



# Status Meeting Minutes

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

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**Date:** Monday, June 24, 2013

**Time:** 2:00 P.M. To 2:48 P.M.

**Location:** Planning Conference Room on the second floor of the Planning building (middle)  
Conference Phone: 877-278-8686 PIN: 085726

**Attendees**

Bill Walter, FBI & PSCC	Mike Nickel, Sheridan County Commissioner by phone
Bob Symons, PSCC	Neil Clatworthy, Motorola
Dan Wilson, BLM	Paul Newman, Motorola
Jim Pobanz, Motorola	Robert Wilson, WYDOT
Ken Shultz, WYDOT	Steve Langworthy, Motorola
Marty McCoy, WyoLink	Vernon Hill, PSCC by phone

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## 1. Core Site Status

- a. **Duncan Lake (BHNF):** July 1, 2013: **This site is operational.** Marty and Chuck met with Gayle Laurent of the BHNF for a site inspection on June 19<sup>th</sup>. This inspection went well, and the only item Gayle mentioned that was lacking was the replacement of the siding on the building. This siding was replaced the week of June 24<sup>th</sup>. This site will be considered complete, pending confirmation from the Forest Service that all their concerns have been addressed.
- b. **Hell Hole (USFS) 2012:** June 24, 2013: **This site is operational.** Marty has sent the lease with comments from Idaho to the Attorney General for approval as to form, and is resolving some minor issues with the placement of their approval.
- c. **Pow Wow or Alternate (BTNF):** June 24, 2013: Marty has reviewed the budgetary estimates for construction of this site (\$5.5M) 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 \$5.5M. 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. Marty met with personnel from Teton County, Union Wireless and the Bridger-Teton National Forest on May 10 to see if any options had surfaced that would make the Pow Wow site affordable. While the discussions were beneficial, they did not yield adequate savings to restore the site to the list at this time. Marty will have updates on the status of alternate sites by next meeting. WYDOT is looking to replace the funding used for the upgrade over the next couple of years beginning with the FY 2014 budget, according to Ken Shultz.

- d. **Salt Pass (BTNF):** July 1, 2013: **This site is operational.** 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. Marty asked Jay Hokanson if there is any determination from Star Valley Search & Rescue on their coverage evaluation, and will follow up with him. During the month of July, Marty will work on obtaining a determination from Lincoln County and Star Valley Search and Rescue regarding the coverage from the new Salt Pass site so the old site can be remediated and this closed out.
  
- e. **Signal Mountain (GTNP):** July 1, 2013: 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. Marty met with Teton County, Union Wireless and the National Park Service in Jackson on May 10<sup>th</sup> to discuss this site. Union still has some analysis and site cleanup to perform before approving our co-location request. Marty will ask Union if it would be possible to approve our co-location request with the condition that we would not be allowed to install any equipment until their work at this site is complete. Marty is working with Bill Jepsen of Teton County to perform some coverage testing from Signal Mountain before the installation of any equipment to get a good handle on the coverage this site might provide. Marty will work with Ken Shultz and Union Wireless in the coming month (July) to move this site forward.

## 2. Portable Coverage Enhancement Site Status

- a. **Douglas:** July 1, 2013: This site became operational June 17, 2013. Marty will work with the City of Douglas to have the lease for this site approved and signed. Marty inspected this site with Nick Palmer (WYDOT Telecommunications) and Steve Langworthy (Motorola) on June 26<sup>th</sup>. This site is providing increased coverage in the Orin Junction area.
  - b. **Green River:** July 1, 2013: The PCE site for Green River will be at Mansface. Motorola provided a revised schedule for the construction of this site, and the construction kick off meeting is scheduled for July 23<sup>rd</sup> in Green River. The combiner, building, tower and generator have all been ordered. Motorola will keep Marty and Chief Steffen (Green River PD) informed of any changes in the schedule for the construction of this site.
  - c. **Pinedale:** July 1, 2013: White Pine Ski Area has been approved by the PSCC, and Marty and Bob are assisting Sheriff Lankford as Sublette County applies for a modification to the Special Use Permit to accommodate the new tower at this site. There are tribal concerns about the visual impact of this tower on certain culturally significant sites. Marty and Bob are working with Vernon Hill and others to identify these concerns and to help Sublette County navigate this process. 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.
  - d. **Rawlins:** July 1, 2013: **This site is operational.** This site became operational June 20<sup>th</sup>. Marty inspected this site on June 26<sup>th</sup> with Brian Wyza (WYDOT Telecommunications) and Steve Langworthy (Motorola). With the exception of a few punch list items, this site looks good. Site documentation will specify that the site owner will maintain, monitor and report the condition of the marker lighting at this site.
  - e. **Wheatland:** July 1, 2013: Marty has reviewed and approved the Detailed Design Documents for the Wheatland PCE site. Motorola will let Marty know the schedule for site construction. Marty will keep Platte County informed, and will work with both Platte County and Wheatland REA, giving advance notice before any work is started. Neil Clatworthy stated he would see about providing the construction schedule to Marty, who will coordinate with Platte County and Wheatland REA. Marty has received a schedule for the construction of this site from Motorola and will be sharing it with Platte County. All equipment for this site is on order.
3. **Low Speed Data:** July 1, 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 is now operational, and WyoLink is working with Paul Newman to understand and customize the reports that are available. A Low Speed Data usage chart will soon be added to the end of the WyoLink Status Agenda and Minutes. Mark Coler continues to work with A.J. to resolve connectivity issues with Windows 7 and WyoLink radios and to ensure that WyoLink Low Speed Data (maximum 9600 baud) will work properly for

them. Captain Walther is very interested in low speed data over WyoLink given the limitations on cellular coverage in Wyoming.

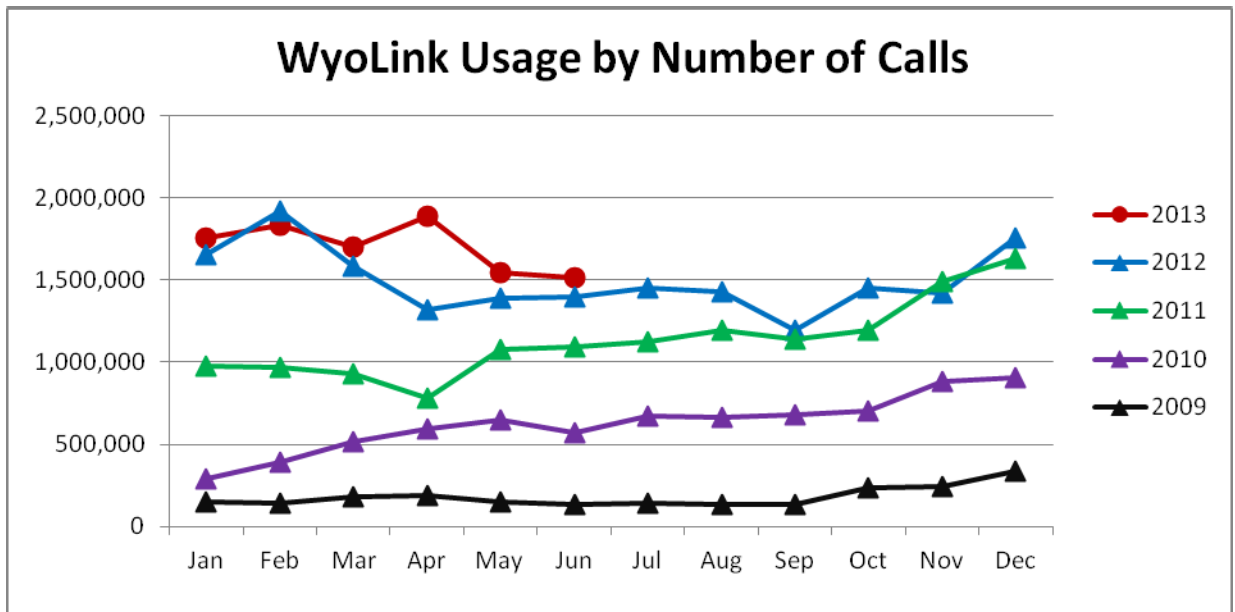
4. **Console Connectivity:** June 1, 2013: Marty and Mike Kurz (WYDOT Telephone section) have decided that the leased T1 circuits to the consoles in Lander and Riverton would be the next candidates for replacement with lower cost ME links. Mike Kurz has begun work on this. Marty will be working to extrapolate future effects of new consoles and voice loggers on the SUA. Prior knowledge of and approval of new consoles and voice recorders may be necessary to accurately control and predict future WyoLink costs, and Marty will carry this idea to the Operations Workgroup. The console for Kemmerer has arrived in the WyoLink Office and is being configured by Motorola for deployment to Kemmerer. Marty and Paul Newman are working together, researching the possibility of connecting the Lincoln County console to WyoLink via PtP and microwave links as opposed to leased T1 lines. This link will need to be operational by September. The second kickoff meeting for the Lincoln County console was held Friday, June 17<sup>th</sup>. Bill Walter indicates the BIA may purchase a wireline console for the Wind River Police Department. He will mention to the BIA and the Motorola Federal representative that WyoLink will need advance notice of T1 lines and any change to WyoLink's configuration to accommodate this console.
  
5. **Adjacent State Connectivity:** July 1, 2013: **No change.** 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. Bob reports that Idaho, Montana, Nebraska, South Dakota and Utah are all in varying stages of system update and compatibility, and that he continues to have meetings and dialog with these states as they move forward and contemplate connectivity with WY among other states. Bryan Morehouse and Goshen County are considering an ISSI connection between Goshen County and Nebraska. Bob Symons is involved with both sides as they discuss this, and will continue to do so. Nebraska is at version 7.11 and is moving to version 7.13. CSSI compliance and conformance testing is in the works at TIA, according to Bob. Bob has also been meeting with South Dakota, who may be considering adding WyoLink talkgroups to their radios. SD is currently at version 4.1, and is migrating their radio sites to 7.x, which would allow their radios to operate on WyoLink. Bob will provide an update on adjacent state connectivity.
  
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.** July 1, 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.** July 1, 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 keep the PSCC Operations Workgroup informed regarding this.
7. **Coverage:** July 1, 2013: GIS has completed work on the public version of the map displaying BER based coverage testing results. The WyoLink Support Office would like to extend a very big Thank You to WYDOT's GIS Program for their work to make this possible! The URL for this map is: <https://apps.wyoroad.info/wyolink/coveragemap.html>  
Please be aware this map has a very limited amount of testing results displayed at this time. The amount of result data was kept to a minimum during the development phase to reduce complexity. The WyoLink Support Office has been uploading the results data on file to this map, so more results will be available as data is uploaded. This map displays coverage testing results from a mobile radio standpoint. Coverage testing was performed in Teton County the week of June 10<sup>th</sup> and in Crook County the week of June 17<sup>th</sup>. Additional coverage testing will be performed the week of July 22<sup>nd</sup>. The new PCE site at Douglas appears to be providing increased coverage at Orin Junction. Further testing and reports from the field should confirm this.
8. **Busies on WyoLink:** July 1, 2013: There were a very high number of busy indications on WyoLink towers at 85 South and Cheyenne Water Tank as a result of heavy loading during the storms Wyoming experienced in April. Marty has prepared Busy Reports for these days, and has forwarded them to Bob Symons for submission to the Operations Workgroup. These busies were due to exceptionally high use of WyoLink and heavy loading on the towers at 85 South and Cheyenne Water Tank. Very few of these busy indications were due to traffic being drug from across the state. The WyoLink Support Office is working with the Laramie County Combined Communication Center (and others) to identify heavy users and perhaps make adjustments to alleviate the heavy loading on 85 South and Cheyenne Water Tank. These two sites would still benefit from two additional channels each to increase capacity, though. Marty is preparing monthly cumulative busy reports for the PSCC Operations Workgroup. The WyoLink Support Office will track system usage during Cheyenne Frontier Days (CFD), as this will be Laramie County and Cheyenne's first CFD on WyoLink.
9. **Dragging Traffic:** July 1, 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. There have been no notable instances of dragging traffic in the last month. Marty and Bob will create an article on dragging traffic for distribution to WyoLink Subscriber Agencies.

**10. Codeplug Schedule:** July 1, 2013: The WyoLink Office has completed about 2100 codeplugs to date in 2013, with an average wait time of 2 weeks. Currently there are 105 codeplugs on our schedule to be completed. The predicted wait for codeplugs that are newly submitted is about 10 days. 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:** July 1, 2013: Currently there are about 16,500 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 10,236,052 calls, with a busy rate (by time) of 0.023%. In 2013 WyoLink has been available over 99.9% of the time. At the PSCC's suggestion, WyoLink will change the metrics that are reported to give a clearer picture of who is using WyoLink and to what degree. The WyoLink Site Map is now part of the WyoLink Status Meeting Agenda and Minutes. 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:** June 17, 2013: The last PSCC meeting was a video conference held Thursday, June 13<sup>th</sup> in Cheyenne. The next PSCC meeting will likely be in Sheridan in September. As the date approaches, more information will be available. 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](mailto:bob.symons@wyo.gov) ) or Marty McCoy (307-777-4756 or [martin.mccoy@wyo.gov](mailto:martin.mccoy@wyo.gov) ) and we will add you to the distribution list for these notices.

- 13. Wyolink User Training:** July 1, 2013: Bob Symons, Kim Lee and Lanny Applegate are working on a new Wyolink User Training program. This training program will focus on the radio each agency and user will be using. Survey results are driving this change, and the approach will be to train the trainer. The target is for the train the trainer sessions to begin around the end of May. The PSCC Interoperability Executive Committee met Thursday, May 30<sup>th</sup> and discussed the new Wyolink training program. This training program will change drastically from what it has been in the past, and will start as a Train the Trainer program, concentrating on the radios that each agency uses. This will be an agency specific program. The goal is to have this training program complete by the middle of August. Bob is now acquiring names of potential trainers for the first class. This training will be more user oriented, concentrating on what is in the user's radio. There will be two basic handouts. One will be the user's talkgroup plan and the second will be a picture of the user's radio with descriptions regarding the function of the buttons and knobs on the radio
- 14. Next Meeting:** Monday, July 29, 2013 at 10:00 in the Geology Conference Room, Planning Building, first floor, south end.

