

WyoLink Support Manager Report to the PSCC
September 13, 2011

There are 56 WyoLink sites in operation, 52 of which have had construction funded by WyoLink. Six additional sites under construction should be completed during the fall of 2011 and will bring the count of operational WyoLink sites to 63.

We have received the amendment to the special use permit for Pow Wow, and have begun designing this site. I do not anticipate Pow Wow Point to be operational before 2012, because although we have the amendment to the permit, this site still needs to be designed, priced and put out to bid. We continue working with the US Forest Service and the Grand Teton National Park to determine where the WyoLink site in the Togwotee Pass area should be. One site under consideration is Signal Mountain, but we need to work closely with the GTNP and Union Wireless (the site owner) as we evaluate this site. Construction is underway on Duncan Lake, Halleck Ridge, Hell Hole Ridge and Salt Pass. Pinkham Mountain only needs federal frequencies to allow the RF Combining equipment to be ordered, and Hell Hole will need federal frequencies to be completed and activated.

We are making good progress with Portable Coverage Enhancement sites. Douglas, Gillette, Rawlins, Sheridan and Wheatland are in various stages of permitting and design. Bob and I are working with those localities to reach a point where site construction can begin. There will be a kick off meeting for Lander's site on September 14th, and construction will begin on Lander and resume on Riverton in the next week. Thermopolis is waiting for AC power to be brought to the site so it can be completed. Laramie and Torrington are operational. Bob Symons and I will be working with Buffalo, Newcastle and Sundance to discuss the need and possible location for a Portable Coverage Enhancement site.

About 80 Federal, State and Local Agencies are now using WyoLink for at least some of their daily operations, and there are approximately 11,265 radios on the system. During a typical day, there are between 1900 and 2400 radios affiliated with WyoLink depending on the time of day, weather conditions and other factors. WyoLink continues to work with agencies wishing to move their operations to WyoLink to create codeplugs for them to insert into their radios. To date this year, some 2780 codeplugs have been created, with some 390 currently on the schedule to complete. Our codeplug schedule is proving very valuable in tracking the codeplug work ahead of us and establishing our priorities. I urge everyone who has codeplug work scheduled to contact me if there are any questions about their codeplugs or their place on the schedule.

We are tracking WyoLink performance on a daily basis. With many agencies responding to the fires in Wyoming, this daily monitoring has ensured that WyoLink is ready to support their operations. We observed very heavy use of WyoLink as agencies across the state utilized our system for communications while battling these fires. I encourage any agency having radio communication needs or issues with WyoLink to contact the WyoLink Support Office so we can work with them to resolve their issues. Please contact me or the WyoLink on call technician at 307-777-4885 and we will be happy to help.

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With the addition of Casper Fire's 800 MHz site to the WyoLink system, it has become apparent that the Casper Mountain VHF site needs to be expanded. While busies for the system remain 0.04%, busies on Casper Mountain are 0.11%. I am working on obtaining a quote and design for this upgrade, and when the required information is available, I will make a recommendation.

The monthly WyoLink Project Status Meeting Agenda and Minutes are an excellent source of information regarding the status of WyoLink. If there is anyone interested who isn't receiving these, please let me know and I'll add their name to the mailing list.

To date in 2011 (January 1st through August 31st), the WyoLink system handled 8,138,549 radio calls. The chart attached to this report shows WyoLink usage visually. Busy indications system wide remain an insignificant 0.04%.

