

Kiel Harding

Why am I interested in becoming a board member:

I am interested in becoming a board member because, as a landowner and ranch owner in Laramie County, I believe maintaining healthy grasslands is an essential part of protecting Wyoming's agricultural lands and way of life.

I believe water is our most valuable natural resource. Helping agricultural producers implement responsible water conservation practices will be critical to maintaining the long-term future and productivity of Wyoming agriculture.

I also believe development is not always a bad thing. Laramie County is growing, and growth brings opportunities. However, as development increases, there is greater pressure on grazing, agricultural lands and public lands. I believe development needs to be thoughtfully planned so that we do not lose the very resources and open spaces that made Laramie County valuable in the first place.

Once agricultural land is subdivided and developed, it can be extremely difficult, if not impossible, to return that land to agricultural use. That is why I believe conservation, agriculture and responsible development need to work together.

Laramie County roots are ranches, farms, open prairie, wildlife, water, and generations of families who have made their living from this land. I want to be part of helping protect that balance and ensuring that Laramie County remains a place where agriculture and rural communities can continue to thrive for generations to come.

Why are you interested in conservation-

I believe most of this was covered in the first answer, but to summarize would be- To be part of helping people learn about conservation and protecting Laramie county habitat, water and resources.

Something you would like your voters to know-

I am a born-and-raised Wyoming resident and a fifth-generation cattle ranch owner in Laramie County. This property is central to our way of life and livelihood. I work alongside my father and brother, and through responsible conservation practices, we have been able to improve and sustain our ranch.

Implementing efficient water systems with little to no waste, maintaining healthy pastures, using rotational grazing practices, and serving as responsible stewards of the land have all helped us preserve the ranch for future generations.