

## ATTACHMENT "J"

near the water plant or via the South Thermopolis Water and Sewer District, the Red Lane Water and Sewer District and the Lucerne Water and Sewer District, the later also supplies the incorporated Town of Kirby. Thermopolis provides potable (treated) water to the Town of East Thermopolis, which draws its untreated irrigation water from the Big Horn River. Likewise, potable water for Hot Springs State Park is supplied by the Town of Thermopolis.

Protection of water quantity and quality has enjoyed an elevated concern level in the County to such an extent that the Hot Springs Conservation District initiated the "Hot Springs County Groundwater Study - Phase I" in 1999. The June 2000 Final Report established the Hot Springs Protection Area Map and recommended ten (10) Best Management Practices (BMPs) which can be employed to protect groundwater resources. The protection area was established in order to monitor and protect the hot springs for which Hot Springs State Park and the Town of Thermopolis are widely known. ( See Appendix C )

More recently, Phase II of the Hot Springs County Groundwater Study was completed in June of 2004, it was prepared for the Hot Springs Conservation District, submitted to the Board of County Commissioners and the DEQ. It entailed thorough sampling of 52 domestic use water wells in various parts of the County. ( See Appendix C )

The surface water quality study entitled "*Final Report: Owl Creek Water Quality Study*" was submitted in July 2004. According to the document: "The purpose of this water quality study was to assess baseline water quality in the middle and lower Owl Creek drainage basin, particularly for fecal coliform bacteria levels at various sites. This study also sought to obtain additional water quality data for Owl Creek for parameters such as total suspended sediment (TSS), turbidity, total dissolved solids (TDS), dissolved oxygen, and select cations and anions during the course of the sampling year 2003-2004.

A number of interdisciplinary entities exist to address water resource issues impacting Hot Springs County. Some of them are as follows:

- Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality
- Wyoming Water Development Commission
- Wyoming State Engineer's Office
- Wyoming Game and Fish Department
- Wyoming Oil and Gas Commission
- U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
- U.S. Bureau of Land Management
- United States Forest Service
- U.S. Department of Agriculture
- U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs
- Hot Springs County Conservation District
- Owl Creek Irrigation District
- Lucerne Irrigation District
- Hot Springs County Natural Resources Planning Committee