



Status Meeting Minutes

Wyolink Contact Number: 307-777-WLNK (9565)

Date: Monday, February 25, 2013 **Time:** 10:00 A.M. To 11:06 A.M.

Location: Geology Conference Room on the first floor of the Planning building (south end)
Conference Phone: 877-278-8686 PIN: 085726

Attendees

Bill Fleming, Wireless Advanced Communications by phone	Ken Shultz, WYDOT
Bill Walter, FBI & PSCC	Marty McCoy, WyoLink
Bob Symons, PSCC	Neil Clatworthy, Motorola by phone
Dan Wilson, BLM	Paul Newman, Motorola
Jenifer Shassetz, Sheridan PD by phone	Rob Wilson, WYDOT
Jim Pobanz, Motorola	Steve Langworthy, Motorola by phone

1. Core Site Status

- a. **Duncan Lake (BHNF):** February 25, 2013: **This site is on line. No Change.** Marty and Chuck are working with Clarke McClung and Gayle Laurent to meet BHNF's requirements for the appearance of the building. The new siding has arrived, and Gayle Laurent has agreed to a spring installation of this new siding – after the snow has melted and the site is accessible by truck.
- b. **Hell Hole (USFS) 2012:** February 25, 2013: **This site is on line.** The lease for this site has been sent to Idaho for their comments before it is finalized and circulated for signatures.
- c. **Pow Wow or Alternate (BTNF):** February 25, 2013: **No Change.** Marty has reviewed the budgetary estimates for construction of this site (\$5M) and has completed a document comparing possible sites at Pow Wow and Black Mountain. The PSCC recommended that Marty move forward with a more detailed proposal for using Black Mountain, ID and two other sites to provide approximately the same coverage as Pow Wow. The PSCC agreed that three sites for \$3M would be more cost effective to construct and maintain than Pow Wow for \$5M. Marty will proceed with preparing a more detailed proposal. Marty discussed the Black Mountain site with Clark Wireless, and discovered that Silverstar Communications of Afton has equipment at this location. Marty will explore the possibility of sharing this site with Silverstar. Marty and Chuck

are researching Monument Ridge near Bondurant for a possible site. Marty will ask the Forest Service to issue appropriate notices to entities who may want to share our sites when the time is appropriate so these sites can be permitted with these possible users in mind. At Rick Clark's suggestion, Marty will keep both Silverstar and the USFS involved simultaneously. Funding to construct Pow Wow or any other alternative site is lacking at this time.

- d. **Salt Pass (BTNF):** February 25, 2013: **This site is active. No Change.**
The reclamation of the old site is expected to be complete in the spring of 2013. The movement of the equipment from the site at Old Salt Pass to the new site is complete. Star Valley Search & Rescue continues their evaluation of coverage from the New Salt Pass site. Marty and Michael Schrotz have discussed the reclamation of the old Salt Pass sites, and Michael will let Marty know what the BTNF would like to see.
- e. **Signal Mountain (GTNP):** February 25, 2013: This section has been re-titled "Signal Mountain", as this is the most promising location for a site in the Togwotee Pass area. No contact with the GTNP has been made since the meeting with the BTNF and GTNP in March of 2011 because this site is permitted to Union Wireless and any sharing of this site or modification of the permit will need to happen in full cooperation with and led by Union Wireless. Therefore, until Union Wireless and WYDOT reach an agreement on possible sharing of this site, WYDOT will refrain from discussing this with the GTNP. Marty has spoken with Union Wireless about their progress on evaluating the possibility of WYDOT sharing at this site and they are working on obtaining a structural analysis on the monopole at this site. They would like to have us share this site with them, but are still working through all the details. Funding to construct a site in the Togwotee Pass area is lacking at this time.

2. Portable Coverage Enhancement Site Status

- a. **Douglas:** February 25, 2013: The installation of the RF equipment is about 60% complete, and is waiting on power to the site to have the batteries and combiner (that are on hand) installed. According to Ron Casalenda with the Douglas PD, the easement was filed the week of February 11th. The next step is to coordinate with Rocky Mountain Power and the City of Douglas to get the power connected. Marty will work with Barry to ensure this is completed. Ron Casalenda indicates the City of Douglas has been in contact with RMP to coordinate the installation of power. Ron and Barry will keep everyone informed of any developments here.
- b. **Gillette:** February 27, 2013: **This site is on line.** Marty worked with Craig Post of ComTech and Paul Newman to install additional filtering on the Gillette EMS radio. This filter eliminated the interference from the PCE tower and allowed the PCE tower to begin operation. There was some interference reported with interoperable channels VFire 21 and VFire 22 that was resolved by changing the control channel at the PCE site. Marty will now work with Campbell County to have the lease for this tower completed and signed.

- c. **Green River:** February 25, 2013: The PCE site for Green River will be at Mansface, and a site has been selected on the mountaintop. Applications for the permits to construct at this site will be made by the City of Green River and the Green River PD. Barry and Marty will assist them as they prepare these applications. The frequencies for this site have passed coordination and have been submitted to the FCC for licensing. Larry Sheridan will track this application and keep Marty informed. Preliminary site plans have been distributed for review. The RF equipment for this site has shipped. The hearing for the permit was held, and the recommendation for this site will be forwarded to the Commission and then to City Council. The only additional requirement to date was that the utility be underground from the pole to the building. Marty will work with Chief Steffen to resolve any issues Green River may have with coverage from this site resulting from the recent movement of the tower site to avoid encroachment upon Questar's property.
- d. **Pinedale:** February 28, 2013: White Pine Ski Area has been approved by the PSCC, and Marty is working with Sheriff Lankford and Bob Symons to move this site forward. Marty is assisting Sheriff Lankford as Sublette County applies for a modification to the Special Use Permit to accommodate the new tower at this site. Bob will work with Sublette County on their PCE agreement after the USFS Special Use Permit has been modified to reflect the WyoLink tower. Bob is working with Sublette County on their talkgroup plan.
- e. **Powell:** February 25, 2013: The Portable Enhancement Coverage Agreement has been received for this site, the combiner has been ordered and installation of the RF equipment (except the combiner) has been completed. Motorola will let Marty know when the optimization of this equipment is scheduled so WYDOT personnel can be on site for hands on training. The antennas and feed line are in storage in Casper, and installation is scheduled to be the week of March 18th – weather permitting.
- f. **Rawlins:** February 25, 2013: Site documentation will specify that the site owner will maintain, monitor and report the condition of the marker lighting at this site. The tower has been delivered and the building has been set at the site. Construction at this site has begun, as all the necessary permits are in hand. Barry is monitoring weather conditions at the site to aid in scheduling the installation of the tower. Power has been connected to the building and after the connection is inspected, the building will have power. Marty will work with Barry and Steve to facilitate access to the site for this inspection. The tentative schedule for erecting the tower is early March, weather permitting. After the tower is installed, the RF equipment will be installed and optimized.
- g. **Sheridan:** February 28, 2013: **This site is on line.** The lease has been sent to Sheridan for their signature along with the pictures from the inspection of this site. Sheridan has cut their operations over to WyoLink. Comments on the coverage being provided by this tower have been largely positive.

- h. **Wheatland:** February 25, 2013: Work on the Wheatland PCE site cannot proceed until the Portable Coverage Enhancement agreement is signed. Jane Carlson indicates the agreement between Platte County and Wheatland REA has been approved and when it has been signed she will send Marty and Bob a copy. Jane has spoken with the Platte County Attorney about the location of this agreement, and it is reportedly still at Wheatland REA for their signature. When we receive the copy of this agreement, Bob will send the Portable Coverage Agreement to Platte County for their signature. Marty and Bob will follow up on obtaining a copy of this document.

- 3. **Low Speed Data:** February 25, 2013: WyoLink continues to work with WHP and other agencies interested in utilizing Low Speed P25 Data to address their concerns and ensure that their operations do not adversely affect WyoLink. The WyoLink Support Office will determine when WHP intends to begin using their new client so the effect of this can be monitored. The software for enhanced reporting of data usage arrived Monday morning, February 25th, and Marty is hoping to have enhanced data usage reporting on line by the end of March.

- 4. **Console Connectivity:** February 25, 2013: The next most promising console locations for lower cost T1 lines utilizing Metro Ethernet (ME) will be our T1 links to Pinedale. Lincoln County's new console in Kemmerer is scheduled to be shipped in September and installed shortly thereafter. The console will be shipped to Cheyenne for assembly and staging before being transported to Kemmerer.

- 5. **Adjacent State Connectivity:** February 28, 2013: When WyoLink migrates to version 7.13, it will be possible to implement technical standards that will allow more advanced connectivity to neighboring states. After these standards are implemented, we can look at connecting to Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nebraska, South Dakota and Utah. If WyoLink is able to obtain funding for implementing ISSI Version 2 (and CSSI), this will be a possibility. South Dakota and Utah are preparing to upgrade their trunking systems, and Montana is searching for funding to build their system to the south end of their state. Bob Symons has been discussing interstate connectivity with Idaho now that we share a site at Hell Hole. Montana is still working on installing their system in the southern portions of their state and this will need to be completed before meaningful planning can be done on establishing connectivity. Colorado and Utah are also considering connectivity with Wyoming, but funding is the main issue. Bryan Morehouse with Goshen County will have a conference call the afternoon of February 25th to discuss Nebraska and Wyoming connectivity with renewed interest. Nebraska has some ISSI equipment, and Bob will learn what version ISSI and which version ASTRO25 software they are using.

- 6. **Risk Management:** These are WyoLink issues posing significant risk to the system and a description of the risk.
 - a. **Pow Wow Replacement:** **High Risk.** February 25, 2013. A budgetary estimate to construct Pow Wow is \$5.5M. The PSCC recommended that Marty move forward with a more detailed proposal for using Black Mountain, ID, Monument Ridge, WY and one other site to provide approximately the same coverage as Pow Wow. The possibility for some site sharing with current or future parties

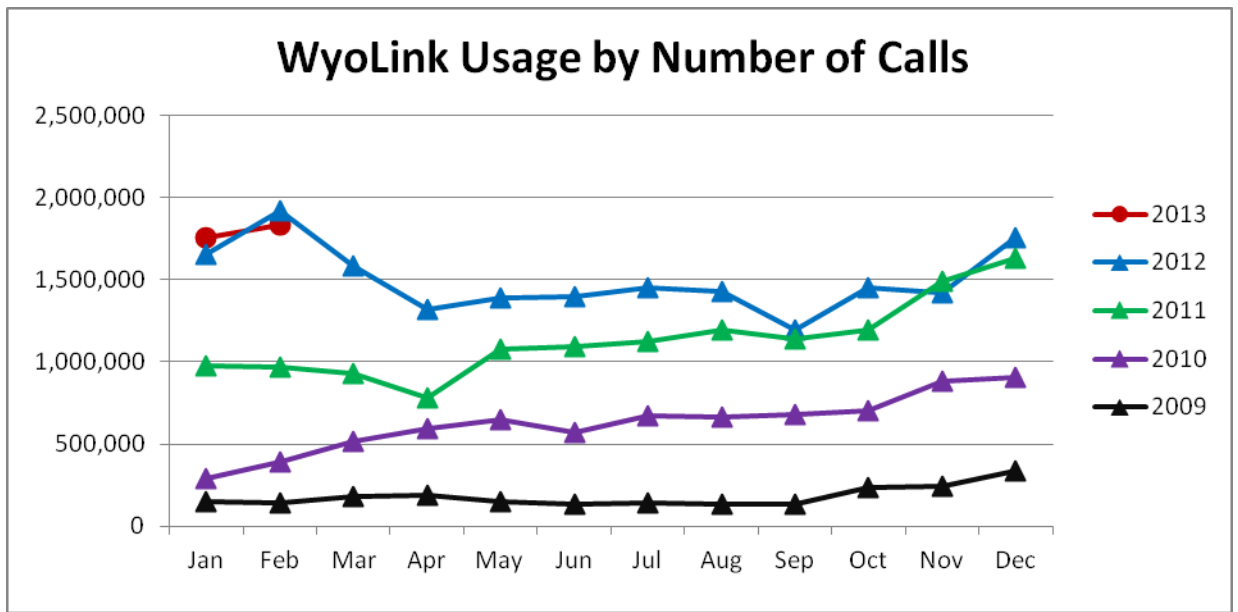
interested in this area may lower some of the costs, and WyoLink and WYDOT will investigate this. Funding to construct Pow Wow or any other alternative site is lacking at this time.

- b. **Local Activity Affecting WyoLink Performance: Medium Risk.** February 25th, 2013. Cities that are building 800 MHz sites may bring heavy loading to nearby VHF sites, similar to the situation in Casper. WyoLink will need to monitor the trends in areas that are considering moving to 800 MHz, and review the effect of their operation procedures and the development of their talkgroup plans on surrounding sites. Bob and Marty will have discussions with local agencies to see what can be done to reduce the impact to WyoLink from their local operations. The WyoLink Office tracks usage on the system (including busies) to keep aware of possible issues on WyoLink both now and in the future, and is observing heavy loading on two sites in south east Wyoming – 85 South and Cheyenne Water Tank. Marty will issue reports and recommendations to the PSCC Operations Workgroup regarding this.
7. **Coverage:** February 25, 2013: WyoLink is working with WYDOT's GIS program on displaying coverage testing results on a map and GIS is placing the finishing touches on the final version of their solution. WyoLink has met with GIS to install software for displaying BER coverage test results on WyoLink computers and to discuss making these results public. This results map should be available by the end of March with results that have been uploaded to GIS. Additional results will be visible as they are uploaded. Drive testing of BER coverage continues, with testing being done the week of February 25th. As weather and minor road conditions improve, additional testing will be performed. The two additional BER test sets have been configured and a procedure developed for using three test sets at once. This will allow the next test run to be triply productive.
8. **Busies on WyoLink:** February 28th, 2013: The WyoLink Support Office has developed a standard format for reporting high busy rates that will be forwarded to the Operations Workgroup and the PSCC. We have noticed a high rate of busy indications on the WyoLink towers at 85 South and Cheyenne Water Tank in the Cheyenne area. This is due to heavy usage and was aggravated by users dragging traffic to the Cheyenne area. Marty has begun evaluating loading on these two towers and what might be done to reduce busies on them. Efficient radio protocol resulting in reduced transmission times can aid in reducing busy indications in areas with heavy use.
9. **Dragging Traffic:** February 28, 2013: The WyoLink Support Office has started researching instances when traffic is being dragged across the state, and has prepared a report form that will be used to document these occurrences. The WyoLink Support Office is not aggressively tracking instances of dragging traffic unless it results in busy indications, but does research occurrences when time permits and they are noticed. WyoLink users are encouraged to move off their normal dispatch talkgroup when traveling outside their home area to avoid dragging their dispatch traffic to a remote portion of the state unnecessarily. This can cause unnecessary loading on towers removed from their local area and create busy indications both in these remote areas and in their home area. During the recent snow storm on February 26th, busy indications on two towers in the Cheyenne area were aggravated by users dragging traffic

from western and central Wyoming to the Cheyenne area. Marty will work with Relationship Managers and the PSCC to reduce or eliminate this.

10. Codeplug Schedule: February 28, 2013: The WyoLink Office has completed 689 codeplugs to date in 2013, with an average wait time of 2 weeks. Currently there are 4 codeplugs on our schedule to be completed. The predicted wait for codeplugs that are newly submitted is about 1 day. We are working diligently to process codeplugs and return them to each agency so they may insert them and begin to use their radios. If any agency has questions about their codeplugs, please call the WyoLink Support Office and we will be happy to help.

11. WyoLink Usage: March 1, 2013: Currently there are about 15,642 radios and consoles able to use WyoLink. There are 267 agencies approved to use WyoLink with 112 State and Federal agencies and agencies in 19 Counties having moved their operations to WyoLink. WyoLink usage to date in 2013 is 3,586,675 calls, with a busy rate (by time) of 0.017%. In 2013 WyoLink has been available over 99.9% of the time. Ken Shultz, Marty and Rob are working together to craft a way to keep all users and other interested parties informed on the status of WyoLink. We will be looking at what to measure, what to report and the best method to disseminate this information. Part of this process will be changes to the WyoLink web site that will include updates and coverage maps as well as predictions, forecasts and budget issues related to WyoLink. WyoLink subscribers, member agencies and other interested parties are encouraged to use the new WyoLink contact number – 777-WLNK (777-9565) -- for all their WyoLink contact needs.



12. PSCC Meeting: February 28, 2013: The next PSCC meeting will be held Tuesday, March 12th in Pinedale at the Sublette County Commissioners Meeting Room, 21 South Tyler Ave at 10:00 A.M. There will be an informational meeting the evening of March 11th, also in Pinedale. If you know of anyone who would like to receive notices for PSCC meetings, please contact Bob Symons (307-777-5065 or bob.symons@wyo.gov) or Marty McCoy (307-777-4756 or martin.mccoy@wyo.gov) and we will add you to the distribution list for these notices.

13. **Next Meeting:** Monday, March 25th, 2013 at 10:00 in the Geology Conference Room, Planning Building, first floor, south end.