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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Rocky Mountain Power Foundation grants support culture, camp and careers

KEMMERER, Wyo. — The Rocky Mountain Power Foundation has awarded \$9,000 in grants to support several arts and social service organizations throughout the region.

Original Oystergrass Incorporated received \$2,500 to help promote and present the 2010 Oyster Ridge Music Festival. A boost to the local economy, this festival features musical contests, including the Wyoming State Fingerpick and Flatpick contests and the Infamous Bandsramble. Artisan and food booths along with educational music workshops and performances from nationally recognized musicians draw crowds from across the county and beyond.

The **Pinedale Fine Arts Council** received \$1,500 to support arts education and community performances for all of the area's residents, from pre-schoolers through seniors. The Council's efforts reach audiences in four ways: through season ticket performances, arts residency activities and workshops, a summer park program and a Coffee House series. By increasing access to the arts in rural isolated areas, the council helps build community cohesiveness.

The **Lander Community Concert Association** will apply its \$1,500 grant to help present a series of nine concerts during the 2009-2010 season. The association also presents four outreach activities at area schools and community centers. These performances are essential to the cultural life of this geographically isolated, small community.

Uinta County School District #4, Camp Carpe Diem received \$1,000 to help send youth to outdoor camp at no cost. Since 2006 Camp Carpe Diem has provided a unique opportunity for youth with developmental disabilities and/or seizure disorders to have fun, make friends and challenge themselves with new activities like canoeing and rock climbing. In the process, they also discover their hidden skills, talents and abilities.

The **Sublette County Sexual Assault Family Violence Task Force** received \$2,500 to help increase services for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking throughout the county. Free, confidential services include crisis intervention, personal and legal advocacy, sheltering, counseling, support groups, financial assistance and development of life skills.

“There are so many opportunities to enrich the lives of people all around us,” said Craig Nelson, Rocky Mountain Power customer and community manager. “It’s gratifying to support organizations that are improving our communities in meaningful ways. The positive energy and creativity abounds and multiplies with a little extra help.”

“The Rocky Mountain Power Foundation supports the growth and vitality of communities through its charitable investments,” said Lilisa Hall, executive director of the Rocky Mountain Power Foundation. “It is important to support our local organizations that invested in the well-being in our communities.”

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About Original Oystergrass Incorporated

Original Oystergrass is the nonprofit organization that funds the annual Oyster Ridge Music Festival. For more information visit <http://www.oysterridgemusicfestival.com/>.

About the Pinedale Fine Arts Council

The Pinedale Fine Arts Council, a community based nonprofit serving Sublette County, has provided high-quality performing arts events, visual and literary arts programs and artist residencies since 1976. For more information visit <http://www.pinedalefinearts.com/>.

About Lander Community Concert Association

Lander Community Concert Association brings a range of stimulating music, theater and dance performances to the local stage. For more information visit <http://www.landerconcerts.org/>.

About Camp Carpe Diem

Camp Carpe Diem is a camp experience for youth ages eight to 21 with developmental disabilities and/or seizure disorders. Staff members from Uinta County School District #4 in Mountain View, Wyo., felt it was important for youth to have the opportunity to participate in a camp program that provides challenging activities that bring out camper's skills and abilities.

About Sublette County Sexual Assault Family Violence Task Force

The Sublette County SAFV Task Force serves victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking throughout all of Sublette County. Services are available free of charge to anyone.

About the Rocky Mountain Power Foundation

The Rocky Mountain Power Foundation is part of the PacifiCorp Foundation, one of the largest utility-endowed foundations in the United States. The foundation was created in 1988 by PacifiCorp, an electric utility serving 1.7 million customers in six Western states as Rocky Mountain Power (Utah, Wyoming and Idaho) and Pacific Power (Oregon, Washington and California). The foundation's mission, through charitable investments, is to support the growth and vitality of the communities served by Pacific Power and Rocky Mountain Power. For more information visit, www.rockymountainpower.net/rmpfoundation.