

## 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 THIS REPORT**

The Wyoming Rural Development Council (WRDC) has provided a Resource Team to assist the communities of Baggs, Dixon and Savery, Wyoming in evaluating the community's assets and liabilities and in developing suggestions for improving the social and economic future of the Little Snake River Valley.

The Little Snake River Valley requested a community assessment from the Wyoming Rural Development Council. Linda Fleming served as the community contact and took the lead in agenda development, logistics and publicity in for the assessment. Resource team members were selected to visit, interview citizens, business and community leaders; and develop a plan of recommended action for the town. The team members were carefully selected based on their fields of expertise that Little Snake River Valley officials indicated would be needed to respond to the problem areas identified.

The Resource Team toured the town and interviewed approximately 128 people over a two-day period on September 20-22, 2005. The team interviewed representatives from the following segments of the Little Snake River Valley: agriculture, city, county, law enforcement, government agencies, retail, business, banking, utilities, education, churches, healthcare, civic clubs, recreation, humanities, industry, and the senior citizens. Each participant was asked to respond to three questions designed to begin communication and discussion and to serve as a basis for developing the action plan. The three questions were:

- *What do you think are the major problems and challenges in the Little Snake River Valley?*
- *What do you think are the major strengths and assets in the Little Snake River Valley?*
- *What projects would you like to see completed in two, five ten and twenty years in the Little Snake River Valley?*

Upon completion of the interviews, the team met to compare notes and share comments following the two 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 final report to the Little Snake River Valley.

An oral report was presented to the people of Little Snake River Valley on September 22<sup>nd</sup> and many of the citizens of the Little Snake River Valley who participated in the interviews were in attendance.

Following the oral report, a formal written report is prepared and presented to the Little Snake River Valley.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On behalf of the Lower Snake River Valley Community Assessment Team, I would like to thank the Community Resource Planning Committee who put so much time and effort into the organization of your assessment. I would also like to thank the people of the community who were in attendance at the listening sessions. We greatly appreciated everyone's input.

In this report, each Assessment Team member has compiled their thoughts and knowledge on several major themes that were identified by the people of the LSRV in the listening sessions. Based on all of our separate areas of expertise, we have identified several sources of information and help to meet your goals as a community.

Now the ball is in your court. The community needs to organize and work together to accomplish the goals that have been identified. Only your community knows what is best for your community, so it is your community that will need to prioritize your goals and methodically accomplish them.

Members of our team will return to the LSRV in the near future to facilitate a follow-up meeting. The goal of the follow-up meeting is to prioritize goals, and also to develop strategies that will accomplish those goals. This meeting is important to every member of the community, whether they were able to attend the original assessment or not, so everyone is encouraged to attend.

Again, thank you to all of the members of the LSRV community, who were so extremely hospitable to our team. We all hope that you are able to use this report to better your community and meet the goals you have for yourselves. Please keep in mind that all of the members of the Assessment Team will be available for you to contact for information or assistance.

I encourage all members of the LSRV community to work together to reach the goals that will be established from this assessment process.

Sincerely,

Brandon Marshall  
Team Leader



## Carbon County Profile

<b>FULL AND PART TIME EMPLOYMENT</b>	2001
Wage and Salary	7,155
Proprietors	2,604
Farm	584
Forestry, fishing, related activities	152
Mining	256
Utilities	37
Construction	670
Manufacturing	557
Wholesale trade	194
Retail Trade	1,060
Transportation and warehousing	468
Information	86
Finance and insurance	212
Real estate and rental and leasing	359
Professional and technical services	312
Management of companies and enterprises	(D)
Administrative and waste services	(D)
Educational services	20
Health care and social assistance	574
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	240
Accommodation and food services	975
Other services, except public administration	466
Government and government enterprises	2,240
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9,759</b>

<b>EARNINGS (000s of \$):</b>	2001
Wage and salary	\$182,509
Proprietors	\$35,820
Other Labor Income	\$22,587
Farm	\$6,744
Forestry, fishing, related activities	\$2,135
Mining	\$11,079
Utilities	\$1,919
Construction	\$19,047
Manufacturing	\$24,410
Wholesale trade	\$6,551
Retail Trade	\$16,111
Transportation and warehousing	\$22,047
Information	\$1,788
Finance and insurance	\$4,631
Real estate and rental and leasing	\$2,525
Professional and technical services	\$7,292
Management of companies and enterprises	(D)
Administrative and waste services	(D)
Educational services	(L)
Health care and social assistance	\$11,225
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	\$2,683
Accommodation and food services	\$14,996
Other services, except public administration	\$7,221
Government and government enterprises	\$73,460
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$240,916</b>

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

(L) - less than 10 jobs or \$50,000 in earning.

Source: U.S. Dept. 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://www.wyomingworkforce.org/programs/wdtf/index.asp>).

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/workforce/Quick\\_Start\\_Programs/index.cfm](http://www.wyomingbusiness.org/workforce/Quick_Start_Programs/index.cfm)).

## State Incentives

1. No corporate state income tax.

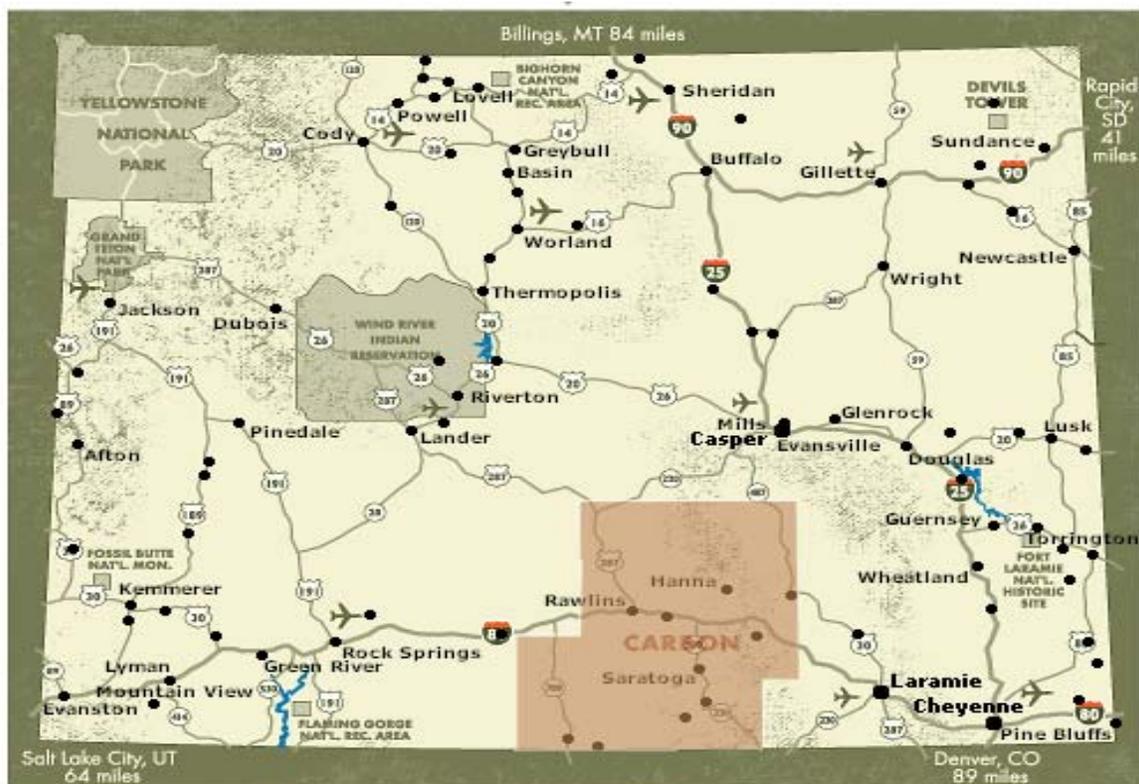
2. No personal state income tax.

3. Community Development Block Grants administered by Wyoming Business Council.

(<http://www.wyomingbusiness.org/communities/programs/cdbg.cfm>).

- 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.



- 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.

## Taxes

1. No corporate state income tax.
2. No personal state income tax.
3. No inventory tax.
4. Carbon County has a 6% sales and use tax (statewide base of 4% plus 1% optional county tax plus 1% capital facilities tax). *Source: Wyoming Department of Revenue, Excise Division (July 2005)*
5. Unemployment Insurance - taxable base rate of \$16,400. Tax rates by industry grouping - WY Dept. of Employment. (<http://wydoe.state.wy.us/doe.asp?ID=617>).
6. Workers' Compensation - rates vary by occupation and can be found at: (<http://wydoe.state.wy.us/doe.asp?ID=480>).
7. Property taxes. Average tax rate in Carbon County is 6.5942%.  
*Source: Wyoming Department of Revenue, Ad Valorem Division (September 2004)*

### 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 0.065942 = \$6,264.

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.

## Telecommunications

Available Services:

### All West Communications

P.O. Box 588

Kamas, UT 84036

*Services offered:* (Baggs, Dixon, Elk Mountain, Encampment, Hanna, Medicine Bow, Rawlins, Riverside, Saratoga, Sinclair) Web Hosting

Phone: (435) 783-4361

Fax: (435) 783-4928

Website: [www.allwest.net](http://www.allwest.net)

### Century Telephone

Medicine Bow, WY 82329

*Services offered:* (Medicine Bow only)

Phone: (307) 367-4105

Fax: (307) 367-2343

Website: [www.centurytel.com](http://www.centurytel.com)

### Contact Communications

937 West Main Street

Riverton, WY 82501

Phone: (307) 856-0980

Fax: (307) 856-1499

Website: [www.contactcom.net](http://www.contactcom.net)

*Services offered:* (Baggs, Dixon, Elk Mountain, Elmo, Encampment, Hanna, Rawlins, Riverside, Saratoga, Sinclair) 56 & 64 Data Connections, DSL, Frame Relay, ISP, Network Security, PBX, T-1, Web Hosting

**Net Wright LLC**

P.O. Box 1747  
Riverton, WY 82501

Phone: (307) 857-5800  
Fax: (307) 857-1053  
Website: [www.netwright.net](http://www.netwright.net)

*Services offered:* (Rawlins, Sinclair) 56 & 64 Data Connections, DSL, Frame Relay, T-1, Web Hosting

**Qwest Communications**

103 North Durbin, Room 1  
Casper, WY 82601

Phone: (307) 234-1107  
Fax: (307) 235-2618  
Website: [www.qwest.com](http://www.qwest.com)

*Services offered:* (Rawlins, Sinclair) 56 & 64 Data Connections, ATM, Centrex, Digital Switched Services, Frame Relay, ISDN-BRI, PBX, Private Line, T-1, Web Hosting

**Union Telephone Company**

850 North Highway 414  
P.O. Box 160

Phone: (888) 926-2273  
Fax: (307) 782-6913  
Web: [www.union-tel.com](http://www.union-tel.com)

Mountain View, WY 82939

*Services offered:* (Elk Mountain, Encampment, Hanna, Riverside, Saratoga)

**Visionary**

P.O. Box 2799  
Gillette, WY 82717

Phone: (888) 682-1884  
Fax: (307) 682-2519  
Website: [www.vcn.com](http://www.vcn.com)

*Services offered (Rawlins only):* Dial Up, 256k Residential Wireless, 512k Business Wireless, T-1 & Frame, Web Design, Web Hosting. (Hanna only): Dial Up, T-1 & Frame, Web Design, Web Hosting. (All other incorporated communities): Web Hosting.

Source: Wyoming Interactive Business Center, Wyoming Business Council

**Power Cost**

2001

**Weighted Average Cost per kWh of Power**

Cents per kWh of industrial power	3.24
Cents per kWh of commercial power	5.19
Cents per kWh of residential power	6.51

	Industrial	Commercial	Residential
Carbon Power & Light, Inc. (2000) Saratoga, WY 82331 (307) 326-5206	4.99	6.99	8.57
High Plains Power, Inc. (2001) 5608 Old West Yellowstone Casper, WY 82601 (307) 473-1525	3.54	6.19	7.21
PacifiCorp (2001) 825 NE Multnomah Portland, OR 97232 (888) 221-7070	3.24	5.14	6.44
Yampa Valley Electric Association, Inc. (2000)	N/A	7.68	7.14

P.O. Box 771218  
 Steamboat Springs, CO 80477  
 (970) 879-7270

Source: ACN (U.S. Department of Energy, Energy Information Administration)

### Cost of Living Index (Prices as of January 5, 6, and 7, 2005, Statewide Average = 100)

Food	Housing	Apparel	Transportation	Medical	Recreation & Personal Care
100	87	94	100	103	100

Source: State of Wyoming, Economic Analysis Division < <http://eadiv.state.wy.us/wcli/NewsRelease-4004.pdf>>

### Average Price of Single-Family Home (2003)

\$88,123

Source: A Profile of Wyoming ([http://www.wyomingcda.com/PDFfiles/Database\\_12\\_2005/Profile04b\\_Fnl.pdf](http://www.wyomingcda.com/PDFfiles/Database_12_2005/Profile04b_Fnl.pdf)).

### Higher Education

Western Wyoming Community College: Campuses in Rock Springs and Green River  
 University of Wyoming Outreach Program

### Transportation

1. **Airports:**

Laramie Regional (LAR)

3 miles west of Laramie  
 Commercial Service: Great Lakes (United Express)  
 Daily flights to: Denver  
 Fixed Base Operators: Cowboy Aviation  
 Runways: 7,700 x 150 ft., asphalt  
 6,300 x 100 ft., asphalt

Rawlins Municipal (RWL)

1 miles northeast of Rawlins  
 Fixed Base Operators: France Flying Service  
 Runways: 7,008 x 100 ft., asphalt  
 4,320 x 60 ft., asphalt

Dixon (9U4)

2 miles east of Dixon  
 Runway: 5,500 x 75 ft., asphalt  
 Fixed Base Operators: none

Shively Field (SAA)

0.5 miles southwest of Saratoga  
 Runway: 8,800 x 75 ft., asphalt  
 Fixed Base Operators: Saratoga Aviation, Inc.

2. **Highways:**

Interstate 80  
 U.S. 30  
 U.S. 287

3. **Railroads:**

Colorado and Wyoming  
 Union Pacific

**Carbon County Business Report (Estimate)**

Daytime Population: Total Employees	4,998
Business Counts: Total Establishments	733

<b>Employees By Occupation</b>	<b>2004 Estimate</b>	<b>% of Total</b>
<b><i>"White Collar" Employees</i></b>	2,811	56.24%
Administrative Support Workers	835	16.71%
Executive Managers & Administrators	491	9.82%
Professional Specialty Occupations	762	15.25%
Sales Professionals	118	2.36%
Sales Workers & Clerks	476	9.52%
Technical Sales & Administrative	14	0.28%
Technologies & Technicians	115	2.30%
<b><i>"Blue Collar" Employees</i></b>	2,158	43.18%
Construction, Repair & Mining	180	3.60%
Farming, Forestry & Fishing	145	2.90%
Handlers, Helpers & Laborers	127	2.54%
Machine Operators, Assemblers & Inspectors	89	1.78%
Other Services Field Based	32	0.64%
Other Services Site Based	923	18.47%
Precision Craft & Repair	414	8.28%
Private Household Service	0	0.00%
Protective Services	102	2.04%
Transportation & Materials Moving Workers	146	2.92%

<b>Establishments: Size</b>	<b>2004 Estimate</b>	<b>% of Total</b>
1 - 4 Employees	487	66.44%
5 - 9 Employees	126	17.19%
10 - 19 Employees	63	8.59%
20 - 49 Employees	42	5.73%
50 - 99 Employees	9	1.23%
100 - 249 Employees	6	0.82%
250 - 499 Employees	0	0.00%
500 - 999 Employees	0	0.00%
1,000+ Employees	0	0.00%

<b>Major Industry: Employees</b>	<b>2004 Estimate</b>	<b>% of Total</b>
Agricultural, Forestry, Fishing	59	1.18%
Construction	157	3.14%
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	221	4.42%
Manufacturing	197	3.94%
Mining	119	2.38%
Public Administration	776	15.53%
Retail Trade	1,390	27.81%
Services	1,814	36.29%
Transportation & Communications	159	3.18%
Unclassified	29	0.58%
Wholesale Trade	77	1.54%

<b>Major Industry: Establishments</b>	<b>2004 Estimate</b>	<b>% of Total</b>
Agricultural, Forestry, Fishing	10	1.36%
Construction	35	4.77%
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	53	7.23%
Manufacturing	15	2.05%
Mining	4	0.55%
Public Administration	95	12.96%
Retail Trade	154	21.01%
Services	287	39.15%
Transportation & Communications	39	5.32%
Unclassified	16	2.18%
Wholesale Trade	25	3.41%

<b>Retail Trade: Employees</b>	<b>2004 Estimate</b>	<b>% of Total</b>
Auto Dealers & Gas Stations	385	27.70%
Bars	44	3.17%
Building Materials Hardware & Garden	69	4.96%
Catalog and Direct Sales	4	0.29%
Clothing Stores	8	0.58%
Convenience Stores	48	3.45%
Drug Stores	16	1.15%
Electronics & Computer Stores	7	0.50%
Food Markets	102	7.34%

Furniture Stores	8	0.58%
General Merchandise Stores	60	4.32%
Home Furnishings	11	0.79%
Liquor Stores	57	4.10%
Music Stores	6	0.43%
Other Food Service	25	1.80%
Other Food Stores	6	0.43%
Restaurants	446	32.09%
Specialty Stores	88	6.33%
Total Retail Trade	1,390	100.00%

<b>Retail Trade: Establishments</b>	<b>2004 Estimate</b>	<b>% of Total</b>
Auto Dealers & Gas Stations	24	15.58%
Bars	12	7.79%
Building Materials Hardware & Garden	10	6.49%
Catalog & Direct Sales	1	0.65%
Clothing Stores	2	1.30%
Convenience Stores	8	5.19%
Drug Stores	2	1.30%
Electronics & Computer Stores	4	2.60%
Food Markets	5	3.25%
Furniture Stores	3	1.95%
General Merchandise Stores	4	2.60%
Home Furnishings	5	3.25%
Liquor Stores	4	2.60%
Music Stores	2	1.30%
Other Food Service	3	1.95%
Other Food Stores	3	1.95%
Restaurants	31	20.13%
Specialty Stores	31	20.13%
Total Retail Trade	154	100.00%

<b>Service: Employees</b>	<b>2004 Estimate</b>	<b>% of Total</b>
Advertising	0	0.00%
Auto Repair/Services	68	3.75%
Beauty and Barber Shops	22	1.21%
Child Care Services	71	3.91%
Colleges & Universities	0	0.00%
Computer Services	3	0.17%
Dry Cleaning & Laundry	10	0.55%
Entertainment & Recreation Services	75	4.13%
Health & Medical Services	171	9.43%
Hospitals	333	18.36%
Hotels & Lodging	287	15.82%
Legal Services	42	2.32%
Membership Organizations	79	4.36%
Miscellaneous Repair Services	42	2.32%

Motion Pictures	9	0.50%
Museums & Zoos	7	0.39%
Other Business Services	111	6.12%
Other Education & Library Services	14	0.77%
Other Personal Service	22	1.21%
Primary & Secondary Education	357	19.68%
Professional Services	36	1.98%
Social Services	55	3.03%
Total Services	1,814	100.00%

<b>Service: Establishments</b>	<b>2004 Estimate</b>	<b>% of Total</b>
Advertising	0	0.00%
Auto Repair/Services	21	7.32%
Beauty and Barber Shops	13	4.53%
Child Care Services	8	2.79%
Colleges & Universities	0	0.00%
Computer Services	3	1.05%
Dry Cleaning & Laundry	6	2.09%
Entertainment & Recreation Services	13	4.53%
Health & Medical Services	49	17.07%
Hospitals	5	1.74%
Hotels & Lodging	33	11.50%
Legal Services	15	5.23%
Membership Organizations	35	12.20%
Miscellaneous Repair Services	12	4.18%
Motion Pictures	3	1.05%
Museums & Zoos	3	1.05%
Other Business Services	11	3.83%
Other Education & Library Services	5	1.74%
Other Personal Service	5	1.74%
Primary & Secondary Education	20	6.97%
Professional Services	14	4.88%
Social Services	13	4.53%
Total Services	287	100.00%

### Carbon County Consumer Expenditure Report (Estimate)

	<b>2004 Estimate</b>	<b>2009 Projection</b>	<b>% Change 2004 - 2009</b>
Total Households	6,274	6,445	2.70%
Total Average Household Expenditure	\$41,848	\$44,501	6.30%
Total Average Retail Expenditure	\$17,607	\$18,715	6.30%

### Consumer Expenditure Detail (Average Household Annual Expenditures)

	<b>2004 Estimate</b>	<b>2009 Projection</b>	<b>% Change 2004 - 2009</b>
Airline Fares	\$287.52	\$305.80	6.40%

Alcoholic Beverages	\$398.95	\$424.43	6.40%
Alimony & Child Support	\$129.92	\$137.72	6.00%
Apparel	\$2,257.59	\$2,401.61	6.40%
Apparel Services & Accessories	\$290.28	\$309.24	6.50%
Audio Equipment	\$64.07	\$68.32	6.60%
Babysitting & Elderly Care	\$223.87	\$237.91	6.30%
Books	\$77.32	\$82.33	6.50%
Books & Supplies	\$113.94	\$121.06	6.20%
Boys Apparel	\$120.51	\$127.92	6.10%
Cellular Phone Service	\$68.52	\$72.85	6.30%
Cigarettes	\$347.67	\$369.58	6.30%
Computer Hardware	\$333.36	\$354.64	6.40%
Computer Information Services	\$33.72	\$35.99	6.70%
Computer Software	\$42.59	\$45.28	6.30%
Contributions	\$1,243.75	\$1,325.73	6.60%
Coolant & Other Fluids	\$9.75	\$10.37	6.40%
Cosmetics & Perfume	\$91.66	\$97.69	6.60%
Deodorants & Other Personal Care	\$31.11	\$33.04	6.20%
Education	\$725.28	\$770.27	6.20%
Electricity	\$1,252.32	\$1,330.35	6.20%
Entertainment	\$2,145.49	\$2,282.92	6.40%
Fees & Admissions	\$539.70	\$574.68	6.50%
Finance Chgs Exc Mort & Veh	\$186.18	\$198.03	6.40%
Floor Coverings	\$68.79	\$73.30	6.60%
Food & Beverages	\$6,861.02	\$7,292.30	6.30%
Food At Home	\$4,074.22	\$4,327.23	6.20%
Food Away From Home	\$2,387.85	\$2,540.64	6.40%
Footwear	\$414.95	\$441.36	6.40%
Fuel Oil & Other Fuels	\$81.03	\$85.99	6.10%
Funeral & Cemetery	\$103.83	\$110.00	5.90%
Furniture	\$407.96	\$435.11	6.70%
Gasoline & Oil	\$1,488.37	\$1,584.87	6.50%
Gifts	\$1,260.62	\$1,340.67	6.40%
Girls Apparel	\$145.30	\$154.29	6.20%
Hair Care	\$58.82	\$62.52	6.30%
Hard Surface Flooring	\$11.31	\$11.99	6.00%
Health Care	\$2,718.75	\$2,887.19	6.20%
Health Care Insurance	\$1,293.68	\$1,373.23	6.10%
Health Care Services	\$831.02	\$882.10	6.10%
Health Care Supplies & Equip	\$594.05	\$631.86	6.40%
Household Services	\$339.08	\$360.76	6.40%
Household Supplies	\$655.64	\$700.47	6.80%
Household Textiles	\$101.11	\$107.72	6.50%
Housewares & Small App	\$882.98	\$940.03	6.50%
Indoor Plants & Fresh Flowers	\$68.29	\$72.60	6.30%
Infants Apparel	\$104.43	\$110.91	6.20%
Jewelry	\$103.62	\$110.58	6.70%
Legal & Accounting	\$91.60	\$97.42	6.40%

Magazines	\$47.33	\$50.33	6.30%
Major Appliances	\$188.56	\$200.55	6.40%
Mass Transit	\$86.79	\$92.27	6.30%
Men's Apparel	\$423.61	\$450.65	6.40%
Mortgage Interest	\$2,481.63	\$2,642.70	6.50%
Natural Gas	\$389.75	\$413.98	6.20%
New Car Purchased	\$1,060.16	\$1,125.39	6.20%
New Truck Purchased	\$803.07	\$852.87	6.20%
New Vehicle Purchase	\$1,863.23	\$1,978.26	6.20%
Newspapers	\$98.32	\$104.47	6.30%
Oral Hygiene Products	\$27.81	\$29.55	6.30%
Other Lodging	\$710.32	\$744.70	4.80%
Other Miscellaneous Expenses	\$94.67	\$100.71	6.40%
Other Repairs & Maintenance	\$85.73	\$91.04	6.20%
Other Tobacco Products	\$37.13	\$39.50	6.40%
Other Transportation Costs	\$703.33	\$747.15	6.20%
Other Utilities	\$341.16	\$363.02	6.40%
Paint & Wallpaper	\$41.99	\$44.72	6.50%
Personal Care Products	\$163.06	\$173.55	6.40%
Personal Care Services	\$450.42	\$479.59	6.50%
Personal Insurance	\$484.57	\$515.29	6.30%
Pet Supplies & Services	\$231.26	\$246.02	6.40%
Photographic Equip & Supplies	\$104.63	\$111.29	6.40%
Plumbing & Heating	\$52.74	\$56.11	6.40%
Property Taxes	\$408.42	\$434.58	6.40%
Public Transportation	\$450.87	\$479.40	6.30%
Records/Tapes/CD Purchases	\$110.04	\$117.03	0.00%
Recreational Equip & Supplies	\$805.03	\$856.76	6.40%
Rental Costs	\$3,152.01	\$3,354.07	6.40%
Roofing & Siding	\$68.68	\$72.91	6.20%
Satellite Dishes	\$6.74	\$7.19	6.70%
Shaving Needs	\$12.48	\$13.27	6.30%
Shelter	\$7,450.21	\$7,918.77	6.30%
Telephone Svc Excl Cell	\$1,068.75	\$1,136.81	6.40%
Televisions	\$93.96	\$99.99	6.40%
Transportation	\$8,731.54	\$9,287.99	6.40%
Tuition	\$611.34	\$649.21	6.20%
Used Car Purchase	\$1,228.99	\$1,310.89	6.70%
Used Truck Purchase	\$709.84	\$754.95	6.40%
Used Vehicle Purchase	\$1,938.83	\$2,065.84	6.60%
VCRs & Related Equipment	\$42.11	\$44.80	6.40%
Vehicle Insurance	\$975.45	\$1,038.03	6.40%
Vehicle Repair	\$956.27	\$1,016.15	6.30%
Vehicle Repair & Maintenance	\$966.02	\$1,026.52	6.30%
Video & Audio Equipment	\$800.76	\$851.48	6.30%
Video Game Hardware & Software	\$27.24	\$28.92	6.20%
Watches	\$20.60	\$21.96	6.60%
Women's Apparel	\$758.51	\$807.24	6.40%

# Resource Team Members Little Snake River Valley, Wyoming September 20-22, 2005

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Linda Fleming  
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## Resource Team Agenda Little Snake River Valley: Baggs, Dixon, & Savery, Wyoming September 20 – 22, 2005

<u>Tuesday, Sept. 20</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
10:30 - 11:30	Orientation and Organization Meeting (Team Members Only)	Ed Center
11:30 - 1:30	Lunch with Community Resource Team Planners	Chicken Coop
1:30	Resource Team leaves for area tour. If unable to start with tour contact Linda Fleming 383-7645	Ed Center
6:00 – 6:55	Open Session	Dixon Club
7:00 – 8:00	Resource Team working supper	Dixon Club
<u>Wednesday, Sept. 21</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
6:30 - 7:30	Breakfast	Drifter's Inn
8:00 - 8:55	Agriculture	Ed Center
9:00 - 9:55	City, County, Law Enforcement, Gov't Agencies	Ed Center
10:00 - 10:25	Break: Review of Listening Session	Ed Center
10:30 – 11:25	Retail, Business, Banking, Utilities	Ed Center
11:30 - 11:55	Seniors and Open Session	Baggs Senior Center
12:00 - 12:55	Lunch	Baggs Senior Center
1:00 - 1:30	Tour of School	School
1:35 - 2 :20	Youth	School
2:25 - 3:20	Education - School Staff	School
3:30 - 3:55	Break - Refreshments	Ed Center
4:00 - 4:55	General Education - Preschool, Higher Ed, Parents	Ed Center
5:00 - 5:55	Churches	Ed Center
6:00 - 6:55	Open Session	Ed Center
7:00	Dinner	El Rio
<u>Thursday, Sept. 22</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
6:30 - 7:30	Breakfast	Drifter's Inn
8:00 - 8:55	Healthcare	Ed Center

9:00 - 9:55	Civic Clubs, Recreation, Humanities	Ed Center
10:00 - 10:55	Industry	Ed Center
10:55 - 11:15	Travel to Dixon	
11:15 - 12:00	Seniors and Dixon Open Session	Dixon Senior Center
12:00 - 1:00	Lunch	Dixon Senior Center
1:00 - 1:15	Travel to Baggs	
1:15 - 4:30	Team prepares for Town Meeting	Ed Center
5:00 - 6:30	Working Supper	Ed Center
6:30 - 6:45	Travel to Savery	
7:00	Resource Team Town Meeting	LSR Museum

## MAJOR THEMES

1. PUBLIC HEALTH AND PUBLIC SAFETY
2. COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT

### Public Health & Safety

1. Water
  - a. Water infrastructure
  - b. Expand and upgrade water system for current and future development for residential; commercial; industrial; agricultural; recreational
2. Sewer
  - a. Upgrade and expanded sewer capacity
3. Expanded Medical Services
  - a. More staffing at clinic
  - b. Home health care
  - c. Pharmaceutical capabilities
4. Public Health
  - a. Flu clinics
  - b. Parenting classes
  - c. School screening
  - d. Family programs
  - e. Prenatal needs
  - f. WIC
5. EMS
  - a. 4-wheel drive ambulance
  - b. Paid EMT's
  - c. GIS/LYDAR imagery mapping for EMS
  - d. County planning for roads
  - e. Official street addresses and oil rig numbers

- f. Improved communications with industry
- 6. Drugs
  - a. Methamphetamines, marijuana and alcohol
- 7. Crime
  - a. Speeding
  - b. Theft
  - c. Vandalism

### Community Enhancement

- 1. Streets, curbs, gutters – paving to grading
  - a. Paving and grading
- 2. Affordable housing
- 3. Assisted living
- 4. Agriculture Co-op
  - a. Bulk selling
  - b. Bulk buying
  - c. Meat processing
  - d. Noxious weeds
- 5. Beautification
  - a. Trees
  - b. Walkways
  - c. Re-habilitation to old building
  - d. Scenic byway designation
  - e. Ordinance enforcement
  - f. Signage
  - g. Weed control
- 6. Wyoming Communication
  - a. Wyoming news, television and radio
  - b. Local newspaper
- 7. Community Development
  - a. Visioning
  - b. Planning
  - c. Zoning
  - d. Grants for funding
- 8. Public Restrooms
- 9. Historic Preservation
- 10. Youth Development
  - a. Recreational/Community Center
  - b. Civic involvement with leadership positions
  - c. Recreational opportunities
  - d. Youth activities year round i.e. choir, more sports, concerts in the park

- e. Reverse grandparent program
- 11. Eating establishments – no smoking and serves breakfast
- 12. Coffee shop

## Team Member Recommendations

### **Brandon Marshall, Team Leader**

Business & Industry Development

Wyoming Business Council

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**Introduction:** Thank you to all of the people of Baggs, Savery, Dixon and the entire Little Snake River Valley for making our time in your community an enjoyable and educational experience.

It's abundantly clear to me that the LSRV is an excellent place to live, and with a few tweaks, some minor, some major, can become exactly what the people of the Valley envision. Through the assessment process we identified two major themes, Public health & Safety and Community Enhancement, with several sub-themes for each.

**Challenge:** Unusually high amount of illegal drugs and crime in general

**Solution:** Oh these reports are great. We present a challenge that we heard, and then offer the solution. How simple. We are the State and we're here to save you! Fortunately, you are all intelligent enough to know that if that were the case, Wyoming would be utopia from border to border. The fact is that most of the solutions I offer here are going to be things that you have to just do by yourself.

In several listening sessions it was stated that a lack of law enforcement could be to blame for the crime that occurs in the Valley. While the communities don't have an overwhelming police force at their disposal, there really seems to me to be a fair amount of law enforcers around. Maybe the problem is effectiveness. If this is the case, and a consensus is met in the community that this is the problem, I would suggest that the employer of the ineffective law enforcer be informed. If a group of citizens presents a complaint in an organized fashion it would be extremely effective. Whether you are requesting action from a County Commission, a Town Council or the State, organization is the key. You can't just come off as someone who complains about everything. A group gives credibility. Document what you see as inadequacies.

I suggest that you develop a committee that will have its' sole goal as decreasing crime, drug use and dealing. This committee should be very inclusive, representing all segments of the community. The committee can be the one to evaluate the effectiveness of the local law enforcement and present a unified complaint if one is found. This committee can also be the one to organize the activities in the community that function as crime fighters.

The most important function that I can think of would be a community watch program. Crabby and snoopy citizens who are always on the lookout can be extremely intimidating. My example would be something I saw on TV. The local church ladies decided that they had had enough of the local brothel. They also knew that it would not have been thriving without local support. So, they set up camp across the street armed with video cameras, and time to burn. After a while the local support for the brothel waned because the videos conveniently showed up at the homes of the clientele.

In principle, this can be the technique for exposing the drug problem in the valley. Cops cannot be everywhere at once, so if you see something going on tape it and take pictures.

Generally speaking, fighting crime in a small town is extremely difficult. The advantage that small towns have over large ones though, is that they are small. Everyone knows everything, and anything out of the norm is immediately obvious.

One funding source that is specifically designed for funding the fight against methamphetamine is from the US Department of Justice; the COPS (Community Oriented Policing Services) program. The grant funding would be applied for by a law enforcement agency for local use. According to the COPS website in FY2004 the program awarded nearly \$54 million to fight the methamphetamine problem. The program is more than funding too. COPS works directly with state and local law enforcement agencies to design programs and strategies that will work locally.

Information on the COPS program can be found online at [www.cops.usdoj.gov](http://www.cops.usdoj.gov).

**Challenge: Lack of activities/facilities for youth.**

**Solution:** It was brought up repeatedly at our listening sessions that the youth of the valley don't have enough to do. One solution to the problem of youth boredom that was repeatedly discussed was a community center. A community center in the valley would be a great asset that could serve all of the people in the valley.

It was also brought up that the community has pursued a community center in the past, and has put considerable work into planning the project. Because so much has been done on this project already, I would suggest that the old plans be used as a base for any new planning the community may do for a community center.

In the end, I would suggest that a plan be developed that would be a lesser version of the one that has been pursued already. Because the community already has access to two gymnasiums at the public school, it may be a logical choice to eliminate the gymnasium from any current plans for example. It would be entirely up to the community to decide the feasibility of any facility that they were going to pursue, though.

One potential source of funding for community facilities could be the Wyoming Business Council's Community Facilities Grant Program. This program allows for "the expansion, renovation, conversion, or purchase of an interest in a local enhancement to a school building or facility." This may be a great avenue to pursue, because of the possibility of cost sharing and mutual benefit to the community and the school district. More precise information on the program can be found online at <http://wyomingbusiness.org/communities/index.cfm>.

Because of the scenic location of the Little Snake River Valley community, it seems to me that many youth activities could be planned in the community that would take advantage of the natural surroundings. Planning of events and programs could be done by forming a youth activity committee, consisting of various youths and adults from the community. This committee could plan things as simple as hikes, swimming parties in the river, cross country skiing outings. Other things that could be done by the committee would be setting up areas or facilities that could be utilized by the youth of the community in an unorganized fashion. A paintball war zone might be something that would be interesting, or a (very) low tech recording studio or video studio. Just brain storm, and come up with ideas that the youth in the community would be in favor of. Things like a war zone could require nothing but permission from a land owner to use the space, and if you want to, used things like barrels, and pallets make great fixtures for a war zone. Even the studio could be done in a very simple, low cost way. Try using the garage of a willing, community minded, individual. Get some old recording equipment together, and an old video camera that no one wants

anymore. Voila! Suddenly you have two facilities/activities that give the youth of the community somewhere to not only use energy and get some exercise, but a place to express creativity and just plain have fun.

**Contacts:**

Shannon Stanfil, Community Facilities Program Manager  
Wyoming Business Council  
214 W. 15<sup>th</sup> Street  
Cheyenne, WY 82002  
307.777.2841  
[sstanf@state.wy.us](mailto:sstanf@state.wy.us)

**Challenge: Lack of assisted living facility.**

**Solution:** One thing that almost all communities in Wyoming are looking for is an assisted living facility. The solution that I tend to think would work the best for this problem is really more of an entrepreneurial solution than an actual program to help build a facility.

Many people simply cannot, or just don't want to have to, take care of their homes and yards any longer. They tend to want to or need to live in assisted living housing to not only be able to access health assistance, but to eliminate the maintenance that is necessary if you own your home.

The solution that I would suggest is to develop a business that offers assistance to seniors in varying degrees. An actual retirement community that includes housing, and assistance could be one available option, but if a person simply wanted to live in their current home, and not have to mow the lawn or scoop the walk, that could be all the services that were included in their contract. If a person needed more assistance those things could be added to the contract. Even seemingly small services such as access to handymen could be added as part of a contract. The best part of all of this is that there may be no need for an actual condo complex. If the costs for building such a facility were found to be too high, or it was found that there was not a large enough market for a similar facility in the LSRV, the services could all be contracted with seniors still living in their current homes. My suggestion would be to pursue both options. Include a condo complex, but also have the contracts available to seniors that are living in their current homes. The jobs that this creates could be both fulltime "family supporting" jobs, and also part time. Part time jobs were one of the biggest requests from the high school students. Students could be used for shoveling sidewalks, making small repairs, etc.

If someone is interested in developing a business based on this idea, the Wyoming Business Council, through several of our partners, offers various programs to assist entrepreneurs. One of these programs is the Small Business Development Centers (SBDC). SBDC offices are spread throughout the state in 5 regions, and are available to assist small businesses in areas ranging from writing a

business plan for submission to financiers, to developing a marketing strategy to reach potential customers. All of this is free of charge. The Wyoming Women's Business Center (WWBC) is another program that offers assistance to businesses that are at least 51% woman owned.

The resources that are available to all entrepreneurs through the Wyoming Business Council and our partners can be found by going online to [www.wyomingbusiness.org](http://www.wyomingbusiness.org) and clicking on "entrepreneurship resources." Various programs are featured, such as SBIR (Small Business Innovative Research) through UW, which is a program to develop products and processes to be used by federal agencies. The entrepreneur can apply for various grants and contracts from various federal agencies.

Contacts:

### **Entrepreneurship Resources**

Debbie Popp, State Director  
Wyoming SBDC  
P.O. Box 3922  
Laramie, WY 82071-3922  
800.348.5194  
307.352.6894  
<http://uwadmnweb.uwyo.edu/sbdc>

Arlene Soto, Regional Director  
SBDC Region #4  
1400 E. College Drive  
Cheyenne, WY 82007-3298  
800.348.5208  
307.632.6141  
[sewsbdc@wyoming.com](mailto:sewsbdc@wyoming.com)

Rosemary Barton, Director  
Wyoming Women's Business Center  
P.O. Box 3661  
Laramie, WY 82071  
888.524.1947  
307.766.3084  
[wwbc@uwyo.edu](mailto:wwbc@uwyo.edu)  
[www.wyomingwomen.org](http://www.wyomingwomen.org)

Gene Watson, Program Manager

Wyoming SBIR/STTR Initiative

13<sup>th</sup> & Lewis

Laramie, WY 82071

307.766.2708

[www.uwyo.edu/sbir](http://www.uwyo.edu/sbir)

[ewatson@wyoming.com](mailto:ewatson@wyoming.com)

Tom Johnson, SE Regional Director

Wyoming Business Council

307.631.9275

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**Challenge: Beautification**

**Solution:** On the day our assessment team was leaving the valley, we went to the grocery store in Baggs to get something to eat on the road. When we came out of the store we noticed that if you look straight east down the road to Savery and Dixon the view is absolutely stunning, and lends itself to being a natural gateway to the National forest beyond.

Because of the view from this vantage point, I would suggest that a lot be made of the gateway setting. The intersection of Highways 789 and 70 should be the place in the valley that includes an information center and landscaping that will point out what is there to be seen. I would also suggest that the community make enhancements to the roadside all the way out of town, including trees, landscaping stone, and flowers. It would of course be necessary to work with WYDOT to ensure that nothing is done that would impede the right of way on the highway or cause visibility problems. One of the easiest things to do would be to mow the weeds that are tall next to the highway. It was mentioned in a listening session that there was conflict with WYDOT over who should maintain that area. I would suggest that the city simply take care of it. A simple run through with the mower would make a lot of difference.

A source of funds for a project like this could potentially be the Wyoming Business Council's Investment Ready Communities Program. The program includes monies for community enhancement projects such as landscaping and trees. More information can be found on the WBC website at [www.wyomingbusiness.org](http://www.wyomingbusiness.org).

Beautification is also another project that can be done with very little funds, and completely by the people in the valley. Simply organize a cleanup day, and pick up trash, mow weeds, and paint things that need painting.

**Contacts:**

**Community Enhancement Grant Resource**

Shawn Reese, Business Ready Community Grant & Loan Program Manager  
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214 W. 15<sup>th</sup> Street  
Cheyenne, WY 82002  
307.777.2813  
[sreese@state.wy.us](mailto:sreese@state.wy.us)

### **WyDOT Contact**

Wyoming Department of Transportation  
3411 S. 3rd St. Suite 1, 82070  
US 287  
(307)745-2100  
FAX (307)745-2103

District Engineer: Jay Gould (307)745-2100  
District Construction Engineer: Pat Persson (307)745-2100  
District Maintenance Engineer: Tim McGary (307)745-2100  
District Traffic Engineer: Randall Griesbach: (307)745-2100  
Public Involvement Specialist: Keith Guille: (307)745-2142

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### **Theme: Public Health and Safety**

**Challenge:** Water and sewer infrastructure for the ‘community’ of the Snake River Valley was identified as an extreme priority that impacts public health, public safety, agricultural needs, tourism and future growth of private, business and community development.

**Solution:** The completion of the High Savery Dam is a wonderful first step and opportunity for the Valley community to control the water and sewer infrastructure dilemma. If the governing bodies of each town in the ‘Valley Community’ would consider creation of a ‘Valley Community’

- board of public utilities (valley water and sewer district)
- irrigation district
- tourism board
- and working with the game and fish district

these entities would provide arenas that allow the community to develop, plan and control the current and future needs of the Snake River Valley. These boards/districts would have the legal authority to request from the County Commissioners a mil levy (from the entire county) to support the services provided; official capacity to apply for grants and loans for 'Valley' rural development; and local responsible, accountable entities for the planning and development of water resources. Strength in numbers by combining forces or a 'one voice' method will provide much more impact than if each governing body of Baggs, Savery and Dixon tries to request assistance from state and federal departments. Issues that can be addressed by these entities for grant purposes are:

1. Public health can be seriously impacted for community residents in regard to water and sewer issues throughout the Valley.
2. Public safety is an issue if fire departments do not have access to sufficient water supply.
3. Agricultural water needs, if not sufficient, do not provide a livable income.
4. Drawing tourism will not assist the Valley if basic life needs of tourists are not met.

Future growth and sustainability are not feasible if basic needs are not available

**Resources:**

Creation of board of public utilities

1. USDA Rural Development  
Rural Utilities Service
  2. Public Service Commission
- Creation of irrigation district
    1. See WY State Statute Title 41, Water, Chapter 7 – Irrigation Districts
    2. <http://legisweb.state.wy.us/statutes/sub41.htm>
  - Creation of Tourism board
    1. Work with the Tourism Division of the WY Business Council

**Challenge:** Access and expansion of healthcare services for the 'Valley Community' is essential for basic life requirements. The increasing senior population, young adult and family needs, substance abuse issues, and potential for agricultural and industrial accidents require expanded healthcare services.

**Solution:** The current healthcare clinic in the Valley is functioning at or above capacity. Increased staffing, home healthcare services and pharmaceutical capabilities are needed for the residents of the Valley. Consider working closely with the public school in the vocational area to establish a 'certified nurse aide' class that allows the student to become certified with the State Board of Nursing as a CNA upon completion of the course. This would allow students (or interested local residents) who have the certification to have part or full time employment through agencies that

provide home healthcare services to the residents of the Valley. Carbon County Public Health, Carbon County Memorial Hospital and private agencies utilize CNA staff. This would provide employment for local youth and other residents, services for the senior population while also encouraging the youth to pursue the healthcare profession as a career that enables them to live and work in the Valley. If the public school district would work with this proposed course, there are numerous grants available through VICA for start up and maintenance costs and the director of WY Health Occupations Consortium could assist with these.

Stronger ties with Carbon County Public Health Nursing would bring in flu clinics, parenting classes, family programs, address prenatal issues, WIC, school screenings, etc.

Contact the University of WY to request student placements of family nurse practitioner students and family practice residents. Pharmaceutical needs for the local clinic may be addressed by working with the Pharmacy Dept. at UW with a PYXIS system and pharmacy students during their residencies.

There are many resources available to help the community decide how to approach substance abuse problems through the WY Dept. of Health.

The Valley's EMS/FF volunteers perform a service that is immeasurable to the community residents. Working closely with the gas/oil industries by asking for representatives from their organizations to be on the local EMS board or to have routine monthly meetings with the healthcare providers could improve communication with that industry. Form an advisory board to include people from the healthcare community and people from the oil/gas industry in order to keep communication open. This type of interaction could help ensure that the need for better and more efficient equipment might be made available by the industry such as a 4 wheel drive ambulance, mapping and current access of roads to rig locations, and the need for increased financial and personnel support as demand on services increases.

**Resources:**

1. WY Dept. of Health  
Public Health Nursing  
Jo Ann Blevens, RN, MS, Admin.  
Hathaway Building  
Cheyenne, WY 82002  
[jbleve@state.wy.us](mailto:jbleve@state.wy.us)  
307-777-7275
2. Carbon County Public Health  
V. Raja Chandra, MD  
County Health Officer  
Bridget Hettgar, RN, Manager  
[PHNHETTGA@state.wy.us](mailto:PHNHETTGA@state.wy.us)  
307-328-2602

3. Carbon county Memorial Hospital  
Patsy Carter, CEO  
[patsyc@trib.com](mailto:patsyc@trib.com)  
307-324-8213  
Dawn Dingmon, Dir. Of Nursing  
307-324-2221
4. Toni Decklever, RN  
Director WY Health Occupations Consortium  
[tsdhoc@aol.com](mailto:tsdhoc@aol.com)  
307-771-2256
5. Mary Burman, Dir. Nurse Practitioner Program  
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307-766-3903
6. Sylvia Moore, Dir. WWAMI  
[moores@uwyo.edu](mailto:moores@uwyo.edu)  
307-766-2492
7. John Vandell, Dir. Pharmacy  
[jvandell@uwyo.edu](mailto:jvandell@uwyo.edu)  
307-766-6120
8. WY Dept of Health Substance Abuse Division  
Laura Dalles  
[ldalle@state.wy.us](mailto:ldalle@state.wy.us)  
307-777-5808

**Challenge:** The need for assisted living facilities (ALF) as well as affordable housing was mentioned numerous times

**Solution:** A community needs assessment of the potential numbers of seniors in the Valley that might be candidates for an ALF would provide potential private developers with the encouragement to build such a facility. An additional advantage of an ALF would be that by providing seniors with suitable living arrangements, more houses would be placed on the market and offer relief for the housing shortage. The USDA Rural Development's Community Facility program for the funding of ALF is a program of direct loans and guaranteed loans. An ALF could be expanded in the future to include a skilled care wing for residents who are less independent.

Consider a mobile home park (with covenants) to increase affordable housing while maintaining the beauty of the community in addition to an RV park for tourists.

**Resources:**

USDA Rural Development  
Rod Hansen, rural Development Manager

Federal Building  
100 E. 'B' Street  
Casper, WY 82601  
307-261-6326 X 6  
[rod.hansen@wy.usda.gov](mailto:rod.hansen@wy.usda.gov)

**Theme: Community Enhancement**

**Challenge:** The Valley Community identified a need for a community center in almost all of the listening sessions

**Solution:** The Valley Community Center organization with plans for 501 3C provides a wonderful start.

**Resources:**

Contact the reference library at the University of WY, 307-766-6539 for information on public or private grant opportunities, websites on information on grant makers, and technical information on how to write grants

**Challenge:** It was mentioned several times that there was a general lack of communication throughout the Valley. Although, it should be noted that communication is the responsibility of everyone.

**Solution:** The Valley Community needs a master plan that incorporates all the needs of the residents, a plan to control and plan growth as well as to provide a communication strategy in the event of a natural, industrial or terrorist event. WY Rural Development does this type of planning.

For local communication, ask the school journalism class to start a small weekly (separate from the school newspaper) that includes upcoming community activities scheduled to be financially supported by local classified ads. The classified ads could be as simple as a garage sale notice, hiring opportunities, or something wanted to buy. This weekly could be made available at various businesses throughout the Valley for the public while providing the journalism class another opportunity to use their skills.

Consider consolidating boards, there are 20+ boards for a community of about 1500. While everyone must wear several hats in the community, there is a limit to what volunteers can do.

**Resources:**

Mary Randolph, Ex. Director  
WY Rural Development Council  
2219 Carey Ave.

Cheyenne, WY 82002

307-777-6430

[mrand@state.wy.us](mailto:mrand@state.wy.us)

[www.wyomingrural.org](http://www.wyomingrural.org)

**Challenge:** Snake River Valley is a beautiful area and is surrounded by beautiful attractions. The need to promote these attractions is a must.

**Solution:**

- Start an annual valley community celebration with something like a ‘Wild Horse Roundup’ Day. Use progressive events from location to location around the communities like a community barbeque, rodeo, evening melodrama, bingo games, parade, mud wrestling, etc. to draw community residents and tourists for a day off in the Valley. Then showcase all the wonderful things the Valley community has to offer.
- ‘Gateway to the Valley’ - From the intersection of state hwy 70 and 789, there is a beautiful panorama looking to the east with Battle Mountain lined up at the end of the street. This could be the ‘gateway’ to the valley and towns, the state highway has curb gutters, and sidewalks, plant trees to line both sides making an archway to showcase the mountain. Clean up weeds and have a community garden, small coffee shop, tourist information center with public restrooms. This would make the ‘postcard’ for a tourism draw to come to town and would get traffic to turn off 789 and go through Baggs onto Savery and Dixon. Try to get a scenic byway designation for Highway 70.
- Partner with your twin community of Encampment and Riverside for scenic byway designation for Highway 70 and make the communities the anchor points on both sides of the Sierra Madres.
- Work with State Traffic Engineer’s Office on signage for area and local attractions. Take down signs that are no longer viable.
- Partner with large business of 3 Forks to promote community relationships. Have shop class in school provide some of the chairs, end-tables made in class to be available at 3 Forks buildings. This will provide a potential market from 3 Forks clientele while providing students with projects and income. It also draws 3 Forks closer to community which may result in providing more financial support for services/businesses, etc.
- Market tourism of ‘Aspen Alley’ and surrounding area.
- Put Information Center on corner to ‘Gateway to the Valley’ to get tourists to stop and then travel on scenic byway
- Work with proposed airport expansion group to increase access from tourists.
- Market the hunting, fishing, wildlife in the area.
- Consider a community golf course. This may draw clients of 3 Forks into the Valley.
- Locate on ‘Gateway to the Valley’ things like small town park with band stage, good spot for Information Center, draws tourists for public restrooms, park will allow them to think about stopping for a while. Locate a coffee shop close, etc.

- Contact Game and Fish for grant to work with NRCS for developing fishing business on river for tourists.
  - Use JTPA money to hire local youth for summer town beautification projects
- Showcase history of Valley in Information Center for tourists

**Resources:**

Downtown Beautification Program  
National Main Street Center  
202-588-6219  
[www.mainst.org](http://www.mainst.org)

State Traffic Engineer  
Department of Transportation  
5300 Bishop Blvd.  
Cheyenne, WY 82009  
307-777-4492

**Challenge:** Many listening sessions discussed bringing businesses to the Valley to prevent residents from having to go long distances for supplies and services

**Solution:** Consider a local Co-operative for agricultural products, owned and operated by local agri-business residents. In addition to bulk purchases of salt, feed, minor hardware, hay and fencing supplies, etc., it could be a farmers market during the summer season of local garden produce and/or from the community garden; it could be an avenue for hay producers to provide small bales of hay to area residents who only purchase 3-4 bales of hay for horses at a time; it could be the location for a cattle video auction; it could be located on the street of the 'Gateway to the Valley' community.

Consider a Valley sponsored cable TV business which would bring in local WY news, radio, TV.

**Annie Longpre**

Marketing & Attraction Specialist

Wyoming Business Council

214 W 15th St

Cheyenne, WY 82002

307.777.2844

[ALONGP@state.wy.us](mailto:ALONGP@state.wy.us)

**Introduction**

This was my first opportunity to participate in a Community Assessment. It was a wonderful experience. The Little Snake River Valley and its people are both open and very hospitable.

I would like to thank the towns of Baggs, Dixon and Savery for their wonderful generosity, and giving me the chance to see their home. Also, a big thank you to the team that set up the assessment. What a great job they did. Everything ran so smooth. The food was great and even the Drifters Hotel wasn't too bad. Thank you so much for making my first experience a good one.

Below are some suggestions. These suggestions and the others included in the report can be made into goals and can be possible if the community works together. It is up to you as a community to meet the goals you wish to achieve. Keep in mind there cannot be achievement if it is a single sole out there trying to do all the work.

**Theme: Community Enhancement**

**Challenge: The challenge is to beautify the community**

**Solution**

The challenge being beautification of the Little Snake River Valley; including trees, walkways, rehabilitation, scenic byway designation, ordinance enforcement, signage, and weed control, has many possible solutions. First off, it was expressed to us the ordinances are not enforced in the community. There is your main problem. Enforce them. Why are they there if everyone, including the city officials, is going to overlook them?

The topic of weeds in and around peoples yard was also brought up. This is an easy solution as well. Recently I had the opportunity to drive through a town very similar in size, but they had no weeds growing up all over the place. Their solution, every week or so the people around the community would go out and mow. Even on the stretches of land that isn't your property, there are those in the community, from what we heard, that really care. Take a few people out to the sites along the main roads and mow those weeds down. With a few people it shouldn't take that long.

In some communities large and small, they have ordinances where the homeowners must take care of their property that can be seen by passerby's. If it is not kept up, i.e., mowed and junk vehicles disposed of, someone will take care of it for them and then send them a bill. If the bill is not paid they can then be taken to jail. It seems to work well.

Another issue was the signs as you approach the Snake River Valley. The signs were very small, and the color schemes chosen made the writing very hard to make out. As we approach the Little Snake River Valley from one end, a huge tank hides the sign. Some suggestions on that would be to move the sign located at the tank, or move the tank.

Possibly for some community involvement, have the art students get together and paint the signs. This could be a way to develop and increase community pride. This could also give the students another extracurricular activity to do outside of sporting events.

The community members also brought up trees. Many want to have trees planted along the roadways and around the towns. There was a nursery located in Baggs. One possibility could be to get together with the owner to see if any donations would be possible. Set up a plan to bring the community together to plant the trees around the town.

Another suggestions to help beautify you area is to have an 'Improve the Valley Day' where everyone gets together to clean up the area.

The Main Street Program traveling throughout the state is a great opportunity as well. Over the years different communities who apply will be chosen for the Main Street Program. This entails someone to give professional training and consulting. A grant will also be awarded to the communities chosen to help with the process. This program is designed to improve the downtown image by enhancing its physical appearance. This includes things from re-habilitation of old building, to streetscapes, to window displays in the local businesses.

It is through the National Trust for Historic Preservation, focused on commercial district revitalization using the Main Street Four-Point Approach™ of organization, promotion, design and economic restructuring. House Bill 27 officially established Main Street in our state to begin in July 2004. It is under the Wyoming Rural Development Council and housed in the Wyoming Department of Agriculture.

## **Reference**

Mary Randolph

2219 Carey Ave.  
Cheyenne, WY 82003  
307.777.6430  
[mrano@state.wy.us](mailto:mrano@state.wy.us)

Wyoming Association of Municipalities  
P.O. Box 3310  
Cheyenne, WY 82003  
307.632.0398  
[wam@wyomuni.org](mailto:wam@wyomuni.org)

### **Challenge: Wyoming Communication was another challenge**

#### **Solution**

It was brought to our attention that information on community events as well as basic information on the valley was very difficult to distribute around the valley. There is no local newspaper other than the student-produced paper. I took the opportunity to look at the towns website before I came trying to find information on the area. The site has some great information on it, and looks like it is updated often beings there are pictures of the assessment team on there already. Yikes!! I noticed also a link to a local paper, [www.trib.com](http://www.trib.com). One opportunity you have however is to make a section on this site to be along the lines of a newspaper. You could have people submit articles to you about things that have happened in the area, as well as place articles from outside the Little Snake River area onto the site. For example, you could place articles and happenings from other areas of Wyoming, or the United States. Take the time to type the into the web page and make it unique.

#### **Reference**

[www.50states.com/news/wyomin.htm](http://www.50states.com/news/wyomin.htm)

### **Challenge: Youth Development**

#### **Solution**

The youth in the Little Snake River Valley have very little to do according to the whole community. We were told the activities for the youth included few school sports, and playing pool at The Drifters. We were informed that a student at the high school wants to start her own choir group, which is a great thing. Others can also start their own activities even if the school does not recognize them. The Education Center is a wonderful place for the young people to go. Their conference room is great for choir, or a small band, or wrestling, etc., if it is available. We were told that they already have tumbling in the room for the younger children, which is another great way to use the facility.

Considering your location, it surprises me you don't have any sort of winter outdoor activity for the youth. For example another small town in Wyoming has formed a cross-country ski team. This would be a great activity for the youth and even adults to do in the winter.

Another thought is to get the young people involved in the decisions for the valley. Have them be on the team of decision makers. The results of this would be more involvement of the youth throughout the community, and a better attitude towards the community in general from the youth.

### **Reference**

Town of Meeteetse  
P.O. Box 231  
Meeteetse, WY 82433  
307.868.2454  
www.meeteetsewy.com  
[www.meetrec.org](http://www.meetrec.org)

National League of Cities  
1301 Pennsylvania Ave.  
Washington, DC  
202.626.3000

### **Challenge: Lack of job for youth as well as women**

#### **Solution**

Every town wants the young adults to come back after they have finished their education. Even in the larger cities in Wyoming it is difficult to keep the youth. We had a chance to ask the youth we interviewed if they had the opportunity for a good job in the Little Snake River area, would they come back to live, and everyone of them said they would. That's amazing. It doesn't happen very often.

It is possible for the youth to return to the area. One way is through entrepreneurship. This is getting more and more popular. The Wyoming Business Council has many programs to help future or current entrepreneurs in the state of Wyoming grow or develop their businesses. One program is through Small Business Development Council, which was formed for many reasons. They staff located all around Wyoming can help you develop a business plan, which is an important first step. This can be distributed to financiers to help with the funding of the business.

Another program available is the Tradeshow Incentive program. This is designed for after your business is developed. This program helps with the expenses of attending shows to market and sell your products. The Wyoming Business Council pays for 50% of expenses relating to the show. To qualify for the grant, you must be a private sector, Wyoming-based business, producing a Wyoming product, or adding value to a product in Wyoming. Each business is allotted \$6000 for the life of the grant, and \$2000 per year.

Another program offered is the Wyoming First program. This is an opportunity for businesses to promote their 'Wyoming' uniqueness. It is an annual fee of \$20.00. This fee allows the businesses the right to use a bucking horse logo, which the Wyoming Business Council provides, on their products, as well as informing these businesses of upcoming tradeshow they can attend for a much

discounted price. For more information about these and various other programs visit [www.wyomingbusiness.org](http://www.wyomingbusiness.org).

**References**

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214 West 15th St.  
Cheyenne, WY 82002  
[awood1@state.wy.us](mailto:awood1@state.wy.us)  
307.777.2844  
[www.wyomingbusiness.org](http://www.wyomingbusiness.org)

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**Themes: PUBLIC HEALTH AND PUBLIC SAFETY  
COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT**

Public Health & Safety

8. Water

- a. Water infrastructure
- b. Expand and upgrade water system for current and future development for residential; commercial; industrial; agricultural; recreational

The Wyoming Business Council has a grant and loan program under the Business Ready Communities program that will allow a community to build facilities to ready itself for new business development under a specific strategy or plan of action. The community has to demonstrate that appropriate planning has been conducted and capacity exists to accommodate new business development.

The money can be used to expand infrastructure including water, roads, and sewer. Maximum award is \$1.5 million dollars and requires a 10% match. The next round for funding is in the spring with application due in Cheyenne to the Wyoming Business Council ([www.wyomingbusiness.org](http://www.wyomingbusiness.org)).

This program has been used by Rock Springs to extend a major street. Green River will use this program to extend water, sewer, and streets to the west side of the City in the hope of making the area more marketable to new commercial development.

For more information contact:

Shawn Reese, Business Ready Community Grant & Loan  
Wyoming Business Council  
214 W 15<sup>th</sup> Street  
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002-0240  
307 777 2813

Another avenue for assistance is USDA Rural Development. They provide grants and loans for water and sewer. The loans can be used to develop water and waste disposal, including solid waste systems in rural areas and towns with populations less than 10,000. The loans are available to municipalities, counties and special purpose district.

The grants are to be used for reduce water and waste water disposal costs to a reasonable level for rural users. Grant cover up to 75% of the total project costs.

Contact:

Jack Hyde, Southwest Area Office  
625 Washington St. Room B

PO Box 190  
Afton, Wyoming 83110 307 886 9001

9. Sewer

- a. Upgrade and expanded sewer capacity  
The Wyoming Business Council Business Ready Communities program (see above).

10. Expanded Medical Services

- a. More staffing at clinic
- b. Home health care
- c. Pharmaceutical capabilities

11. Public Health

- a. Flu clinics
- b. Parenting classes
- c. School screening
- d. Family programs
- e. Prenatal needs
- f. WIC

The USDA Rural Development has loans and grants for telemedicine.

Contact:

Jack Hyde, Southwest Area Office  
625 Washington St. Room B  
PO Box 190  
Afton, Wyoming 83110 307 886 9001

The Wyoming Department of Health has a community health planner that could provide direction and assistance in obtaining resources.

Contact:

Emily Quarterman-Genoff  
Wyoming Department of Health  
Office of Rural Health  
Hathaway Building, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002  
307 777 8938  
egenof@state.wy.us

12. EMS

- a. 4-wheel drive ambulance  
Grants Home land Security
- b. Paid EMT's  
Taxes-hospital district

c. GIS/LYDAR imagery mapping for EMS

Carbon County is currently updating its rural addressing system through GIS. The system will include a list of all addresses (including rural), a map and explanation of the addresses, and a digital system to implement the program. The program is scheduled to be completed in November and available to all Carbon County communities.

For more information contact:

Karen Larsen, GIS Specialist  
Carbon County  
PO Box 6  
Rawlins, Wyoming 82301  
307 328 2752 cell 307 320 5151

d. County planning for roads

e. Official street addresses and oil rig numbers

f. Improved communications with industry

13. Drugs

a. Methamphetamines, marijuana and alcohol

Sweetwater County has started a Methamphetamines Initiative to increase community awareness. They have several volunteer based groups including public education. They have published several great information pieces and do a considerable amount of speaking to local groups.

For more information contact:

Laura Schmid-Pizzato  
Manager, Recovery Services  
Southwest Counseling Service  
2300 Foothill Blvd.  
Rock Springs, Wyoming 82901  
307 352 6677  
[laura@swcounseling.org](mailto:laura@swcounseling.org)

14. Crime

a. Speeding

b. Theft

c. Vandalism

While a full time law enforcement officer might not be financially possible, the Neighborhood Watch Program could be a short term option. Not only does it reduce crime, but it encourages citizens to take an active part in crime control in their community.

For more information about Neighborhood Watch go online at:

<http://www.usaonwatch.org/>

## Community Enhancement

### 13. Streets, curbs, gutters – paving to grading

#### a. Paving and grading

See the Wyoming Business Council's Community Readiness Program

### 14. Affordable Housing

The Wyoming Community Development Authority has several programs that will assist with housing, including infrastructure grants for housing to low to moderate income families. This grant program can be used to cover the costs of water, sewer, streets and sidewalks.

For more information Contact:

WCDA

Cheryl Gillum, Housing Program Director

155 N Beech Street

Casper, Wyoming 82601

307 265 0603

[www.wyomingwcda.com](http://www.wyomingwcda.com)

### 15. Assisted living

### 16. Agriculture Co-op

#### a. Bulk selling

#### b. Bulk buying

#### c. Meat processing

#### d. Noxious weeds

### 17. Beautification

#### a. Trees

The Department of Transportation has grants available to enhance entrances into communities through the Transportation Enhancement Activities Local (TEAL) grant program. The City of Rock Springs is currently using these funds to enhance the Interstate interchanges with decorative brick and landscaping. The grants are up to \$250,000 per project and can be submitted by the governing body.

Contact:

Wyoming Department of Transportation

5300 Bishop Blvd

Cheyenne, Wyoming 82009

307 777 4384

b. Walkways

There are funding programs for walkways in communities through the Division of Parks and Historic Sites.

Contact:

Chelsey McManus

Trails Planner

Division of State Parks and Historic Sites

307 777 8681

c. Re-habilitation to old building

d. Scenic byway designation

A road is designate as a “byway” by government agencies or private organizations. A road may be named as a byway in many byway programs including state byways programs, the National Park Service, the US Forest Service and others. The Rock Springs and Green River Chambers of Commerce worked with the Forest Service and the State of Utah to get the loop around the Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area designated a scenic byway. The designation allows them to place signage on the route, gives them visibility on the Wyoming Department of Transportation web site for scenic byways, and includes them in automobile clubs and services as a designated and preferred route for their travelers. The result is increased traffic, specifically tourists.

For more information about the Wyoming State Scenic Byway Program contact:

Kevin McCoy

Scenic Byways Coordinator

Planning Division

5300 Bishop Blvd.

PO Box 1708

Cheyenne, Wyoming 82009-3340

307 777 4178

Fax 307 777 4759

[kevin.mccoy@dot.state.wy.us](mailto:kevin.mccoy@dot.state.wy.us)

a. Ordinance enforcement

b. Signage

While there is signage into the entrances of the valley, it is difficult to locate and read.

For example the signage as you come into Baggs from the north is placed too close to an industrial site with large structures to be noticeable, and while the gold and brown are a sentimental choice, they are very difficult to read from the highway.

Local community services clubs could help make the signs larger, a more visible color, and relocate them if possible. It could be an easy and fast first project for the community to come together and be successful, which will help with other more involved projects.

- c. Weed control
- 3. Wyoming Communication
  - a. Wyoming news, television and radio
  - b. Local newspaper
- 4. Community Development
  - a. Visioning
  - b. Planning
  - c. Zoning
  - d. Grants for funding

5. Historic Preservation

The Valley has several historical buildings and locations that should be preserved and promoted, including the Jim Baker Cabin. The Wyoming Historic Preservation Office has a program that provides assistance in forming a Certified Local Government agency and assistance in local preservation planning. They also provide technical guidance for Education and Community outreach professionals.

For more information contact:  
Wyoming State Preservation Office  
2301 Central Avenue  
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82992  
307 777 6401  
<http://wyshpo.state.wy.us>

6. Youth Development

The City of Green River has included Youth in government by incorporating a youth representative on several of their City committees. They have a youth representative on their Parks and Recreation Committee for example. This person has a voting position and brings a different perspective to the committee. In addition the City has a formal Youth in Government Day. Each of the City Department Heads is assigned a student from the High School's government class. The student shadows them for an entire day, and ends the day with a City Council Meeting with the students in the decision making role.

For more information contact:  
Barry Cook  
City Administrator  
City of Green River  
50 E 2 N

Green River, Wyoming 82935  
307 872-0554

The Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce has a high school student on their board of directors. The student has full voting rights and has school support to attend both boards of director's and committee meetings.

For more information contact:

Dave Hanks  
Rock Springs Chamber of Commerce  
307 362 3771  
rschamber@sweetwaterhsa.com

a. Recreational/Community Center

The Community Facilities Grant and Loan program, a new program administered through the Wyoming Business Council, allows communities to reuse former school and government building for community centers. The rules also allow for the enhancement of existing school facilities for the same purpose.

The adjacent property at the school could be used to build a community center for the area. The program allows for grants and loans up to \$1.5 million dollars with a match. The first round of applications is due November 5, 2005.

For more information contact:

Shannon Stanfill  
Community Facilities Program  
Wyoming Business Council  
307 777 2841

- b. Civic involvement with leadership positions
- c. Recreational opportunities
- d. Reverse grandparent program

- 7. Eating establishments – no smoking and serves breakfast
- 8. Coffee shop

**Jody Walker**

Historic Trails RC&D Coordinator

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100 East B Street

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(V) Rawlins: (307)324 - 2424

(v) Casper: (307) 233 - 6765

**Introduction:** I want to begin by sharing my sincere appreciation to all the community members of the Little Snake River Valley. Everyone was incredibly kind and really helped to make our stay feel like home away from home. Combining the wonderful people with the beautiful scenery made for a delightful visit.

It is clear that while this is a great community there is ample opportunity for quality projects. With community involvement and coordination as these projects evolve they should allow the valley to remain healthy, both economically and from a natural resource perspective, in the wake of the intensive population and business growth.

**Overarching Theme: Public Health & Safety**

**Theme: Water & Sewer**

**Challenge:** The community expressed a common concern for the safety of their drinking water in the valley via wells and town water. There was an expressed concern that the placement of septic systems and the town sewer system was inconsistent with ensuring the entire community safe drinking water. Additionally we were informed that the water and sewer system is not designed to support the business and population growth at the steady rate which has been occurring in the valley.

**Solution:** The community members may want to begin to test their drinking water regularly. As the LSRV begins to consider a valley wide sewer and water system the EPA and USDA Rural Development may be a resource to support in the planning and construction. The WY Business Council's Community Development Block Grant and the Wyoming Water Development Council have funds available to assist with the municipally owned systems including water and sewer.

Additional agencies and contacts may be a resource to consider as valley begins to develop and expand this system.

**Wyoming Business Council**

Tom Johnson – Regional Director

307-635-7735

[tjohns@state.wy.us](mailto:tjohns@state.wy.us)

**Land and Water Conservation Program**

Mary Moore - Grants Specialist

Cheyenne, WY

307-777-5598

[mmoore@state.wy.us](mailto:mmoore@state.wy.us)

**Wyoming Association of Rural Water Systems**

Jane West – Program Officer

307-436-8636

**WY DEQ (EPA)**

Jack Smith – Water Quality Program Manager

Lander, WY

307-332-3144

[jsmith@state.wy.us](mailto:jsmith@state.wy.us)

**EPA Solid Waste Management Assistance**

303-312-6312

[www.epa.gov/ogd](http://www.epa.gov/ogd)

**USDA Rural Development**

Jerry Tamlin

Casper, WY

307-233-6720

[jerry.tmlin@wy.usda.gov](mailto:jerry.tmlin@wy.usda.gov)

**Theme: Drugs & Crime in the Community**

**Challenge:** There was an expressed concern from the community members that an increase in the theft, vandalism, drug and alcohol use, speeding and overall crime in the community has been steadily increasing the recent years. Exasperating this situation is the small amount of law enforcement that is stretched throughout the valley.

**Solution:** The communities in the LSRV may want to coordinate with the local law enforcement in a cooperative effort to better address crime and disorder. The Public Safety Partnership and Community Policing Grants through the department of justice has grants available to increase police presence and initiate and enhance cooperative efforts.

### **Public Safety Partnership & Community Policing Grants**

Washington, DC  
202-307-1480

### **Theme: Streets, curbs, gutters – paving and grading**

**Challenge:** The community expressed a need to improve the roads in and out of the town areas including the curbs and gutters where applicable.

**Solution:** The state has some loan and grant programs to assist with road improvements and safety. The USDA Forest Service also has a grant program to assist with public schools and public roads of the county which the national Forest is situated. The USDA Rural Development Community Facilities Program has loans and grants available which may assist in the cost for street repair and maintenance.

### **State and Community Highway Safety**

Dee West-Peterson  
Cheyenne, WY  
307-777-4257  
[Dee.west@dot.state.wy.us](mailto:Dee.west@dot.state.wy.us)

### **Schools and Roads Grants to States**

USDA Forest Service  
Golden, CO  
303-275-5350

### **USDA Rural Development**

Billie Kirkham  
Riverton, WY  
307-856-7514  
[Billie.kirkham@wy.usda.gov](mailto:Billie.kirkham@wy.usda.gov)

### **Transportation and Enhancement Activities Local (TEAL)**

Rich Douglass or Dave Young  
Cheyenne, WY  
307-777-4384

[dyoung@state.wy.us](mailto:dyoung@state.wy.us)

[rdouglas@state.wy.us](mailto:rdouglas@state.wy.us)

### **Transportation Enterprise Grant and Loan**

Brad Miskimins – Program Manager

Cheyenne, WY

307 – 777 – 7390

[bmiski@state.wy.us](mailto:bmiski@state.wy.us)

#### **Theme: Affordable housing**

**Challenge:** Due to the population growth in the LSRV it was evident that affordable housing for senior, low and middle income residents was slim to non-existent.

**Solution:** There are USDA programs available to assist individuals with purchasing homes with little or no money down. In addition to these programs the community may consider working with a community planner to generate a design and identify lands that would be ideal for development.

### **USDA Rural Development**

Billie Kirkham

Riverton, WY

307-856-7514

[Billie.kirkham@wy.usda.gov](mailto:Billie.kirkham@wy.usda.gov)

#### **Theme: Assisted living**

**Challenge:** There was a lot of interest in developing an assisted living facility for seniors in the valley so that they would have the ability to remain in the valley and not have to relocate to Craig as they age. There already are a couple of community centers in the LSRV which we had the opportunity to visit. These centers are a common ground for seniors to socialize.

**Solution:** The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has programs available for assisted living conversion for multifamily housing projects. Also, The Faith Initiatives of Wyoming has grants and programs available to improve services to the community with a focus on the elderly. This may be a place to begin researching funds and resources to help expand the current community centers and create an assisted living facility.

### **Office of Housing and Urban Development**

Office of Grant Policy and Management

Washington, DC

202-708-3000

[http://www.federalgrantswire.com/assisted\\_living\\_conversion\\_for\\_eligible\\_multifamily\\_housing\\_projects.html](http://www.federalgrantswire.com/assisted_living_conversion_for_eligible_multifamily_housing_projects.html)

### **Faith Initiatives of WY**

Kathleen Kelley

307-775-0010

[Kathleen@fiwy.org](mailto:Kathleen@fiwy.org)

### **Theme: Agriculture Co-op**

**Challenge:** Many residents involved in agriculture indicated a need to find more economical ways to purchase ranch supplies and to get a better price on their livestock sales.

**Solution:** Bulk buying and selling of various products including cattle (video auctions may want to be considered), hay, ranch supplies may be an option to consider through and Agriculture Cooperative. The community may want to consider applying for a feasibility study grant through USDA Rural Development to determine the benefits and efficiency and key strategies that would assist community members and ranches with the establishment of an Ag-Cooperative.

### **USDA Rural Development**

Billie Kirkham

Riverton, WY

307-856-7514

[Billie.kirkham@wy.usda.gov](mailto:Billie.kirkham@wy.usda.gov)

### **Theme: Beautification**

**Challenge:** The Little Snake River Valley is a beautiful area full of natural resource opportunities. However, the community has identified areas that you would like to clean up. In particular the entrances to Baggs appear un-kept and the main street has many vacant buildings. The signage in the town is limited and the side streets, being un-paved, are difficult to navigate.

**Solution:** There are several solutions which LSRV may want to consider to get accomplish this goal. For instance several communities have sponsored a “clean-up” day which utilized volunteers from within the community to coordinate and assist local residents with cleaning up their properties and helping to dispose of abandoned and or waste items. LSRV has a multitude of organizations which may be willing to participate in this event. The community may also want to work with the town’s and county to have one day a year as a where garbage facilities will provide free disposal.

### **Grants for Private Foundations**

[www.fdncenter.org](http://www.fdncenter.org)

### **State Land and Investment Board**

Brad Miskimins

Cheyenne, WY

307-777-6646

### **Little Snake River Conservation District**

Dawn Arnell – District Clerk

307-383-7860

[lsrkd@yahoo.com](mailto:lsrkd@yahoo.com)

### **Wymoing Community Foundation**

George Gualt

Laramie, WY

307-721-8300

[wcf@wywcf.org](mailto:wcf@wywcf.org)

### **Theme: Trees**

**Solution:** The valley is a nice mix of coniferous and deciduous trees. There was an interest in preserving the trees present and to potential get involved in tree planting programs to increase the number of trees in the valley.

**Solution:** There are some grants available to help with projects related to this such as:

### **Community Tree Planting and Education Grants**

Mark Hughs

State Forestry Division

Cheyenne, WY

307 – 777 – 5598

[mmoore@state.wy.us](mailto:mmoore@state.wy.us)

### **Theme: Walkways & Scenic Bike Path**

**Challenge:** The community expressed and interest in creating a walking path connecting the communities of the LSRV.

**Solution:** This is a great idea and having the beautiful scenic river flow through the valley make this a great project for many reasons. The path would be a quality of life enhancement to local residents,

areas may be able to be modified to accommodate the disabled and the pathway would be an additional attraction to tourist's visiting the area. This may be a project with the following agencies may be interested in supporting: Wyoming Game and Fish, fishing and outfitting businesses in the valley and throughout Wyoming/Colorado and programs that advocate for the disabled. The state has a recreational trail fund grant which may be an option.

### **State Trails Planner**

Tracy Williams  
Cheyenne, WY  
307-777-868  
[Twilli1@state.wy.us](mailto:Twilli1@state.wy.us)

### **Wyoming Fly Casters**

John Dolan – President  
307-265-3427  
[John\\_dolan@kne.com](mailto:John_dolan@kne.com)

### **Recreational Trails Program WYDOT**

Philip Miller  
Cheyenne, WY  
307-777-2101

### **Theme: Re-habilitation of Buildings**

**Challenge:** The community expressed interest in having old and vacated buildings be repaired or removed.

**Solution:** The County along with the fire department may be able to help with this effort. The Community Action Partnership may be able to assist with emergency home repairs for qualified residents. The USDA Rural Development through the rural housing Service offers programs via loan and grant that assist low income and low to moderate individuals with home repairs.

### **Community Action Partnership**

Casper, WY  
307-232-0124

### **USDA Rural Development**

Billie Kirkham  
Riverton, WY  
307-856-7514  
[Billie.kirkham@wy.usda.gov](mailto:Billie.kirkham@wy.usda.gov)

### **Theme: Scenic byway designation**

**Challenge:** Many members of the community recognize that the LSRV is a very unique and beautiful area. However, due to the valley being a distance from I-80 the amount of tourists visiting the valley are limited. There was an expressed interest in trying to increase the annual volume of tourists which would enhance the economy.

**Solution:** The community could work to get the Sierra Madre area identified as a Scenic byway. Scenic byway designation along with All American Road (AAA program) status may be useful with getting greater awareness of the valley to tourists. If successful designation was accomplished for the Sierra Madre Range then the gateway communities, including LSRV and Encampment/Riverside, may be available to apply for WY TEAL monies through WYDOT. The TEAL program may be able to assist the community with additional items that residents indicated were important including signage and public restrooms. Additional gateway monies may be available for projects the community has not yet considered. The community may want to check with the local Gas Company Devon as they may be interested in supporting improvements to beautifying the entrances to the community.

#### **WY Department of Transportation**

Kevin McKoy

WYDOT Scenic Byway Coordinator

307 - 777-4178

[Kevin.McCoy@dot.state.wy.us](mailto:Kevin.McCoy@dot.state.wy.us)

#### **Devon Gas Company**

Bobbie Cook (also the mayor of Dixon)

Rocky – Mgr. offered meeting room space.

### **Theme: Ordinance enforcement**

**Challenge:** There was a concern expressed that ordinances in the communities may not exist and if they do they are out of date and not enforced. In particular was the concern about ordinances with building sites and development.

**Solution:** The community may want to contact Wyoming Conference of Building Officials who can provide expertise with regard to building inspections and related code topics.

**Wyoming Conference of Buildings Officials**

Randy Adams  
Worland, WY  
307-347-2486

**Theme: Weed control**

**Challenge:** A number of community members indicated concern about noxious weed problems in the valley.

**Solution:** There are a number of weed management projects including eradication, prevention education along with grants available to help make the projects a reality.

**Little Snake River Conservation District**

Dawn Arnell – District Clerk  
307-383-7860  
[lsrkd@yahoo.com](mailto:lsrkd@yahoo.com)

**Medicine Bow Conservation District**

Todd Heward – District Manager  
307-379-2221

**Theme: Recreation / Community Center**

**Challenge:** An extremely large number of LSRV citizens indicated an interest in the need for a Community/Recreation Center.

**Solution:** There are a few members of the community who have already begun the research and development of a plan to help establish this facility. Jodie Stanley and Kathy Teako are two of the individuals we were informed of who have been involved in recent investigation and planning for the center. These individuals and the other members on their committee may want to take the lead with researching the following options. The capital facilities tax in Carbon County (6<sup>th</sup> cent) may want to be investigated to find out what project it currently supports and when it will terminate. The group leading this project may want to work with the County to get a LSRV recreation center to be considered as the next project supported by this tax. NOTE: the capital facilities tax is for Capital construction only and typically will not cover operation and maintenance. To get funded through this there needs to be a majority support established from the municipalities signing resolution supporting project and then the project would need to be on a special or regular ballot for voting in the county. To be successful would need to justify how project would enhance the whole county and create jobs. In addition to a recreation center the communities in the valley may want to explore the

opportunities to have an annual summer festival with music and activities. This is a great valley for this type of event.

**WY Business Council**

Community Facilities Program  
Shannon Stanfield – Program Manager  
307-777-2800

**Theme: Youth Civic Involvement**

**Challenge:** The community expressed an interest with helping to create leadership opportunities and positions for the youth in the valley.

**Solution:** One suggestion is to get youth involved and possibly serve as members on the numerous boards and clubs in the valley. The Wyoming Business Council LEAD Program has grants available to train youth and the department of workforce services has programs for training and new hire positions both of which the youth in the valley may qualify for. There is also the opportunity to get the youth involved in the leadership of the community through town council's etc. The Wyoming Association of Municipalities may be able to assist with this.

**WY Business Council**

**Kim Porter - Leadership & Development Program Manager**  
Cheyenne, WY  
Phone: 307.777.6319  
[kporte@state.wy.us](mailto:kporte@state.wy.us)

**WY Association of Municipalities**

George Parks - Executive Director  
Cheyenne, WY  
307-632-0398  
[gparks@wyomuni.org](mailto:gparks@wyomuni.org)

# Snake River Valley Community Assessment

## Listening Session Responses

### WHAT ARE THE MAJOR PROBLEMS AND CHALLENGES IN YOUR COMMUNITY?

- Need to build for sustainable growth, infrastructure and housing, for the boom that will last for the long term ditto
- Infrastructure outdated, limited and often lacking- specifically roads and water ditto, x x x x x x
- lack of good road and access to High Savory to capitalize the recreational opportunities ditto, x x x x x x x x x x
- Drug problem- meth ditto xx x x x x
- Lack of law enforcement in area
- Loss of ag and vocational tech classes at the school ditto x x x
- Impact of growth in schools due to gas boom, and the loss of students when it ends
- Inability to handle rapid growth, in both businesses and housing ditto x x x x
- Lack of recreation center for the valley
- Lack of assisted living facility in valley ditto
- Lack of beautification and pride in the appearance in the valley “ a lot of trash around”
- Ditto, x x x x x x x
- No major transportation route, and low population, leads to the valley being overlooked in both resources and programs from the county and the state “the forgotten part of the state”
- Lack of employment opportunities for spouses, primarily women, and students ditto
- Inability of small businesses to keep employees due to competition from industry ditto
- And the high cost of insurance for small businesses ditto x
  
- Private ambulance service out of Craig wants to take over EMT services for the valley patients ditto x x x
- Business community lacks the knowledge of available grants and lacks assistance from the Wyoming Business Council
- Lack of a water management plan for industry, agriculture and recreation will limit growth in the future—need input into the EIS with the BLM Resource Management Plan, which needs to include the use of surface discharge water from coal bed methane production ditto, x x x
- New restrictions on youth drivers licenses places a new burden families, due to the restrictions on hardship licenses
- Poorly maintained road into Craig, specifically in the winter (traffic has increased from Creston Junction to Craig significantly)

- The Valley needs a land use plan that should coordinate with Carbon County's Land Use Plan
- Hard to keep employees when competing with oil and gas industry wages ditto
- Noxious weeds (brought in on the oil and gas equipment) ditto x
- Oil fields are taking and developing all the land which restricts grazing compounded by mixed ownership (surface and minerals) ditto x
- Keeping the open space in the community, including the wildlife and history
- "Trophy ranches" are driving up the price of land and property taxes which stresses the survival of the traditional ag users and makes it cost prohibitive to new/young ag users ditto x x x
- Competition for ag grazing: wild horses are out of control and the BLM does not have the resources to manage the wild horse herds
- Additionally the big game (deer and elk) numbers are increasing
- Increasing predator problem
- Lack of housing
- Community beautification – looks like crap
- Housing availability ditto
- Drug problem and transportation of it ditto X x
- Junk cars, weeds ditto
- Providing service to vacant land
- Valley doesn't work together
- Cooperation in community
- Dixon uses Baggs police but won't share vehicles
- Assisted living
- Dixon won't pay price to use the expertise in Baggs, but still thinks they should get the help
- People complain about not getting anything from Carbon county, but look at what they do get
- Community/Rec Center for people to congregate – community planning
- In-service training every Weds.
- Need more criminal agents in Carbon County
- Don't have resources to educate people on the drug problem
- Law enforcement poorly equipped to do the jobs – ex: crime scene investigations
- Infrastructure problems – can't connect to new housing b/c water main lines need updated
- Schools need help from Rawlins school district
- Employment for women – can't wage enough to pay a sitter
- Being employers - Drug problems with staff – don't have access to check on employees
- Trying to find reliable help at local businesses
- No place to develop new businesses
- Not enough police protection for business owners
- Community doesn't feel safe after dark – Robeudous hit nightly – crime is high
- Labeled as an easy hit - can steal and do drugs
- 4 wheel drive ambulance service

- Housing available
- City Council members not willing to help create new businesses – not able to rezone areas
- Wyoming television
- Water treatment plant – system inadequate ditto x x x x
- Crime – have to put dead bolts on doors now ditto XX
- Lack of industry – hard for a young person to find a good job
- Junk cars on property – cleaning up the town - get rid of weeds ditto X X X X
- No physical addresses in the county on private roads
- Loose animals running around the town – no animal control officer
- Cross country team is trespassing on property – golf balls in yard and breaking windows
- Side roads are bad – need work – graded more – need qualified people to keep the side roads maintained ditto x x x
- 4-wheel drive ambulance
- Sewers
- Problem with drinking and drugs
- Nothing for teenagers to do Ditto x x x x x x x x
- Drugs – meth, marijuana – oil field workers bring the drugs in ditto x x x x x x x x
- Vandalism, crime ditto x x x x x x x x
- More basketball courts
- Don't get out of school until 8:00pm
- Housing – junk in the yards
- Beautification of housing
- Rawlins hand-me downs with almost everything for the school district – busses,
- Road work – pot holes
- Not enough bus drivers
- Shortage of school supplies
- Traveling to get any supplies
- More parking for students needs to be available
- Cleanliness of school is non existent
- School lunch suck
  - Meth \*\*\*\*\*
  - Lack of recreational opportunities for kids\*\*\*\*
  - Lack of housing and places to stay\*\*\*
  - Water sewer, and city infrastructure\*\*
  - Rural utility systems funding for small communities \*\*\*
  - Poor appearance of community \*\*
  - Lack of attractive housing
  - No diversified economy \*\*\*
  - Nothing for women \*\*\*

- Colorado and the Ambulance
- Not paying EMT's
- Kids jumping off of bridge
- No Pool
- Not upgraded basic infrastructure like wiring
- Not enough services for at risk youth
- Not enough facilities for large gatherings like funerals
- Increasing devaluing of education by families
- Energy economy doesn't seem to bring moola back to the smalls towns where the money is actually made
- Old text books, especially biology texts\*\*
- Old school supplies because of limited budgets and timing for orders
- Horrible locker rooms, and lack thereof
- Only have one gym which causes the kids to be running around late
- Ventilation system, climate control
- Lack of meeting room except band room
- Lack of Parental responsibility
- Drugs problem – meth
- Lack of jail
- Nothing for kids to do
- High turnover in school staff – housing & salary
- Drug (meth and marijuana) and alcohol problem and lack of local treatment and help ditto xx
- Lack of undercover law enforcement to help control drug problem ditto x
- When rehab treatment is available it is too expensive ditto
- Lack of public restrooms and tourist services ditto x x x x
- Lack of county and state representatives for the area --- under-represented ditto
- Lack of constructive things for youth to do
- Lack of support from the Department of Family Services for local youth at risk ditto x x x x x
- No local government services such as WIC, Family Aid, domestic violence, etc—have to go to Rawlins or Craig-and needy families can't afford to travel to get services ditto, x,x,x,x,x
- Lack of knowledge and training for church groups that end up providing the social services that are not available locally ditto x
- Lack of quality employment opportunities for women
- Lack of affordable daycare
- Lack of senior housing including assisted living ditto x x
- Lack of accurate information—no newspaper, no Wyoming television or radio
- Threat of losing ambulance service to Colorado and the fact that they are not paid
- Organization and Follow-through \*\*\*

- Community is too dependent on the school
- Government agencies don't come down to Baggs
- Water and Sewer Infrastructure
- Communications all come from school, which causes a lack of communication
- Lack of Wyoming news\*\*\*\*
- Proving O&M for community center
- Lack of assisted living and nursing facilities
- Lack of industry, support and training for women
- Finding resources to apply for grants
- Workforce housing
- Not enough "doers" \*\*\*
- Lack of a 4 wheel drive ambulance limits access ditto xxxxx
- No housing for seniors or assisted living ditto x x x x xx
- Drug problem (meth and alcohol) ditto xx x xx
- Young people have poor work ethic xx
- No close facilities for recreation ie swimming x x
- Lack of sufficient law enforcement-specifically drug related
- Low population limits the success of retail and availability of retail
- Limited available commercial space
- Current health clinic building and staffing insufficient to handle to growing need x
- Lack of available affordable housing
- No school nurse or public nursing staff in area
- Town has limited resources for town cleanup—curb and gutters, sidewalks, etc
- No paved streets and gutters
- Lack of ordinance enforcement to improve the look of the community
- Lack of prevention programs in the school
- Limited employment for young people outside of oil field, no opportunities to bring them back
- Lack of funds for EMT personnel
- Lack of businesses to create employment opportunities
- Lack of recreational opportunities for youth x
- Lack of 24 hour law enforcement to prevent crime (theft, speeding, drunk driving) x
- Drug problem ditto x x
- Downtown beautification- lack of trees along roadways and highways
- Lack of curb and gutter and bad drainage
- Limited and outdated water and sewer
- Limited space for growth-commercial and residential-What land is available is extremely high priced

- Limited volunteer base-lack of the majority of the community to get involved including the youth and new residents
- Limited library space for new technology-computers, software, etc
- Unpaid substitute librarian- needs to be compensated
- Declining library circulation –declining library operation hours---not open the hours the public needs it and the hours are inconsistent ditto xxx
- No 4 Wheel Drive ambulance
- Need additional medical staffing at the clinic to handle growth
- Lack of community facilities for recreation for all ages
- Lack of senior housing
- No local news, via radio, television, etc
- Lack of law enforcement in Dixon & Savery – lack of patrolling
- Speeding through the towns
- Lack of extended living in any of the towns
- No connection with youth working with seniors – lack of assistance or knowledge of assistance for seniors
- Seeing reminisce of drugs left around the town
- No confidentiality
- Lack of awareness programs for prevention in schools
- Lack of activities for young people to do outside of school events/sports
- Lack of a common center for everyone to go to
- School and community is too based on sports – no humanities
- Bigger parking lot for school – paved roads ditto
- Main highway – people speed through the streets
- Everything closes early
- Update school supplies
- Needs to be more activities after school
- More stores for general suppliesditto x x
- Don't feel safe to go out because of main highway
- Feels school board should be doing more
- Too focused on certain sports
- No culture – restaurant, art, etc.
- Girls are very clicky compared to the guys
- The kids like to pick on the new kids – try to beat you up
- Bank has odd hours
- Feel safe as far as crime is concerned – don't see many signs of drugs and alcohol
- Some newer teachers don't explain things as well as they could – obvious because of test results

## WHAT ARE THE MAJOR STRENGTHS AND ASSETS OF YOUR COMMUNITY?

- Strong community support of a good school system ditto x x x x x x
- Everyone in the valley is interrelated and inter-dependant ditto
- Good land use plan and zoning that will allow for growth ‘
- Great people and a great place to live, supportive and involved ditto x x x x
- Beautiful valley with great recreation- hunting and fishing, natural resources and natural beauty ditto x
- Outstanding higher education program ditto, x x x
- Terrific emergency response teams, ambulance, fire, etc
- With new equipment ditto
- Good value system in the valley, children and polite and considerate
- Good clinic for health care ditto
- Good facilities including the event barn, airport, library, landfill (new system operational March 2006), etc ditto xx
- Strong, growing industrial sector
- Citizens have deep roots with family history in the valley—a stable population
- Proactive leadership that is getting projects done-such as the new water plant scheduled for construction
- Good conservation district
- Dedication of oil industry to the community such as Devon
- Strong FFA and 4H clubs
- Location, off the beaten track, keeps the community small and close
- Great community parks
- Close, tight-knit, involved community
- Good school with good teachers supported by the community ditto x
- Good people --everybody knows everybody ditto x
- Strong conservation service that supports the ranching community
- Scenic and historic assets- beautiful area
- Continuity due to the generations of families in the valley ditto
- Great higher education system including distance learning
- Good services including EMTs and Fire Department ditto
- Good weather
- Abundance of unallocated water in the valley
- Community spirit within the school events – parents
- Involvement of the parents in the community
- Preschool, clinic
- EMT’s – 8 in the community

- 5 fireman
- Library – programs for children ditton 20-30 children a week in the summer
- Community policing theory
- Police presence in school systems
- Close working relationship with police and sheriff
- Desire to be unified
- Updating water system
- Supportive community with everyone
- Highway – main access in the state from Colorado north
- Ambulance service and clinic ditto x x
- If there is a problem you can go to the city council people individually and they will be addressed ditto x x
- School is very active – education center ditto x x x
- Small population – people in the town are good – people come together ditto x x x
- Wind doesn't blow ditto x x
- Grocery store
- Senior center
- Skate park
- Sports for school
- Maintain a friendly community – support for the community ditto x x x x x x x
- Smaller classes – more one on one
- Community pride – support school events
- Not as many clics
- Outdoor recreation
- Friendliness of the people\*\*\*\*
- Small town attitude/environment\*\*\*\*\*
- Scenery \*\*
- Students
- Good place to raise kids
- Safe place
- Near the mountain
- Outdoors, fishing, hunting
- Rural school
- Not a lot of people
- Low cost of living
- Natural environment
- No Tourists
- School, and people in the school\*\*
- Area – close to a lot of neat things, mountains, plains, desert

- Religious community
- Happy Camper RV park
- You can still stop in the middle of the road
- Great clinic \*\*\*\*\*
- Bank \*\*
- Tax benefits
- Ideal location, ie. Steamboat and Park City
- Beauty – Wildlife – You can feel God here.
- Higher ed Center \*\*\*\*
- Pre-School
- Library \*\*\*\*
- Senior Citizens and Senior Center
- Higher ed helps get GED
- Youth rodeo group
- Skate park
- AU basketball
- 4-h program
- Higher – ed building
- Great people ditto x x x x
- Good churches that cooperate closely together ditto x x x x
- Natural scenic beauty and rich history
- Strong humanities program
- Good school providing quality education ditto x x
- Good business support for the schools- close connection
- Great library
- Great dump
- Good facilities such as clinic, library, fire and ambulance services, etc
- County and state provide assistance as long as a local person “shepherds the project through”
- High paying wages in the oil and gas industry
- Raising kids in small community with less peer pressure \*\*\*
- Everyone is treated like family \*\*\*
- Outdoors \*\*\*
- Lifestyle \*\*
- Slower pace
- Makes your kids more loving, caring and understanding
- The Rebeccas
- Oil and gas industry
- Devon Energy’s support of the Community
- Hunting

- Strong community support for each other ditto x x xx x x xxxxx
- Good clinic and EMS system x xxxxxxxx
- Good country and great place to live ditto x xxx
- Strong volunteerism x
- Good recreational opportunities ie hunting, fishing, etc ditto x x
- Great higher ed building and program
- Good city government and county government support
- Diversity scenery from the desert to the mountains
- School and school system- the school building is host to a variety of activities
- Good senior center
- Abundance of wildlife and diversity of wildlife
- Great people ditto
- The (limited) volunteers in the community are always will to work hard to get things done x x
- Strong sense of community-band together in times of need
- Good school that is open for the community and staff that help in the community
- Arts Center/visitors center x x
- Ability and willingness to form special districts to get things done
- Great scenery and wildlife
- Good landfill
- No traffic problems
- Oil industry is contributing significantly to the employment and the community
- Senior center and clinic
- School
- Like the community and people – everyone is willing to help others out – they all pull together – working together
- Large number of law enforcement
- Good community
- Not too hard to make friends – most are welcoming
- Kids like to do the same things as others
- Feels safe in school – good school ditto
- Like the neighborhood – don't have to worry too much
- Good accessibility
- All friends live close to each other
- Skate park
- Gas prices are less expensive
- The scenery is nice and easy to go explore it – 4-wheelers, motorcycles
- Police are understanding about the young drivers
- Good principals
- Like the non wannabe gang feeling

## WHAT PROJECTS WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE ACCOMPLISHED IN YOUR COMMUNITY IN THE NEXT 2,5,10 AND 20 YEARS?

- A full time person who would write grants for community facilities and development
- coordinated with a valley wide plan
- Local game and fish region
- Local insurance coop for small businesses
- Great paved road system including roads to recreational facilities ditto x
- State water policy that allows the utilization and mitigation of Coal Bed Methane water
- Expanded community facilities including an assisted living center ditto x x x
- Multi-use recreational center (with kitchen, workout rooms, basketball, etc) ditto x x x x x x
- No drug problem ditto x x x x
- More youth involvement with employment opportunities for them so they stay ditto x
- Land still preserved for agricultural use with stable ranching operations
- More employment opportunities including small businesses
- Expanded day care
- Expanded airport facilities
- Nice enhanced entrances to communities with great signage
- All infrastructure updated and consolidated water and sewer district ditto x
- A holding cell for the jail ditto x

- Four wheel drive ambulance ditto x x x
- Expanded vocational tech program at school
- Active agricultural co-op for local small ranchers
- Expanded electrical capacity for growth (limited 3 phase power)
- Expanded park and bike trail system along the river
- Another dam in the valley – water development ditto x x x
- Retirement center/assisted living so seniors can stay in the valley
- Upgrades to the rodeo grounds with visual improvements
- No weed problems through a management plan
- Nice RV Parks
- A smoothly managed irrigation district that would keep water costs down ditto x x
- Ag co-op for the small ranchers to attract better prices
- Local events/festivals to draw tourists into the community
- Multi-use recreation center
- Best school in the state, with the highest teacher pay in the state
- Continued use of BLM land to preserve the wide open spaces
- Scenic walking and bike paths in the area with rest areas
- Community center with pool and weight room ditto
- Larger library - More computer access and public access in library
- Drug issue addressed – undercover agents into community
- Rest area built
  
- Jail cell
- Public radio/television – want to know what’s going on in Wyoming not Colorado
- Update radio system with police/sheriff department
- Put in a repeater system for department
- Allow for growth – paving of the streets
- Water plant project
- Neighborhood watch
- Rest Area between Baggs and Crescent Junction as well as between Baggs and Colorado state line
- Business expansion and financing
- Teleconferencing
- Mapping for ambulance, emt for oil companies
- Grocery store
- Home based women owned businesses
- A place for children to go to
- Make community a unified look
- Wyoming television

- Community building
- Paving the side roads
- AA center
- Water system ditto x
- Policeman to deal with traffic
- Rec/community center with pool for kids to do
- Activities for the youth and elder
- Retirement facility
- Better screening of police and business employees
- Boys and girls club
- Rest area
- Rec Center
- Bigger space for the museum
- Rec center – weight room, swimming pool, game room ditto x x x x x x x x
- Movie theatre ditto x x x x x x x x
- More school sports – baseball, football
- Extending skate park – make it for bikes, etc.
- Summer programs
- Locks for lockers
- Community/Rec. Center w/ youth and adult activities\*\*\*\*\*
- Pave Roads\*\*\*\*\*
- Water and sewer finished, and storage\*\*\*
- Don't grow that much
- Tear down ugly and town beautification
- Improve appearance of the school, i.e. lawns/sprinklers (It's a pride thing)
- Golf Course (muni)
- Enforcement of existing ordinances
- More class variety for students\*\*\*\*
- Do something (fix)with historical buildings on main street and everywhere (Bank, other false from buildings)
- Alternative activites for students.
- Expeditionary school
- Employment so that kids can come back
- Shopping (Groceries, shoes)\*\*\*\*
- Different variety of sports \*\*\*\*
- New gymnasium with locker rooms and commons area
- Updated and larger classroom facilities
- Enough people to cover educational and facility jobs in the school.
- Auditorium

- Paid emergency staff (EMT's and Firemen)
- Improvements in Rawlins or Craig Hospitals
- Redo school to fit the needs of the students
- Access to musical opportunities (fine arts program)
- Pizza Joint
- Boys and girls club – big brother big sister
- Enlarge higher-ed center
- Money for preschool to keep up and running
- Daycare component incorporated within the preschool
- Commons area for kids at school
- Periodic women's programs and activities
- Preservation and promotion of the rich history of the valley
- Still a small town with close knit people
- Beautiful, clean town
- Upgraded and expanded water and sewer systems
- Paved roads throughout the communities
- Assisted living center for seniors
- Available treatment and incarceration for drug users
- Public restrooms ditto x x
- Utilize and enhance the river for recreation and promote it
- A Staffed Visitors/History Center/Chamber of Commerce that tells the story of the valley to tourists
- Walking path/bike path along river
- More youth opportunities
- Community center featuring fine arts, performing arts, etc
- Expanded museum ground space in Savery ditto x
- Promotion of eco-tourism, cultural tourism, etc ditto
- Attractive gateways into the valley with signage
- Cottage industry with local arts and crafts-possibly a co-op
- Water district including major subdivisions and towns and communities\*\*\*
- Community Center \*\*\*
- Community Beautification \*\*\*
- Assisted Living \*\*\*
- Lower the Highway in Dixon \*\*\*
- Pave the roads
- Identify the deep pockets
- Walking and Bike Trail
- 500 Trees at the Happy Camper RV park (General tree planting)
- 4-wheel drive Ambulance

- Swimming Pool
- Day Care
- 4 wheel drive ambulance ditto xxxx
- Resolution with Colorado on EMT status and certification ditto xx
- Recreation Center xxx
- Senior living center/extended care housing xx xxx
- A pharmacy x
- Program through the school that would teach hands on maintenance for the youth to help the elderly in home repair, etc
- Better highway to accommodate the trucks
- All the empty commercial buildings filled with active business community ditto
- Expanded medical services and staff at the clinic ditto
- Clean up community
- Updated and expanded water and sewer system
- Health care information services specifically Medicare/pharmacy assistance
- EMS statewide retirement program
- More money to communities from the State to help with local issues
- New businesses in the area to make the community more self sufficient, ie hardware store, movie theater, etc
- Digital X Ray Machine
- Walking path and better access to fishing
- Community Center with recreational facilities for all ages x x
- Senior housing
- No drug problems
- Paid grant writer to find funding for projects
- All vacant buildings on main-street full with healthy businesses
- All old houses torn down or rehabbed
- Curb and gutters throughout the town with paved streets
- Upgraded water and sewer system
- Youth involved in community clean up year round
- Youth employment and recreational opportunities
- Beautiful clean community
- Rest Area
- New school with updated facilities and more rooms
- Rumble strips, digital speed signs, speed bumps or more law enforcement to slow traffic down in on main- street
- More access and facilities for water trucks to fill up safely
- Wyoming television and news
- Undercover police

- Youth activities center
- Recreation center with pool ditto x x x x x x x x x
- Paving the streets
- Assisted living/affordable housing for seniors who want to stay in the valley
- 4-wheel drive Ambulance,
- Youth volunteer/senior service program (grandparent program) ditto x x x x x xx x – help the kids get away from the drugs, or who maybe don't have the attention at home
- Good café that's not a bar, nice dinner place
- Put in stop signs, or stop lights – cross walk signal
- After school activities - Climbing gym – rec center
- Music center – places to play instruments garage band
- Coffee shop – places to eat in general
- Swimming pool
- Not too much but have permanent housing – rentals – affordable
- Make things in the local stores less expensive and a better selection
- More school sports and activities – football, wrestling, choir

## 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:

### 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 pro-active assignment, and they willingly accept it.

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

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