Rural Connections Spring 2017

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*Rural Connections*, the magazine of the Western Rural Development Center, is published to provide research-informed inspiration on timely research and activities by the West’s land-grant institutions and regional/national agencies as it relates to rural development issues in the region. Contributors include researchers, faculty, Extension researchers, specialists and agents, practitioners, and professionals from throughout the West with occasional contributions from outside the region.

**IN THIS ISSUE:** Rural Community Preparedness for Disasters; When Disaster Strikes, Extension Responds; Planning for Prosperity of Rural West; Dry Farming Collaborative; Shifting Water Use Patterns in Irrigated Ag Lands; Interlocking Cross Laminated Timber; Death by a Thousand Cuts; Coastal Climate Change in Alaska; Exploring Transit Feasibility in Wyoming; Our Climate is Doing What?; Solar and Wind Assessments for Pivots; Community Rebranding; and Hired Farm Workers are Aging and Settling.

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