

Ford Rundell

Why are you interested in becoming a board member?

Laramie County is growing faster than anywhere in Wyoming, and most of that growth is landing on ground that used to be rangeland. For work, I handle mine permitting, operations, and reclamation, deal with water and wildlife conflicts, and sit down with landowners and communities affected by our projects. The district works through those same questions every week, and I'd rather help than watch from the sidelines.

Why are you interested in Conservation?

Stewardship is one of my core values. We're charged with leaving the land better than we found it, and out here that shows up in ordinary ways. Whether a new windbreak survives a dry year. Whether a headcut is healing or cutting deeper. Whether a fence lets wildlife pass or pins them in.

Last winter we watched a lone pronghorn doe lose her herd, then winter and give birth inside a barbed wire section of state land she couldn't easily get out of. Most conservation work looks about like that - small problems that can be fixed, and plenty of them.

My knowledge of land management is rooted in mining reclamation, volunteer work on the Pryor Mountain mustang range, and my own experience as a landowner. The lessons are hard-earned, and most get passed down by listening to producers who've been at it for generations before I showed up. Good conversations are how conservation gets done, and I don't expect that to change.

Something you'd like your voters to know

We moved to Laramie County from the Bighorn Basin last year. It's drier and colder up there, and water is almost always the limiting factor in whether a conservation project succeeds. I'm looking forward to putting that experience to work here.

And if you want to get your hands dirty too, the district is looking for volunteers! Call the office and find out how you can help take care of our county's natural resources.