

Wyoming Rural Development Council



Rural Resource Team Report Hudson, Wyoming April 2-3, 2008

WRDC Mission:

“To create partnerships that result in effective, efficient, and timely efforts to enhance the viability of Wyoming.”

The Wyoming Rural Development Council

The Wyoming Rural Development Council is a collaborative public/private partnership that brings together six partner groups: local/regional government, state government, federal government, tribal government, non-profit organizations, and private sector individuals and organizations.

WRDC is governed by a Steering Committee representing the six partner groups. The Steering Committee as well as the Council membership has established the following goals for the WRDC:

- Assist rural communities in visioning and strategic planning
- Serve as a resource for assisting communities in finding and obtaining grants for rural projects
- Serve and be recognized as a neutral forum for identification and resolution of multi-jurisdictional issues.
- Promote, through education, the understanding of the needs, values and contributions of rural communities.

The Council seeks to assist rural Wyoming communities with their needs and development efforts by matching the technical and financial resources of federal, state and local governments and the private sector with local development efforts. If you would like more information about the Wyoming Rural Development Council and how you may benefit as a member, contact:

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Process for the Development of the Hudson Community Assessment Report

Process

The Wyoming Rural Development Council (WRDC) provided a Resource Team to assist Hudson, Wyoming to evaluate the community's assets and challenges, and to develop suggestions for improving the social and economic future of Hudson.

In the fall of 2007, the Town of Hudson requested a community assessment from the Wyoming Rural Development Council. No previous community assessments have been performed in Hudson. Town Council Member Brian Rohrbacher as the community contact and led a local team in developing an agenda, planning logistics and promoting the assessment. The WRDC then selected a resource team to visit the community; interview citizens, businesses and community leaders; and develop an action plan for the town. The team members were carefully selected based on their fields of expertise that Hudson officials indicated would be needed to respond to the problem areas identified.

Logistics

The Resource Team toured Hudson and interviewed 45 people over a three day period from April 2-3. The team held general public sessions and interviewed representatives from a wide variety of

segments of Hudson. Listening sessions were held at Hudson Town Hall and Big Red's Café. Each participant was asked to respond to three questions designed to provoke communication and discussion and to serve as a basis for developing the action plan. The three questions were:

1. *What do you think are the major problems and challenges in Hudson?*
2. *What do you think are the major strengths and assets in Hudson?*
3. *What projects would you like to see completed in the next two, five ten and twenty years in the Hudson?*

Report Development

Upon completion of the interviews, the team met to compare notes and share comments following the three days of intense study. The team then agreed that each team member would carefully analyze what was said, synthesize what they heard with their knowledge of programs and resources, prepare their notes and suggestions, and forward these items to be combined into the Wyoming Rural Development Council's Report to Hudson.

Follow-up

Following the oral report, a formal written report is prepared and presented to the City of Hudson.



Hudson Elementary

Executive Summary

On behalf of the Community Resource Team, I would first and foremost like to thank you for the enjoyable experience during our two days in your community. It was so much fun to get to know several of you on a personal level. The character and personalities of the people of Hudson reminded me of why Wyoming is such a great place to live.

There are a few tidbits that I find unique about your community. Hudson is a world renowned fine dining “mecca” with a very rich history. Also, your close-knit community values seniors so highly that they are referred to as “elders”. To me this compliment implicitly states your seniors are well-respected and perceived as the community’s core of wisdom. Also, while many communities throughout Wyoming are currently facing an uncomfortable housing shortage for workers and their families, this is not the case in Hudson.

However, there are potential issues on the horizon within your beautiful, quiet community. It sounds likely the school, which was quite evidently a valued community facility, will be closing. Also, the town is trying to overcome serious water and sewer infrastructure issues, which does not even include the streets and sidewalks people would like. Also, the limited ownership and lack of development of Main Street properties has had a devastating affect on the community’s ability to sustain itself. To me, these components - infrastructure, a school, and a thriving Main Street - are all critical to what separates a community from a suburb.

I am concerned about the apparent age gap in Hudson. While in town and during the assessment, I saw very few people between the ages of 10-40. Additionally, in the last 20 years the median age has increased from 36 years to 46 years, a trend I hope will change in the future.

I am familiar with many of the leaders and elders in Hudson and I sincerely hope that several of you step forward to volunteer and make a difference. It is evident your community is at a crossroads at a time when Hudson is getting ready to celebrate your 100th anniversary!

At this time, I cannot stress how important it is to position your community for success in the future! Hudson is too special of a community to lose its individualism and become a suburb of Lander and Riverton. I know you can and will do it!

Sincerely,

Gary M. Michaud, Team Leader

*You got to be careful if you don't know where you're going, because you might not get there.
- **Yogi Berra**, baseball catcher (1925-present)*



Hudson, WY - 1909

Source: <http://www.wyomingtalesandtrails.com>

HUDSON COMMUNITY PROFILE

(Elevation: 5,094)

Hudson, located between Riverton and Lander, was established in the early 1900's and became a major coal-mining center. The presence of coal was known at an early date, but the only mines were "wagon mines" - small single person or family run affairs providing coal only for local use. Large scale commercial mining was not possible until the coming of railroads. Hudson traces its history to the development of two Puposia Mines associated with the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad. The high demand for coal during World War I kept the mines in business and running strong.

The first settlers in the area were George H. Rogers and his wife Emma Hudson Rogers who homesteaded in 1891. The claim was proven up following George's death. The site of the town was sold by Emma and her brother Daniel Hudson to the coal company. The town was initially named Alta, an Indian word meaning "swift water" for the nearby Little Popo Agie River. The community was later named after John Hudson, a rancher and legislator who promoted the railroad. Incorporated on March 8, 1909, the population of Hudson reached about 1,500. At its peak, the town had many businesses including a bakery, hotel, pharmacy, two banks, Chamber of Commerce, restaurant, two general stores, lumber yard, butcher shop, jewelry store, millinery shop, motion picture house which was called the "Opera House", cement block factory, brick yard and kiln, a doctor, newspaper, 15-piece band, railroad depot and stockyards. The stockyards at Hudson were a major cattle shipping point for all of Fremont County.

With the evolution of diesel engines and natural gas production, a sharp drop in the demand for coal led to the decline in the production at the mines and consequently a sharp decline in the population of the town. In 1941, the last mine closed in Hudson. Today, the town remains a viable and charming community.

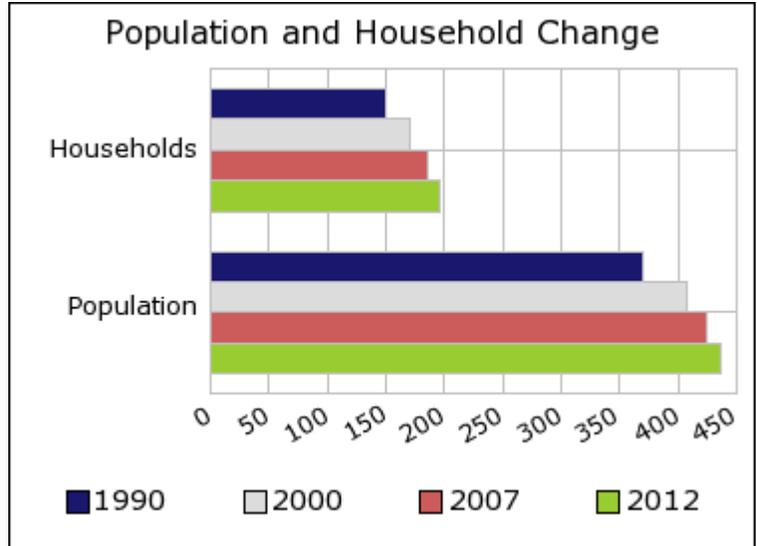
Sources: <http://www.windrivercountry.com/>
<http://www.wyomingtalesandtrails.com/hudson>
<http://www.ultimatewyoming.com/>

Hudson Executive Summary

Population Demographics:

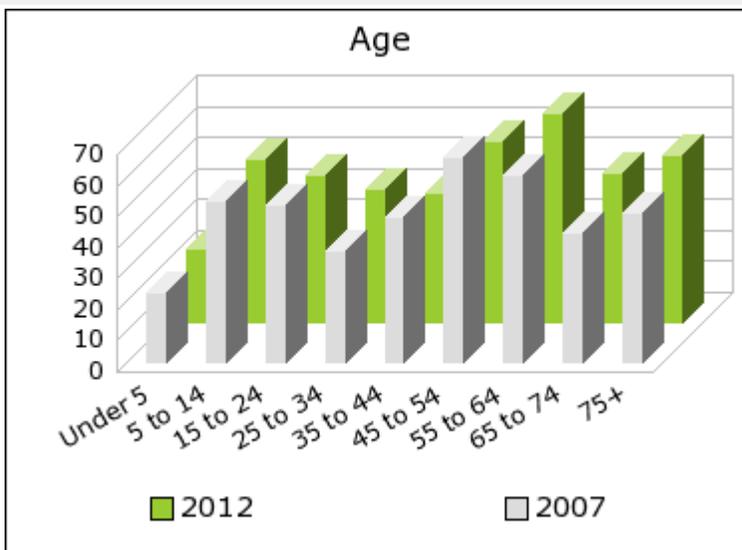
The number of households in Hudson in 1990 was **150** and changed to **171** in 2000, representing a change of **13.7%**. The household count in 2007 was **186** and the household projection for 2012 is **197**, a change of **5.9%**.

The population in Hudson in 1990 was **370** and in 2000 it was **407**, roughly a **9.9%** change. The population in 2007 was **425** and the projection for 2012 is **437** representing a change of **3.0%**.



	1990 Census	2000 Census	2007 Estimate	2012 Projection	Percent Change	
					1990 to 2000	2007 to 2012
Total Population	370	407	425	437	9.9%	3.0%
Total Households	150	171	186	197	13.7%	5.9%

Population by Age



In 1990, the median age of the total population in Hudson was **36.1**, and in 2000, it was **42.3**. The median age in 2007 was **45.6** and it is predicted to change in five years to **46.9** years.

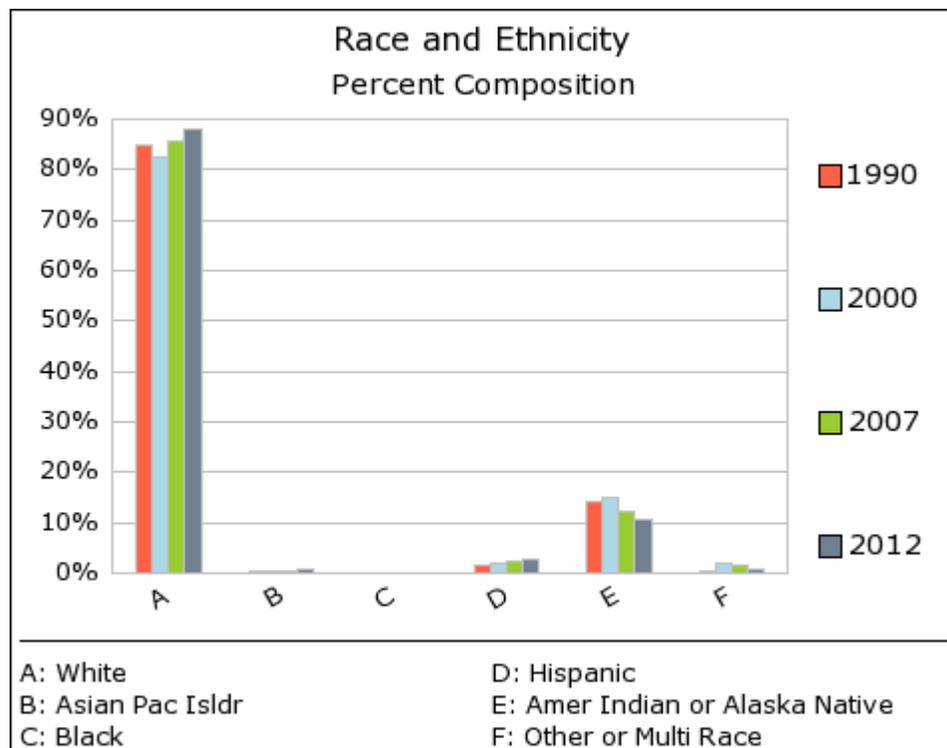
In 2007, females represented **53.3%** of the population with a median age of **47.2** and males represented **46.7%** of the population with a median age of **43.5** years. In 2007, the most prominent age group was **Age 45 to 54** years. The age group least represented was **0 to 4** years.

Age Groups

Age Group	1990 Census		2000 Census		2007 Estimate		2012 Projection		Percent Change	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	1990 to 2000	2007 to 2012
0 to 4	29	7.8%	22	5.3%	23	5.4%	24	5.5%	-25.0%	5.1%

5 to 14	64	17.4%	63	15.5%	52	12.3%	53	12.1%	-2.0%	1.1%
15 to 19	25	6.7%	31	7.6%	28	6.6%	25	5.7%	24.6%	-11.8%
20 to 24	15	4.2%	15	3.7%	23	5.4%	23	5.2%	-2.2%	-0.5%
25 to 34	45	12.2%	33	8.2%	36	8.4%	43	9.8%	-26.1%	19.7%
35 to 44	52	14.1%	58	14.3%	47	11.1%	42	9.6%	11.5%	-11.0%
45 to 54	43	11.5%	61	15.0%	66	15.6%	59	13.4%	43.6%	-11.7%
55 to 64	36	9.7%	45	11.1%	60	14.2%	68	15.5%	25.7%	12.3%
65 to 74	31	8.3%	37	9.1%	42	9.8%	48	11.0%	20.3%	16.3%
75 +	30	8.1%	41	10.1%	48	11.3%	54	12.3%	36.8%	12.5%

Population by Race/Ethnicity



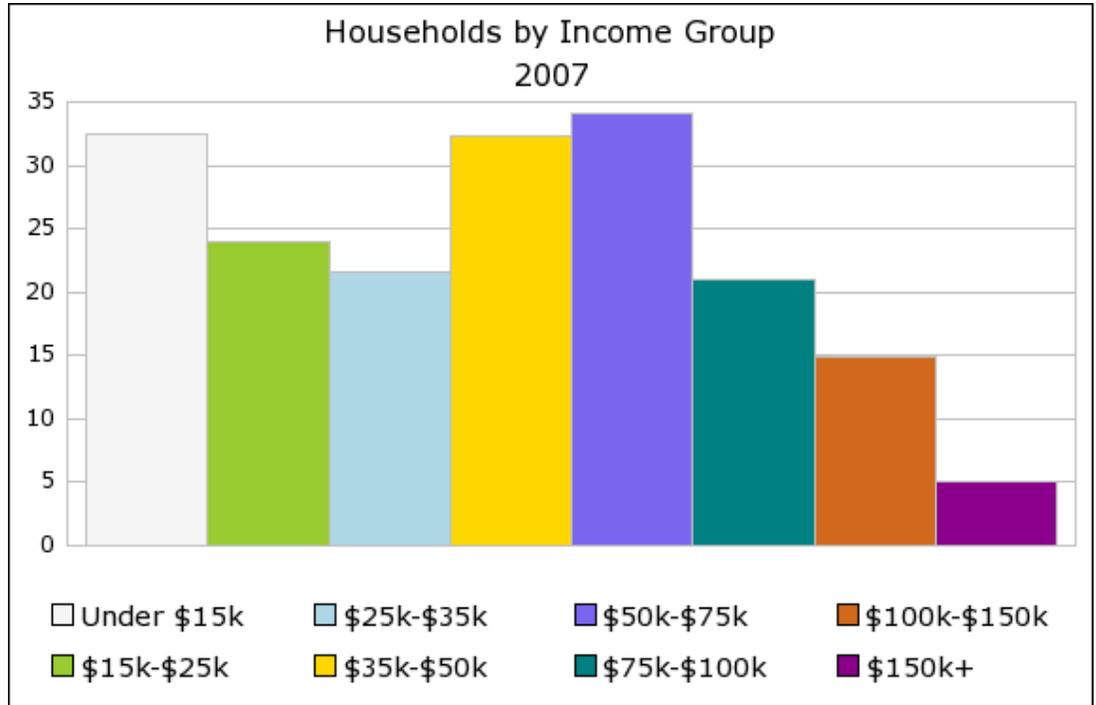
In 2007, the predominant race/ethnicity category in Hudson was **White**. The race & ethnicity category least represented was **Black**.

Race & Ethnicity

	1990 Census		2000 Census		2007 Estimate		2012 Projection		Percent Change	
		%		%		%		%	1990 to 2000	2007 to 2012
White	314	84.9%	336	82.6%	364	85.7%	384	87.9%	7.0%	5.7%
Black	0	0.0%	0	0.1%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	186.5%	0.0%
American Indian or Alaska Native	53	14.3%	62	15.2%	51	12.0%	46	10.5%	16.3%	-10.2%
Asian or Pacific Islander	1	0.4%	2	0.4%	2	0.5%	3	0.7%	27.2%	38.3%
Other Race	2	0.4%	1	0.2%	1	0.2%	1	0.2%	-43.9%	-12.7%
Two or More Races			6	1.6%	6	1.5%	3	0.7%		-55.3%
Hispanic Ethnicity	6	1.7%	9	2.1%	11	2.5%	12	2.7%	36.7%	10.8%
Not Hispanic or Latino	364	98.3%	399	97.9%	414	97.5%	425	97.3%	9.5%	2.8%

Households by Income

In 2007 the predominant household income category for Hudson was **\$50K - \$75K**, and the income group that was least represented was **\$150K+**.



HH Income

Categories	1990 Census		2000 Census		2007 Estimate		2012 Projection		Percent Change	
		%		%		%		%	1990 to 2000	2007 to 2012
\$0 - \$15,000	50	33.4%	35	20.3%	33	17.5%	32	16.1%	-30.8%	-2.8%
\$15,000 - \$24,999	27	17.8%	27	15.6%	24	12.9%	24	12.0%	-0.4%	-1.3%
\$25,000 - \$34,999	31	20.7%	23	13.5%	22	11.6%	20	10.2%	-25.9%	-7.4%
\$35,000 - \$49,999	24	15.9%	33	19.6%	32	17.4%	29	14.7%	39.6%	-10.2%
\$50,000 - \$74,999	16	10.8%	29	16.9%	34	18.4%	41	20.6%	79.0%	18.7%
\$75,000 - \$99,999	3	1.7%	16	9.2%	21	11.6%	22	11.3%	503.4%	3.3%
\$100,000 - \$149,999	0	0.0%	8	4.6%	15	8.0%	22	11.2%	N/A%	48.3%
\$150,000 +	0	0.0%	1	0.3%	5	2.7%	8	3.9%	N/A%	51.0%
Average HH Income	\$26,574		\$41,242		\$49,959		\$56,879		55.2%	13.9%
Median HH Income	\$24,383		\$35,423		\$42,393		\$47,199		45.3%	11.3%
Per Capita Income	\$9,831		\$17,325		\$21,695		\$25,196		76.2%	16.1%

Employment and Business Change

	1990 Census		2000 Census		2007 Estimate		2012 Projection		Percent Change	
		%		%		%		%	1990 to 2000	2007 to 2012
Age 16 + Population	270		314		342		354		16.3%	3.5%
In Labor Force	170	62.8%	199	63.2%	227	66.3%	235	66.4%	16.9%	3.6%
Employed	155	91.5%	184	92.9%	214	94.2%	221	94.0%	18.7%	3.5%
Unemployed	14	8.4%	14	7.1%	13	5.8%	14	5.9%	-1.5%	4.3%
In Armed Forces	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.1%	N/A%	N/A%
Not In Labor Force	101	37.2%	116	36.8%	115	33.7%	119	33.6%	15.1%	3.2%

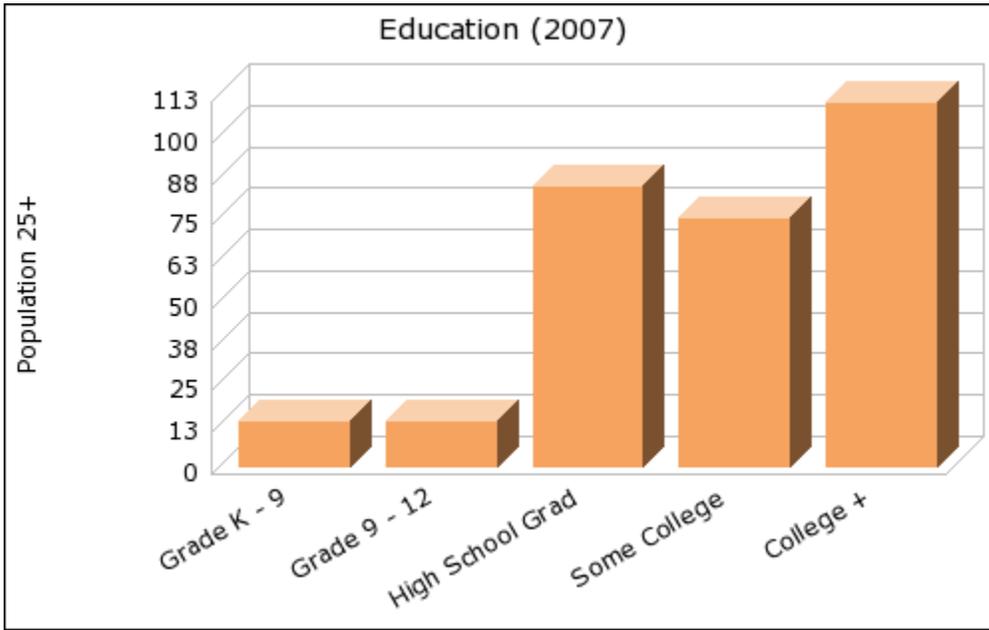
Employment in Blue Collar Occupations	69	37.2%
Employment in White Collar Occupations	116	62.8%

	Housing Units								Percent Change	
	1990 Census		2000 Census		2007 Estimate		2012 Projection		1990 to 2000	2007 to 2012
Total Housing Units	178		189		204		214		6.2%	5.2%
Owner Occupied	112	63.0%	129	67.9%	140	69.0%	149	69.6%	14.5%	6.2%
Renter Occupied	38	21.3%	42	22.4%	46	22.4%	48	22.3%	11.6%	4.6%
Vacant	28	15.7%	18	9.8%	18	8.6%	17	8.1%	-34.2%	-1.1%

	Vehicles Available								Percent Change	
	1990 Census		2000 Census		2007 Estimate		2012 Projection		1990 to 2000	2007 to 2012
Average Vehicles Per HH	2.10		1.90		2.20		2.40		-8.9%	8.6%
0 Vehicles Available	11	7.0%	8	4.5%	8	4.2%	8	4.2%	-29.4%	5.1%
1 Vehicle Available	35	22.4%	51	30.0%	52	27.7%	51	25.9%	47.0%	-1.4%
2+ Vehicles Available	110	70.6%	112	65.5%	127	68.0%	138	69.9%	2.1%	8.8%

	Marital Status								Percent Change	
	1990 Census		2000 Census		2007 Estimate		2012 Projection		1990 to 2000	2007 to 2012
Age 15+ Population	277		322		350		360		16.3%	3.1%
Married, Spouse Present	172	61.9%	177	54.8%	191	54.7%	197	54.8%	3.0%	3.1%
Married, Spouse Absent	3	1.0%	18	5.7%	20	5.7%	21	5.7%	585.9%	3.5%
Divorced	24	8.8%	34	10.6%	37	10.5%	38	10.5%	39.9%	3.1%
Widowed	31	11.2%	28	8.6%	30	8.6%	31	8.6%	-10.5%	3.0%
Never Married	48	17.2%	66	20.4%	71	20.4%	74	20.4%	37.7%	3.0%

	Educational Attainment								Percent Change	
	1990 Census		2000 Census		2007 Estimate		2012 Projection		1990 to 2000	2007 to 2012
Age 25+ Population	237		276		299		313		16.6%	4.8%
Grade K - 8	18	7.8%	18	6.4%	14	4.6%	11	3.4%	-4.0%	-23.7%
Grade 9 - 12	25	10.5%	18	6.6%	14	4.7%	11	3.6%	-26.5%	-19.7%
High School Graduate	79	33.3%	71	25.8%	85	28.6%	95	30.4%	-9.7%	11.4%
Some College, No Degree	58	24.4%	71	25.6%	75	25.2%	78	25.1%	22.4%	4.1%
Associates Degree	18	7.8%	24	8.8%	27	9.0%	28	9.0%	32.5%	5.4%
Bachelor's Degree	26	11.0%	50	18.3%	58	19.4%	63	20.0%	93.2%	8.4%
Graduate Degree	12	5.1%	23	8.5%	26	8.6%	27	8.6%	94.8%	4.4%



Current year data is for the year **2007**, 5 year projected data is for the year **2012**.

Fremont County Profile

POPULATION BY AGE:	2006	% of Total
Population under 5 years	2,585	7.0%
Population 5 to 14 years	4,948	13.3%
Population 15 to 19 years	2,723	7.3%
Population 20 to 24 years	2,598	7.0%
Population 25 to 34 years	4,298	11.6%
Population 35 to 44 years	4,505	12.1%
Population 45 to 54 years	5,743	15.5%
Population 55 to 64 years	4,487	12.1%
Population 65 to 74 years	2,865	7.7%
Population 75 years and over	2,411	6.5%
TOTAL	37,163	100.0%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

RACE AND HISPANIC ORIGIN	2006 Estimate	% of Total
TOTAL	37,163	100.0%
White alone	28,932	77.9%
Black or African American alone	155	0.4%
American Indian and Alaska Native alone	7,299	19.6%
Asian alone	164	0.4%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander alone	13	0.0%
Two or More Races	600	1.6%

Race alone or in combination with one or more races:

White	27,495	74.0%
Black or African American	117	0.3%
American Indian and Alaska Native	7,003	18.8%
Asian	156	0.4%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	11	0.0%
Two or More Races	545	2.0%

Hispanic Origin:

White alone	1,437	3.9%
Black or African American	38	0.1%
American Indian and Alaska Native	296	0.8%
Asian	8	0.0%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	2	1.3%
Two or More Races	55	0.8%

Note: Hispanic is an ethnic origin not a race.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

LANDOWNERS	Acres	Square Miles
United States Government		
National Park Service	0	0.0
Forest Service	980,919	1,532.7
Fish and Wildlife	3,432	5.4
Bureau of Land Management	2,087,127	3,261.1
Bureau of Reclamation	146,825	229.4
Wyoming		
State Lands Commission	252,373	394.3
Recreation Commission	639	1.0
Game and Fish	48,181	75.3
Local Government		
County	814	1.3
City	3,730	5.8
School District & Colleges	1,007	1.6
Other Lands	1,573,940	2,459
Surface Water	53,459	83.5
Total Public	5,098,987	7,967.2
Total Private	829,895	1,296.7
TOTAL LAND	5,928,882	9,263.9

(a) Data not available

Source: University of Wyoming, Department of Geography & Recreation

PERSONAL INCOME	2004
Total Personal Income (000s \$)	\$970,818
Per Capita Personal Income	\$26,805
Per Capita Current Transfer Receipts*	\$5,872
Per Capita Dividends, Interest, and Rent	\$5,773
Average Wage and Salary Disbursements	\$25,818
Average Non-farm Proprietors' Income	\$14,639

*Mainly includes Social Security, Disability, Medicare/Medicaid, and other income maintenance payments.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Information System

SALES TAX COLLECTIONS	FY 2006
INDUSTRY (NAICS)	Total Taxes (\$)
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	\$13,022
Mining	\$3,975,782
Utilities	\$945,418
Construction	\$487,279
Manufacturing	\$826,438
Wholesale Trade	\$2,287,962
Retail Trade	\$12,244,311
Transportation and Warehousing	\$34,806
Information	\$567,488
Financial Activities	\$892,176
Professional & Business Services	\$266,278
Educational & Health Services	\$37,235
Leisure & Hospitality	\$2,319,566
Other Services	\$1,243,381
Public Administration	\$2,853,831
TOTAL	\$28,994,973

Source: State of Wyoming, Department of Revenue

SELECTED STATISTICS: SCHOOL YEAR 2005- 2006	
Number of School Districts	8
Number of Schools	31
Fall Enrollment	6,373
High School Graduates	349
Average Daily Membership (ADM)	6,322
Average Daily Attendance (ADA)	5,774
Certified Teachers	525
Certified Staff	114
Administration	58
Classified Staff	560
Students Transported Daily	2,876
Bonded Indebtedness, June 30th	\$8,855,000
Total General Fund Revenues	\$83,459,197
Total General Fund Expenditures	\$77,935,603
Operating Cost Per ADM	\$15,820

Source: State of Wyoming, Dept. of Education, Statistical Report

Series No. 3, annual

CRIME OFFENSES BY CONTRIBUTOR: 2006	
Murder	0
Rape	7
Robbery	3
Aggravated Assault	53
Burglary	131
Larceny	614
Motor Vehicle Theft	49
Violent Crimes	63
Property Crimes	794
TOTAL	857

Source: State of Wyoming, Attorney General's Office, DCI

COUNTY EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS	
Labor Force (Dec 2007) <i>p</i>	18,050
Employed (Dec 2007) <i>p</i>	17,247
Unemployed (Dec 2007) <i>p</i>	803
Unemployment Rate (Dec 2007) <i>p</i>	4.4%
Ave. Weekly Wage - Covered Emp. (Q2_07)	\$668

Source: State of Wyoming, Department of Employment
p = preliminary

COUNTY FINANCE	
Assessed Valuation (For 2006)	\$1,375,639,617
Total Property Taxes Levied (2006)	\$98,958,900
Sales and Use Tax Distribution (FY2006)	\$9,428,379
Bank Deposits (6/30/2006)	\$486,992,000
2006 Average County Levy (mills)	71.937

Source: State of Wyoming, Dept. of Revenue & Dept. of Audit

FULL AND PART TIME EMPLOYMENT	2004
Wage and Salary	16,248
Proprietors	5,975
Farm	1,166
Forestry, Fishing, Related Activities	191
Mining	599
Utilities	(D)
Construction	1,690
Manufacturing	583
Wholesale Trade	(D)
Retail Trade	2,558
Transportation and Warehousing	560
Information	370
Finance and Insurance	535
Real Estate, Rental, and Leasing	825
Professional and Technical Services	790
Management of Companies and Enterprises	22
Administrative and Waste Services	518
Educational Services	(D)
Health Care and Social Assistance	(D)
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	426
Accommodation and Food Services	1,707
Other Services, except Public Administration	1,330
Government and Government Enterprises	5,226
TOTAL	22,223

EARNINGS (000s of \$):	2004
Wage and Salary	\$419,489
Supplements to Wages and Salaries*	\$101,456
Proprietors	\$75,538
Farm	\$7,041
Forestry, Fishing, Related Activities	\$2,354
Mining	\$42,012
Utilities	(D)
Construction	\$51,773
Manufacturing	\$13,154
Wholesale Trade	(D)
Retail Trade	\$52,335
Transportation and Warehousing	\$19,017
Information	\$10,735
Finance and Insurance	\$14,326
Real Estate, Rental, and Leasing	\$11,902
Professional and Technical Services	\$24,250
Management of Companies and Enterprises	\$566
Administrative and Waste Services	\$8,002
Educational Services	(D)
Health Care and Social Assistance	(D)
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	\$11,238
Accommodation and Food Services	\$20,518
Other Services, except Public Administration	\$20,773
Government and Government Enterprises	\$196,573
TOTAL	\$596,483

*Supplements to Wages and Salaries include employer contributions for employee pension/insurance funds and for government social insurance.

(D) - not shown to avoid disclosure of confidential information.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), Regional Economic Information System



Workforce Training

1. Wyoming Department of Workforce Services offers employers up to \$2,000 per employee for training. (<http://wyomingworkforce.org/how/wdftp.aspx>).
2. Quick Start
Wyoming is the first state approved to license the State of Georgia's Quick Start program. The Wyoming Business Council and the Wyoming Community Colleges are partnering to provide training in:
 - Customer Service
 - Manufacturing
 - Warehousing and Distribution
 (<http://www.wyomingbusiness.org/business/workforce.aspx>).

State Incentives

1. No corporate state income tax.
2. No personal state income tax.
3. Community Development Block Grants administered by Wyoming Business Council.
Source: <http://www.wyomingbusiness.org/community/cdbg.aspx>.
 - Provides grants to local governments for community and economic development projects.
 - Provides convertible loans to grants based on job creation.
4. Partnership Challenge Loan Program administered by Wyoming Business Council.
Source: <http://www.wyomingbusiness.org/financial/loan.aspx>.
 - Provides low interest loans to community development organizations.
 - Provides gap financing for projects with the Wyoming Business Council participating with a commercial lender.
5. Industrial Development Revenue Bonds. Cities and counties may issue tax-exempt bonds to provide financing for manufacturing. Source: <http://www.wyomingbusiness.org/financial/idrb.aspx>.

Taxes

1. No corporate state income tax.
2. No personal state income tax.
3. No inventory tax.
4. Fremont County has a 5% sales and use tax (statewide base of 4% plus 1% optional county tax).
Source: Wyoming Department of Revenue, Excise Tax Division (July 2007).
5. Unemployment Insurance - taxable base rate of \$20,100. Tax rates by industry grouping - WY Dept. of Employment. *Source: <http://wydoe.state.wy.us/doe.asp?ID=876>.*
6. Workers' Compensation - rates vary by occupation and can be found at:
Source: <http://159.238.91.226/etd/Rates/2008-Rates.xls>.
7. Property taxes. Average tax rate in Fremont County is 7.4589%.
Source: Wyoming Department of Revenue, Ad Valorem Division

Tax computation:

Fair Market Value of Property * Level of Assessment (9.5% for Residential and Commercial Property) * Tax Rate

Example: Tax on a commercial facility valued at \$1,000,000 is as follows: \$1,000,000 x 0.095 = \$95,000 x 0.074589 = \$7,086.

State assesses agricultural lands at 9.5% of agricultural value, residential and commercial at 9.5% and industrial at 11.5% of fair market value.

Origin of the Name

Named in honor of General John Charles Fremont, whose explorations, throughout the West, earned him the title of the "Pathfinder" of the Rocky Mountains. Fremont County was organized in 1884 and the county seat resides in Lander.

Cost of Living Index (Prices as of July 11, 12, and 13, 2007, Statewide Average = 100)

Food	Housing	Apparel	Transportation	Medical	Recreation & Personal Care
93	89	87	99	104	104

Source: State of Wyoming, Economic Analysis Division (<http://eadiv.state.wy.us/wcli/NewsRelease-2Q07pdf>).

Average Price of Single-Family Home (2006)

\$163,775

Source: A Profile of Wyoming <www.wyomingcda.com>

Higher Education

Central Wyoming College: Campus in Riverton
University of Wyoming Outreach Program

Transportation

1. Airports:

Riverton Regional (RIW)

3 miles northwest of Riverton

Commercial Service: Great Lakes (United Express)

Daily flights to: Denver, Worland

Runways: 8,203 x 150 ft., asphalt

4,800 x 75 ft., asphalt – cross wind runway

Fixed Base Operators: Jim's Aircraft Service

Dubois Municipal (U25)

3 miles northwest of Dubois

Runway: 6,100 x 60 ft., asphalt

Fixed Base Operators: None

Hunt Field (LND)

1 mile south of Lander

Runway: 5,120 x 100 ft., asphalt

Fixed Base Operators: Wind River Aviation

2. Highways:

Distance from county centroid to nearest Interstate highway = 93.49 miles to I-80

U.S. 20

U.S. 26

U.S. 287

3. Railroad:

Burlington Northern Santa Fe

Big Horn Divide and Wyoming (short line)

Fremont County Business Report (Estimate)

Daytime Population: Total Employees (2007) 18,349

Business Counts: Total Establishments (2007) 2,187

Employees By Occupation	2007	% of Total
"White Collar" Employees	10,793	58.8%
Administrative Support Workers	3,109	16.9%
Executive Managers & Administrators	1,874	10.2%
Professional Specialty Occupations	3,520	19.2%
Sales Professionals	295	1.6%
Sales Workers & Clerks	1,442	7.9%
Technical Sales & Administrative	24	0.1%
Technologies & Technicians	529	2.9%
"Blue Collar" Employees	7,483	40.8%
Construction, Repair & Mining	711	3.9%
Farming, Forestry & Fishing	551	3.0%

Handlers, Helpers & Laborers	424	2.3%
Machine Operators, Assemblers & Inspectors	274	1.5%
Other Services Field Based	146	0.8%
Other Services Site Based	2,912	15.9%
Precision Craft & Repair	1,552	8.5%
Private Household Service	1	0.0%
Protective Services	323	1.8%
Transportation & Materials Moving Workers	589	3.2%

Establishments: Size	2007	% of Total
1 - 4 Employees	1,363	62.3%
5 - 9 Employees	427	19.5%
10 - 19 Employees	209	9.6%
20 - 49 Employees	114	5.2%
50 - 99 Employees	58	2.7%
100 - 249 Employees	13	0.6%
250 - 499 Employees	3	0.1%
500 - 999 Employees	0	0.0%
1,000+ Employees	0	0.0%

Major Industry: Employees	2007	% of Total
Agricultural, Forestry, Fishing	294	1.6%
Construction	1,029	5.6%
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	573	3.1%
Manufacturing	511	2.8%
Mining	564	3.1%
Public Administration	2,891	15.8%
Retail Trade	3,381	18.4%
Services	7,818	42.6%
Transportation & Communications	786	4.3%
Unclassified	73	0.4%
Wholesale Trade	429	2.3%

Major Industry: Establishments	2007	% of Total
Agricultural, Forestry, Fishing	83	3.8%
Construction	192	8.8%
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	141	6.4%
Manufacturing	53	2.4%
Mining	41	1.9%
Public Administration	204	9.3%
Retail Trade	403	18.4%
Services	850	38.9%
Transportation & Communications	103	4.7%
Unclassified	28	1.3%
Wholesale Trade	89	4.1%

Retail Trade: Employees	2007	% of Total
Auto Dealers & Gas Stations	463	13.7%
Bars	54	1.6%

Building Materials Hardware & Garden	275	8.1%
Catalog and Direct Sales	5	0.1%
Clothing Stores	40	1.2%
Convenience Stores	89	2.6%
Drug Stores	6	0.2%
Electronics & Computer Stores	54	1.6%
Food Markets	306	9.1%
Furniture Stores	29	0.9%
General Merchandise Stores	552	16.3%
Home Furnishings	45	1.3%
Liquor Stores	33	1.0%
Music Stores	40	1.2%
Other Food Service	119	3.5%
Other Food Stores	92	2.7%
Restaurants	919	27.2%
Specialty Stores	260	7.7%
Total Retail Trade	3,381	100.0%

Retail Trade: Establishments	2007	% of Total
Auto Dealers & Gas Stations	52	12.9%
Bars	17	4.2%
Building Materials Hardware & Garden	38	9.4%
Catalog & Direct Sales	2	0.5%
Clothing Stores	13	3.2%
Convenience Stores	14	3.5%
Drug Stores	1	0.2%
Electronics & Computer Stores	8	2.0%
Food Markets	10	2.5%
Furniture Stores	10	2.5%
General Merchandise Stores	14	3.5%
Home Furnishings	14	3.5%
Liquor Stores	8	2.0%
Music Stores	7	1.7%
Other Food Service	11	2.7%
Other Food Stores	20	5.0%
Restaurants	64	15.9%
Specialty Stores	100	24.8%
Total Retail Trade	403	100.0%

Service: Employees	2007	% of Total
Advertising	7	0.1%
Auto Repair/Services	162	2.1%
Beauty and Barber Shops	114	1.5%
Child Care Services	205	2.6%
Colleges & Universities	187	2.4%
Computer Services	113	1.4%
Dry Cleaning & Laundry	87	1.1%
Entertainment & Recreation Services	322	4.1%

Health & Medical Services	615	7.9%
Hospitals	1,013	13.0%
Hotels & Lodging	454	5.8%
Legal Services	103	1.3%
Membership Organizations	383	4.9%
Miscellaneous Repair Services	63	0.8%
Motion Pictures	60	0.8%
Museums & Zoos	43	0.6%
Other Business Services	252	3.2%
Other Education & Library Services	51	0.7%
Other Personal Service	62	0.8%
Primary & Secondary Education	2,375	30.4%
Professional Services	269	3.4%
Social Services	878	11.2%
Total Services	7,818	100.0%

Service: Establishments	2007	% of Total
Advertising	4	0.5%
Auto Repair/Services	53	6.2%
Beauty and Barber Shops	38	4.5%
Child Care Services	18	2.1%
Colleges & Universities	8	0.9%
Computer Services	8	0.9%
Dry Cleaning & Laundry	14	1.6%
Entertainment & Recreation Services	52	6.1%
Health & Medical Services	103	12.1%
Hospitals	18	2.1%
Hotels & Lodging	62	7.3%
Legal Services	35	4.1%
Membership Organizations	92	10.8%
Miscellaneous Repair Services	32	3.8%
Motion Pictures	8	0.9%
Museums & Zoos	7	0.8%
Other Business Services	56	6.6%
Other Education & Library Services	11	1.3%
Other Personal Service	21	2.5%
Primary & Secondary Education	47	5.5%
Professional Services	65	7.6%
Social Services	98	11.5%
Total Services	850	100.0%

Fremont County Consumer Expenditure Report (Estimate)

	2007	2012	% Change
	Estimate	Projection	2007 - 2012
Total Households	14,411	15,035	4.3%

Total Average Household Expenditure	\$45,408	\$49,477	9.0%
Total Average Retail Expenditure	\$19,446	\$21,149	8.8%



	2007 Estimate	2012 Projection	% Change 2007 - 2012
Airline Fares	\$319.09	\$354.02	10.9%
Alcoholic Beverages	\$522.13	\$574.51	10.0%
Alimony & Child Support	\$224.20	\$248.48	10.8%
Apparel	\$2,153.60	\$2,350.17	9.1%
Apparel Services & Accessories	\$323.57	\$358.45	10.8%
Audio Equipment	\$77.96	\$84.33	8.2%
Babysitting & Elderly Care	\$346.89	\$383.16	10.5%
Books	\$54.32	\$59.32	9.2%
Books & Supplies	\$137.53	\$153.85	11.9%
Boys Apparel	\$103.80	\$112.21	8.1%
Cellular Phone Service	\$371.40	\$399.29	7.5%
Cigarettes	\$298.48	\$314.40	5.3%
Computer Hardware	\$301.97	\$332.67	10.2%
Computer Information Services	\$142.77	\$157.62	10.4%
Computer Software	\$23.51	\$25.91	10.2%
Contributions	\$1,576.83	\$1,753.79	11.2%
Coolant & Other Fluids	\$7.09	\$7.69	8.5%
Cosmetics & Perfume	\$93.55	\$101.74	8.8%
Deodorants & Other Personal Care	\$25.95	\$28.24	8.8%
Education	\$978.94	\$1,094.70	11.8%
Electricity	\$1,224.44	\$1,309.59	7.0%
Entertainment	\$2,512.01	\$2,741.22	9.1%
Fees & Admissions	\$601.81	\$673.07	11.8%
Finance Chgs Exc Mort & Veh	\$501.48	\$542.96	8.3%
Floor Coverings	\$61.25	\$69.25	13.1%
Food & Beverages	\$7,125.18	\$7,705.97	8.2%
Food At Home	\$3,810.23	\$4,078.93	7.1%
Food Away From Home	\$2,792.82	\$3,052.53	9.3%
Footwear	\$363.23	\$390.21	7.4%
Fuel Oil & Other Fuels	\$122.92	\$132.67	7.9%
Funeral & Cemetery	\$86.28	\$93.77	8.7%
Furniture	\$517.03	\$572.53	10.7%
Gasoline & Oil	\$2,106.80	\$2,271.87	7.8%
Gifts	\$1,133.91	\$1,259.88	11.1%
Girls Apparel	\$140.10	\$152.04	8.5%
Hair Care	\$51.40	\$55.90	8.8%
Hard Surface Flooring	\$22.75	\$25.09	10.3%
Health Care	\$2,935.84	\$3,152.57	7.4%
Health Care Insurance	\$1,418.79	\$1,523.59	7.4%
Health Care Services	\$703.47	\$754.36	7.2%
Health Care Supplies & Equip	\$813.58	\$874.62	7.5%
Household Services	\$278.25	\$308.10	10.7%

Household Supplies	\$675.40	\$747.61	10.7%
Household Textiles	\$139.74	\$152.79	9.3%
Housewares & Small App	\$966.76	\$1,065.60	10.2%
Indoor Plants & Fresh Flowers	\$60.46	\$66.90	10.7%
Infants Apparel	\$95.40	\$103.82	8.8%
Jewelry	\$129.99	\$144.12	10.9%
Legal & Accounting	\$94.29	\$102.21	8.4%
Magazines	\$30.40	\$33.21	9.2%
Major Appliances	\$230.45	\$250.85	8.9%
Mass Transit	\$85.55	\$94.80	10.8%
Men's Apparel	\$404.95	\$443.96	9.6%
Mortgage Interest	\$3,294.54	\$3,660.26	11.1%
Natural Gas	\$462.20	\$497.22	7.6%
New Car Purchased	\$1,018.33	\$1,128.44	10.8%
New Truck Purchased	\$1,204.70	\$1,335.46	10.9%
New Vehicle Purchase	\$2,223.03	\$2,463.90	10.8%
Newspapers	\$63.66	\$69.57	9.3%
Oral Hygiene Products	\$23.79	\$25.88	8.8%
Other Lodging	\$452.33	\$512.84	13.4%
Other Miscellaneous Expenses	\$96.63	\$104.63	8.3%
Other Repairs & Maintenance	\$130.12	\$143.15	10.0%
Other Tobacco Products	\$33.20	\$34.97	5.3%
Other Transportation Costs	\$497.23	\$549.10	10.4%
Other Utilities	\$379.29	\$408.56	7.7%
Paint & Wallpaper	\$57.92	\$63.62	9.8%
Personal Care Products	\$154.34	\$167.89	8.8%
Personal Care Services	\$441.99	\$480.69	8.8%
Personal Insurance	\$437.12	\$484.37	10.8%
Pet Supplies & Services	\$249.40	\$269.81	8.2%
Photographic Equip & Supplies	\$112.30	\$121.52	8.2%
Plumbing & Heating	\$51.97	\$57.18	10.0%
Property Taxes	\$1,478.13	\$1,636.76	10.7%
Public Transportation	\$495.63	\$549.85	10.9%
Records/Tapes/CD Purchases	\$124.44	\$134.68	8.2%
Recreational Equip & Supplies	\$1,014.52	\$1,098.60	8.3%
Rental Costs	\$2,328.91	\$2,434.79	4.5%
Roofing & Siding	\$71.07	\$78.09	9.9%
Satellite Dishes	\$9.79	\$10.60	8.3%
Shaving Needs	\$11.05	\$12.03	8.9%
Shelter	\$8,718.86	\$9,525.42	9.3%
Telephone Svc Excl Cell	\$733.16	\$788.18	7.5%
Televisions	\$113.71	\$123.11	8.3%
Transportation	\$9,159.64	\$9,975.95	8.9%
Tuition	\$841.41	\$940.85	11.8%
Used Car Purchase	\$839.41	\$899.24	7.1%
Used Truck Purchase	\$731.20	\$783.55	7.2%
Used Vehicle Purchase	\$1,570.61	\$1,682.79	7.1%
VCRs & Related Equipment	\$46.88	\$50.75	8.3%

Vehicle Insurance	\$1,055.87	\$1,142.54	8.2%
Vehicle Repair	\$709.55	\$769.35	8.4%
Vehicle Repair & Maintenance	\$716.64	\$777.04	8.4%
Video & Audio Equipment	\$895.68	\$969.55	8.2%
Video Game Hardware & Software	\$29.16	\$31.60	8.4%
Watches	\$23.96	\$26.53	10.7%
Women's Apparel	\$722.55	\$789.48	9.3%

Resource Team Members Hudson, Wyoming

April 2-3, 2008

Team Leader

Gary Michaud

Lander Economic Development
240 Lincoln Street
Lander, WY 82520
307-332-2879
landeredc@wyoming.com

Cheryl Pesicka, USDA-RD

P.O. Box 11005
Casper, WY 52602
307-233-6712
Cheryl.pesicka@wy.usda.gov

Scott Ratliff

11 Clothline Road
Riverton, WY 82501
307-851-5678
sratliff@wyoming.com

Sean Stevens

Wyoming Business Council
214 W. 15th Street
Cheyenne, WY 82002
Sean.stevens@wybusiness.org

COMMUNITY CONTACT

Brian Rohrbacher

307-332-8114
307-332-5151
brianacfcu@wyoming.com

HUDSON AGENDA, April 2 & 3, 2008

Date	Time	Location
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Wednesday April 2

Community Tour	9:00 - 10:30 am		
Session 1	11:00 - 11:50 pm	Town Hall	
Session 2 & Lunch	12:00 - 1:50 pm	Big Reds	Seniors
Session 3	1:00 pm - 1:50 pm	Town Hall	
Session 4	2:00 pm - 2:50 pm	Town Hall	
Session 5	3:00 pm - 3:50 pm	Town Hall	
Session 6	4:00 pm - 4:50 pm	Town Hall	Youth
Session 7	5:00 pm - 5:50 pm	Town Hall	Fire Dept
Dinner	6:00 pm - 7:00 pm		
Session 8	7:15 pm - 8:10	Town Hall	

Thursday April 3

Breakfast	7:30 am - 8:30 am	Big Reds	
Session 9	9:00 am - 9:50 am	Town Hall	VFW
Session 10	10:00 - 10:50 am	Town Hall	Home Crafters
Session 11 & Lunch	11:00 - 12:50 pm	Big Reds	Seniors
Session 12	1:00 pm - 1:50 pm	Town Hall	Agriculture
Session 13	2:00 pm - 2:50 pm	Town Hall	
Assessment Team	3:00 pm - 5:30 pm	Town Hall	
Dinner - Hamburgers	5:30 pm - 6:20 pm	Town Hall	
Wrap Up	6:30 pm - ?	Town Hall	

Hudson 2008 Community Assessment

Common Themes – not listed in any specific order

1. Infrastructure
 - Water
 - Sewer
 - Streets
 - Sidewalks
2. Law Enforcement
 - Safety
 - Ordinance Enforcement
 - ATV's
3. Economic Development
 - Main Street
 - Beautification
 - Expansion & Development
4. Beautification of Community
 - Clean up properties
 - Lighting
 - Cats
 - Streets
5. Community Involvement
 - Activities
 - Volunteers/Leadership
6. Funding for Infrastructure Projects
7. Community Facilities
 - Elementary School
 - Activities for children and teens
 - Library
 - Seniors
 - Baseball Field
8. History
 - Preservation
 - Museum
 - Seniors
9. Community Events
 - 100th Anniversary
 - Cultural
10. Activities
 - Hunting/Fishing
 - Teenagers
11. Newsletter and Communication
12. Art & Restaurant Promotion

Team Member Recommendations

Team Leader: Gary M. Michaud, M.B.A.
Community Resource Coordinator
City of Hudson

Address: 240 Lincoln Street
Lander, WY 82520
Phone: 307-332-2870
Email: landeredc@wyoming.com

Introduction

I would like to thank residents of Hudson for your friendliness, courtesy and hospitality throughout the community assessment. I thoroughly enjoyed getting to know you and look forward to seeing you at the follow up presentation.

Theme: Infrastructure

Challenges: Planning, construction, & funding for water, sewer, streets, and sidewalks

Solutions:

Before I get too far into infrastructure solutions, I want to caution you about building infrastructure without considering future maintenance costs. While sidewalks, pathways, street lights and paved streets are nice, these amenities require significant maintenance and replacement costs. For example, another Wyoming community recently replaced some of their streets last year, funding 66 percent of the costs from the optional one cent funds and billing the remaining 33 percent, or about \$13,000, to each resident in the construction area.

Like all municipalities in Wyoming, Hudson is facing significant infrastructure needs. The streets, water, and sewer are all aging and as a result the infrastructure needs to be replaced. Meanwhile, state and federal agencies are mandating immediate construction of new water and sewer facilities without providing funding. Additionally, many Hudson citizens would like current streets maintained and new ones paved, and also expressed interest in installing residential street lights.

Hudson's water infrastructure needs are obviously the most immediate and should be resolved soon. However, in order to prepare for the future and utilize resources efficiently, I would recommend the Town of Hudson develop a strategic plan that prioritizes the infrastructure projects and goals into short-term/immediate needs (0-5 years), medium-term needs (5-10 years) and long-term needs (10+ years). This assessment is an excellent start for a strategic plan. Once you decide to develop a strategic plan, I would recommend recruiting an outside facilitator who is familiar with strategic planning.

Resources:

Mary Randolph
Wyoming Rural Development Council
307-777-6430
mary.randolph@wybusiness.org

John Metcalfe, Assistant Superintendent
Fremont County School District #1
Lander, WY 82520
307-332-1657

Solutions:

The town council has limited revenues and therefore a limited ability to fund projects. One possibility to fund projects is either the general purpose (optional one cent) or the specific purpose (capital facilities) tax. In the past, proposals for these taxes have been difficult to get approved by Fremont County voters. Municipalities from throughout Fremont County continue to face similar challenges to Hudson and there is a movement to put a general purpose tax initiative on the November 2008 ballot. If you want to replace your infrastructure and build new facilities then consider supporting this measure. Fremont County is one of only three counties in Wyoming without a general purpose tax in place.

Resources:

Pam Canham
Fremont County Association of Governments
816 North Federal Boulevard, Rm. 212
Riverton, WY 82501
307-856-5033

George Parks
Wyoming Association of Municipalities
315 West 27th Street
Cheyenne, WY 82001
307-632-0398

Solutions

In the last couple of years, the state legislature and governor have provided a very large amount of funding for the needs of communities through a Mineral Royalty Grant Program administered by the State Land and Investment Board. The Town of Hudson has benefited from the program, thanks to the efforts of your Mayor and Council:

2006: \$863,000 – Sewer Improvements

2007: \$558,000 – Sewer Improvements

Additionally, the Town of Hudson will be requesting funds in 2008 for either water and additional sewer improvements. Also, during this time the Fremont County Commissioners provided gap funding that was desperately needed to complete project funding. SLIB funds were again approved by the legislature and governor and are available for the 2008-09 biennium.

Resources:

Robert Tompkins
Wyoming State Land and Investment Board
122 West 25th Street
Cheyenne, WY 82002
307-777-6646

Pat Hickerson
Fremont County Commission
450 North Second Street
Lander, WY 82520
307-332-1130

Solution:

The State of Wyoming provides a Mineral Royalty Grant (MRG) Program, designed to provide funds for projects that alleviate emergency situations that pose immediate threats, comply with federal or state mandates, or provide an essential public service. Much of these funds have been allocated for the county-wide consensus SLIB projects mentioned above, but there still is about \$34 million for additional partially funded and unfunded projects.

Resource:

Robert Tompkins
Wyoming State Land and Investment Board
122 West 25th Street
Cheyenne, WY 82002
307-777-6646

Solution:

The State of Wyoming offers a Drinking Water and Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund. These funds can be used for water wells, water lines, water distribution plants, wastewater treatment plants, sewer lines, and landfills. The loan rates are competitive and can be used for design and construction.

State Revolving Fund Program Manager
Office of State Lands and Investments
Herschler Bldg, 3-W
Cheyenne, WY 82002
307-777-7453

Solution:

Another useful funding program is the Wyoming Water Development Program. The program offers funding for three different levels:

Level I – Reconnaissance Studies

Level II – Feasibility Studies

Level III – Construction

Hudson recently used Level II funds to research solutions and costs for your water treatment facility replacement.

Resource:

Wyoming Water Development Office

Dave Zelenka
6920 Yellowtail Road
Cheyenne, WY 82002
307-777-7626

Solution:

The Wyoming Business Council offers a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for community development. If the town needs a smaller amount of funds for an infrastructure project that benefits low to moderate income individuals, this program could be a good fit. Funds for this program are limited so it should be considered an option especially for gap funding for a project.

Resources:

Roger Bower, Regional Director
Wyoming Business Council
213 West Main Street, Suite B
Riverton, WY 82501
307-857-1155

Susan Flobeck,, CDBG Program Manager
Wyoming Business Council
214 W. 15h Street
Cheyenne, WY 82002
307-777-2821

Solution:

A final possibility for infrastructure improvements is to form a special improvement district. To help decrease the costs of these improvements, Wyoming law enables the creation of local improvement districts. If improvements confer a special benefit on property in a specific area, such as sidewalks, streets, curbs, etc., they may be considered to be local improvements and the owners of the property who benefit can be held for all or part of the cost of improvements. There are many special districts in Fremont County such as the Riverton Fire District, special residential districts outside of city limits, and the Lander Industrial Park.

Resources:

Local Improvement Districts
George Parks
Wyoming Association of Municipalities
315 West 27th Street
Cheyenne, WY 82001
307-632-0398

Theme: Ordinances, Law and Safety

Challenge: Enforcement, Police Presence & Maintaining Law and Order

Solution:

Enforcing the law is a challenge for many small communities with extremely limited budgets. In the case of Hudson, members of the Town Council and the Mayor had to make a very difficult decision and elected to pay for the immediate need of sewage lagoon repairs instead of renewing an agreement with the Fremont County Sheriff's Office.

While I did not hear of any serious events that resulted from the lack of law enforcement, I am concerned that over the long term this situation could put the public at a serious risk. I also fear that problems could escalate without proper attention. Basically, the only law services available are for emergency situations such as robberies or family disputes. No one is policing the community for typical law enforcement ordinances such as speed control, animal control, licenses, use of four wheelers or vandalism.

If law and code are not enforced, what is the purpose of having them at all? Until the town is able to provide a law enforcement presence, maybe the residents could come together to form a Neighborhood Watch Program? I have heard Hudson residents are typically very aware of activities at their neighbors and that Hudson is a close-knit community. It will take many residents to participate and actually take action for a Neighborhood Watch Program to be effective.

Resources:

Gene Galitz, Chief of Police
City of Lander
240 Lincoln Street
Lander, WY 82520
307-332-3401

John Snell, Chief of Police
City of Riverton
816 Federal Blvd.
Riverton , WY 82501
307-856-2227

Skip Hornecker
Fremont County Sheriff
460 Railroad Avenue
Lander, WY 82520
307-332-5611

National Crime Prevention Council
<http://www.ncpc.org/>

Theme: Town Ordinances

Challenge: Enforcement

Solution:

As the legal entity charged with ordinance regulation and management, the Town of Hudson must bear the responsibility for enforcing town ordinances. If the Town does not have the resources to provide personnel for code enforcement, there are three obvious options: (1) The Mayor and Council can patrol the town for enforcement infringement, (2) a current employee will have to spend limited time patrolling the community, (3) or perhaps there is a volunteer in the community who is concerned enough to spend a couple hours a week patrolling the town. I am concerned about the long-term effects of the ordinances not being enforced. For example, what if someone builds a house or shed partially on another person's property? Or, what if a fence is built in the wrong location or does not meet code? These are just a couple examples of potential situations. And this doesn't even include buildings that may not be constructed to standards and specifications that were not inspected by a building inspector – these may present an unknown safety hazard. Over time as these issues are ignored they will continue to exacerbate and become more and more complicated, and be very difficult to resolve. I would like to see the town find a way to spend a couple hours a week focusing on this issue. Maybe you could work with your public utilities employee to spend time working with the Mayor and/or Council.

Resources:

Lisa Colson, Community Development Director
Town of Wamsutter
P.O. Box 6
Wamsutter, WY 82336
307-328-0468

Barry Cook, Administrator
City of Green River
50 East Second North
Green River, WY 82935
307-872-0500

Theme: Economic Development

Challenge: Beautification and Development of Main Street

Solution:

Hudson's famed and historic Main Street is one of the most renown throughout Wyoming. Travelers love the small town feel, the old election signs, the art, and especially the dining. However, after some research, I discovered that only a few entities own most of the properties on Main Street. Many buildings on these lots are not being utilized or maintained and are decrepit. These properties are not available for new business use and are likely a public hazard. The lack of Main Street business growth or diversification over the years has stagnated Hudson's economy and eroded the community's tax base, ultimately affecting the entire town.

As many Hudson residents probably remember, Lander's Main Street was still in rough shape in the early 1990s, largely the result of the closing of U.S. Steel in 1983. Our businesses were empty and the business fronts were falling apart and unattractive. Then the community learned WYDOT planned to reconstruct Main Street. The community used this as an opportunity to improve the attractiveness of our Main Street and formed the Lander LIFE Project, lead by a beautification committee of local leaders. The committee made a list of improvements and accompanying funding mechanisms. Improvements included façade maintenance and replacement, pedestrian friendly sidewalks, trees, and lights. The result was a beautiful Main Street that is attractive to new small businesses, residents, and tourists.

I would like to see Hudson form a Main Street Beautification and Development Committee. This committee could set a strategy for Main Street development and beautification. Hudson is located halfway between Lander and Riverton and about 4,700 vehicles drive by on an average day – maybe you could start an ice cream shop similar to Farson, or a drive thru specialty coffee shop that builds synergy with the restaurant. Again, I would like to mention the importance of forming a strategy through a strategic plan process. For Main Street you might even want to consider starting with a Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT) analysis. The town first needs a plan and then you can go from there.

Resources:

Bill Sniffin
P.O. Box 900
Lander, WY 82520
307-332-3111

Main Street Wyoming
Mary Randolph, Director
307-777-6430
mary.randolph@wybusiness.org
www.wyomingmainstreet.org

Solution:

We have great incentives for businesses to locate in Wyoming. We don't have a personal or corporate income tax and we also have a relatively small sales tax, especially in Fremont County. Also, the Wyoming Business Council offers some excellent funding programs: the Community Readiness Program, Community Development Block Grant Program, Main Street Program, and many others. These are definitely worth looking into and can be found at: <http://www.wyomingbusiness.org/>. I would also bet that Lander and Riverton's economic development organizations would be happy to help Hudson work on this.

Resources:

Roger Bower, Regional Director
Wyoming Business Council
213 West Main Street, Suite B
Riverton, WY 82501
307-857-1155
roger.bower@wybusiness.org

Shawn Reese, Director
WBC - Investment Ready Communities Program
214 W. 15h Street
Cheyenne, WY 82002
307-777-2813

Leader
Dave Kellogg, President
185 South 5th Street
Lander, WY 82520
307-332-5181
dkellogg@bigfoot.com

Phil Christopherson, Director
IDEA, Inc.
213 West Main Street
Riverton , WY 82501
307-856-0952

Solution:

Another option to improve Main Street is the formation of an urban renewal agency. Specific direction in this area can be found in state statute 15-9-101. The purpose of an urban renewal agency is to improve blighted areas which, among other things, “constitutes an economic and social liability imposing onerous municipal burdens which decrease the tax base and reduce tax revenues...”.

Resource

Urban Renewal Agencies can be found in Wyoming State Statutes at:
<http://legisweb.state.wy.us/titles/statutes.htm>

Pat Robbins, SWEDA

1400 Dewar Dr. Suite 205A
Rock Springs, WY 82901
307-352-6874
parobbins@wyoming.com

Solution:

Hudson could also evaluate transportation enhancement projects along Main Street. WYDOT offers a Transportation Enhancement Activities Local (TEAL) Grant Program for this purpose. This program provides funds for transportation related enhancements such as pedestrian and bicycle pathways, historic preservation of transportation facilities, and aesthetic improvements (landscaping and other scenic beautification).

Resources:

Rich Douglass, Manager
WYDOT Local Government Program
5300 Bishop Boulevard

Cheyenne, WY 82009
307-777-4384

Solution:

I just wanted to provide a couple more resources for reference

Resources:

Small Business Administration
Wyoming District Office
100 East B Street
Federal Building, Room 4001
P.O. Box 44001
Casper, WY 82602-5013
(307)261-6500
(800) 776-9144, Ext. 1

Mike Lambert
Market Research Center
1000 E. University Ave. Dept 3922
Laramie, WY 82091
307-766-2688
Mikelamb@uwyo.edu

Margie Rowell, Regional Director
Small Business Development Center - Region 6
213 W. Main, Suite C
Riverton, WY 82501
(800) 969-8639
(307) 857-1174

Theme: Beautification of Residential Areas

Challenge: Community clean up, residential yard clean up, cat overpopulation, overall beautification.

Solution:

Many times during the assessment attendees cited concerns about community beautification. For example, residents who maintained and took pride in their personal property were frustrated with neighbors who did not. Blighted areas detract from the quality of life and prevent residents from taking pride and enjoying life the environment they live in.

Again, I believe this is an issue of town ordinance enforcement. All communities have enacted ordinances to help with these issues, but if they are not enforced then they don't do much good.

Many small towns in Wyoming struggle with this issue due to limited resources, but nonetheless I still think this is the Town's responsibility. Find residents who are passionate about this

matter, then recruit them for a Beautification Committee. They can brainstorm ideas for the community to “clean up”.

A couple more suggestions. The Town could commit to putting just a few hours a week or a few days a quarter to focusing on this issue. Perhaps this could be coordinated with a “Clean Up Day” where residents are encouraged to put garbage, trees, etc., out on the curb for the Town to pick up. If the Town does not own a large truck, maybe a resident would lend a trailer.

Resource:

Lander Clean Up Days
Robin Griffin, City Clerk
City of Lander
240 Lincoln Street
Lander, WY 82520
307-332-2870

Theme: Community Involvement

Challenge: Lack of involvement

Solution: Many times during the assessment I heard people say “we use to do this” or “we use to do that”. For example, I can tell many residents have great memories of the baseball field. But at some point the community stopped using the baseball field and the town cannot afford to maintain a facility that is not used. Also, I get the feeling in many cases people don’t volunteer and even when they do volunteer, there is not a great deal of community participation.

Events come and go in all communities. Sometimes events and activities go out of style and people are no longer interested. But new events and activities need to replace the old ones. If people don’t want to play baseball and the fields are not used, don’t beat yourself over it, find a new activity that is more popular and work on it.

What kind of events does Hudson have? I am not aware of any annual events. I was very surprised to learn that Hudson does not even hold an annual picnic. A good place to start would be to plan an annual picnic. Let it start out small, and gain momentum and build over the years. As it grows more people will want to get involved. A strong community event will not only bring your community together, but will also show the pride you have in your community.

Resources:

Cody Country Chamber of Commerce
836 Sheridan Ave.
Cody, WY 82414
(307) 587-2777

Dave Hanks

Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce
1897 Dewar Dr
Rock Springs, WY 82901
(307) 362-3771

Paula McCormick
McCormick Marketing, Inc.
263 North 8th Street
Lander, WY 82520
Phone: 307-332-5546
Fax: 307-332-5336
email: info@mccormickmarketing.com

Theme: Teenagers -

Challenge: Lack of activities

Solution: Teenagers and parents in every community across the nation will tell you there is nothing to do in their community. It seems like as a society today we expect to be entertained and for our children to be entertained instead of taking on the responsibility ourselves. Growing up in Fremont County, I have a hard time believing there is nothing to do – the outdoor opportunities alone provide an endless amount of activities for a teenager.

First and foremost, if teenagers are bored or out causing trouble, then the parents and family must take responsibility. As parents we must demand to know what our children are up to at all times and even take the effort to check up on them every once in a while.

Regardless, many teenagers crave activities that are exciting. If we do not provide activities, they will find ones that are dangerous or illegal. The possibilities are endless – 4-H Club, Boys and Girls Club, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Art Club, Fishing Club, Gun Club, ATV Club, Outdoor Club, etc.

However, the most important part is to get the kids together and let them choose an activity. If you pick something you think will be fun and then try to set it up, the teenagers won't like it because it is not their idea. But if they pick an idea then they can take ownership and give it a better chance for success. And regardless, don't get discouraged when the teenagers still tell you there is nothing to do.

Resource

Terry Myers – Lander CAN Club
307-349-5555

Don Reynolds, Director of Parks and Recreation
City of Lander
240 Lincoln Street
Lander, WY 82520

307-332-4647

Boys and Girls Club
Pacific Service Center
4201 Long Beach Boulevard
Suite 101
Long Beach, CA 90807
Phone: (562) 981-8855

Central Wyoming Council #638
Box 1506
3939 Casper Mountain Rd.
Casper, WY 82602

Sean Stevens
Senior Lead Development Specialist
Wyoming Business Council
214 W 15th Street
Cheyenne, WY 82001
Phone: 307.777.2864
sean.stevens@wybusiness.org

Introduction

I would like to start out by giving a big Thank You to the Hudson Community for the hospitality and friendliness that was shown to me and the other Resource Team members.

MAIN STREET DEVELOPMENT/REVITALIZATION

Theme: Economic Development

Challenge: Revitalize/Beautify Main Street to attract more Commercial Activity

Recommendation: During the conversations in Hudson, there seemed to be two challenges that arose about the revitalization of Main Street. The first was the overall concern of beautification of the street and second that a majority of the property is owned by three entities (the town and two families).

I will start by addressing the first challenge, the beautification of Main Street. There are a couple of ways that this issue can be approached. I would first recommend the Wyoming Main Street Program. This program is dedicated to providing Wyoming communities with the opportunities to strengthen local pride and revitalize historic downtown. The National Main Street Program has very stringent criteria; however Wyoming Main Street recognizes that not every town in Wyoming is ready to pursue a full Main Street certification. In order to help these communities, Main Street has recently set-up a three tier system. I would recommend Hudson to look at is the Aspiring Community Program tier. The Aspiring Community Program tier is intended for communities that are exploring downtown revitalization, but may not have the resources currently in place to support an Affiliate or Certified Main Street Program. It provides access to all Wyoming Main Street training and limited on-site assistance, as resource permit. The program can help Hudson with training, information and technical assistance at no charge.

For more information on the Main Street Program contact:

Evan Medley, State Program Manager

Wyoming Main Street

Phone: 307.777.2934

evan.medley@wybusiness.org

The second approach to the beautification of Main Street is to apply for a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Planning Only Grant. This grant is available to perform feasibility studies related to increased economic development and community development. A maximum of \$25,000 per grant will be allowed and a 25% match is required.

For more information on CDBG Planning Only Grants contact:

Roger Bower, West Central Regional Director

Wyoming Business Council

Phone: 307.857.1155

roger.bower@wybusiness.org

Susan Flobeck, Economic Development CDBG Program Manager

Wyoming Business Council

Phone: 307.777.2821

susan.flobeck@wybusiness.org

The second challenge with the revitalization of Main Street is the maintenance of the many of the buildings. Two programs through the Wyoming Business Council can help with this as well. The CDBG program also has an objective for downtown development. Project can include assistance for public facilities, rehabilitation of commercial buildings, historic preservation and land acquisition and clearance. This CDBG program is generally used to meet the National Objective of elimination of slums and blight and job creation and retention for low to moderate income persons.

The other program through the Wyoming Business Council is the Business Ready Communities (BRC) Grant for a Community Readiness Project. The BRC Grant can be used if Hudson wants to build facilities (including acquisition of property) to ready itself for new business. You must demonstrate that appropriate planning has been conducted and capacity exists to accommodate new business development. Maximum grant award is \$1.5 million with a 10% match.

For more information contact:
Roger Bower, West Central Regional Director
Wyoming Business Council
Phone: 307.857.1155
roger.bower@wybusiness.org

Susan Flobeck, Economic Development CDBG Program Manager
Wyoming Business Council
Phone: 307.777.2821
susan.flobeck@wybusiness.org

Molly Davies, BRC Program Manager
Wyoming Business Council
Phone: 307.777.2811
molly.davies@wybusiness.org

RECRUIT MORE BUSINESS TO HUDSON

Theme: Economic Development

Challenge: Need new business and bring commerce to Hudson

Recommendation: As stated before the CDBG and BRC Grants can assist in improving Main Street and make it ready to attract new business or have the area for new entrepreneurship ventures. Another area of Hudson was brought up during the discussion and could be a possibility for future business expansion. A plot of land located by the baseball field was brought up as an opportunity if infrastructure and access can be brought to the property.

Here is a picture of the property:



If the Town of Hudson chooses to designate this area as a business park the BRC Grant from

the Wyoming Business Council can help fund the cost to run infrastructure and build access to roads. This would give the Town of Hudson an area that is ready for business to locate in the future. The type of business that would want to locate into this business park would differ from that on Main Street. This park would be attractive to manufacturing, light industrial, regional distribution or similar industries. The criteria for the BRC Grant would be the same as stated above.

For more information contact:

Roger Bower, West Central Regional Director

Wyoming Business Council

Phone: 307.857.1155

roger.bower@wybusiness.org

Molly Davies, BRC Program Manager

Wyoming Business Council
Phone: 307.777.2811
molly.davies@wybusiness.org

SCHOOL IS CLOSING (WHAT TO DO NOW!)
Theme: Community Development

Challenge: The K-3 school is closing and there is a desire to do something with the building.

Recommendation: The elementary school could be rehabilitated to accommodate various amenities for the community. During the discussion we heard suggestions such as a museum, a recreation center, a private school and several others. The community would need to work with Fremont County School District #1 to acquire the property. An old school building is often sold to a town for one dollar. Once the building is acquired, the community could go about applying for a Community Facilities Grant (CFP) from the Wyoming Business Council.

The CFP requires a 10% match for amounts up to \$250,000 and 15% match for more than that amount. Match can be part in-kind and part cash. The value of the building can be used as match. The program can award up to \$1,500,000 for a single project. According to Shannon Stanfill, the CFP Program Manager, the suggestion listed above for the use of the building could be funded using CFP.

For more information contact:
Roger Bower, West Central Regional Director
Wyoming Business Council
Phone: 307.857.1155
roger.bower@wybusiness.org

Shannon Stanfill, CFP Program Manager
Wyoming Business Council
Phone: 307.777.2841
shannon.stanfill@wybusiness.org

THE TREES ARE 100 YEARS OLD!
Theme: Town Image/Beautification and Safety

Challenge: The trees are getting old and are starting to look bad and becoming a safety issue.

Recommendation: During our discussion several Hudson residents expressed concern over the aging trees in town. The Wyoming Community Forestry Program can assist Hudson with this concern. The program's mission is "To help communities build effective, self-sustaining community forestry and tree care program with strong local interest." A professional arborist on staff can conduct a tree inventory and help develop a plan for replacement trees. The division also administers a grant program (must be matched) with allocation from \$1000 to \$5000. In Wyoming thirty-eight cities and towns have benefited from a comprehensive tree inventory.

For more information contact:
Mark Hughes
Wyoming Community Forestry Program
Phone: 307.77.7586
<http://slf-web.state.wy.us/forestry.aspx>

DEVELOPMENT OF THE RIVER
Theme: Infrastructure, Beautification and Amenities

Challenge: The river is a major asset and is currently under developed.

Recommendation: A major asset of Hudson is the Wind River and the Popo Agie River, which are both undeveloped. There were many comments from residents who wanted to develop them for use in the community. Many communities in Wyoming have recently developed walking/bike trails along the river that run through their towns. This would be a huge asset to Hudson and could create an environment where the history of the town could be told.

The Wyoming Department of Transportation managed TEAL fund (Travel Enhancement Activities Local) that can be used for a variety of activities including the development of a pedestrian/bike trail along the river. The TEAL grant can be funded up to \$500,000; WYDOT prefers to have grant requests between \$200,000 and \$300,000. A 20% match is required but that match can be either cash or in-kind. The match can also include the value of the land on which the trail will be built.

This program could also be used to develop an ATV trail to help keep the vehicles off the streets and highway.

For more information contact:
C.J. Brown, Manager of TEAL Program
WYDOT
Phone: 307.777.4179
c.j.brown@dot.state.wy.us

LACK OF LAW ENFORCEMENT

Theme: Community Services

Challenge: The lack of law enforcement is a major concern in Hudson. Although there is a Fremont County Sheriff Deputy who resides in the community, the town has cancelled his contract to patrol the community in order to save costs.

Recommendation: Small communities find it very difficult to fund local law enforcement. Local law enforcement requires a minimum of two officers. From our discussions it sounds like even when Hudson had the contract with the Sheriff's office the response time was still slow. I would recommend working with the Sheriff's office to resolve the law enforcement needs in the community. The community may also approach the communities of Riverton and Lander (or the BIA) about sharing an officer. All of these recommendations are going to require payment of an officer's salary. In the mean time I would recommend creating a community advocacy group to perform neighborhood watch duties.

Scott Ratliff

11 Clothline Road
Riverton, WY 82501
307-851-5678
sratliff@wyoming.com

Introduction

As a first time assessment team member, I would like to start by stating that this community assessment process can be a very incredible and powerful tool for a community.

It is very eye opening to me how a lot of communities throughout Wyoming experience similar issues and react similarly also. Often we talk about wanting something else, something different or new or exciting. Yet it seems there is very little energy within a community and everyone always expects someone else to step up and make those changes.

Hudson appears to be a very conservative community. We did hear a couple of times that people want paved streets. But overall I really got the feeling that people do not want to see Hudson change – you are content with the slower pace and laid backness of the community.

One term, volunteerism, did come up quite often for activities like bake sales or other smaller events. We did also hear concerns about water, cat overpopulation, and streets. However, on a larger scale, do you want to get together to make something big happen? I did not hear that kind of discussion. There was no overriding anticipation from residents that said they wanted Hudson to grow.

Surprisingly there is not even an organizing force intent on finding a way to keep the school from closing. A school can represent a lot to the community. Often in smaller communities the school is the hub of a community's local events like plays, musicals, and sports that bring a community together. I did not feel that overwhelming support for the school. If people like the facility and recognize it is a tremendous asset – then put together a team and do some serious brain storming to keep facility alive and thriving.

To me it seems like Hudson has a sense a pride in ownership. Take the current water situation for example. If you have to go to someone else for assistance (in this case depend on Lander or Arapahoe for your water supply) then you lose autonomy. Suddenly, much of your destiny is controlled by another entity. However, the days of small communities operating their own utility systems are quickly becoming part of the past. Now, regardless of the size of your facility, a community needs a Master's Degree level specialist to test the water. We are at the point now where each community has to be better neighbors to each other. I am excited to think we are making progress in this area. Connecting a water line from the reservation into Hudson would have never even been considered in the past.

Theme: Economic Development

Challenges: Main Street – Beautification and Business Development

Solution: Main Street should be on the lips of all communities all the time. I think it is ridiculous that a community that does not pay attention to its Main Street. Hudson is not like some communities where a box store or mall has come in and decimated Main Street.

To start, you really need a rallying point. Hudson could use this community assessment as a rallying point. Yes, the community knows what their problems are and could have done the same things without us. But because we were neutral facilitators, the residents felt comfortable enough to express concerns without others thinking they were attacking someone. I would like to see the Main Street stakeholders meet to look at how they can work together to improve Main Street. You could also bring in someone to inform everyone about available programs and funding. In these instances, it cannot just be one person trying making a difference and trying to do all of work. If everyone can come together it will work better. Line up a community group to help move this along.

Resources:

Mary Randolph
Wyoming Main Street Program
307-777-6430
mary.randolph@wybusiness.org

Theme: Beautification of Community

Challenges: Cleaning up yards, cats, streets

Solution: When you start cleaning up the community - make a big deal of it! Perhaps you could start in March or April, and designate one day a month as “Beautify Hudson Day”. Maybe everyone won’t just jump in to start, but you have to start somewhere and formally say you want to do it.

I also heard quite a bit about the cat overpopulation problem. This is not really a problem to ignore. In fact, it presents real potential health hazard and should warrant immediate attention. This is a Council issue, and the Council ought to develop a strategy to improve this situation. A couple of years ago, Riverton had a serious health issue with crow overpopulation and had to develop a strategy to get rid of the crows.

I also heard quite a bit from individuals who would like their streets paved. However, the town cannot afford to pave all of the streets. I think maybe the Council could commit to paving certain streets, and make sure to do them right. When you do not have much money it is tough. I think the town is better off to try to make a commitment to one street a year or whatever you can.

Resources:

Rich Hawley
Grants Coordinator

Senator Mike Enzi's Office
307-261-6575

USDA-APHIS-Wildlife Service
Rod Krischke, State Director
307-361-5336

Theme: History

Challenges: Preservation, Museum, Seniors

Solution: In older communities with a lot of history it is easy to have everything to become a historical something. For example, in Hudson we saw the old power plant building and heard some brief discussion about restoring this old building. While restored historic buildings are nice, at this point for Hudson it may be more prudent to focus on facilities and activities that are alive with energy – the town needs them. In this case, I think it is important to focus on developing the school into a community gathering location. It important to have people around who want to do something besides drink.

History by itself is one thing - I think promoting a holistic perspective of Hudson is another. Collecting pictures and historical artifacts to preserve for a museum is fine. However, what may serve as a more valuable thing is if you could work to build history into the Yugoslav events that I hope you will develop. I could easily see some historical enacting and storytelling at these events. Ask a group to take on this stuff and come up with a strategy and bring this culture back to the community. You could also get old timers to tell stories to the community in the park or by the river on a weekly basis. This would be a good gathering opportunity for the community.

Resources:

Mary Hopkins
Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) – access to federal grants
307-766-5324

Nancy Weidel
Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)
Historian
307-777-3418

Theme: Community Events

Challenges: 100th Anniversary, Annual Events, Cultural & Social Events

Solution: It is obvious the community views the Hudson Volunteer Fire Department in high esteem. The HVFD has universal support, everyone is proud of them and what they do. The community should capitalize on this situation – but remember, you cannot expect them to do all the work and work them to death. However, if you can get them to put on activities like a garage sale or barbeque, people will come out. They can be used as a force to bring the community together. I am reminded of my Grandma – when she decided to have a Sunday dinner everyone had enough respect that if she asked people to come, they came. This activity drove everyone together. I think we have the same situation here. If the community can capitalize on the fire department without them being the workhorse, they can be the nucleus to bring things together in a very positive manner.

Hudson is a small community and now you are not going to have a school. Really, the most popular areas are the restaurant or bar (and gas station when it opens), but these are not really places for families and a community to come together to rally.

At one time, Hudson was well-known as a real Yugoslav community. There are still many people of this culture that live in the area. I would like to recommend that you organize some activities focused around this very unique attribute. There are similar celebrations around Wyoming such as Basque celebrations in Buffalo, Wyoming, or local powwows on the Wind River Indian Reservation, or even Cinco de Mayo. You could even plan the events strategically during the year, depending on the history of the Yugoslav culture and its traditions. This would be an excellent opportunity for the community to come together and socialize in a positive way and begin to rally the community around the positive. You might even be able to receive a Wyoming Cultural Trust Fund grant to help fund the event.

Resources:

Renee Bovee
Wyoming Cultural Trust Fund
2301 Central Avenue
Cheyenne, WY 82002
307-777-6312

Wyoming Community Foundation
Samin Dadelahi, Senior Program Officer
1-866-70-TRUST

Theme: Recreational Opportunities

Challenges: Activities for Young People

Solution: One age old problem – what is there for young people do? I would like to challenge local churches and the like to spend more time on planning on how to better utilize the river in the future. While the area is currently used for fishing, you can clean it up and maintain a section of riverfront for a community recreation/park area with picnic spots that are very accessible. Maybe even consider viewing this from a seasonal point of view. You could have an

area for a skating rink, canoeing, tubing, etc. Also, maybe the county can plow a couple access roads to the riverfront every once in a while. This would be a great way of utilizing and capitalizing on what you have. Encouraging these things seems to have real good impacts on communities.

Resources:

Fremont County Recreation Board
Don Reynolds
307-332-2870

YMCA of the USA
101 North Wacker Drive
Chicago, IL 60606
(800) 872-9622

Theme: Community Promotion

Challenges: Art and Restaurants

Solution:

Hudson has a USDA approved meat packing and processing plant, Svilar’s Restaurant, Union Bar, landscaping business, and hopefully soon the market will reopen. The packing plant has lot of potential – been a lot of shortage of this service around Fremont County. Also, the USDA approval is very important to many people.

However, Hudson also has some amazing artists. I would love to see more promotion of these arts around the community. Find new and interesting ways to promote these arts and use it to get tourists and visitors to stop in Hudson and spend some time. Maybe they will even purchase some art or a steak Svilar’s or take a nice cut of meat to barbeque for dinner from Wyoming Custom Meats or Svilar’s.

Resources:

Town of Dubois
Amy Cross, Clerk
307-455-2345

Wyoming Arts Council
Cheyenne, Wyoming
307-777-7742

National Endowment for the Arts
1100 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20506
202.682.5400

Ernie Over
Wyoming, Inc.
Lander, Wyoming
307-332-3111

Cheryl E. Pesicka
Administrative Program Director
USDA Rural Development
P.O. Box 11005
Casper, WY 82602-5006

Email address: cheryl.pesicka@wy.usda.gov

Introduction: On April 2 and 3, 2008, the Hudson Community Needs Assessment took place. I was very fortunate to have had the opportunity to participate in the assessment. Having grown up in a very small Wyoming town I felt the needs of the community and understand some of the struggles that a small town goes through. I enjoyed meeting with the fine folks of Hudson and believe that the town will once again thrive. I would like to thank those citizens who participated in our assessment and wish them the very best in the future.

Theme: Infrastructure

Challenges: Water and sewer systems need to be updates, as well as their streets.

Solution: In every session the problem with the town's water system came up. The town is in need of a new water system. There are several avenues that could be explored to fix this problem. Probably the most feasible one would be to tie into another adjacent water system. I cannot speak for Patrick Goggles, but he offered that as one possibility.

I would suggest that you contact Midwest Assistance Program. For 25 years Midwest Assistance Program has been providing technical assistance and training to small, rural communities in nine states. MAP focuses on improving, constructing and managing water and wastewater facilities and enhancing solid waste management. MAP staff tailors technical assistance and training to each community by agreeing on goals and objectives with community leaders. MAP helps these local leaders build their capacity to maintain basic services for their residents, thereby improving the quality of life in the community.

In addition, the Midwest Assistance Program administers a Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) superficially for small communities. This RLF can provide low-cost, short and intermediate term financing for pre-development, construction and capital financing of community water and waste programs.

Resource:

Midwest Assistance Program

Mike Sposit

P.O. Box 688

Green River, WY 82935

(307)875-4200

Fax: 307.875.6579

Website: http://www.map-inc.org/State_Pages/Wyoming_page.htm

Another source of assistance for infrastructure needs is USDA Rural Development. USDA Rural Development provides grants and loans to assist with water and waste disposal. Grants and loans available consist of:

WATER AND WASTE DISPOSAL DIRECT AND GUARANTEED LOANS

The purpose of the loan program is to develop water and waste disposal (includes solid waste disposal and storm drainage) systems in rural areas and towns with a population not in excess of 10,000. The funds are available to public entities such as municipalities, counties, special-purpose districts, Indian tribes, and Corporations not operated for profit.

RURAL UTILITIES PROGRAMS (RUP) also guarantees water and waste disposal loans made by banks and other eligible lenders.

WATER AND WASTE DISPOSAL GRANTS

The purpose of the grant program is to reduce water and waste disposal costs to a reasonable level for rural users. Grants may be made up to 75% of eligible project costs in some cases. The same types of applicants are eligible for a grant as for a loan.

Resource:

Ann Stoeger, Area Director
Serving Fremont County
508 N. Broadway
Riverton, WY 82501-3597
(307)856-7524 Ext 4.
Fax: (307)856-2383
Email: ann.stoeger@wy.usda.gov

One more office that operates two revolving loan funds specific to water and waste issues is the Wyoming Office of State Lands and Investment. The Clean Water Revolving Loan Fund provides low interest loans to government entities for wastewater, storm water, and non-point source pollution control projects. The Drinking Water Revolving Loan Fund provides low interest loans for drinking water projects. Finally, the Wyoming Water Development Commission has funding available for water and waste programs.

Resource:

Wyoming Water Development Commission
Mike Purcell
6920 Yellowtail Road
Cheyenne, WY 82002
(307)777-7626
Website: <http://wwdc.state.wy.us>

Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund
Rebecca Webb
Office of State Lands and Investments
122 West 25th Street
Cheyenne, WY 82002
(307)777-6046

Theme: Community Involvement

Challenges: There are a several citizens trying to make the community a great place to live. It's going to be harder if they close the school. Many times the functions that happen at the school actually give the community it's "heartbeat." With only a few students in the school, and the possible closing of the school next year it will be harder for the citizens to get together.

Solution: If the school does close, try to purchase the school building and turn it into a community center. With many classrooms available, the community could turn some of them into a place for senior citizens to gather. Other classrooms could be used for Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts or maybe 4-H. There is a great gymnasium in the school that could be used as a recreation center for, not only the children, but for anyone who would like to use it as a source of exercise. The subject of open gym came up many times in the listening sessions. That would be a great after school activity for kids.

It was suggested that the community have a clean-up day. There are senior citizens who live in the community who may need some help getting their yards cleaned up. Ask for volunteers from the community. Maybe there are community groups in Lander and Riverton who might come to help also.

The local government seems to sponsor several different get-togethers during the year, e.g., spaghetti dinners, hamburger feeds, etc. to get the folks together. It sounds like they are very well attended.

Resource:

Wyoming Association of Municipalities
P.O. Box 3110
Cheyenne, WY 82003-3110
(307)632.0398
Email: wam@wyomuni.org

Wyoming Business Council
214 West 15th Street
Cheyenne, WY 82002-0240
(307)777-2821
Email: info@wyomingbusiness.org

Theme: Community Events – 100th Anniversary

Challenges: The citizens of Hudson are planning on celebrating their 100th Anniversary. It is a very important anniversary for Hudson and was brought up in several of the sessions.

Solution: I would suggest sending a letter to the citizens of Hudson, asking for volunteers to come to an organizational meeting for the 100th Anniversary. This could be sent out in the water

bills. Set a date far enough in advance that folks can plan to attend. This is going to be a big undertaking, but the town is ready and would like to see it succeed. The adjacent communities of Lander and Riverton could possibly help with advertising in their local paper as a public service announcement. Also, the local radio stations would be a good source for a FREE public service announcement. Since some of the revenue that merchants of Lander and Riverton enjoy comes from the Hudson area, they may be willing to donate to the 100th Anniversary celebration.

Several of the citizens of Hudson expressed an interest in helping with the celebration. I would suggest a facilitator from the start to get everyone rowing the boat in the same direction. A good facilitator is Lucy Pauley with the State of Wyoming.

Resource:

AG & Natural Resource Mediation Program
Lucy Pauley, Mediation Coordinator
2219 Carey Avenue
Cheyenne, WY 82002
(307)777-8788
Email: lpaule@state.wy.us

Theme: Newsletter and Communication

Challenges: Not everyone in the community knows what is happening.

Solution: At the present time there is not a local newspaper in Hudson. It would be hard to produce a newspaper on a weekly, monthly basis. However, a “brief” could possibly be sent out with the water bills. This could include keeping the citizens informed of any upcoming meetings, e.g. the volunteer meeting for the 100th Anniversary. It could also include any updates on the water and sewer system. Presently the city council minutes are posted outside the town hall. This brief could be posted there as well. Most folks have access to the internet and someone could possibly develop a web-site for the town of Hudson.

Resource:

Central Wyoming College
2660 Peck Avenue
Riverton, WY 82501
(307)855-2000
Website: <http://www.cwc.edu>

Theme: Housing

Challenges: Not enough affordable housing in the community.

Solution: Hudson is fast becoming a bedroom community for the towns of Lander and Riverton. We heard several comments regarding the need for affordable housing as well as low income subsidized housing. We also understand there are several seniors living in the area who wish to stay in Hudson. There are a couple of issues here, subsidized, low income multi-family housing and senior housing. Both of these could be accomplished by a developer as part of a loan package. In addition to USDA Rural Development's loan program a good resource would be the Wyoming Community Development Authority. USDA Rural Development also has loans and grants available for low income citizens to make necessary repairs to their existing homes to make the safe and sanitary. As a result of the listening sessions, the USDA Rural Development Office in Riverton will be doing "Office Day" at the Hudson Town Hall the third Thursday of the month. If anyone in the community would like to apply for our loans or grants they should contact Ann Stoeger, Area Director.

Resources:

Ann Stoeger, Area Director
Serving Fremont County
508 N. Broadway
Riverton, WY 82501-3597
(307)856-7524 Ext 4.
Fax: (307)856-2383
Email: ann.stoeger@wy.usda.gov

Wyoming Community Development Authority
155 North Beech
Casper, WY 82601
(307)265-0603

US Department of Housing and Urban Development
150 East B Street, Ste 1010
Casper, WY 82601
(307)261-6250

HUDSON COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT
April 2 – 3, 2008

CHALLENGES:

Law Enforcement – no service –
Crime issues. Windows broken out of homes. Cemetery vandalized
Water issues. People are hauling their water
Lack of pride in the community. Lots of folks like to have their places look nice.
Nothing for kids to do.
Agreed need something for kids to do.
Pride.

The town council needs to have pride also.
Roads are bad. Need some road work done.
Livestock and animals at large. A gazillion wild cats running around. Health problems?
Not everyone is treated equally.
Guidelines and improved zoning.
Personal property that is actually on town property.
Grandfather clause – if your stuff has been on the property you are okay.
Abandoned vehicles that are not running. Drops the value of the neighbor's property.
Trailer house lots.
Needs space between houses.
Lots are very small.
Infrastructure – Water problems.
Sewer problems.
Could pave some streets
Infrastructure – Water and sewer.
Slowly seeing an eroding away of our sales tax base.
Has the town every defined who we are?
School closing is a problem.
How do you keep the town from dying?
Many widows living here. How are they going to afford bigger water bills?
We always think we can do things on our own. Don't have the capabilities to do everything on our own.
Used to be own school district
Hudson has been going it alone for a long time.
The mind set is to "go it alone."
People who don't keep trash picked up and junk piled around their homes - unsightly and unhealthy for the community.
Some community people just ignore the leash law on dogs.
water – well-field is dilapidated; impacted by drought
water- is major challenge, will limit growth
safety of children – speed limits but no law enforcement, has been injuries to children
school safety – don't want to send to a larger or different school where she will get shot;
teenagers getting out of hand, hellraising, causing trouble
lack of law enforcement
keep school – kids can benefit
ditto
ditto –
building and property lines – lackadaisical
if you go down main street the down looks like crap, this is not attractive to businesses
need larger green area for older kids
elderly people need help maintaining property
water major challenge
place to buy milk gas and bread
concerns about the old cottonwood trees and the safety issues
Infrastructure of the town, need repaired and finding funds
Cleaning up the town especially main street, roads

Property lines, personal property is fenced off that is actually road.
Losing elderly to the lack of convenience items.
ATV and four-wheelers are a problem on the street and don't make a pretty town
Financial assistance, possible grant money
Attitude not willing to change
keeping qualified/trained employees for the town
Town needs to following the property lines and enforce them
Attitude toward "newcomers".
ditto
street paving
drugs and alcohol problems – kids affecting skipping school and dropping out
water, sewer, roads
kids don't have anything to do
roads
drugs and alcohol
empty buildings and houses, buildings not productively being used
streets, water, sewer
town would be bigger if streets would have been extended
roads, water, sewer
lot of empty buildings – it is sad and junky
need new businesses to open, bring commerce to town, to have money to come in
need cost effective housing, young families can't afford
turning into a bedroom community
aging population
no younger families coming in
Marketplace was the meeting place, when it closed down I was really upset. It was a great
meeting place, where everyone of any age could hang out
need growth
buildings on main street are in disrepair, no maintenance
lot of wheelchair ramps – perhaps even larger percentage than normal, need resource center to
help them
not having a gas station
no senior citizens constructing but lots of seniors
lack of activities and recreation for the children
water system
lack of law enforcement
like to see more business, we are not self-reliant
ditto, it would be good if we could attract new businesses to our main street
dust, need to control, streets need to be paved
sidewalks
need more street lights
cats – big problem
lots of snakes and mice
animal owners need to take care of animals – law enforcement issues
ditches – need to be piped, will help with snake issue
ditches need to be maintained, I can't get irrigation water anymore, this ability should be an asset

we had more strengths in the past, there is not community cohesiveness, that strengthens community
snow removal
water is the biggest challenge
kids, there is nothing for them besides roaming streets and breaking windows
ditto – too many kids roaming the streets with nothing to do
ditto – young people have quit school and don't having anything better to do
ditto – also connected to lack of law enforcement
lights – its dark, school should be more lit
roads – need to be paved
roads, at least grade and gravel
people moving into town want to change it into Lander and Riverton, rural feel is going away
finding money for projects
activities that are started for kids, the kids won't use or attend them
kids, teenagers need help and direction
keeping animals under control
keeping yards cleaned up
lost the sense of community and spark community involvement
limited participation in events and clubs
lack of volunteerism and commitment on community events.
financial resources and staffing of town employees (2 ½ employees for the town)
no law enforcement - enforce municipal ordinance.
mayor unwilling to appoint a person to issue citations
liability of hiring a police officer.
water/sewer issue infrastructure needs
street maintenance seems to be a project to be completed in the past
Property line problems
Lack of volunteers for the city leadership
Do not attract the economically affluent people which go to Riverton and Lander.
Needs to offer better city services
Resources for matching funds for the State of Wyoming grants
Labor resources in order to prepare for grants
rec programs for the youth, utilize the baseball field.
In order to get the baseball field back in order the irrigation pipes need to be repair and replaced.
a tornado needs to remove the house next to mine
get flat tires at landfill
Not oodles of young families
Prejudiced against others by the way they were dressed (by wearing a suit).
Disappointed that business owners and councilmen and mayor did not attend sessions.
50% or more of the streets are gravel
Local law enforcement with local ordinances and state laws (speeding)
need for affordable housing
youth activities
Cottonwoods are reaching their age limit of 100 years.
Repairing infrastructure under the unpaved streets.
Community involvement, hard to get people involved in community efforts because of the

bedroom community aspect.

ditto

33 members in VFW and lucky if they can get 3 to a meeting

need irrigation water in the ditches.

need life to the depressed Main Street

have negative publicity about the water and sewer problems. The water break in front of Svilar's caused front page news.

Cats and skunk problems

All Main Street properties are owned by two families.

availability of retail buildings

transportation for those without licenses or cars or who are elders

completing water projects

future housing

school ball field

HUDSON COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT April 2 – 3, 2008

STRENGTHS & ASSETS

Fire department – very strong and very good.

Primarily an older folks community.

The town takes care of the older folks.

They have a meals on wheels program.

Fairly active town council. They may step on some toes, but that happens.

This assessment is on the greatest things.

Older folks – And lots of younger folks moving in also.

The town and the government are making an effort to make Hudson a better place.

If someone needed help the town would help in any way shape or form.

The close knit community gives you a comfortably feeling.

Small town and know your neighbor.

Not a lot of new folks moving in.
Nice to know everyone in town.
Bedroom community for Lander and Riverton.
Basic community is really solid.
Living in a small town is a good thing.
Leadership.
The town council is doing a good job in a difficult situation.
Seniors is a real positive thing. Bring you back into site what the community really is. “Here is what Hudson is about.”
The Seniors know and live the history of Hudson.
Seniors are natural leaders within the community.
Like going downtown and having someone ask you how you are doing
Likes to go into Big Reds and knowing everyone.
Eating – Svilar’s and El Toro. The World’s Finest Food!
The young and the old need to go through their plan. What’s the future?
Bedroom community.
Property taxes.
Regional wide collaboration would help the community survive.
New lagoon system has been updated.
Sense of community pride.
Good firemen and first responders.
Mayor and employees who care about our town problems.
catholic college and casino – will cause growth
small town flavor with smart growth
“diamond in the rough” in terms of cost of living compared to lander and riverton
the people
good location
good place for children
good place for a home
has a lot of potential
always someone you can call on to help you
property is somewhat inexpensive
river – fishing and recreation
functioning public school helps attract and keep families
meat processing plant and owners
New Sewage Project is great
great wildlife
crime-free basically (some vandalism) disciplined community
good place for family
nice quiet small town
nice location being located between Lander and Riverton
neighbors watch each others house.
ditto
have potential
being bedroom community is an asset.
citizens really do care about each other

best restaurant in the state (Svilars)
good education
great student to teacher ratio
lower property values than Riverton and Lander
the history of the town
location being off the interstate is an asset
location, beautiful scenery
drugs and alcohol use by teenagers not as bad as people think
small community
the people really have a heart for this town
potential to be a great small town
close knit community
great place to grow up
feel safe here
don't have to worry about your house being broken into
old people are one of our assets – but need to do something to attract young families
location, between lander and riverton
outdoor, hunting, fishing opportunities
feel safer in Hudson that I would in lander or riverton
great volunteer fire department
svilar's is amazing
Big reds with senior meals is an asset
the people and how they watch out for each other
people will volunteer to help out
Hudson looks better than it use to
restaurant
weather, able to plant a garden
small community
ditto
moved here so my daughter could go to school here
quietness of community
like not having sidewalk
never worried about my kid
volunteer fire department is a strength and asset
parks are nicely kept
location, accessibility to blm land
ditto
beautiful school and facilities
art – Antolik is an asset
cemetery is nice
nice post office
free mailboxes
small place, everyone can talk to each other
ditto –
ditto-
need a senior center

need and old people's center and a young people's center
community has a rich history
the people, healthy environment for families
location, huge asset
Ideal location for a business location which serve both major communities and the county
laid back,
no commute basically
you can talk to your neighbors and can resolve problems.
Younger families who have under-school age kid who may want to utilize the school
Low cost of housing
Market is opening back up.
Two new businesses – Wind River Stone, a Meat Packing Plant
Svilar's
VFW and Fire Department
everyone knows everyone
relatively safe, and you can leave your house unlocked.
do not mind the smallness of Hudson.
Location of Hudson, a lot of people inquire about the property and rentals for needing access to
Lander and Riverton.
Large potential
Terrific artist community
totally rebuilt sewer lagoon.
Bringing the community assessment team to Hudson.
We are a closely knit town.
Folks can sit down and visit and everyone knows everyone else.

HUDSON COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT

April 2 – 3, 2008

PROJECTS TO BE ACCOMPLISHED

School eventually will be closed - turned into a community center. Gym could be used for kids,
Senior Center, Library
More community programs for kids
Fire Department –enforce no parking zone
Keep school open
Museum. Folks have a lot of items that they would like to donate to the museum. Old mines,
etc.
Main street improvements.
Draw some businesses into the city to enhance the community.
Reopen the old convenience store
Tear down the condemned buildings.
Like to see the streets paved and clean up the side streets also.

Hudson should have a clean up day also.
A little bit of encouragement for the absentee owners to clean up what they own.
On-going project WATER.
improve community pride situation
More functions for the community. Ice skating party. Town picnic
When there is going to be an event – folks will clean up their area – snowball effect.
ATV clubs - do poker runs.
Need ATV route off the city streets. A path or a walk.
Need law enforcement presence.
limited enforcement to patrol the town to make sure things are being enforced.
Tag a vehicle if it's been there too long.
An officer would be nice to have.
Needs a walking path or a bicycle path. Needs it for firemen to do their training, so they don't have to run on the highway.
Water.
Paving. Would like to have a couple new streets paved every couple of years.
Would like a five year plan and see how the infrastructure is going to be.
Need incentives to attract small businesses.
Start using ball field again
The ball games would bring customers to the market, the Union, El Toro, etc.
Turn the school into a private school.
Liaison at the Lander and Riverton city council meetings. Maybe a contract person to interface with both city councils to share city services. Kind of the "Don't forget about Hudson."
More business in the community.
Our water problem solved.
A medical clinic and doctor in the community.
We need our own police department – the teen problems were not as bad when we had our own police officer.
fix water
need a small motel, not a big one, a small one
like to see some kind of community center
fix water
need parents to spend more time with children
see some kind of economic growth
with water issues need to "crap or get off the pot"
need outside help – pro – to help get water issues solved, city should take alternative routes
ditto
need an organized event
need to keep school
organize people, get people to volunteer and
promote the history and the community through the Wyoming Historical Society and other ways.
Main Street Wyoming tv segment to display the assets of Hudson.
Just clean up and tidy up, Main Street preserved and looking nice. People being proud of their property.
Clean up the town and then have a town barbeque in city park
Look at State grant money for beautification

Fix infrastructure needs

Have people employed who have the skills and don't expect the town clerk to do it all. They need to be qualified in grant writing.

A Museum.

Stargazing facility.

pave the streets.

want to see community come together again

have a community bbq

make houses cuter, clean up

have pig roasts like we use to

bike trails on edge of town like we use to

have community events like we use to

not having the k-6 school like we use to, it helped keep us together

more activities to keep kids occupied to nurture their growth – physically, emotionally, etc.

paved streets, street improvements

more organized events than just hanging out at playground

schools, kids go to in Lander or Riverton and sign up for events their instead of being active in Hudson

need to fix water and sewer

if school closes, turn into a community rec center

main street beautification

town council should promote Hudson to young families

freeze over a skate rink in winter

baseball field great opportunity, use as ice skating rink, motocross opportunities

Main Street beautification, lamps, decorations, etc.

activities and recreation for adults, seniors and children

stoplight, not just crosswalk to cross main, very few people stop for crosswalk

deal with water issue

ditto

improved law enforcement

pave streets

Better lighting

Stop jake braking – municipal ordinance issue not Highway Patrol

Money for all projects – who, where, how

Keep quietness

Improve on cohesiveness, location is convenient, but want to become more of a community

Have more community-wide events

Need to keep school

I would be satisfied with just graveling roads

Take care of water situation, won't be able to move forward until then

Dump – landfill – make sure we keep one here

Water issues

Improve activity opportunities for kids to do

Puality affordable housing

Assisted living center/senior center for senior activities.

Downtown redevelopment – Main Street Program

Improved library, more community use
Move recycle bins from the landfill to downtown.
If school closes, use it as an opportunity to attract Sunrise School, etc.
Improve the aspects of the community
Hudson is at a crossroad, either dissolves and become incorporated or progress and thrive.
Create Main Street murals of Hudson history
Trees – cottonwood trees have an age limit of 100 year remove some of the older trees.
Revive the economic base and spruce up Main Street.
Publicize about the water problems
Pipe the ditch system and repair the troubled spots.
Project that require community involvement, weed control, cleaning up the property.
Barbeque and picnic for the 100th anniversary.
Need Law enforcement and control the speeding on the highway.
Community Development, more business in town
Recreational activities for the youth (not the primary responsibility of the community)
Turn the ball field into a putt-putt golf course.
Trim trees on main street
Put out garbage cans on main street (too much broken glass all over)
Add flower barrels to main street
Maintain and use ball park, consider golf, outdoor concerts or star viewing nights
Additional nests for osprey
Encourage use of new school, new students, explore alternative uses such as summer school or a college classes, uses of gym
Encourage the improvement and maintenance of the Coal Mine Road by county or BLM? Use as a scenic drive – wildlife and flowers
Encourage businesses to continue and move to Hudson
Hudson Chamber?
Improve transportation – community van, after school activity bus for students
Develop a nice museum/library, perhaps also with a small planetarium. Lots of educational possibilities
Find ways to get our budding delinquents to spend some time searching the history of Hudson or help clean up town.
Water projects
Find useful activities for ball field
Lander/Hudson or Riverton/Hudson needs to consider being one community.
Things for the kids to do.
Boys and Girls Club
Need to look at bringing in some businesses.

**20 CLUES TO RURAL
COMMUNITY SURVIVAL**

1. Evidence of Community Pride:

Successful communities are often showplaces of care, attention, history and heritage.

2. Emphasis on Quality in Business and Community Life:

People believe that something worth doing is worth doing right.

3. Willingness to Invest in the Future:

In addition to the brick-and-mortar investments, all decisions are made with an outlook on the future.

4. Participatory Approach to Community Decision Making:

Even the most powerful of opinion leaders seem to work toward building consensus.

5. Cooperative Community Spirit:

The stress is on working together toward a common goal, and the focus is on positive results.

6. Realistic Appraisal of Future Opportunities:

Successful communities have learned how to build on strengths and minimize weaknesses.

7. Awareness of Competitive Positioning:

Local loyalty is emphasized, but thriving communities know who their competitors are and position themselves accordingly.

8. Knowledge of the Physical Environment:

Relative location and available natural resources underscore decision-making.

9. Active Economic Development Program:

There is an organized, public/private approach to economic development.

10. Deliberate Transition of Power to a Younger Generation of Leaders:

People under 40 regularly hold key positions in civic and business affairs.

11. Acceptance of Women in Leadership Roles:

Women are elected officials, plant managers, and entrepreneurial developers.

12. Strong Belief in and Support for Education:

Good schools are the norm and centers of community activity.

13. Problem-Solving Approach to Providing Health Care:

Health care is considered essential, and smart strategies are in place for diverse methods of delivery.

14. Strong Multi-Generational Family Orientation:

The definition of family is broad, and activities include younger as well as older generations.

15. Strong Presence of Traditional Institutions that are Integral to Community Life:

Churches, schools and service clubs are strong influences on community development and social activities.

16. Sound and Well-Maintained Infrastructure:

Leaders work hard to maintain and improve streets, sidewalks, water systems, and sewage facilities.

17. Careful Use of Fiscal Resources:

Frugality is a way of life and expenditures are considered investments in the future.

18. Sophisticated Use of Information Resources:

Leaders access information that is beyond the knowledge base available in the community.

19. Willingness to Seek Help from the Outside:

People seek outside help for community needs, and many compete for government grants and contracts for economic and social programs.

20. Conviction that, in the Long Run, You Have to Do It Yourself:

Thriving rural communities believe their destiny is in their own hands. Making their communities good places is a proactive assignment, and they willingly accept it.

**Reprinted from Heartland Center Leadership Development, Spring 2002 Visions Newsletter.*

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People seek outside help for community needs, and many compete for government grants and contracts for economic and social programs.

20. Conviction that, in the Long Run, You Have to Do It Yourself:

Thriving rural communities believe their destiny is in their own hands. Making their communities good places is a proactive assignment, and they willingly accept it.

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