



# Status Meeting Minutes

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

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**Date:** Tuesday, May 28, 2013 **Time:** 10:00 A.M. To 10:57 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 Walter, FBI, PSCC	Marty McCoy, WyoLink
Bob Symons, PSCC	Neil Clatworthy, Motorola
Dan Perko, WY State Forestry	Paul Newman, Motorola
Dan Wilson, BLM	Rick Clark, WYDOT USFS Liaison by phone
Jenifer Shassetz, Sheridan PD by phone	Steve Langworthy, Motorola by phone
Ken Shultz, WYDOT	

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## 1. Core Site Status

- a. **Duncan Lake (BHNF):** May 28, 2013: **This site is operational. 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. An inspection of this site with the BHNF is scheduled for June 19.
- b. **Hell Hole (USFS) 2012:** May 28, 2013: **This site is operational. No Change.**  
The lease for this site has been sent to Idaho for their comments before it is finalized and circulated for signatures. Marty has sent the lease with comments from Idaho to the Attorney General for approval as to form.
- c. **Pow Wow or Alternate (BTNF):** May 28, 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.

- d. **Salt Pass (BTNF):** May 28, 2013: **This site is operational. 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. Marty asked Jay Hokanson if there is any determination from Star Valley Search & Rescue on their coverage evaluation, and will follow up with him.
  
- e. **Signal Mountain (GTNP):** May 28, 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.

## 2. Portable Coverage Enhancement Site Status

- a. **Douglas:** May 28, 2013: Power was connected at this site Monday, May 13<sup>th</sup>. The installation of the RF equipment is being performed and is expected to be complete by the end of May. Optimization is currently scheduled for the third week of June. The T1 link between Morton Hill and Douglas will need to be tested before this. This site is scheduled to be operational in June.

- b. **Gillette:** May 28, 2013: **This site is operational.** Marty sent the lease for this site to Gillette for signature.
- c. **Green River:** May 28, 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, and are still pending. Bob Symons has asked Tracy Simmons at the FCC for an update on our application. Larry Sheridan will track this application and keep Marty informed. Marty has approved the Detailed Design Document, and Motorola will provide a construction timeline for this site by the end of the week of May 27<sup>th</sup>. The license application is still pending at the FCC, and Bob is following up on this with his contact – Tracy Simmons. The schedule for work at this site was to be delivered the week of May 20<sup>th</sup>. Neil Clatworthy indicates it should be available by May 31<sup>st</sup>.
- d. **Pinedale:** May 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. Marty received a copy of the scoping letter from the BTNF. The modification of the special use permit for White Pine is now in the public comment phase. Once this modification of the special use permit is complete, the PCE agreement can be completed. Marty met with Sheriff Lankford at the White Pine Ski Area on Friday, May 10<sup>th</sup> to discuss final placement of the tower, and continues to work with Sheriff Lankford as he works toward securing the modification to his permit.
- e. **Rawlins:** May 31, 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 is on hold due to weather and Sage Grouse restrictions. We have been granted a BLM Exception to the Sage Grouse Restrictions at this site that will allow the tower to be erected beginning no earlier than June 4<sup>th</sup>. All work must be complete by the close of business on June 18<sup>th</sup>. Following this, the RF equipment will be installed and optimized. When this is complete, this site will enter test mode followed by activation. Marty is checking on the status of the Exception Request. Marty will also coordinate with Motorola on the schedule of optimization of Rawlins Hill and Douglas Yellowstone.
- f. **Wheatland:** May 28, 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.

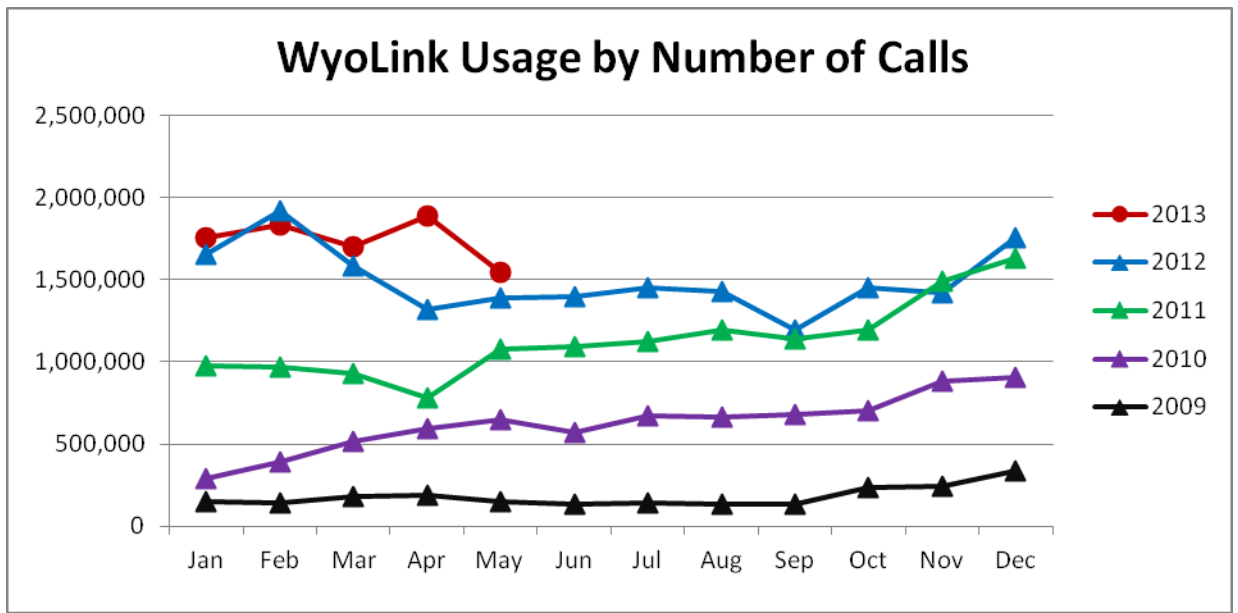
3. **Low Speed Data:** May 28, 2013: WyoLink continues to work with WHP and other agencies interested in utilizing Low Speed P25 Data to address their concerns and ensure that their operations do not adversely affect WyoLink. The WyoLink Support Office will determine when WHP intends to begin using their 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 be added to the end of the WyoLink Status Agenda and Minutes. WYDOT Telecommunications technician Nick Palmer reports he has at least one radio that is sending data every 2 minutes even with no computer or AVL connected. Mark Coler and Paul Newman continue to work with WYDOT Telecom (Nick Palmer) to resolve these issues.
4. **Console Connectivity:** May 28, 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 will begin work on this. Lincoln County's new console in Kemmerer is scheduled to be shipped in July, with installation to begin around the end of 2013. This console is still on track for a July installation. 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. Motorola confirms that the ship date for this console is early July with a tentative installation date of October and a cutover before the end of 2013. Marty and Paul Newman will work on a non-leased T1 connection for this console with Chuck Kakalecik. 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:** May 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. 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.
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.** May 28, 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.** May 28, 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:** May 30, 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. Marty is working to schedule more BER drive testing. WyoLink is aware that more BER drive testing results are needed, and in very short order. Marty will work with WYDOT Telecommunications and other stakeholders who have volunteered their help to accomplish the most drive testing possible. 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 will begin 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 will be performed in the city of Laramie as well as Campbell, Crook and Teton Counties in the coming month. Paul Newman is working with the City of Laramie on the coverage issues they have been experiencing. There have been intermittent periods of high noise near the Sherman Hill WyoLink tower. The WyoLink Support Office is working closely with WYDOT Telecommunications' Cheyenne Radio Shop to track the source of this noise.
8. **Busies on WyoLink:** May 28, 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.

9. **Dragging Traffic:** May 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 storms in April, there were a few cases where dragging traffic contributed to busy indications. However, with calls to the agencies involved these instances were quickly resolved.
10. **Codeplug Schedule:** May 30, 2013: The WyoLink Office has completed about 1680 codeplugs to date in 2013, with an average wait time of 1 week. Currently there are 260 codeplugs on our schedule to be completed. The predicted wait for codeplugs that are newly submitted is about 14 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:** June 3, 2013: Currently there are about 16,470 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 8,718,456 calls, with a busy rate (by time) of 0.024%. 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. 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-WLNLK (777-9565) -- for all their WyoLink contact needs.



12. **PSCC Meeting:** May 28, 2013: The last PSCC meeting was held Tuesday, March 12<sup>th</sup> in Pinedale. The next PSCC meeting will be a video meeting June 13<sup>th</sup>. As the date approaches, more information on video conference details 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. Please note that the video location for Cheyenne is the Hathaway building. We have two new PSCC commissioners: Major Perry Jones for WYDOT and Brian Eggleston for DCI.
  
13. **WyoLink User Training:** May 30, 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.
  
14. **Next Meeting:** Monday, June 24, 2013 at 10:00 in the Geology Conference Room, Planning Building, first floor, south end.