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## **Bobbie Frank Honored with the Kurt Bucholz Conservation Award**

DEVILS TOWER – The Wyoming Stock Growers Land Trust awarded Bobbie Frank the seventh annual Kurt Bucholz Conservation Award at its annual Roundup Barbeque Saturday, held on August 23 at Bear Lodge Cattle Company at Devils Tower.

Bobbie has been employed by the Wyoming Association of Conservation Districts since August 1991 as Executive Director. She also serves as Executive Director for the Wyoming Natural Resource Foundation.

In her capacity as Executive Director, Bobbie is responsible for the development and implementation of natural resource conservation programs for local conservation districts, development of policy positions for the Association on local, state and federal issues, management of the Association's financial and public relation affairs, and lobbying on various state and federal legislative issues.

The WACD is aggressively involved in a myriad of water quality issues both at the state and national levels.

Prior to coming to WACD, Bobbie was employed for two years with the Laramie County Conservation District. During her employment with the District, she assisted with public relations and education, organization and assisting the District with implementation of various conservation programs, etc.

Bobbie lived and worked in northern Alberta for four and a half years. She worked for the Chamber of Commerce, Economic Development Committee and Exhibition Association as well as working as a freelance reporter for two rural weekly newspapers.

She has received the Wyoming Stock Growers Guardian of the Grassland Award, was recognized as a member of the Wyoming Ag Hall of Fame, and received the Distinguished Service Award from the National Association of Conservation Districts.

She and her husband, Dan Frank a Cheyenne Attorney, reside south of Cheyenne. She has three children and one grandson.

"I am very humbled and honored to receive the Kurt Bucholz award. He was an amazing person in his diligence to protect Wyoming's ranching community and the water we all depend upon. Words cannot express how honored I am to receive this award. It is even more rewarding to know that I was nominated by the folks I serve. I am just grateful for the opportunity I have been given to work in this area of natural resources and for some of the best people in this state." – Bobbie Frank

"I was thrilled that Bobbie Frank was our first woman recipient. Bobbie is so well-known and respected throughout the state. I think everyone was very pleased with the choice." Laura Bucholz.

The Kurt Bucholz Conservation Award is named for the late Dr. Kurt Bucholz DVM, one of the Stock Growers Land Trust's early supporters who, along with his wife Laura, ranched in Carbon County. For many years Dr. Bucholz devoted countless hours to his county and state. He demonstrated a keen understanding of state and local water issues, and was adamant about protecting the upper North Platte Valley's vital and historic water rights. A rare cancer claimed Kurt's life in December 2006. The Stock Growers Land Trust and Laura Bucholz created the Kurt Bucholz Conservation Award in 2008 to be presented annually to an individual who exemplifies Kurt's conservation values, particularly those that center on protecting and nourishing Wyoming's working ranches.

The Bucholz award honoree receives a bronze statue sculpted by Wyoming artist Jerry Palen that depicts the Stock Growers Land Trust horse and rider logo. Past recipients are Mike Healy, Bob Budd, Jim Chant, Joe Glode, Dennis Sun, and Dr. John Lunt.

### **About the Wyoming Stock Growers Land Trust**

The Wyoming Stock Growers Land Trust is dedicated to conserving Wyoming's working family ranches and farms and the wide-open spaces, natural habitats, and rural communities they support. Founded by a vote of the general membership of the Wyoming Stock Growers Association in December 2000, the Wyoming Stock Growers Land Trust has conserved 201,176 acres of working ranchlands through 72 conservation easements with 55 families throughout Wyoming. For more information visit [www.wsgalt.org](http://www.wsgalt.org) or contact the Land Trust at 307.772.8751 or [info@wsgalt.org](mailto:info@wsgalt.org).

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Photo cutlines:

Bobbie Frank Healy honored with 2014 Kurt Bucholz Conservation Award by the Wyoming Stock Growers Land Trust.

A Jerry Palen bronze depicting the Stock Growers Land Trust horse and rider logo is awarded to the recipient of the Kurt Bucholz Conservation Award.

