

The beauty of the Snowy Range in the Medicine Bow Routt National Forest, west of Laramie on WYO 130.

# WYOMING

## WYOMING ROAD REPORT

Within Wyoming: 1-888-Wyo-Road (1-307-996-7623)

Outside Wyoming: 1-307-772-0824

## INTERNET ROAD REPORT

<http://wyoroad.info>

## EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Wyoming Highway Patrol and REDDI: 1-800-442-9090

(Report Every Drunk Driver Immediately)

## TOURISM INFORMATION

"Wyoming Vacation Directory"

Tourism and Travel Division

Wyoming Business Council

I-25 & College Drive

Cheyenne, WY 82002

Call: 1-800-225-5996 or 1-307-777-7777

Internet Info: [wyomingbusinesscouncil.org](http://wyomingbusinesscouncil.org)

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Publication prepared by:  
Management Services Program of the  
Wyoming Department of Transportation

Lori Hart, Editor  
Bruce Burrows, Writer  
John Davis, Writer  
Kelly Douglas, Interchange Editor  
and the Interchange Staff  
Sharon Van Court, Design/Production  
Rick Carpenter, Master Photographer



# 2005

# DEPARTMENT of TRANSPORTATION

October 1, 2004 - September 30, 2005

# ANNUAL REPORT



**Governor  
Dave Freudenthal**

As we approach the 50th anniversary of the founding of the nation's interstate highway system, it's an ideal time to reflect upon the importance of transportation to Wyoming. Highways, airports, transit, and other transportation modes are vital to Wyoming's economy and the well being of its people. This annual report provides a snapshot of the activities of those charged with maintaining and improving much of the state's vast and diverse transportation network.

As detailed in the following pages, the employees of the Wyoming Department of Transportation (WYDOT) are responsible for a wide range of activities.

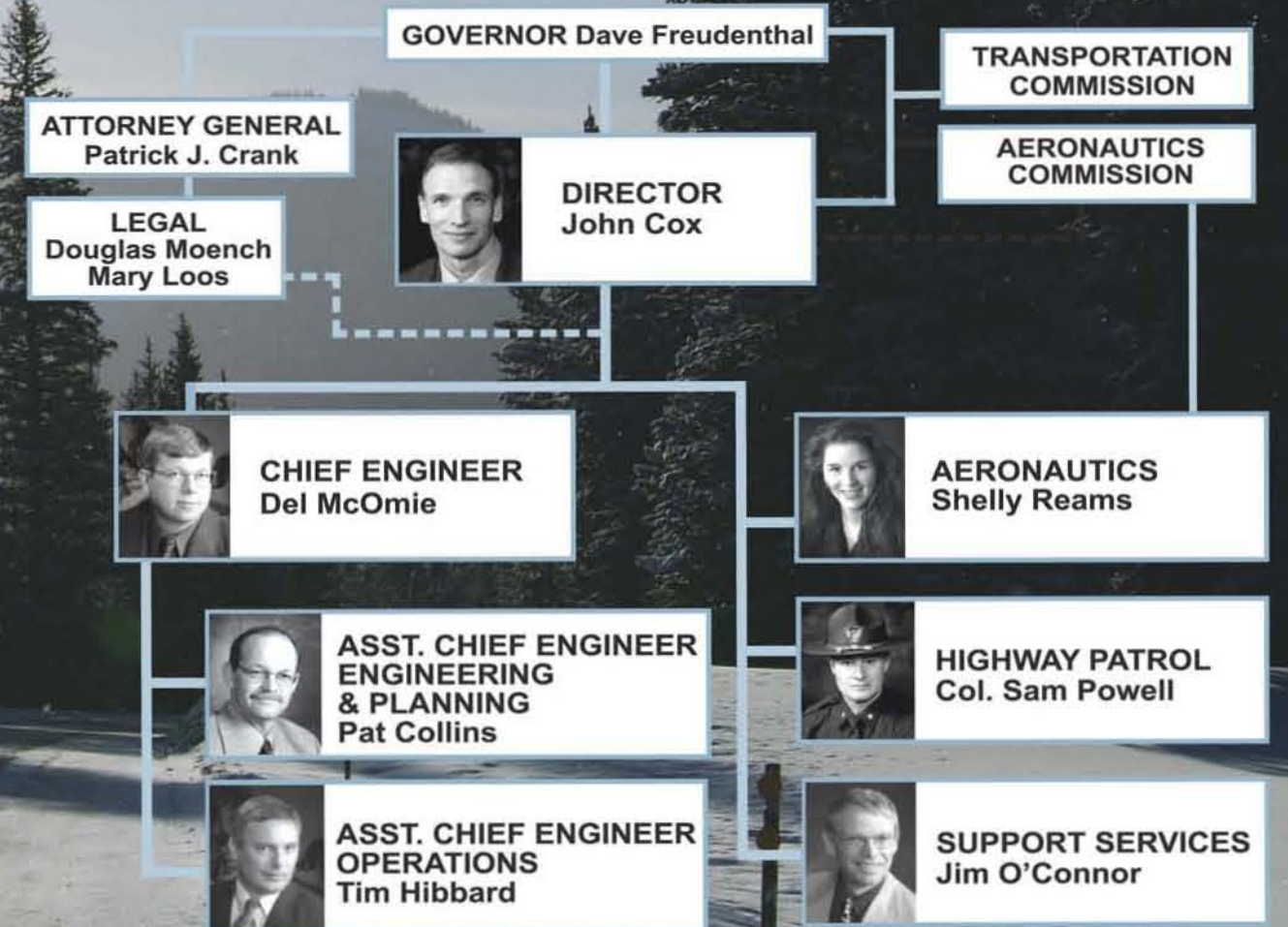
Central to these duties is taking care of the 6,700-mile state-owned highway system - including more than 900 miles of interstate. Department employees working with private sector partners plan, design, construct, and maintain highways, bridges, and roadsides; coordinate with federal and state agencies to protect the environment; manage traffic; promote safety; plow snow; build and maintain rest areas; and provide many other related services.

WYDOT employees furnish other important services as well. Wyoming Highway Patrol troopers and other personnel enforce motor vehicle laws, investigate motor vehicle crashes, issue oversize and overweight permits, and collect commercial motor carrier fees. Administrative Services employees issue and monitor driver's licenses and collect fuel taxes. Aeronautics personnel oversee Wyoming's airport improvement program for 40 public-use airports, promote air service improvement, and operate state-owned aircraft. WYDOT employees also work with local communities to provide local transportation planning, transit, bicycle and pedestrian pathways, and other services. In addition, Department personnel use a variety of outreach mechanisms to listen to Wyoming's citizens and identify their needs and preferences for transportation.

I invite you to take a few moments to consider WYDOT's challenges and the accomplishments of its employees more closely by examining the following report in more detail.

Best regards,

# WYDOT Organization Chart 2005

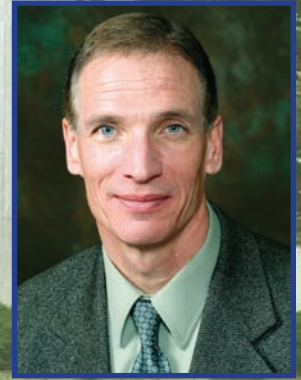


Officials of the Wyoming Department of Transportation

Winter scene on Togwotee Pass along US 26/287 between Dubois and Moran Junction.

# Director's Letter

John Cox,  
WYDOT Director



**WYDOT and its employees are committed to providing a safe, high-quality, and efficient transportation system.**

We take pride in our work, and Wyoming has consistently been ranked in the top three states in the nation for the efficiency of its highway system.

To continue to maintain that high standard and provide the safest and best roads available, we will need the support of the people of Wyoming.

WYDOT faced funding challenges in 2005 that are likely to continue for years to come.

It's easy to take a good transportation system for granted, but like everything else, highways, bridges, runways, and equipment wear out. The more they're used, the faster they wear, and use of Wyoming's transportation system is growing.

That growth, combined with skyrocketing construction costs, have left WYDOT facing a funding crisis.

The cost of construction in Wyoming has more than doubled since 1998. That means WYDOT's budget only pays for about half of the construction it used to, so the Department can no longer afford to do all the work needed to keep the state's transportation system in good shape.

The amount of state money allotted for the Department's construction budget has declined since 2002, when lower limits were placed on WYDOT funding from federal mineral royalties and severance taxes.

Federal funds now make up more than 80 percent of our construction budget, and many of those funds can only be used for specific types of improvements on specific categories of highways, such as interstates.

## Working on our Goals...

*The Governor and the Director*



*Speech at Snake River Canyon Project ribbon cutting*



*Doug McGee receives video award*



*David Stearns and Financial Services receive federal award*

The money WYDOT spends on the transportation system is an investment in the state's economy and quality of life. A strong transportation system is crucial to keeping communities connected and making it possible for people and goods to get where they need to be.

I'm proud of the success we had in maintaining a safe and efficient transportation system in 2005, despite the funding challenges we faced, and we remain committed to continuing to meet those challenges in the future.

# View OF THE Year WYDOT 2005

## DIRECTOR

John F. Cox

## AERONAUTICS

Shelly Reams

## CHIEF ENGINEER

Del McOmie

## ASST. CHIEF ENGINEER

## ENGINEERING & PLANNING

Pat Collins

## ASST. CHIEF ENGINEER

## OPERATIONS

Tim Hibbard

## HIGHWAY PATROL

Col. Sam Powell

## SUPPORT SERVICES

Jim O'Connor

## DISTRICT ENGINEERS

District 1: Jay Gould, Laramie

District 2: Jack Bell, Casper

District 3: John Eddins, Rock Springs

District 4: Mark Gillett, Sheridan

District 5: Shelby Carlson, Basin



## DIRECTOR John Cox



The Wyoming Department of Transportation's (WYDOT) director oversees the Department's six divisions: Aeronautics; Chief Engineer; Assistant Chief Engineer, Engineering & Planning; Assistant Chief Engineer, Operations; Highway Patrol; and Support Services. The following four programs answer directly to the director and are respectively charged with departmental budgeting, auditing, public information dissemination, and strategic planning processes.

During the 2005 fiscal year, the **Budget Program** allocated the Department's resources, analyzed the fiscal impact of proposed legislation, provided the Federal Highway Administration with financial data used to determine funding levels, provided financial data requested by the Legal Services and Administration & Information offices, estimated and managed all revenue and expenditure streams to ensure adequate cash flows, reviewed and verified the distribution of motor fuel and coal severance revenues to counties and cities, and maintained the status of state and federal funds available to the Department.

The **Internal Review Services (IR) Program's** major activities in FY 2005 involved assisting Engineering

Services with 65 consultant-related activities, including overhead audits, proposal reviews, and post audits; conducting 22 subrecipient report reviews, onsite visits, or program reviews to ensure agencies who receive pass through funding from WYDOT are using federal funds appropriately; and completing the compliance section of the OMB circular A-133 audit requirements so that WYDOT continues to receive its federal funding. Also, IR assisted five programs in developing performance measurements and assisted in three quality initiatives with the former Quality/Customer Service Program. IR conducted 22 cash drawer audits in 2005 to assist in preventing and detecting fraud within the Department.

In FY 2005, the **Public Affairs Office (PAO)** worked with District 5 to hold a memorial service for engineer John Boltz, whose name was unveiled on the WYDOT Employee Memorial in Cheyenne. PAO assisted the districts in staging celebrations for the completion of the Riverton Main Street project, the Storey-Converse Connection in Cheyenne, the rebuilt section of WYO 131 in Sinks Canyon, and the eight-year reconstruction of US 26-89 through Snake River Canyon. PAO also continued producing the weekly WYDOT Reports for broadcast during the newscasts of four television stations around the state to get the word out about the Department's services and accomplishments and to remind the public of important safety messages.

The **Quality/Customer Service (Q/CS) Program** became the **Strategic Performance Improvement**



# View 2005 of the Year WYDOT

**Program (SPI)** in FY 2005. The major shift from Q/CS to the new SPI Program included moving the development of performance measures from the Internal Review Program to the SPI Program. This move better aligns strategic planning, performance measures, and continuous improvement and provides better accountability for the results of such functions. The purpose of the SPI Program is to facilitate the process of strategic planning within WYDOT while emphasizing results, continuous improvement, and customer satisfaction. The Program still administrates the Director's Extra Mile Award and assists program managers and district engineers in applying for AASHTO recognition awards.



## AERONAUTICS

**Shelly Reams,  
Administrator**

The **Aeronautics Division** administrates federal and state grants to Wyoming publicly-owned public use airports. Division staff are closely involved with the projects funded through the grant system to ensure proper expenditure of public funds. The staff also assists airports to improve the aviation system as a whole. Additionally, the Division operates and maintains WYDOT's three state-owned aircraft.

In 2005, the **Airports Programs** administered 67 grants to 25 different airports. Of these, \$4,041,217 in state funds were granted, including matches for \$26,146,822 in federal funds and \$1,645,193 in local funds.

Projects totaling \$15,961,681, from all funding sources, were completed this year. This year's major projects included completion of a new runway at Evanston-Uinta County Burns Field, a parallel taxiway for the crosswind runway at Laramie, the taxiway relocation for the Rawlins-Carbon County Airport, taxiway reconstruction at Sheridan County Airport, a runway shift at Worland Municipal Airport, and the runway relocation at the Cheyenne Airport and construction of parallel taxiway at Shively Field in Saratoga. The Evanston and Cheyenne jobs were two of the largest funded projects ever expended through Aeronautics, averaging \$25 million per airport.

The Division let to contract its first ever statewide group maintenance project in FY 2005. The project involved crack sealing at 13 airports throughout the

state. The Aeronautics Commission has authorized \$1 million annually to fund this maintenance program, which ties directly into the pavement management program developed last fiscal year.

The Aeronautics Commission's new Wind Sock Replacement Program was created to enhance safety by ensuring wind socks at airports are kept in good condition for clear visibility by pilots. During the fiscal year, the Division purchased and distributed wind socks to all 40 public use airports in the state.

The **Flight Operations Program** operates two Cessna Citation Encores to transport state personnel on state business and one Cessna Caravan for photogrammetry purposes. The two Encores flew 930 hours in FY 2005 and the Caravan totaled 69 hours after it began operations in June 2005.

This year, the Wyoming State Legislature appointed the Aeronautics Division and Aeronautics Commission sole responsibility of the Air Service Enhancement Program, which is responsible for implementing enhanced levels of air service at Wyoming's ten commercial airports. This program received an additional \$3 million this year in grant assistance to the communities. Airline revenue guarantees have been awarded at various levels—from introducing new carriers into a community to upgrading equipment and increasing flight frequencies at the airports. Communities that have participated in the program are Casper, Cody, Gillette, Jackson, Riverton, and Rock Springs, many of which are extending their contract terms into next year or have retained the service without the request for a revenue guarantee.

In August, the Aeronautics Division was awarded an \$800,000 grant under the Small Community Air Service Program from the U.S. Department of Transportation. The Division's **Aviation Business & Marketing Program** is working together with the Aeronautics Commission and all of Wyoming's ten commercially served airports to initiate a statewide air service marketing campaign.

This year, the Wyoming Aeronautics Commission also approved a new Air Show and Fly-In program created to assist each airport in the state with a \$5,000 annual grant to go toward an air show or fly-in for its community. Six communities participated in the program in 2005 and several more are scheduled for 2006. →

# View 2005 of the Year WYDOT



## CHIEF ENGINEER

Del McOmie,  
Chief Engineer

The **Chief Engineer Division** is comprised of WYDOT's five districts, Construction and Maintenance programs, and Assistant Chief Engineer, Engineering & Planning and Assistant Chief Engineer, Operations divisions. The district offices have staff across the state and provide highway construction, maintenance, and traffic operations. The Construction and Maintenance programs provide staff support for the district offices and ensure that all construction and maintenance projects are carried out according to specifications and that the highway system is kept in good traveling condition.

During FY 2005, **District 1** projects included completing 1.7 miles of roadway reconstruction and bridge replacement on US 287/South 3rd Street in Laramie, restoring surfacing and widening 6.1 miles of I-80 between Laramie and Cheyenne, and completing a project to increase skid resistance on 7.9 miles of I-80 west of Cheyenne in Telephone Canyon. Maintenance projects included placing 18,845 tons of commercial asphalt and 10,320 tons of asphalt from the district hot plant.

Rehabilitation activities within **District 2** included a widening and pavement overlay project on WYO 220 between Casper and Muddy Gap. Reconstruction activities included the completion of a project on I-25 between Casper and Kaycee, and another major project was started on I-25 between Douglas and Glenrock. A concrete pavement project was essentially completed this year in Casper along Wyoming Boulevard. The new Dwyer Junction Rest Area along I-25 was also completed.

After eight construction seasons and \$79.5 million, the 23-mile Snake River Canyon construction project in **District 3** was completed in FY 2005. The initial planning of the project began in the early 1990s and construction began in 1997. On Sept. 9, 2005, a ribbon cutting ceremony was held to formally open the scenic highway and to recognize the work completed in spite



*Del McOmie assists in ribbon cutting ceremony for Sinks Canyon project near Lander.*

of difficulties, such as the 1998 Blue Trail Slide and the challenges involved in preserving the ecosystem and enhancing the environment.

The major project finished in **District 4** this year was on I-90 north of Sheridan and included a new port of entry, which will be shared with Montana. This is only the second port to be shared with another state. The port's new weigh-in-motion system will allow some trucks to weigh on the go so that they won't need to leave the highway and stop at the port of entry. This year District 4 also completed the last phase of Americans with Disabilities Act upgrades for its rest areas located at Sundance, Moorcroft, Mule Creek Junction, Upton, Powder River, and Sheridan.

During FY 2005, 18 construction projects totaling \$32.1 million were awarded in **District 5** and another \$40.4 million in projects were already under construction at the beginning of the year. The largest project let was the Greybull South Section on US 16/20. The new Thermopolis shop and office complex was let in April 2005. The shop will house maintenance and mechanics crews, Patrol, Driver Services, and a future engineering crew. It is scheduled for completion in the summer of 2006.

In FY 2005, the **Construction Program** developed a new specification to help reduce the negative impacts of price escalation on several supplied materials. Also, the first A+B contract was let with A being the unit prices and B being the number of days the contractor needs to build the project. This allows contractors to take advantage of their efficiencies in the bidding process, which in return reduces the time travelers are exposed to a construction zone.

During the year, WYDOT's **Maintenance Program** continued a coordinated effort with the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality to comply with ongoing changes in environmental regulations that impact WYDOT operations. In addition, the initial statewide deployment of a Performance Measurement System/Quality Assurance process began to better measure WYDOT's roadway maintenance activities and roadway and roadside asset conditions. ➡

# View 2005 of the WYDOT Year



## ENGINEERING & PLANNING

Pat Collins,  
Asst. Chief Engineer

The **Assistant Chief Engineer, Engineer & Planning Division** administrates, coordinates, plans, and supervises all preconstruction functions and activities necessary for preparing highway construction project and bridge plans and meeting program schedules.

During FY 2005, the **Bridge Program** let to contract work totaling \$17.3 million for on-system highway structures and \$6.2 million for off-system structures; completed plans for \$14.6 million worth of structure work for future projects; inspected 537 off-system bridges and administered the inspection of 672 on-system bridges; and monitored two state-sponsored research activities—one involved fatigue testing of traffic signal poles and the other was a hydraulic study of bridge abutment contraction and lateral spill slope scour.

The **Contracts & Estimates (C&E) Program** coordinated contract lettings in FY 2005 for over \$213 million on 94 projects, including work on two rest areas. C&E also began working with WYDOT's Aeronautics Division to increase contractor participation in the bidding process for airport work. The first airport contract was let electronically through C&E in December 2004.

The **Geology Program** provided engineering geology and geotechnical services to WYDOT programs and other governmental agencies during the year. Program staff also spent much of their time drilling on Togwotee Pass for the reconstruction work scheduled over the next seven years. On the Rosie's Ridge section, staff extensively drilled and sampled a potential alternative alignment.

In FY 2005 the **Highway Development Program** completed 94 projects with combined construction costs of \$213 million, of which 14 projects totaling \$59.2 million were designed by consultants; completed the design of Brooks Lake and Buffalo Fork roadway sections of the environmentally sensitive corridor from Moran Junction to Dubois; issued 84 new consultant contracts for a total of \$9.6 million; worked on 115 surveys submitted by various sources; began using the new photogrammetry aircraft; flew 43 missions for 127 hours; and completed 160 mapping updates, 22 orthophoto projects, and 37 mapping projects.

The **Materials Program** developed specifications and procedures for materials and techniques that were

*The Chief Engineer for Engineering and Planning administrates and supervises preconstruction functions and activities for highway projects and bridge plans. One such concept, involving many WYDOT programs, is developing a visualization with "before" and "after" concepts as shown in these two photographs.*

Before



After



used on the following projects: pavement was ground up with a specialty reclaiming machine and was used as the base course before paving; pavement leveling varying in thickness across the road was used to increase the super elevation in curves; new generation paving fabrics were placed before the pavement overlay to repair badly cracked and deteriorated pavement; and projects were constructed with selective milling, where only the pavement needing replacement was removed.

During FY 2005, the **Planning Program** continued the TransPlan process, which involves the public in transportation planning and improvement programming; implemented the State Bicycle/Pedestrian Plan; improved tribal relations through the Tribal Training Program; let nine rail crossing improvement projects; began work on eight new research projects; continued environmental monitoring on the completed Snake River Canyon corridor to ensure the mitigation was successful; and prepared 75 requested cooperative agreements, resulting in 54 executed agreements totaling \$16,627,575.

The **Right-of-Way (ROW) Program** worked with 287 landowners in FY 2005. The Program also worked to acquire employee housing in Dubois and new shop sites in Meeteetse, Sheridan, and Worland. ROW also helped various counties, cities, and airports acquire property needed for road and airport expansions. Additionally, Program staff worked with Cheyenne and Sheridan city officials to obtain city ownership of various land parcels for street improvements. →

# View 2005 of the Year WYDOT



**HIGHWAY  
PATROL**  
Col. Sam Powell,  
Patrol Administrator

The Wyoming Highway Patrol enforces the state's motor vehicle traffic laws, responds to and investigates crashes, protects roadway infrastructure through size and weight enforcement, conducts commercial vehicle and driver safety inspections, provides limited law enforcement services in and around state properties in the Capitol complex area in Cheyenne, and provides all other training and communication services needed to carry out its duties.

## FIELD OPERATIONS

During 2005, WHP troopers spent 128,772 hours patrolling the highways; drove 5,911,736 miles; wrote 84,714 citations; made 81,064 warning contacts; issued 31,240 warnings for faulty equipment; recorded 8,641 assists to disabled motorists; investigated 6,642 motor vehicle crashes; spent 9,323 hours conducting on-scene crash investigations; and spent 5,221 hours on follow-up investigations and report writing. Troopers also initiated 85 felony drug interdiction stops, 34 of which involved WHP drug detection dogs. Troopers seized more than 4,054 pounds of illegal narcotics plus 4,000 MDMA (Ecstasy) tablets, for a combined estimated street value of \$14,959,967, and recovered \$202,536 in US currency.

WHP's **Capitol Protective Services (CPS)** Division and local Cheyenne division troops began sharing all assigned duties and tasks. They provide protective services for the governor during both in- and out-of-state travel.

## EQUIPMENT, EVIDENCE, and DISPATCH

WHP's **Inventory and Equipment Section** identified and procured the equipment, vehicles, and supplies needed to meet the needs of field and Port of Entry officers.

The **Evidence and Recovered Property Section** kept track of the 1,683 items troopers collected as

*A group of recruits for the Wyoming Highway Patrol.*



evidence of a felony or misdemeanor crime or as property taken for safekeeping or found.

In FY 2005, the **Dispatch Center** logged 254,643 events of which 240,486 were related to Patrol activities and 14,157 were related to State Agency Law Enforcement Communications System (SALECS) agencies.

## SAFETY, TRAINING, and RECORDS

The Patrol Safety Education program, run by the **Safety Section**, provided 12,500 people with 400 hours of activities in the "No Excuses - Buckle Up," Child Passenger Seat, Seatbelt Survivor, and Li'l Convincer programs.

Patrol's **Training Section** held two recruit academies in FY 2005 with eight officers in the spring class and nine more officers in the fall. These officers received more than 1,160 hours of training during their 22-week program. Other troopers received 15,960 hours of specialized training in areas from criminal interdiction to firearms.

**Records Section** personnel entered each citation, warning, commercial vehicle inspection, and vehicle searched, as well as the daily activity logs for every Patrol officer.

## COMMERCIAL CARRIER

**Motor Carrier** officers conducted 4,363 inspections with 28 percent of commercial vehicles and 12 percent of drivers placed out-of-service for a total of 13,002 violations.

The **Ports of Entry** weighed 700,836 commercial vehicles, of which 25,367 were overweight. Mobile Enforcement and Education Teams (MEET) weighed 1,728 commercial vehicles and found 214 trucks overweight. Port staff conducted 2,073 vehicle/driver safety inspections and an additional 6,224 driver-only inspections. The MEET teams conducted 288 vehicle/driver safety inspections and 284 driver-only safety inspections.

The **Overweight Loads Office** monitors the movement, regulation, and permitting of extremely large and heavy loads within and across Wyoming. The office received and processed 36,932 self-issuing permits and issued 242 other permits for a total of \$1,705,569 in FY 2005. ➡



# View 2005 of the WYDOT Year



## OPERATIONS

**Tim Hibbard,**  
Asst. Chief Engineer

The **Assistant Chief Engineer, Operations Division** is made up of ten programs that involve all aspects of WYDOT's day-to-day operation.

In FY 2005, the **Equipment Program** purchased 370 pieces of equipment at a cost of \$7,758,000, which included three tandem-axle plow trucks equipped with electronic joystick controls and two new truck-mounted rotary snow blowers that assisted in the opening of WYO 130 over the Snowy Range. These single-engine blowers can clear 3,000 tons of snow per hour.

The **Facility Maintenance Program's** major projects for FY 2005 included truck hoist replacement; fuel island installation; elevator refurbishment; roof replacement on three buildings; heat, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) system replacement on one building; and HVAC system replacement and natural gas line installation in another.

The **Financial Services Program** continued to take a leading role in the Enterprise Resource Planning project, WY@ERP. The project selected a commercial off-the-shelf software solution to replace outdated systems. The new system will enable WYDOT to provide better customer service, increase responsiveness to changing business requirements and priorities, and increase overall efficiency in business processes.

During FY 2005, the **Geographic Information Systems/Intelligent Transportation Systems (GIS/ITS) Program** deployed a construction information system, began work on a data viewer that will graphically display information contained within numerous databases across the Department, and worked on the research and development, design, construction, and testing of a number of intelligent transportation systems.

The **Highway Safety Program** personnel supplied crash information to city, state, and federal officials; law enforcement; and safety advocates to assist in their specific safety goals. The Program also disseminated and monitored federal highway safety funds.

During FY 2005, the **Information Technology (IT) Program** continued to update computer systems, server hardware, connectivity equipment, and software and improved the processing power and storage capabilities for many critical systems. IT staff also provided critical



*Special lighting and cameras work together along I-80 to present an accurate view of road conditions for web viewers—day or night!*

help in the planning for and implementation of WYDOT's Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) project.

In FY 2005 the **Management Services Program** continued its federal reauthorization efforts by working with the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) and other partners on passage of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), resulting in highway program earmarks of \$93.82 million and \$3 million for transit projects.

The **Purchasing Program** solicited 636 competitive bids for the purchase of equipment, materials, supplies, and services; issued 2,955 purchase orders for a total of \$37.9 million; and issued 203 blanket purchase orders for a total of \$13.9 million. Purchasing's total dollar volume for FY 2005 was \$61.5 million, of which about \$38.3 million was spent within Wyoming.

The **Telecommunications Program** maintained WYDOT's telecommunications systems and continued its support of telephone systems, the WYDOT Road Report voice response system, Road Weather Information Systems and web cameras, over 2,000 mobile and portable radios, the Patrol's Communications Center, and the five district communications centers.

During FY 2005, the **Traffic Program** partnered with the Construction Program to certify and train contractors' traffic control personnel to promote safe work zones. Work zone certified supervisors are now required on most WYDOT projects. As part of a federal high priority funding project, Traffic completed a corridor study to determine lane improvement needs on US 85 to the South Dakota state line.

**View of the Year** (Continued on Page 10)

**Troopers Recognized for DUI Arrests**

At the Governor's Awards Banquet in Casper in May, 25 Wyoming Highway Patrol troopers received the Governor's Award for DUI Enforcement for demonstrating excellence in implementing innovative techniques for detecting and deterring people who are driving under the influence (DUI). The Gold Award winners were Jeremy Mrsny, James Hess, David Wagener, and Duane Ellis for 25 or more DUI arrests in 2004, and Silver Awards were presented to the following troopers for 15 to 25 DUI arrests in 2004: David Keane, William Kirkman, Devan Henderson, Adam Longo, Shane Swilling, Joshua Walther, Benjamin Peech, John O'Connor, David Chatfield, Steven Sanders, Matthew Arnell, Michael Ritter, Adolfo Gutierrez, Brian King, Thomas Adams, Timothy Boumeester, Shane Fox, Howard Scott Minyard, John Broad, Justin Minard, and Larry Rossler.



**Wildlife Crossing Study Found "Exemplary" by FHWA**

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has designated WYDOT's wildlife crossing study for US 26/287 from Dubois and Moran Junction as an "exemplary ecosystem initiative" for 2005. The multi-year study covers both pre- and post-construction movements of wildlife in the area to identify crossing locations for mule deer, elk, and moose, as well as their predators—grizzly bears, Canada lynx, and gray wolves—and to find ways to incorporate wildlife crossings into the highway design plans. Once the project is complete, researchers can determine how the crossing structures worked and if the roadway improvements affected wildlife movement in the area.

This project was one of only eight exemplary ecosystem initiative projects across the country chosen by the FHWA in 2005. According to FHWA's web site, the projects are

chosen for "reducing habitat fragmentation and barriers to animal movement, encouraging the development of more sustainable mitigation site, stimulating early ecosystem planning, and fostering ecosystem-based research."

**Geology's Hager Honored at Annual Conference**

Geology Program Manager Mike Hager was honored with the Medallion Award by the Highway Geologic Symposium at its annual meeting. The symposium was "established to foster a better understanding and closer cooperation between geologists and civil engineers in the highway industry," according to the group's web site. Award winners are chosen based on a point system in which they earn points for chairing and serving on committees, presenting papers at meetings, and attending meetings. Hager has been involved with the symposium for 24 years and is currently serving as the chairperson on its steering committee.

**Public Affairs Wins Video, Advertising, and Publication Awards**

The Public Affairs Office's (PAO) Doug McGee received two awards from The Videographer Awards, an international awards program run by communications professionals who wish to reward their peers for outstanding work in the videography field. McGee received a Videographer of Distinction Award for a WYDOT Report on the dangers of mini motorcycles and the Videographer Award of Excellence for the Nice Try Kid public service announcement, as part of the No Excuses, Buckle Up campaign.

Also during FY 2005, PAO's J. O'Brien placed third in the Wyoming Press Association's (WPA) print advertising campaign category for his ads regarding myths about drinking and driving. PAO's *Interchange*, the Department's employee publication, received third in WPA's associate members' publication competition.

**Five WYDOT Projects Receive WES Awards**

At the Wyoming Engineering Society's President's Project of the Year awards, the following WYDOT projects received honorable mention awards: the Bridge Program's Bridge Pier Design and Analysis Software (BRASS-PIER™), the US Highway 16/Bufalo West reconstruction project, the Riverton Main Street project, and the Wolf Creek project portion of the Snake River Canyon project, and the Intelligent Transportation System Project along I-80 from Laramie to Cheyenne. The annual awards competition recognizes excellence in engineering and surveying projects utilized by and benefitting Wyoming citizens.

**Financial Services Receives Award — Nine Years and Counting**

For the ninth year in a row, WYDOT's Financial Services Program's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report was awarded the Certificate of Achievement of Excellence in Financial Reporting, the highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting. The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada presents the award for adherence to high reporting standards.

**WYDOT Lauded as Quality Service Organization**

The Western Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials recognized WYDOT as a "quality service organization" for consistently providing high customer satisfaction, as documented by customer surveys conducted by the University of Wyoming. In addition, the Department continues to focus on promoting quality management principles, developing leadership, and instituting performance measurements.

Information gathered from recent moose collaring events will help WYDOT better understand moose migration patterns as work begins between Dubois and Moran Junction in 2006.



The moose is darted from the helicopter. The animal, lightly sedated, has its face covered to keep it calm. The tracking collar is then attached, and, after a couple minutes, the moose walks away unharmed.



# View 2005 of the Year WYDOT



## SUPPORT SERVICES

Jim O'Connor,  
Program Manager

The **Support Services Division** provides assistance to the public through driver licensing, license plate production, commercial vehicle registration and titling, fuel tax collection regulation and administration, and complaint investigation of businesses WYDOT regulates. The Division also works for Department employees by handling personnel matters and providing office services, employee safety oversight, and educational resources.

In addition to its duties of ensuring regulations are followed regarding fuel tax issues, vehicle rental agencies, taxis, and salvage yards, the **Compliance & Investigation Program** was involved in two major investigations in FY 2005—odometer fraud by an auto dealership and a stolen vehicle ring involving 24 law enforcement agencies in five states.

In March 2005, the **Driver Services Program** began issuing driver licenses and identification cards with a new look and advanced security features, making Wyoming the first state to comply with the new format and security standards set by the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators. Also, Driver Services began processing court convictions through an automated court reporting system designed to post convictions for driving offenses automatically to the offender's driving record.

The **Employee Safety Program** focused on promoting safe work habits by WYDOT employees and ensuring employee compliance with state and federal regulations and standards. The Program, in conjunction with the Department's districts, also monitored hazardous waste programs to help preserve the environment.

The **Fuel Tax Administration (FTA) Program** administers Wyoming's motor fuel tax laws. During FY 2005, FTA processed gasoline, diesel, and aviation taxes for distribution. Additionally, the Program began



*Huston Twitchell and Ray Neal of Office Services working on part of the nine million documents they reproduce for WYDOT each year.*

to receive voluntary electronic monthly tax return data during the year.

The **Human Resources (HR) Program** continued working to recruit, retain, place, and classify more than 1,900 positions; to manage all active and inactive employee records, employee benefits, compensation, and employee relations; to coordinate WYDOT's Equal Employment Opportunity and WYDOT Title VI functions; and to manage the Family and Medical Leave Act program.

In FY 2005, the **Motor Vehicle Services (MVS) Program**, along with Magic City personnel and clients, produced 204,694 license plates and more than two million license plate tabs. The Program also collected over \$17.9 million in state registration fees, collected \$39.9 million in International Registration Plan (IRP) registration fees, and distributed \$5.8 million to 58 IRP jurisdictions and \$2.1 million to the counties. More than \$31 million collected stayed within WYDOT. In addition, staff collected \$681,903 in fuel tax and decal revenues from Wyoming-based carriers and received \$1.3 million from other jurisdictions under the International Fuel Tax Agreement (IFTA).

**Office Services Program** staff produced in excess of nine million copies on various printing and copying equipment, scanned over 900,000 WYDOT documents onto microfilm, responded to 3,575 requests for archived records, reproduced over 6,000 prints from microfilm, processed nearly one million pieces of incoming and outgoing mail through the U.S. Postal Service, and circulated over two million other items to WYDOT offices and other locations.

During the past year, 779 agency employees took part in **Training Program** classes scheduled by either WYDOT University or the Transportation Learning Network (TLN) videoconferencing partnership. Between the in-house classes and TLN courses, WYDOT U sponsored 55 employee development and supervisory skills courses throughout the year.



# Transportation & Aeronautics Commissioners

Wyoming's governor selects both the Transportation and Aeronautics commissioners. Transportation Commission appointments rotate among the counties in each district, and commissioners serve six-year terms. Aeronautics commissioners have no geographic rotation requirements and are limited to two six-year terms.



Back Row: l. to r., Susan Dziardziel, Rip Hawkins, Emerson Scott III, and Greg Gillen. Front Row: l. to r., Jim Carroll, Tim Joannides, and Charlie Monk.



Back Row: l. to r., Jeff Rose, Carroll Orrison, Jennifer Knight, Charlie Ksir, and Vince Tomassi. Front Row: l. to r., Bill Sniffin and Jerry DeLano.

## TRANSPORTATION COMMISSIONERS

- DISTRICT 1**  
Chairman  
Tim Joannides  
Cheyenne, WY
- DISTRICT 2**  
Greg Gillen  
Green River, WY
- DISTRICT 3**  
Vice Chairman  
Jim Carroll  
Kemmerer, WY
- DISTRICT 4**  
Emerson Scott III  
Dayton, WY
- DISTRICT 5**  
Charlie Monk  
Lovell, WY

- DISTRICT 6**  
Rip Hawkins  
Devils Tower, WY
- DISTRICT 7**  
Susan Dziardziel  
Douglas, WY



## AERONAUTICS COMMISSIONERS

- DISTRICT 1**  
Charlie Ksir  
Laramie, WY
- DISTRICT 2**  
Vince Tomassi  
Kemmerer, WY
- DISTRICT 3**  
Carroll Orrison  
Casper, WY
- DISTRICT 4**  
Jerry DeLano  
Cody, WY
- DISTRICT 5**  
Jennifer Knight  
Sheridan, WY

- DISTRICT-AT-LARGE**  
Jeff Rose  
Lingle, WY
- DISTRICT-AT-LARGE**  
Bill Sniffin  
Lander, WY



# Serving the People of WYOMING



By Bruce Burrows

## “Taking Transportation to the Next Level...”

From engineers who design and supervise road construction, to snowplow drivers who keep those roads safe, to troopers who serve and protect highway users, to planners who help communities obtain funding for airport improvements, WYDOT is committed to building a better transportation system for the traveling public.

It's a fact that the lion's share of WYDOT's budget and efforts go toward planning, building, and maintaining the 6,800 miles of highway that connect Wyoming's communities and surrounding states. But as a full-service transportation provider, the agency has numerous other responsibilities. In addition to coordinating improvements at 40 airports around the state, agency personnel collect fuel taxes and user fees that are used to fund transportation projects; oversee production of license plates for distribution to the county governments; test drivers and issue drivers licenses; enforce traffic laws; and regulate commercial vehicle operations.

During 2005, WYDOT awarded 94 contracts for work on more than \$213 million in highway projects around the state, some of which will not be complete until 2006.

The effort to improve and maintain the many miles of roadway in Wyoming has been and continues to be a success story for WYDOT and the citizens it serves. In 2005, the Cowboy State once again received high marks for the cost-effectiveness of its state highway system. Based on a survey conducted by nationally known transportation researcher David Hartgen of the University of North Carolina-Charlotte, Wyoming ranked second among the 50 states for the comparative performance of transportation systems and their impacts on mobility and economic growth. This was

accomplished despite continued funding uncertainties, coupled with steadily increasing traffic.

The money spent on projects not only serves to provide a safer and more efficient transportation system, but it also has a beneficial economic effect for the citizens of Wyoming. Studies show that for every \$10 million invested in the transportation system, hundreds of jobs are created. This job growth includes:

- Direct employment—workers who are employed at the actual work zones, including supervisors, technicians, equipment operators, and laborers;
- Indirect employment—workers in industries and businesses that supply construction-related materials, which include mining, manufacturing, and refining; and
- Induced employment—jobs within the general economy that are supported by the wages spent by highway workers and those employed in supporting businesses.

After construction is finished, Wyoming's highways continue to serve a critical role in the state's economy. Virtually all goods and commodities are delivered via truck, and most people drive or ride at least some distance going to and from work, school, and recreation. In fact, Wyoming residents, on average, travel more than 18,000 miles per person annually, more than residents in any other state.

And now, Wyoming is beginning another highway system, in the form of WYDOT's Multilane Initiative. More than 500 miles of the busiest two-lane routes in the state have been identified as needing extra lanes, and in the fall of 2005, the first Multilane Initiative project—adding passing lanes to WYO 59 south of Gillette—began thanks to funding provided earlier in the year by the Wyoming State Legislature. So as WYDOT begins a new year, it will look back at past accomplishments, and at the same time, it looks forward to taking transportation to the next level as the Multilane Initiative continues to take shape.



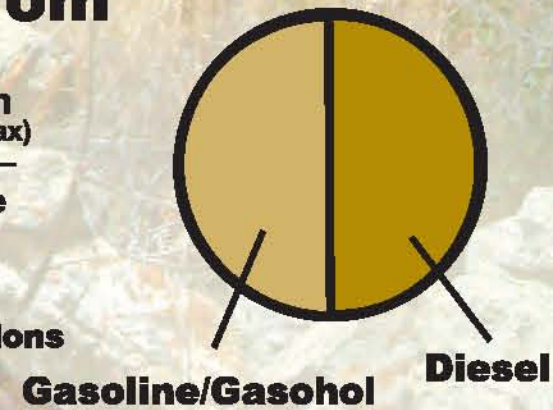
# F-Budget

# WYDOT

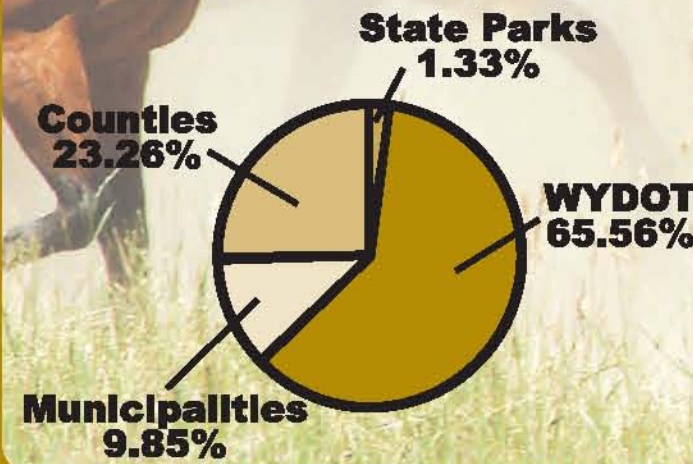
## TAX RECEIPTS from MOTOR FUEL

Total Distributions: \$97 Million  
(2006 Projection based on .14 motor fuel tax)

- Vehicle Miles Traveled on State Highways: 62 Billion Miles
- Fuel Consumption on Wyoming Highways: 730.5 Million Gallons



## WYOMING PROJECTED MOTOR FUEL ALLOCATIONS for 2006



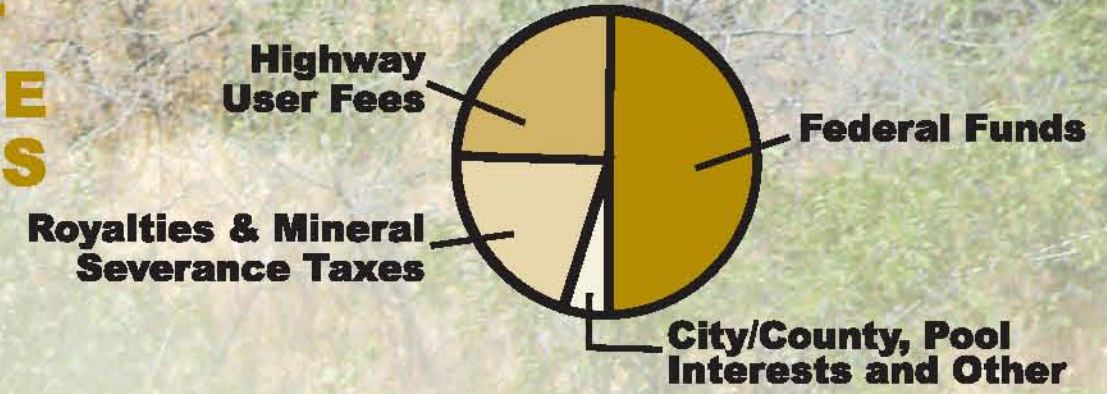
## TOP MILEAGE STATES per CAPITA

Wyoming	18,485
Mississippi	13,588
Oklahoma	13,450
Indiana	13,113
Alabama	12,926
National Average*	10,077

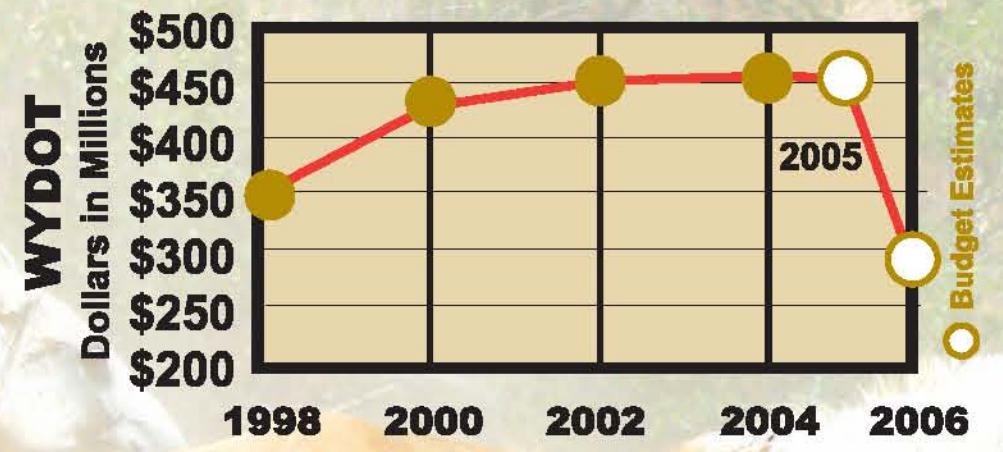
\*Source: 2005 figures - FHWA 500 Report

Mustang round-up at a ranch near Cody, Wyoming.

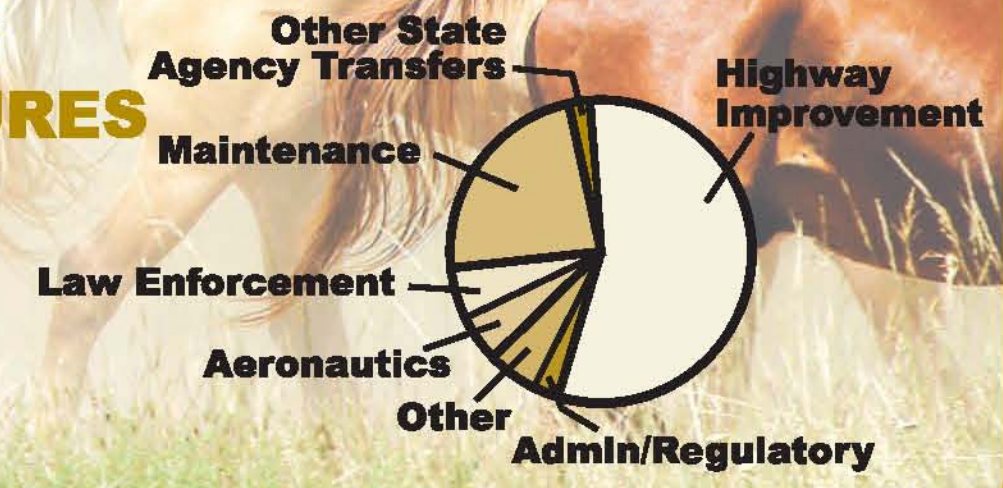
## WYDOT REVENUE SOURCES

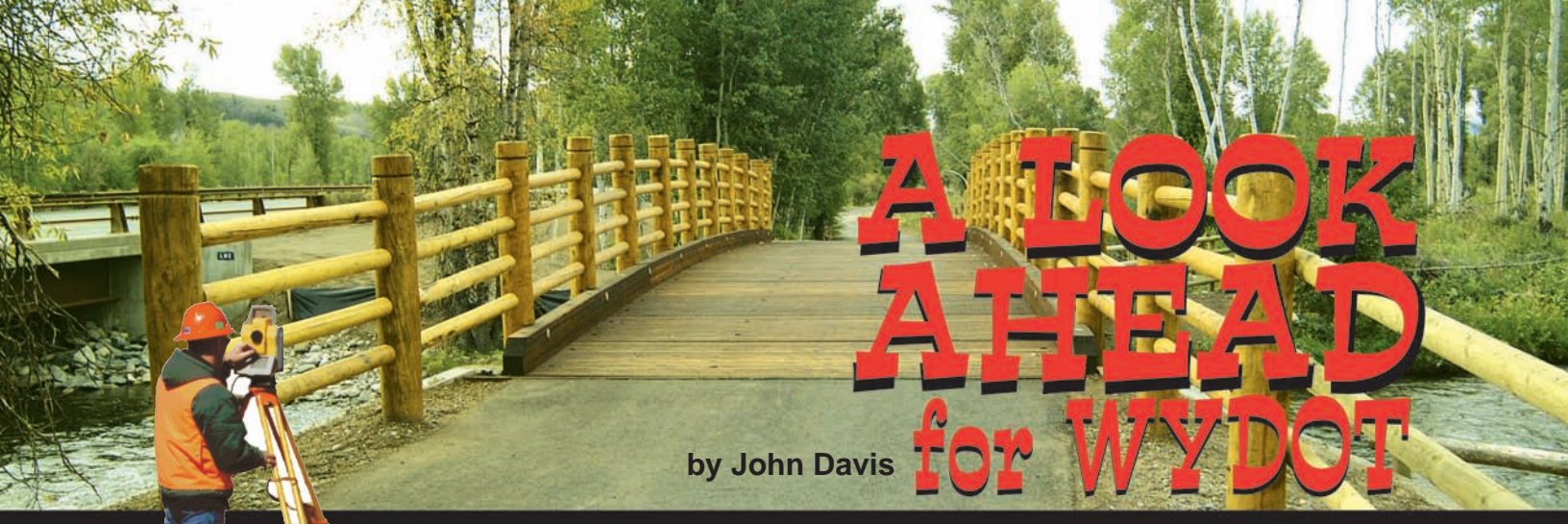


## REVENUES



## WYDOT EXPENDITURES





# A LOOK AHEAD for WYDOT

by John Davis

## Looking AHEAD

**Several key WYDOT initiatives will be underway in the coming year.**

WY@ERP, the Department's enterprise project, moves toward "go-live" for 2006. The new enterprise system will revolutionize WYDOT's ability to capture and use many types of data. The system will improve information access, streamline work processes, and reduce duplication and paperwork. Personnel from prime contractor CIBER, Inc. are working with WYDOT to fine-tune Peoplesoft® and AgileAssets™ software for Department-wide use and convert data to the new system. Training WYDOT personnel to use the system, and its expanded capabilities, is underway as well.

This season WYDOT also begins project work on 38 miles of US 26/287 over Togwotee Pass between Dubois and Moran Junction east of Grand Teton National Park. This multi-year effort, the first major improvement to the highway since the 1950s, will balance safety, economic, and environmental concerns to improve a key travel route through an area treasured for its scenery, wildlife, and other natural resources. Originally scheduled for 2005, reconstruction on US 26/287 will begin with the 9.7-mile Brooks Lake section west of Dubois in the spring.

WYDOT will continue to assess funding possibilities and program requirements under the recently passed Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (or SAFETEA-LU). This law is the successor to the Transportation Equity Act for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (also known as TEA-21). Depending upon annual appropriations and other factors, SAFETEA-LU will provide Wyoming up to 30 percent more in funding each year than was available under TEA-21. Working with Wyoming's Congressional delegation, WYDOT


also secured an additional \$106 million in high priority projects to help meet the state's transportation needs under SAFETEA-LU.

The WyoLink communications initiative will expand in 2006 as well. This project seeks to improve interagency communications and coordinated emergency response throughout Wyoming. Phase 2 work, which should commence in 2006, will add WyoLink radio sites to the five Pilot Phase sites. Equipment such as antennas will also be installed.

The 2006 year also will see the inauguration of a new state-of-the-art port of entry near Sheridan. This port will be shared between Wyoming and Montana, a first for Wyoming and a plus for commercial drivers who now have to stop only once instead of twice.

In summer 2006, WYDOT will join the national celebration to commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the U.S. Interstate Highway System's beginning. Over the past half century, the Department has built 914 miles of interstate in Wyoming—much of it in the 1960s and 1970s. Building and maintaining this system represents the largest public works infrastructure project in the state's history.

As usual, WYDOT will focus on construction projects. On interstate highway routes, 22 projects involving 71.5 miles are scheduled for about \$59 million. Major scheduled projects include \$19 million to widen and resurface 8.6 miles of Interstate 25 between Wheatland and Glendo, \$7 million to widen and overlay Interstate 80 on the Vedauwoo East Section between Cheyenne and Laramie, and \$6 million in work on the Evansville Interchange of I-25 near Casper. Off the interstate system, over 60 significant road projects are scheduled with a price tag of \$200 million.

Key airport projects include a \$2.6 million rehabilitation project at the Natrona County International Airport in Casper, \$2.5 million in reconstruction at the Sheridan airport, \$1.8 million to renovate the Cody airport terminal and parking lot, and \$1.8 million in rehabilitation at the Jackson airport. 

WYDOT



# The Way We Were... and



*The road from Buffalo to Ten Sleep (US 16) ...before and now.*



*The Shoshone Canyon road from Cody to the east gate of Yellowstone National Park on US 14/16/20. How it looked then... and how it looks now.*

