WyoLink Support Manager Report to the PSCC
September 6, 2012

There are 59 WyoLink sites in operation, 55 of which have had construction funded by WyoLink. Seven additional sites under construction should be completed during 2012 and will bring the count of operational WyoLink sites to 66.

We're looking at possible alternatives to a site at Pow Wow, due to the anticipated high cost (about $5.5M)of constructing this site and the high cost of maintaining a site with no commercial power in a designated roadless area. Three possible general locations for sites are under consideration that should provide approximately the same coverage as Pow Wow – they are Black Mountain, Idaho, another in the Snake River Canyon and a third in the Bondurant area. In addition to determining possible sites to replace Pow Wow, we will need to review available funding for the construction of these sites. 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, and we are working closely with the GTNP and Union Wireless (the site owner) as we evaluate this site. Construction is underway on Duncan Lake. The federal frequencies for Hell Hole and Pinkham Mountain have been obtained, and the application for the FCC license for these frequencies was submitted July 27th. WYDOT Telecommunications and WyoLink are tracking the progress of this license. The RF combining equipment for Hell Hole and Pinkham Mountain have been ordered, and are scheduled to ship September 7th. As soon as this equipment arrives, it will be installed, and after a brief test period, these two sites will be active.

The Portable Coverage Enhancement site at Douglas is currently under construction. Gillette, Rawlins and Sheridan have been designed, pre-construction kick-off meetings held and we are well into the permitting process for these sites. The building and tower have been ordered for Douglas, Gillette, Rawlins and Sheridan.

The WyoLink upgrade is currently well under way. The upgrade from version 7.2 to version 7.7 was completed during the weeks of August 20th and August 27th and went well. WyoLink is currently at version 7.7, and is scheduled to undergo the final upgrade from version 7.7 to version 7.11 in the first part of October.

About 80 Federal, State and Local Agencies are now using WyoLink for at least some of their daily operations, and there are approximately 14,093 radios on the system. During a typical day, there are between 2300 and 2700 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 their radios. To date this year, some 3120 codeplugs have been created, with some 523 currently on the schedule to complete. The average wait for codeplugs to be created so far this year has been 4 weeks. The projected wait for newly requested codeplugs is about 6 weeks at this time. With the first jump of the WyoLink Upgrade complete, the WyoLink Support Office will be doing everything we can to reduce this number before the next portion

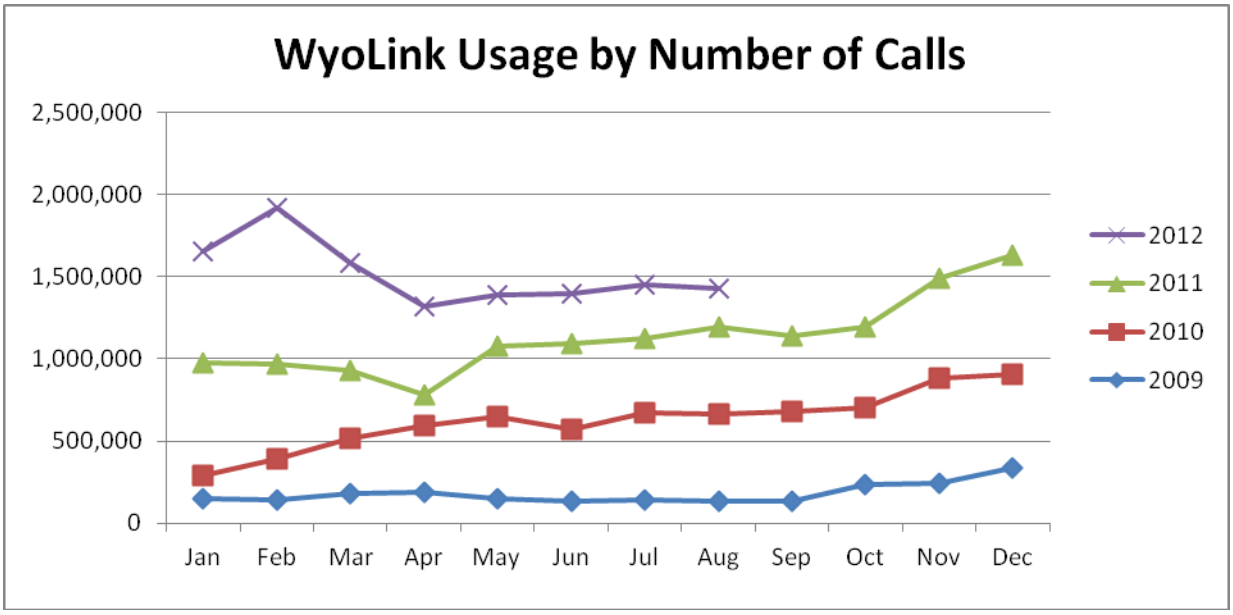
of the upgrade begins. I urge everyone who has codeplug work scheduled to contact WyoLink if there are any questions about their codeplugs or their place on the schedule.

We continue to track WyoLink performance on a daily basis and are taking all possible steps to ensure the system continues to operate at it's best. We are continuing to perform coverage testing across the state, and we are working with WYDOT's GIS program to display our test results in an easy to understand form. A map showing the coverage testing that has been performed to date is included at the end of this report. I hope to have some results from WYDOT's GIS program by the end of September. I encourage any agency having radio communication needs or issues with WyoLink to contact the WyoLink Support Office On Call Technician at 307-777-4885 and we will be happy to help.

WyoLink and WYDOT have prepared their budget request for the Software Update Agreement to keep the WyoLink operating version current. The PSCC Executive Committee has reviewed this and will be discussing their recommendations with the PSCC as a whole.

The monthly WyoLink 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 2012 (January 1st through August 31st) the WyoLink system handled 12,149,491 radio calls. The usage numbers for August are an estimate based on the usage during the first part of August because system monitoring was disrupted for the two weeks of the upgrade from 7.2 to 7.7. This chart shows WyoLink usage visually. Busy indications have been 0.008% of total call time system wide. WyoLink reliability so far in 2012 has been 99.9%.



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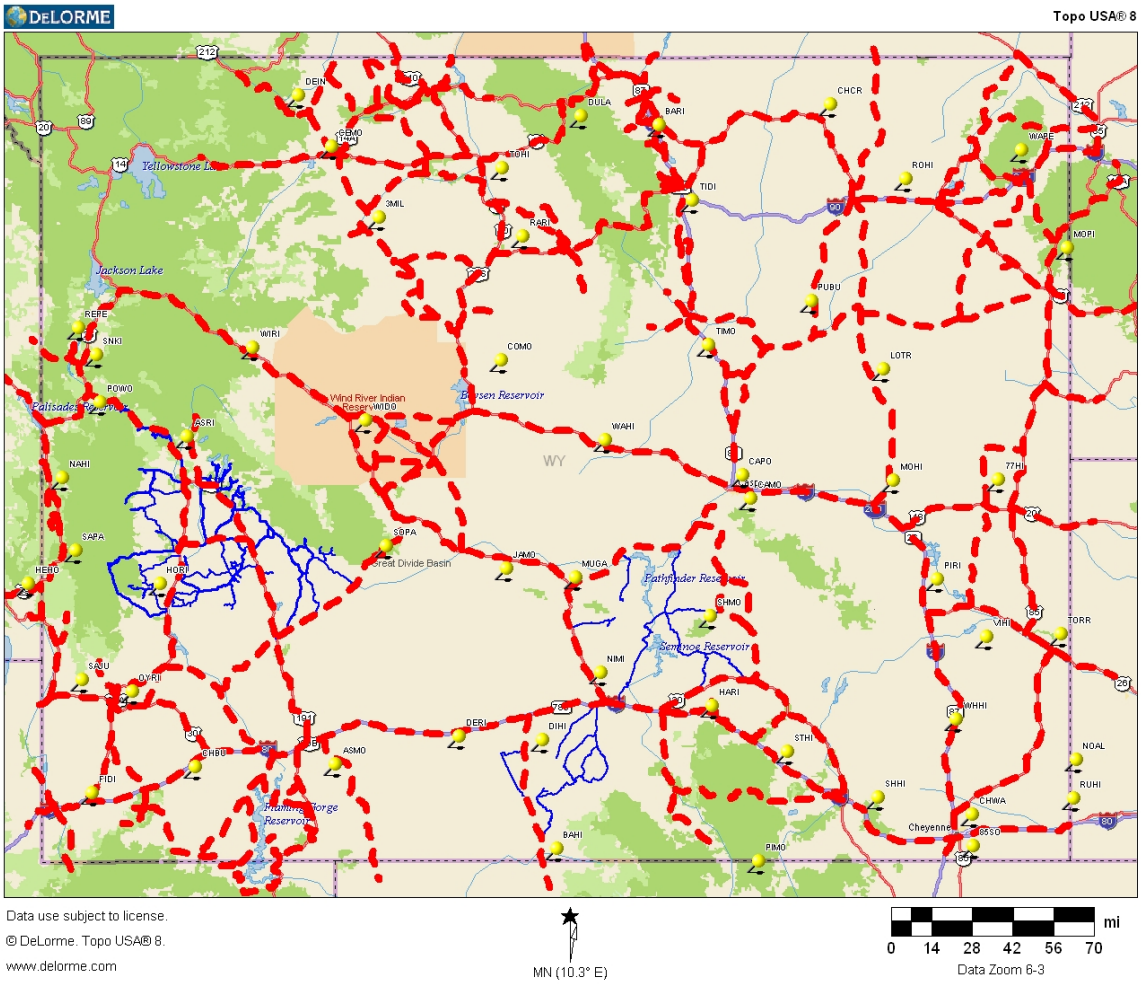
This map shows most of the coverage testing the WyoLink Support Office has conducted around the state. The red lines depict coverage testing performed on major highways, and the blue lines depict coverage testing performed on secondary and lesser roads. This does not yet show all of the coverage testing performed on the Wind River Indian Reservation and in Laramie County. WyoLink is working with WYDOT's GIS program to display the testing results graphically on a map.