Return
Casper	139	136	97.84%	86	63.24%
Cody	130	124	95.38%	64	51.61%
Green River	70	62	88.57%	30	48.39%
Laramie	172	102	59.30%	28	27.45%
Sheridan	28	19	67.86%	10	52.63%
Total	539	443	82.19%	218	49.21%

Landowner Participation in the PLPW Access Program



According to respondents:

The average number of years they have participated in the Hunting Walk-in Area (WIA) or Hunter Management Area (HMA) programs is 8.8 years.

The average number of years they have participated in the Fishing WIA program is 10.2 years.

80% of landowners have a 5-year agreement.

64.7% of landowners said they signed a multi-year agreement because of the ease of process, 49.8% said because of the payment incentive.

Landowner Desires and Expectations in establishing a WIA or HMA:

90.4% of the Hunting WIA and HMA landowners and 64.3% of the Fishing WIA landowners agree that the program met their expectations.

Management of hunters – 74.2%

Management of roads and vehicle access – 65.6%

Increase fishing opportunities – 78.6%



HUNTER MANAGEMENT
AREA
Written permission
from Wyoming Game &
Fish Department required

72.7% of landowners felt the number of hunters on their property was about right.

37.6% of landowners said the use of their property has increased, 41.4% said it has stayed the same.

A photograph of three men and a dog in a field of tall grass under a clear blue sky. The man in the center is holding a white sign that reads: 'WALK-IN AREA', 'FOOT TRAFFIC ONLY', 'Hunting on this land is provided for your enjoyment', 'Respect the Landowner And the Land!'. Below the text are two circular logos: 'Private Lands' and 'Public Wildlife'. At the bottom of the sign, it says 'Special rules apply consult Walk-in Area'. The man on the left is smiling, and the dog is visible in the foreground.

WALK-IN AREA
FOOT TRAFFIC ONLY
Hunting on this land
is provided for
your enjoyment
Respect the Landowner
And the Land!
Private Lands
Public Wildlife
Special rules apply consult Walk-in Area

78.5% of respondents were satisfied with the behavior of hunters using their property, 71.4% were satisfied with the behavior of anglers.

62.5% of landowners felt the number of anglers on their property was about right.

Problems and Solutions

45% of respondents listed a solution to problems occurring on the PLPW access area:

Problems		# of Respondents
Vehicles on closed roads/off road, or parking issues		25
Increased hunting/angling		16
Increased off road driving		15
Increased patrol/presence by WGFD	19	10
Increased education of public	13	10
Additional PLPW signage	10	9
Increased hunter/angler ethics	7	8
Steeper penalties for violators	3	6
Garbage cans or carcass dump sites	2	4
Bigger PLPW signs	2	4
Landowner coupon boxes	1	4
Limit the number of hunters	1	3
Change access dates	1	2
Lock gates	1	1
Install cattle guards	1	1



Establishing a PLPW Access Area with the Department

61.9% of landowners allowed free access to their property prior to establishing a PLPW Access Area.

Only 20.6% indicated they would allow free access if they decided not to participate in the future.

82.1% of the landowners felt the program had made it more convenient to provide access to hunters and anglers.

99% of the landowners felt that it was easy to establish a PLPW Access Area on their property.

012 10:40

Satisfaction with the WGFD

90.8% of landowners were satisfied with the WGFD's efforts to place PLPW signs on their property.

77.5% of landowners were satisfied with the WGFD's presence on their property during the open seasons.

45.4% felt their relationship with hunters and anglers has improved, 50% felt it has remained the same.

71.6% of landowners felt their relationship with WGFD has improved.



Aspects of the Program

Respondents said the following aspects of the program work well:

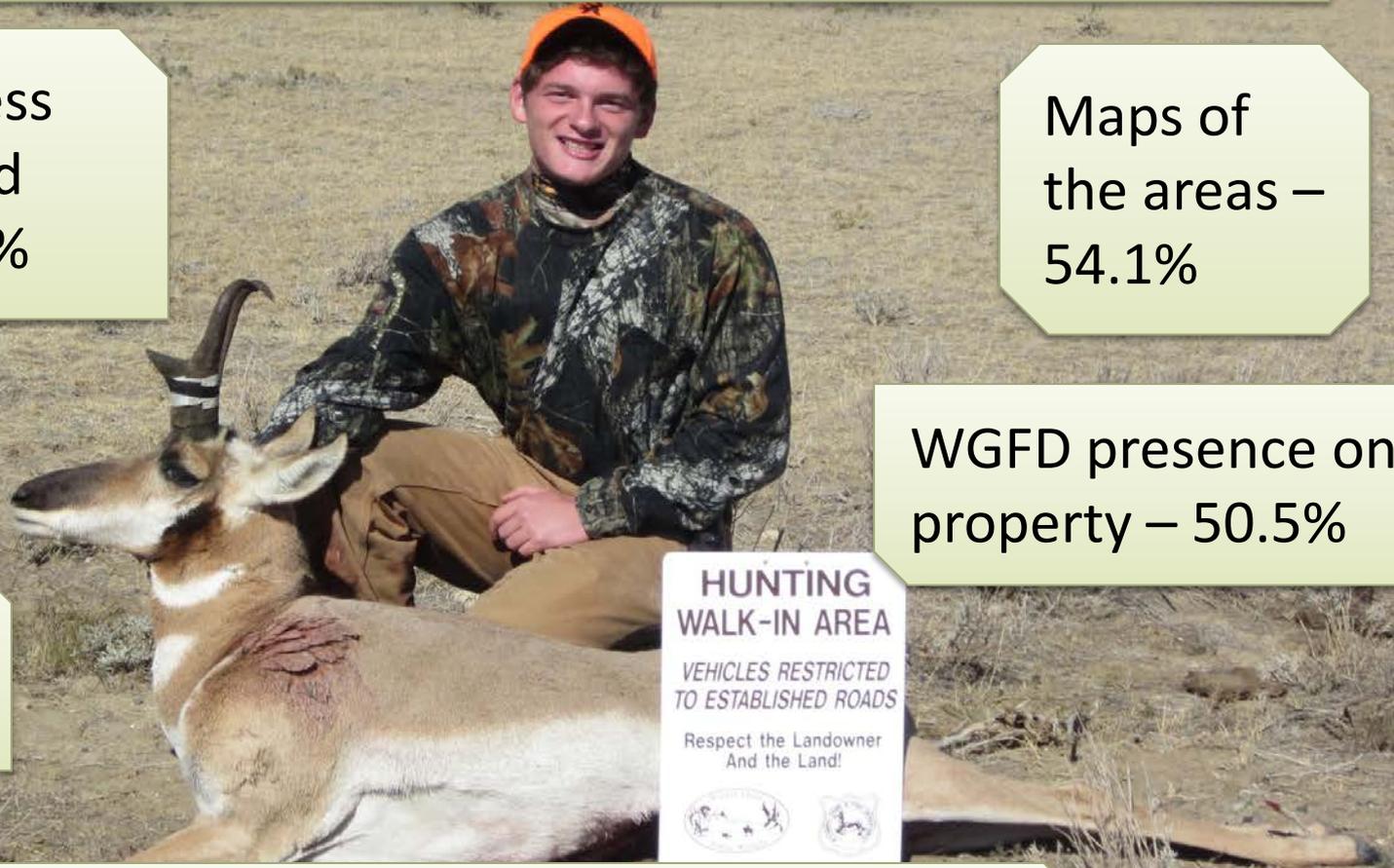
Improved access
for hunters and
anglers – 65.6%

Maps of
the areas –
54.1%

WGFD presence on
property – 50.5%

Signage –
68.4%

87.2% of landowners are satisfied with
the landowner incentives.



Overall Access Program Satisfaction

Overall, **91.7%** of the respondents were satisfied with the PLPW Access Program.

For Comparison:

In 2005, 91.8% were satisfied overall.

In 2010, 88.9% were satisfied overall.





The End
Questions?