

NOTICE:

THE SWEETWATER COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WILL MEET ON TUESDAY, JULY 5, 2022 AT 8:30 A.M. - TENTATIVE AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE

The meeting will be held at the Green River County Courthouse located at 80 W Flaming Gorge Way, Green River, Wyoming.

For the convenience of the public, the Board of County Commissioners' meeting will be held in person and using video conferencing

Those presenting may appear in person or via zoom using the meeting invite received by email.

As always, the public is invited to watch the proceedings on the County YouTube channel <https://www.youtube.com/c/SweetwaterCountyGovernment> where the meeting will be broadcast.

The public will be able to comment immediately following the public hearing presentation and also during the public comment section of the agenda or by sending comments ahead of time via email to:

publiccomments@sweetwatercountywy.gov

or by mail to:

Public Comments:

C/O Sweetwater County Clerk

80 W Flaming Gorge Way, Suite 150

Green River, WY 82935

If you are in need of accommodations beyond the above identified process, please call in advance to discuss other options. If you have any questions about how to participate in a public Board of County Commissioner meeting, please contact Sally Shoemaker at 307-872-3897 or via email at shoemakers@sweetwatercountywy.gov

PRELIMINARY

- | | | |
|--------------|-------------|--|
| Tab A | 8:30 | CALL TO ORDER |
| | | QUORUM PRESENT |
| | | PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE |
| | | MOMENT OF SILENCE |
| | | APPROVAL OF AGENDA |
| | | APPROVAL OF MINUTES: |
| | | 1. 6-14-22 INTERGOVERNMENTAL MEETING |
| | | 2. 6-21-22- REGULAR MEETING |
| | | 3. 6-23-22- SPECIAL MEETING- BUDGET ADOPTION |

Tab B **ACCEPTANCE OF BILLS**

1. Approval of County Vouchers/Warrants (EAL's)
2. Approval of Abates/Rebates

COUNTY RESIDENT COMMENTS/CONCERNS

8:35

ACTION/PRESENTATION ITEMS

TAB C	8:45	FY 2023 Tax Warrant Agreement	K. Pendleton
Tab D	8:50	Adoption of Wyoming Region 4 Hazard Mitigation Plan-2022	E. Covey, J. Tomich
Tab E	9:00	Request for a Letter Signifying that the SWCO Historical Museum is a Component Unit of the SWCO Government	D. Mead A. Benson
Tab F	9:10	Proclamation for the Grass Area at 333 Broadway Street	G. Legerski, C. Banks
Tab G	9:15	License & Access Agreement Atlas Technical Consultants LLC	G. Legerski
Tab H	9:20	Approval of the FY23 Capital Project & Debt Service List	G. Legerski Capital Committee
Tab I	9:25	Request Approval of the Pareto Business Agreement	G. McLean
Tab J	9:30	Ratify CLG Comments on NOI to Prepare EIS for Dry Creek Trona Mine Project	Comm. Thoman
Tab K	9:35	Consideration of 2022 Specific Purpose Tax Resolution	BOCC
Tab L	9:45	Petition to the SWCO Commissioners for the submission to the voters of a 1 mill levy for the lands in SWCO that are in the Little Snake River Conservation District	LSRCD

EXECUTIVE SESSION- AS NEEDED

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

ADJOURN

[Per Wyo. Stat. §18-3-516\(f\) County information can be accessed on the County's website at www.sweetwatercountywy.gov](http://www.sweetwatercountywy.gov)

The draft packet will be available on the county website on Friday afternoon (prior to the meeting)

June 14, 2022
Green River, WY

The Sweetwater County Intergovernmental Joint Leadership Group met this day at 6:00 p.m. in a Special Session/Workshop with all Commissioners present. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman Smith entertained a motion to suspend Roberts Rules. *Commissioner Schoenfeld moved to suspend Roberts Rules Commissioner Lloyd seconded the motion.* The motion carried.

Specific Purpose Tax

Commissioner Schoenfeld explained that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss bonding for the proposed specific purpose tax. Stifel Representative Alan Matlosz presented different bonding options to include waiting for the money to come in on a monthly basis or borrow in order to fund the projects up front and then repay the money when the revenue is received which will allow the projects to be done quicker while not having to prioritize each project with the option of bonding a certain dollar amount.

Discussion ensued relative to the options and transparency to the public.

Commissioner Schoenfeld explained the upcoming process will include a committee meeting, draft a final resolution, and the last piece will be to verify if the municipalities want bonding. Commissioner Schoenfeld shared that if anyone has additional questions, Mr. Matlosz will be available via email and stressed the importance of information being transparent to allow all information to be inserted into the final resolution for consideration and approval.

Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Board this day, the meeting was adjourned subject to the call of the Chairman at 6:36 p.m.

This meeting workshop is available on the Sweetwater County YouTube Channel. Links for specific meetings can be found on the county website. The minutes were respectfully submitted by Administrative Assistant Sally Shoemaker.

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF SWEETWATER COUNTY, WYOMING

Jeffrey W. Smith, Chairman

Roy Lloyd, Member

Lauren Schoenfeld, Member

Mary E. Thoman, Member

ATTEST:

Cynthia L. Lane, County Clerk

Randal M. Wendling, Member

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June 21, 2022
Green River, WY

The Board of County Commissioners met this day at 8:30 a.m. in Regular Session with all Commissioners present. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Wendling moved to approve the agenda as presented. Commissioner Lloyd seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Approval of Minutes- June 7, 2022- Regular Meeting

Commissioner Schoenfeld moved to approve the June 7, 2022 minutes as presented. Commissioner Thoman seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Approval of County Vouchers Warrants (EALS), Monthly Reports, and Abates/Rebates

Commissioner Schoenfeld moved to approve the County Vouchers (EALS), Monthly Reports, and the Abates/Rebates as presented. Commissioner Wendling seconded the motion. The motion carried.

JUNE 21, 2022

WARRANT NO.s	PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
115147-115162, 115215 & 37250- 37493, 37497-37499	EMPLOYEES AND PAYROLL VENDORS	PAYROLL RUN	1,685,749.11
37494	OPTUM BANK 76411492	CONTRIBUTIONS	1,610.82
37495	OPTUM BANK 76411492	CONTRIBUTIONS	562.50
37496	OPTUM BANK 76411492	CONTRIBUTIONS	1,787.50
37500	OPTUM BANK 76411492	CONTRIBUTIONS	7,764.99
37501	SWEETWATER CO EVENTS COMPLEX	SPONSERSHIP	1,750.00
37502	SWEETWATER COUNTY HEALTH BOARD	BUDGET ALLOCATION	44,937.88
115163	ACE HARDWARE - RS	SUPPLIES	32.98
115164	ACE HARDWARE - GR	KEY/SUPPLIES	26.47
115165	ALPINE PURE WATER	REPAIR	1,000.00
115166	AT&T MOBILITY	PHONE BILL	1,090.34
115167	BLOEDORN LUMBER	DRYWALL/PAINT/POSTS/SUPPLIES	355.89
115168	BOB BARKER COMPANY INC	COMMISSARY	460.24
115169	BOOKCLIFF SALES INC	SUPPLIES	67.11
115170	CINTAS	SERVICES	235.05
115171	COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES INC	PROGRAMMING	257.50
115172	CONVERGEONE INC	CISCO SYSTEMS	10,650.76
115173	COPIER & SUPPLY CO INC	CONTRACT	560.00
115174	DELL MARKETING L P	OFFICE SUPPLIES	750.00
115175	DJ'S GLASS PLUS INC.	WINDSHEILDS	1,105.00
115176	DOMINION ENERGY	UTILITIES	54.90
115177	TIMOTHY A EAGLER, ATTORNEY AT LAW LLC	FEES	1,880.00
115178	FLEETPRIDE	PART	102.26
115179	FLOYD'S TRUCK CENTER	KEYS/PARTS/COVER	1,108.40
115180	GRAINGER	PARTS	2,700.00
115181	HOLMBERG, TRENT C, MD PC	SERVICES	4,162.50
115182	HOMAX OIL SALES INC	DEF	846.00
115183	IBS INCORPORATED	TOOLS/SUPPLIES	163.82
115184	JENNY SERVICE COMPANY	COMMISSARY	764.28
115185	KEEFE SUPPLY COMPANY	COMMISSARY	577.98
115186	KNIFE RIVER MATERIALS	GRADING K BASE	2,080.73
115187	KROGER - SMITH'S CUSTOMER CHARGES	FOOD	44.32
115188	LARIMER COUNTY CORONER	TESTING/COURIER	678.00
115189	LEWIS & LEWIS	ROAD BASE	2,917.62
115190	LSQ FUNDING GROUP L.C.	EXTRADITION	3,470.32
115191	MCKESSON MEDICAL-SURGICAL GOVERNMENT SOLUTIONS LLC	SUPPLIES	200.56
115192	MURDOCH'S RANCH & HOME SUPPLY	EQUIPMENT/TOOLS	475.93
115193	ONE TIME VENDOR	JUROR FEE	30.00
115194	ORLIE'S REFRIGERATION & HEATING	SUPPLIES/LABOR	185.00
115195	PITT STOP SIGN & GRAPHIX LLC	STICKER/INSTALL	120.00
115196	PREMIER BIOTECH INC	KITS	710.08
115197	REAL KLEEN JANITORIAL	SUPPLIES	578.50
115198	ROCKET-MINER	AD	237.22
115199	ROCKET-MINER	AD'S	1,702.75

115200	ROCKY MTN POWER	UTILITIES	10,375.22
115201	SAFETY-KLEEN SYSTEMS INC	SOLVENT	270.99
115202	SMYTH PRINTING INC	BUSINESS CARDS	299.28
115203	SOUTHWEST COUNSELING SERVICE	GRANT EXPENSES	19,492.57
115204	SWEETWATER TROPHIES	SHIPPING	30.89
115205	THE TIRE DEN INC	TIRE	123.95
115206	U S FOODS INC	INMATE FOOD	834.58
115207	UNION TELEPHONE COMPANY INC	PHONE BILL	47.48
115208	UNITED SITE SERVICES	RESTROOM	164.36
115209	WALMART COMMUNITY-SHERIFF	COMMISSARY	184.02
115210	WALMART COMMUNITY-PURCHASING	JURY SUPPLIES	10.92
115211	WEST SIDE WATER & SEWER DISTRICT	UTILITIES	5,412.00
115212	WORKFORCEQA LLC	PRE-EMPLOYMENT	260.00
115213	WYOMING MACHINERY COMPANY	PARTS/FREIGHT/TIRES/RIMS	5,850.76
115214	WYOMING.COM	WIRELESS	63.95
115216	ACE HARDWARE - RS	CLOTH/SUPPLIES	30.35
115217	AFFORDABLE FUNERAL SUPPLY LLC	SUPPLIES	537.30
115218	AIRGAS USA LLC	PROPANE	506.00
115219	ALL WEST COMMUNICATIONS	TV'S	254.47
115220	AMERIGAS PROPANE LP	PROPANE	417.01
115221	BIG HORN ROOFING INC	RETAINAGE	36,310.50
115222	BLOEDORN LUMBER	PAINT	44.25
115223	BOB BARKER COMPANY INC	COMMISSARY	219.81
115224	BRIDGER VALLEY ELECTRIC ASSN	UTILITIES	123.60
115225	CASTLE ROCK HOSPITAL DISTRICT	BUDGET ALLOCATION	19,583.37
115226	CENTURYLINK	PHONE BILL	1,302.68
115227	CINTAS	SERVICES	235.05
115228	CITY OF GREEN RIVER	UTILITIES	1,156.92
115229	CONVERGEONE INC	SERVICES	26,158.00
115230	CUMMINS SALES AND SERVICES	INSPECTIONS	6,401.00
115231	DEFENSE TECHNOLOGY, LLC	AMMO	2,581.75
115232	DELL MARKETING L P	WEBCAM/PORT	126.95
115233	DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION	REGISTRATION	4.00
115234	DOMINION ENERGY	UTILITIES	4,343.00
115235	ELECTRICAL CONNECTIONS INC	SERVICES	16,557.33
115236	EMPLOYERS COUNCIL SERVICES INC	PRE-EMPLOYMENT	170.00
115237	ERRAMOUSPE, DANIEL E	TRAVEL	262.22
115238	F B MCFADDEN WHOLESALE COMPANY	SUPPLIES	250.10
115239	F B MCFADDEN WHOLESALE COMPANY	INMATE FOOD	8,645.12
115240	FLEETPRIDE	PARTS	21.28
115241	FLOYD'S TRUCK CENTER	PARTS	392.92
115242	GOLDEN HOUR SENIOR CENTER INC	BUDGET ALLOCATION	12,500.00
115243	HIGH SECURITY LOCK & ALARM	KEYS	13.50
115244	HILTON GARDEN INN - LARAMIE	LODGING	192.00
115245	HOMAX OIL SALES INC	FUEL	30,240.95
115246	INDUSTRIAL HOIST AND CRANE	INSPECTIONS	2,136.63
115247	ISI WATER CHEMISTRIES	SERVICES	881.11
115248	JFC ENGINEERS & SURVEYORS	SERVICES	2,000.00
115249	K-PACK PHARMACY	INMATE MEDICAL	5,738.08
115250	KEEFE SUPPLY COMPANY	COMMISSARY	231.84
115251	KNIFE RIVER MATERIALS	GRADING K BASE	2,507.21
115252	LEWIS & LEWIS	ROAD BASE	506.92
115253	MCKEE FOODS CORPORATION	INMATE FOOD	755.52
115254	MEADOW GOLD DAIRIES SLC	INMATE FOOD	1,247.71
115255	NATRONA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE	CONFERENCE	1,000.00
115256	NICHOLAS & COMPANY	INMATE FOOD	1,762.11
115257	QUILL CORPORATION	OFFICE SUPPLIES	563.02
115258	REAL KLEEN JANITORIAL	CLEANERS	142.50
115259	ROCK SPRINGS MUNICIPAL UTILITY	UTILITIES	3,154.59
115260	ROCKET-MINER	AD	30.56
115261	ROCKY MTN POWER	UTILITIES	1,653.02
115262	SIDELINE COLLECTIONS INC	RANDOMS	375.00
115263	SKAGGS COMPANIES INC	UNIFORMS/GEAR	975.27
115264	STAPLES ADVANTAGE - DEPT LA	OFFICE SUPPLIES	516.78
115265	STATEFIRE DC SPECIALTIES LLC	MONITORING	75.00
115266	SWEETWATER CO CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER	MOU	40,000.00
115267	SWEETWATER COUNTY INSURANCE	PREMIUMS	9,001.71
115268	SWEETWATER FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER	BUDGET ALLOCATION	7,000.00

115269	SWEETWATER TROPHIES	NAME PLATE	9.00
115270	TERMINIX OF WYOMING	SERVICES	341.00
115271	THE MASTER'S TOUCH LLC	POSTAGE	5,440.00
115272	THE TIRE DEN INC	LABOR/PATCH	102.85
115273	TYLER TECHNOLOGIES INC	MAINTENANCE	723.00
115274	U S FOODS INC	INMATE FOOD	2,249.48
115275	UNION TELEPHONE COMPANY INC	PHONE BILL	645.45
115276	UNITED SITE SERVICES	RESTROOMS	317.95
115277	VONAGE BUSINESS	PHONE BILL	1,410.62
115278	WCAA	DUES/BANQUET	245.00
115279	WEST EDGE COLLECTIVE LLC	FEE	600.00
115280	WESTFAX INC	FAXES	129.55
115281	WYOMING DEPT OF WORKFORCE SERVICES	WORKERS' COMPENSATION	19,274.88
115282	WYOMING EMBROIDERY	SHIRTS/JACKETS	777.00
115283	WYOMING MACHINERY COMPANY	PARTS	12,480.32
115284	WYOMING PEACE OFFICERS ASSN	CONFERENCE	600.00
115285	WYOMING WASTE SERVICES	UTILITIES	2,854.03
115286	YOUNG AT HEART CENTER	BUDGET ALLOCATION	33,312.71
		GRAND TOTAL:	2,163,315.13

TAXPAYER	VALUATION	TAXPAYER	VALUATION
HILCORP ENERGY	-128,172	CROWHEART ENERGY	-864149
HILCORP ENERGY	-14,395	CROWHEART ENERGY	-26804
HILCORP ENERGY	-787	CROWHEART ENERGY	-3560
HILCORP ENERGY	-7,955	CROWHEART ENERGY	-56513
HILCORP ENERGY	-8277	HRM RESOURCES	-112965
HILCORP ENERGY	-2720	CITY OF ROCK SPRINGS	-7318
HILCORP ENERGY	-11161	JOYS FLOWERS	-377
HILCORP ENERGY	-1418	GT PROPERTIES	-437
HILCORP ENERGY	-1218	GT PROPERTIES	-411
HILCORP ENERGY	-279	GT PROPERTIES	-390
HILCORP ENERGY	-36040	GT PROPERTIES	-348
HILCORP ENERGY	-13273	GT PROPERTIES	-304
HILCORP ENERGY	-6693	HARRIS CORP MISSION SUPPORT	-290
HILCORP ENERGY	-44131	HARRIS CORP MISSION SUPPORT	-267
HILCORP ENERGY	-22724	HARRIS CORP MICROWAVE	-2118
HILCORP ENERGY	-6088	HARRIS CORP MICROWAVE	-2031
HILCORP ENERGY	-2548	HARRIS CORP MICROWAVE	-2035
BP AMERICA	-4844	HARRIS CORP MICROWAVE	-1951
LINN OPERATING	-6085	NORMA GUERRERO	-428
CROWHEART ENERGY	-9257	NORMA GUERRERO	-429
BREITBURN OPERATING	-11381	NORMA GUERRERO	-450
BREITBURN OPERATING	-20968	NORMA GUERRERO	-460
COBRA OIL & GAS	-2816	NORMA GUERRERO	-471
BP AMERICA	-3.00	JAMES MEYER	-346
CROWHEART ENERGY	-170486	JAMES MEYER	-330
CROWHEART ENERGY	-89276	JAMES MEYER	-341
CROWHEART ENERGY	-99452	JAMES MEYER	-359
CROWHEART ENERGY	-91963	JAMES MEYER	-359
BP AMERICA	-3019	JAMES MEYER	-378

Budget Amendments- Public Hearing

Memorial Hospital

Accounting Manager Bonnie Berry presented Resolution 22-06-CL-05. Following discussion, Chairman Smith opened the public hearing. Hearing no comments, the public hearing was closed. *Commissioner Wendling moved to approve Resolution 22-06-CL-05- Sweetwater County Budget Amendment for Sweetwater County Memorial Hospital amending their entire budget by \$16,345,181 to total \$110,200,000.00. Commissioner Thoman seconded the motion.* The motion carried.

RESOLUTION 22-06-CL-05

**SWEETWATER COUNTY
BUDGET AMENDMENT**

WHEREAS, W.S. 16-4-111 requires the Board of County Commissioners to authorize any departure from the adopted budget for any Boards that are appointed by the County Commissioners,

WHEREAS, Memorial Hospital of Sweetwater County is requesting to amend their financial budget,

WHEREAS, Memorial Hospital of Sweetwater County has an approved financial budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022 which provides total expenditures of \$93,854,819,

WHEREAS, it has been determined that the aforementioned budget needs to be amended within the 2021-2022 County Budget,

WHEREAS, the Notice of Public Hearing has been published in accordance with the regulations and rules governing the budget process and there being no protests filed or expressed to the Board of County Commissioners regarding this amendment to the Sweetwater County Budget at the hearing,

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED: that the 2021-2022 fiscal year budget for Memorial Hospital of Sweetwater County be amended to reflect the following budget change:

The entire budget be amended by \$16,345,181 to total \$110,200,000.

Dated at Green River, Wyoming this 21st day of June, 2022.

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF SWEETWATER COUNTY, WYOMING

Jeffrey W. Smith, Chairman

Roy Lloyd, Member

Lauren Schoenfeld, Member

ATTEST:

Mary E. Thoman, Member

Cynthia L. Lane, County Clerk

Randal M. Wendling, Member

Sweetwater County Museum

Accounting Manager Bonnie Berry presented Resolution 22-06-CL-06. Chairman Smith opened the public hearing. Hearing no comments, the public hearing was closed. *Commissioner Lloyd moved to approve Resolution 22-06-CL-06 for the Sweetwater County Memorial Museum's budget by \$600 to total \$356,508.00. Commissioner Schoenfeld seconded the motion.* The motion carried.

**RESOLUTION 22-06-CL-06
SWEETWATER COUNTY
BUDGET AMENDMENT**

WHEREAS, W.S. 16-4-111 requires the Board of County Commissioners to authorize any departure from the adopted budget for any Boards that are appointed by the County Commissioners,

WHEREAS, the Sweetwater County Historical Museum is requesting to amend their financial budget,

WHEREAS, the Sweetwater County Historical Museum has an approved financial budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022 which provides total expenditures of \$355,908,

WHEREAS, it has been determined that the aforementioned budget needs to be amended within the 2021-2022 County Budget,

WHEREAS, the Notice of Public Hearing has been published in accordance with the regulations and rules governing the budget process and there being no protests filed or expressed to the Board of County Commissioners regarding this amendment to the Sweetwater County Budget at the hearing,

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED: that the 2021-2022 fiscal year budget for the Sweetwater County Historical Museum be amended to reflect the following budget change:

The entire budget be amended by \$600 to total \$356,508.

Dated at Green River, Wyoming this 21st day of June, 2022.

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF SWEETWATER COUNTY, WYOMING

BUDGET AMENDMENT

DUE to unanticipated claims expenditures within the Health Insurance Fund totaling \$500,000.00,

WHEREAS, it has been determined that the aforementioned funds need to be added to the 2021-2022 County Budget,

WHEREAS, the Notice of Public Hearing has been published in accordance with the regulations and rules governing the budget process and there being no protests filed or expressed to the Board of County Commissioners regarding this amendment to the Sweetwater County Budget at the hearing,

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED: that the 2021-2022 fiscal year budget for Sweetwater County be amended to reflect the following budget change:

Expenditure Increase Health Insurance Fund \$500,000.00

Dated at Green River, Wyoming this 21st day of June, 2022.

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF SWEETWATER COUNTY, WYOMING

Jeffrey W. Smith, Chairman

Roy Lloyd, Member

Lauren Schoenfeld, Member

ATTEST:

Mary E. Thoman, Member

Cynthia L. Lane, County Clerk

Randal M. Wendling, Member

County Resident Comments/Concerns

Chairman Smith opened county residents' comments/concerns. Commissioner Schoenfeld introduced Petite Queen Parker Upton. The Commission welcomed Ms. Parker Upton and thanked her for representing Wyoming. Rocky Mountain Power Ron Wilde extended an invitation to the Commission for the Gateway South Transmission project, which will mark the beginning of construction on the critical expansion on June 27, 2022, at 10:00 a.m.in Medicine Bow, Wyoming. The Commission expressed its appreciation to Rocky Mountain Power. Hearing no further comments, county resident comments/concerns were closed.

Action/Presentation Items

Commissioner Approval of Medical Office Space Lease between MHSC and U of U

Memorial Hospital of Sweetwater County JD In House Counsel Suzan Campbell presented the affiliation lease agreement between Memorial Hospital of Sweetwater County and the University of Utah. Following discussion, **Commissioner Lloyd moved to approve the Contract and Agreement between Memorial Hospital of Sweetwater County and The University of Utah and authorize the Chairman to sign. Commissioner Schoenfeld seconded the motion.** The motion carried.

Resolution 22-06-CC-02- Continuation of Existing Lodging Tax

Sweetwater County Travel and Tourism CEO Jenissa Meredith presented Resolution 22-06-CC-02 explaining that every four years since 1991, the local option lodging tax in Sweetwater County must be reauthorized by local voters during the general election and the 2% lodging tax is up for reauthorization in November 2022. Ms. Meredith explained that voters will be asked to renew the existing 2% lodging tax, upon the sale price paid by visitors for sleeping in accommodations provided by hotels, motels, campgrounds, and RV parks for the primary purpose of promoting local travel and tourism. Following discussion, Commissioner Schoenfeld read the resolution aloud. **Commissioner Schoenfeld moved to approve Resolution 22-06-CC-02 as read. Commissioner Wendling seconded the motion.** Following discussion, the motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 22-06-CC-02

A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE INTENT OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TO COOPERATE FULLY AND ASSIST SWEETWATER COUNTY AND THE INCORPORATED MUNICIPALITIES OF SWEETWATER COUNTY IN TAKING ALL ACTIONS NECESSARY IN SUPPORT OF THE CONTINUATION OF THE EXISTING COUNTY-WIDE 2% LODGING TAX.

WHEREAS, leisure and hospitality is a \$160 million industry in Sweetwater County that provides over 1,300 full and part-time jobs;

WHEREAS, this tax is paid by visitors that stay in hotels, motels, campgrounds, and similar establishments providing temporary quarters or space for transient guests. Unless staying in these establishments, residents of Sweetwater County do not pay this tax;

WHEREAS, the Wyoming lodging tax statute WS 39-15-204(a)(ii) states that the lodging tax is to be used for the primary purpose of promoting local travel and tourism;

WHEREAS, the ability to fund these promotional efforts to a level that is competitive in the marketplace is critical to the promotion of Sweetwater County as tourism destinations;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SWEETWATER COUNTY, STATE OF WYOMING:

Section 1. That the Board of County Commissioners deems it appropriate that the Sweetwater County cooperate fully and assist Sweetwater County and the incorporated municipalities of Sweetwater County in taking all actions necessary to continue to impose such existing county wide 2% lodging tax.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 21st day of June, 2022.

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF SWEETWATER COUNTY, WYOMING

Jeffrey W. Smith, Chairman

Roy Lloyd, Member

Lauren Schoenfeld, Member

ATTEST:

Mary E. Thoman, Member

Cynthia L. Lane, County Clerk

Randal M. Wendling, Member

Consideration of Amendment No. 2 to the MOU between WYDOT and SWCO for Commercial Air Service Delivery at Wyoming Regional Airport

Southwest Wyoming Regional Airport Director Devon Brubaker presented Amendment Number 2 to the MOU between WYDOT and Sweetwater County for Commercial Air Service Delivery at Southwest Wyoming Regional Airport explaining that the amendment is for the next three-year period of the initial 10- year contract. Following discussion, *Commissioner Wendling moved to approve Amendment No. 2 to the Memorandum of Understanding between the Wyoming Department of Transportation and Sweetwater County for commercial air service delivery at Southwest Wyoming Regional Airport and authorize the Chairman to sign. Commissioner Schoenfeld seconded the motion.* The motion carried.

Consideration of Amendment No. 1 to the Cooperative Agreement between Sweetwater County, the City of Green River, and the City of Rock Springs for Commercial Air Service Delivery at Wyoming Regional Airport

Southwest Wyoming Regional Airport Director Devon Brubaker presented Amendment Number 1 to the Cooperative Agreement between Sweetwater County, the City of Green River, and the City of Rock Springs for Commercial Air Service Delivery at Southwest Wyoming Regional Airport explaining that the amendment is for the next three-year period of the initial 10- year contract. Following discussion, *Commissioner Schoenfeld moved to approve Amendment No. 1 to the Cooperative Agreement and authorize the Chairman to sign. Commissioner Lloyd seconded the motion.* The motion carried.

Memorial Hospital of SWCO Annual Report

Memorial Hospital of Sweetwater County CEO Irene Richardson presented their annual report to the Board. Also present were CFO Tami Love, Executive Director Tiffany Marshall along with Board Members Marty Kelsey, Ed Tardoni, and Barbara Sawada. Following discussion, the Commission expressed its appreciation for the update.

Break

Chairman Smith called for a ten-minute break.

Request Approval of Amendment Two Contract between Wyoming Military Dpt. and Sweetwater County re: Uinta County VSO

Human Resource Specialist Ashley Smith presented the Contract Renewal with the Wyoming Military Department explaining that Lincoln County VSO could travel to Uinta County, once per week, on Tuesdays, to meet the veteran services need in that County, and in return, The State of Wyoming will cover all of the travel and personnel costs associated with providing services to Uinta County. Following discussion, *Commissioner Wendling moved to approve amendment two to the contract between the Wyoming Military Department and Sweetwater County regarding Uinta County VSO and authorize the Chairman to sign. Commissioner Lloyd seconded the motion.* The motion carried.

Request to Restaff Positions

Road & Bridge Dpt.

Human Resource Specialist Brenda Rael presented the request to restaff an Equipment Operator in the Road and Bridge Department. *Commissioner Schoenfeld moved to restaff the Road and Bridge Equipment Operator position as presented and authorize the Chairman to sign. Commissioner Thoman seconded the motion.* The motion carried with Commissioner Schoenfeld abstaining.

IT Dpt

Human Resource Specialist Brenda Rael presented the request to staff a Systems Administrator. IT Director Tim Knight was present to explain his request. *Commissioner Lloyd moved to hire a new employee in the IT Department for a*

Systems Operator and authorize the Chairman to sign. Commissioner Schoenfeld seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Deputy County and Prosecuting Attorney

Human Resource Specialist Brenda Rael presented the request to restaff a Deputy County and Prosecuting Attorney. *Commissioner Thoman moved to replace that position and authorize the Chairman to sign. Commissioner Schoenfeld seconded the motion.* The motion carried.

Detention Center

Human Resource Specialist Brenda Rael presented the request to restaff a Control Room Worker in the Detention Center *Commissioner Wendling moved to approve the restaffing of the position in the Sheriff's Office for a Control Room Worker and authorize the Chairman to sign. Commissioner Schoenfeld seconded the motion.* The motion carried.

Award of Dive Boat for Sheriff's Dpt.- ARPA Funds

Purchasing Director Marty Dernovich presented Bid # 22-06 for the ARPA Aluminum Dive Boat and Trailer for the Sheriff's Department. Grants Manager Krisena Marchal was present to address the approved ARPA Funds. Following discussion, *Commissioner Schoenfeld moved to accept the bid from Munson Boats out of Washington for a total amount of \$309,643.00 as presented and to increase the ARPA allocation by \$20,743.00. Commissioner Thoman seconded the motion.* The motion carried.

Request for Surplus Vehicles

Purchasing Director Marty Dernovich explained that the Purchasing Department has received three requests for surplus vehicles from Lovell Police Department requesting an animal control vehicle, Ray Lavato Recycling Center requesting a pickup truck, and the Town of Superior requesting an SUV. Ms. Dernovich shared that the County currently has an animal control vehicle that will be a part of the upcoming surplus sale along with a few pick-up trucks, and the SUV is not currently available but after the new vehicles get fitted, there may be one available. Following discussion, *Commissioner Wendling moved to approve the request from Lovell Police Department for an animal control vehicle, the request from Ray Lavato Recycling Center for a pickup, and also the Town of Superior regarding either an SUV or pickup, and their Mayor can choose, and authorize the Chairman to sign all the title work. Commissioner Lloyd seconded the motion.* The motion carried.

Resolution 22-06-CC-03- Authorization of a Special Prosecutor

Deputy County Attorney John DeLeon presented Resolution 22-06-CC-03, A Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of a Special Prosecutor. Following discussion, *Commissioner Schoenfeld moved to approve Resolution 22-06-CC-03, a Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of a Special Prosecutor. Commissioner Lloyd seconded the motion.* The motion carried.

Resolution # 22-06-CC-03

A Resolution Authorizing the Appointment of a Special Prosecutor

Whereas, the Sweetwater County and Prosecuting Attorney has become aware of a criminal or juvenile case, in which the review and potential prosecution of the Defendant in the case by the Sweetwater County Attorney, or his deputies, would result in either a conflict of interest, or the appearance of impropriety; and

Whereas, the Sweetwater County and Prosecuting Attorney has entered into an agreement with Michael J. Crosson, who is the County and Prosecuting Attorney for Sublette County, Wyoming; and

Whereas, pursuant to said Agreement, Michael J. Crosson, Sublette County and Prosecuting Attorney, has agreed to assist the Sweetwater County and Prosecuting Attorney by reviewing and potentially prosecuting the case; and

Whereas, Michael J. Crosson has agreed to perform the aforementioned legal services without compensation from Sweetwater County; and

Whereas, Wyoming Statutes §§ 18-3-302 and 18-3-107 authorize such appointment of counsel with the approval of the Board of County Commissioners, and said action is in the interest of Sweetwater County, Wyoming;

Now, Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved that the Board of County Commissioners of Sweetwater County, Wyoming, consents to the appointment of Sublette County and Prosecuting Attorney Michael J. Crosson, to serve as special county and prosecuting attorney(s) in a particular case.

DATED this 21st day of June 2022.

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF SWEETWATER COUNTY, WYOMING

Jeffrey W. Smith, Chairman

Roy Lloyd, Member

Lauren Schoenfeld, Member

Mary E. Thoman, Member

Randal M. Wendling, Member

ATTEST:

Cynthia L. Lane, County Clerk

Ratify Comments on RMP's Application to Increase Rates

Commissioner Thoman moved to ratify the comments submitted by the CLG, and previously reviewed by the board, the RMP's Application to Increase Rates. Commissioner Schoenfeld seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Ratify Comments on Final Protest on the Wild Horse Proposed RMP Amendment and FEIS

Commissioner Thoman moved to ratify the comments submitted by the CLG, and previously reviewed by the board, the Final Protest on the Wild Horse Proposed RMP Amendment and FEIS. Commissioner Lloyd seconded the motion. The motion carried.

UW Extension Agreement

4-H Agriculture & Horticulture Educator Bridger Feuz and 4-H/Youth Development Ext Educator Marty Henry presented the MOU between the University of Wyoming and The Sweetwater County Board of County Commissioners. Deputy County Attorney John DeLeon was present to address the modifications that were made to the agreement. Following discussion, *Commissioner Thoman moved to sign the UW Extension Agreement and authorize the Chairman to sign. Commissioner Schoenfeld seconded the motion. The motion carried.*

District Board of Health Agreement

District Board of Health Director Kimberley Lionberger and Sarah Gruffey presented the District Health Department Agreement between the Board of County Commissioners for Sweetwater County and Sweetwater County District Board of Health. Deputy County Attorney John DeLeon was present to address the agreement for the first year which identifies the services/efficiencies that the Board of Health provides, recognizing the statutory components/language that discusses city appropriation, and funds received. Following discussion, *Commissioner Schoenfeld moved to approve the District Health Department Agreement between The Board of County Commissioners for Sweetwater County and Sweetwater County District Board of Health as presented with the amendment of section 4.1 adding \$539,255.00 in the section as it is left out from what the Commission has before them, and authorize the Chairman to sign. Commissioner Lloyd seconded the motion. The motion carried.*

Castle Rock Ambulance Agreement Extension

Castle Rock Hospital District CEO Bailie Dockter presented the Agreement between the Board of County Commissioners for Sweetwater County and the Castle Rock Hospital District. Following discussion, *Commissioner Thoman moved to approve this Castle Rock interim agreement, or whatever it's called, and authorize the Chairman to sign, in the amount of \$348,000.00 to be paid monthly. Commissioner Wendling seconded the motion. The motion carried with Commissioners Lloyd and Schoenfeld voting in opposition due to the complexity and dollar amounts continuing to change.*

Sweetwater Medics Ambulance Contract

Sweetwater Medics Director Ron Gatti presented the July 2022 Medical and Ambulance Services Contract. Following discussion, *Commissioner Wendling moved to approve the Agreement between Sweetwater County and Sweetwater Medics for payment for the next six months in the amount of \$700,792.26 with monthly payments of \$116,798.71 per month as presented and authorize the Chairman to sign. Commissioner Schoenfeld seconded the motion. The motion carried with Commissioners Lloyd and Schoenfeld voting in opposition due to the cost.*

Break

Chairman Smith called for a ten-minute break.

911 Joint Communication Contract Discussion

Commissioner Lloyd presented the City of Rock Springs, Wyoming, City of Green River, Wyoming, and Sweetwater County, Wyoming Amended Combined Communications Joint Powers Agreement sharing that the municipalities have reviewed. Commissioner Lloyd explained that the only difference is the cost-sharing percentages. Following discussion, *Commissioner Lloyd moved to approve the Joint Powers Communication Agreement as presented with the percentages as follows: Rock Springs 37.5%, Green River 25%, and Sweetwater County 37.5 % and authorize the Chairman to sign. Commissioner Schoenfeld seconded the motion. The motion carried with Commissioners Schoenfeld and Wendling voting in opposition.*

Board Appointments

Airport Board- Due to the Resignation of James Wamsley- This will fill an unexpired term through 7-1-23

Following discussion, *Commissioner Schoenfeld moved to appoint Sean Valentine to the Airport Board. Commissioner Wendling seconded the motion. The motion carried.*

Community Fine Arts Board – 3-Year Term due to expiring term of Joseph Hampton

Following discussion, *Commissioner Lloyd moved to re-appoint Joseph Hampton to the Community Fine Arts Board. Commissioner Schoenfeld seconded the motion. The motion carried.*

Library Board - 3 Year Term due to expiring term of Chris Propst

Following discussion, *Commissioner Lloyd moved to re-appoint Chris Propst to the Library Board. Commissioner Schoenfeld seconded the motion. The motion carried.*

Memorial Hospital- 5-Year Term due to expiring term of William Marty Kelsey

Following discussion, *Commissioner Schoenfeld moved to re-appoint William Marty Kelsey to the Memorial Hospital Board. Commissioner Thoman seconded the motion. The motion carried.*

Miners Hospital- 4-Year Term due to the expiring term of Ed Tardoni

Chairman Smith explained that at the current time, the Board of Trustees Members are unable to serve as an appointee to the Miners Hospital and are awaiting a response from Chair Taylor Jones to verify if a hospital employee would like to represent the Board of Trustees.

Museum Board - 3 Year Term due to expiring term of Ian Parker

Following discussion, *Commissioner Lloyd moved to appoint Deborah Alvarez to the Museum Board. Commissioner Schoenfeld seconded the motion.* The motion carried.

Planning & Zoning Commission -2 Vacancies- 3-Year Term due to expiring terms of Albert Kelly Richards and Rob Gerrard

Following discussion, *Commissioner Thoman moved to re-appoint Robert Gerrard and Kelly Richards to the Planning & Zoning Commission. Commissioner Wendling seconded the motion.* The motion carried.

Predatory Animal Board -3 Vacancies- 1 Vacancy due to the expiring term of Eric Berg (3 Year Term)

1 vacancy due to Jim Burnett serving as an at-large secretary/treasurer (3-year term)

1 vacancy due to Randy Laughter not being eligible due to owning livestock- will fill an unexpired term through 7-1-23

Following discussion, *Commissioner Schoenfeld moved to appoint Michael Davidson to the Predatory Animal Board. Commissioner Thoman seconded the motion.* The motion carried.

Following discussion, *Commissioner Thoman moved to appoint Wesley Zufelt to the Predatory Animal Board. Commissioner Schoenfeld seconded the motion.* The motion carried.

Following discussion, *Commissioner Thoman moved to appoint Angela Wilson to fill the unexpired term through 7-1-23 to the Predatory Animal Board. Commissioner Schoenfeld seconded the motion.* The motion carried.

Solid Waste Disposal District #2- Bairoil/Wamsutter Board -3 Vacancies- 3 Year Term due to expiring terms of Seth Rouch, Lowell Clawson, and Gary Waldner

Following discussion, *Commissioner Wendling moved to reappoint Seth Rouch and Lowell Clawson to the Solid Waste Disposal District #2 Board. Commissioner Schoenfeld seconded the motion.* The motion carried.

Due to not having a third applicant residing in the area, the third vacancy will be filled once applications are received for consideration.

Solid Waste Disposal District (Farson/Eden Valley) Board -2 Vacancies- 3 Year Term due to expiring terms of Scott Johnson and Ron Kobbe

Following discussion, *Commissioner Thoman moved to re-appoint Scott Johnson and Ron Kobbe to the Solid Waste Disposal District (Farson/Eden Valley) Board. Commissioner Schoenfeld seconded the motion.* The motion carried.

Southwest Counseling- 4 Year Term- 2 Vacancies due to expiring terms of Danielle Schumacher and Kathleen Neal

Following discussion, *Commissioner Thoman moved to appoint Kori Rossetti and Raven Beattieto to the Southwest Counseling Board. Commissioner Schoenfeld seconded the motion.* The motion carried.

STAR Transit Board - 3 Year Term- 3 Vacancies

2 vacancies due to the expiring terms of Stephen Shea and Lester Mauch

1 vacancy due to the resignation of Alexandria Roberson- this will fill an unexpired term through 7-1-24

Following discussion, *Commissioner Schoenfeld moved to re-appoint Stephen Shea and Lester Mauch to the STAR Transit Board. Commissioner Thoman seconded the motion.* The motion carried.

Following discussion, *Commissioner Lloyd moved to appoint Renee Muniz to the STAR Transit Board to fill the unexpired term through 7-1-24. Commissioner Schoenfeld seconded the motion.* The motion carried.

Fiber Optics Telecommunication Cooperative Joint Powers Board- 3-Year Term due to expiring term of Commissioner Lauren Schoenfeld- This appointment shall be a member of the Sweetwater County Board of County Commissioners

Following discussion, *Commissioner Wendling moved to re-appoint Commissioner Lauren Schoenfeld to the Fiber Optics Telecommunication Cooperative Joint Powers Board. Commissioner L seconded the motion.* The motion carried.

Leading the Way for Growth & Expansion in SWCO Seminar Series

SEDC Specialist Kayla McDonald presented the dates for the seminar series for Leading the Way for Growth and Expansion in Sweetwater County. The Commission expressed its appreciation for the update.

SWCO Community Assessment Presentation

Grants Manager Krisena Marchal and Align Consultant Tiffany Comer presented the results of a recent Community Assessment in which the overall purpose is to identify key causes and conditions of poverty so that solutions can be explored as a planning requirement of the Community Services Block (CSBG) Grant Act.

Executive Session- Personnel

Chairman Smith entertained a motion to enter into an executive session for personnel. *Commissioner Schoenfeld so moved. Commissioner Lloyd seconded the motion.* The motion carried.

After coming out of the executive session, Chairman Smith explained that no action was required.

For the Good of the Order

Commissioner Schoenfeld

Commissioner Schoenfeld shared with the Commission the Rocky Mountain Community performance plan. Commissioner Schoenfeld provided an update on the Specific Purpose Tax and shared that she has sent out a Resolution for municipalities to review. Commissioner Schoenfeld explained that a number of Component Units/outside agencies have reached out to the Board

regarding liaisons and requested that a letter be sent explaining that there is no longer a liaison system set up but rather a point of contact and requesting the agencies come before the entire board for updates.

Granicus

County Clerk Cindy Lane presented the updated Granicus contract outlining the approved amount of \$23,527.93. *Commissioner Wendling moved to approve the updated changes, approve the contract with Granicus, and authorize the Chairman to sign. Commissioner Lloyd seconded the motion.* The motion carried with Commissioner Schoenfeld voting in opposition.

Commissioner Lloyd

Commissioner Lloyd reported on the meetings he attended for the Library Board, CLG, and had a conversation with Star Director Mary Seppie. Commissioner Lloyd shared that Chief Zimmerman will conduct the fire meeting on June 22, 2022, at Fire District No. 1, and noted that will get information from the Capital Committee to view vehicle needs. Commissioner Lloyd addressed the ambulance committee and is excited to go into contracting but it still needs a lot of work on a long-term funding method.

Commissioner Thoman

Commissioner Thoman reported on the meetings she attended for Wyoming Landscape Executive Committee, Intergovernmental Special Purpose Tax, CLG, and Harriett Hageman’s forum. Commissioner Thoman provided the Commission with the Ashley National Forest Deep Dive meeting updates and expressed that she will be working with Eric Bingham. Commissioner Thoman expressed condolences on the passing of Kent Connelly’s wife.

Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Board this day, the meeting adjourned subject to the call of the Chairman at 1:45 p.m. Chairman Smith announced that immediately following the meeting, the Board will conduct a budget workshop.

This meeting is available on the Sweetwater County YouTube channel. Links for specific meetings are available on the County website. Administrative Assistant Sally Shoemaker respectfully submitted the minutes.

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF SWEETWATER COUNTY, WYOMING

Jeffrey W. Smith, Chairman

Roy Lloyd, Member

Lauren Schoenfeld, Member

Mary E. Thoman, Member

Randal M. Wendling, Member

ATTEST:

Cynthia L. Lane, County Clerk

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June 23, 2022
Green River, WY

The Board of County Commissioners met this day at 8:30 a.m. for a special meeting with all Commissioners present. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

Approval of Agenda

Commissioner moved to approve the agenda as presented. Commissioner seconded the motion. The motion carried.

FY 23 Budget Public Hearing

Accounting Manager Bonnie Berry presented the Fiscal Year 2023 budget and outlined the changes that were made since the June 21, 2022 budget workshop. Following discussion, the commission offered their comments on the budget process. Chairman Smith expressed that due to the time commitment that the Commissioners put into, everyone received a raise with the exception of the Board of County Commissioners. Chairman Smith opened the public hearing. Hearing no comments, the public hearing was closed.

Adoption of the FY 2023 Budget

Commissioner Wendling moved to approve the Resolution to Provide Income Necessary to Finance the FY 2022/2023 Budget as presented. Commissioner Lloyd seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. Following a roll call vote, the motion was approved with Commissioner Johnson voting in opposition.

RESOLUTION TO PROVIDE INCOME NECESSARY TO FINANCE BUDGET

WHEREAS, on the 23rd day of June, 2022, this Board adopted a County Budget for the 2022-2023 fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, calling for the following appropriations:

OFFICE/DEPARTMENT	SALARIES AND BENEFITS	OPERATING	CAPITAL	APPROPRIATION
COMMISSIONERS	\$ 379,342	\$ 88,691	\$ -	\$ 468,033
ENGINEERING	\$ 414,563	\$ 58,965	\$ -	\$ 473,528
FACILITIES CUSTODIAL	\$ 1,056,955	\$ 58,620	\$ -	\$ 1,115,575
FACILITIES MAINTENANCE	\$ 670,339	\$ 1,027,315	\$ 31,300	\$ 1,728,954
FACILITIES PARKS & REC	\$ 314,755	\$ 287,998	\$ 2,700	\$ 605,453
FIRE MARSHALL	\$ 12,868	\$ 517,345	\$ -	\$ 530,213
FLEET/VEHICLE MAINTENANCE	\$ 221,149	\$ 167,600	\$ 5,000	\$ 393,749
GENERAL COUNTY ADMINISTRATION	\$ -	\$ 207,690	\$ -	\$ 207,690
GRANTS ADMINISTRATION	\$ 172,166	\$ 2,870	\$ -	\$ 175,036
HUMAN RESOURCES	\$ 374,950	\$ 47,400	\$ 1,650	\$ 424,000
RISK MANAGEMENT	\$ -	\$ 541,000	\$ 6,262	\$ 547,262
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	\$ -	\$ 15,800	\$ -	\$ 15,800
IT DEPARTMENT	\$ 1,012,117	\$ 825,113	\$ 117,275	\$ 1,954,505
JUVENILE PROBATION	\$ 473,096	\$ 21,560	\$ -	\$ 494,656
LAND USE	\$ 657,181	\$ 149,880	\$ 2,500	\$ 809,561
PURCHASING	\$ 427,850	\$ 24,650	\$ 2,000	\$ 454,500
ROAD AND BRIDGE	\$ 2,485,470	\$ 1,134,005	\$ 5,000	\$ 3,624,475
VETERANS SERVICES	\$ 253,027	\$ 25,400	\$ 7,700	\$ 286,127
COUNTY ASSESSOR	\$ 833,062	\$ 161,465	\$ -	\$ 994,527
COUNTY ATTORNEY	\$ 3,035,783	\$ 116,875	\$ -	\$ 3,152,658
COUNTY CLERK	\$ 1,385,608	\$ 64,600	\$ 9,550	\$ 1,459,758
ELECTIONS	\$ 333,631	\$ 180,410	\$ 2,531	\$ 516,572
CLERK OF DISTRICT COURT	\$ 739,374	\$ 81,300	\$ 3,324	\$ 823,998
COUNTY CORONER	\$ 236,348	\$ 75,672	\$ -	\$ 312,020
COUNTY SHERIFF	\$ 10,700,088	\$ 1,436,086	\$ 115,897	\$ 12,252,071
COUNTY TREASURER	\$ 1,014,656	\$ 79,610	\$ -	\$ 1,094,266
CORE COUNTY	\$ 27,204,378	\$ 7,397,920	\$ 312,689	\$ 34,914,987
GRANT PROJECTS				\$ 5,161,701
CAPITAL PROJECTS AND EQUIPMENT OVER \$10,000				\$ 2,350,310

AGENCY	APPROPRIATION
BOYS&GIRLS CLUB	\$ 36,000
CASTLE ROCK HOSPITAL DISTRICT	\$ 1,195,000
CHILD DEVELOPMENTAL CENTER	\$ 25,000
CLIMB WYOMING	\$ 3,000
FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER	\$ 45,150
FOOD BANK	\$ 23,340
VIRS	\$ 104,500
YOUTH HOME	\$ 139,203
YWCA	\$ 238,452
HUMAN SERVICES	\$ 1,809,645
GOLDEN HOUR SENIOR CENTER	\$ 211,800
YOUNG AT HEART	\$ 222,000
SENIOR CENTERS	\$ 433,800
CONSERVATION DISTRICT	\$ 221,160
UW EXTENSION/4H	\$ 105,219
EDEN VALLEY IMPROVEMENT DIST	\$ 35,000
RED DESERT ROUNDUP RODEO	\$ 8,400
STAR	\$ 112,603
TREATMENT COURT	\$ 8,000

CARBON COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT	\$	12,000
GAL	\$	145,000
PUBLIC DEFENDER	\$	167,000
RS GR SW CO-COMB COMM JPB	\$	1,248,035
SOUTHWEST WYOMING REGIONAL AIRPORT	\$	371,231
SKYWEST AIRLINES INC SUBSIDY	\$	690,120
SWEETWATER MEDICS	\$	700,793
TITLE 25	\$	288,488
SWEETWATER EVENTS COMPLEX	\$	285,000
SW CO BOARD OF HEALTH	\$	539,255
TOTAL	\$	7,180,749

FUND	APPROPRIATION
GENERAL COUNTY	\$ 49,607,747
SWEETWATER EVENTS COMPLEX	\$ 4,335,185
SWEETWATER COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM	\$ 3,444,828
SWEETWATER COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM	\$ 392,360
SOUTHWEST COUNSELING SERVICE	\$ 14,883,382
MEMORIAL HOSPITAL OF SWEETWATER COUNTY-MAINTENANCE	\$ 1,448,215
MEMORIAL HOSPITAL OF SWEETWATER COUNTY	\$ 109,082,074
SWEETWATER COUNTY DISTRICT BOARD OF HEALTH	\$ 2,024,773
CO ROAD FUND FUEL TAX	\$ 2,675,000
IMPACT TAX	\$ 415,579
INMATE ENTERPRISE	\$ 90,000
DRUG SEIZURE	\$ 14,681
PARKS & RECREATION	\$ 54,000
SWEETWATER COUNTY ROAD FUND	\$ 5,075,000
CDC TAX FUND – OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE	\$ 100,000
SWEETWATER COUNTY INSURANCE	\$ 10,943,150
TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS	\$ 204,585,974

RESERVES	
GENERAL RESERVE	\$ 27,524,438
AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN RESERVE	\$ 5,735,573
TOTAL RESERVES GENERAL COUNTY	\$ 33,260,011

AND WHEREAS, after deducting all other cash and estimated revenue, it is necessary that the following amounts be raised by general taxation, and in order to raise such sums of money, it is necessary that levies be made for the 2022-2023 fiscal year ending June 30, 2023 as shown opposite each fund:

	TAX REQUIREMENT AMOUNT	TAX MILL LEVY
GENERAL COUNTY	\$24,173,296	9.079472
SWEETWATER EVENTS COMPLEX	\$ 2,267,335	0.851609
SWEETWATER COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM	\$ 3,048,400	1.144977
SWEETWATER COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM	\$ 361,210	0.135671
SOUTHWEST COUNSELING SERVICE	\$ 650,488	0.244323
MEMORIAL HOSPITAL OF SWEETWATER COUNTY - MAINTENANCE	\$ 1,448,215	0.543948

NOW, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners that the foregoing levies be made for the 2022-2023 fiscal year ending June 30, 2023.

Dated this 23rd day of June, 2022.

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF SWEETWATER COUNTY, WYOMING

Jeffrey W. Smith, Chairman

Roy Lloyd, Member

Lauren Schoenfeld, Member

ATTEST:

Mary E. Thoman, Member

Cynthia L. Lane, County Clerk

Randal M. Wendling, Member

Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Board this day, the meeting adjourned subject to the call of the Chairman at 8:51 a.m.

This meeting is available on the Sweetwater County YouTube channel. Links for specific meetings are available on the County website. Administrative Assistant Sally Shoemaker respectfully submitted the minutes.

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF SWEETWATER COUNTY, WYOMING

Jeffrey W. Smith, Chairman

Roy Lloyd, Member

Lauren Schoenfeld, Member

ATTEST:

Mary E. Thoman, Member

Cynthia L. Lane, County Clerk

Randal M. Wendling, Member

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	DATE	AMOUNT	WARRANT #'S	ADVICE #'S
EAL	6/17/2022	921,302.42	115287-115365	37503-37504
EAL	6/24/2022	238,251.12	115366-115423	37505-37507
EAL				

	Check #	Advice #
Payroll Run		

TOTAL AMOUNT \$1,159,553.54

Vouchers in the above amount are hereby approved and ordered paid this date of 07/05/2022

Jeffrey W. Smith, Chairman

Roy Lloyd, County Commissioner

Lauren Schoenfeld, County Commissioner

Mary E. Thoman, County Commissioner

Attest:

County Clerk

Randal M. Wendling, County Commissioner

Authorization for Abate/Rebate of Ad Valorem Taxes

JULY 5TH MEETING

NOVC	TAXPAYER	ACCOUNT	TAX DIST	VALUATION	TAX YEAR	ADJUSTMENTS	REASON	A/R NUMBER
	ARROWHEAD CONCRETE	143581	105	-64994	2018	-4925.31	OUT OF BUSINESS	7122
	GARTH WILKEY	104941	203	-360	2022	-22.55	MOVED OUT OF STATE	7222
	KIMBERLY THOMPSON	103157	151	-471	2021	-34.50	TAKEN TO DUMP	7322

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF SWEETWATER COUNTY, WYOMING

Jeffrey W. Smith, Chairman

Roy Lloyd, Member

Lauren Schoenfield, Member

Mary E. Thoman, Member

Randal M. Wendling, Member

Attest:

Cynthia L. Lane, County Clerk



SWEETWATER

C·O·U·N·T·Y



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING REQUEST FORM

Meeting Date Requested: July 5, 2022	Contact Phone and E-mail: 307-389-7707, kpendleton@sweetwaterevents.com
Presenters Name, Title and Name of Organization: Kandi Pendleton, Executive Director Sweetwater Events Complex	Exact Wording for Agenda: FY2023 Tax Warrant Agreement
Preference of Placement on Agenda & Amount of Time Requested for Presentation Prefer early, 5 minutes	Will there be handouts? (If yes, include with meeting request form) No
Will handouts require SIGNATURES: Yes PLEASE CHECK THE BOX AND BRIEFLY EXPLAIN IF YOUR ITEM SHOULD BE MARKED CONFIDENTIAL: <input type="checkbox"/>	If you are submitting a Resolution or Proclamation, please forward in word format to shoemakers@sweetwatercountywy.gov
Additional Information:	
I'll forward the warrant agreement after it's signed for the Fair Board on 6/28/22.	

INSTRUCTIONS:

- All requests to be added to the agenda, along with handouts and original documents to be signed, must be submitted in writing on the “Meeting Request Form” by Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. prior to the scheduled meeting and returned in person or electronically to Administrative Assistant Sally Shoemaker at: shoemakers@sweetwatercountywy.gov
****If your handout is not accompanied with the request, your request may be dismissed and you may reschedule for the next meeting provided the handout(s) are received.****
- If you are presenting a **Resolution or Proclamation**, it must be submitted in Word Format and emailed to: shoemakers@sweetwatercountywy.gov
- As always, if you are unable to attend the meeting after being placed onto an agenda, please send a representative in your place or your item may be rescheduled.
- In order to determine placement on the agenda, please review the county website www.sweet.wy.us on Thursday afternoon by clicking “Commissioner’s Agenda”.
- If a request to be placed on an agenda is received **AFTER** the deadline, you will be considered for the next meeting date.

WARRANT AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT is entered into this ____ day of _____, 2022, by and between the Sweetwater County Fair Board, hereinafter "Board," of Sweetwater County, Wyoming, and Commerce Bank of Wyoming, of Rock Springs, Sweetwater County, Wyoming, hereinafter "Bank."

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, the Board uses and desires to continue to use Bank as a Depository for Board funds; and

WHEREAS, the Board derives its funding, in part, through a property tax levy; and

WHEREAS, it is contemplated that at various times during the remainder of the Board's current fiscal year the Board will be required to borrow funds to meet operation expenses; and

WHEREAS, Bank is willing to lend Board funds as needed up to a maximum limit at any given time of seventy-five per cent (75%) of the anticipated 2022-2023 fiscal year property tax revenues of the Board remaining uncollected, provided, however, pursuant to Wyoming Statutes 18-4-103, such warrants shall not exceed, in any event, the current obligations for the necessary expenses for continuing the services and functions for which the Fair Board is responsible, and the expenses of the Fair Board, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023;

NOW THEREFORE, IN CONSIDERATION OF THE PROMISES AND MUTUAL COVENANTS, PROMISES AND AGREEMENTS HEREIN CONTAINED, THE PARTIES STIPULATE, AGREE AND ACKNOWLEDGE AS FOLLOWS:

1. **BANK AS DEPOSITORY OF BOARD FUNDS:** The Board agrees to use Bank as a depository of its funds. Said funds held on deposit at Bank shall be withdrawn on the orders or warrants of the Board.

2. **PERSONS AUTHORIZED TO SIGN ORDER OR WARRANTS:** The following persons have the authority to sign Board orders or warrants, namely:

Kandi Pendleton	Title: Executive Director
Robert Spicer	Title: Chair
Robert B. Zotti	Title: Vice-Chair
Tommy Thoman	Title: Secretary
Janet Hartford	Title: Treasurer
Roger Torgersen	Title: Trustee
Koral Hueller	Title: Trustee
Paul Zancanella	Title: Trustee

All orders or warrants must contain at least two (2) authorized signatures, subject to the following limitations: **NONE**

Attached hereto are true copies of signature cards that contain the signatures of the persons authorized to sign Board orders or warrants, to be drawn upon the warrant account to be established pursuant to this agreement, which signature cards are incorporated herein by this reference.

The person or persons authorized to sign Board orders or warrants may be changed by the Board from time to time by notifying the Bank in writing of such change and supplying Bank with a properly executed signature card for each person added as an authorized signature.

The Bank shall honor all orders or warrants that contain on their face the signature of those persons authorized to sign Board orders or warrants not to exceed at any given time an aggregate amount equal to \$1,700,501 or seventy-five percent (75%) of the anticipated revenues from the 2022-2023 property tax levy for the benefit of the Board remaining uncollected, whichever shall be less, in overdrafts on the Board's account at Bank during the term of this agreement.

3. **LIABILITY OF BANK:** Bank shall honor all the Board's orders and warrants covered by the provisions of this agreement without regard to the payee named herein, and without regard to the purpose for which the funds may be used. Bank shall not be liable for any loss or any injury to the Bank with respect to Bank's duty to honor the Board's orders or warrants pursuant to the provisions of this agreement.
4. **DEPOSITS TO THE BOARD'S ACCOUNT:** Checks, orders and warrants naming the Board as payee may be deposited to the Board's checking account upon any Board endorsement. Checks, orders, and warrants naming Board as payee may be cashed or credited to another account upon the endorsement of the persons named herein above in Paragraph 2.
5. **WARRANTS AS EVIDENCE OF DEBT:** Every warrant of the Board redeemed by the Bank shall become a loan to the Board by the Bank. Each person who is authorized to sign such warrants shall, as an agent of the Board, be authorized to borrow money pursuant to this agreement from the Bank on behalf of and in the name of the Board, and to deliver said warrants or other obligations to the Board.
6. **RATE OF INTEREST ON WARRANTS:** The rate of interest charged against all the Board's warrants redeemed by the Bank shall be two and one-quarter percent (2.25%).

Interest charged on each warrant redeemed by Bank shall accrue daily on such warrant from the date such warrant is posted to the warrant account established in accordance with Paragraph 8 herein, until the date such warrant is paid in full by the Board.

The form of warrant to be utilized by the Board for its purposes under the terms of this agreement is attached hereto and by this reference made a part hereof.

7. **FINANCIAL REPORTING OF BOARD:** Until all warrants issued by the Board hereunder shall have been paid in full, the Board shall provide Bank with internally generated financial statements including revenue and expenditure information on all Board operations, within fifteen (15) days following each calendar quarter-end, beginning with quarter ended September 30, 2022. The Board will also provide to Bank a certified copy of the County Assessor's final valuation of the property within the Board for fiscal year 2022-2023.
8. **WARRANT ACCOUNT:** Board will establish a warrant account with Bank for the purpose of negotiating its warrants. Each warrant shall be drawn payable to the Sweetwater County Fair Board and will be deposited in the general operating account of the Board maintained in the Bank, for the purpose of providing for the day-to-day cash flow needs of the Board. The rate of interest to be paid upon each warrant shall be stated within the warrant.
9. **TAX LEVY OF BOARD:** The accrued interest and principal of all outstanding Board warrants shall be secured by the property tax received by the Board from the office of the Treasurer of Sweetwater County, Wyoming, hereinafter "Treasurer," which tax revenues are hereby assigned by the Board and by the Board of County Commissioners of Sweetwater County, Wyoming to the Bank for such purpose. Bank has the right to notify the Treasurer in writing of the principal and interest due and owing to the Bank by the Board on all outstanding warrants.
10. **TERMINATION:** This agreement shall terminate on June 30, 2023, the last day of the current fiscal year of the Board. Upon termination of this agreement, all amounts due and owing to Bank by the Board pursuant to the provisions of this agreement shall become immediately due and payable. All amounts due and payable to the Bank by the Board upon the termination of this agreement shall be secured by the property tax revenues due to the Board from the Treasurer, and Bank may make demand upon such tax revenues as provided for in Paragraph 9 herein.
11. **DEFAULT:** The Board further agrees that the Board shall be in default and will have breached this agreement should the Board fail to comply with all the terms and conditions herein.

The Bank's remedies upon a default to the Board shall be cumulative and are as follows:

- a. The Bank shall be able to dishonor all warrants after the date of default and without notice of default to the Board.
 - b. The Bank shall be able to call immediately due and payable all amounts due and owing to the Bank.
 - c. The Bank shall be able to notify the Treasurer to pay over to Bank all monies Treasurer holds for the Board or shall receive for the Board up to the amount due and owing to the Bank from the Board pursuant to the terms of this agreement.
 - d. Any other remedies available at law or in equity to the Bank.
12. **ATTORNEY'S FEES:** In the event it becomes necessary to enforce any of the terms of this agreement, either with or without suit, the losing party agrees to pay the prevailing party all

reasonable costs and expenses, including a reasonable attorney's fee that may be made and incurred.

13. **ENTIRE AGREEMENT:** This instrument contains the entire agreement between the parties, and shall not be modified, changed or discharged in any manner except by an instrument in writing, executed by the parties. If any terms or provision of this agreement or the application thereof to any person or circumstance shall to any extent be invalid or unenforceable, the remainder of this agreement, or the application of such term or provision to persons or circumstances other than those as to which it is held invalid or unenforceable shall not be affected thereby, and each term and provision of this agreement shall be valid and enforced to the fullest extent permitted by law.
14. **WAIVER OF BREACH:** The waiver of either party hereto of any breach or any condition or provision of this agreement by the other party shall be limited to the particular instance, and shall not operate or be deemed to waive any future breach or breaches of said condition or provision. This failure of either party to insist in any one instance or more upon the performance or any of the conditions or provisions of this agreement, or to excise any right or privilege herein conferred, shall not be construed as waiving any such condition, provision, right or privilege, but the same shall remain in full force and effect.
15. **NOTICES:** All notices, demands, requests and other required or permitted to be given hereunder shall be deemed duly given if delivered, or if mailed by registered or certified mail, postage prepaid, if addressed to the following:

Board: Kandi Pendleton, Executive Director
Sweetwater County Fair Board
3320 Yellowstone Road
Rock Springs, Wyoming 82901

Bank: Tiffany Kindel, Vice President
Commerce Bank of Wyoming
P O Box 3000
Rock Springs, Wyoming 82902

Either party shall have the right to specify in writing, in the manner above-provided, another address to which subsequent notices or writing to such party shall be given.

Any notices given hereunder shall be deemed to have been given as of the date delivered or mailed. Personal delivery of such written notice shall have the same effect as notice given by mail.

16. **BINDING:** The terms, covenants and agreements of this agreement shall apply to, bind and insure to the benefit of the parties hereto, and their successors and assigns.

17. APPLICABLE LAW: The agreement shall be construed by the laws of the State of Wyoming.

18. COUNTY APPROVAL: The Board of County Commissioners of Sweetwater County, Wyoming, hereinafter "Commissioners", by its execution of the Warrant Agreement as reflected hereinafter, hereby consents to the within transaction by the Sweetwater County Fair Board (to the extent such consent is required by law) and joins in the pledge and assignment of the 2021-2022 fiscal year tax revenues levied by the Commissioners on behalf of the Sweetwater County Fair Board as provided in Paragraph 9 of this Warrant Agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties have set their hands the date first written herein above.

Commerce Bank of Wyoming

Sweetwater County Fair Board

Title: Vice President



Title: Chairperson

Attest:

Attest:

Title:



Title: office manager

Board of County Commissioners of Sweetwater County

Title: Chairperson

Attest:

Title:

State of Wyoming)

:SS

County of Sweetwater)

The above and foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this _____ day of _____, 2022 by _____ the _____ of **Commerce Bank of Wyoming.**

WITNESS my hand and official seal.

Notary Public

My Commission Expires:

State of Wyoming)

:SS

County of Sweetwater)

The above and foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this 28th day of June, 2022 by Robert Spicer the Chairperson of the **Sweetwater County Fair Board.**

WITNESS my hand and official seal.



Erika Lee Koshar
Notary Public

My Commission Expires:

July 2, 2023

State of Wyoming)

:55

County of Sweetwater)

The above and foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this _____ day of _____, 2021 by _____ the _____ of the **Board of County Commissioners** of Sweetwater County, Wyoming.

WITNESS my hand and official seal.

Notary Public

My Commission Expires:

**ACCEPTANCE OF ASSIGNMENT OF
BOARD FUNDS**

I, Joe Barbuto, the duly elected Treasurer of Sweetwater County, Wyoming hereby accept the assignment of SWEETWATER COUNTY FAIR BOARD FUNDS to Commerce Bank of Wyoming according to the terms and conditions of the foregoing Warrant Agreement entered into on this _____ day of _____, 2022 between Commerce Bank of Wyoming and _____ the _____ Board.

DATED the _____ day of _____, 2022.

Title: Treasurer



SWEETWATER C·O·U·N·T·Y



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING REQUEST FORM

Meeting Date Requested: July 5, 2022	Contact Phone and E-mail: coveye@sweetwatercountywy.gov 922-5369
Presenters Name, Title and Name of Organization: Emily Covey, Coordinator, Sweetwater County Emergency Management Joe Tomich, SCSO	Exact Wording for Agenda: Adoption of Wyoming Region 4 Hazard Mitigation Plan - 2022
Preference of Placement on Agenda & Amount of Time Requested for Presentation 5-10 Minutes	Will there be handouts? (If yes, include with meeting request form) Yes (sent electronically)
Will handouts require SIGNATURES: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PLEASE CHECK THE BOX AND BRIEFLY EXPLAIN IF YOUR ITEM SHOULD BE MARKED CONFIDENTIAL:	If you are submitting a Resolution or Proclamation- please email, in Word Format, to shoemakers@sweet.wy.us
Additional Information:	
Important part of receiving Hazard Mitigation funding as well as compiling with State and Federal regulations	
Must be signed by all Commissioners.	

INSTRUCTIONS:

- All requests to be added to the agenda, along with handouts and original documents to be signed, must be submitted in writing on the “Meeting Request Form” by Wednesday at 12:00 p.m. prior to the scheduled meeting and returned in person or electronically to Administrative Assistant Sally Shoemaker at: shoemakers@sweet.wy.us
****If your handout is not accompanied with the request, your request may be dismissed and you may reschedule for the next meeting provided the handout(s) are received.****
- If you are presenting a **Resolution or Proclamation**, it must be submitted in Word Format and emailed to: shoemakers@sweet.wy.us
- As always, if you are unable to attend the meeting after being placed onto an agenda, please send a representative in your place or your item may be rescheduled.
- In order to determine placement on the agenda, please review the county website www.sweet.wy.us on Thursday afternoon by clicking “Commissioner’s Agenda”.
- If a request to be placed on an agenda is received **AFTER** the deadline, you will be considered for the next meeting date.

RESOLUTION # _22-07-CC-01

ADOPTING THE WYOMING REGION 4 HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN – 2022

Whereas, Sweetwater County (Sweetwater County Commissioners) recognizes the threat that natural hazards pose to people and property within our community; and

Whereas, undertaking hazard mitigation actions will reduce the potential for harm to people and property from future hazard occurrences; and

Whereas, the U.S. Congress passed the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (“Disaster Mitigation Act”) emphasizing the need for pre-disaster mitigation of potential hazards;

Whereas, the Disaster Mitigation Act made available hazard mitigation grants to state and local governments;

Whereas, an adopted Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan is required as a condition of future funding for mitigation projects under multiple FEMA pre- and post-disaster mitigation grant programs; and

Whereas, Sweetwater County Emergency Management fully participated in the FEMA-prescribed mitigation planning process to prepare this Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan; and

Whereas, the Wyoming Office of Homeland Security and the Federal Emergency Management Agency Region VIII officials have reviewed the “Wyoming Region 4 Hazard Mitigation Plan - 2022”, and approved it contingent upon this official adoption of the participating governing body;

Whereas, Sweetwater County desires to comply with the requirements of the Disaster Mitigation Act and to augment its emergency planning efforts by formally adopting the Wyoming Region 4 Hazard Mitigation Plan - 2022.

Whereas, adoption by the governing body for Sweetwater County (Sweetwater County Commissioners), demonstrates the jurisdiction’s commitment to fulfilling the mitigation goals and objectives outlined in this Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Whereas, adoption of this legitimacies the plan and authorizes responsible agencies to carry out their responsibilities under the plan.

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that Sweetwater County (Sweetwater County Commissioners) adopts the “Wyoming Region 4 Hazard Mitigation Plan – 2022”.

Signed and Approved this 5th Day of July, 2022

THE BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS OF SWEETWATER
COUNTY, WYOMING

Jeffrey W. Smith, Chairman

Roy Lloyd, Member

Lauren Schoenfeld, Member

ATTEST:

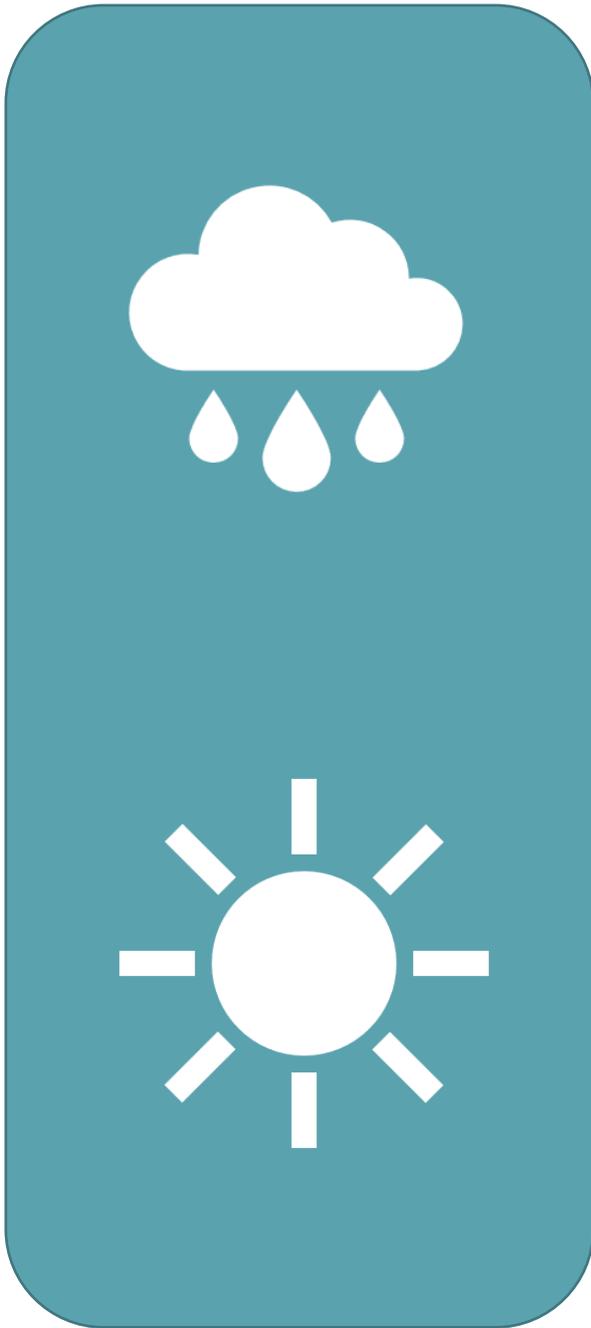
Mary E. Thoman, Member

Cynthia Lane, County Clerk

Randal M. Wendling, Member

Certifying Official

WYOMING REGION 4
HAZARD MITIGATION
PLAN - 2022



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Professional planning services provided by:



1 Mitigation Strategy

1.1 Purpose

The Wyoming Region 4 Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) was developed by Lincoln, Sweetwater, and Uinta counties using a regional, multi-jurisdictional approach. This regional collaboration guides hazard mitigation planning to build long- and short-term strategies to reduce or alleviate loss of life, personal injury, and property damage that can result from hazard impacts. The Region’s plan serves as a tool to help identify and prioritize mitigation actions, use resources effectively, and guide future programs and policies.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) defines mitigation as “*any sustained action taken to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and property from hazards and their effects*”. Mitigation measures vary significantly based on the type of activity, structural and nonstructural, and the type of hazard. Recognizing and implementing practical mitigation activities is crucial to the safety of communities and requires involvement of a variety of stakeholders. Different perspectives in the planning process create opportunities to find the best data, history, and ideas for feasible and impactful mitigation actions.

1.2 Scope

This 2022 HMP has been prepared to meet requirements set forth by FEMA and the Wyoming Office of Homeland Security (WOHS) in order for Wyoming Region 4 and its jurisdictions to be eligible for funding and technical assistance from state and federal hazard mitigation programs. This Plan will be updated and FEMA-approved within its five-year expiration date.

1.3 Authority

This HMP has been adopted by Wyoming Region 4 and its participating jurisdictions in accordance with the authority granted to counties and municipalities by the State of Wyoming. This Plan was developed in accordance with current state and federal rules and regulations governing local HMPs. The plan shall be monitored and updated on a routine basis to maintain compliance with the following legislation and guidance:

- Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C., Section 322, Mitigation Planning, as enacted by Section 104 of the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (P.L. 106-390) and by FEMA’s Interim Final Rule published in the Federal Register on February 26, 2002, at 44 CFR Part 201.

The following FEMA guides and reference documents were used to prepare this document:

- FEMA. Local Mitigation Plan Review Guide. October 1, 2011.
- FEMA. Local Multi-Hazard Mitigation Planning Handbook. March 2013.

1.4 Mission Statement and Goals

Hazard mitigation planning is the process through which hazards are identified across the Region and within each participating county and jurisdiction. These hazards are analyzed using data, historical events, and potential impacts on people and property to determine mitigation goals. Utilizing the

analysis and goals, actions are created to increase resiliency and sustainability within communities and reduce risk. These actions are prioritized by the planning committee and implemented by responsible agencies. This plan documents the Region's hazard mitigation planning process, identifies hazards and risks specific to each county, identifies actions for implementation, and outlines a regular review of the progress.

Mission Statement

The mission statement for Wyoming Region 4 is *“reduce or eliminate risk to human life and property from hazards.”*

Goals

The following are the hazard mitigation goals for this plan.

Goal 1: Strengthen public infrastructure

Goal 2: Improve local mitigation capabilities

Goal 3: Protect people & property and reduce economic losses from hazard events

Goal 4: Reduce local costs of disaster response and recovery

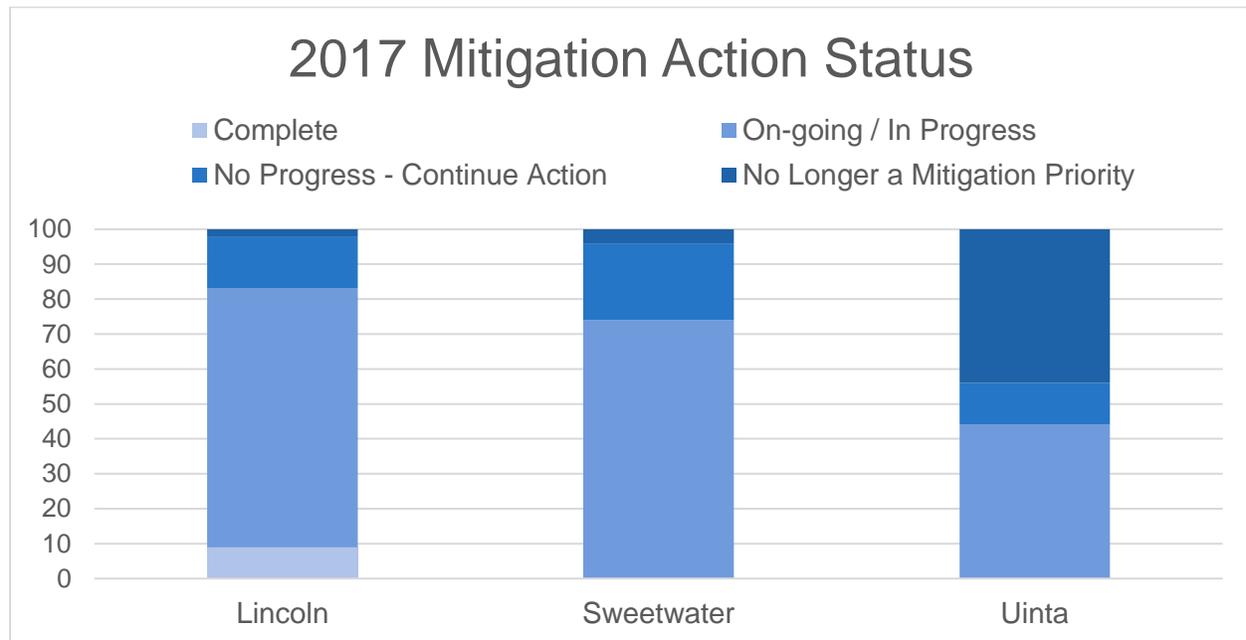
Goal 5: Increase public awareness and implementation of hazard mitigation

Goal 6: Utilize FEMA's High Hazard Potential Dam Grant Program to reduce disaster risk from dam incidents

1.5 Past Mitigation Action Reporting

The current status (as of January 2022) of all mitigation actions included in the 2017 plan are located in each respective county's annex. Of the 105 collective actions across the Region, a majority are either on-going or in progress. Figure 1.1 provides a summary of this status report.

Figure 1.1 2017 Mitigation Action Status



Those actions labeled as on-going or continue action are carried forward into this plan’s 2022 mitigation actions. Actions labeled as in progress will continue to be implemented by communities going forward but are not specifically included as 2022 mitigation actions.

1.6 2022 Mitigation Actions

Information for each county’s new and deferred mitigation actions are included in each county annex of this updated 2022 HMP. To prioritize the mitigation actions in this plan, each county and participating jurisdictions reviewed FEMA’s STAPLEE methodology, as well as several additional criteria. This allowed for a careful review of the feasibility of mitigation actions.

Following is a list of the prioritization criteria that each county and jurisdiction considered. FEMA mitigation planning requirements indicate that any prioritization system used shall include a special emphasis on the extent to which benefits are maximized, according to a cost-benefit review of the proposed projects.

- Positive Cost-Benefit
- Social considerations – life / safety impact
- Social equity
- Administrative considerations – administrative / technical assistance
- Economic considerations – project cost / reductions in future disaster costs
- Alignment with other local objectives
- Environmental considerations
- Lifeline protection
- Legal considerations
- Availability of local funding

Ultimately, it was decided by each Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee (HMPC) that mitigation actions would be prioritized using a three-tiered High, Medium, or Low methodology. The top priorities for each county were identified using live polling during HMPC meetings and can be found in each respective county annex.

As part of the planning process, a “Mitigation Strategy Action Idea Guide” was developed. This guide identified additional mitigation actions that were considered during development of this mitigation strategy. **Section 6: Mitigation Strategy Action Idea Guide** includes this guide for future reference.

Tables located in each annex illustrate detailed information about mitigation actions, both 2022 Actions and reporting on past actions. Table 1.1 is an example of the Mitigation Action table used for each county and participating municipalities for 2022 actions.

Table 1.1 2022 Mitigation Actions Example Table

ID	Jurisdiction	Title	Description	Priority	Goals Met	Lead & Support Org.	Hazard(s) Mitigated	Potential Funding Source	Expected Complete Year
2022-00	County, Town, City	Equip Shelter for Power Outage	Install back-up generator at shelter	High/Medium/Low	1,4	County EM, Municipality	Winter Storm / Flood	Grants/Budget	On-going

1.7 Plan Monitoring and Maintenance

The 2022 plan will be updated by the FEMA approved five-year anniversary date, as required by the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000, or following a major disaster event. Future HMP updates will account for any new hazard vulnerabilities, special circumstances, or new information and data that becomes available. During the five-year review process, the following questions will be considered as criteria for assessing the effectiveness of the Region 4 HMP.

- Has the nature or magnitude of hazards affecting the county changed?
- Have growth or development changes affected risk and exposure to hazards?
- Are there new hazards that have the potential to impact the county?
- Do the identified goals and actions address current and expected conditions?
- Have mitigation actions been implemented or completed?
- Has the implementation of identified mitigation actions resulted in expected outcomes?
- Are current resources and capabilities adequate to implement the plan?
- Should additional local resources be committed to address identified hazards?

Issues that arise during monitoring and evaluation which require changes to the hazard risk and vulnerability summary, mitigation strategy, and other components of the plan will be incorporated during future updates.

The county coordinators are responsible for monitoring progress and ensuring mitigation strategies are relevant and realistic. This will involve conducting an annual review of the plan with the existing HMPC, as well as following any hazard event. New plans in the communities, either in progress or published, will be considered during these reviews and an emphasis will be placed on utilizing these reviews for

plan integration opportunities. An annual mitigation action progress report will be prepared by the HMPC and kept on file to assist with future updates.

1.8 Planning Integration

Each county in the Region maintains comprehensive emergency management plans which are developed through collaboration and planning with county departments, jurisdictional agencies and representatives, non-profit and community organizations, and the private sector.

In hazard mitigation planning, using this same collaborative effort presents opportunities for creating an HMP that is used to inform, engage, and strengthen other plans. Planning integration is crucial to minimizing redundancies, increasing effective spending of funds, and addressing community issues in innovative ways. Hazard mitigation planning can be incorporated into a variety of regional, county, and jurisdictional plans. Some of these plans include:

- Comprehensive plans
- Land development and building codes
- Emergency response and recovery plans
- Built environment and natural resource plans
- Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPP)

The work done in the 2022 Region 4 HMP will be incorporated into all applicable county and municipal planning efforts going forward. Coordination with other community planning efforts is an important aspect to mitigation planning and will allow Region 4 to leverage resources and funding to achieve projects that are beneficial across communities. Each county annex details the specific integration plans for the HMP.

1.9 Continued Public Engagement

Sustaining support of mitigation within a community is dependent upon continued public engagement. Creating opportunities for this continued involvement, during both plan monitoring and integration efforts, will be crucial to the buy-in and enthusiasm for further public participation. By providing updates, education, and success stories for mitigation actions, the community can offer input about future actions and better understand the hazards that can impact the community.

Utilizing successful outreach tools, such as social media and website postings, local media and radio, and continued public surveys, the public can be involved in annual reviews and offer insight for updates. While giving the community a platform to be involved in the process, this outreach also creates important and necessary opportunities for continued mitigation education.

2 Planning Process

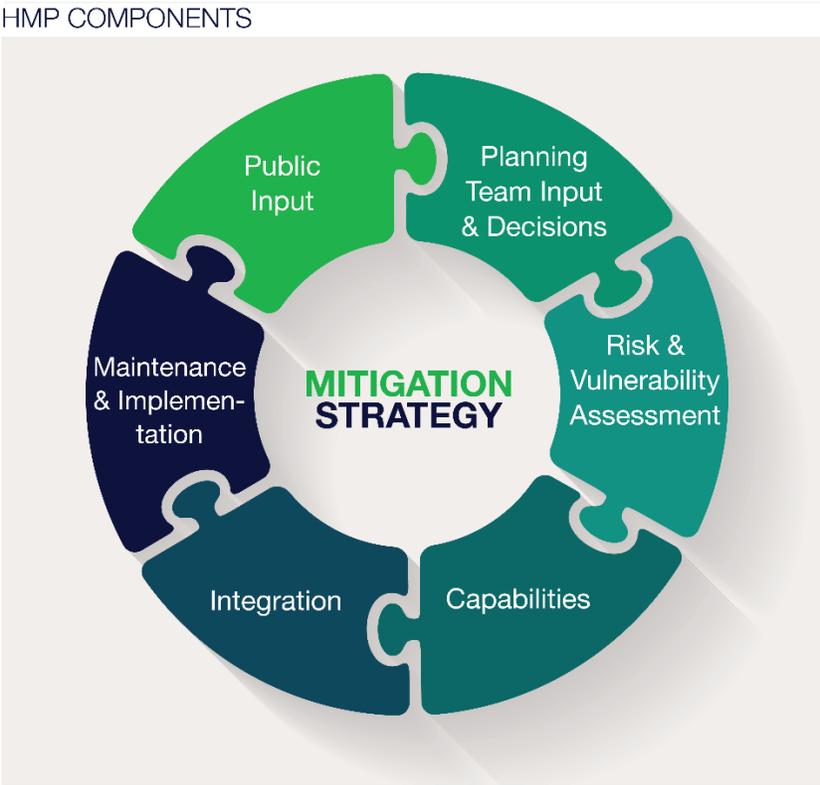
2.1 Background

The 2022 Wyoming Region 4 Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) is an update to the 2017 plan, which created a collaboration to build upon the individual county and community plans in the Region. This 2022 plan update is a community-led effort to continue to strengthen and expand the HMP and further reduce the risks posed by hazards. HMPs must be updated and approved by FEMA every five years to remain current and maintain eligibility for certain federal Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) Grants.

2.2 Update Process and Methodology

The planning process involved a series of meetings with the HMPC for each county in the Region, while also gathering and analyzing the latest hazards data. These meetings involved feedback and guidance on plan content, communication for community outreach, and gathering public input to further inform the plan. The following section details the timeline and methods of public outreach, HMPC meetings, and plan development. A high-level summary of the components that assembled into the updated HMP is presented in Figure 2.1.

Figure 2.1 HMP Components



From a ‘big picture’ standpoint, the Region identified the following overarching project objectives:

- Obtaining FEMA Approval

- Remaining on schedule (especially important given the challenges presented by COVID)
- Broadening jurisdictional collaboration and participation
- Improving public engagement
- Incorporating FEMA's Lifeline construct
- Increasing mitigation grant funding pursuits

Input into the planning process came from multiple entities in each county, shown in Figure 2.2. The collective inputs from the counties were brought together to create an inclusive Regional HMP.

Figure 2.2 Planning Process Inputs

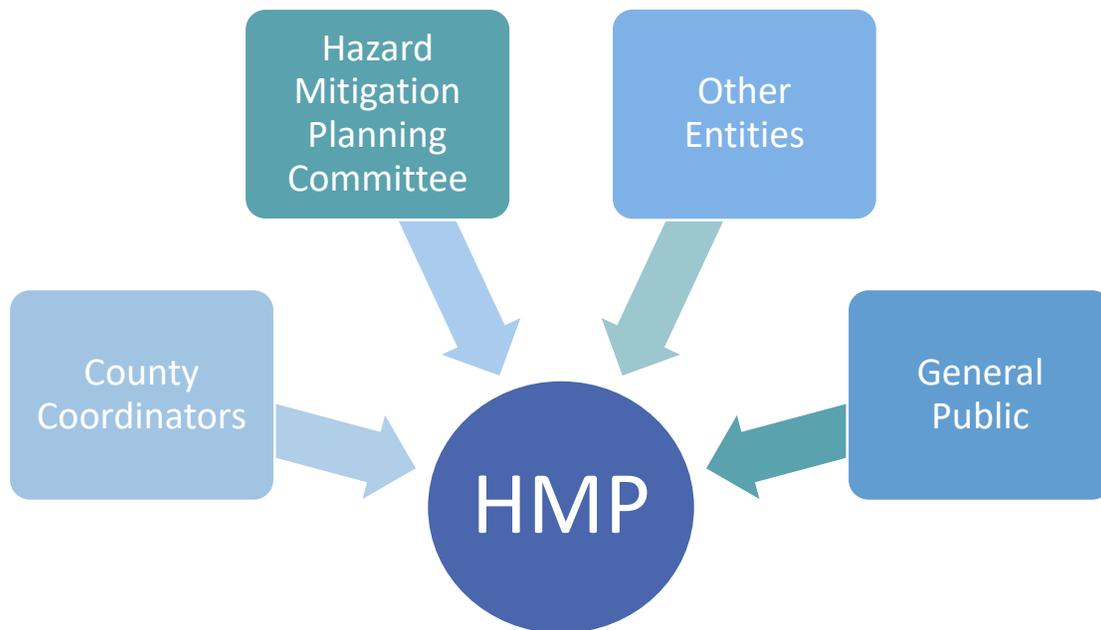


Figure 2.3 summarizes the project schedule, including planning committee and public touchpoints over the course of the planning process.

Figure 2.3 Project Timeline



2.3 Participating Communities

All counties, municipalities, and special districts in Region 4 were invited to participate in the planning process. They were informed of the participation requirements related to the adoption of the plan and the formation of the HMPC. The following jurisdictions were formal participants in the planning process.

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lincoln County • Afton • Alpine • Cokeville • Diamondville • Kemmerer • LaBarge • Opal • Star Valley Ranch • Thayne | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sweetwater County • Bairoil • Granger • Green River • Rock Springs • Superior • Wamsutter | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uinta County • Bear River • Evanston • Lyman • Mountain View |
|---|--|---|

Jurisdictional participation in the planning process was closely tracked to ensure all communities remained engaged across the planning process. Table 2.1 shows community participation at HMPC meetings and webinars.

Table 2.1 Planning Meeting Participation

Organization	County	Kickoff Webinar 2/18/21	Risk Assessment Meetings 6/8/21, 7/21/21 8/19/21	Mitigation Strategy Webinar 9/19/21, 9/23/21, 11/4/21	Individual Community Meetings & Webinars
County	Lincoln	X	X	X	
Afton	Lincoln	X			
Alpine	Lincoln			X	
Cokeville	Lincoln				1/24/2022
Diamondville	Lincoln				12/15/2021
Kemmerer	Lincoln			X	12/15/2021
LaBarge	Lincoln				9/22/2021
Opal	Lincoln				12/15/2021
Star Valley Ranch	Lincoln	X			
Thayne	Lincoln	X			
County	Sweetwater	X	X	X	
Bairoil	Sweetwater				1/10/2022
Granger	Sweetwater			X	
Green River	Sweetwater	X	X	X	
Rock Springs	Sweetwater	X	X	X	
Superior	Sweetwater			X	
Wamsutter	Sweetwater			X	
County	Uinta	X	X	X	
Bear River	Uinta		X	X	
Evanston	Uinta	X	X	X	
Lyman	Uinta		X	X	
Mountain View	Uinta				12/2/2021, 12/7/2021, 12/14/2021

2.4 Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee

Each county HMPC included members of participating local governments and districts, as well as public stakeholders, neighboring counties, private sector organizations, and federal agencies. The committees brought critical insight to the plan update, as well as local expertise on best available data and additional hazard information. Each county's HMPC participated in meetings, informed and reviewed plan content, and helped to distribute public outreach materials to their communities.

The HMPCs for each county were offered the opportunity to participate in development of the risk assessment, mitigation strategy development, plan review, public outreach, and plan maintenance strategies. The tables in **Section 5: County Annexes** present lists of HMPC members invited by each county, via email, to participate in the planning process. Each adopting jurisdiction's primary point of contact are shown in **BOLD**.

2.5 Planning Process

During the planning process, a total of seven planned HMPC meetings occurred. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, modifications were made to the intended engagement formats. All of the HMPC meetings were held virtually through interactive webinars, with instant polling and group discussions, to avoid the spread of the virus.

The instant polling was used to encourage dialogue in the virtual meetings throughout the process, through an online tool called Mentimeter. The program presents the results of polls, in real-time, to gather input from the HMPC and further discussions. The results of the polls are within each county annex to support what was heard and resulting decisions for the plan. Examples are illustrated on the following pages.

Wyoming Region 4 Pre-Kickoff Meeting (January 10th, 2021)

A pre-kickoff meeting was held with the county coordinators to ensure a common understanding of the planning process, roles and responsibilities of all entities involved, and the participation standards for all plan adoptees. This included a discussion on developing HMPC rosters for each county, with those who have previously been involved and new additions that would be beneficial to bring to the table. The comments and recommendations from FEMA on the current HMP were reviewed, as well as county input on the plan and past planning processes.

The hazards to be profiled, those in the current plan and potential additions, were considered and data collection began with the leads sharing the most recent data including hazard events since the last plan, lessons learned, and other firsthand experiences that would bring value to the plan. To have an overall picture of current progress in the counties, local planning efforts, in-process or recently completed, were identified. Public involvement was an important talking point during the meeting and the concepts of messaging, methods of outreach, and existing communication channels were assessed.

Post meeting requests included HMPC roster additions and edits, and best available GIS data based on needs for analysis.

Wyoming Region 4 Kickoff Meeting (February 18th, 2021)



A kickoff meeting brought together all three county HMPCs. Information was presented on the scope and purpose of the plan update, participation requirements of HMPC members, and the proposed project work plan and schedule. The project’s public involvement plan (PIP) was discussed, as well. The HMPC reviewed the hazard identification information for each county and the Region, as well as recounted the participating

jurisdictions. Opportunities for input on the existing plan and previous planning processes were given, as well as to share any sources of best available data and hazard events in the last five years. Discussion occurred on the definition and application of the hazards being added to the 2022 plan update. Figure 2.4 shows the responses, from all counties to the discussion about adding new hazards to the plan.

Figure 2.4 Region 4 HMPC Polling Responses

Do you agree with the following?



At the end of the meeting, participants were given four action items:

- Provide the best available hazard data and recent / ongoing community plans
- Help expand the Planning Committee roster
- Provide input on the public involvement plan
- Assist with dissemination of the public involvement plan’s messaging content

Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (HIRA) Meetings (June 8th, July 21st & August 19th, 2021)

Three risk assessment meetings, one specific to each county, were held to ensure that all participating jurisdictions were able to attend a meeting with information relevant to their communities. The information from these meetings was then looked at holistically for the Region.

The meetings began with a review of the existing goals and mission statement in the plan. Discussion of the goals resulted in updates to wording and addition of a new goal. Once the goals were updated, the Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (HIRA) was presented for review, both as a high-level

overview presentation and the draft copy for comment. Each hazard profiled was detailed as to the specific effects on each county in the respective meeting. This included detailing the past occurrences, losses and impacts experienced, and potential trends of each hazard. A comment period was established for the HMPC review of the draft HIRA, a crucial step prior to releasing the draft plan for public review.

This review of the draft was a post meeting request, as well as completing hazard risk rankings, capabilities assessments, developing new hazard mitigation actions and reporting on actions from the 2017 plan.

The FEMA Lifelines framework was a crucial part of the conversations in each county meeting. The framework is explained in **Chapter 4: Hazard Identification & Risk Assessment** and was an important tool for creating a comprehensive plan that addressed the critical functions and infrastructure in the counties. The Lifeline categories are shown in Figure 2.5.

Figure 2.5. FEMA Lifeline Categories



Utilizing the framework in the planning process began with identifying the Lifelines each county found to be priorities for mitigation. Live polling was used to gain an overview of how each HMPC perceived the Lifelines in their communities. The poll results for this discussion can be seen in Figure 2.6 through Figure 2.8.

Figure 2.6 Lincoln County Lifeline Mitigation Focus Poll Response

Which Lifelines should your communities focus mitigation efforts towards? (pick 2)

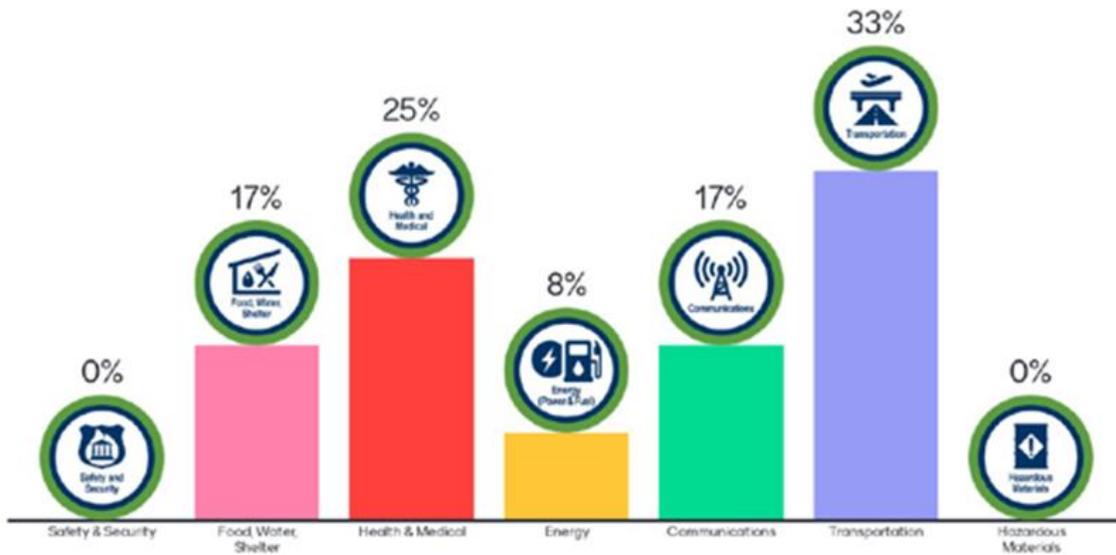


Figure 2.7 Sweetwater County Lifeline Mitigation Focus Poll Response

Which Lifelines should your communities focus mitigation efforts towards? (pick 2)

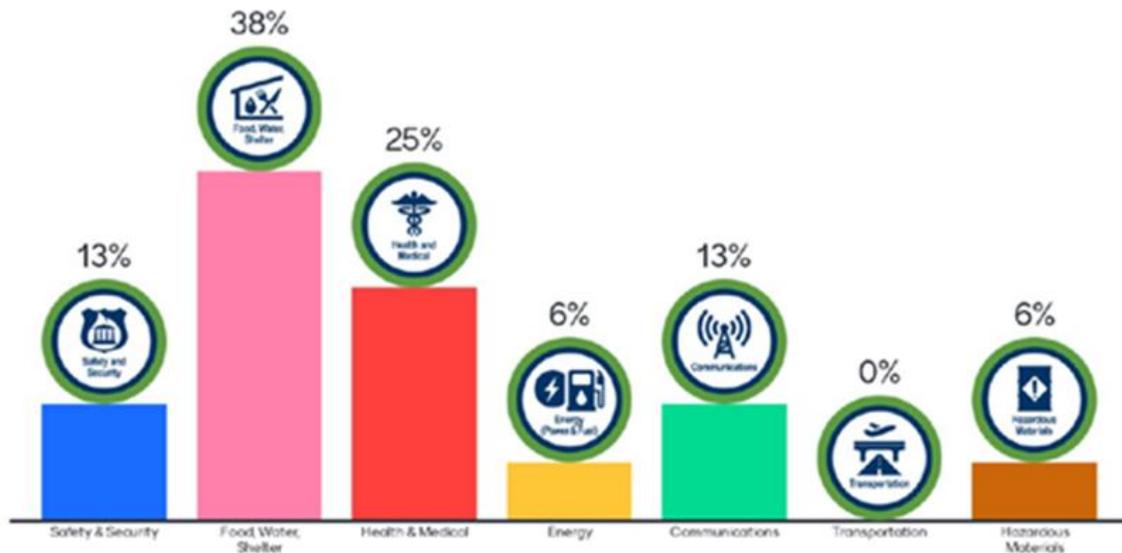
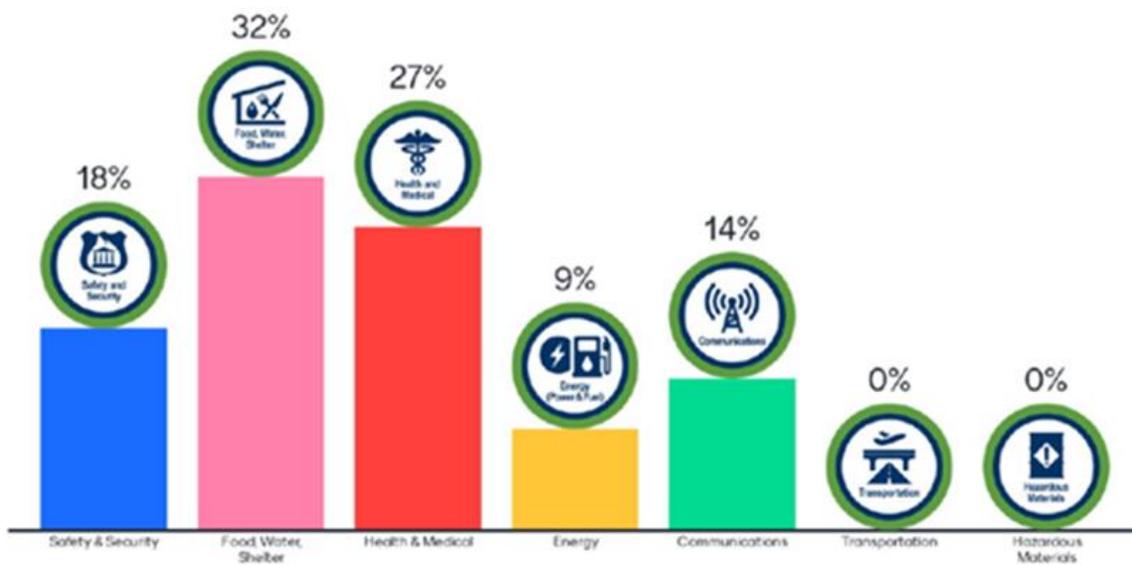


Figure 2.8 Uinta County Lifeline Mitigation Focus Poll Response

Which Lifelines should your communities focus mitigation efforts towards? (pick 2)



At the end of the meeting, participants were given the following action items:

- Assist with continued dissemination of the public involvement plan’s messaging
- Begin drafting new 2022 mitigation actions
- Complete a mitigation capability assessment
- Begin reporting on 2017 mitigation actions
- Provide additional comments on the mitigation strategy’s goals

Mitigation Strategy Meetings (September 19th, September 23rd & November 4th, 2021)

Following the risk assessment meetings, three separate mitigation strategy webinars were held to discuss the multiple factors that influence the success of mitigation planning and implementation in each county. The meeting had a focus on remaining plan requirements, which included a discussion about plan maintenance and implementation over the next five years. Opportunities for plan integration were discussed, as well.

Conversations from the HIRA meeting pertaining to the mitigation goals were revisited to ensure the committee was in agreement on those updates. The conversation then turned to new mitigation actions. Multiple resources and ideas were presented to the committee for their consideration, as jurisdictions continued developing new actions. Prioritization of those new actions was then discussed, as the group felt a number of criteria should be evaluated when ranking these actions.

The final risk assessment results were reviewed and the Lifeline assessment was presented again.

Extensive information was given about various grant programs, including FEMA's new Building Resilient Infrastructure & Communities (BRIC) and resources to help implement mitigation actions. The webinars concluded with further discussion of mitigation funding opportunities and how communities can prepare now for future grant applications.

HMP Individual Municipality One-on-Ones (On-going throughout Planning Process)

Region 4 county coordinators also facilitated a number of individual meetings and conversations with local municipalities over the course of the planning process. These meetings helped to inform and involve those municipalities that were unable to participate in HMPC meetings held during the planning process. It was important to each county that all municipalities were able to meet planning process requirements so they could adopt the plan and remain eligible to pursue mitigation grant funding opportunities.

Planning Committee Draft Plan Review

Upon completion of the final draft plan, the Planning Committee was provided an opportunity to review and comment on the document. Comments were received and were incorporated.

2.6 Public Involvement

During the planning process, the public was involved early on through community leader outreach, digital methods, and two surveys. The first public survey was developed to gather feedback for the HMPCs on topics related to hazard concerns and reducing hazard impacts. The survey gathered a variety of information including understanding of risk from local hazards, personal impacts from hazards, community characteristics, and input on mitigation needs and actions. The public gave input on strategies to reduce hazard impacts, giving insight into how community members viewed mitigation actions. The online survey was released on April 14th in each county and closed on September 10th, 2021. The counties provided links to the public survey by distributing it using social media, email, and posting the link on websites. The responses (44) were aggregated and shared with the county HMPC. The following figures illustrate the responses to the survey.

Figure 2.9 Survey Respondent Locations

Where do you live?

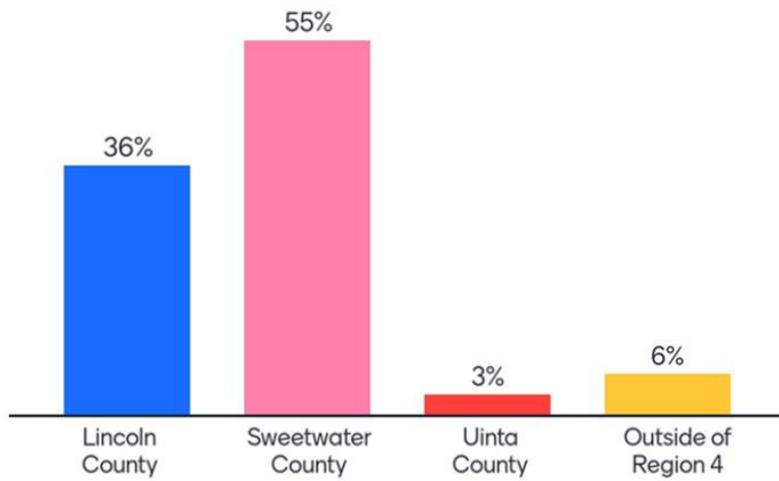


Figure 2.10 Survey Respondent Duration of Residence

How long have you lived in the area?

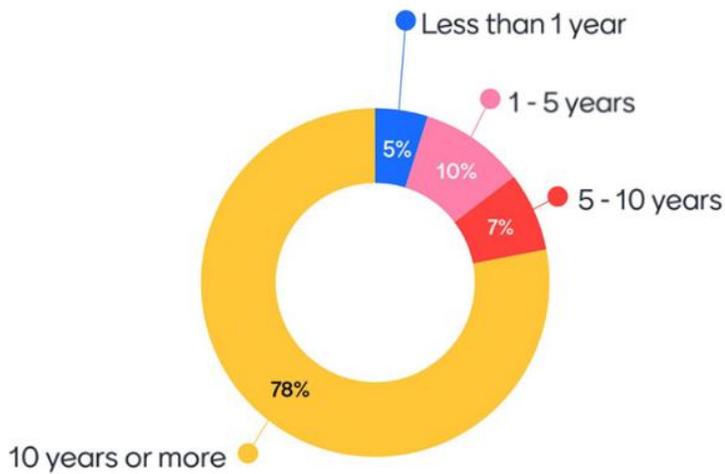


Figure 2.11 Survey Respondent – Number of Hazard Event Impacts

How many times has a hazard event significantly impacted your daily life (in last 5 years)?

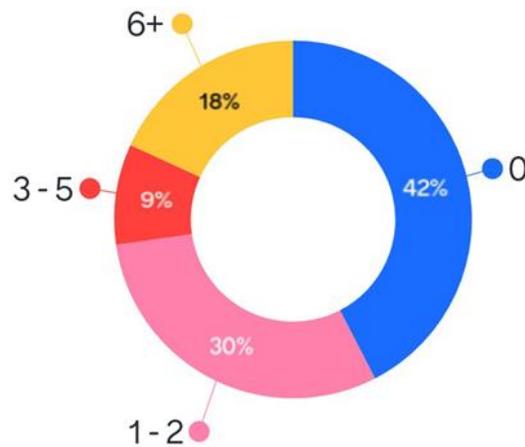


Figure 2.12 Survey Respondent Understanding of Region 4 Hazards

How well do you understand the risks posed by hazards that can impact Region 4?



The hazards profiled in the plan were presented to survey respondents to gauge their perception of risk. Figure 2.13 illustrates the responses ranking the hazards from least to most perceived risk. Figure 2.14 shows the level of concern of survey respondents for specific scenarios during and post disaster.

Figure 2.13 Region 4 Public Survey Hazard Risk Perception Ranking

Please rank the following hazards based on the risk they present to you and your community:

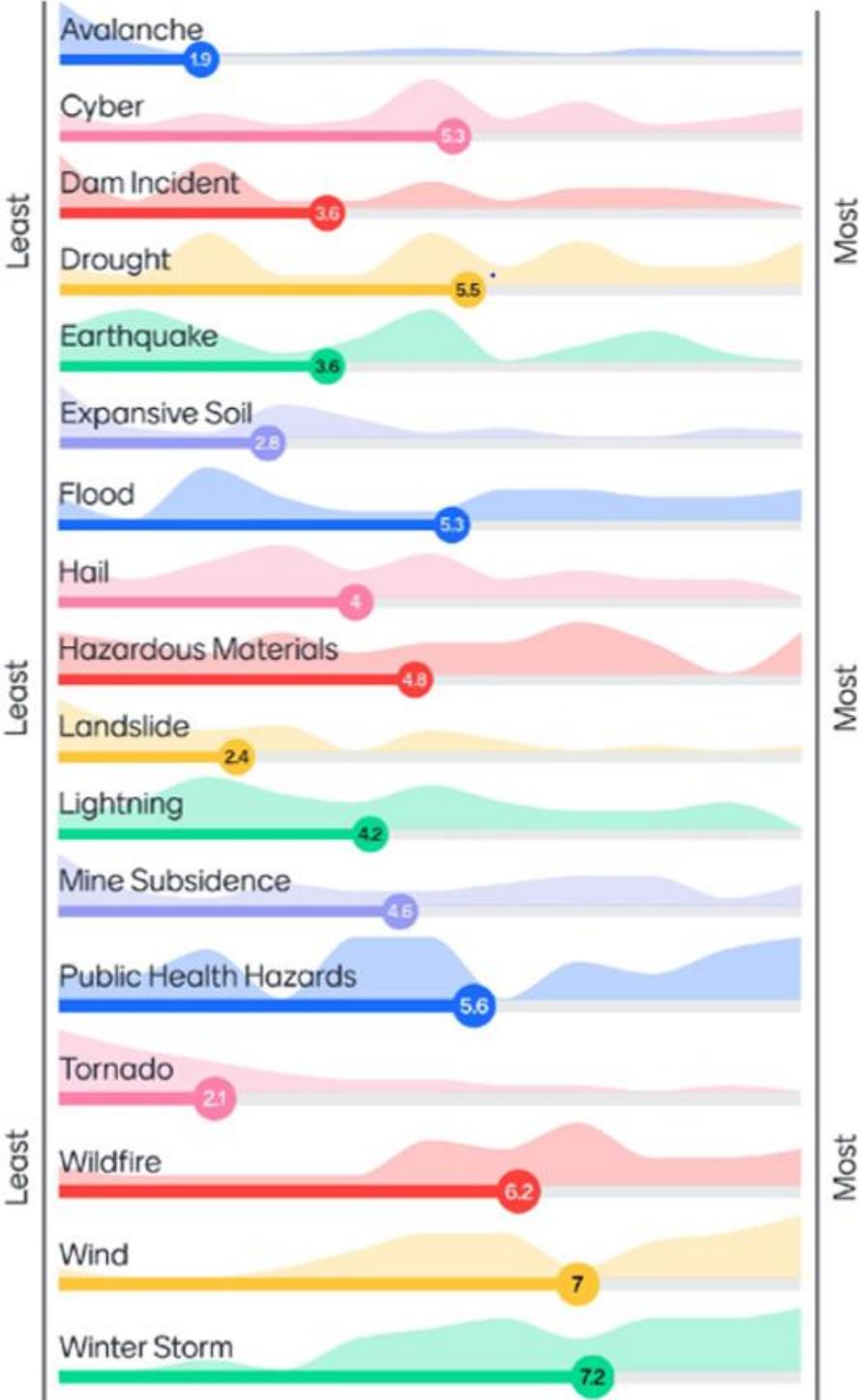


Figure 2.14 Public Concern Ranking for Scenarios During and Following a Disaster

How concerned are you about the following scenarios during and following a disaster?



The second public survey was developed to gather input on the mitigation strategy and understand the priorities of community members. The survey began with explanations of the different categories of mitigation to ensure an understanding of the content, before gathering the public’s perspectives. Figure 2.15 illustrates the explanations and examples included with the survey questions.

The responses illustrated what the public valued for mitigation categories in their communities. This is crucial knowledge for mitigation planning, as community buy-in is key to successful implementation. The community members also shared the areas where they saw a need for mitigation in their communities. These insights can bring attention to potentials areas and actions that those involved in mitigation planning may not recognize.

The online survey was released on August 19th in each county and closed on October 6th, 2021. The counties provided links to the public survey by distributing it using social media, email, and posting the link on websites. The responses (47) were aggregated and shared with the county HMPC. Figure 2.16 through Figure 2.18 show the support for each of the mitigation categories within the Region. Figure 2.19 shows the impressive percentage of survey respondents who have personally completed mitigation actions, followed by a list of suggested mitigation actions.

Figure 2.15 Category Definitions and Examples in Survey

Structure & Infrastructure Projects

These actions involve modifying existing structures and infrastructure to protect them from a hazard or remove them from a hazard area. This could apply to public or private structures as well as critical facilities and infrastructure.

This type of action also involves projects to construct manmade structures to reduce the impact of hazards. Many of these types of actions are projects eligible for funding through the FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance program.

Structure & Infrastructure Projects

- Acquisition / elevation of structures in flood prone areas
- Utility under-grounding
- Structural retrofits
- Flood walls and retaining walls
- Detention and retention structure
- Culverts
- Safe rooms



Local Plans and Regulations

These actions include government authorities, policies, or codes that influence the way land and buildings are developed and built.

Local Plans and Regulations

- Comprehensive plans
- Land use ordinances
- Subdivision regulations
- Development review
- Building codes and enforcement
- Capital improvement programs
- Open space preservation
- Stormwater management regulations & plans

Education & Awareness Programs

These are actions to inform and educate citizens, elected officials, and property owners about hazards and potential ways to mitigate them. These actions may also include participation in national programs, such as StormReady or Firewise Communities.

These types of actions provide a greater understanding and awareness of hazards and risk among local officials, stakeholders, and the public. This knowledge is likely to lead to implementation of other types of hazard mitigation.



Education & Awareness Programs

- Participation in national risk awareness programs
- Mailings to residents in hazard-prone areas
- Presentations to local schools, groups, and organizations
- Websites with maps and information
- Real estate disclosures
- Incentivize drought tolerant landscaping

Natural Systems Protection

These are actions that minimize damage and losses and also preserve or restore the functions of natural systems.

Natural Systems Protection

- Forest management
- Sediment & erosion control
- Stream corridor restoration
- Conservation easements
- Wetland restoration & preservation
- Defensible space



Figure 2.16 Survey Respondent Support of Mitigation Categories

What mitigation categories do you support?

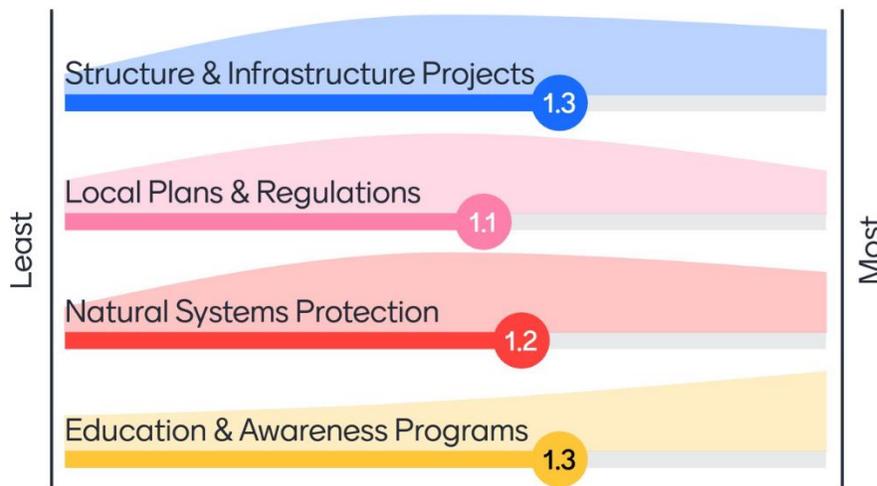


Figure 2.17 Survey Respondent Most Supported Mitigation Categories

What mitigation category do you MOST support?

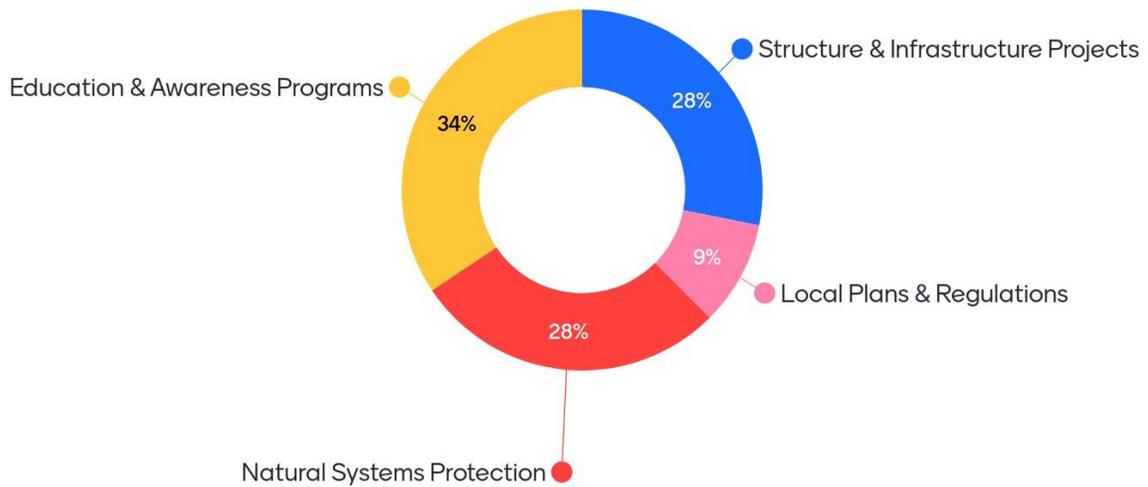


Figure 2.18 Survey Respondent Least Supported Mitigation Categories

What mitigation category do you LEAST support?

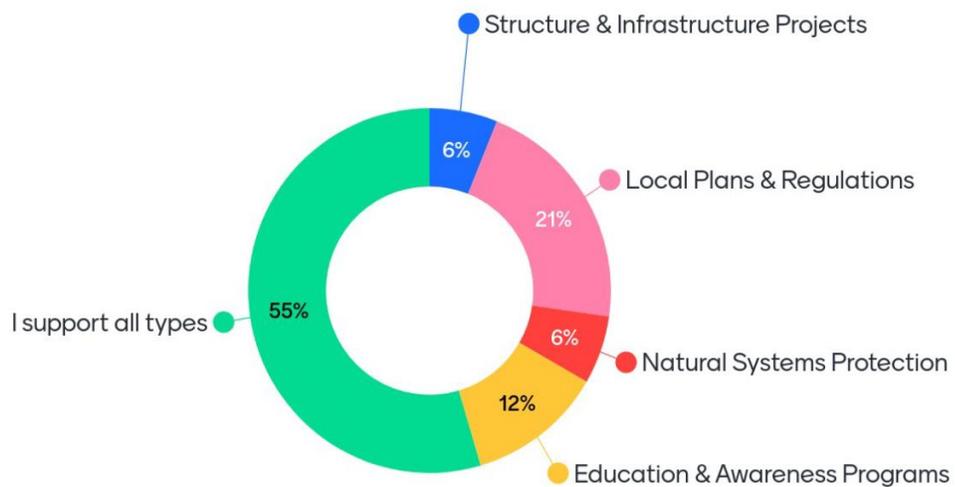
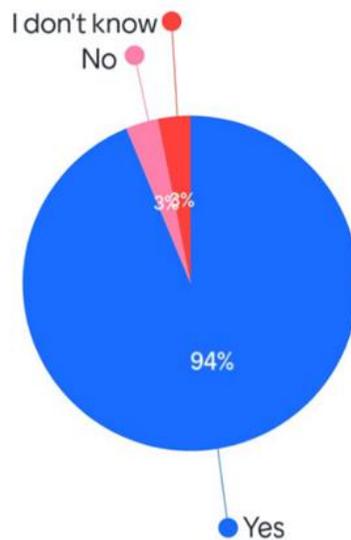


Figure 2.19 Survey Respondent Mitigation Action Application

Have you personally taken mitigation actions to make your home or business more resilient to hazards?



Also, as part of the survey, community members were asked “If you had the resources today, what mitigation project or action would you implement?” The following list are some of the answers from respondents:

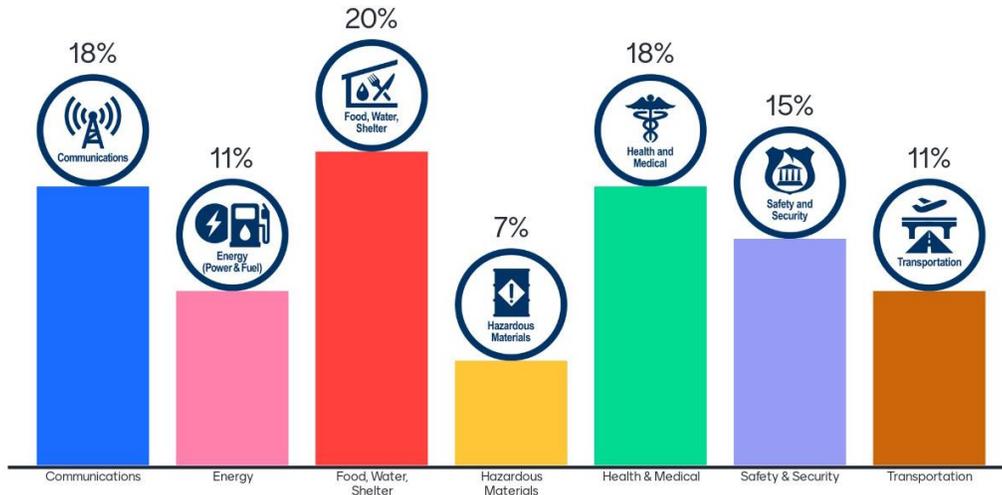
- Bitter Creek and Killpecker Creek, Green River flood mitigation
- Flood mitigation
- Water and food storage
- Public education on preparedness
- Wildfire mitigation
- Erosion Control
- Establishing and equipping shelters
- Subsidence mitigation
- Generator / solar / backup power installation
- Build a second bridge over Green River for evacuation redundancy
- Cyber safety for residents
- Repair / replacement of various infrastructure

The priorities of local mitigation based on the poll responses were consolidated into a “Mitigation Strategy Action Ideas Guide”. This guide was provided to the planning committee, to assist in creating a mitigation strategy that reflected the concerns and opinions of the residents in the planning area.

Survey respondents expressed their priorities when discussing Lifelines as well. Figure 2.20 shows the public opinion on which Lifelines are the most vital to mitigate. These categories are ranked relatively closely for the public and track closely overall with the HMPC’s priorities. The exception to these similarities is Lincoln County’s Lifeline priorities. The county lists Transportation as highest priority, Health & Medical as second, and Food, Water, & Shelter as third. Whereas the public and other counties in the Region have Food, Water, & Shelter as the highest priority, followed by Health & Medical.

Figure 2.20 Survey Respondent Lifeline Prioritization

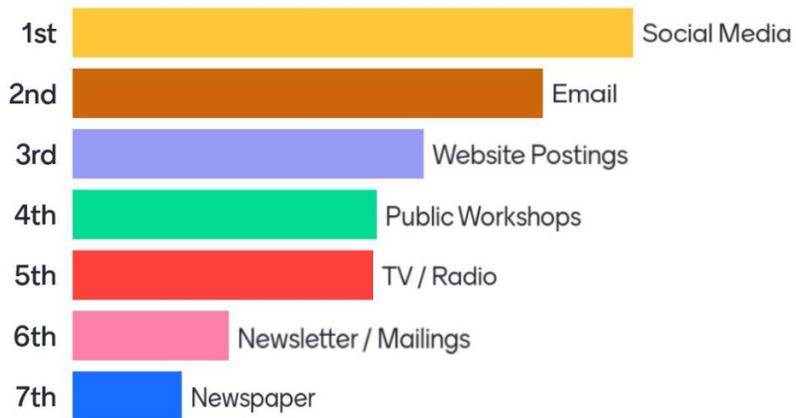
What are the Region's most vital lifelines to mitigate? (pick 3)



The importance of knowing how to reach the public in your community is crucial to continued success with engagement. Figure 2.21 shows the survey respondents responses to which method of communication works best for them with digital media and outreach being the top three responses. Public workshops as the fourth choice shows there is interest and opportunity for public involvement events in the Region.

Figure 2.21 Survey Respondent Preference for Communication

What is the most effective way for you to receive information about making your home and business more resilient to hazards?



Public Plan Review and Comment

Prior to finalizing the Regional plan, a draft was made available to the public for review and comment. The plan was made available through the State's Office of Homeland Security website, and a press release and social media were used to announce the public comment period. An online feedback form was provided to collect specific comments. Zero comments were received from the public.

3 Region 4 Community Profile

3.1 Geography and Climate

Wyoming Region 4 is comprised of Lincoln, Sweetwater, and Uinta counties in southwestern Wyoming. This region of the state is generally characterized by its location in the Rocky Mountains.

The region covers some 16,674 square miles and elevations range between 3,000 and 6,000 feet. The major rivers in the region include the Greys River, the Hams River, the Bear River, the Big Sandy River, the Little Muddy River, the Bitter River, and the Green River. Major roadways include Interstate 80, Highway 89, Highway 189, Highway 30, and Highway 191. A base map of the planning region is illustrated in Figure 3.1. A large percentage of the Region's land is public or federally managed, as shown in the land stewardship designations on Figure 3.3.

The climate of the Region 4 is characterized by dry winters with occasional wind-blown snow and periods of very cold temperatures. Springs are windy and highly variable, including the occasional blizzard, rapid and drastic temperature changes, and high levels of precipitation in the form of both snow and rain. Summers offer low humidity with warm days and cool nights. The fall is cool and dry. Overall, the area is considered semi-arid.

3.2 Historic Property and Cultural Resources

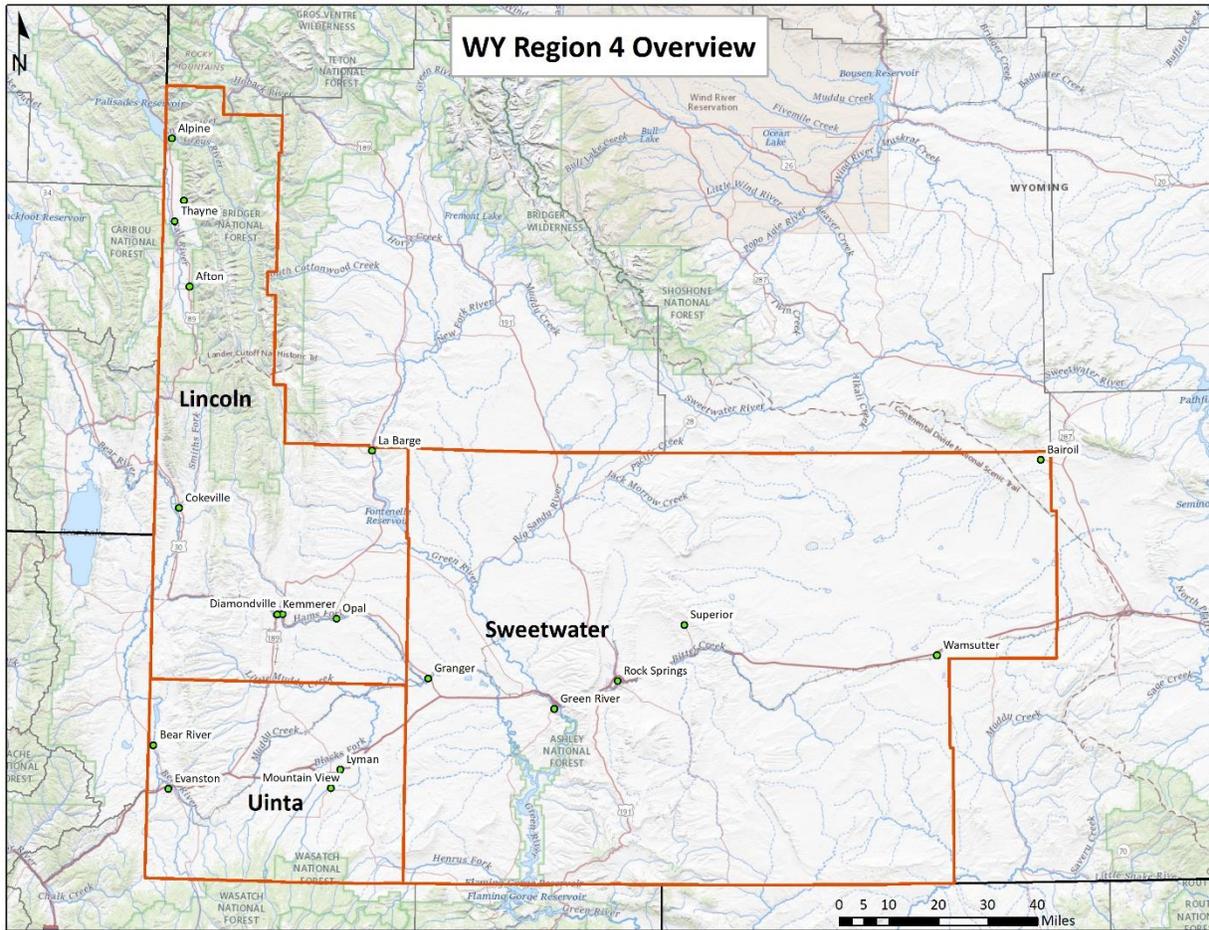
The Region is known for historic and cultural resources with each county offering a unique value to the Region.

In Uinta County, Fort Bridger State Historic Site maintains historic structures and offers entry to numerous trails. Bear River State Park is home to several miles of trails and an impressive array of wildlife, including bison and elk.

Sweetwater County has multiple preserved areas. The Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area, the White Mountain Petroglyphs, which are estimated to be between 200 and 1000 years old, and the Seedskaadee National Wildlife Refuge, which is made of more than 26,000 acres.

In Lincoln County, Fossil Butte National Monument contains some of the world's best preserved fossils in the flat-topped ridges, including fish, insects, plants, and other animals from the ancient subtropical landscape of Wyoming.

Figure 3.1 Wyoming Region 4 Overview



3.3 Population

Table 3.1 illustrates population estimates and projected population change for the planning region, as well as each county from 2020 - 2040. Overall, the Region will increase slightly in population, however projected fluctuations vary by county within the region. Sweetwater County and Uinta County will see decreases in projected population over the time-period. Whereas Lincoln County, will see consistent increases, totaling 14.9% by 2040.

Table 3.1 Planning Region Projected Population (5-year increments, 2020-2040)

County	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	Change 2020 to 2040	Percent Change 2020 to 2040
Lincoln	19,576	20,710	21,550	22,030	22,490	2,914	14.9%

County	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	Change 2020 to 2040	Percent Change 2020 to 2040
Sweetwater	42,640	41,910	41,390	41,620	41,780	-860	-2.0%
Uinta	20,230	19,980	19,710	19,770	19,790	-440	-2.2%
Region 4	82,446	82,600	82,650	83,420	84,060	1,614	2.0%

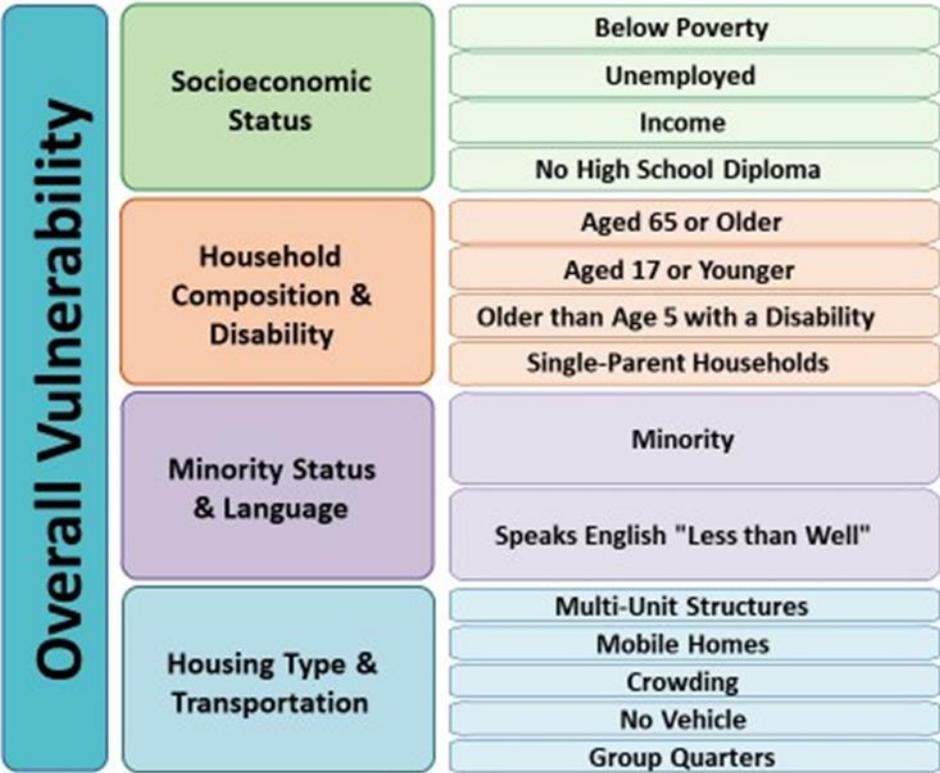
Source: US Census Bureau, Wyoming Department of Administration & Information, Economic Analysis Division, 2019 (<http://eadiv.state.wy.us>)

3.4 Community Inclusion

Community inclusion in preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation of hazards is a crucial component to the resilience of a community. This is especially important for those in the community who experience access and functional needs (AFN) during disasters. Access and functional needs are the factors which may limit a person, in an emergency situation, in their ability to communicate, maintain their health, act independently, access adequate transportation, and acquire necessary services and support.

These needs encompass a variety of social and economic factors, which are critical to consider when developing inclusive emergency systems and planning with those with AFN. Those factors are divided into four main categories: socioeconomic status, household composition & disability, language & minority status, and housing type & access to transportation. The components in these categories directly affect a community’s ability to prepare for, respond to, and recover from hazards and disasters. These categories can be seen in Figure 3.2 below.

Figure 3.2 Categories of Vulnerability



Source: CDC

Impacts of hazards fall disproportionately on those with access and functional needs in a community, for example: low income or unemployed individuals, children, the elderly, those with disabilities, and underrepresented racial/ethnic groups. This can be seen in situations needing self-evacuation which can be unmanageable for elderly people, people with disabilities and mobility issues, those with independent living difficulty, institutionalized individuals, and those without necessary finances and means of transportation.

In considering preparedness actions, individuals and families may have limited resources to invest into residential mitigation actions, their home may be a rental property, or they may not be physically capable of completing the needed actions. Social and economic factors like these have an effect on the safety of community members, decrease the ability of communities to recover from a disaster and inhibit the building of resilience against future disaster events. Because these factors create unequal conditions outside of disasters too, it is clear that planning with non-traditional community partners who understand everyday community experiences will be critical for planning inclusive emergency responses.

The plan update integrates community inclusion by assessing the needs of communities using data from the US Census and Centers for Disease Control (CDC). The tables below illustrate this data for each of the counties, as well as in comparison to the state and the country.

Table 3.2 is designed to aid in the improvement of local relationship building with organizations supporting access & functional needs, decision making, hazard prioritization, and emergency management activities. By incorporating community inclusion into the overall risk assessment of hazards,

local communities are able to identify more vulnerable areas and tailor their mitigation actions to accommodate all members of their community, including groups who may have difficulty accessing information and resources. This information can also be found in each county annex.

Table 3.2 Region 4 Snapshot of County and State Populations with Access and Functional Needs

	Lincoln County	Sweetwater County	Uinta County	Wyoming
Population (estimate), July 1, 2019	19,830	42,343	20,226	563,775
Percent of population under 18 years of age	26.4%	26.2%	26.4%	23.1%
Percent of population over 65 years of age	18.0%	12.1%	18.0%	17.1%
Disability				
Percent of population with a disability	13.9%	13.3%	16.7%	13.1%
Percent of population with a disability, under age 65	9.6%	12.3%	9.6%	8.9%
Poverty				
Percent of population, aged 18-64, whose income is below poverty level	6.4%	9.7%	8.5%	9.9%
Percent of population with a disability, aged 18-64, and whose income is below poverty level	17.4%	15.5%	22.9%	21.9%

Citation: U.S. Census Bureau, 2015-2019 American Community Survey

3.5 Economy

Gross Domestic Product is the total value of goods produced and services provided during one year. This includes both non-services related industries, such as farming, mining, and manufacturing and services related. Services related includes industries like retail trade, finance, insurance and real estate, and services such as food or entertainment.

The primary industry based on Gross Domestic Product in Region 4 is mining, including oil and gas extraction. Wyoming is estimated to contain 1.4 trillion tons of coal, making it the largest coal resource in the US, producing 39.3% of the nation’s coal in 2019. Four of the 16 coal mines in the state are located in Sweetwater (3) and Lincoln (1) Counties. Oil and natural gas production is a significant component of this industry, as well for Region 4. In 2019, Sweetwater County was the second largest natural gas producer in the state. There are numerous natural gas processing plants within the region.

The US Bureau of Economic Analysis shows that mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction contributed over \$7 billion to Wyoming Gross Domestic Product. In 2019, Lincoln County provided over \$124.8 million, Uinta County added \$48.5 million, and Sweetwater County was responsible for \$1.4 billion to the industry earnings.

Also important to the Region is the industry of government and government enterprises, which brought almost \$726.9 million to the combined Gross Domestic Product.

Tourism, including arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation, and food services, is an important part of the Region’s economy. Uinta County received the most tourism income, at just over \$84 million. Sweetwater County saw considerable income in this industry, almost \$79 million, in 2019. Lincoln County sees numerous tourists travel through on their way to Grand Teton National Park and Yellowstone National Park, which brought almost \$19 million to the County in 2019.

Table 3.3 is a comparison of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per county and the State, as a percentage of the total GDP for each county. These do not include all of the top 5 industries by earnings for each county, which can be seen in each county annex, but a comparison of those with GDP most in common across the region. These industries make up at least 50% of each county’s GDP.

Table 3.3 GDP by Percent Industry (2019)

Sector	Lincoln County	Sweetwater County	Uinta County	Wyoming
Construction	8%	4%	8%	6%
Government	21%	10%	17%	16%
Mining	15%	36%	5%	17%
Real estate/Rental	13%	9%	16%	11%
Retail	3%	4%	4%	5%
All Industries Total GDP	\$818,437	\$3,920,702	\$952,576	\$40,420,145

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, 2020

Industry employment is an important indicator in the regional economy. Table 3.4 indicates the percentage of employment from industries in each county. Detailed jobs information for the top 5 industries by employment can be found in the county annexes.

Table 3.4 County Employment by Percent Industry

Industry	Lincoln County	Sweetwater County	Uinta County
Construction	12%	7%	9%
Government	18%	17%	19%
Mining	6%	17%	1%
Real estate/Rental	6%	4%	5%
Retail Trade	10%	9%	12%
All Industries Total Jobs	11,296	28,052	11,961

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, 2020

According to the Federal Land Ownership: Overview and Data CRS Report from February 2020, 46.7% of the acreage in Wyoming is Federal land and is primarily overseen by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), and National Park Service (NPS) and the Forest Service (FS). Table 3.5 gives details of how much land these agencies oversee, while Figure 3.3 maps this federal land ownership across the Region.

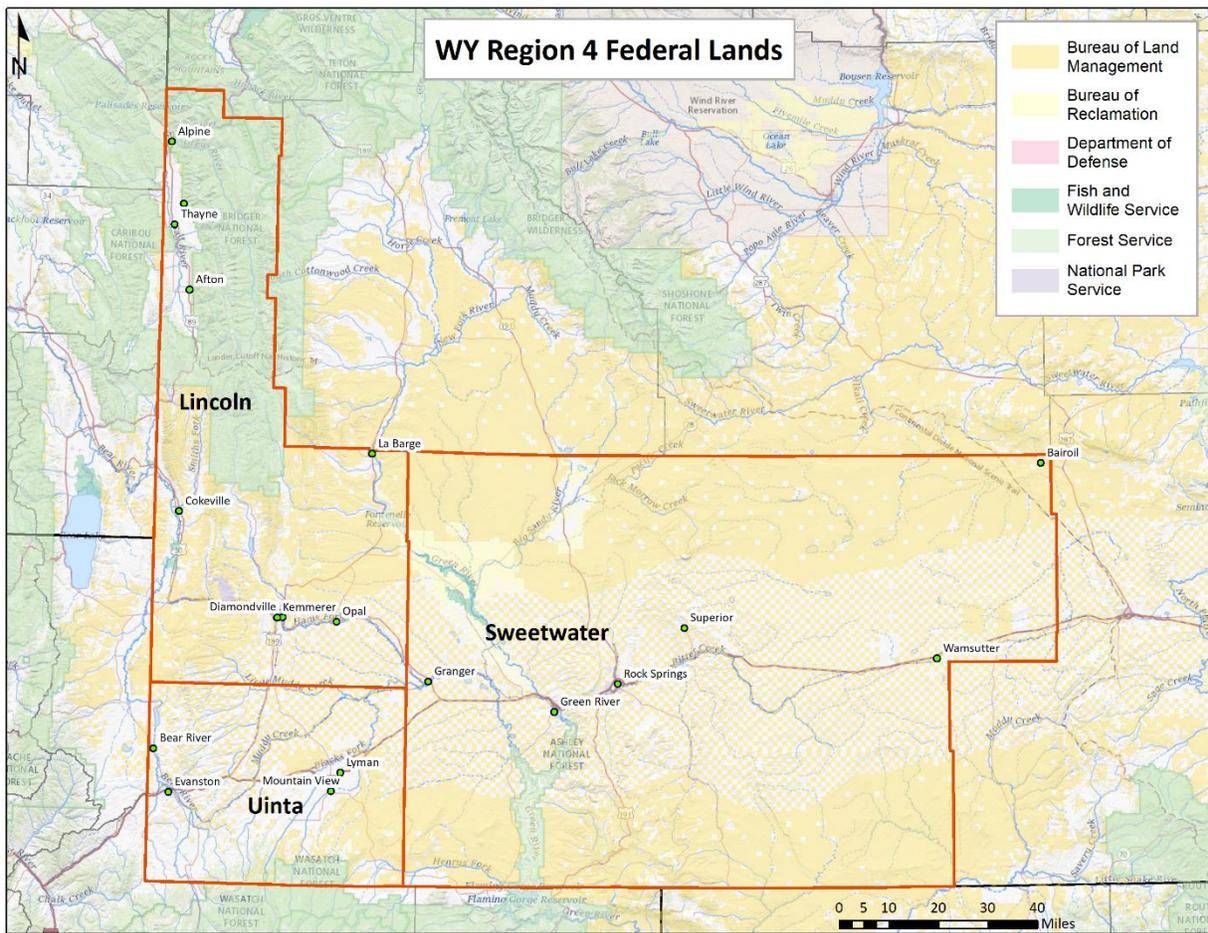
Table 3.5 Federal Land Ownership

Federal Land Ownership	Lincoln County	Sweetwater County	Uinta County	Wyoming
Federal Land % total acreage	73.3%	70.0%	38.7%	47.6%
Forest Service % of total Federal Land	34.4%	1.4%	2.8%	14.7%
Bureau of Land Management % of total Federal Land	37.6%	65.4%	35.8%	27.9%
National Park Service % of total Federal Land	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	3.7%
Federal Land % Type A**	1.7%	6.1%	0.1%	18.5%
Federal payments % of Government revenue, FY2017	1.0%	0.8%	1.2%	12.9%

Source: Summary Profile of Socioeconomic Measures, Headwaters Economics, USFS, BLM, 2020

**Type A Federal Lands: Federal public lands that are managed primarily for natural, cultural, and recreational features.

Figure 3.3 Wyoming Region 4 Federal Lands



Federal Land Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) are payments that compensate state and local governments for non-taxable federal lands within their borders. This is to help offset losses in property taxes and the program was put in place as recognition of the financial impact this can have. Table 3.6 shows the PILT payments each county has received over the period of 2016-2020. It should be noted that these PILT funds are able to be used as the local match for FEMA mitigation grants.

Table 3.6 Federal PILT Payments (2016-2020)

	Lincoln County	Sweetwater County	Uinta County	Wyoming
2020 Federal	\$1,445,542	\$3,521,117	\$1,572,722	\$30,791,785
2019 Federal	\$1,393,466	\$3,453,684	\$1,541,909	\$30,210,195
2018 Federal	\$1,877,784	\$3,421,659	\$1,528,084	\$31,717,661
2017 Federal	\$1,372,919	\$3,399,127	\$1,146,198	\$28,605,863
2016 Federal	\$1,357,575	\$3,329,647	\$1,453,278	\$28,198,773

Source: US Department of the Interior, Federal Land Payments, PILT

4 Hazard Identification & Risk Assessment

4.1 Identified Hazards of Concern

After reviewing the current Region 4 and State of Wyoming hazard mitigation plans and input gained through the planning process, the Hazard Mitigation Planning Committees (HMPC) of each county agreed upon a list of hazards that could affect the region. The hazards evaluated in this plan include those that have occurred historically or have the potential to cause significant human and/or monetary losses in the future.

Hazards data from FEMA, the Wyoming Office of Homeland Security (including the 2016 State of Wyoming Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI), the Spatial Hazard Events and Losses Database for the United States (SHELDUS), and many other sources were examined to assess the significance of these hazards to the planning area.

The final list of natural hazards profiled and assessed for the 2022 Wyoming Region 4 Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan includes:

- Avalanche
- Cyber Hazards
- Dam and Levee Incident
- Drought
- Earthquake
- Expansive Soils
- Flood
- Hail
- Hazardous Materials
- Landslide / Rockfall / Debris Flow
- Lightning
- Mine Subsidence
- Public Health Hazards
- Tornado
- Wildfire
- Wind
- Winter Storm

Members of the HMPC discussed the significance of hazards that could potentially affect the region. The result of that discussion is the inclusion of two new hazards: Cyber Hazards and Public Health Hazards. Significance was measured in general terms, focusing on key criteria such as the likelihood of the event, past occurrences, spatial extent, and damage and casualty potential. Significance of some hazards varied from jurisdiction to jurisdiction.

4.2 Major Past Hazard Events

Federal disaster declarations are typically issued for hazard events that cause more damage than state and local governments can handle without assistance from the federal government. However, no specific dollar loss thresholds are established for these declarations. A federal disaster declaration puts

federal recovery programs into motion to help disaster victims, businesses, and public entities. A USDA declaration enables eligible farmers and ranchers to apply for low interest loans. Some of the programs are matched by state programs. Table 4.1 provides information on Region 4 declarations between 1977 and 2021.

Table 4.1 Major Disaster Declarations in Region 4 (1977-2021)

Event/ Hazard	Year	Declaration Type	Remarks/Description
Drought	1977	Presidential - Emergency Declaration	Affected all counties in Region 4
Commissary Ridge Fire	2002	Fire Management Assistance Declaration	Lincoln County
Drought	2006	USDA Declaration	Affected all counties in Region 4
Drought	2007	USDA Declaration	Statewide drought affecting all of Region 4
Severe Storms, Flooding, and Landslides	2011	Presidential-Major Disaster Declaration	Lincoln and Uinta Counties
Drought	2012	USDA Declaration	Affected all counties in Region 4
Drought	2013	USDA Declaration	Affected all counties in Region 4
Tokawana Fire	2016	Fire Management Assistance Declaration	Uinta County
Drought	2018	USDA Declaration	Sweetwater County
COVID-19 Pandemic	2020	Emergency Declaration	Statewide
Drought	2020	USDA Declaration	Affected all counties in Region 4

Source: FEMA, USDA

4.3 Hazard Risk Summary

A qualitative risk ranking was performed by the individual county HMPCs and each jurisdiction for the hazards profiled in this plan. Rankings were done by each county HMPC as a whole and then specific to each jurisdiction. This risk ranking assesses the probability of each hazard’s occurrence, as well as its likely impact on the people, property, and economy of the planning area. Through an online survey, the

public was also asked to help rank each hazard based on their perceived level of risk, which was taken into account during overall ranking. Table 4.2 presents a high-level summary of the region’s and each county’s hazard risk. Jurisdictional risk rankings are presented in the individual county annexes included in this plan.

Table 4.2 Region 4 County Risk Rankings

Region 4	Uinta County	Lincoln County	Sweetwater County
Avalanche	Low	High	Low
Cyber Hazards	Medium	Medium	High
Dam / Levee Incident	Medium	Low	Low
Drought	Medium	High	Low
Earthquake	Medium	High	Low
Expansive Soils	Low	Low	Low
Flood	Medium	Medium	Medium
Hail	Low	Medium	Low
Hazardous Materials	Medium	Low	High
Landslide / Debris Flow / Rockfall	Low	High	Medium
Lightning	Low	Medium	Low
Mine Subsidence	Medium	Medium	Low
Public Health Hazards	Medium	High	High
Tornado	Low	Low	Low
Wildfire	High	High	Medium
Wind	Medium	Medium	Low
Winter Storm	Medium	Medium	High

4.4 County Annexes

County-specific annexes have been developed as part of this plan, to both streamline this document and to provide each county with an individualized and succinct version of the vulnerability assessment results. Readers are encouraged to review these annexes for information and data specific to each county and their municipalities.

The vulnerability exposure analysis presented in these county annexes utilized the State of Wyoming's statewide parcel layer, coupled with assessment information from the State Department of Revenue. The Lifeline exposure analysis utilized over thirty data sets from the federal Homeland Infrastructure Foundation Level Data (HIFLD).

4.5 Hazard Data Viewers

The rapid evolution of hazards data creates the need for tools which present the most recent data in a useful way. The maps included in this plan are helpful to serve as an overview of the various hazard and risk information, but ultimately are static snapshots of the best available data at the time of this plan's writing. Additionally, the large size of Region 4's counties make it difficult to present many of the maps at a scale useful to the local communities.

With these disclaimers noted and as hazard and risk data is constantly evolving, it is important to utilize the latest and greatest hazard data available. Fortunately, the State of Wyoming and federal government have recently developed a number of hazard data viewers that present much of the same information contained in this plan. When possible, this plan directs readers to these online resources to ensure the most accurate information is being referenced and utilized.

Hazard Data Viewers:

- FEMA's [National Risk Index for Natural Hazards](#)
- FEMA's [Resilience Analysis and Planning Tool](#)
- WY State Geological Survey's [Wyoming Geologic Hazards Map](#)
- WY State Forestry Division's [Wildfire Risk Assessment Portal](#)

4.6 Lifelines

FEMA's Lifeline framework was created to provide an outcome-based, survivor-centric framework to assist responders with determining the scale, complexity, and severity of a disaster. This information is used to establish operational priorities for the response and involves identifying the root causes and interdependencies of impacts to critical services, especially those that are life-sustaining or lifesaving.

An important component to the Lifeline framework is the ability to communicate disaster-related information across all levels of public, private, and non-profit sectors using commonly understood, plain language. This is vital to preparedness education, community engagement, public outreach, and inclusion of those with access and functional needs (AFN).

Region 4 uses this Lifelines framework as a base for emergency management planning, preparedness education, and mitigation planning. It is important to consider cascading effects when Lifelines are affected and how those effects will impact the community and other Lifelines. The Lifelines are shown below, including the subcomponents that are integral parts of each critical service.

Table4.3 FEMA Lifelines and Sub-components

COMPONENTS of Lifelines							
							
							
							
							
							

Table4.4 provides an overview of those Lifelines developed and assessed as part of the exposure analysis presented in the county annexes. Table 4.5 breaks down the region’s Lifelines by component and subcomponent.

Table 4.4 WY Region 4 Lifelines

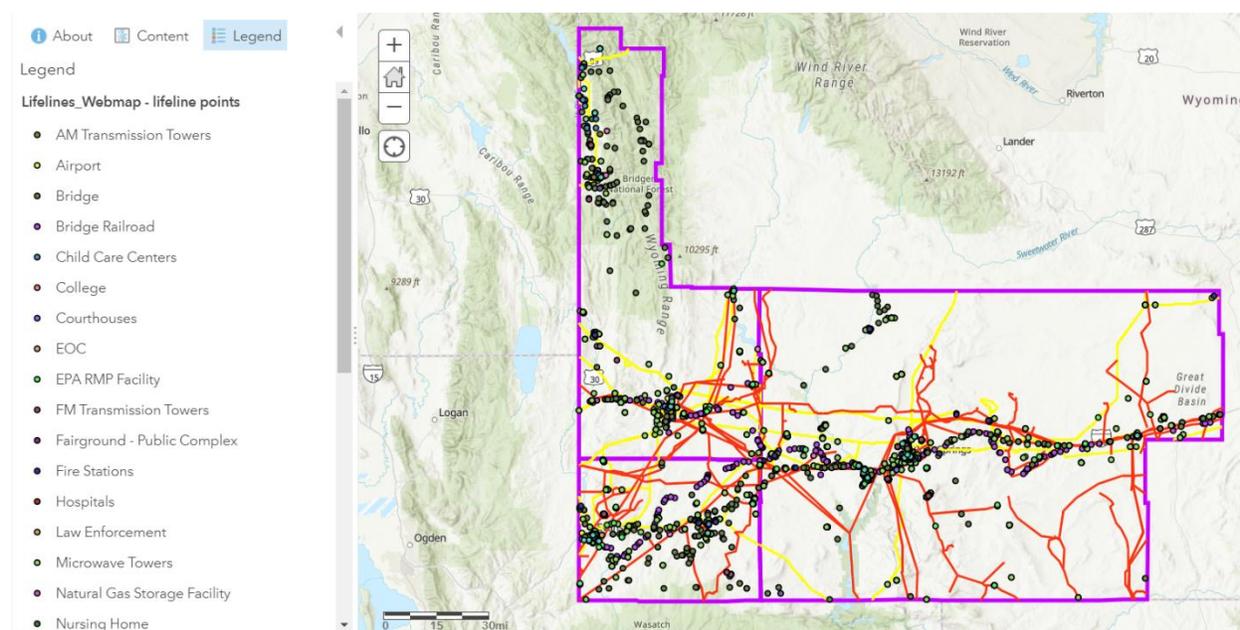


Table 4.5 WY Region 4 Lifeline Breakdown

Lifeline		Lincoln County	Sweetwater County	Uinta County
Component	Subcomponent			
Communications	Infrastructure	284	752	366
Food, Water & Shelter	Shelter	47	71	37
Hazardous Materials	Facilities	5	14	12
Health & Medical				
	Medical Care	6	6	6
	Public Health Department	2	2	1
Safety & Security				
	Government Services	5	4	3
	Fire Station	6	17	8
	Law Enforcement / Security	9	9	4
Transportation				
	Highway/Roadway (Bridges)	121	191	132
	Railway (Bridges)	53	107	45
	Airport	2	1	2
Energy				
	Facilities			
	Power Grid	5	5	3
	Fuel	0	0	4
	Distribution Lines (Miles)			
	Electric	610	796	215
	Gas	407	1,461	396

4.7 Avalanche

4.7.1 Hazard Identification

An avalanche is a mass of snow sliding or flowing down an inclined surface. There are multiple types of avalanches, however slab avalanches are responsible for the majority of fatalities. The two types of slab avalanche are dry slab and wet slab, with a slab being a cohesive plate of snow that slides as unit on the surface underneath. Avalanches occur when stress increases on the layer below the slab at a rate that is unsustainable for the strength of the layer and the slab slides.

A dry slab avalanche is caused by a weak layer of snow beneath the slab fracturing due to added weight and stress. These avalanches typically travel 60-80 miles per hour and reach these speeds roughly five seconds after they fracture.

Wet slab avalanches are initiated by water traveling between the slab and the layer below, causing the bond to fail and the slab to slide. These often occur during rain-on-snow or warming events and usually travel much slower than dry slab, around 20 miles per hour. While slow moving, wet slab avalanches have a great mass and density, due to the water saturation, and can be highly destructive.

There are four factors that contribute to an avalanche: a steep slope, a snow cover, a weak layer in the snow cover, and a trigger. Avalanches release most often on slopes above timberline that face away from prevailing winds. However, avalanches can run on small slopes well below timberline, such as gullies, road cuts, and small openings in the trees. While very dense trees can anchor the snow to steep slopes and prevent avalanches from starting, they may release and travel through a moderately dense forest.

Avalanches happen frequently and are documented, when possible, by the Bridger-Teton National Forest Avalanche Center for the area they monitor. In 2018 for example, 39 avalanches were reported in a single day, on the 12th of January. However, the avalanches that are most notably recorded are those that result in fatalities. While not all avalanches are started by people, they are a significant percentage of the triggers that cause them.

Wyoming ranks sixth among states with the most avalanche fatalities, with 91 deaths, according to Colorado Avalanche Information Center (CAIC) statistics from 1950-2020.

4.7.2 Past Events

Historically, avalanches occur within the region between the months of December and April, following snowstorms. According to CAIC national data, the peak months for avalanche fatalities are January and February. The most common activities resulting in deadly avalanches are backcountry skiing and snowmobiling. There has been a dramatic increase in the number of fatalities since the 2000s.

According to the Bridger-Teton Avalanche Center between 1962 and 2020, there have been 16 total fatalities in the region. Table 4.6 lists the characteristics of these events, all of which were recorded in Lincoln County.

Table 4.6 Avalanche Fatalities in Region 4: 1962-2020

Date	Location	Fatalities	Description
02/10/1962	Swift Creek, Salt River Range	1	Snowshoer
02/25/1994	Greys River Road, Salt River Range	1	Snowmobiler
01/14/1996	Bradley Mountain, Near Alpine	1	Helicopter Skiing
02/10/1996	Strawberry Creek, Salt River Range	1	Snowmobiler
03/03/2001	Lee Bowl, Salt River Range	1	Snowmobiler
01/05/2003	Balls Mountain, Salt River Range	1	Snowmobiler
02/24/2003	Smiths Fork, Salt River Range	1	Snowmobiler
12/16/2006	Stewart Peak, Salt River Range	1	Snowmobiler
01/12/2008	Cottonwood Creek, Salt River Range	3	Snowmobiler
2/27/2009*	Deadhorse Creek, Snake River Range	3	Snowmobiler
02/06/2010	North Murphy Creek, Salt River Range	1	Snowmobiler
04/02/2010	Indian Creek, Snake River Range	1	Snowmobiler
02/09/2017	Bitters Creek, Caribou Range	1	Snowmobiler
12/29/2017	Commissary Ridge, Salt River Range	1	Snowmobiler
12/18/2020	South of Sheep Pass, Salt River Range	1	Snowmobiler

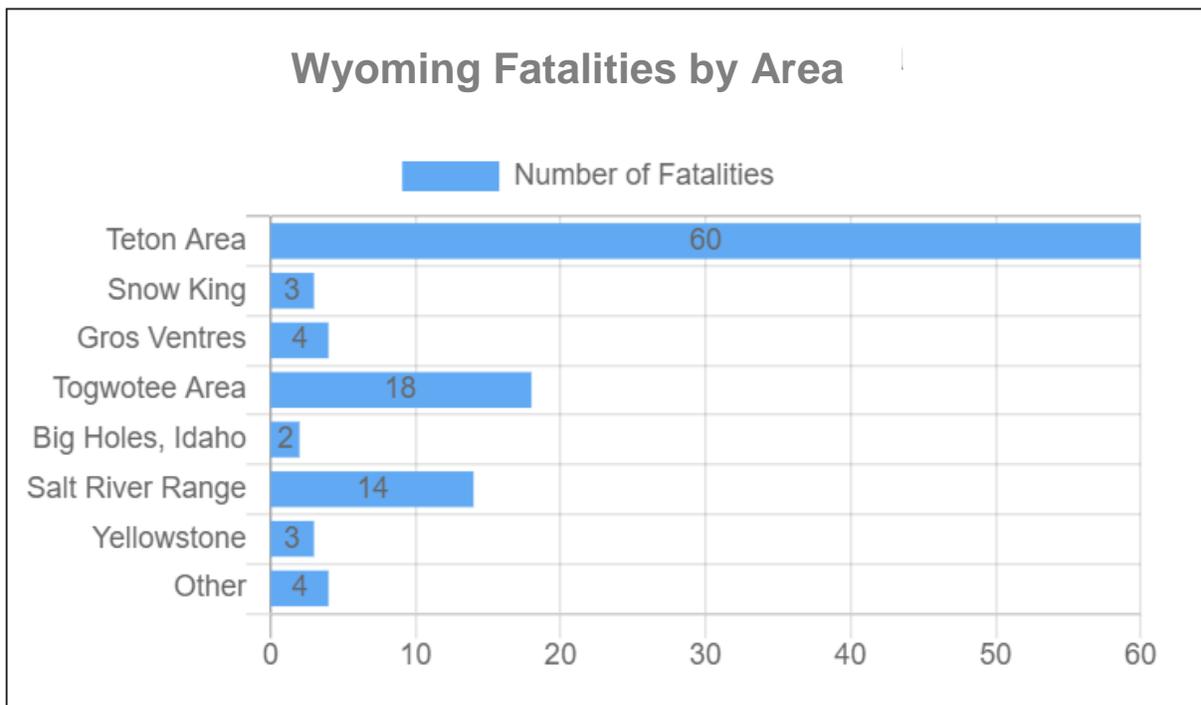
Source: <http://www.jhavalanche.org/areaFatalities>, *NOAA Event Database

Notable Event

On February 27th, 2009 a group of four snowmobilers triggered a mile long, 100 yard wide avalanche in the Deadhorse Creek drainage near Alpine in Lincoln County. The group rode into a draw after dropping off a ridge line and the slab broke loose taking the lives of three men as they tried to outrun the slide. The lone survivor was able to get one hand above the snow and dig himself out. He then walked out and used a cell phone to call for help. The three victims were found more than two hours later under about three feet of snow.

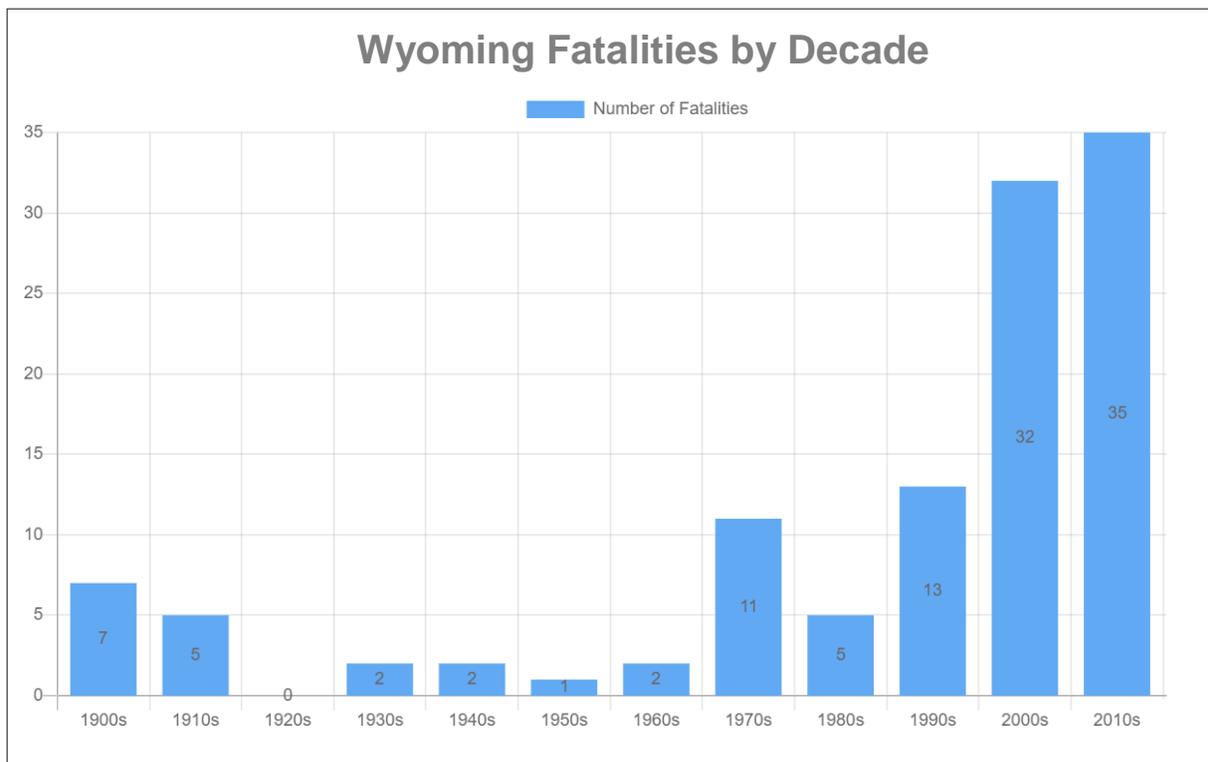
Table4.7 illustrates the geographic distribution of total avalanche fatalities around Wyoming, as well as an area in Idaho. Table4.8 illustrates the drastic rise in fatalities in the last few decades.

Table 4.7 Wyoming Avalanche Total Fatalities by Area (1900-2020)



Source: www.jhavalanche.org

Table 4.8 Wyoming Avalanche Fatalities by Decade: 1900-2020



Source: www.jhavalanche.org

Avalanches affect a limited spatial area in this region. The Salt River Range Mountains in Lincoln County, due to their steep terrain, high elevations, and winter snows, experience avalanches every winter. Generally, the avalanches occur in remote areas and have little impact, however those involved in winter recreation activities can be affected.

4.7.3 Exposure and Vulnerability

People

Avalanches generally affect a small number of people, such as snowboarders, skiers, and hikers, who venture into backcountry areas during or after winter storms. The keys to limiting impacts to individuals recreating in the area is awareness of the hazard and being properly equipped for self-rescue with tools, such as locator beacons, shovels, and probes.

Outdoor recreationalists who travel into backcountry areas are most at risk of death and injury from this hazard. Additionally, while road closures help to mitigate impacts to travelers in avalanche-prone areas, snowplow drivers can still be exposed while clearing roads of snow or avalanche debris.

Property

Road and highway closures, damaged structures, and destruction of forests can result from avalanches. However, areas prone to avalanche hazards include hard to access backcountry areas and often do not contain structures. According to SHELUS data, Lincoln County has experienced approximately \$4,500 in total reported property damage since 1960.

Lifelines

The greatest impact to a Lifeline would be to Transportation. Avalanches have been known to block or destroy roadways and bridges, cutting off communities from resources. Since avalanches happen in typically remote areas, the risk to other Lifelines is low, but possible.

Environment

Avalanches have the potential to cause detrimental damage to the area below where they fractured. The fast moving and heavy snow can flatten trees, take boulders down the slope, and destroy the ecosystem. In some cases, deposited debris may impact waterways and increase the risk of flash flooding. Avalanches create long term negative impacts to the environment and it takes decades for the affected areas to recover.

Economy

Avalanches are not likely to affect the regional economy, but depending on the location and damage sustained it may impact the communities in the immediate areas. As many of these communities rely on tourism revenue, it may result in disruption of the ability to host visitors. If there is significant damage to property or roads and bridges, there may be an extended period of reconstruction and repair.

4.7.4 Probability of Future Events

The probability that an avalanche will occur in the region is likely. Given the terrain and weather conditions in the western part of the state, avalanches will persist, but damages should continue to be limited. Many residents and visitors to the region and Lincoln County enjoy outdoor recreation, so it is highly likely that people will continue to be exposed to avalanche hazards in the Salt River Range.

4.7.5 Climate Change Impacts

Climate change is likely to have a significant impact on avalanche frequency. Erratic weather patterns and increasing occurrence of warming events create settings that increase the likelihood of avalanches. Persistent drought and drier climates are resulting in weakened snowpacks and increased deposits of dust within existing snow layers, which decrease the ability of the snowpack to handle the weight of snowfall throughout the winter and spring. Warm and wet events from rain and rising temperatures, occurring increasingly earlier in the season, are creating layers of ice in the snowpack, greatly affecting the cohesion of the snow layers. Many other factors and impacts are currently being studied around the world.

4.7.6 Future Development Trends

Avalanche vulnerability could increase with future development and population growth. However, if future development is planned outside of mapped or suspected avalanche hazard zones it is unlikely the risk to structures or people will increase.

The growth in population may pose a risk due to increased traffic on roads and more people participating in backcountry recreation in areas prone to avalanche. Increased public outreach and education about avalanche awareness can reduce the risk that comes with more visitors enjoying activities.

4.8 Cyber Hazards

4.8.1 Hazard Identification

Society is dependent on technology for day-to-day operations, and a major cyber incident could have significant and widespread impacts. Cyber hazards vary in the method of attack and area of technology targeted. They have been shown to affect a large variety of organizations, including hospitals, schools, businesses, and governments. These cyber attacks can result in the drastic slowing or halting entirely of productivity for an agency or organization. Data breach due to an attack is of great concern, not only for privacy reasons, but for the negative impacts that deletion or altering of data can have on future work for the organization.

Physical infrastructure damage is another cyber related hazard which should be considered. The potential cascading effects on the virtual systems that communities rely on could be devastating and long lasting. Extended power outages, fiber optic cable damage and other infrastructure damage or disruption would have widespread consequences for conducting everyday operations. Critical facilities and infrastructure (Community Lifelines) for water distribution and treatment, power and fuel supply delivery, as well as communications could see drastic impacts to capabilities from a cyber attack.

It can often take months to restore a system to its previous functionality, perpetuating disruption even after the initial incident is over. Organizations must rebuild technological infrastructure, recover lost data, and improve cyber security to ward off the possibility of another incident.

4.8.2 Past Events

Reporting on past events of cyber hazards present a challenge due to a lack of data, as many organizations that have breaches may choose not to report to the FBI for a variety of reasons. Often, due to concerns of public perception, companies will handle the incident internally and are not required to report the situation.

The repercussions of cyber hazards to systems including local government operations, hospitals, and critical infrastructure are immense. Events are occurring across the country, including in Wyoming. In 2019, a health system and 90 bed hospital in Campbell County were attacked, more than 1,500 computers were shut down and once access was regained it took two months for the organization to return to full functionality.

Other large scale, national recent events include oil pipeline infrastructure shutdown, disruption of the Georgia court system, access shutdown of 22 local governments in small towns in Texas, City of Baltimore city services freeze, and the complete shutdown of a Utah county government.

Cyber hazards can greatly affect individuals each year. According to the FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3) reported losses due to cyber crime exceeded \$4.1 billion nationally in 2020, with almost 800,00 victims. In 2020, Wyoming ranked 49th in losses per state with a total of \$8.1 million.

4.8.3 Exposure and Vulnerability

People

Most critically, the safety of individuals may be compromised during an attack on a hospital, as being locked out of access to medical records can result in inadequate care. Hospitals have become a common target for ransomware attacks, due to the urgent nature of regaining access to data.

While large organizations that experience a cyber incident often get attention from the public and media, the majority of incidents are individual attacks on those who may not know how to protect their information. Identity theft is the most known of these individual attacks, but other types of schemes cause even greater losses to more victims.

Notably, elder fraud is a significant cyber issue and in 2020, 28% of the complaints received by the IC3 were from victims over the age of 60 with adjusted losses in excess of \$966 million.

Property

Of greatest concern for property in a cyber attack is the ability for a perpetrator to control or damage infrastructure. In the case of physical interference, fiberoptic cables and other infrastructure may be disrupted or destroyed interfering with the operations of organizations and agencies.

If a person or entity were to take over the control system of a facility or business it could result in physical damages, data loss, and dangerous conditions for workers and community members. Many aspects of asset and property management are controlled through technology, from a small scale such as indoor climate conditions to the large scale delivery of power, fuel and water to entire communities.

There have been cases of local government systems being attacked, which resulted in halting and extensive delays of building permits, ownership paperwork processing, and utility bill payments.

Lifelines

The Lifeline most immediately impacted by a cyber hazard would be Communication. Society depends on a variety of technology to communicate, much of which is through the internet, servers, and computers. If a cyber hazard disrupted these lines of communication, the results could be detrimental depending on the target.

Energy, Safety & Security and Health & Medical may be affected depending on the target of the attack. It is possible that critical processes could be disrupted, either by direct loss of control of infrastructure or the impacts of communication and data loss.

Environment

The environment is not likely to be affected by a cyber hazard.

Economy

The economy of the region could be drastically affected depending on the type, duration, and motive of the attack. Prolonged lack of control to a system can result in losses for businesses and organizations. The longer an organization cannot function as usual, the more money they lose, in some cases by the hour. This does not include any ransom that may have been demanded to return control to the entity.

4.8.4 Probability of Future Events

Future events are likely, year over year there has been an increase in reported incidents. Considering this is only those incidents that are reported, it is feasible this rate of increase is even higher.

4.8.5 Climate Change Impacts

Cyber hazards are not likely to be immediately impacted by climate change.

4.8.6 Future Development Trends

Cyber attacks are likely to increase as many organizations do not have the resources available to update and/or secure outdated systems. There are innumerable targets in each community, state, and the country and as more people use cyber attacks to harm others, there will likely be an increase in the number of incidents.

4.9 Dam and Levee Incident

4.9.1 Hazard Identification

Dams

Dams are infrastructure that are built to manage the quantities and flow of water. While dams are primarily thought of as flood protection, there are other purposes including power generation, agricultural uses, water supply, and recreation. Dams are constructed of earth, rock, concrete, or mine tailings. While dam incidents are rare, they present a considerable threat to people and property located downstream.

FEMA risk classifications place dams into three classes: High Hazard (Class I), Significant Hazard (Class II) and Low Hazard (Class III). These classes are determined by guidelines which rate dams based on expected loss of life and expected damages if there is a dam failure. High Hazard dams are those where failure or mis-operation will probably cause loss of human life. While Significant Hazard dams have no probable loss of human life but can cause economic loss, environmental damage, and disruption to Lifelines. Low Hazard dams present no probable loss of human life and low economic and/or environmental losses. Losses in a Low Hazard dam incident are typically limited to private property.

A dam incident occurs when the retention function of the dam is compromised, resulting in the uncontrolled release of impounded water causing downstream flooding. Dam incidents can be full or partial, both of which can lead to extensive damages and threaten life safety. The severity of an incident is dependent upon the amount of water impounded, the amount of water released, and the characteristics of development and infrastructure downstream. This includes the density of population and structures, types of structures and infrastructure, and the value of property in the potential inundation area.

There are numerous causes of incidents including hydraulic, foundational, structural, seepage, and inadequate design and construction. Foundational causes include deformation of the foundation and settling or erosion of the embankment. Sabotage, such as vandalism or terrorism, and earthquakes are also potential causes of a dam incident.

Age, maintenance, spillway capacity, and proper operation are considerable factors when looking at dam incidents. While a dam may be fully functional and well maintained, prolonged periods of rainfall or flooding can result in overtopping and large spillway discharge quantities. Failure of upstream dams on the same waterway can affect dam capacity and integrity rapidly.

There are dam incidents other than complete failure, including overtopping and spillway discharges. Overtopping is most common in earthen dams and results from water flowing over, around, and adjacent to the dam in an uncontrolled release. Another type is due to spillway discharge, which can be large enough to cause flooding downstream. Spillways are structures which excess water from a reservoir flows through and can be controlled by gates or flow freely.

Levees

Levees are infrastructure created to reduce risk from temporary flooding. They are engineered to contain, control, and divert the flow of flood waters. Levees are typically an earthen embankment and a levee system can include multiple levees, as well as closure or drainage devices. Levees are designed to

handle a specific amount of water and like dams if the capacity is surpassed overtopping and failure of the levee are possible.

Levees are built alongside waterways to protect from rising water levels and are not used for consistent retention. Levees are susceptible to structural and foundational issues, as well as seepage, erosion, and improper maintenance.

A compromised levee can be more detrimental to the surrounding areas than if it had not been built, as the build up of water can be forceful and cause extensive damage.

4.9.2 Past Events

The Fontenelle Dam has the only documented dam failure in Region 4. The dam, which is earth fill and located on the Green River in Lincoln County, was built in 1964 and developed a leak the same year. On September 3rd, 1965, seepage and erosion due to foundational issues led to a significant partial breach, which created the need for an evacuation downstream. Emergency releases from the dam flooded downstream properties, but repairs to the dam were successful. An additional seepage incident occurred in 1982, adding further investigations into the dam design and construction.

On June 8th, 2010, another notable incident, a large spillway discharge, occurred at the Meeks Cabin Dam, which is earth fill on the Blacks Fork River. Rapidly melting snow and prolonged precipitation flowed into the full Meeks Cabin Reservoir, which is located above Fort Bridger, in Uinta County. Over 2,500 cubic feet per second (cfs) of water had to be released over the spillway of the dam, causing flooding downstream.

4.9.3 Exposure and Vulnerability

Region 4 has numerous High Hazard (13) and Significant Hazard (15) dams which pose threats to life safety and properties within the inundation areas. Characteristics of the dams and maps of the locations within the region, can be found in each county annex, including the distance from the nearest downstream city and whether there is an Emergency Action Plan (EAP) on file with the State of Wyoming. EAPs are critical to the response to and recovery from dam incidents, as they ensure all involved agencies and owners have a shared understanding of operations. Lack of EAPs can leave downstream areas especially vulnerable to the effects of a dam incident, including risk to public safety, environmental consequences, economic losses, and damages to public and private properties.

A notable concern is out-of-state dams that would affect the region greatly if an incident occurred. These include multiple High Hazard (10) and Significant Hazard (13) dams. They are listed within the county annexes.

There are two levees identified in Region 4, as well. These levees are located in Lincoln County on the Smiths Fork River near Cokeville and are not accredited. FEMA accredits levees based on design, data, and documentation provided by a community. Accredited levees are shown on the Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) and while flood insurance is not mandatory in floodplain areas near a levee, FEMA strongly recommends flood insurance protection for areas at risk.

People

People can experience tremendous impacts from a dam incident depending on severity. If a dam incident occurred upstream of a densely populated area, it can be difficult to alert the public and

evacuate quickly. The risk to life safety is highest in areas downstream of High Hazard dams, but all dam incidents can pose a threat regardless of classification.

Secondary effects of flooding from a dam incident include contamination of drinking water and potential releases of hazard materials. The flooded area can be dangerous even after the waters recede and extended periods of moisture in buildings can lead to mold and health impacts.

Property

All classes of dam pose a risk to properties downstream. Property damages range greatly after a dam incident, based on the severity of the water release. Structures can be completely washed away or flooded by a relatively small level of water. Any flood has the potential to render buildings uninhabitable, either permanently or for a temporary period while clean up occurs.

In Region 4, there are 975 buildings that are at risk of dam inundation and two residential buildings, in Lincoln County, that are at risk of a levee failure. Tables in each county annex illustrate the breakdown of these buildings by type and value.

Lifelines

Many Lifelines can be at risk from the effects of a dam incident and resulting flooding, however Food, Water & Shelter will see the greatest immediate impact. Flooding resulting from an incident can displace community members, which can be for a short period or an extended duration if a home is destroyed. A reservoir that serves as the primary source of drinking water can be disrupted or halted entirely, affecting the day-to-day lives of those who rely on the source, not only those who are in close proximity downstream of the dam. Other Lifelines that can be affected are Energy, Communications and Transportation. If a dam is used to generate power, the disruption of delivery to communities would impact daily operations and potentially Communications. If Communication infrastructure is damaged, the disruption or failure of communications can be dangerous for the community, as they may not receive alerts and dispatch can be interrupted. This would also greatly hinder response efforts. Transportation damages and interruptions can interfere with evacuations and incident response, including emergency services. If Transportation and Communications are affected, the impact on the Health and Medical Lifeline can be extensive. The Hazardous Material Lifeline can be affected, as flood waters can lead to release of materials, from facilities downstream and also private properties, especially unsecured propane tanks.

Each county annex details the various Lifelines and facilities exposed to the risk from a dam/levee incident. This includes the miles of distribution lines for electricity and gas running through the Region, however there are no gas or energy distribution lines at risk from a levee incident.

Environment

Dam incidents pose a great risk to the environment in the affected area. Flooding can change the local ecosystem, including permanent displacement of animals and extensive damage to vegetation. Damage to vegetation can contribute to erosion of riverbanks. Erosion can alter the waterway and push silt and debris downstream. The environment closest to the incident will likely be the most impacted, however the repercussions of flooding can be felt much farther downstream.

Economy

Depending on the severity of a dam incident there can be drastic effects on the individual county and regional economies, as well as financial issues for residents that are personally affected. Repairs to the dam itself can be considerable and many costs can fall to local agencies, businesses, and private owners. These costs could be extensive if the structures are not insured for floods. Any resulting damage downstream can affect daily operations for an extended period and has the potential to impact critical aspects of the economy, such as recreation areas and tourist destinations.

4.9.4 Probability of Future Events

The likelihood of future events increases based on multiple factors including age, correct operation and regular maintenance, and inspections of dam infrastructure. With the added issue of severe weather events, all dams, many of which may be well maintained and functional, can potentially have more incidents, especially overtopping or spillway discharges.

4.9.5 Climate Change Impacts

The lack of predictability in weather patterns, due to climate change, is a concern in the possibility of future dam and levee incidents. As seasons change rapidly, snow melt flooding can exceed the capacity and strength of dams, as well as increase water levels in waterways testing levees. The expected increased size and intensity of future severe storms pose a risk as well, as prolonged precipitation is a major factor in incidents, especially overtopping and spillway discharges.

4.9.6 Future Development Trends

Development in areas downstream of dams and those protected by levees increases the hazard risk and can alter the classification of a dam. While Region 4 has not had and does not expect a rapid increase in growth and construction in dam inundation areas, it is crucial to consider the hazards posed by dams and levees. Inundation mapping and emergency action plans are important tools when planning for new development in at risk areas and education of the public is critical.

As part of the update to the Region's goals, Goal 6 was added which is to "Utilize FEMA's High Hazard Potential Dam Grant Program to reduce disaster risk from dam incidents." The High Hazard Potential Dam (HHPD) Grant provides assistance for the various aspects of rehabilitation of an eligible high hazard potential dam. This includes technical, planning, design, and construction assistance for repair, removal, and structural/nonstructural rehabilitation. The Region has numerous high hazard dams and as this infrastructure ages the risk of dam incidents increases. Regardless of population increase or growth in the Region, the HHPD is an important opportunity to mitigate this risk and improve resilience.

4.10 Drought

4.10.1 Hazard Identification

Drought is a prolonged period of abnormally low rainfall, leading to a shortage of water and can last for years. Drought is a normal part of the climate cycle, but the slow-moving nature of this hazard can create detrimental losses. While drought is typically thought of as impacting vegetation and crops, there are repercussions of drought across many aspects and sectors of communities. Public water supply, energy production, public health, and wildlife are all affected by drought, as well as the potential increase of wildfires due to the lack of moisture.

The US Drought Monitor is a weekly released map showing the areas in the US that are experiencing drought. The map classifies droughts in five categories: abnormally dry (D0), moderate (D1), severe (D2), extreme (D3) and exceptional (D4). The data informing the maps is comprised of inputs from the National Drought Mitigation Center (NDMC), the US Department of Agriculture (USDA), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and the National Integrated Drought Information System (NIDIS). The information provided by the US Drought Monitor is used to determine disaster declarations across the US and identify those areas that may be eligible for federal support for losses due to drought.

There are multiple federal agencies responsible for mitigation of and response to periods of drought. NOAA and NIDIS lead the monitoring of the situation, with data inputs from the US Geological Survey (USGS) and National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). The USDA leads response efforts and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulates water quality impacts. While federal efforts are coordinated, the response efforts, planning, and water laws at the state level vary greatly.

There are four types of drought which are interrelated and all stem from a meteorological drought, which is the initial deficiency of precipitation. The other types of drought and resulting impacts are explained below.

- **Meteorological drought:** Precipitation departs from the long-term normal
- **Agricultural drought:** Insufficient soil moisture for particular crops at specific times
- **Hydrological drought:** Deficiencies occur in surface and subsurface water supplies
- **Socioeconomic drought:** Human activities are affected by reduced precipitation and related water availability

Drought is measured in three ways, climatologic, agricultural, and hydrologic. Comparison to the norm is used in climatologic observations of precipitation and agricultural measurement compares typical soil moisture and crop conditions to the current data. Hydrologic measures water in various locations, including what is contained in snowpack, reservoirs and ground water levels, and the flow rate of moving water.

Since drought is specific to local geography, weather patterns, and water usage the NDMC recommends the definition of drought be decided for each particular area and community, using local data.

4.10.2 Past Events

Drought has occurred in Region 4 since recording of instances began, but exceptional and extreme drought are not the most common kinds that occur. The patterns of drought that have been seen since the 2000s may be a result from the climate changing, as well as better reporting and mapping assets.

Table 4.9 shows the disaster declarations for the region. Of the total 7 declarations, most are USDA Secretarial Declarations, however in 1977 a Presidential Emergency Declaration was enacted. These declarations include those where a Region 4 county was a primary designee, not a contiguous county to a designated primary county.

Table 4.9 Drought Disaster Declarations

Year	Declaration Type	Counties Affected
1977	Presidential - Emergency Declaration	Affected all counties in Region 4
2006	USDA Secretarial Declaration	Affected all counties in Region 4
2007	USDA Secretarial Declaration	Statewide including counties in Region 4
2012	USDA Secretarial Declaration	Affected all counties in Region 4
2013	USDA Secretarial Declaration	Affected all counties in Region 4
2018	USDA Secretarial Declaration	Sweetwater County
2020	USDA Secretarial Declaration	Affected all counties in Region 4

Source: FEMA, USDA

In each county annex, based on data from the NDMC, figures give an overall view of the drought effects on each county since 2000. The figures show the class of drought and the percentage of each county that was affected.

Most notable for all three counties in the region are the common periods of extreme and exceptional drought between 2002 and 2005. Sweetwater County saw extreme drought occurrences between 2006 and 2007, as well as 2012 and 2013. Lincoln and Uinta counties saw some extreme drought during that same period, however it was for much shorter durations and affected lower percentages of the counties than in Sweetwater.

Precipitation is tracked by NOAA back to the late 1800s and figures in each county annex show the historical precipitation between 1900 and 2020. Overall, since the early 2000s, precipitation has trended upward throughout the Region.

4.10.3 Exposure and Vulnerability

Droughts are not localized to small areas and can impact multiple counties and states simultaneously.

People

Public health is the primary consideration for people in a drought. The immediate concern of safe drinking water and availability during the drought can affect the entire population within the affected area. Extreme heat that may accompany the drought can be dangerous for community members, especially for the elderly, children, those who have a chronic condition, or those who do not have a way to cool their homes.

Property

Overall, property is typically not affected by drought. The majority of buildings and infrastructure do not depend on water for functionality or stability. However, any power infrastructure that uses water to produce electricity for communities could be greatly impacted by an extended drought. If water levels are insufficient for generating the necessary power, operations may be halted. This would affect the power service to consumers, not only those in the immediate vicinity.

Lifelines

The Lifeline most greatly impacted by a drought event is Food, Water & Shelter, which includes Agriculture. Droughts can affect people's lives and livelihoods in a multitude of ways. Most critically a drought can be detrimental to the supply of drinking water and available water for agricultural use. If a drought affects agricultural yields, food scarcity can be an issue, but the bigger impact is financial, as a decimated harvest can harm the local farmers, regional economy, and influence the greater market for the crop.

The Health and Medical Lifeline can be impacted in the Public Health area, as drinking water quality and availability can quickly be affected in a drought. If soil is dry and strong winds occur in the area, air quality can worsen due to dust particles.

Environment

The geographic extent of drought can be far reaching and the effects can vary greatly across the impacted areas. In the region, abnormally low precipitation over an extended period puts stress on all ecosystems. As waterways decrease in flow, fish and aquatic plants can suffer and it may be difficult to recover the populations. Vegetation acting as food for animals and important binding for soils can dry out and struggle to grow back. Animals in search of water and food may have to travel farther which can affect migration and breeding. Natural areas, such as wetlands that play an important role in the overall health of the environment can be destroyed if water levels decrease. The risk of wildfires increases as fuel dries out and becomes easier to ignite. Soil erosion resulting from dying vegetation can impact air quality, as strong winds pick up the dry dust. This can also contribute to increased flooding risk.

Economy

The lack of precipitation caused by drought can drastically impact the economy of the region. Foremost, agriculture can see entire crops lost due to lack of water for irrigation and the quality of water that is available can be affected by higher salinity concentrations as a result of water level drops. The lack of availability will increase costs, which can further limit the value of a crop. Livestock can be affected if prairie grasslands growth is not sustainable for open range grazing, grasslands are closed to the public, and livestock health is impacted by dehydration.

Productivity of crop lands is reduced by drought which decreases yield, and results in crops of lower quality. The income loss for farmers due to a devastated harvest can be felt by the local and regional economies and can last an extended period depending on the length of the drought and possibility of recovery.

Outdoor recreation, a large and growing economic driver in the region, can be greatly impacted by drought, especially winter recreation.

4.10.4 Probability of Future Events

The relatively steady issuing of disaster declarations over the last 15 years suggests it is likely the Region will continue to experience drought substantial enough to need aid. It should also be noted that the counties have been contiguous to others that have received additional declarations.

4.10.5 Climate Change Impacts

The presence of droughts across the nation is due to the changing climate which affects weather patterns and temperature fluctuations. As hotter weather increases in duration and precipitation is less predictable, droughts will likely continue to be a common occurrence, potentially being experienced more regularly.

4.10.6 Future Development Trends

Drought can drastically impact any population, so while the region is not seeing substantial growth or development currently, the responsibility of leadership in communities and counties to mitigate against drought is critical to foster resilience in water management. Developing water management infrastructure, policies, building codes, and public education can help to ensure that drought has less of an effect now. This can also help to prepare for future population growth without stressing the water supply unnecessarily.

4.11 Earthquake

4.11.1 Hazard Identification

An earthquake is the vibration of the earth’s surface following a release of energy in the earth’s crust. Tectonic plates build up stress as they move slowly against each other and when the pressure exceeds the strength of the rocks, the plates will break and snap to a new position. This sudden movement of the earth, depending on the extent of the pressure released, can cause devastating damage. These events occur with almost no warning and ground movement is typically felt for less than a minute. Earthquakes threaten life safety, property, and livestock and the affected landscape can be altered dramatically by permanent horizontal and vertical shifting of the ground.

Earthquakes tend to occur along the weak areas of where the tectonic plates meet, which are called faults. Faults are classified by geologists based on their relative hazard and can be considered “active” or “potentially active”. Active faults represent the highest hazard. Geologic evidence of prior earthquake events, which may not be available for every fault, is used to determine if a fault is active or potentially active.

Earthquakes are more likely to be produced by faults which exhibit rapid rates of movement, have had recent earthquakes, experience greater displacements, and have an alignment where movement can relieve tectonic stress. The size of a fault is not the only determinant of the strength of ground motion an earthquake can deliver. Small local faults can cause significant damage, with a relatively low magnitude, due to proximity to development, while larger faults may produce greater magnitudes but are located rurally and the movement dissipates over distance.

Multiple scales are used to measure earthquakes and their effects. The Modified Mercalli Intensity Scale (MMI) ranks earthquakes based on personal reports and observations of what damage is done and what was felt by the population. The Richter Scale Magnitude, which is measured by seismographs, is used to express the strength or total energy of earthquakes. The peak ground acceleration (PGA) is the maximum number of g’s, which is the acceleration associated with gravity, caused by the shaking at a given geographic point. Table 4.10 shows a comparison of these three measurement types.

Table 4.10 Modified Mercalli Intensity Scale

Scale	Intensity	Description of Effects	PGA (g)	Richter Scale Magnitude
I	Instrumental	Detected mostly by instruments.	<0.0017	<4.2
II	Feeble	Some people feel it	0.0018-0.014	
III	Slight	Felt by people indoors, like a truck rumbling by		
IV	Moderate	Felt by people walking	0.015-0.039	<4.8
V	Slightly Strong	Sleepers are awakened, dishes and windows disturbed	0.040-0.092	<5.4

Scale	Intensity	Description of Effects	PGA (g)	Richter Scale Magnitude
VI	Strong	Trees sway, suspended objects swing, objects fall off shelves	0.093-0.18	<6.1
VII	Very Strong	Mild alarm, walls crack, plaster falls	0.19-0.34	<6.9
VIII	Destructive	Moving cars are uncontrollable, poorly constructed buildings greatly damaged	0.35-0.65	
IX	Ruinous	Some houses collapse, ground cracks, pipes are break open.	0.66-1.24	<7.3
X	Disastrous	Significant ground cracks and many buildings destroyed. Liquefactions and landslides occur.	>1.24	<8.0
XI	Very Disastrous	Buildings and bridges collapse, roads, railways, pipes, and cables destroyed, other hazards triggered	>1.24	<8.1
XII	Catastrophic	Total destruction. Waves are seen on the ground surface.	>1.24	>8.1

Source: USGS

Liquefaction

Liquefaction occurs when loose sediment that is saturated by water temporarily loses strength in response to ground shaking and acts as a fluid. When liquefaction occurs, buildings and cars can sink into the ground, slopes fail, buried tanks and pipes can rise to ground level, and lateral spreading can occur. Lateral spreading is when level ground shifts laterally, sometimes for tens of feet.

The liquified material can force open ground cracks to release to the surface and can cause debris flows or flooding. Factors for whether liquefaction will occur include the degree of saturation, the grain size distribution and consistency of the soil, as well as the duration and magnitude of the shaking.

4.11.2 Past Events

The highest recorded magnitude events experienced in the region were two separate 5.8 earthquakes, one in 1930 and one in 1994, both in Lincoln County. Numerous other earthquakes have occurred in the region, with most occurring in Lincoln County. **Table 4.11** shows the number of earthquakes in each county over 2.5 magnitude. Table 4.12 through Table 4.14 illustrate the location of historic earthquakes in each county.

Table 4.11 Earthquakes in Region 4 – Magnitude 2.5 and above (1975-2020)

County	2.5-2.9	3.0-3.9	4.0-5.8
Lincoln	48	87	18
Sweetwater	10	15	1
Uinta	3	1	0

Source: USGS

Table 4.12 Lincoln County Historical Earthquakes

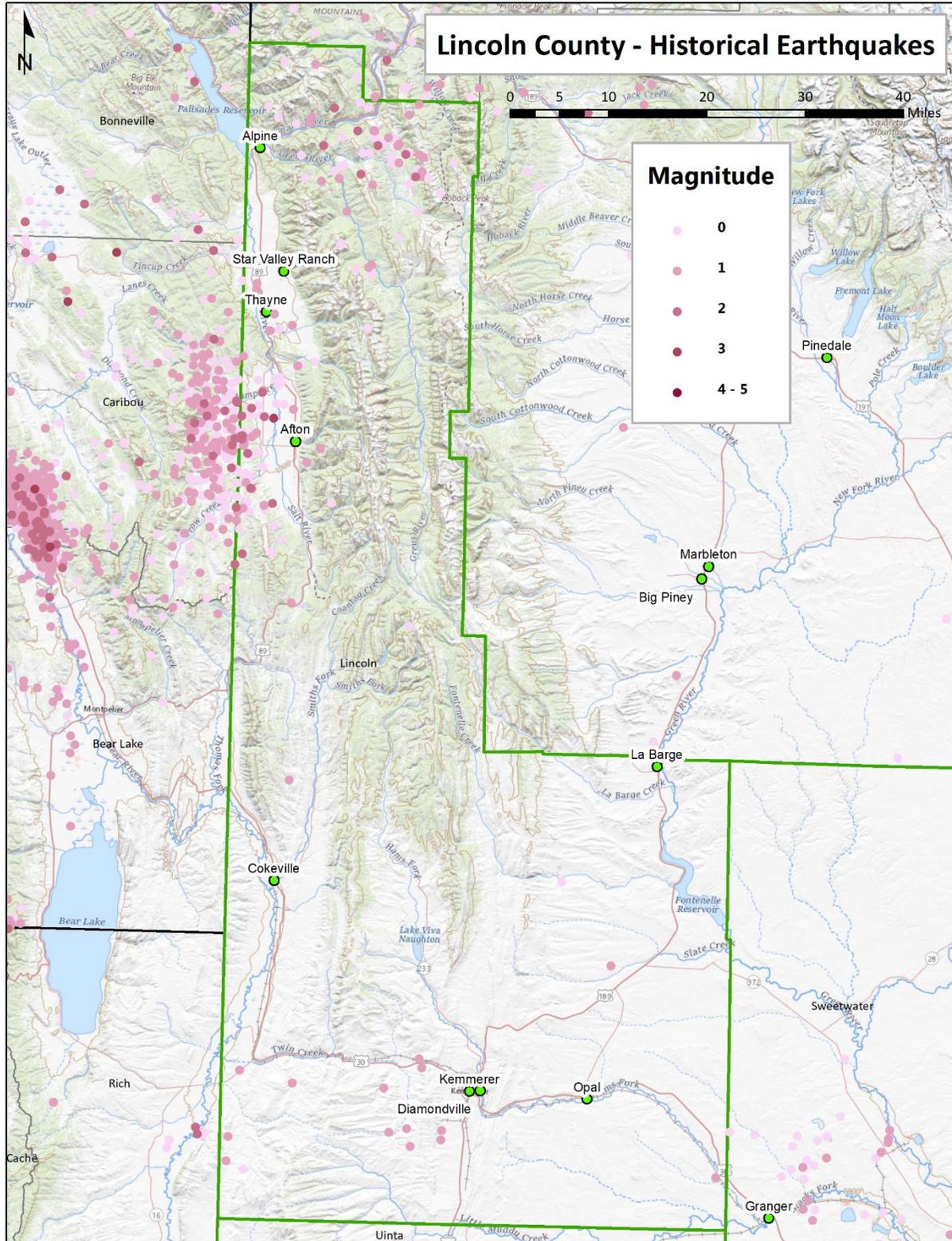


Table 4.13 Sweetwater County Historical Earthquakes

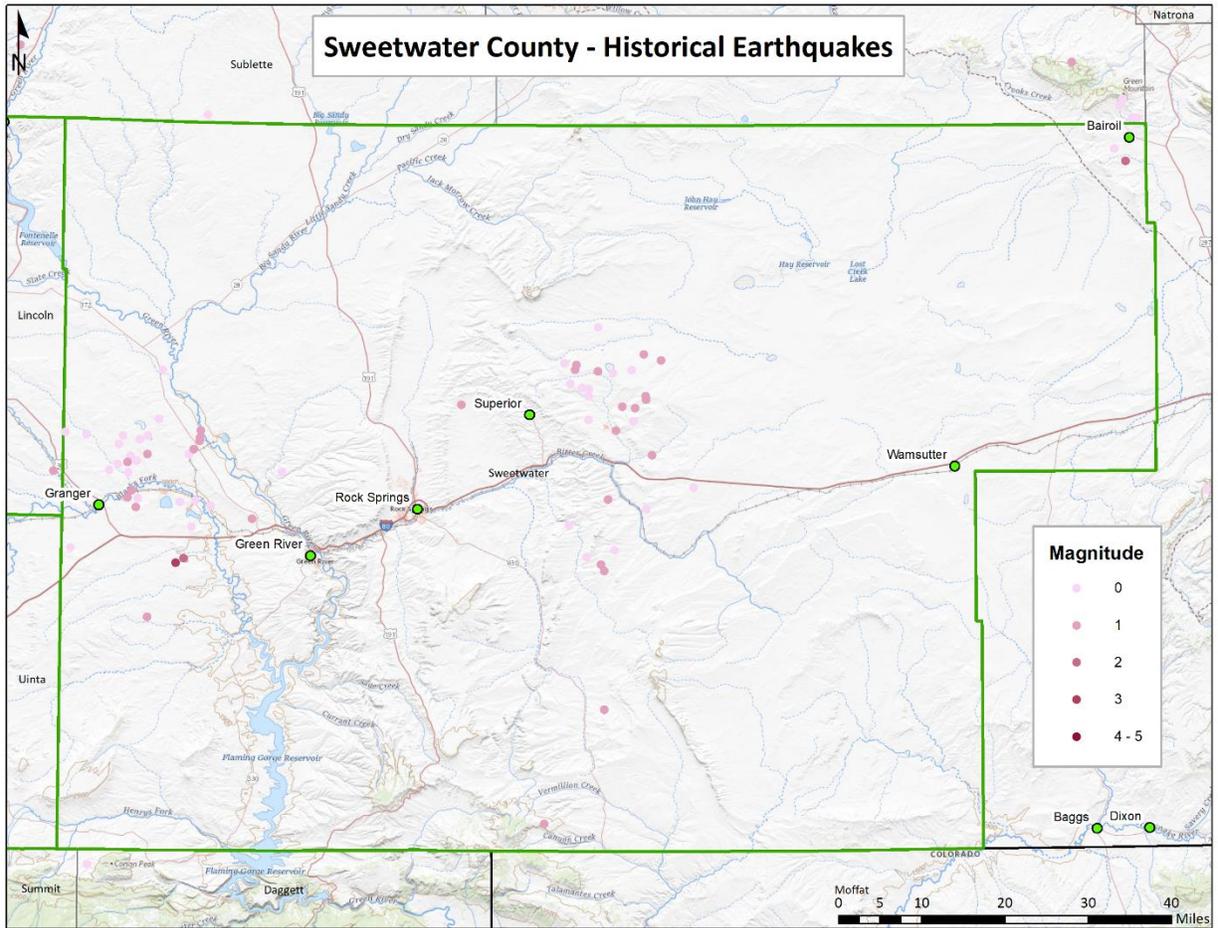


Table 4.14 Uinta County Historical Earthquakes

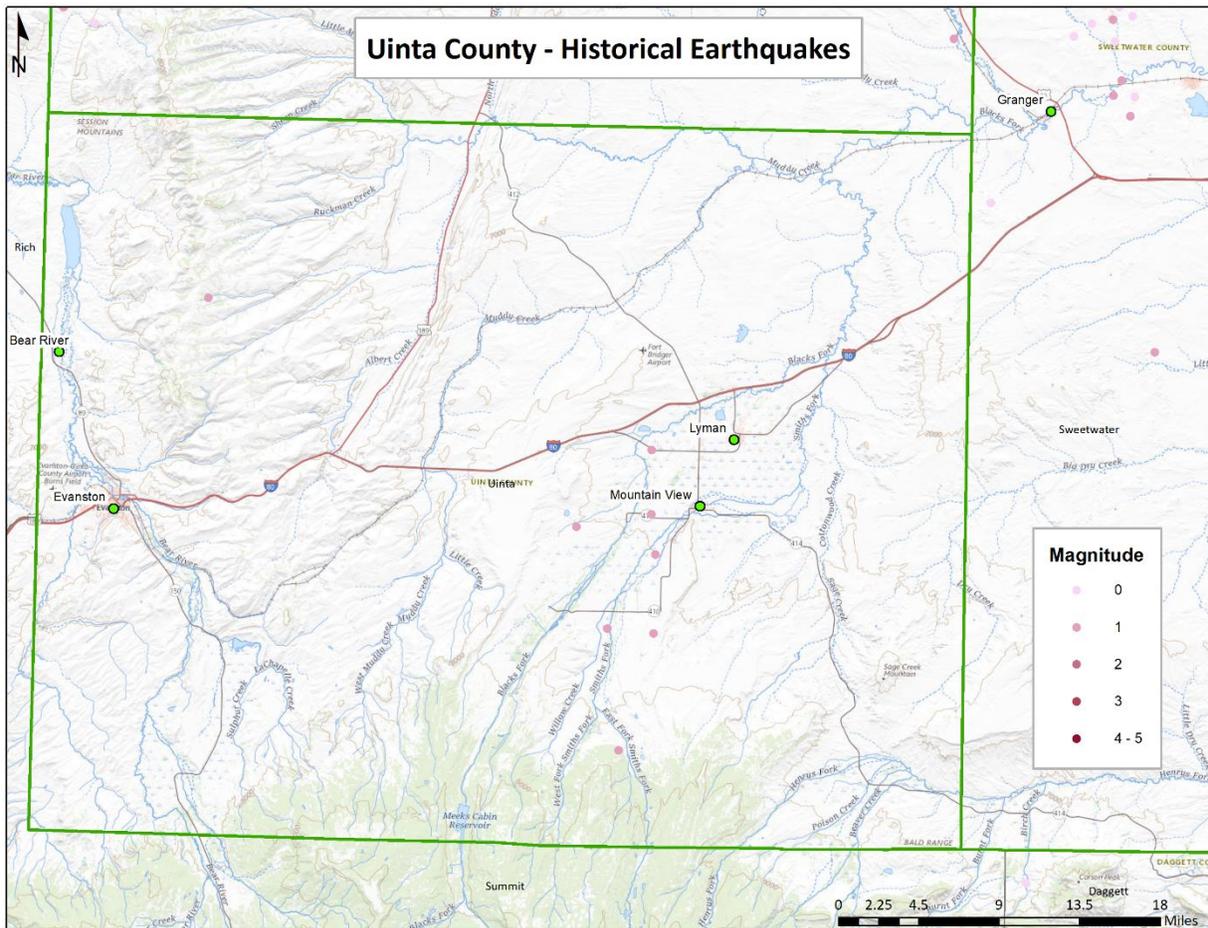
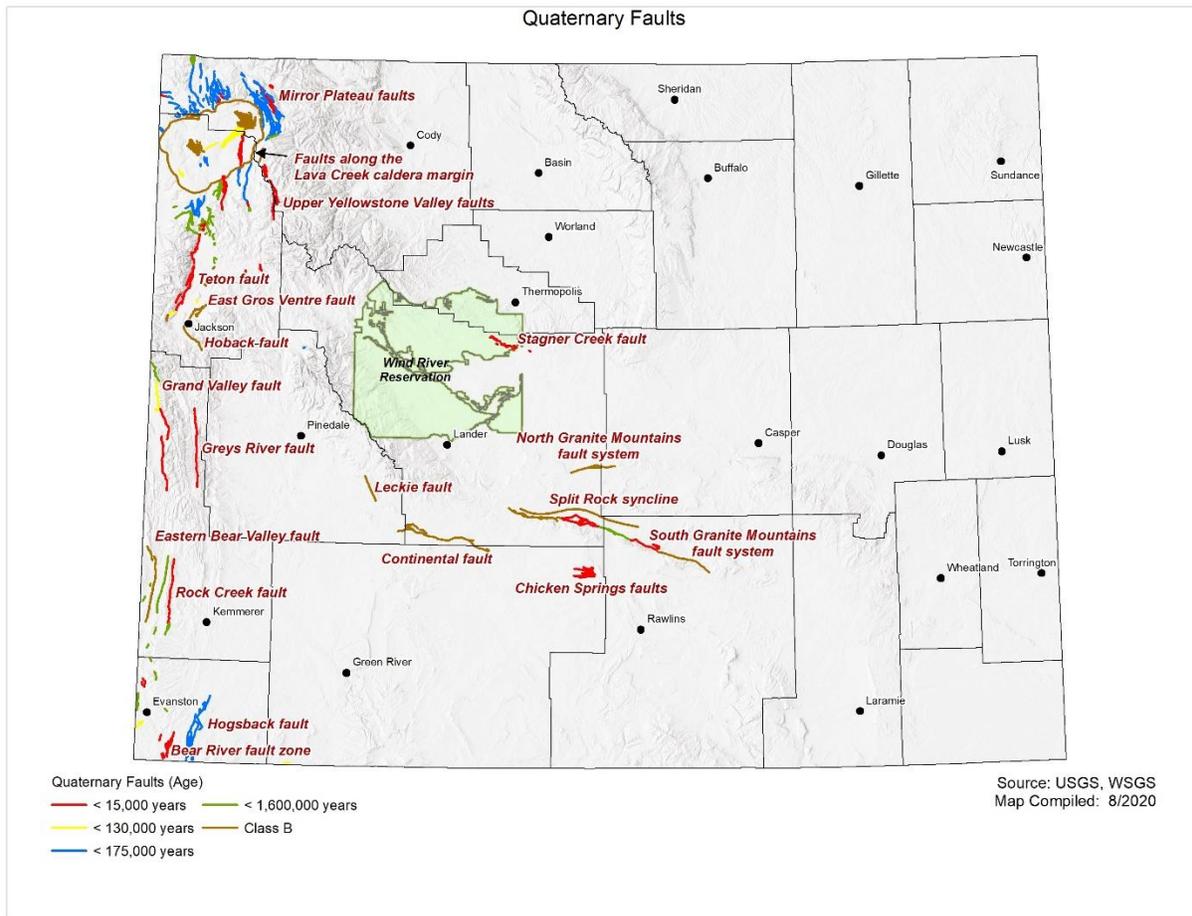


Table 4.15 shows the approximately 80 Quaternary faults mapped in Wyoming, with 26 considered active. There are several of these faults in the region including the Teton fault, Star Valley fault, Greys River fault, Rock Creek fault, and the Bear River fault system that are considered to be capable of generating magnitude 7.0 to 7.5 earthquakes. The Chicken Springs fault system near Bairoil is capable of generating magnitude 6.5 to 6.7 earthquakes.

Table 4.15 Wyoming Quaternary Faults



Source: USGS, WSGS

4.11.3 Exposure and Vulnerability

Hazus

When assessing the risk for seismic hazards the FEMA Hazus Loss estimation software, which models the effects of various event scenarios, is the most appropriate tool. Using Hazus as a scenario modeling tool provides an acceptable means of forecasting earthquake damage, loss of infrastructure functionality, casualties, and numerous other factors.

Hazus 5.0 was used to conduct an earthquake analysis for each county in the region. The Hazus earthquake scenario modeled was based on historical events in and around each county. Lincoln County analysis was modeled on a 6.0 magnitude probabilistic event, while Sweetwater and Uinta Counties were modeled using a 5.0 magnitude probabilistic event. All counties used a 2,500 year return period. This return period equates to a 2% probability of occurrence in 50 years and is the return period used by the International Building Code as the basis for seismic building design. This scenario was used because it represents a “worst case scenario” for each county. Figures in each county annex show the probabilistic ground motion for each county, where the higher percentages show that stronger shaking would be expected in the area.

Hazus analyses include a number of variables in order to arrive at the estimated values of loss and these loss estimates should not be taken as precise measures. This information should be viewed from the perspective of potential magnitude of expected losses. Hazus loss estimations for each county, can be found in each county annex, along with figures of Hazus modeled expected losses in each census tract.

For each county, there are notable loss estimates related to the structures and Lifelines affected, expected debris, and residential impacts. More detailed information can be found in the Earthquake Hazus Risk Reports included in each county annex.

People

All people in the region are at risk of earthquakes. Depending on the location, magnitude, and other characteristics of the event, the effect on life safety can vary drastically. In a populated, developed area the risk of people being harmed is much higher than an event that affects a rural area, even if the ground motion is less intense.

Property

There are many factors that affect the property damage an earthquake is capable of inflicting. Age and type of a building, as well as the materials used in construction all contribute to the likelihood of withstanding an earthquake with minimal damage.

Buildings constructed to meet updated codes or retrofitted to bring them up to code are at an advantage if an event were to happen. These codes are rated to a certain level of seismic activity, however if an event of higher magnitude happens, serious damage is still possible.

Damages from an earthquake can be complete, making a building uninhabitable, or cosmetic and easily repaired. Estimation of damages is difficult due to the variation that can occur in the event characteristics and the specifics of each building.

Lifelines

All Lifelines can be impacted significantly by an earthquake. Even with minimal damage Food, Water & Shelter can be greatly affected due to need for sheltering displaced individuals, the likelihood of water pipelines leaking and breaking, and the possible contamination of the drinking water supply.

Infrastructure damage to Communications, Energy, and Transportation can range from minimal impacts to functionality to systems completely unable to provide information and power to the community. Transportation can be slowed by small upheavals in pavements or completely halted due to downed bridges or impassable roadways.

Health and Medical operations can be disrupted due to building damage or inability to transport patients. Fatality management may be needed on a large scale. Safety and Security may be unable to meet community needs if there is building or equipment damage.

Hazardous Materials have the potential to be released from facilities or impacted in transit.

Environment

Earthquakes can change the very landscape of an environment, as ground openings, liquefaction, and landslides are possible. Wildlife may leave the area for an extended period, especially if an ecosystem is

impacted. The secondary impacts of a dam failure or fire being ignited could have devastating effects in addition to the damage from the earthquake.

Economy

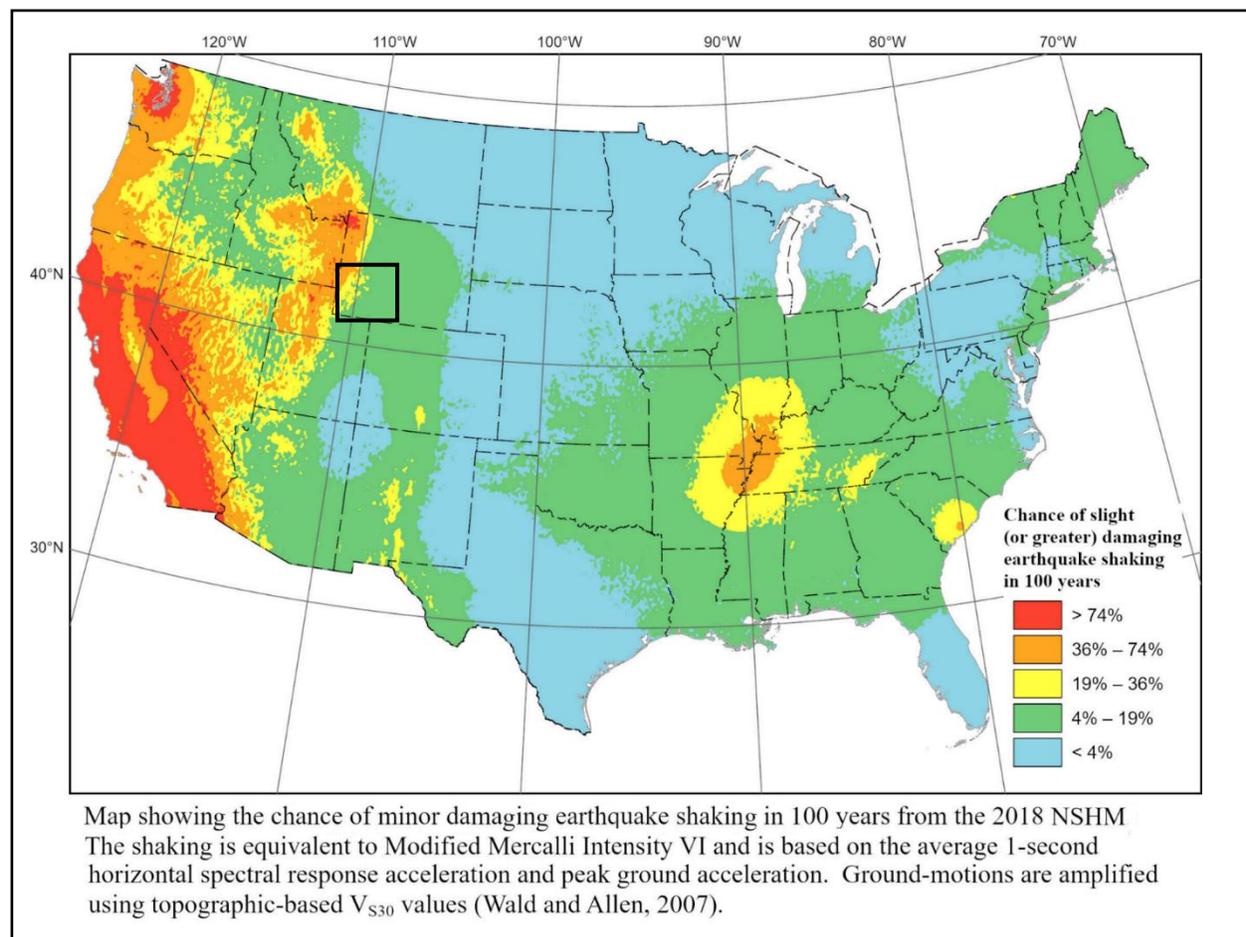
An earthquake has the potential to be detrimental to the local and regional economies. If multiple communities are impacted simultaneously, the effects can be long standing and the region could be strained to support recovery. Local economies can be devastated if building damage is significant enough to close businesses, displace a large portion of the population, and impact future travel to the area for tourism or recreation.

4.11.4 Probability of Future Events

Earthquakes may occur in the region, but it is difficult to know the specifics of an event. Lower magnitude events have been the most common in the region, but a larger, more devastating magnitude could occur with virtually no warning.

The USGS National Seismic Hazard Model was used to create a nationwide map of the chance of an area experiencing, in 100 years, an earthquake with damaging (slight or greater) shaking. This is the equivalent to a Modified Mercalli Intensity IV event. Region 4 has between 4% and up to 74% chance of experiencing this kind of event. Below the map, the data used in the model is explained.

Table 4.16 Chance of Slight (or Greater) Damaging Earthquake Shaking in 100 Years



4.11.5 Climate Change Impacts

There is no evidence currently that climate change will influence earthquake activity.

4.11.6 Future Development Trends

Future development in the Region should adhere to building codes and recommendations for improving the chances of withstanding an earthquake with minimal or no damage. Since all areas of the region are vulnerable to earthquakes, any growth and new construction is at risk. Public education and any retrofits that are possible to reinforce specific buildings (especially unreinforced masonry) can help to improve life safety.

4.12 Expansive Soil

4.12.1 Hazard Identification

Expansive soils cause significant amounts of damage to homes, buildings, roads, and pipelines. While not typically a widely known hazard, expansive soils are located across the United States and Region 4. Soil composition varies greatly across geographies and expansive soils should be identified by engineering geologists and soil engineers. The extensive damage caused by these soils occurs slowly and is not connected to a singular event.

Some soils, called expansive soils, contain specific clay minerals that expand upon contact with moisture. The more water the clay is exposed to the greater the expansion, as the minerals can grow in volume 10% or more. The force from this expansion can be anywhere from 15,000 to 30,000 pounds per square foot, which easily affects the integrity of foundations, slabs, and structures.

The swelling due to moisture is one side of the negative impacts of these soils, as the threat posed when they begin to dry out and shrink is also significant. This shrinkage can result in dangerous subsidence and interfere with the support of structures. As soils shrink, cracks and fissures are created which present an opportunity for more moisture to enter deeper into the soils during the next wet event. A vicious cycle of swelling and shrinking creates repetitive stress on buildings and infrastructure, ultimately resulting in uninhabitable properties and relocation of infrastructure.

Multiple factors affect the expansion of a specific soil. The type and amount of clay mineral content is fundamental to the extent of moisture that soil can retain. The concentration of clay particles will affect the quantity of moisture captured and not all clay types absorb large amounts of water. Particle arrangement, permeability, and density of the soil impact the degree to which a soil can expand. Moisture availability, either through natural precipitation or human interference, and the cyclical patterns of wet and dry periods is key to how much expansion occurs. Human interference can cause soil expansion for a variety of reasons, such as leakage from water supply pipes or drains, changes to surface drainage, and in some cases artificial wetting during construction of new buildings.

4.12.2 Past Events

Due to the slow nature and primarily localized effects of expansive soils, they are often not reported as events. Damages within communities, such as cracking of foundations, sidewalks, roads, and parking lots are repaired and may not be attributed to expansive soils. Effects on supply lines, railways, bridges, and utility infrastructure are repaired or relocated without further investigation. Individual property owners become aware of damage to their homes and typically will handle repairs without informing towns or counties of the issue.

4.12.3 Exposure and Vulnerability

Expansive soils have been identified in multiple areas across the Region. While damage costs from expansive soils can be significant, they are typically localized and it is unlikely a large area would be impacted all at once. Due to the slow nature of soil swelling and shrinking, damages may not be apparent for years and estimating the overall costs in the affected area can be difficult.

Throughout the region numerous communities fall within identified expansive soil areas and could be impacted by this hazard. Viewing countywide and sometimes even municipal-scale maps does not provide the ability to see an individual community's specific hazard risk. Readers are urged to utilize

available hazard data viewers to better understand their community's hazard risk. Expansive soil hazard information can be accessed through WY State Geological Survey's [Wyoming Geologic Hazards Map](#).

People

There is no immediate threat to the public from expansive soils. Since there is no sudden shifting of the ground, people are able to notice changes in structures caused by the soil expansion over time. Observed changes in the structure can be addressed and repaired, or if necessary, people can be relocated. While small, there is a chance that damage to a structure would pose a threat to people if it went unnoticed for a long period and the structure failed.

Property

There are numerous properties in Lincoln and Uinta counties located in an expansive soil susceptible area. Tables in each county annex provides an expansive soil exposure summary of the buildings, including valuations and a breakdown by type.

Since expansive soil effects occur in localized areas and develop slowly, these properties are not at risk simultaneously. However, it is important to recognize these hazard areas, especially when considering new development and growth.

Lifelines

Some Lifelines have the potential to be affected by expansive soils, primarily Transportation and Energy. Shifting soils can disrupt pipelines and power infrastructure, and impact the safety of roads, railways, and bridges. Areas susceptible to expansive soils in Lincoln and Uinta counties include transportation routes, including I-80, Highway 191 and Highway 189, which could potentially be damaged over time.

Each county appendix details the various Lifelines and facilities exposed to expansive soil. This includes the miles of distribution lines for electricity and gas running through the Region.

Environment

Soil expansion does not have a large immediate impact on the environment as the effects occur over extended periods. Overall, expansive soils have the potential to alter the landscape of an area, but not drastically and should not affect wildlife and plant life in an ecosystem.

Economy

A regional economic impact is highly unlikely. If transportation routes, power infrastructure, or pipelines are damaged it could result in costs for repair or relocation, which may be a local or private responsibility.

4.12.4 Probability of Future Events

Expansive soils do not change composition and therefore are always capable of swelling and shrinking. Due to this, soils can impact buildings and infrastructure in the region over years. This likelihood can increase if new development is built in expansive soil areas without addressing the risks posed by the hazard.

4.12.5 Climate Change Impacts

Climate change could impact the frequency of expansive soil events. As a result of extreme temperature fluctuations and unpredictable precipitation patterns, the speed of cycling and duration of wet and dry

periods is difficult to gauge. Areas exposed to expansive soils that may have a typically dry climate throughout the year can see unseasonable amounts of rain during precipitation events as weather patterns are affected. As the climate returns to the typical dry state, likely with higher than normal temperatures, episodes of swelling and shrinking can occur more rapidly and more often. The increased cyclical impacts can quicken the damage potential of expansive soils.

4.12.6 Future Development Trends

Proper identification of expansive soil areas is critical to new development being safe and sustainable over decades. All new development in the region should be aware of this need for identification and enforce building codes and mitigation measures accordingly.

4.13 Flood

4.13.1 Hazard Identification

Floods, including flash floods, are a significant hazard in the region and threaten life safety, property, crops, and livestock. A flood, which is the inundation of water into a normally dry area, occurs when the level of waterways, such as rivers, streams, and drainage ditches, are raised, as well as when water accumulates in an area of rainfall. Floods are caused by heavy, often prolonged, precipitation, or rapid snowmelt, and the water level rise can happen slowly or over a short period. Flooding can last for days or weeks and the impacts can last for years.

Flash flooding typically occurs in less than 6 hours and is caused by heavy rains sending a large amount of water rapidly through river beds, streets, or canyons. However, flash flooding can happen without rain, if there is a levee or dam failure or if debris or an ice jam back up a waterway and release suddenly. An ice jam occurs when large pieces of ice accumulate and obstruct the flow of water. Ice jams can occur upstream of bridges, downstream of dams, river bends or slope decreases, and at the mouths of tributaries. This can cause flooding upstream, in addition to the potential for flash flooding downstream.

The most common type of flood event in Region 4, and in the United States, is fluvial or riverine flooding. This type of flood is caused by bank overtopping when surface water runoff exceeds the capacity of the channel, such as streams, rivers, or constructed channels. The rising water levels are typically from snowmelt or intense rainfall, which create soil saturation and runoff. Wildfire damage can increase runoff as some burned soils are unable to absorb moisture, greatly contributing to the risk and extent of flooding.

Another type of flooding is ponding or pluvial flooding, when water accumulates due to extensive precipitation in an area over a short period and the soil is unable to absorb the water effectively. Urban drainage systems can alleviate this issue although these can also be overwhelmed depending on how excessive the water flow is.

Public warning can be given in an adequate amount of time if the riverine flood is slow rising, which reduces risk to life safety. While slow rise and extended flooding causes more property damage, flash flooding is associated with more injuries and deaths due to lack of notice.

The frequency and severity of flooding are measured using a discharge probability, which is the probability that a certain river discharge (flow) level will be equaled or exceeded in a given year. Flood studies use historical records to estimate the probability of occurrence for the different discharge levels. The 100-year discharge has a 1% chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year. It is possible for two or more floods with a 100-year or higher recurrence interval to occur in a short period, since these measurements reflect statistical averages only. The same flood can have different recurrence intervals at different points on a river.

The extent of flooding associated with a 1% annual probability of occurrence (the base flood or 100-year flood) is used as the regulatory boundary by FEMA and many other agencies. Also referred to as the special flood hazard area (SFHA), this boundary is a convenient tool for assessing vulnerability and risk in flood-prone communities.

4.13.2 Past Events

The documented flood history for Region 4 extends back to 1918, when a flood occurred along the Green River in Sweetwater County. This flood is the maximum flood of record, discharging 22,000 cubic feet per second (cfs), measured at the Town of Green River.

The flood of record for Hams Fork in Lincoln County occurred on May 11th, 1923. This flood had a discharge of 3250 cubic feet per second, which is representative of less than a 50-year frequency flood.

In Uinta County, principal floods of record in Evanston have occurred on:

- June 14, 1921, with a flow of 3,690 cfs
 - May 27, 1923, with a flow of 3,460 cfs
 - April 16, 1937, with a flow of 3,420 cfs
 - May 16, 1984, with a flow of 3,680 cfs.
-
- On July 11th, 1937, heavy rains caused a large number of floods, the most destructive being in the vicinity of Rock Springs. This was the greatest flood of record and had a peak flow in Bitter Creek upstream from the mouth of Killpecker Creek estimated to be about 10,000 cfs. During the flooding on the 11-12th more than 500 homes were inundated and more than 2,000 people were affected. Highway traffic was interrupted and railway service was suspended for 24 hours. Property damage was more than \$100,000 at the time. Crop damage was severe, there is no record of the losses.
 - On the afternoon of August 19th, 1956, in Rock Springs, rain and hail followed by a flash flood caused extensive damage. Floodwaters reached a depth of five feet in some low areas and deposited silt to a depth of 12 to 18 inches in some areas.
 - On June 10th, 1965, the largest recorded flood in the Town of Mountain View occurred, with a discharge of 3,550 cfs, at the East Fork of Smiths Fork gage.
 - On April 12th, 1984, an ice jam on the Bear River at Evanston caused agricultural flooding and damage to pavement, buildings, and bridges. Restriction at the bridge caused water to back up. In January 1985, a similar event occurred when an ice jam formed in the same location, flooding fields and the county road. No damage amount was reported for either event.
 - On the afternoon of July 12th, 1989, a thunderstorm brought torrential rains to Rock Springs. The airport recorded 0.88 inch of rain along with wind gusts up to 52 mph. Five miles south of the city, dime-sized hail covered the ground up to 1.5 feet deep. A surge of water and mud from Dead Horse Canyon Creek, up to 4 feet deep, moved from the south inundated downtown. Losses were estimated at \$1.5 million at the time. The strong winds and flood waters caused train cars to move off the track, leading to the death of a Union Pacific Conductor.
 - On August 2nd, 2007, thunderstorms produced intense rainfall east of Rock Springs. Rainfall of around one inch fell in less than one hour in a small drainage north of I-80. Culverts under the interstate were unable to keep up with the volume of water. Subsequently, flood waters overtopped the interstate in some spots. A frontage road south of the interstate also experienced flooding. Traffic was slowed or stopped at times due to water, mud, and debris on the road surface. At the time, \$25,000 of property damage was reported.

- On August 17th, 2007, a flash flood was produced by heavy rainfall on the south side of the City of Green River. Between 1.25 inches and 1.75 inches of rain was measured in the area in 25 minutes. There was damage at the landfill, as well as mud and debris on South Hill on WY Highway 530. The south side of Green River was covered with six to eight inches of mud. At the time, \$250,000 of property damage was reported.
- On June 7th, 2010, a combination of snowmelt and heavy rainfall caused flooding in far southwest Wyoming, with the largest rises observed on the Black's Fork River where the gauge rose to a peak of 3642 cfs. Both the Black's Fork and the Smith's Fork Rivers were affected, with flooding reported near both Robertson and Mountain View, Wyoming. There were \$10,000 in damages reported at the time.
- On May 15th, 2011, flooding along the Salt River and its tributaries in the mountains bordering the west side of Star Valley in Lincoln County, was the result of low elevation snowpack melting rapidly. Lowlands near the Salt River were inundated with water, especially north of Thayne to around the Double L Ranch near Etna. Crop damage of \$150,000 and property damage of \$50,000 were reported at the time.
- In 2011, severe storms, flooding and landslides during the period of May 18th to July 8th, resulted in a Presidential Declaration for 15 counties in the State of Wyoming, including Uinta and Lincoln counties. Uinta County was affected on the county roads by Evanston (Bear River and tributaries) and county roads and bridge on Blacks Fork River in Bridger Valley.
- On June 25th, 2011 increased snowmelt along the west side of the Salt River Range caused flooding in Star Valley Ranch. The water through the narrow drainage, near Prater Canyon, washed out part of a road and three culverts. A water line was exposed and damaged also. The event caused \$167,000 in property damage.
- On September 12th, 2013 thunderstorms dropped very heavy rain over portions of eastern Lincoln County during the late afternoon hours of September 12. Rainfall estimated at around one inch fell in a little less than one hour. Flash flooding caused damage to 25 homes, most of which were in the town of LaBarge, and along about a 3.6 mile stretch of US Highway 189 south of town. The event caused \$1,500,000 in property damage.
- On July 6th, 2015, thunderstorms caused heavy rain and flash flooding in the city of Rock Springs in Sweetwater County. Approximately, 0.60 to 0.85 inches of rain fell in Rock Springs in about 30 minutes. Streets flooded, as well as a trailer park on the east side of town. Up to 3 feet of water collected in low-lying areas of the park and displaced some residents. A reported \$20,000 in property damage occurred.
- On following day, July 7th, 2015, in Rock Springs, a thunderstorm developed, and rainfall totals ranged from 1.5 to 2 inches, in about 30 minutes, and more followed. The soil saturated from the previous day could not hold the moisture and flash flooding resulted. Downtown businesses, city streets, residential basements, and low-lying areas in the business district were affected. There was \$250,000 property damage due to this event.

Table 4.17 and Table 4.18 provide historical event summaries and reported damages for Region 4.

Table 4.17 Flood Events in Region 4

County	Events	Period of Record
Lincoln	15	1984-2020
Sweetwater	23	1918-2020
Uinta	5	1965-2020
Total	41	

Source: NOAA

Table 4.18 Total Reported Damages from Flood Events in Region 4 (1965-2020)

County	Property	Crop Damage	Deaths	Injuries	Total Damages
Lincoln	\$2,119,152	\$201,619	0	0	\$2,320,771
Sweetwater	\$1,782,205	\$0	1	1	\$1,782,205
Uinta	\$98,826	\$0	0	0	\$98,826
Total	\$4,000,183	\$201,619	1	1	\$ 4,201,802

Source: NOAA, SHELDUS

4.13.3 Exposure and Vulnerability

Region 4 is susceptible to multiple types of floods including riverine flooding, flash floods, slow rise floods, and dam or levee failure.

The region contains three major drainage basins: Green River, Bear River and the Snake/Salt River. The Green River Basin has rivers and streams which would affect all counties in the region, while Bear River flows through Uinta and Lincoln counties. The Salt River could impact northern Lincoln County in a flood event, as it flows through the county to meet with the Snake River.

Throughout the region numerous communities fall within identified floodplains and could be impacted by a flood event. Viewing countywide and sometimes even municipal-scale maps does not provide the ability to see an individual community’s specific hazard risk. Readers are urged to utilize available hazard data viewers to better understand their community’s hazard risk. Flood hazard information can be accessed through FEMA’s [Resilience Analysis and Planning Tool](#).

People

People living in floodplains, known flooding areas, or near areas where flash floods can occur are at an increased risk from the hazard. People who may have issues evacuating are at further risk, including the elderly, children, those with mobility or communication issues, those with low incomes, and people who may be unfamiliar with the area. Floods can cause serious injury and death if people are unable to get to safe locations. Some of the population may be displaced from their homes, with varying durations, which can strain community resources.

Property

Property damage and loss can vary greatly depending on the type of flooding, the extent, and the duration. To gain an overall perspective of the impacts of a flood, an exposure analysis was performed using the FEMA 100-year flood plain maps for Lincoln and Uinta Counties. Sweetwater County does not have a FEMA 100-year floodplain map, so a Hazus modeled 100-year floodplain was used to complete the exposure analysis.

The total region floodplain exposure of 1,546 buildings is valued at \$275,745,712. Approximately 84% of the buildings are residential, with a total value of \$175,764,396 for the region. The buildings with floodplain exposure can be found in each county annex.

Lifelines

All Lifelines have the potential to be impacted by a flood event. Those that could be most heavily affected are Food, Water & Shelter, Communications, Energy, and Transportation.

Floods can damage water treatment facilities and there is a risk of contamination of the drinking water supply. Sheltering spaces that communities plan on using for those displaced from an event can be potentially flooded as well. Ensuring there is adequate space, water and food for those impacted by the disaster is crucial in planning efforts. Crops can be washed out, causing issues to the agricultural supply chain.

Communications and Energy infrastructure can be damaged due to flooding, from rising waters or debris carried along by rushing waters. The impact of damage to these Lifelines can be dangerous for life safety since public messaging and dispatch can be interrupted.

Transportation routes that are cut off due to flooding can delay delivery of resources, search and rescue efforts, and evacuations. Communities with roads that are impassable for extended periods can struggle to recover due to the impediment.

The various Lifelines throughout each county and the exposure of facilities to the risk of flood are detailed in each county annex. This includes the miles of distribution lines for electricity and gas running through the Region.

Environment

The environment can be drastically affected by a flood event. Wildlife habitats can be impacted, due to altered food availability and interrupted breeding patterns. The effects on water quality due to silt and debris can impact wildlife downstream of the flooding. Erosion of riverbanks can also permanently alter a waterway and vegetation on the banks may not recover from the damage.

Economy

Depending on the extent of and damage from flooding, local and regional economies could be greatly impacted. Property damage could affect public buildings, infrastructure, private owners, and outdoor recreation. The duration of cleanup could mean closures of businesses and interruption of daily community operations for an extended period, as well as the delay of tourist revenue from travelers to the area.

Damages can be detrimental to home and business owners and without flood insurance can pose a long-term financial issue for those impacted. Business closures or community members moving away can have an effect on the local economy.

If a flood affects multiple parts of the region simultaneously the competition for recovery resources could extend and worsen the repercussions of the event on the economies.

4.13.4 Probability of Future Events

Flooding is likely in the region and the effects could be extensive, considering the amount of area and property that lies within floodplain. Flash floods will occur more often in areas that have seen damage from wildfires, affecting the soil's ability to retain moisture.

4.13.5 Climate Change Impacts

Climate change has drastically impacted weather patterns and temperature fluctuations and these impacts contribute to the potential for increased extent and frequency of floods in the future. The unpredictable nature of precipitation patterns and drought creates conditions conducive for flooding from heavy rains and/or rapid snowmelt. Wildfires are occurring more often due to drier conditions and the effects of these fires also lead to more severe and frequent flooding.

4.13.6 National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)

The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) makes federally backed flood insurance available to homeowners, renters, and business owners in participating communities. Base flood elevations and the boundaries of the 100- and 500-year floodplains are shown on Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM), which are the principal tool for identifying the extent and location of the flood hazard. FIRMs are the most detailed and consistent data source available, and for many communities they represent the minimum area of oversight under their floodplain management program.

Participants in the NFIP must, at a minimum, regulate development in floodplain areas in accordance with NFIP criteria. Before issuing a permit to build in a floodplain, participating jurisdictions must ensure that three criteria are met:

- New buildings and those undergoing substantial improvements must, at a minimum, be elevated to protect against damage by the 100-year flood.
- New floodplain development must not aggravate existing flood problems or increase damage to other properties.
- New floodplain development must exercise a reasonable and prudent effort to reduce its adverse impacts on threatened salmonid species.

Multiple communities in the Region, as well as Lincoln and Uinta counties are enrolled in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). However, there are no communities in the Region enrolled in the NFIP Community Rating System (CRS). The CRS is an incentive program, joined voluntarily, to reduce the flood insurance premium rates for the community through planning and exceeding NFIP standards.

There are no repetitive loss properties in the Region. Repetitive Loss (RL) Property: A structure covered by a contract for flood insurance made available under the NFIP that:

1. Has incurred flood-related damage on 2 occasions, in which the cost of the repair, on the average, equaled or exceeded 25% of the market value of the structure at the time of each such flood event; and
2. At the time of the second incidence of flood-related damage, the contract for flood insurance contains increased cost of compliance coverage.

Repetitive loss properties make up a small fraction of flood insurance policies in force nationally, yet they account for a large portion of the nation's flood insurance claim payments. The government has instituted programs encouraging communities to identify and mitigate the causes of repetitive losses.

Counties and jurisdictions that participate in the NFIP will continue to comply with the program standards for updating and adopting floodplain maps and maintaining and updating the floodplain zoning ordinance. As well as, considering flood mitigation actions that support efforts to minimize the risk and vulnerability to the flood hazard and to enhance the overall floodplain management program.

More details on individual jurisdictional participation in the NFIP can be found within each county annex.

4.13.7 Future Development Trends

All communities at risk for flooding should participate in the NFIP, which supports implementation of local floodplain management practices and ordinances. If possible, new development should be outside of the floodplain. However, if development continues in these area mitigation actions and public education are crucial to reducing risk to properties and life safety.

The 100-year floodplain can change, both naturally and by human intervention, and updated mapping is critical to planning and development. Land use and land surface changes can increase the risk of flooding. Altering the built environment can have repercussions on local flood issues and natural floodplains. Inadequate drainage systems can exacerbate flooding in Region 4 communities and affect the ability to cope with a large flood.

4.14 Hail

4.14.1 Hazard Identification

Hail events are common between June and August in Region 4. Damaging hail events are typically associated with severe summer storms and wind events. Typically, hail events near developed areas are reported more often and it is difficult to measure the true extent of events across the region.

Hailstones form when a super-cooled water droplet collects a layer of ice and continues to grow, sustained by an updraft. When the updraft can no longer hold the weight of the hailstone, it falls to the ground. Hailstones can vary drastically in size, from .25 of an inch, to the largest hailstone reported in Wyoming, which was 5 inches in diameter. The largest hail reported in Region 4 was 1.75 inches in diameter, however smaller sizes are more characteristic of storms in the area.

Regardless of size, hail is capable of inflicting extensive damage to property, crops, and livestock, as well as threatening life safety. Nationally, there are thousands of hail storms each year and hail-related insured losses between 2000 and 2019 averaged between \$8 billion to \$14 billion a year¹. The majority of these losses come from crop damage, but property damage claims can also be substantial. These losses are those that were claimed through insurance and therefore the actual figure is likely much higher.

4.14.2 Past Events

The National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI) records any hail events with hailstones that are .75 of an inch or larger in diameter, or any hail of a smaller diameter which causes property and/or crop damage, or casualties. According to the NCEI definition, 49 hail storms have occurred in the region since 1980 and have not resulted in any deaths or injuries. The majority of hail events do not cause serious damages. The historical events in the region including the reported property and crop damage experienced are shown in Table 4.19.

Table 4.19 Region 4 Hail Event History (1980 – 2020)

County	Number of Events	Property Damage	Crop Damage	Deaths	Injuries	Total Damages
Lincoln	34	\$ 60,000	\$ 250,000	0	0	\$ 310,000
Sweetwater	12	\$ 700,000	\$ 0	0	0	\$ 700,000
Uinta	3	\$ 0	\$ 0	0	0	\$ 0
Total	49	\$ 760,000	\$ 250,000	0	0	\$ 1,010,000

Source: NOAA, SHELDUS

¹ Aon 2019 Annual Report, <https://www.aon.com/weather-climate-catastrophe-insight-2019/index.jsp>

Notable Events

- On April 25th, 2009, a severe thunderstorm traveled approximately 40 miles along Interstate 80, through eastern Sweetwater County. The storm produced 1.75 inch hail, damaging winds, and a funnel cloud. The most intense damage was around Wamsutter, where numerous homes and businesses incurred broken windows and destroyed vinyl siding, due to the combination of wind and hail. Property damage in the area was recorded at \$700,000, according to the NCEI.
- On August 15th, 2011, severe thunderstorms over eastern Idaho moved across central and southern sections of the Star Valley. The communities of Afton, Bedford, Grover, and Auburn were observed to have large hail, up to 1 inch. Homes, vehicles, and crops were damaged as the storms rolled east across the valley. Crop damage of \$250,000 was recorded by the NCEI, as approximately 600 acres of mature grain crop, near Auburn, were severely damaged by one inch diameter hail. Other damage costs totaled \$60,000, due to damage in Grover and at the Afton Municipal Airport.
- On June 12th, 2016, a moist southerly flow combined with an upper-level disturbance approaching from the west to trigger thunderstorms that moved northeast from Utah and became severe in southern Wyoming. Quarter-sized hail was reported from Green River to Rock Springs in Sweetwater County. Up to 400 customers were without power at the peak of the storm. Another severe thunderstorm moved into Lincoln County and dropped hail up to the size of ping pong balls in and around Kemmerer.

Table4.20 through Table4.22 show the locations and hail size of the reported historical hail events across the region.

Table 4.20 Lincoln County Historical Hail Events (1980-2020)

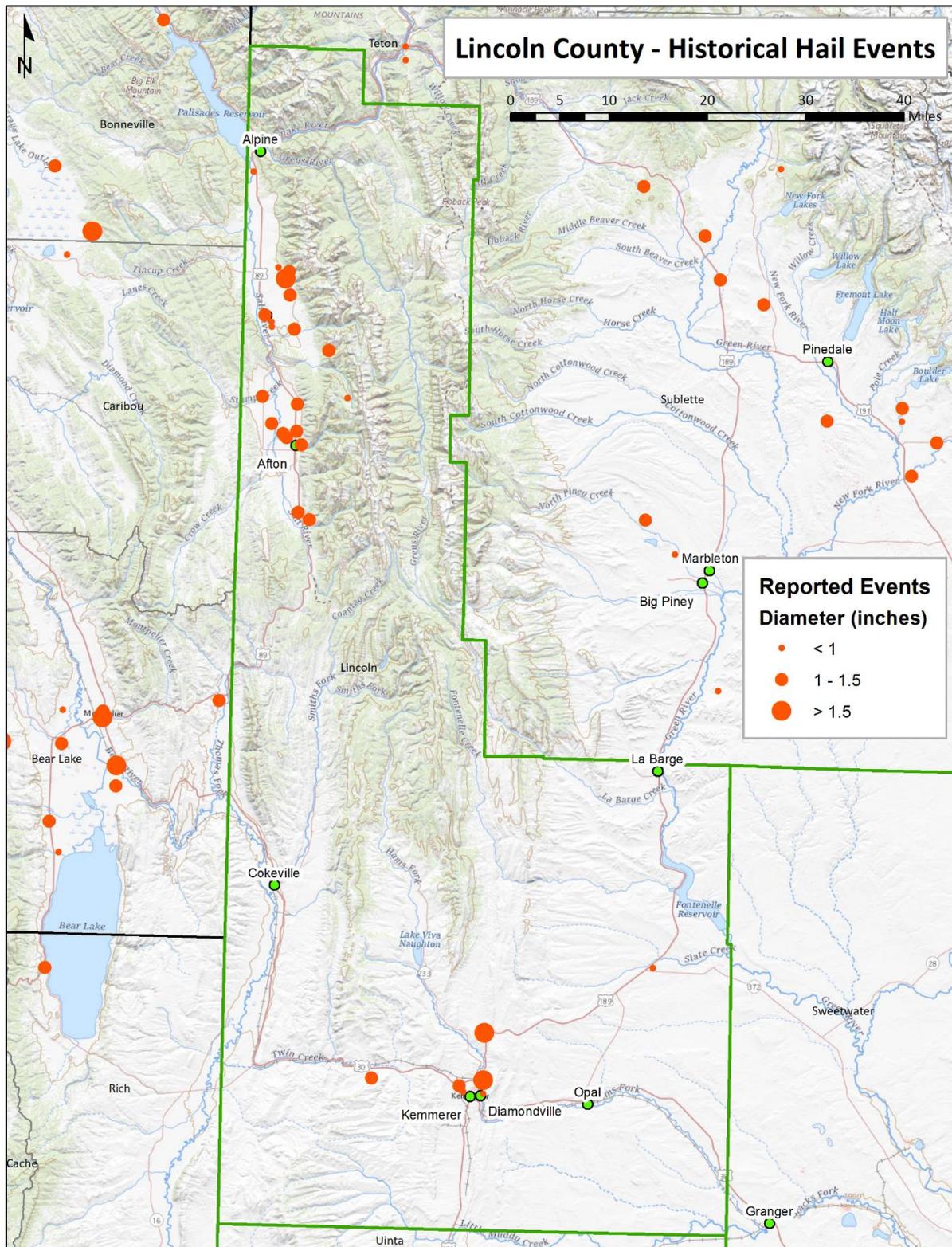


Table 4.21 Sweetwater County Historical Hail Events (1980-2020)

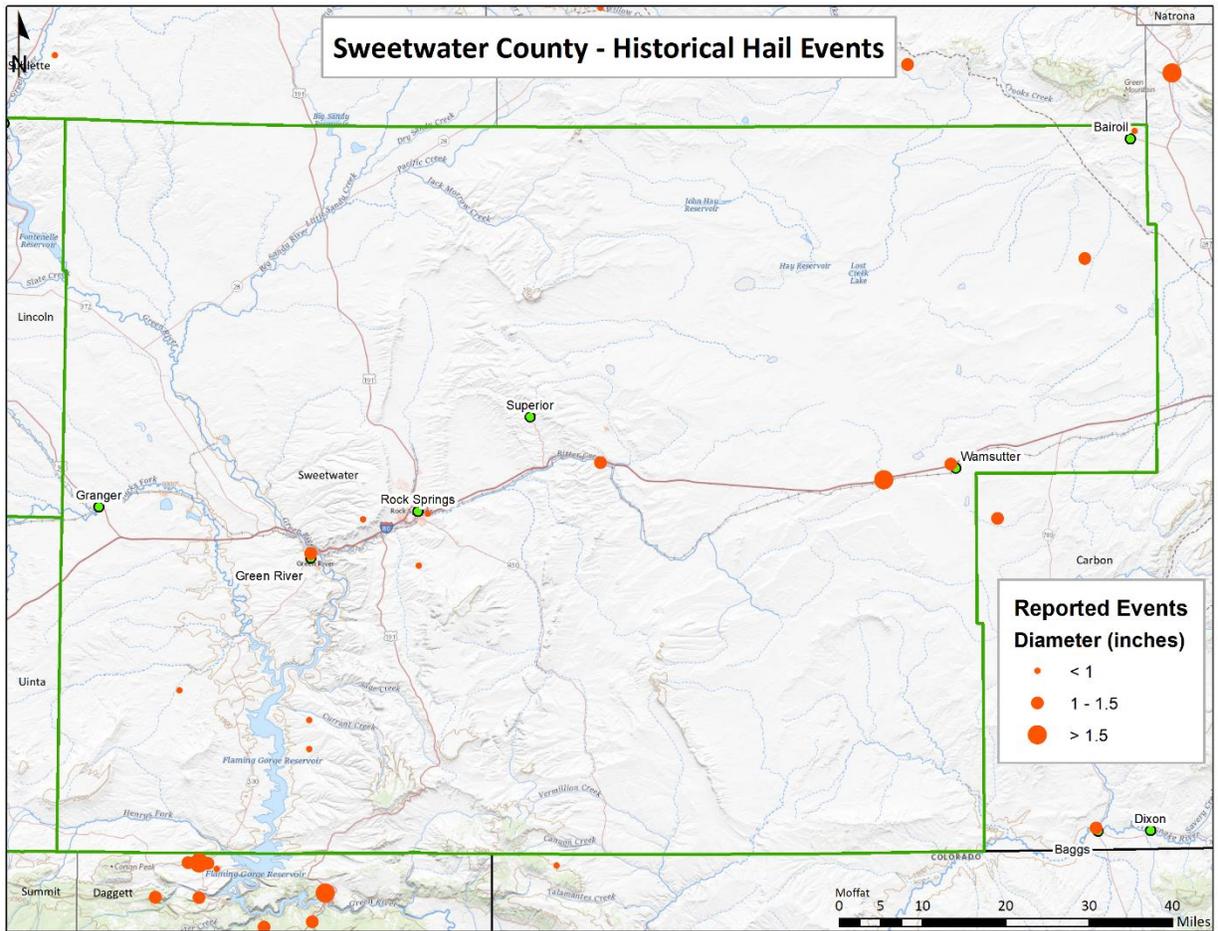
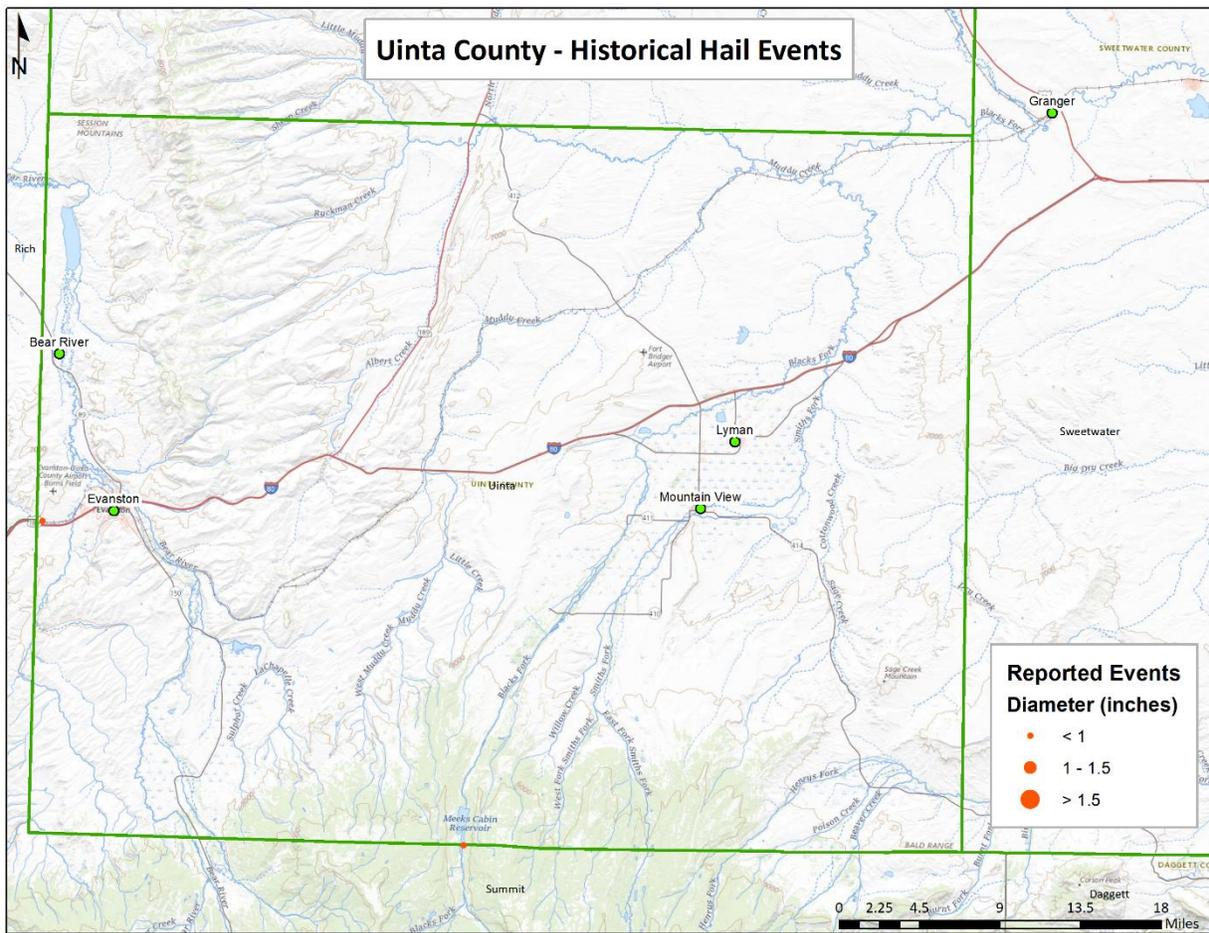


Table 4.22 Uinta County Historical Hail Events (1980-2020)



4.14.3 Exposure and Vulnerability

In general, all crops, livestock, property, and people in the region are vulnerable to hail events. Since hail is a geographically isolated event only several square miles are affected at any one time. Population density in the impacted area can be a determinant of property losses, as urban areas have more development. However, crop losses can be substantial in rural areas, especially depending on where the plants are in their growth cycle.

People

Hail and the thunderstorms that bring them can be very dangerous to people. If people are outside and unable to take cover they can sustain serious injuries and possibly death. When sheltered, either in a building or a car, the risk to people is lowered. However, the damage that buildings can sustain may be a hazard for people inside, especially broken windows. Roofs have been known to collapse under the weight of hail, creating a threat as well.

Property

In most cases, property and crops are insured against hail damage. While data is collected regarding valuation of damage to property and crops, not all claims are reported to a single database. Therefore, it

is difficult to obtain the information for the cumulative damage of an event. The events with very large-scale damages and indemnity payments are typically tracked to the most accurate extent.

Lifelines

The Lifeline most vulnerable to hail is Communications. Sensitive communications equipment can be severely damaged in a hail storm. Depending on the duration of the event, the size of the hail, and the vulnerability of the equipment, it is possible that continuity of communications could be disrupted or halted entirely.

Environment

While hail is a natural occurrence, it can do extreme damage to the environment, especially plants including crops. Hail storms can strip vegetation of leaves and bring down tree limbs. If animals are unable to shelter from the storm, they may be injured or killed. Recovery of the environment from an event that stripped plants can take a very long period of time and the impacts of animals leaving to find food elsewhere can further contribute to this delay.

Economy

The majority of hail storms cause damage to individual properties, which are not critical to the operations of the local economy. The effects of a hail storm damage can be detrimental to individuals and their families, as the costs of damage and length of repairs can make it difficult to continue their day-to-day lives.

4.14.4 Probability of Future Events

The probability of future events is likely, as each year between June and August hail events occur within the region. The unknowns about these events are the duration, size of the hail, and the damage that will be inflicted. Hail size varies significantly and there is no way to predict which storms will bring dangerously large hail. The majority of hail storms do not cause extensive damage, but insuring property and crops is a critical component of protecting against future events. It is possible that insured losses in the region, related to hail storms, could be in the millions, depending on the location and characteristics of the storm.

4.14.5 Climate Change Impacts

As humidity is lowered, due to rising temperatures, extended drought, and extreme heat events, convective instability increases. The movement of dry air into thunderstorms can increase the likelihood and size of hail due to evaporate cooling which lowers the elevation of the freezing level in thunderstorm clouds. This creates an opportunity for hailstones to grow larger and become more dangerous, as well as appear in areas where hail was uncommon previously, due to unpredictable weather patterns.

4.14.6 Future Development Trends

Hail can strike anywhere in the region, so any new development in Lincoln, Sweetwater or Uinta Counties will increase exposure to hail damage. Adherence to building codes for new construction is important to help protect properties from the effects of hail storms. Ensuring that people in the region understand the risk to property and crops will encourage the adoption of relevant insurance, which will help to offset the potentially substantial losses associated with hail.

4.15 Hazardous Materials

4.15.1 Hazard Identification

The U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) designates materials as hazardous which pose “an unreasonable threat to the public and environment”. This includes a variety of substances, wastes, pollutants, and materials. These materials are divided into nine classes, which contain substances that are gases, flammable, explosive, corrosive, toxic, oxidizing, and radioactive. There are strict regulations on the labeling and required handling of these substances. The treatment, storage, transport, and disposal of these materials is also strictly regulated and closely monitored.

Hazardous material releases can occur at the facility where they are being stored or utilized, and when in transit via railway, highway, or pipeline. Within Region 4 there are several gas plants, refineries, and mines, that utilize hazardous materials. Daily, numerous pipelines and rail lines are used to transport hazardous materials. Materials are transported on multiple highways throughout the region daily as well, including Interstate 80 in Sweetwater and Uinta Counties, and Highways 30 and 89 in Lincoln County.

4.15.2 Past Events

According to the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA), Region 4 has seen a total of 222 serious hazardous materials incidents between 1975 and 2020. PHMSA bases the definition of a “serious incident” on several factors including the type of materials released, if the release was a bulk quantity, and if there were injuries or fatalities. Evacuations of 25 or more people and the closure of major transportation arteries are also criteria for an incident to be recorded as serious.

Of the serious incidents in the region, a majority resulted in spillage and vapor dispersion. There were six incidents that resulted in fires and some incidents caused environmental damage. Most of the incidents were related to transportation and preparation for transit. There were no major evacuations or fatalities due to these incidents. Table 4.23 details the characteristics of the events in each county.

Table 4.23 Region 4 Hazardous Materials Serious Incidents (1975-2020)

County	Total Events	Vehicular Crash/Rollover Accident	Derailment	Improper Preparation & Human Error	Defective Component	Other	Damages
Lincoln	16	5	1	2	3	3	\$ 227,963
Sweetwater	177	30	7	34	66	40	\$1,973,198
Uinta	29	7	0	4	10	8	\$ 191,189
TOTAL	222	42	8	40	79	53	\$2,392,350

Source: Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA)

Of these events, 36 happened between 2015 and 2020. During that period, 30 of the incidents occurred in Sweetwater County, including one derailment and one rollover accident. Three incidents happened in

Uinta County, one of which was a vehicular accident in 2015, on I-80, which required closure during cleanup. In 2015, three incidents happened in Lincoln County, which included a rollover accident and two overfilling issues caused by human error.

4.15.3 Exposure and Vulnerability

Numerous factors go into the ultimate impacts of a hazardous materials release, including method of release, the type of material, location of release, weather conditions, and time of day. It can be difficult to know all impacts, as some may go unreported.

The counties in Region 4 have energy pipelines, railroad tracks, state highways and an Interstate Highway (I-80) which travels across Sweetwater and Uinta Counties. A variety of hazardous materials, originating both within the region and outside, are transported along these routes and are vulnerable to release.

People

Exposure to hazardous materials can happen in a variety of ways, both direct and indirect. Facilities handling hazardous materials can have releases that greatly differ in size and complexity. Some releases may only put the handler or those in the immediate vicinity at risk. Other releases may require evacuations of the facility and possibly the surrounding area. Air quality can be impacted over great distances depending on the site, the hazardous materials, and the wind. If a release ends up in a waterway it can affect the population downstream, both recreational safety and drinking water quality.

The same is true for a release that happens in transit, depending on the chemical, location, weather, and density of population nearby, a release can drastically vary in risk to the public.

Property

Property damage can be extensive and widespread depending on the release. At the facility, damages can include equipment, the building, and the surrounding area. Releases onto roadways can require recovering of the asphalt depending on the chemical damage, and release into soil or waterways can result in extensive costs due to necessary cleanup protocols. Equipment used for transit can be unusable after an incident, due to chemical or physical damage.

Lifelines

Multiple Lifelines can be impacted by a hazardous material release including Transportation, Food, Water & Shelter, and Health & Medical. Transportation is the most likely to be impacted as releases commonly happen in transit. These impacts are typically short term, causing transportation delays and road closures, but depending on the damage from the released material roads and pipelines may need to be repaired.

Food, Water & Shelter can be impacted if a release contaminates a water supply, or soil, possibly affecting the long-term safety of crops. Evacuations are possible after a release in a populated area and can displace the public until the incident is handled, requiring sheltering resources.

Health and Medical can be impacted if a large group is affected by a release at the same time, putting a strain on specific hazardous material response equipment, medical personnel, and resources.

Environment

Impacts from spills and releases can have long lasting effects. Soil and water contamination can occur, necessitating costly remediation. Animals and plants could also be impacted long term and lead to unhealthy ecosystems.

Economy

The regional economy would likely not be affected long term, however if a release impacts transportation corridors, pipelines, or rail lines there could be a delay in important commodity transfer. Individual facilities may see an economic impact depending on the extent of the release, which could disrupt or halt operations for an extended period. The clean-up costs could also impact the economy, locally and possibly regionally, as the size of the spill could necessitate multiple agencies responding, construction to repair damages, and the possibility of environmental remediation.

4.15.4 Probability of Future Events

As hazardous materials continue to be utilized and transported throughout the Region, spills and releases are likely, both at fixed facilities and in transit. The various modes of transport used throughout the region make it possible that an incident could occur in any county.

4.15.5 Climate Change Impacts

Climate change effects on transport and handling of hazardous materials could manifest in multiple ways. The risk of transporting materials, especially on roadways, magnifies with the severity of weather events, such as precipitation and snow. Extreme temperatures can also dramatically increase risk from this hazard, as extreme cold may cause equipment to malfunction or harm people working with the materials, resulting in leaks, spills, and exposures. Extreme heat can affect already volatile chemicals increasing the danger of handling the equipment and materials. Storage is also a concern when it comes to extreme temperature fluctuations.

4.15.6 Future Development Trends

Depending on where future development happens there could be an increased risk to the public. New construction near facilities that handle hazardous materials or growth in development along transportation routes increases potential exposure to the population. When looking to develop new areas, considerations regarding proximity to and risk from hazardous material sites or transit routes is important. This is critical for new business and residential building, as well as new industry installations, such as new oil production near existing development.

4.16 Landslide

4.16.1 Hazard Identification

Landslide

According to the United States Geological Survey (USGS), a landslide is the movement of a mass of rock, debris, or earth down a slope under the direct influence of gravity. The term "landslide" encompasses five modes of slope movement: falls, topples, slides, spreads, and flows. These are further subdivided by the type of geologic material (bedrock, debris, or earth). In Region 4, the focus is on landslides, debris flows and rock falls.

Significant landslide events are influenced by seasonal temperature and precipitation patterns. These events typically occur in the spring after periods of above-average precipitation over an extended duration, which is then followed by several days of intense rainfall. Slides are more likely on the days of intense rainfall or those with extensive snow melt. Landslide triggering rainstorms often produce damaging floods which can be made worse by the effects of the landslide. Other contributing factors include erosion and alternating freezing and thawing. Vibrations or earth shaking from construction and earthquakes are also known to trigger landslides and rockfalls.

Areas that are generally prone to landslide hazards include: existing old landslides; the bases of steep slopes; the bases of drainage channels; and developed hillsides where leach-field septic systems are used. Landslides are often a secondary hazard related to other natural disasters. In areas burned by forest and brush fires, a lack of stabilizing vegetation can increase the risk of landslides.

Debris Flow

Debris flows are sometimes referred to as mudslides, mudflows, or debris avalanches. A debris flow occurs when a combination of fast moving water and a great volume of sediment and debris surges down slope with tremendous force. Similar to a flash flood, these events generally occur during periods of intense rainfall or rapid snowmelt and may occur with little warning. Vegetation and soil changes after a fire increase the runoff and erosion in a watershed, and significantly increase the likelihood of debris flows and flash flooding. Flash flooding and debris flows can initiate during even moderate rainstorms over burn areas. The consistency of debris flow ranges from watery mud to thick, rocky mud that can carry large items such as boulders, trees, and cars.

Debris flows typically start on steep hillsides, as shallow landslides that liquefy and accelerate to speeds of about 10 miles per hour but can exceed 35 miles per hour. Their destructive power may be greatly increased if debris flows from many different sources combine in channels. Once they reach more level or flatter ground debris flows spread over a broad area. This can result in the accumulation of thick deposits that can drastically impact developed areas. Debris flows are covered under the National Flood Insurance Program; however, landslides are not.

Rockfall

A rockfall is the falling of a detached mass of rock from a cliff or down a very steep slope. Weathering and decomposition of geological materials produce conditions favorable to rockfalls. Rockfalls are caused by the loss of support, from underneath, through erosion or are triggered by ice wedging, root growth, or ground shaking. Manmade changes to an area or slope, such as cutting and filling activities, can also increase the risk of a rockfall. The dimensions of the rocks in a rockfall can vary significantly,

from the size of a baseball to the size of a house. Rockfall occurs most frequently in mountains or other steep areas during the early spring, when there is abundant moisture and repeated freezing and thawing. Rockfalls are a serious geological hazard that can result in property damage, threaten human life, and impact transportation corridors, infrastructure, and communication systems.

4.16.2 Past Events

Landslides are one of the most common geologic hazards in Wyoming and some of the highest landslide densities areas are found in Region 4 counties, notably Lincoln County. Table4.24 through Table4.26 illustrate the historical landslide areas for each county. Many of these slide areas have been studied by the Wyoming Geological Survey, WYDOT and others.

Table 4.24 Lincoln County Historical Landslide Areas

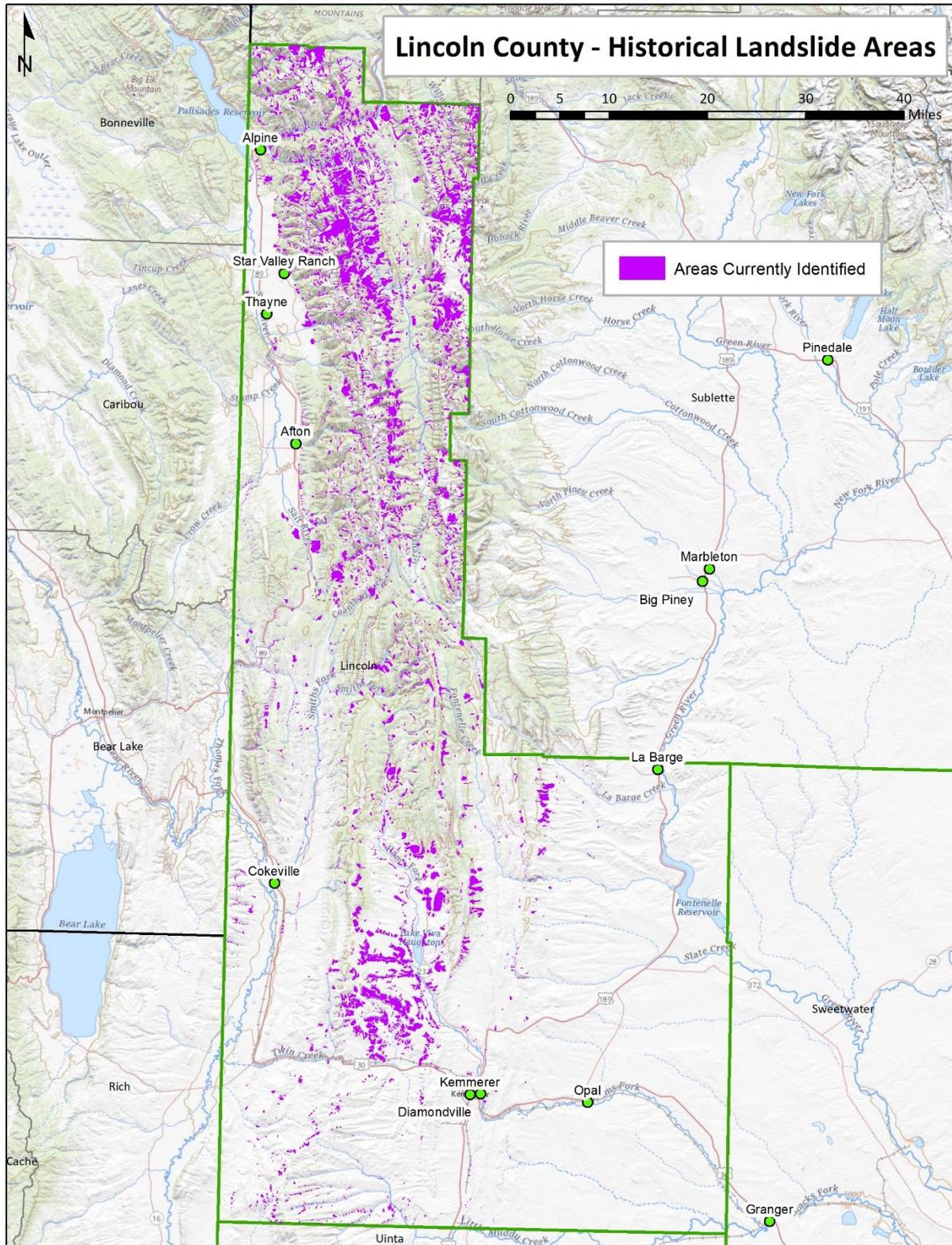


Table 4.25 Sweetwater County Historical Landslide Areas

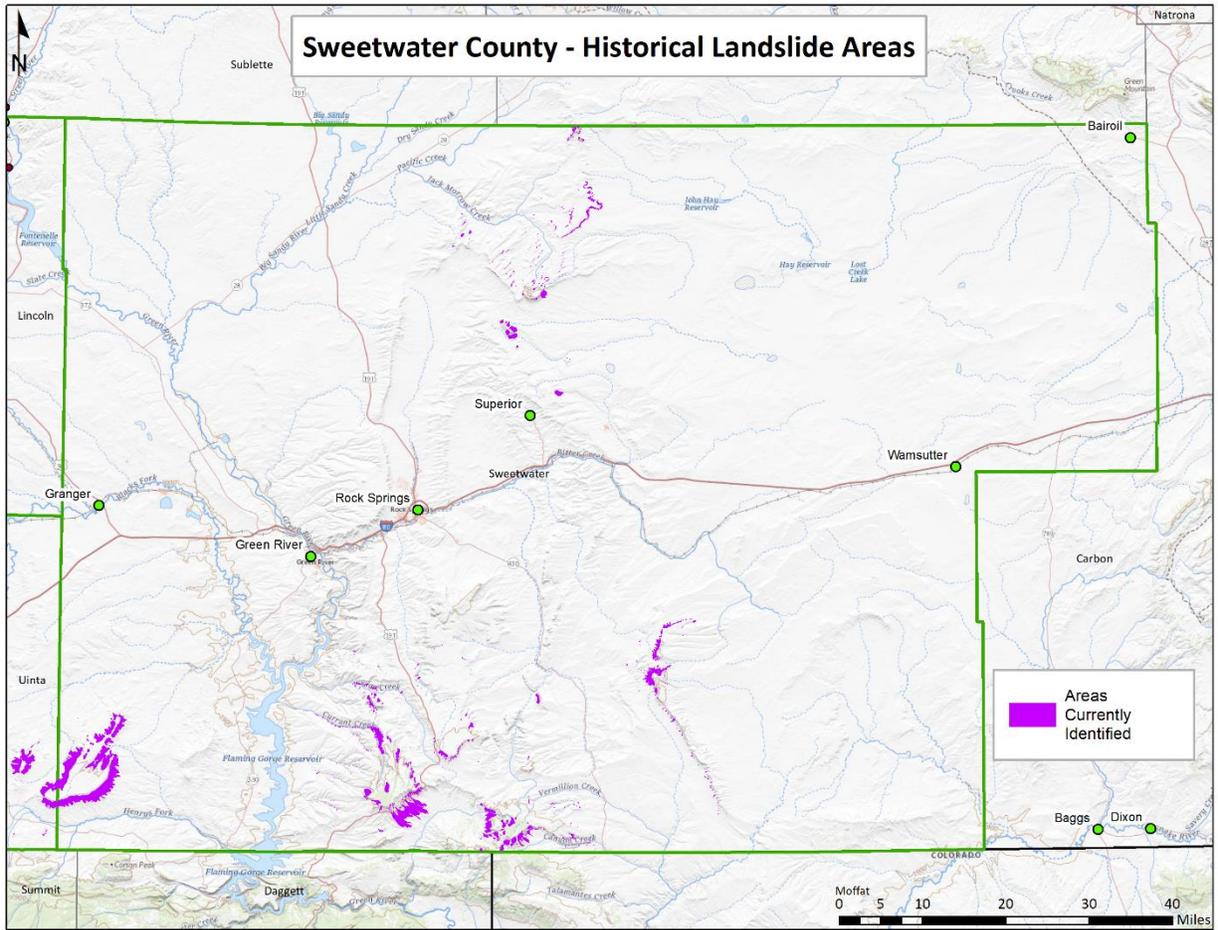
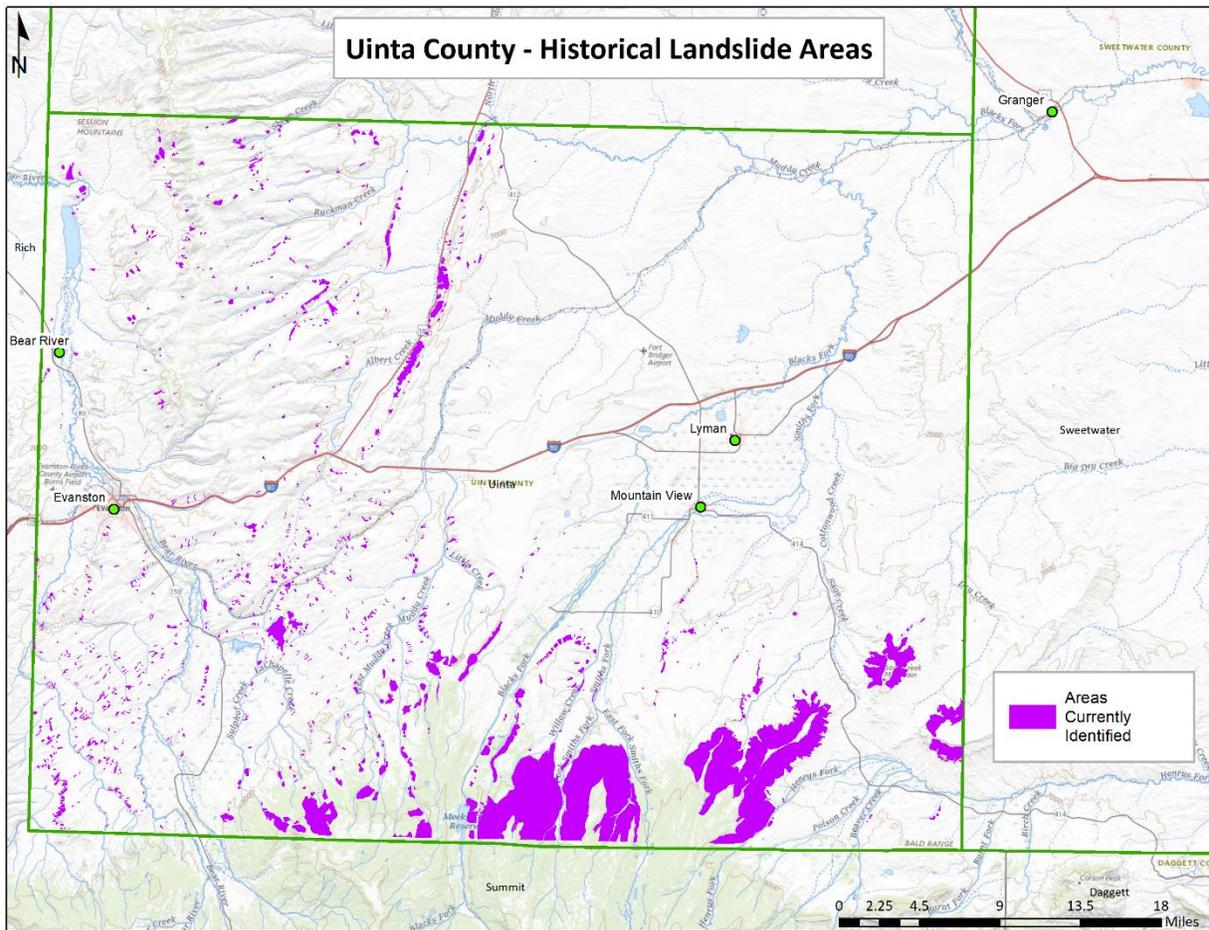


Table 4.26 Uinta County Historical Landslide Areas



Descriptions of significant previous occurrences that caused high amounts of damage, incurred notable costs, or had a unique impact on the area are detailed below.

- In the 1980's a large landslide occurred over Highway 89 in the area known as the Narrows in Star Valley. A short bypass was quickly constructed around the slide area so traffic could resume.
- In June of 1983, in Lincoln County, a massive landslide on the southeastern flank of Fossil Butte National Monument destroyed a section of the main line of the Union Pacific Railroad. The landslide moved downslope and over a few hundred feet. The line was closed for a number of days, and rail traffic was diverted through Colorado. This event resulted in a rerouting of the track section in 1984.
- In September 1985, an earthquake-induced landslide temporarily closed a portion of U.S. Highway 89 in the Snake River Canyon.
- On May 14th, 2011, in Lincoln County, a debris flow called the Double Draw Landslide, occurred on Highway 89 between Afton and Jackson. By the early morning hours of May 16th, 2011, a 25

to 30 foot high wall of debris, approximately 300 feet long, had covered the road. Several hundred commuters were forced to take an 80-mile detour through Idaho, and over two mountain passes, to get to work in the next town over. This doubled their commute and impacted the local economy. Commercial truck traffic was also affected, as the detour was limited to 60,000 lbs. The road was opened, after two weeks of closure, on May 29th, 2011.

- On July 22nd, 2011, President Obama declared a major disaster for the State of Wyoming, for the period of May 18th, 2011 to July 8th, 2011. This declaration was for emergency work and the repair or replacement of facilities damaged by the severe storms, flooding, and landslides that occurred. Public Assistance funding was made available for 15 counties, including Lincoln County and Uinta County. Of the \$4,227,150 allocated to the state, Lincoln County received which over \$270,000 and Uinta County received over \$93,000.
- On August 14th, 2014, Slow-moving thunderstorms developed over eastern Idaho and drifted east into Lincoln County. A moist airmass combined with the slow movement of the storms resulted in heavy rainfall and several mudslides across US Highway 89 just east of Alpine. Rainfall totals were estimated at one-half to three-quarters of an inch in less than 40 minutes. The highway was closed for about three hours and several vehicles were damaged. The slides, mostly composed of mud, were 3-4 feet deep in some places. At the time, \$10,000 was reported in property damage.

4.16.3 Exposure and Vulnerability

Landslides have the potential to damage property and threaten life safety. While events physically impact localized areas, there can be wide ranging secondary effects. Damage caused by landslides can limit the delivery of critical services, such as utilities and communication, as well as disrupt transportation routes.

Overall exposure to people, property, and infrastructure is minimal across the Region. However, in hazard areas, the magnitude of a landslide, rockfall or debris flow can inflict extensive damage and increase danger to the population. The susceptibility to landslides is illustrated in the county annexes.

Throughout the region numerous communities fall within identified landslide areas and could be impacted by this hazard. Viewing countywide and sometimes even municipal-scale maps does not provide the ability to see an individual community's specific hazard risk. Readers are urged to utilize available hazard data viewers to better understand their community's hazard risk. Landslide hazard information can be accessed through WY State Geological Survey's [Wyoming Geologic Hazards Map](#).

People

Developed areas and busy roadway corridors carry increased risk to the population in hazard areas. Rockfalls can occur without warning onto roads as people travel, which can result in serious injury or death. Outside of these hazard areas, the risk of people being impacted by an event is low. The greatest impact, to the overall population, is the repercussions of an obstructed roadway, which can present challenges for emergency services access and the ability to travel to neighboring municipalities.

Property

Landslides and debris flows, even those considered small-scale, have the potential to damage or destroy property, roads, railroads, and utility lines, including sewer and water lines. Financial impacts begin with clean-up costs that may include debris clearance from streets, drains, waterways and reservoirs. In some cases, there may be losses due to damage to crops, livestock, and timber. Individuals may incur costs for vehicle and building damage, as well as any potentially necessary medical care.

In Region 4, there are 580 structures in areas at high risk for landslides, with an estimate value of over \$139 million. Individual county information showing these structures by type and county, as well as illustrating the amount and value of properties in the hazard areas can be found in each county annex. Since landslides are localized, extensive damage to numerous buildings is unlikely.

Lifelines

The Transportation Lifeline is the most vulnerable to rockfall, landslide and debris flow incidents. The disruption or halting of transportation could potentially affect both private and commercial traffic. When roads are damaged or obstructed residents and visitors can be impacted by the resulting delays. This creates safety issues, as there could be vehicle accidents and emergency services would have a difficult time reaching those involved.

Power and Communications have the potential to be impacted if a landslide, or rockfall, were to damage infrastructure necessary for delivery of energy and communications.

Tables in each county annex detail the various Lifelines and facilities exposed to high risk landslide areas. This includes the miles of distribution lines for electricity and gas running through the region.

Environment

The environment can be heavily impacted by landslides and debris flows, as these events destroy vegetation, trees, and animal habitats. The resulting damage will not be recovered for decades, even with human intervention such as reseeding or slope reinforcement. It will take an extended amount of time to return the area to a habitable environment.

Economy

Landslides pose some risk to the economy, especially if there is damage to property, infrastructure, or roadways. While most landslides happen away from developed areas, the local economy may be impacted if roadways are blocked or buildings that bring revenue to the area are damaged or inaccessible. Secondary costs may be carried by individual commuters, who need to use a detour that adds extensive mileage and time to their drives. The resulting expense of fuel and any missed time at work can be impactful to individual families, while not affecting the local economy in a large way.

Overall, landslides costs are difficult to estimate due to the significantly varied types and extents of slides, as well as concurrent hazards that cause damage like earthquakes and floods.

4.16.4 Probability of Future Events

The probability of landslides, rockfalls or debris flows occurring is likely. However, it is difficult to determine if those events may result in damages or threaten life safety. The landslide / rockfall 'season', in the spring and early summer, coincides with increased freeze-thaw cycles and wetter weather which create conditions conducive to landslide events. Increased human activity along rock fall hazard areas,

such as construction and road repair, adds an increased risk for rock fall events. The likelihood of more events occurring is affected by the increase in wildfires and the resulting landscape changes that contribute to the creation of debris flows.

4.16.5 Climate Change Impacts

The conditions required for landslides and debris flows are greatly affected by climate, including the melt speed and level of snowpack, rapid temperature fluctuations, and erratic amounts of precipitation. The integrity of the soil and rock is affected with each freeze and thaw cycle, which are occurring more often and more rapidly due to unseasonable temperature swings. As landslides are more likely to occur after heavy precipitation and rapid snowpack melt, the unpredictable weather leads to dangerous conditions more frequently. The increased climate variability being experienced is expected to continue and with that the trend toward landslide and debris flow conducive situations will also.

4.16.6 Future Development Trends

Property development, infrastructure installment, and road construction in or near hazard areas increases the risk to the population and property. Adverse effects can be mitigated by early recognition, corrective engineering, and avoiding incompatible land uses in these areas. A review process for future development could prevent siting of structures and infrastructure in identified hazard areas.

4.17 Lightning

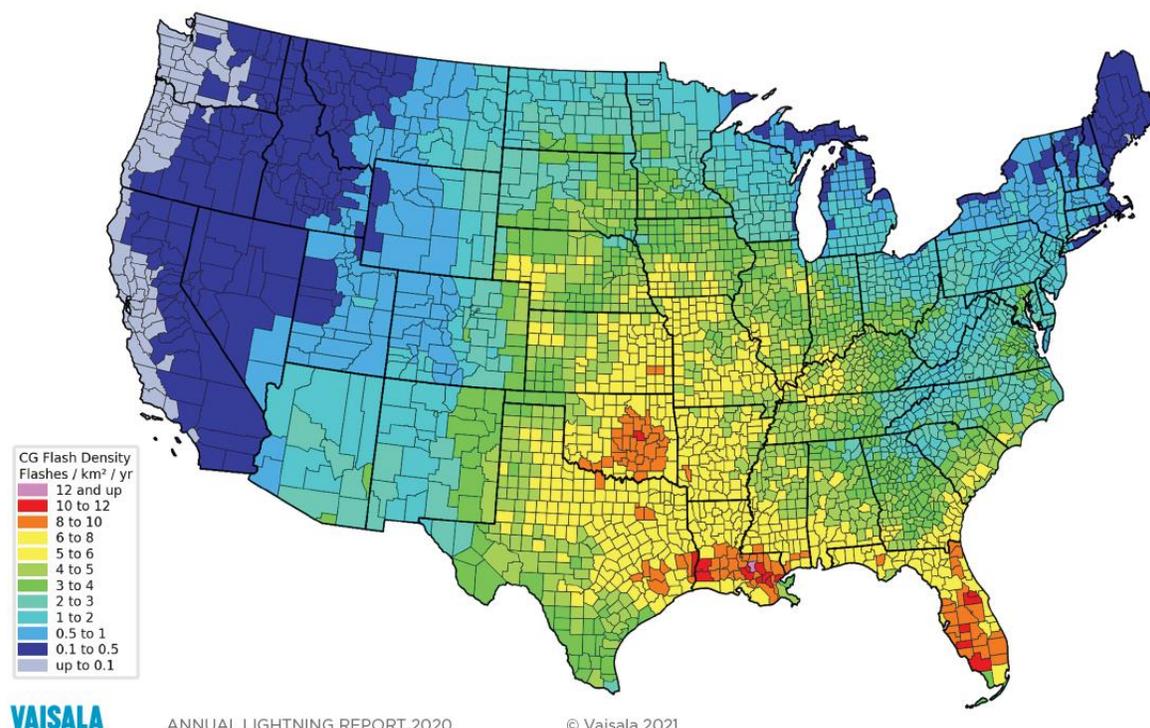
4.17.1 Hazard Identification

Lightning is often awe inspiring, but the lack of predictability and potential for harm can bring anxiety as well. Lightning occurs due to the discharge of high electrical current between two regions of opposite polarity. There are two types of lightning events, cloud-to-ground and cloud-to-cloud, which are recorded each year by the National Lightning Detection Network (NLDN)². A cloud-to-ground stroke is a lightning discharge that connects a charged region in a cloud to the ground and produces a flash of bright light as the current travels. This is the more concerning of the two, as the cloud-to-ground discharge can cause damage to property, start wildfires, and threaten life safety.

In 2020, over 170 million lightning events occurred across the United States and over 1.2 million of those happened in Wyoming. The county average annual cloud-to-ground flash density (per km²) is depicted in Table 4.27 for the period of 2015 through 2019, based on the NLDN data.

A lightning event can pose a danger to people who are inside, but those outside, without cover, are at risk of being struck, directly or indirectly. The outdoor enthusiasts exploring beautiful areas of the region, including high and exposed areas, must be aware of the possibility of quickly developing storms that bring the potential of lightning flashes.

Table 4.27 Average Annual Cloud-to-Ground Flash Density (flashes/km²/year), 2015 - 2019



² <https://www.vaisala.com/sites/default/files/documents/WEA-MET-Annual-Lightning-Report-2020-B212260EN-A.pdf>

4.17.2 Past Events

According to the National Lightning Detection Network (NLDN), Wyoming saw a 46% decrease of flashes in 2020, compared to the 2015-2019 average. However, in 2020, there was still a total lightning count of 1,218,084, which includes both cloud-to-ground and cloud-to-cloud flashes. Based on average cloud-to-ground flash data from 2009-2018, Wyoming ranks 37th nationally with 265,681 flashes per year and 1.04 flashes per square kilometer.

The counties within the region, per Table 4.27, have relatively low flash density compared to the eastern portion of the state. Lincoln County has an annual average of 0.1 to 0.5 flashes per km², while Uinta and Sweetwater counties each see an average of 0.5 to 1 flashes per km² per year.

According to SHELDUS data, detailed in Table 4.23, there have been 2 deaths and 16 injuries between 1960 and 2020 due to lighting events. Property and crop damage occurred over that time period as well.

Table 4.28 Region 4 Historic Lightning Events (1960-2020)

County	Year	Deaths	Injuries	Property Damage	Crop Damage
Lincoln County	1961	1	0	\$ 430	\$ 0
Sweetwater County	1966	0	1	\$ 0	\$ 0
Lincoln County	1967	0	1	\$ 0	\$ 0
Lincoln County	1969	0	2	\$ 0	\$ 0
Sweetwater County	1970	1	0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Sweetwater County	1973	0	6	\$ 63,400	\$ 0
Sweetwater County	1974	0	1	\$ 0	\$ 0
Sweetwater County	1976	0	1	\$ 0	\$ 0
Lincoln County	1982	0	0	\$ 0	\$ 1,350
Lincoln County	1988	0	0	\$ 33,900	\$ 0
Sweetwater County	1988	0	0	\$ 15,600	\$ 0
Uinta County	1988	0	0	\$ 21,900	\$ 0
Lincoln County	1997	0	3	\$ 0	\$ 0
Sweetwater County	2014	0	1	\$ 0	\$ 0
TOTAL		2	16	\$ 135,230	\$ 0

Source: NOAA, SHELDUS

Notable Event

The HMPC of Uinta County noted an incident not recorded by SHELDUS or NOAA databases: On June 6th, 2016, lightning knocked out power in Evanston. Lightning also hit a Uinta County Deputy's home and damaged electronics and ruined wiring in the home. It also knocked some siding off the house. There were no reported injuries or deaths.

4.17.3 Exposure and Vulnerability

Lightning is unpredictable and does not discriminate with where it strikes. It can threaten life safety, property, crops, and unprotected livestock. In addition, lightning can ignite wildfires, creating a secondary hazard, as well as impact power and communications infrastructure.

People

All people are at risk to lightning strikes, especially those who participate in prolonged outdoor activities. While the assumption is that one cannot be hurt inside of their home by lightning, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) state that one third of all lightning injuries happen indoors.

A secondary risk to the public, due to a lightning event, is the potential damage of electrical systems and the issues of a resulting lack of power. People are reliant on electricity for powered medical equipment and for heating and cooling their homes. Those who use this equipment and are sensitive to significant temperatures can be greatly impacted.

Property

Property that is damaged by lightning may need extensive repairs to electrical systems and other infrastructure. Properties built with grounding elements are less likely to sustain serious damage, as a large part of the current will be diverted.

Lifelines

The Lifelines most affected would be Power and Communications. The infrastructure for these Lifelines could sustain damage from lightning, affecting the ability to deliver power or critical communications. A lightning event may disrupt these Lifelines or halt them entirely, creating safety issues for the public due to power outages and delays in interagency communications.

Environment

The environment is not greatly affected by lightning strikes, as they are a common occurrence with little impact. However, many wildfires are ignited by lightning and can cause irreparable damage to the surrounding area. Depending on the duration and extent of the fire, animal habitats can be destroyed, waterways can be impacted, and the landscape will take decades to recover.

Economy

Lightning events alone do not have a regional effect on the economy, but if a wildfire is ignited it can drastically impact the region. A fire in the wrong place could damage tourism areas and create long standing issues for communities that rely on them. Individual businesses may be impacted if lightning were to affect day-to-day operations and cause financial losses.

4.17.4 Probability of Future Events

Lightning events will continue to happen across the region. According to the NLDN, lightning events occurred over 170 million times, in 2020, across the nation. This was 52 million lightning events less, over 20%, than in 2019. While lightning may have decreased in one year, it is not known if this trend will continue. The fluctuation could be indicative of the changes in climate happening currently.

4.17.5 Climate Change Impacts

The effects of climate change are seen across many hazards and lightning is not an exception. The unpredictable number of storms and their characteristics indicate the amount of lightning they bring could change drastically. With the changing weather patterns, the potential increase in thunderstorms events can result in increased lightning occurrences.

4.17.6 Future Development Trends

As more development occurs in the region, it is important that building codes be adhered to and buildings should have built in grounding, when possible. Lightning is attracted to buildings and infrastructure, so any and all mitigation that can be completed when building or updating property is ideal.

4.18 Mine Subsidence

4.18.1 Hazard Identification

Mine subsidence refers to the effects of an existing mining tunnel collapsing and altering the ground surface above, in the form of a sinkhole or trough. Coal mining, which began in Wyoming in the 1860s, resulted in the creation of tunnels across the state and voids below the ground where coal was extracted. Over the long history of coal mining, many tunnels have not been recorded on current maps, which has led to the development of properties and structures over precarious surfaces.

Mines are supported by pillars, typically timber, which can fail leading to mine subsidence events. Collapse can happen for a variety of reasons, including pillars losing integrity and failing to support the weight of the earth above, removal or damage of pillars during mining operations, or the mine roof or floor can be too soft to provide stability for the pillars. These collapses manifest in two different ways. A sinkhole subsidence, also called a pit, is the most common, or a trough subsidence, which is also called a sag. A sinkhole, or pit, is limited to a localized area, however the size can range greatly depending on the characteristics of the mine below. The steep sided hole is very different from a trough, or sag, which creates a much broader depression in the ground surface but is relatively shallow in its effect.

Many of these older mines are shallow, which contributes to the likelihood of an event since most sinkholes develop where the vertical distance between the coal seam and the surface is less than 50 feet. Poor design and construction of the mine initially can lead to later events. However, it is difficult to predict where subsidence might happen as collapses can occur decades after mining is completed.

4.18.2 Past Events

Subsidence issues are reported around the Region to the Wyoming Abandoned Mine Land Division (AML) and have been commonly seen in Rock Springs, Kemmerer, and Superior. The AML is also responsible for keeping an inventory of all areas at risk of subsidence and new sites have been found in these areas.

There is a long history of subsidence events, especially in the City of Rock Springs, in Sweetwater County. Reports of structures and roads, collapsing or disappearing beneath the ground can be found over decades of Rock Springs' history. Foundations have cracked, water and gas mains have broken, utility poles bend and snap, and parcels of land have been deemed unsuitable for new construction. There have been mitigation efforts for as many decades, as the state and federal governments have funded reclamation projects to limit the risk to the community from the deserted mines below.

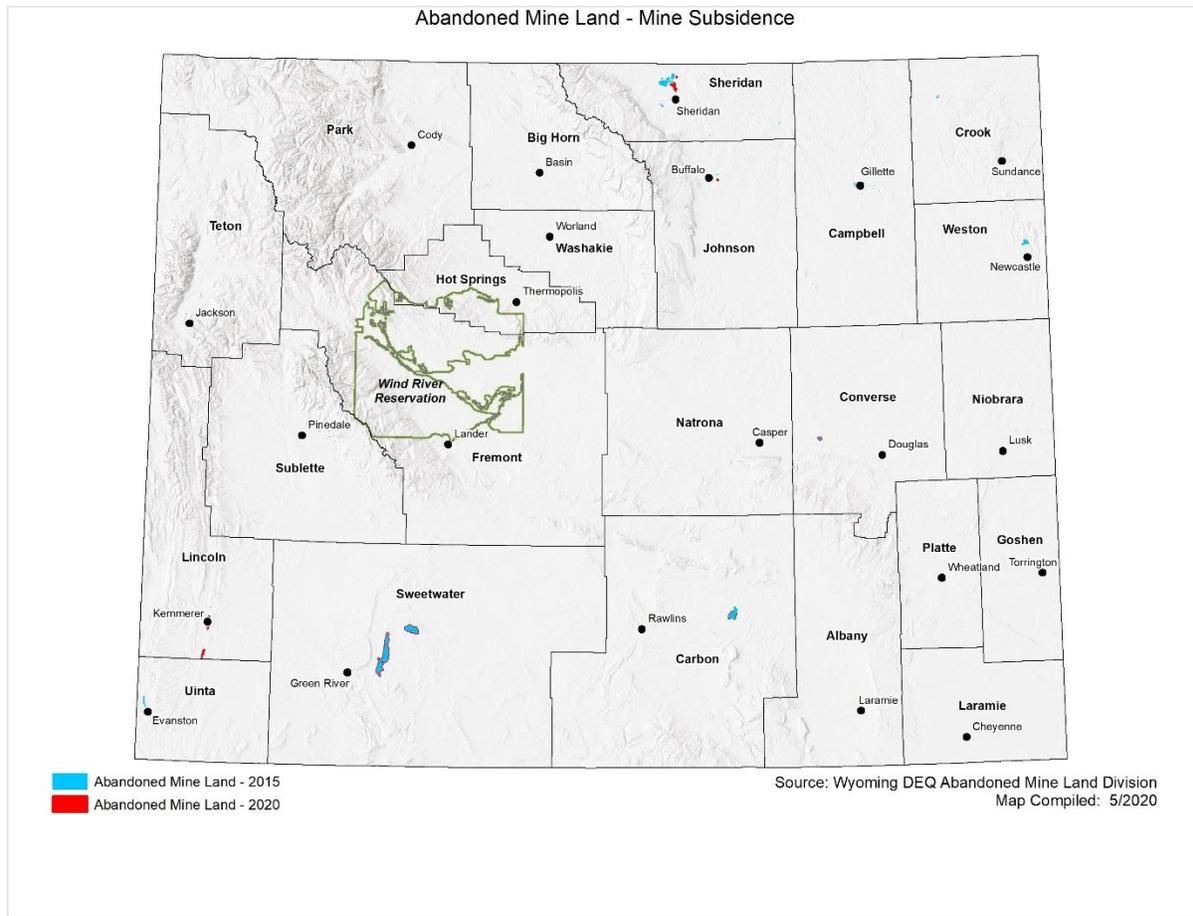
4.18.3 Exposure and Vulnerability

The extent of abandoned mines is not fully known, as records were not well maintained over the decades of mining. Therefore, more areas at risk of subsidence are likely to be identified. Of the areas that are known and would impact people, property, or infrastructure reclamation methods occur annually, often costing millions of dollars. In 2019, 86 projects across Wyoming, from filling underground tunnels with grout to filling large pit mines with tons of dirt, were completed at cost of over \$54 million.

The cost of reclamation is worth the safety and security of communities at risk and operations are led by the AML. Since prediction of areas that will have subsidence events is very difficult, all areas without mitigation are at a high risk.

Table 4.29 shows the identified abandoned mine land, across Wyoming, prone to subsidence in 2015, as well as land identified and added in 2020. Maps in each county annex show these same areas.

Table 4.29 Abandoned Mine Land in Wyoming (2015 and 2020)



Source: WY DEQ AMLD

People

The risk to people is difficult to qualify, as events are sporadic and locations are unpredictable. If a significant subsidence event occurs in a populated location, it is possible people may be injured or killed. The effects of displacement, due to damage of a home, can negatively impact community member's well-being.

Property

Property in an area with the potential for mine subsidence to occur are at risk of devastating damages, depending on the characteristic of the event. While many sinkholes appear in open fields posing little threat to people or property, if a sinkhole opens below a home, that home is likely to be uninhabitable. If a trough event occurs, it can affect multiple properties in an area, including numerous homes throughout a neighborhood. As most property and homeowner's insurance does not cover subsidence, prohibitive costs of repair or necessary relocation can result in empty homes and lowered property values.

Properties located in identified mine subsidence locations are shown in each county annex. In Sweetwater County, these areas have a significant number of residential properties. Although, due to the localized nature of subsidence, a relatively small number of homes would be affected in an event.

Lifelines

Depending on the location of an event, mine subsidence could affect multiple Lifelines. Transportation could be obstructed or immobilized completely for an extended duration if a subsidence event altered the integrity of a roadway, especially a critical transit routes. Energy has the potential to be disrupted if a pipeline or utility infrastructure is damaged by an event. Communication similarly could be impacted if essential equipment is affected. Food, Water & Shelter could be a large concern if an event were to include water supply infrastructure and displacement of community members stressing shelter capabilities.

The county annexes detail the various Lifelines and facilities exposed to the risk of mine subsidence. This includes the miles of distribution lines for electricity and gas running through the region.

Environment

Since events impact small areas, it is unlikely that the environment would be affected in a significant way.

Economy

Mine subsidence events range greatly in magnitude, from small sinkholes in open fields to large troughs, which affect multiple homes or roadways. Depending on the event, the costs can be devastating to individuals and significant to local communities. County economies may be impacted if subsidence affects the integrity of roadways, infrastructure, and public buildings. Slowing or halting of transportation across a critical transit route, while repairs are completed, can have negative impacts on important transit and commuters. Damage to infrastructure or buildings may require extensive repairs or relocation to be available for use. Homeowner's insurance does not typically cover subsidence events and the burden, which can be substantial, falls to the property owner.

Regionally, mine subsidence events are not likely to have a large economic impact, as they are localized to specific areas.

While mine subsidence has the potential to cause extensive property damages, the reclamation work of the abandoned mines has a local benefit beyond safety. According to the AML, the work in 2019, stimulated local economies by over \$155 million.

4.18.4 Probability of Future Events

It is likely there will be future mine subsidence events in Region 4. While many of the identified areas at risk of subsidence have benefited from reclamation efforts, there are likely still unknown locations with unknown risk. Since it is possible properties are built near or on unidentified abandoned mines, future subsidence events could affect property.

4.18.5 Climate Change Impacts

Climate change impacts the likelihood of mine subsidence events in multiple ways. Unpredictable precipitation and weather patterns can lead to unexpected runoff from heavy precipitation and temperature fluctuations leading to rapid snowmelt can fill mine tunnels. The inconsistent cycles of very

wet periods and extended dry periods from drought can affect the integrity of the mine supports and the earth above which is likely to be compromised. After a very dry period, the weight of moisture in the soil from an extended precipitation event can challenge the mine roof's ability to stay intact. If a temperature fluctuation freezes saturated soil, the effects of the expanding and contracting ice over rapid freeze and thaw can also impact the integrity of the structure.

4.18.6 Future Development Trends

Mine subsidence events impacting future development can be minimized if proper steps are taken to assess the area being developed. To identify any possible subsidence risks, all areas should be evaluated by experts and compared to local mapping, as well as any information available from the AML.

Growth in the region has not been rapid and new development has been minimal as a result. If an area is found to have subsidence risk, but development is still planned, proper reclamation work must take place. This involves reporting sites to the AML to obtain guidance and support and ensuring contractors understand their role in safely building on a site.

These steps are not only for buildings, but also for utility infrastructure. Business owners have a responsibility to assess sites through an environmental review process with the AML before installing pipelines, developing well sites, or installing power transmission lines.

4.19 Public Health

4.19.1 Hazard Identification

Public health hazards are those that can adversely impact the health and environment of a large number of people. These hazards can manifest as primary events by themselves, such as epidemics and pandemics, or they may be secondary to another disaster or emergency, such as a flood, severe storm, or hazardous materials incident. Environmental components of public health hazards that can affect the health of the community include air and water quality, which can be affected by pollutants, such as disease or smoke from a fire.

Public health hazards affect communities differently, based on the exposure to a hazard and the health and well-being of each resident. Many factors are looked at when determining risk for the public and individuals at the local level including the quality of health, the availability of clinical services, and the level and duration of exposure to a hazard.

There are daily operations in communities which could pose health risks, such as water and air quality, as well as proximity to hazardous materials. Communities live with these everyday but the hazards that garner the most attention are those that affect the population at a greater rate and to a greater extent, such as disease outbreaks.

Disease outbreaks come in many forms, such as bacteria, viruses, and fungi, which can be spread through the air, water, and on surfaces. Outbreaks, including epidemics and pandemics, have the potential to cause serious illness, distress, and death, especially among those who have compromised immune systems due to age or underlying medical conditions.

Epidemics are disease outbreaks that typically only affect members of the local community and do not spread to other areas. A pandemic is an epidemic that spreads to a large population across country borders. These are most often caused by new subtypes of viruses or bacteria for which humans have little or no natural resistance. Consequently, pandemics typically result in more deaths, social disruption, and economic loss than epidemics.

Another public health issue is traumatic events, when a community has a shocking or distressing event which impacts physical, emotional, and psychological well-being. These events can have long-term impacts on the public and require support resources. It is important to recognize behavioral and mental health in the community, in day-to-day life and after an event, to better support the affected population.

4.19.2 Past Events

Each year the Wyoming Department of Health records outbreaks of reportable communicable diseases, such as Salmonella, Hepatitis A, Lyme Disease, and others. The outbreaks of these known diseases have been minimal in the region over the last decade.

In 2015, a plane crash occurred in Afton (Lincoln County), resulting in the death of two pilots, which was witnessed by at least one hundred people. A church group was watching a local pilot complete a candy drop during an event when the plane went down. This was devastating for the close-knit community.

In 2019, a novel Coronavirus, called COVID-19, was discovered. The virus swiftly traveled and has affected every community in the world. The pandemic continues as of the writing of this plan and

vaccines are being administered internationally. The effects of the virus have been detrimental to the health of the population, life safety, and the economy. As of this plan's drafting (1/25/2022), there have been over 3,600 cases and 27 deaths in Lincoln County, over 9,600 cases and 114 deaths in Sweetwater County, and over 5,000 cases and 34 deaths in Uinta County.

Region 4 accounts for approximately 13% of the total cases in Wyoming currently and approximately 11% of the total deaths up to this point. All of the counties are seeing a drastic increase in the case numbers of COVID-19, with the highest numbers during the entire pandemic being reported in recent weeks.

4.19.3 Exposure and Vulnerability

Public health hazards have the potential to affect every person in the region. There are many ways in which public health can present a hazard and education can help to minimize negative impacts on the community.

People

Some of the population are more at risk than others depending on the hazard. Those with chronic conditions, such as diabetes, heart disease, and obesity can struggle with their response to an infectious disease. If there is a water quality issue, children may be more susceptible to the effects of the contaminant. Those with low income, in poverty, the elderly, and those with a disability can struggle to get the care and resources they need in a timely manner.

Traumatic events can affect everyone in the population, and the effects may present very differently from one person to the next. Awareness of the signs of someone struggling with mental health and emotional well-being can save lives if intervention occurs.

Table 4.30 shows the characteristics of the populations across the region, compared to the state and the United States. These demographics and health indicators are used, along with numerous others, to determine the overall health of the population, as well as gain an understanding of who may be at risk from different public health hazards.

Table 4.30 Region 4 Demographics and Health Indicators

Demographics	Lincoln County	Sweetwater County	Uinta County	Wyoming	United States
Population	19,830	42,343	20,226	578,759	328,239,523
Age: 4 and Under (%)	6.5%	6.6%	6.7%	6.0%	5.9%
Age: 18 and Under (%)	26.4%	25.9%	28.4%	23.1%	22.3%
Age: 65 and Over (%)	18.0%	13.0%	15.0%	17.1%	16.5%
Persons in Poverty (%)	7.0%	8.3%	8.5%	10.1%	16.8%
Persons with a Disability (%)	13.9%	13.3%	16.7%	13.4%	12.7%
Persons Age 65+ with a Disability (%)	36.1%	39.6%	46.1%	32.4%	33.5%
Adults who are Obese or Overweight (%)	67.7%	67.3%	67.7%	65.2%	66.7%
Adults with Diabetes (%)	9.7%	7.7%	9.5%	7.8%	9.1%
Adults with Asthma (%)	9.0%	9.0%	9.6%	9.5%	9.2%
Adults with Coronary Heart Disease (%)	7.3%	5.9%	7.2%	3.3%	3.9%

Source: US Census Bureau (2019), CDC (2017-2019), BRFSS (2019)

Property

Property is not likely to be affected by a public health hazard. In extreme cases, water quality issues could require remediation actions, such as updating pipes in individual homes or throughout a specific area.

Lifelines

Health & Medical is initially the most impacted Lifeline, as people who become ill from a public health hazard will seek medical attention. If there are a large number of people seeking medical attention, compared to the ability of a facility to treat them, strain on the healthcare system can occur which can affect treatment. In rural areas this may require transferring patients to other facilities, but if this option is not a feasible the person’s care will be negatively impacted.

Other Lifelines that can be impacted are Food, Water & Shelter, as any issues with the quality of the water and possible outbreaks on certain crops can cause large groups to need medical attention. Foodborne disease outbreaks can also rapidly affect the health of a community.

Environment

Environmental impacts of public health hazards can be long standing, such as a water quality issue affecting a large waterway and resulting in damage to ecosystems. Shorter term environmental impacts include air quality impacts from wildfires.

Economy

The economy, regional and local, can be affected in a variety of ways due to public health hazards. In most cases, this is due to the need for operations to cease while a public health issue is addressed, such as water quality. In extreme cases, the shutting down of businesses can be used to regulate the transmission of a disease outbreak and can be in effect for extended periods. This results in impacts throughout the region, as intercounty commerce is an important part of the local economies. The drop in tourism due to a large public health event would also greatly affect the regional and local economies.

4.19.4 Probability of Future Events

People interact with potential public health hazards daily, whether it is water quality, potential disease transmission, or the occurrence of a traumatic event in the community. These day-to-day interactions make it likely that future public health hazard events will occur.

Epidemics and pandemics, specifically, are likely to occur due to the rapid evolution of infectious diseases and the close contact of people with one another in day-to-day activities.

4.19.5 Climate Change Impacts

Climate change has affected disease transmission globally, according to the World Health Organization. Temperature fluctuations and extreme weather events create conducive conditions for diseases to manifest, and spread. Around the world the movement of people out of cities, heat centers, into the rural areas leads to more interactions between humans and animals. These interactions will lead to the continued discovery of never-before-seen disease and will continue to be a concern. Climate change can also contribute to an increase of person-to-person interactions, as the increased number of disaster events leads to more mass evacuations and need for more disaster sheltering.

4.19.6 Future Development Trends

As populations increase, the possible rate of transmission does as well. The more closely people interact, the more likely a disease is to spread. Water quality issues can also stem from new development, if infrastructure is not adequately installed, the materials are not of good quality, or if existing infrastructure is damaged during construction. The increase in wildfires seen around the country contributes to air quality issues, with smoke capable of traveling great distances and affecting populations nowhere near the wildfire event.

Emotional and mental well-being should be a focus for all communities as they grow. A strong community can support each other during times of extreme stress and traumatic events. Building partnerships with local crisis support organizations makes resources available during times of need.

4.20 Tornado

4.20.1 Hazard Identification

A tornado is a mobile, violently rotating column of air that extends from the base of a thunderstorm to the ground. They are visible once condensation forms within the funnel shaped column and collects dust and debris. Tornadoes occur primarily between May and July but can happen any time of year. While most occurrences are between 4 pm and 9 pm, tornadoes can happen day or night. Every tornado has the potential to threaten lives, property, crops and livestock. The strongest tornadoes are capable of ripping structures apart, destroying trees, and lifting vehicles.

The amount of destruction and injury caused by a tornado varies significantly depending on several factors. Location is one of the key determinants of damages a tornado can cause, an unpopulated rural area will not see the same extent of damages or threats to life safety as an urban area with dense development. The factors of strength, duration, and if the funnel contacts the ground influence the severity of repercussions from the tornado. The size of the tornado and length of the path, if it travels, also greatly impact potential devastation. Some tornados stay stationary while others travels miles at great speeds. A low rated tornado, which lasts for a few minutes and touches down briefly may still cause extensive damage but is likely to wreak less havoc that a higher rated storm, which lasts for an hour makes ground contact and travels.

Tornadoes can travel at up to 70 mph, while the vortex itself can produce rotating winds over 200 mph. It is possible for a tornado to be over 1000 yards wide and travel as much as 50 miles. However, most tornadoes are short lived, have wind speeds less than 100 mph, are around 50 yards wide, and the typical speed of travel is around 30 mph.

Tornado intensity is classified by a six-category scale created by Dr. T. Theodore Fujita in 1971. The Fujita Tornado Scale (F), also called the F-Scale, rated tornadoes from F0 through F5, shown in Table 4.10. These categories are based upon damage intensity and not wind speeds. The wind speeds for each category are estimated based on the damage done to buildings and structures.

The Fujita Scale was used until 2007, when the Enhanced Fujita Scale (EF) was introduced. Like the original Fujita Scale, the Enhanced Fujita Scale was created to assign categories based on the highest estimated wind speed that occurred within the damage path. However, the EF Scale uses tornado damage surveys to align wind speeds more closely with associated storm damage. The Enhanced Fujita Scale compares the Degree of Damage across 28 Damage Indicators, which include very specific building types and construction, infrastructure, and trees. This specificity allows evaluators to make precise determinations of wind speeds and EF rating.

Another important distinction, according to the National Weather Service (NWS), is the EF Scale uses three-second gusts estimated at the points of damage. This is not the same as standard surface wind observations, which are measured directly over “one-minute mile” speed. Table 4.32 compares the two scales.

Table 4.31 Fujita Scale Description

F-Scale	Character	Wind Speed	Type of Damage
F0	Weak	40-72 mph	Light Damage. Some damage to chimneys; branches broken off trees, shallow-rooted trees uprooted, sign boards damaged.
F1	Weak	73-112 mph	Moderate damage. Roof surfaces peeled off; mobile homes pushed foundations or overturned; moving autos pushed off road.
F2	Strong	113-157 mph	Considerable damage. Roofs torn off frame houses; mobile homes demolished; boxcars pushed over; large trees snapped or uprooted; light object missiles generated.
F3	Strong	158-206 mph	Severe damage. Roofs and some walls torn from well-constructed houses; trains overturned; most trees in forested area uprooted; heavy cars lifted and thrown.
F4	Violent	207-260 mph	Devastating damage. Well-constructed houses leveled; structures with weak foundation blown some distance; cars thrown; large missiles generated.
F5	Violent	261-318 mph	Incredible damage. Strong frame houses lifted off foundations, carried considerable distances, and disintegrated; auto-sized missiles airborne for several hundred feet or more; trees debarked

Source: NWS

The fastest ¼ mile wind speeds of the Fujita Scale are shown with the three-second gust equivalents for comparison to the Enhanced Fujita Scale.

Table 4.32 Comparison of the Fujita Tornado Scale and the Enhanced Fujita Scale

Enhanced Fujita Scale		Fujita Scale		
EF Scale	3 Second Gust (mph)	F Scale	3 Second Gust (mph)	Fastest 1/4 mile (mph)
0	65-85	0	45-78	40-72
1	86-110	1	79-117	73-112
2	111-135	2	118-161	113-157
3	136-165	3	162-209	158-207
4	166-200	4	210-261	208-260
5	261-318	5	262-317	261-318

Source: NWS

4.20.2 Past Events

Tornadoes that occur in rural areas are often not recorded, so the region may have a higher number of events than recorded. Of the 35 documented tornadoes between 1950-2020 in Region 4, most have low ratings on the Fujita Scale (F0s and F1s), with the exception of an F2 tornado in Uinta County in 1950. The majority of these formed over open land and resulted in little or no damage.

Table 4.33 shows the total number of recorded tornadoes by county and Table 4.34 shows the tornadoes which resulted in damages. There have been no reported deaths or injuries due to tornadoes in the region.

Table 4.33 Tornado History by County (1959-2020)

County	Number of Events
Lincoln	6
Sweetwater	25
Uinta	4
Total	35

Source: USGS

Table 4.34 Region 4 Tornadoes Resulting in Damages or Death and Injury (1950-2020)

County	Date	Magnitude	Deaths	Injuries	Property	Crop Damage
Uinta	5/10/1950	F2	0	0	\$30	0
Uinta	5/24/1962	F0	0	0	\$2500	0
Sweetwater	6/27/1974	F1	0	0	\$25000	0
Lincoln	7/24/1980	Unknown	0	0	\$25000	0
Sweetwater	6/14/1982	F0	0	0	\$30	0
Uinta	5/30/1989	F0	0	0	\$2500	0
Sweetwater	4/14/2000	F1	0	0	\$30000	0
Sweetwater	5/26/2017	EFO	0	0	\$1000	0
TOTALS			0	0	\$86,060	\$0

Source: NOAA, National Centers for Environmental Information

- The most damaging tornado in Region 4, rated an F1, occurred in Sweetwater County on April 14th, 2000, in James Town, and caused \$30,000 in property damage.
- In 1974 an F1 tornado in Sweetwater County caused property damages totaling \$25,000.
- An event of unknown rating, in Lincoln County, on July 24th, 1980, caused \$25,000 in damage.
- Uinta County has experienced up to \$2,500 in damages on two separate occasions, both due to F0 storms, in 1962 and 1989.

Property damage has been described as damage to homes including roofs and chimneys, sheds, outbuildings, downed tree limbs, and downed timber on forest lands.

While unreported by NCEI, according to the Lincoln County 2004 Hazard Mitigation Plan, Lincoln County has seen four injuries caused by tornadoes, but no deaths.

Table4.35 through Table4.37 show the historical tornado events in each county.

Table 4.35 Lincoln County Historical Tornado Events

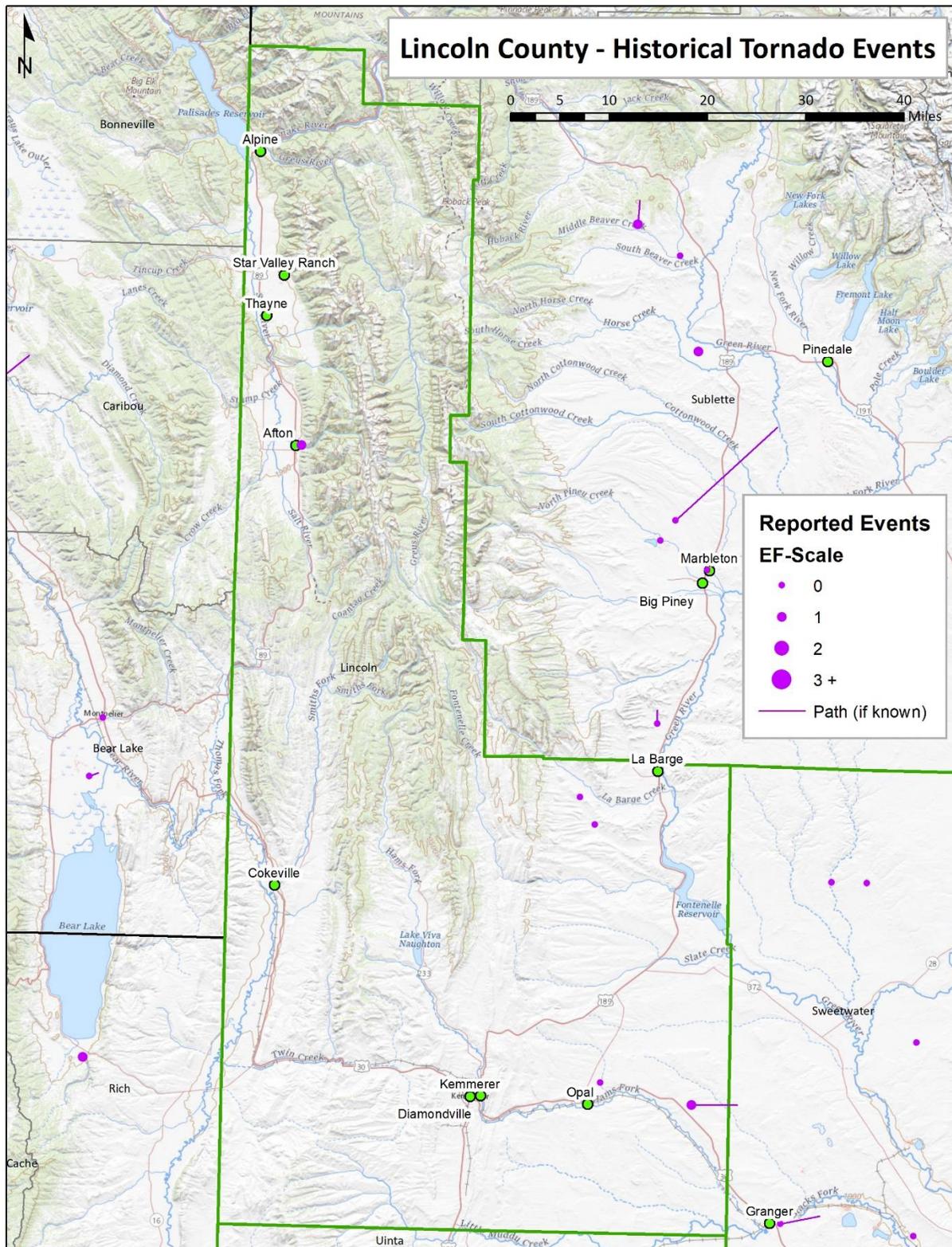


Table 4.36 Sweetwater County Historical Tornado Events

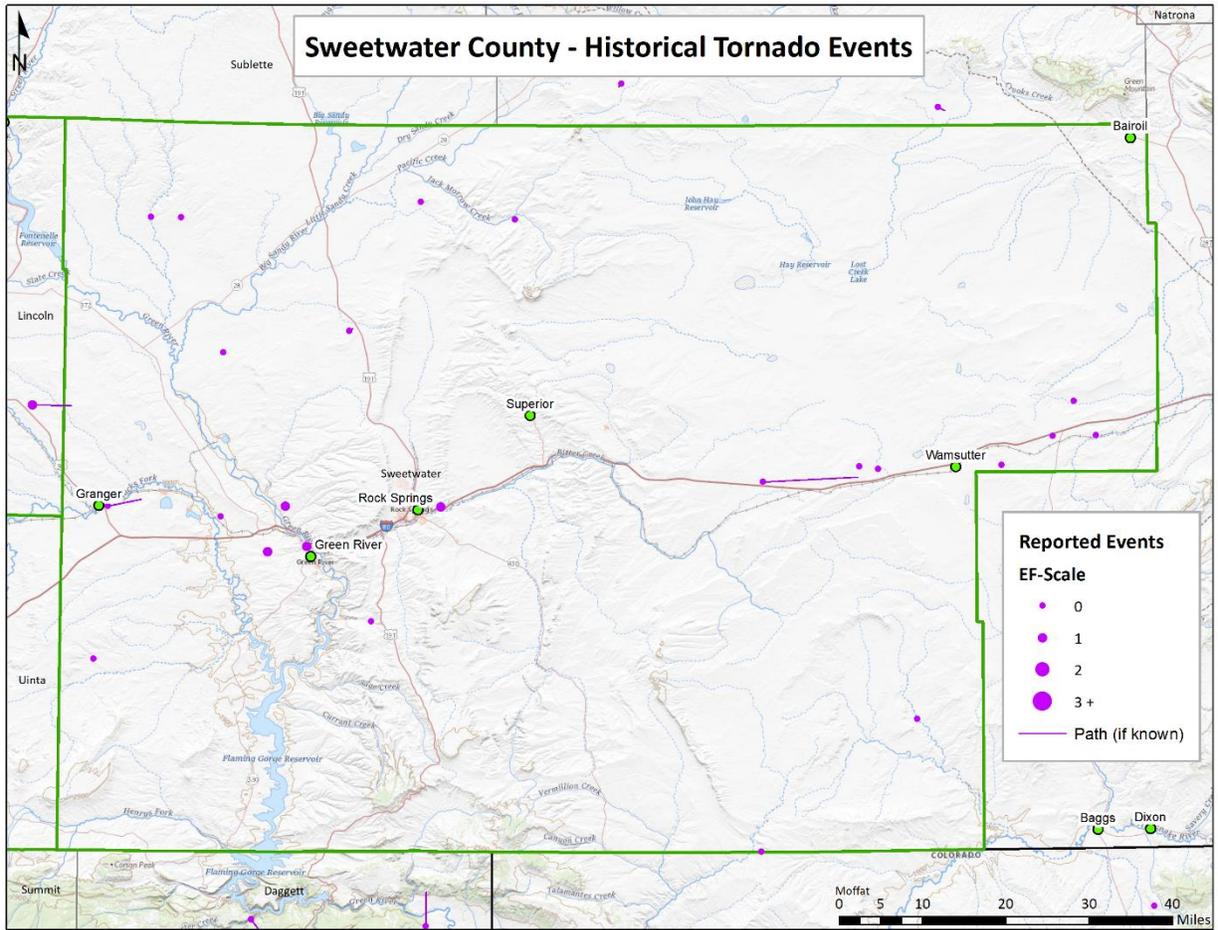
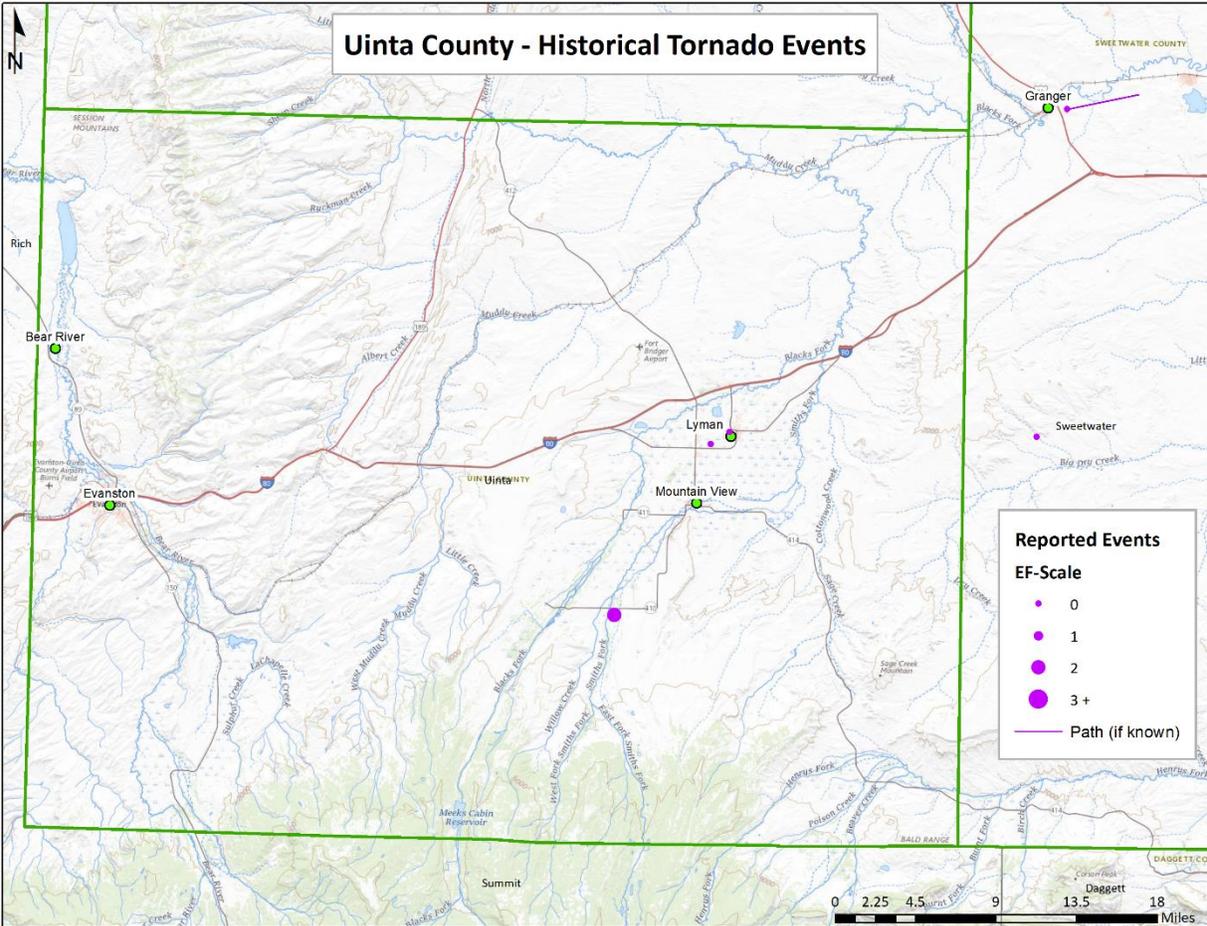


Table 4.37 Uinta County Historical Tornado Events



4.20.3 Exposure and Vulnerability

Because of its mostly rural composition, people or property within the region have not had a history of being severely impacted during past tornado incidents. While the F-Scale ratings of historical tornadoes in the counties are low, those ratings are partially based on recorded damage. Recorded damage may have been much more substantial if these events had impacted one of the communities in the region, rather than timber, outlying range, and farm acreage. Due to the unpredictable nature of tornadoes, the entire region is at risk of an event occurring.

People

The majority of tornadoes occur in the afternoon and early evening, which gives the public an opportunity to act upon tornado warnings in an efficient way. While all tornadoes threaten lives and safety, those that occur at night can be particularly devastating, as people are sleeping and might not be able to quickly and safely reach shelter, as they would in daylight.

Populations needing assistance in evacuation are at an increased risk of being exposed to a tornado. The elderly, those with mobility issues, those with language difficulties and children are populations which require special consideration when planning for this hazard.

Damage from tornadoes can lead people to be severely injured and in some cases trapped in the post storm debris. Search and Rescue teams are strained after a large event and multiple partner agencies can be needed to locate people and bring them to safety.

Property

Property damage due to tornadoes ranges drastically, as it depends on the severity of the tornado, the duration of the event, where it touches down, and if it travels. Even if a tornado does not touch down, the high winds and resulting blowing debris can tear through buildings and damage infrastructure.

Buildings can be fortified against the effects of tornadoes, such as continuous load path construction, proper roof design, anchoring outbuildings and manufactured homes, and installing impact-resistant glass. Unfortunately, these measures can be prohibitively expensive.

Lifelines

All Lifelines have the potential to be disrupted or halted by a tornado. Food, Water & Shelter can be affected in multiple ways, including the need to shelter and feed many people, potential damage to water systems, and the chance of crops being destroyed. Communications and Energy infrastructure can be damaged or ripped out entirely by the tornado, leading to issues with important interagency communication and messaging to the public. Extended power outages are also possible. Safety and Security can be severely impacted if the storm damages government or responder buildings and equipment. The need for Search and Rescue teams can be larger than the capacity and resources immediately available. Transportation can be impacted if roadways are obstructed or damaged, which can make it difficult for responders to reach the public and regional aid to arrive. Health and Medical can see a large amount of the public needing medical attention in a surge, which can impact available resources and delivery of care. If the hospital is damaged or destroyed, the impacts can be detrimental to the health of the population. Hazardous materials have the potential to be released if a facility is damaged or a vehicle, train, or pipeline carrying materials is impacted.

Environment

The damage to the environment can be localized, if the tornado is small and does not travel. However, if a tornado touches down in an ecosystem, the results could be detrimental to the habitat. Since tornadoes have the potential to be widespread, depending on the size, location, and path, there is a possibility of greater environmental damage. Uprooting of trees, transplanting of debris, and death of animals in the area are factors that could alter a habitat greatly. Damage would likely take years to mend.

Economy

Tornadoes have the potential to devastate a local economy and if a tornado travels the impact can extend rapidly to other jurisdictions. As tornadoes are unpredictable, it is difficult to estimate the effects on a community's economy and residents. In rare cases a community may not be rebuilt after a tornado event and in other cases minimal damage can be repaired without serious interruption to day-to-day business interactions and processes.

4.20.4 Probability of Future Events

Tornadoes are likely to occur in the region in the future. Geography and weather patterns remain conducive to these events and therefore are likely to continue.

4.20.5 Climate Change Impacts

The effect of climate change on frequency and intensity of tornadoes is being studied by scientists across the country. Tornadoes last for short durations, seconds to hours, and have a relatively small footprint compared to other weather-related hazards, making it difficult to model them. Scientists are using predictions of weather components that contribute to tornado occurrence and as weather shifts they can see trends in these components. The changes in weather patterns include increases in warm, moist air and wind shear, as well as an unstable atmosphere which create more favorable environments for tornadoes. These trends can possibly increase future occurrences and as climate change effects continue that likelihood grows.

4.20.6 Future Development Trends

All development in the region is at risk of experiencing a tornado or its high wind effects, should it travel through before fully forming. Educating the public on messaging and proper actions when a tornado watch or warning is issued can reduce risk to life safety.

Building code adherence and mitigation actions are crucial in increasing the likelihood of a structure surviving a tornado. Construction of shelters in public areas is also a consideration in future development, especially if areas become more densely populated.

4.21 Wildfire

4.21.1 Hazard Identification

Wildfire is defined as an uncontrolled fire, which is typically highly destructive, and can occur in forests, grasslands, or brush. While all wildfire is dangerous, the increase in residents and dwellings in the wildland urban interface areas of the region creates a larger concern.

Wildland urban interface (WUI) is a term used to describe the zone of transition between unoccupied land and human development. It is the line, area, or zone where structures and other human development meet or intermingle with undeveloped wildland or vegetative fuels. Fuel consists of combustible material, including vegetation, such as grass, leaves, ground litter, plants, shrubs, and trees that feed a fire. Communities adjacent to and surrounded by wildland are at varying degrees of risk from wildfires.

Wildfires can occur at any time of the year but are less likely to occur in the winter. Wyoming's semi-arid climate and rural character make the state vulnerable to wildland fires, which have the potential to be catastrophic. The pattern of drier and hotter seasons lasting longer has led to an increase in wildfires.

Wildland fire suppression, over decades, has led to heavy vegetation growth and greatly increased the potential fuel-load for a wildfire to burn. While fires can be started by lightning from thunderstorms, the majority are caused by humans and opportunities for ignition increase with human activity in fuel dense WUI areas.

4.21.2 Past Events

The Wyoming Wildfire Risk Assessment Portal (WYRAP) was the primary database used to analyze fire history and risk in Region 4. According to the 2020 Wyoming State Hazard Mitigation Plan, this data is from various sources, which were compiled into the West Wide Wildfire Assessment and a portal was created for easy public access.

Table 4.38 to Table 4.40 show historical wildfires in each of the counties. Table 4.41 Wildfires over 1,000 acres in Lincoln County (1980 – 2020) Table 4.41 to Table 4.43 show the characteristics of fires that burned over 1,000 acres by county.

Table 4.38 Lincoln County Historical Wildfires (1980 – 2020)

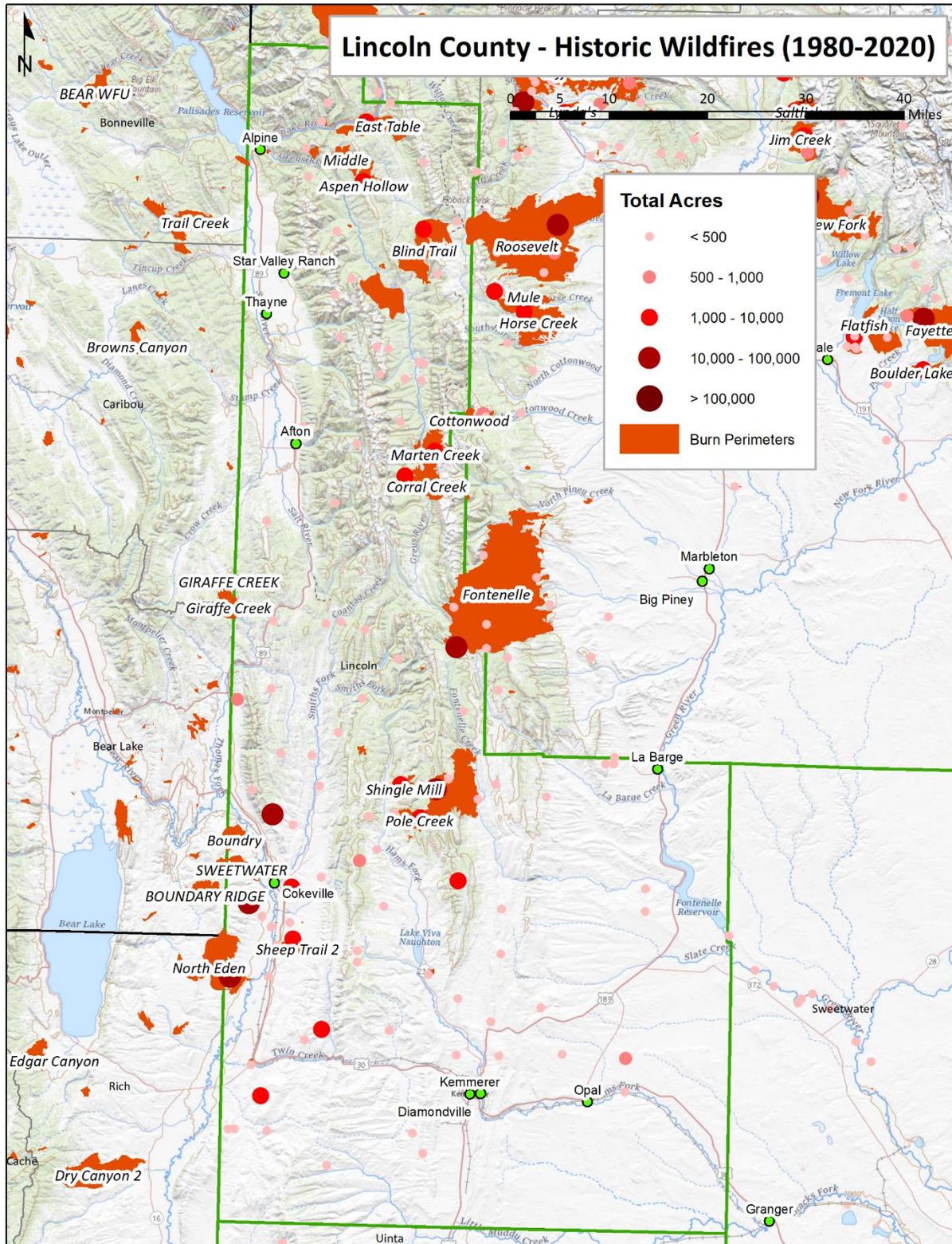


Table 4.39 Sweetwater County Historical Wildfires (1980 – 2020)

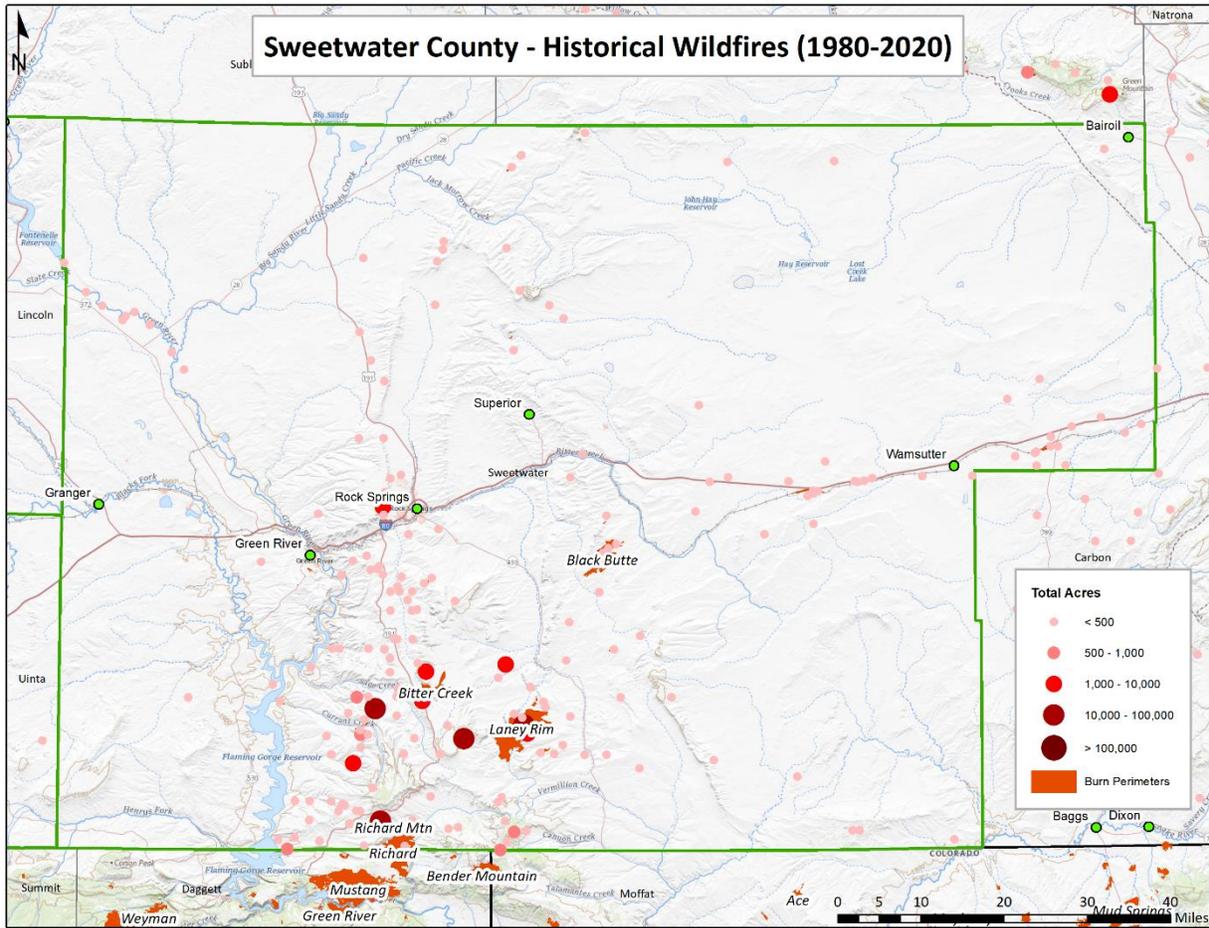
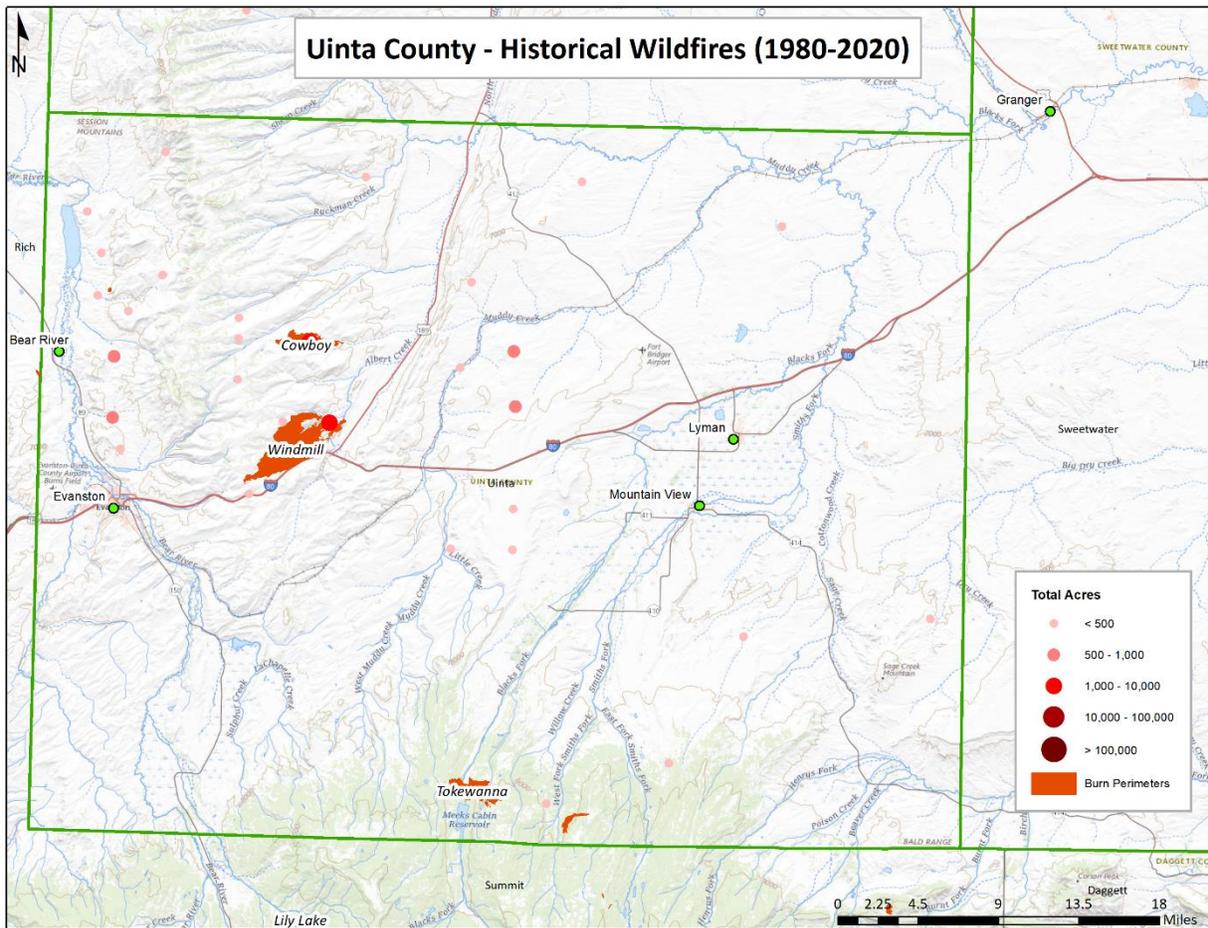


Table 4.40 Uinta County Historical Wildfires (1980 – 2020)



Lincoln County

The most significant fires in Lincoln County, those that burned over 1,000 acres, can be found in Table 4.41. Between 1980 and 2020, these fires burned 220,725 acres.

Table 4.41 Wildfires over 1,000 acres in Lincoln County (1980 – 2020)

Wildfire Name	Year	Acres Burned
Marten Creek	2018	6,483
Pole Creek	2017	3,600
Cliff Creek	2016	16,863
Fontenelle	2012	65,220
Fontenelle	2012	47,416
Shingle Mill WFU	2008	1,381
Middle	2007	2,714
Sheep Trail 2	2007	1,745
Sheep Trail	2006	1,120

Wildfire Name	Year	Acres Burned
Rock Creek	2005	10,500
East Table	2003	3,599
Commissary	2002	3,561
Fontenelle	2000	14,750
Blind Trail	2000	9,800
Bridger Basin	1999	10,500
Aspen Hollow	1996	2,780
Corral Creek	1988	2,700
Seismic	1988	2,400
Truman	1987	1,593
North Lake	1981	12,000

Source: WYWRAP

Sweetwater County

Based on WYWRAP data, between 1980 and 2020, fires in Sweetwater County, over 1000 acres, burned a total of 110,058 acres. These fires are detailed in Table 4.42.

Table 4.42 Wildfires over 1,000 acres in Sweetwater County (1980 – 2020)

Wildfire Name	Year	Acres Burned
Richard Mountain	2020	7,663
Bitter Creek	2015	2,487
Elk Butte	2012	1,002
Pepper	2002	13,200
Monument	2002	2,000
Vengeance	2002	1,350
Red Creek	2002	1,000
Wild Horse	2000	36,700
Sheep Mountain	2000	36,645
Black Butte	2000	2,550
Sage Creek 3	2000	1,377
Red Creek	1999	1,300
Substation	1994	1,784
Sugarloaf	1988	1,000

Source: WYWRAP

Uinta County

Data from WYWRAP for Uinta County shows four fires over 1,000 acres between 1980 and 2020. These fires burned a combined 12,561 acres and are detailed in Table 4.43.

Table 4.43 Wildfires over 1,000 acres in Uinta County (1980 – 2020)

Name	Year	Acres Burned
Tokawana	2016	1,300
Windmill	2010	5,261
Pond	1996	1,000
Littlebrynn	1988	5,000

Source: WYWRAP

4.21.3 Exposure and Vulnerability

Wildfires are becoming increasingly more common throughout the entire year, burning greater areas, lasting longer, and becoming more destructive. There are certain areas in the region at higher risk to wildfire, due to factors including available fuel, humidity levels, winds, location, and human activity.

The figures in the county annexes show all classes of wildfire risk, low to high, across all three counties. For the exposure analysis tables in each county annex outline the value of structures located within the highest (top 20%) wildfire risk areas. The same is true for the WUI Risk maps which are included in each county annex, however in this case the highest (top 33%) WUI risk areas were assessed.

Throughout the region numerous communities fall within high risk wildfire areas and could be impacted by a wildfire event. Viewing countywide and sometimes even municipal-scale maps does not provide the ability to see an individual community’s specific hazard risk. Readers are urged to utilize available hazard data viewers to better understand their community’s hazard risk. Wildfire hazard information can be accessed through WY State Forestry Division’s [Wildfire Risk Assessment Portal](#).

People

Overall, risk to the population is highest in WUI areas. The threat to life safety of residents is a critical topic of education about their responsibilities living in the WUI, for mitigation, preparedness, and response. As wildfires are unpredictable and evacuations are not always timely or efficient, it is important that people understand how to be prepared, informed, and capable of leaving quickly, if necessary.

The direct threat of fire encroachment is not the only issue, some people may be in areas considered safe, however they could be affected by the smoke and ash from a nearby fire. This is dangerous for the entire population, but especially hazardous to those with respiratory conditions, children, and the elderly.

Eliminating barriers to evacuation is the foremost way to ensure community members reach safety. Sheltering and transportation options that are communicated widely and can expand rapidly, if needed, are essential to the efficiency and likelihood that people will evacuate. Many people may struggle

financially to find shelter or transportation if there are not adequate resources in the area. In addition, providing sheltering for pets and animals increases the chances of people evacuating.

Property

Wildfire is unpredictable, in a matter of minutes it can change direction and intensity level, as well as make large runs which burn acres rapidly. Due to this, property damage ranges drastically even within a small area. In some cases, a small portion, or the roof, of a house may be damaged by hot embers that are blown onto the structure and ignite the materials. Houses that have had mitigation actions performed either beforehand or by responders, such as sprinkler systems, can be passed by completely, while the house next door burns down leaving nothing but the foundation. WUI properties are especially at risk due to the location of development near dense vegetation and this risk increases if there are no mitigation actions taken on the property or those nearby.

Tables in each community annex outline the value of structures located within the highest (top 33%) WUI risk areas.

Lifelines

Multiple Lifelines could be affected by wildfire, especially due to the lack of predictability that comes from hazard events. Food, Water & Shelter is the most immediate need for a fire that threatens life safety and requires evacuation resulting in sheltering needs. Wildfire has the potential to contaminate water supply and burn crops in a prairie fire.

Transportation can be affected with roads closing due to the fire itself, the responders needing access, or evacuated areas that are not open for the public. Communication equipment can be threatened, such as cell towers, and there is often limited communication in areas where the wildfire responders are out of range of mobile phones. Energy can be affected if infrastructure is damaged and responders will often turn off power in areas they are working in, which can affect people who may not be under evacuation orders or who stay behind.

Safety & Security is impacted by the sudden surge of resources, firefighters, emergency services responders, and law enforcement who may be needed to monitor roadblocks or go door-to-door for evacuated areas. In extreme cases of not having time for evacuation, Health & Medical may see a surge of patients and may not be equipped to handle multiple burn injuries, as well as the possibility of damage to a facility.

The county annexes detail the exposure of the Lifelines and structures in the highest risk wildfire areas (top 1/5). This includes the miles of distribution lines for electricity and gas running through the region.

Environment

Wildfire is a common natural occurrence which has only increased in threat as communities developed. A history of fire suppression to protect communities and limit fires has impacted the environment in many ways. Some environments rely on wildfire as part of ecological health and areas that are suppressed can see issues with the health of the ecosystem. Suppression and forest management practices have also changed the characteristics of fires in certain vegetation, fires occur but not the way they have historically burned. This is typically a hotter and more intense burning that causes increased damage.

Fires can lead to debris flows and flooding, affecting the landscape and the habitats in the area. This is due to the burned ground lacking vegetation to stabilize and minimize runoff, resulting in more water traveling through the area and taking debris and soil with it.

Economy

Wildfires have the potential to impact the economy in all counties in the Region. A fire within or near an area that provides recreational opportunities could affect the number of visitors that travel to the region. As winter recreation is also a staple of the regional economy, any damage to areas popular with winter activities could greatly impact the economy.

With many historical and cultural sites throughout, the region sees tourists flock to its parks and monuments, as well as protected areas which hold petroglyphs and artifacts. Historical buildings are especially at risk to wildfire, as they often do not have sprinklers and mitigation activity may be limited due to historical preservation. Damage to these may affect tourist numbers and the revenue they bring.

Any losses in communities will most likely affect individual owners to varying degrees. If a large amount of public buildings and businesses were damaged within a community it could result in negative economic impacts until cleanup, repair work, and necessary construction is completed.

4.21.4 Probability of Future Events

Wildfires are likely to occur in the region, as small fires happen every year. The greater concern is these fires growing quickly and damaging more acreage. With drought experienced often throughout the region, the weather getting hotter for longer durations, and an abundance of fuel, especially beetle kill pine trees, fires have the potential to occur easily and spread rapidly before they are spotted. Since fires can be human caused, lightning ignited, or the possibility of forest management activities getting out of control, there are numerous ways an accident or random occurrence could ignite a conflagration.

4.21.5 Climate Change Impacts

Climate change (coupled with past forest management practices) has steadily increased the frequency and intensity of wildfires around the nation. Continued unpredictable precipitation and weather patterns will lead to increased occurrence, extended durations, and magnified severity. The patterns of drought, brought by drier and hotter climate, create conditions that wildfires thrive in and these fires have begun to consistently spread faster and farther. Wildfires will continue to thrive on the lack of humidity and dry vegetation created by drought, often perpetual. Hotter conditions fuel fires, the extreme temperature fluctuations and unseasonable increases in heat have and will continue to create a longer wildfire seasons.

4.21.6 Future Development Trends

The wildland urban interface (WUI) is a popular choice for development and while the growth in these areas of the region has not rapidly increased, the potential is present as populations expand to previously undeveloped locations.

Education about wildfire risk is critical for those building in high-risk areas. Understanding mitigation actions for properties and recognizing the need to have plans for potential evacuations are crucial concepts to increase public safety.

If growth in the region's WUI begins to increase, local government should consider planning for accessible ingress-egress routes, both for evacuations and use by fire personnel to reach critical areas. Creating a communications system, to ensure residents can reach out for assistance and receive necessary information, is important for the public to have access to time-sensitive messaging, such as evacuation orders.

4.22 Wind

4.22.1 Hazard Identification

Wind can be a devastating hazard, causing damage to property, crops, and threatening life safety. High winds are categorized by duration, wind speed, and the size of the impacted area. High wind events can happen any time of the year and can add to the danger of winter storms.

Downbursts, which include microbursts and macrobursts, are strong, localized winds caused by a downdraft within a thunderstorm. Microbursts affect areas less than 2.5 miles across and last for five to ten minutes. The maximum windspeed is 100 mph and microbursts can occur with heavy precipitation or without depending on location and weather conditions. Macrobursts are similar, however they affect an area greater than 2.5 miles across, can last up to 30 minutes, have wind speeds up to 130 mph, and can produce damages similar to a tornado.



Provided by Jay Hokanson – May 30, 2020 event

Windblown Deposits

Windblown deposits can be an often overlooked hazard. Strong winds transport sand or silt grains and deposit them in a different area, sometimes a significant distance from where it was acquired. These deposits are called loess and can cause damage or loss of property, as well as posing a public health problem for air quality.

4.22.2 Past Events

High wind events have caused considerable damage over decades in Region 4. The average wind speed of events which caused property or crop damage is 79 mph. While most wind speeds for these events ranged from 50 to 60 mph, the highest recorded wind speed of a damaging event was 98 mph. The cumulative property damage caused by high wind events is significant, while crop damage has been minimal, accounting for approximately 1% of the overall reported damages.

Loess or windblown deposits have been known to affect developed areas when dunes move. There is not a known record at this time of damages created by windblown deposits, however according to the Wyoming State Geological Survey there have not been significant losses associated. Although people

have shared experiences of dunes moving into neighborhoods, affecting homes, and closing roads for short periods the issues can be easily mitigated.

Sweetwater County is home to the Killpecker Dune Field which is over 50 miles long and 10 miles wide at its widest point. The dune is used recreationally and no events have occurred that put life safety or property at risk.

Table 4.44 illustrates the reported damaging wind events in each county of Region 4. Fortunately, there have been no reported injuries or deaths in these 72 events.

Table 4.44 Damaging Wind Events in Region 4 (1961-2020)

County	Number of Events	Maximum Wind Speed	Property Damage	Crop Damage	Deaths	Injuries	Total Damages
Lincoln	25	98	\$ 5,216,800	\$ 48,603	0	0	\$ 5,265,403
Sweetwater	29	72	\$ 776,682	\$ 16,836	0	0	\$ 793,518
Uinta	18	67	\$ 711,542	\$ 0	0	0	\$ 711,542
Total	72	79	\$ 6,705,024	\$ 65,439	0	0	\$ 6,770,463

Source: SHELDUS *Dollars adjusted 2019 USD

SHELDUS records events which have caused damage to property, crops, or caused death or injuries. The record of damaging wind events dates back to 1961. SHELDUS does not record the total number of events.

In 1996, the National Center for Environmental Information (NCEI) began recording high wind events and has since recorded 130 high wind events in zones within the region. The collection of wind event data over the years has varied greatly based on the type and location of equipment, as well as the definition of an event. Another differential factor is the use of reporting zones by the NCEI which do not line up directly with county lines. These 130 events are located in zones that cover a majority of the region.

Notable Events

- Per the communities, recorded events include high winds damaging tents at both Lincoln and Sweetwater County fairgrounds, causing numerous minor injuries, and a tree falling and damaging a police vehicle in Rock Springs.
- On March 22nd, 2011, Strong southwesterly gap flow brought high wind to southern Lincoln County, Sweetwater County, and the Green Mountains. Sustained wind up to 46 mph was recorded in Kemmerer and gusts to 58 mph were measured in Rock Springs. A pickup truck with trailer was blown off Interstate 80 at milepost 95 between Rock Springs and Green River, resulting in \$10,000 in property damage.

- On May 30th, 2020, a microburst wind event, which brought a recorded 60-mph gust in Afton, left damages that stretched from Fairview to Grover. The wind damaged two homes with large fallen trees. One home was total loss due to fire. A total of 6 power polls were downed and resulted in power outage.

Table 4.45 Historical Wind Events in Lincoln County

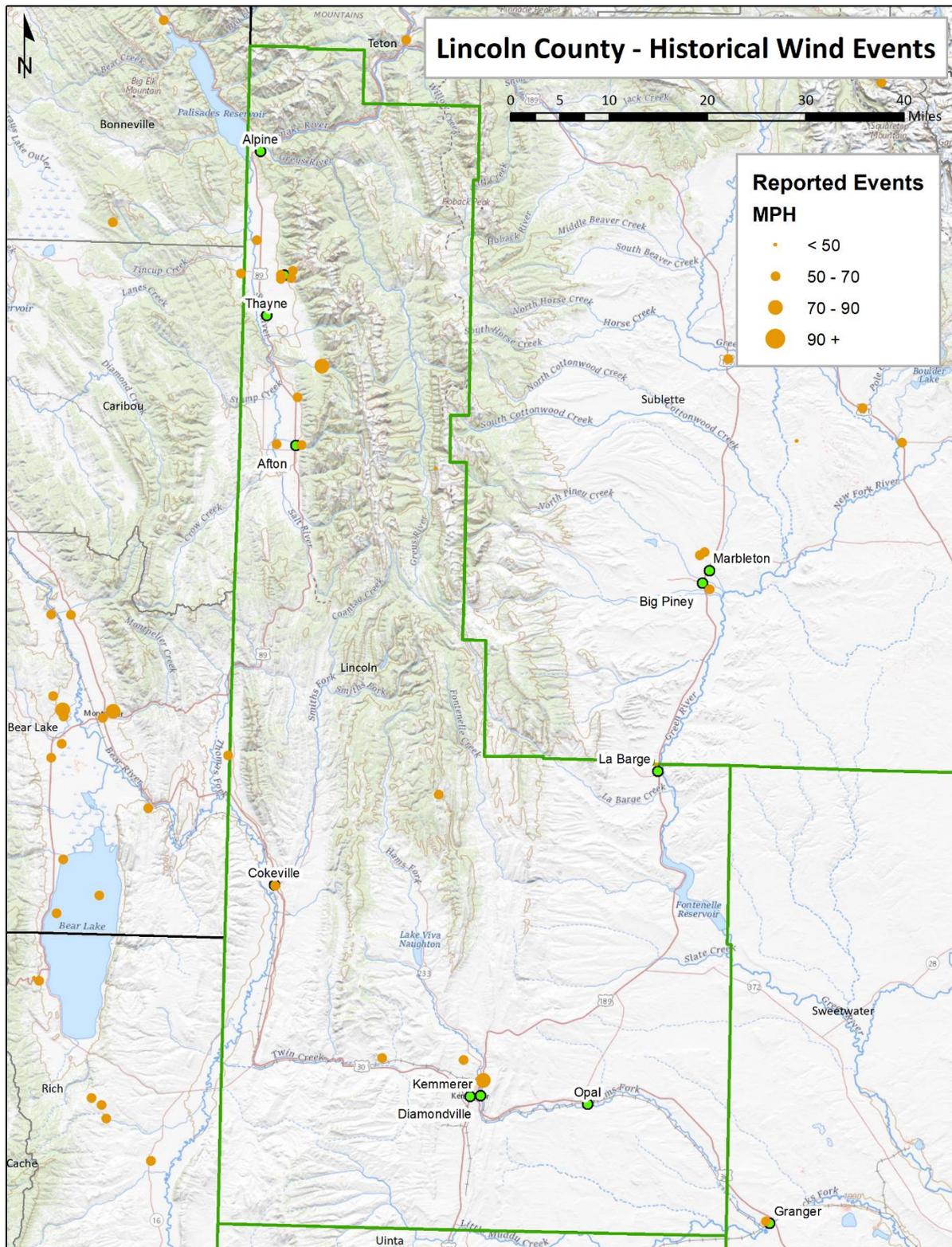


Table 4.46 Historical Wind Events in Sweetwater County

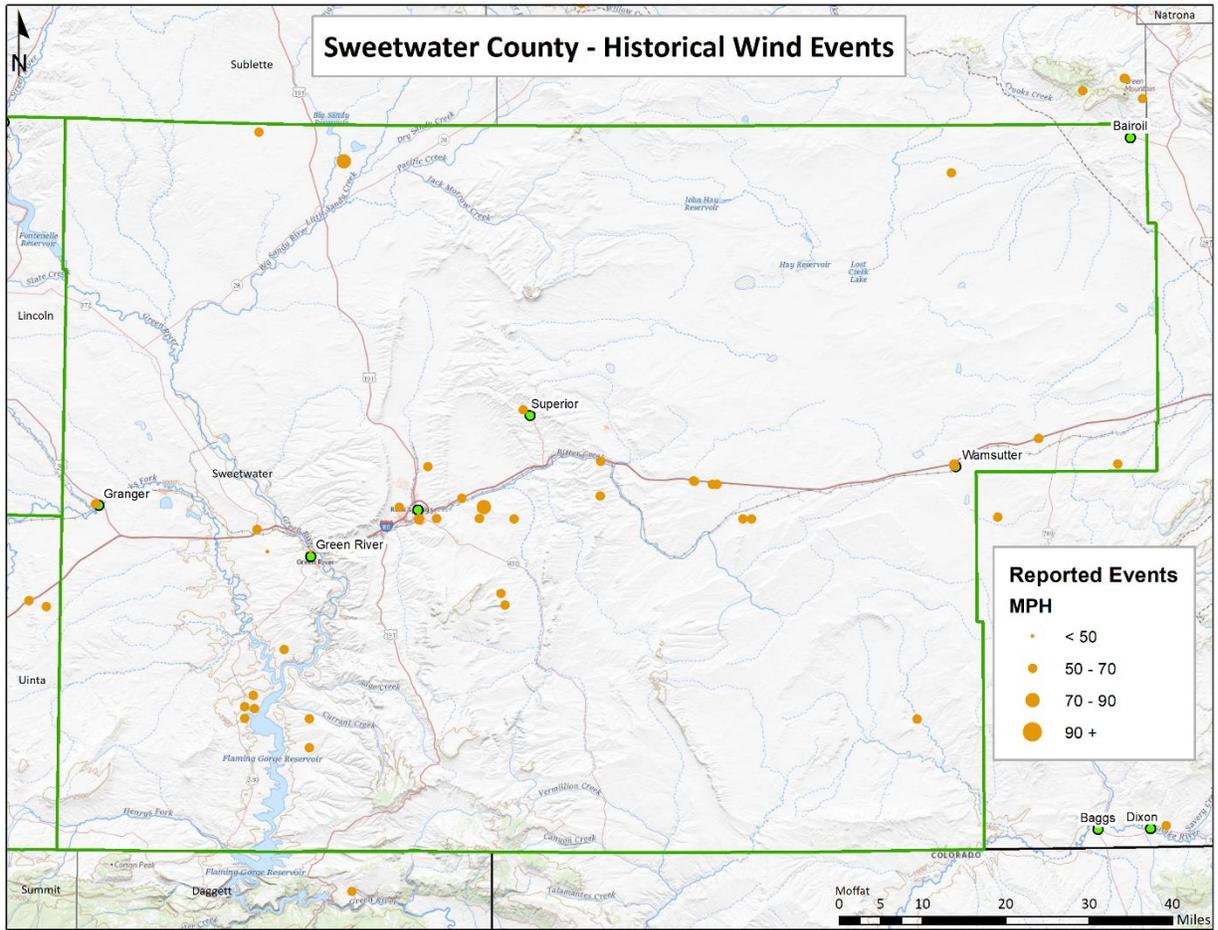
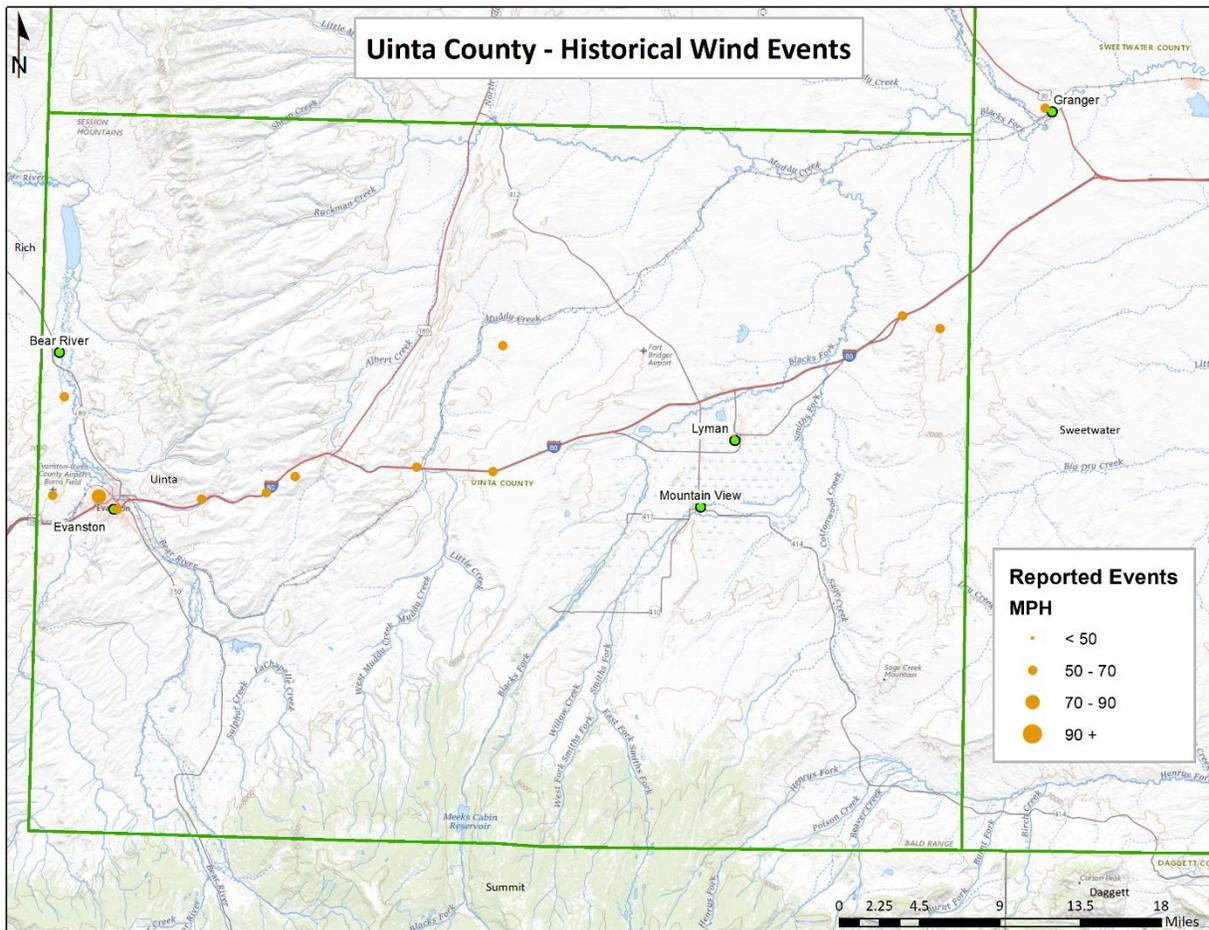


Table 4.47 Historical Wind Events in Uinta County



4.22.3 Exposure and Vulnerability

Damaging high winds can occur anywhere in the region and the impacted area can range in size significantly. Some events are localized and less than 3 miles across, while others can have greater regional effects.

The severity of damage created by a high wind event can vary drastically based on location, wind speeds, and duration of the event. If the high winds travel through a populated area, property can be damaged extensively, vehicles can be pushed off the roads, infrastructure can be impacted, and flying debris can threaten public safety.

People

People who are outdoors and exposed during a high wind event can be seriously injured or killed, often by flying debris. Those inside can be injured by broken windows or other damage to buildings. It is possible for cars and semi-trucks to be blown off roads, which can lead to serious injuries for the occupants.

Loess or windblown deposits also pose a risk to people outside, affecting air quality and contributing to respiratory health consequences.

Property

Property damage from wind events can be extensive depending on the location and characteristics of the event. Windows can be broken, doors torn off, and shingles or siding can be stripped from a building. Often the damage is sustained by homeowners and handled through private insurance.

High winds can bring down infrastructure, such as utility poles, and have previously caused damage to temporary structures in the region. Winds can affect the potential yield of crops if there is damage from an event. Extreme downbursts have been known to level wooded areas, impacting the timber yield in some cases.

No significant damages to property have been reported due to loess or windblown deposits.

Lifelines

Lifelines that can be impacted by high winds include Communication, Energy, and Food, Water & Shelter. Communication and energy infrastructure can be damaged in high wind events, leading to issues with dispatch and public messaging. Power outages due to downed poles put the public at risk, especially during times of extreme temperatures. Food, Water & Shelter can be impacted if homes are damaged to the point of displacement.

Environment

The environment can be severely impacted by a wind event, as some high winds leave behind destruction similar to that of a tornado. The downing of trees in a large area can make an ecosystem uninhabitable. It can take decades for an area to recover from an event of this magnitude.

Windblown deposits have the potential to impact environments if a large amount of sand were deposited and disrupted the normal processes of the ecosystem.

Economy

The economy is not likely to be impacted regionally and any local impact would be short term. Damages from the event will need to be repaired and this can result in some disruption to daily operations, depending on what is affected and the location. Typically, damages will be localized and fall to individual home or property owners, who may be greatly impacted.

4.22.4 Probability of Future Events

Future high wind events are likely to occur in Region 4. Many of these events do not cause damage, however wind speeds are unpredictable and it is possible an event with a relatively high wind speed could occur with wide ranging impacts.

Future events of windblown deposits are likely as there is a long history in certain areas of the region.

4.22.5 Climate Change Impacts

Climate change has increased global wind speeds. This trend is expected to continue long term, as continued fluctuations in temperatures and unpredictable weather patterns will continue to alter the nature climate cycle. It is unknown whether this will impact the occurrence or severity of high wind events. It is unknown if climate change will affect windblown deposits.

4.22.6 Future Development Trends

Implementation and enforcement of building codes for resilience against high winds is critical when considering future development. Building codes vary by county, however FEMA recommends design and construction that can withstand up to 110 mph wind speeds, per the International Building Code (2018).

As the Region grows, public education will also be important in reducing the risk to life safety from high wind events.

4.23 Winter Storm

4.23.1 Hazard Identification

Winter storms, which include blizzards, ice storms, and snow squalls, threaten life safety, property, crops, and livestock. Winter storms can bring various types of precipitation including snow, sleet, and freezing rain, along with extreme cold and strong winds. The duration of a storm can affect its categorization, such as storms labeled as blizzards which produce winds over 35 mph with snow and blowing snow, reduce visibility to 1/4 mile or less, and last for at least 3 hours.

During an ice storm, accumulation of ice can occur quickly, as a result of freezing rain, creating a thick layer of ice on the ground, roads, trees, and power lines. The weight of this accumulation can lead to downed trees and power lines. Heavy snow, or snow with a high moisture content, can fall rapidly and damage infrastructure, property, and impact transportation routes. Strong winds also pose a threat to utility poles and trees, as well as contributing to blowing snow and snow drifts.

All winter storms affect the safety of roads and can result in vehicle accidents and stranded motorists. Livestock and crops can be affected by all winter storms, particularly unsheltered livestock. The duration and amount of precipitation are critical factors in the severity and danger a storm presents, as well as the presence of extreme cold.

While most winter storms have the potential to cause disruption to daily operations, not all of them have disastrous effects. In Region 4, where winter storms are an annual occurrence, communities often continue to function with minimal adjustments. However, storms that present greater risk to public safety, Lifelines, and property can halt day-to-day activities and transportation, possibly for an extended period. Winter storms typically affect a large area and if much of the region has been impacted by the same storm returning to normal functionality can be more difficult.

The forecasting of winter storms allows the public to prepare for the type of storm through Watch and Warning notifications. These are issued by the National Weather Service (NWS), depending on the characteristics of the weather conditions. A Winter Storm Watch is issued 12 to 48 hours in advance of the onset of the conditions and may upgrade to a Warning depending on the development of the storm. A Winter Storm Warning is issued 12 to 24 hours before the expected event and is issued when a combination of hazardous weather elements, including heavy snow, heavy freezing rain, or heavy sleet are imminent.

Extreme Cold

Extreme cold is relative to the normal temperatures in an area and can vary drastically depending on location. For the region, events as low as -60°F have been recorded, but any temperatures which drop much lower than is average for the time of year can be considered extreme cold. This is especially the case when wind speeds pick up and the wind chill factor creates more life-threatening temperature drops. Extreme cold presents a threat to life safety, property, crops, and livestock. Exposure to extreme cold, with or without precipitation can rapidly lead to frost bite, hypothermia, and death.

4.23.2 Past Events

Since 1960, there have been numerous winter storms in the region that have caused recorded damages. Table 4.48 shows the details by county and type of damage. There have been no deaths or injuries reported in the region as a result of winter storm events.

Table 4.48 Damage Causing Winter Storm Events (1960-2020)

County	Number of Events	Property Damage	Crop Damage	Deaths	Injuries	Total Damages
Lincoln	34	\$ 4,767,163	\$ 203,901	0	0	\$ 4,971,064
Sweetwater	21	\$ 720,089	\$ 9,944	0	0	\$ 703,033
Uinta	16	\$ 694,054	\$ 0	0	0	\$ 694,054
TOTAL	71	\$ 6,181,306	\$ 213,845	0	0	\$ 6,395,151

Source: NOAA, SHELDUS

The lowest recorded temperature in the Region was -60°F in Border Junction in Lincoln County in 1929. Sweetwater County has a record low temperature of -45°F in 2017, eight miles east of Rock Springs. The Uinta County low was recorded at -38°F in Evanston in 1905. There have been no reported damages or deaths due to extreme cold.

Notable Events

Over the evening of Wednesday, February 13 and the morning of February 14 a vigorous winter storm that greatly impacted Sweetwater County and neighboring locations. Snowfall of five to nine inches was commonly observed across Sweetwater County and adjacent south Lincoln County. The strong wind combined with the snow to generate snow drifts of three to six feet in height. Some reports from around Rock Springs indicated drifts up to eight feet tall. Sustained wind speeds of 38 to 48 mph with a peak gust of 62 mph were recorded at the Rock Springs-Sweetwater County airport for over 12 hours. The blizzard caused the closure of Interstate 80 from Rock Springs to the Carbon County line. Vehicles were trapped and some residents at Point of Rocks were unable to get out their front door. U.S. Highway 191 north and south of Rock Springs was also closed.

4.23.3 Exposure and Vulnerability

Winter storms can occur anywhere in the state and are typically an annual occurrence. Severe winter storms have a broad geographic impact and the effects are wide reaching, even for areas where the storm does not directly pass. These effects can be for an extended period depending on the characteristics of the storm. Wind speeds, the weight of the snow due to moisture content, the amount of snowfall, the duration, and the air and ground temperatures are critical factors in the impact of a storm. The presence of advance warning is vital, as it allows communities to prepare for the oncoming storm, and more adequately protect life safety.

People

The threat to public safety is the greatest concern during severe winter storms. The population of the region are all at risk of the effects of winter storms, however some groups are at a higher risk of impacts from a storm or extreme cold. These groups include the elderly, those with mobility issues, those with low incomes, and those without adequate shelter. In some cases, people will bring heaters into their homes without understanding of the likelihood of carbon monoxide poisoning, while those without housing are at risk of death due to exposure.

People who are dependent upon electricity for medical equipment can be in danger if there is a power outage, especially for long periods. People who need medical care may be isolated from emergency services and health facilities due to road closures.

Severe winter weather, especially unanticipated storms, can cause stranding of those in public locations or traveling, who are unable to return home safely. Exposure to the storm and extreme cold can increase as people try to get help or make their way to a sheltering location. The increased need for sheltering can strain resources, which may already be limited due to isolation caused by the storm.

Property

Property damage can occur due to a variety of factors from severe weather. High winds can bring down trees and utility poles, break windows and strip shingles off roofs. The weight of ice can bring down branches and power lines. The weight of heavy snow, which is determined by the water content it holds, can cave in roofs and crush crops. Fluctuating temperatures that lead to rapid ice and snowmelt, after the storm, can lead to flooding and refreezing which can damage water pipes and infrastructure.

The materials, design, and construction of different buildings creates unique risks, including aging historical properties. These properties may be more likely to sustain damage from high winds and heavy snow. Crops, livestock, and other agricultural operations are also at risk from winter storms. Crop losses could be detrimental to individual farmers, counties, and the region overall.

Lifelines

Multiple Lifelines could be greatly impacted by a winter storm event, including Food, Water, and Shelter, Transportation, Power, and Communications.

The issue of sheltering and protecting the public is one of the most critical lifelines. Ensuring people have a safe, warm place to stay and that populations with extra needs are assisted is crucial. Food and water become critical if a storm disrupts the community for an extended duration and it can be difficult to get resources from other areas if transport is impacted.

Transportation often comes to a halt during a winter storm, as roads are icy or impassable due to snowfall and low visibility. Interstate 80 is oftentimes closed for multiple days due to winter storm events. Increases in vehicle accidents are common in storms and emergency responders can be significantly delayed in reaching those who need medical attention, either on the road or those isolated at home.

If Power infrastructure is impacted by winter storms, it can be very difficult to repair due to the risk of work crews being exposed. Extended outage due to downed powerlines or other damages can lead to issues of heat delivery to homes and affect the public's ability to receive messaging and notifications.

Environment

Natural resources may be damaged by the severe winter weather, including broken trees and death of unsheltered wildlife. Unseasonable storms may damage or kill plants and wildlife, which may impact natural food chains until the next growing season.

Economy

Snow removal costs can pose significant budget impacts, as can repairing the associated damages caused by downed power lines, trees, and structural damages. Lost revenue due to necessary operations

shutdown or crop loss in the community can have great impacts on workers, farmers, companies, and the local economy. Overall, the regional economy is not likely to be impacted long term, however, if a storm greatly impacts all counties simultaneously, the need for aid could be significant.

4.23.4 Probability of Future Events

Winter storms occur multiple times annually across Wyoming and can affect large regions depending on storm size and characteristics. It is likely Region 4 will continue to see storms of varying severity for the foreseeable future.

4.23.5 Climate Change Impacts

As climate change unpredictably affects weather patterns, the types and numbers of winter storms is being impacted. The intensity and frequency of storms has been notably different in recent history, from unexpectedly heavy precipitation and extreme cold temperatures, to unseasonable temperatures and minimal precipitation. These drastic fluctuations are indicative of the impacts from climate change and are likely to create more dangerous and damaging winter storms. The limited ability to consistently predict accurate conditions for winter storms can leave people exposed and infrastructure unprotected.

4.23.6 Future Development Trends

New construction should adhere to building codes and should be able to withstand snow loads from severe winter storms. When planning for new development, the likely impacts of winter weather should be considered, such as ways to minimize power line and infrastructure damage, as well as the need for more snow removal capabilities. Ensuring that sheltering capacity is updated, to match the growth of the area, is the best way to prevent resource strain during a storm.

Public education is critical to life safety and this includes personal responsibility during a storm. Creating expectations of the population to be informed, prepared, and cautious can help to reduce instances of vehicle accidents and the need for rescue due to stranding or isolation.

5 County Annexes

5.1 Lincoln County

Reference the separate Lincoln County Annex for additional county-specific content.

5.2 Sweetwater County

Reference the Sweetwater County Annex for additional county-specific content.

5.3 Uinta County

Reference the Uinta County Annex for additional county-specific content.

6 Mitigation Strategy Action Idea Guide

7 FEMA Approval Letter



SWEETWATER C.O.U.N.T.Y



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING REQUEST FORM

Meeting Date Requested: 07/05/2022	Contact Phone and E-mail: 872-3803 benson@sweetwatercountywy.gov
Presenters Name, Title and Name of Organization: David Mead, Executive Director Amanda Benson, Curator Sweetwater County Historical Museum	Exact Wording for Agenda: Request for a letter signifying that the Sweetwater County Historical Museum is a component unit of the Sweetwater County government.
Preference of Placement on Agenda & Amount of Time Requested for Presentation Morning, about 10-15 minutes	Will there be handouts? (If yes, include with meeting request form) Yes
Will handouts require SIGNATURES: Yes PLEASE CHECK THE BOX AND BRIEFLY EXPLAIN IF YOUR ITEM SHOULD BE MARKED CONFIDENTIAL: <input type="checkbox"/>	If you are submitting a Resolution or Proclamation, please forward in word format to shoemakers@sweetwatercountywy.gov
Additional Information: 	

INSTRUCTIONS:

- All requests to be added to the agenda, along with handouts and original documents to be signed, must be submitted in writing on the “Meeting Request Form” by Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. prior to the scheduled meeting and returned in person or electronically to Administrative Assistant Sally Shoemaker at: shoemakers@sweetwatercountywy.gov
****If your handout is not accompanied with the request, your request may be dismissed and you may reschedule for the next meeting provided the handout(s) are received.****
- If you are presenting a **Resolution or Proclamation**, it must be submitted in Word Format and emailed to: shoemakers@sweetwatercountywy.gov
- As always, if you are unable to attend the meeting after being placed onto an agenda, please send a representative in your place or your item may be rescheduled.
- In order to determine placement on the agenda, please review the county website www.sweet.wy.us on Thursday afternoon by clicking “Commissioner’s Agenda”.
- If a request to be placed on an agenda is received **AFTER** the deadline, you will be considered for the next meeting date.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

SWEETWATER
C·O·U·N·T·Y **R.**

- JEFFREY W. SMITH, CHAIRMAN
- ROY LLOYD, COMMISSIONER
- LAUREN SCHOENFELD, COMMISSIONER
- MARY E. THOMAN, COMMISSIONER
- RANDAL M. (DOC) WENDLING, COMMISSIONER

80 WEST FLAMING GORGE WAY, SUITE 109
GREEN RIVER, WY 82935
PH: 307-872-3890
FAX: 307-872-3992

Tuesday, July 5, 2022

Elizabeth Handwerk Kurt, CAP Program Coordinator
American Institute for Conservation
727 15th Street NW
Suite 500
Washington, DC 20005

RE: Acknowledgement of the Sweetwater County Historical Museum as a County Component Unit of the Sweetwater County, Wyoming government.

Dear Elizabeth,

Let it be known that the Sweetwater County Historical Museum (SWCHM) was established as a County Component Unit by the Sweetwater County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) in 1967. Due to lack of recordation in 1967, the Sweetwater County BOCC established a Resolution on June 3, 1986 resolving that the County Commissioners established the SWCHM in 1967.

SWCHM is organized and governed under Title 18, Chapter 10, Article 1 of the *Wyoming State Statutes*. Statutes 18-10-101 and 18-10-102 allow county commissioners to create archaeological, geological, and historical museums, and levy a tax on the taxable valuation of the property in the county, for the construction, maintenance and support of the museum or collection of exhibits, respectively.

Statutes 18-10-103, 18-10-104, and 18-10-105 establish the creation and term limits of a board of trustees for the museum, outline their duties and employment of personnel, and give them authority to provide funds for preservation of historical artifacts and landmarks, respectively.

The mission of SWCHM is to preserve and present the story of Sweetwater County from its early beginnings to the present, to serve as a depository for historical items and records, and to serve as an educational and informational center for children and adults.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact me at 307-872-3895.

Sincerely,

Jeffery Smith, Chairman

Sweetwater County Board of County Commissioners





SWEETWATER

C·O·U·N·T·Y



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING REQUEST FORM

Meeting Date Requested: July 5th, 2022	Contact Phone and E-mail: (307) 872-3921 legerskig@sweet.wy.us
Presenters Name, Title and Name of Organization: Gene Legerski, SWCO-Public Works Director Chad Bank, RS URA Manager	Exact Wording for Agenda: Proclamation for the Grass Area at 333 Broadway Street
Preference of Placement on Agenda & Amount of Time Requested for Presentation 5 min	Will there be handouts? (If yes, include with meeting request form) Yes
Will handouts require SIGNATURES: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PLEASE CHECK THE BOX AND BRIEFLY EXPLAIN IF YOUR ITEM SHOULD BE MARKED CONFIDENTIAL: <input type="checkbox"/>	If you are submitting a Resolution or Proclamation- please email, in Word Format, to shoemakers@sweet.wy.us
Additional Information:	
333 Broadway Lawn Name Ideas:	
Broadway Commons, Community Commons, The Community Courtyard, Corner Commons, Sweetwater Square.	

INSTRUCTIONS:

- All requests to be added to the agenda, along with handouts and original documents to be signed, must be submitted in writing on the “Meeting Request Form” by Wednesday at 12:00 p.m. prior to the scheduled meeting and returned in person or electronically to Administrative Assistant Sally Shoemaker at: shoemakers@sweet.wy.us
****If your handout is not accompanied with the request, your request may be dismissed and you may reschedule for the next meeting provided the handout(s) are received.****
- If you are presenting a **Resolution or Proclamation**, it must be submitted in Word Format and emailed to: shoemakers@sweet.wy.us
- As always, if you are unable to attend the meeting after being placed onto an agenda, please send a representative in your place or your item may be rescheduled.
- In order to determine placement on the agenda, please review the county website www.sweet.wy.us on Thursday afternoon by clicking “Commissioner’s Agenda”.
- If a request to be placed on an agenda is received **AFTER** the deadline, you will be considered for the next meeting date.

Proclamation

WHEREAS: The City of Rock Springs Urban Renewal Agency and the Sweetwater County Board of County Commissioners would like to recognize the importance of holding a variety of events in Downtown Rock Springs.

WHEREAS: There is a grass area on the northeast side of 333 Broadway Street, commonly referred to as the Sweetwater County Health and Human Services Building, which is owned by Sweetwater County.

WHEREAS: This area has been used by the City of Rock Springs Urban Renewal Agency for the past few years to hold their Brown Bag Concert series.

WHEREAS: This location has further potential use as a small venue for other activities in downtown Rock Springs.

WHEREAS: It is beneficial to the public and patrons of this area to be able to have a name associated with this space for identification of the exact location of the activity.

WHEREAS: Bringing people together for such events highlights the uses in downtown Rock Springs, increases foot traffic in the area, and increases the overall sustainability and viability of the area.

WHEREAS: The Sweetwater County Board of County Commissioners pursuant to W.S. § 18-2-101(a)(iv) may perform acts relating to the property and concerns of the county.

NOW THEREFORE, WE, The Sweetwater Board of County Commissioners, hereby proclaim that the grass areas to the northeast side of 333 Broadway be known for the next five (5) years as

_____.

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SWEETWATER COUNTY, WYOMING

Jeffrey W. Smith, Chairman

Roy Lloyd, Member

Lauren Schoenfeld, Member

Mary E. Thoman, Member

Randal M. Wendling, Member



Grass Area

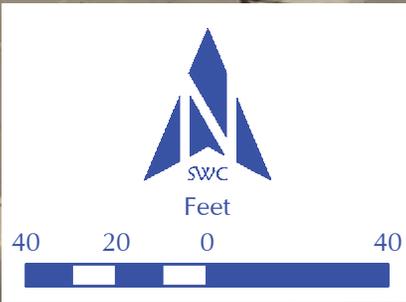
333 Broadway St.

S Main St

C St

B St

Broadway St





SWEETWATER

C·O·U·N·T·Y



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING REQUEST FORM

Meeting Date Requested: July 5th, 2022	Contact Phone and E-mail: (307) 872-3921 legerskig@sweet.wy.us
Presenters Name, Title and Name of Organization: Gene Legerski, P.E. Public Works Director	Exact Wording for Agenda: License & Access Agreement Atlas Technical Consultants, LLC.
Preference of Placement on Agenda & Amount of Time Requested for Presentation 5 min	Will there be handouts? (If yes, include with meeting request form) Yes
Will handouts require SIGNATURES: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PLEASE CHECK THE BOX AND BRIEFLY EXPLAIN IF YOUR ITEM SHOULD BE MARKED CONFIDENTIAL: <input type="checkbox"/>	If you are submitting a Resolution or Proclamation- please email, in Word Format, to shoemakers@sweet.wy.us
Additional Information:	
Motion: Approve the License and Access Agreement between Sweetwater County and Atlas Technical Consultants, LLC and allow the chairman to sign.	

INSTRUCTIONS:

- All requests to be added to the agenda, along with handouts and original documents to be signed, must be submitted in writing on the “Meeting Request Form” by Wednesday at 12:00 p.m. prior to the scheduled meeting and returned in person or electronically to Administrative Assistant Sally Shoemaker at: shoemakers@sweet.wy.us
****If your handout is not accompanied with the request, your request may be dismissed and you may reschedule for the next meeting provided the handout(s) are received.****
- If you are presenting a **Resolution or Proclamation**, it must be submitted in Word Format and emailed to: shoemakers@sweet.wy.us
- As always, if you are unable to attend the meeting after being placed onto an agenda, please send a representative in your place or your item may be rescheduled.
- In order to determine placement on the agenda, please review the county website www.sweet.wy.us on Thursday afternoon by clicking “Commissioner’s Agenda”.
- If a request to be placed on an agenda is received **AFTER** the deadline, you will be considered for the next meeting date.

ATLAS

LICENSE AND ACCESS AGREEMENT

THIS LICENSE AND ACCESS AGREEMENT ("**Agreement**") is made as of June 16, 2022 (the "**Effective Date**"), by and between Sweetwater County Wyoming ("**Owner**") and Atlas Technical Consultants LLC ("**Atlas**"). Owner and Atlas are sometimes hereinafter referred to individually as a "Party" and collectively as the "Parties".

WHEREAS, Owner owns the real property located at **3320 Yellowstone Road, Rock Springs, WY** (the "**Property**"). (See **Figure 1** aerial map attached for a visual location of property for which access is required). Atlas desires to access the Property to drill two boreholes to an estimated depth no greater than 40 feet deep, install monitoring wells in those boreholes, and complete periodic groundwater monitoring and sampling of the wells on the Property ("**Work**").

WHEREAS, the Parties desire to enter into this Agreement to allow Atlas and its subcontractors to perform the Work on the Property and to provide access to the Property to Atlas for the purpose of performing the Work authorized by this Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants and agreements contained in this Agreement, the receipt and adequacy of which are hereby acknowledged, the Parties do hereby covenant and agree to and with each other as follows:

1. Atlas and its subcontractors may enter onto the Property for the purpose of performing the Work authorized by this Agreement and for no other purpose. The rights of Atlas as established herein shall not constitute an easement or other interest in the Property except a license terminable in accordance with these provisions, and the license is not coupled with an interest.
2. The Work shall be limited to **drilling boreholes, installing monitoring wells in those boreholes, and collecting soil and groundwater samples from those boreholes/wells. The Work shall be conducted at Atlas's sole cost and expense. The Work will be deemed completed upon Atlas's abandonment of the wells, backfilling of the borehole and restoration of the affected ground surface. The wells are expected to remain in place for sampling for a minimum of two years, but may be longer, at the direction of the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality.**
3. Atlas shall conduct and diligently pursue the Work to completion, and shall comply with all federal and state laws which apply in any manner to the Work.
4. Atlas agrees not to incur any liens against the Property for the Work performed or materials furnished in furtherance of the Work, or in any way attributable to Atlas's acts on the Property. Atlas agrees to indemnify, defend, and hold Owner harmless from any such liens and/or claims of liens for the Work performed, materials furnished, or any other activities under control of Atlas which, pursuant to the laws of the state the Property is located in, may become a lien on the Property.
5. If the surface of the Property or any improvements thereon shall be disturbed by the performance of the Work, then said surface or improvements shall be promptly restored by Atlas, at its sole cost, to the condition which existed just prior to such disturbance.
6. Atlas agrees to indemnify and save Owner harmless from any liabilities, losses, damages, costs, or expenses (including reasonable attorneys' fees) to the extent directly caused by the negligent performance of the Work (collectively "**Indemnity Obligations**").

In no event shall either party be liable to the other party for any consequential, incidental, punitive, or indirect damages including but not limited to loss of income, loss of profits, loss or restriction of use of property, or any other business losses regardless if such damages are caused by breach of contract, negligent act or omission, other wrongful act.

Atlas's total liability for all claims or causes of action of any kind including but not limited to negligence, bodily injury or property damage, breach of contract or warranty shall not exceed \$100,000.

7. In the event of any action or proceeding brought by any Party against the other under this Agreement, the substantially prevailing Party as determined by a court of competent jurisdiction shall be entitled to recover its reasonable attorneys' fees and expenses (including expert fees) as determined by a court of competent jurisdiction.
8. This Agreement may be executed in counterparts, all of which together shall constitute one and the same agreement.
9. The Parties agree that Owner (licensor) may revoke the license at will, that licensor retains absolute control over the premises and that licensor has supplied sufficient service in providing a location to access the property for the permitted use. Atlas shall be responsible for the access road.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto are authorized to and have executed this Agreement as of the day and year first above written. Notices given pursuant to this Agreement shall be sent to the address and to the attention of the individual(s) shown in the signature blocks below. All such notices shall be deemed to have been duly given and received upon mailing, delivery by courier or personal delivery service, or by email, provided that email delivery shall be effective when the sender has received an electronic confirmation of delivery. Parties may alter or modify their notice address by delivery of written notice pursuant to the terms of this Agreement.

Sweetwater County

[Owner / Owner Entity]

By: Jeffrey W. Smith

Its: Chairman-Board of County

Commissioners of Sweetwater County

Date: _____

Address: 80 W. Flaming Gorge Way
Suite 23, Green River, WY 82935

Attn: Gene Legerski

Phone: 307-872-3921

Email:

legerski@sweetwatercountywy.gov

Atlas Technical Consultants, LLC

James J. Coletta

By: ___ Jim Coletta _____

Its: ___ Branch Manager ___

Date: June 16, 2022

Address: 1775 South 4130 West, Suite A

Salt Lake City, UT 84104

Attn: ___ Lori Clark _____

Phone: ___ 801-949-3105 _____

Email: ___ Lori.Clark@oneatlas.com _

9011 Aerial

FIGURE 1
Aerial Map of
Area for Access
Agreement



need access through this fence

Access needed to install 2 wells in this area (where drill rig can reach), and spread soil cuttings from drilling near installed wells (or wherever county will allow)

K Street

Yellowstone Rd

Pilot Site 9011

3001 Killpecker Dr



Google Earth



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BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING REQUEST FORM

Meeting Date Requested: July 5th, 2022	Contact Phone and E-mail: (307) 872-3921 legerskig@sweet.wy.us
Presenters Name, Title and Name of Organization: Gene Legerski, P.E.-Public Works Director Capital Committee	Exact Wording for Agenda: Approval of the FY2023 Capital Project and Debt Service List
Preference of Placement on Agenda & Amount of Time Requested for Presentation 5 min	Will there be handouts? (If yes, include with meeting request form) Yes
Will handouts require SIGNATURES: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PLEASE CHECK THE BOX AND BRIEFLY EXPLAIN IF YOUR ITEM SHOULD BE MARKED CONFIDENTIAL: <input type="checkbox"/>	If you are submitting a Resolution or Proclamation- please email, in Word Format, to shoemakers@sweet.wy.us
Additional Information:	
Motion: To approve the FY2023 Capital Project and Debt Service as presented by the Capital Committee in the attached list.	

INSTRUCTIONS:

- All requests to be added to the agenda, along with handouts and original documents to be signed, must be submitted in writing on the “Meeting Request Form” by Wednesday at 12:00 p.m. prior to the scheduled meeting and returned in person or electronically to Administrative Assistant Sally Shoemaker at: shoemakers@sweet.wy.us
*****If your handout is not accompanied with the request, your request may be dismissed and you may reschedule for the next meeting provided the handout(s) are received.*****
- If you are presenting a **Resolution or Proclamation**, it must be submitted in Word Format and emailed to: shoemakers@sweet.wy.us
- As always, if you are unable to attend the meeting after being placed onto an agenda, please send a representative in your place or your item may be rescheduled.
- In order to determine placement on the agenda, please review the county website www.sweet.wy.us on Thursday afternoon by clicking “Commissioner’s Agenda”.
- If a request to be placed on an agenda is received **AFTER** the deadline, you will be considered for the next meeting date.

FY2023 Capital Project and Debt Service List

Core County

ORG	OBJ	SUB DEPT DESCRIPTION	ADOPTED QTY	ADOPTED UNIT COST	ADOPTED AMT	DESCRIPTION
0011400	437300	FACILITIES	1.00	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00	Fill in the loading dock at archive museum storage
0011400	437300	FACILITIES	1.00	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	Green River Courthouse Security Upgrade
0011400	437300	FACILITIES	1.00	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00	GR Courthouse lighting upgrade
0011400	437300	FACILITIES	1.00	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	Concrete work around various SWCO bldgs
0011400	437300	FACILITIES	1.00	\$125,000.00	\$125,000.00	GR Courthouse south parking lot sealing
0011442	437300	RS DT CNTR	1.00	\$155,000.00	\$155,000.00	Detention center exterior painting
0011500	437300	FACIL PARK	1.00	\$65,000.00	\$65,000.00	pump/pond leveling controls and line pond
0011500	437300	FACIL PARK	1.00	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00	Trap Club ADA enhancements
0011500	437300	FACIL PARK	1.00	\$85,000.00	\$85,000.00	Pioneer Trails Maintenance bldg roof replacement
0011500	437300	FACIL PARK	1.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	Mesa park rehabilitation and upgrades
0012600	437300	IT	1.00	\$200,000.00	\$200,000.00	replace cooling system in data center
0013400	437300	R&B	1.00	\$60,000.00	\$60,000.00	Farson R&B parking lot entrance reconstruction
0011800	437500	FLEET/VEH	1.00	\$17,928.00	\$17,928.00	Vehicle/heavy truck and blade tracking software
0012410	437500	RISK MGMT	1.00	\$203,892.00	\$203,892.00	replacement freightliner
0012600	437500	IT	1.00	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	remote site firewall replacement & microwave redun
0012600	437500	IT	1.00	\$18,500.00	\$18,500.00	Add Web Application Firewall
0013400	437500	R&B	1.00	\$37,011.04	\$37,011.04	2 motor graders after trade in
0015000	437500	ASSESSOR	1.00	\$15,480.00	\$15,480.00	Aerial photography
0016500	437500	CLK DIST C	1.00	\$13,000.00	\$13,000.00	copier
0017500	437500	SHERIFF	1.00	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	Installation of AM Radio and HAM Radio DMR equipme
				Total Capital Over \$10,000 =	\$1,360,811.04	
0011300	498000	FACIL CUST	1.00	\$4,748.87	\$4,748.87	obligated lease payment-last payment
0011500	498000	FACIL PARK	1.00	\$83,200.86	\$83,200.86	obligated lease payment last payment
0013400	498000	R&B	1.00	\$457,492.95	\$457,492.95	Lease #077-0019083-008 April 2023
0013400	498000	R&B	1.00	\$162,739.91	\$162,739.91	Lease #077-0019083-009 April 2024
0013400	498000	R&B	1.00	\$160,753.17	\$160,753.17	FY2023 Lease Payment R&B April 2025
0017500	498000	SHERIFF	1.00	\$120,562.26	\$120,562.26	obligated lease payment
				Total Debt Service =	\$989,498.02	
				Total Capital and Debt Service for Core County As Approved in the Budget =	\$2,350,309.06	

Component Units Capital

SUB DEPT DESCRIPTION	ADOPTED QTY	ADOPTED UNIT COST	ADOPTED AMT	DESCRIPTION
SWCO Events Complex	1.00	\$107,208.00	\$107,208.00	RV Rally Site Improvements
SWCO Events Complex	1.00	\$49,869.00	\$49,869.00	Wood Bldg Siding Upgrades
SWCO Events Complex	1.00	\$99,318.00	\$99,318.00	Lighting Upgrades
Total Capital Over \$10,000 for the SWCO Events Complex =			\$256,395.00	
Library	1.00	\$58,500.00	\$58,500.00	Final upgrade of fire panel at White Mountain Library
Library	1.00	\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00	Replace HVAC Control panel at the RS Library
Library	1.00	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00	Replace the fire panel at the SWCO Library in GR
Library	1.00	\$16,000.00	\$16,000.00	Seal coat, crack seal and re-strip various parking lots
Total Capital Over \$10,000 for the Library =			\$164,500.00	
Museum	1.00	\$21,600.00	\$21,600.00	Museum bldg exterior window repair
Museum	1.00	\$12,206.00	\$12,206.00	Museum bldg storm windows
Museum	1.00	\$86,000.00	\$86,000.00	Museum bldg portico & façade restoration
Total Capital Over \$10,000 for the Museum =			\$119,806.00	
Total Capital for Component Units As Approved in the Budget =			\$540,701.00	



SWEETWATER

C·O·U·N·T·Y

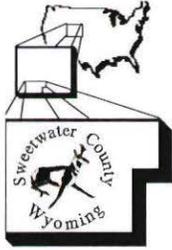


BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING REQUEST FORM

Meeting Date Requested: 7/5/2022	Contact Phone and E-mail: Garry McLean - mcleang@sweetwatercountywy.gov
Presenters Name, Title and Name of Organization: Garry McLean, HR Director	Exact Wording for Agenda: Request Approval of the Pareto Business Agreement
Preference of Placement on Agenda & Amount of Time Requested for Presentation 5 minutes	Will there be handouts? (If yes, include with meeting request form) yes
Will handouts require SIGNATURES: yes PLEASE CHECK THE BOX AND BRIEFLY EXPLAIN IF YOUR ITEM SHOULD BE MARKED CONFIDENTIAL: <input type="checkbox"/>	If you are submitting a Resolution or Proclamation, please forward in word format to: shoemakers@sweetwatercountywy.gov
Additional Information:	

INSTRUCTIONS:

- All requests to be added to the agenda, along with handouts and original documents to be signed, must be submitted in writing on the “Meeting Request Form” by Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. prior to the scheduled meeting and returned in person or electronically to Administrative Assistant Sally Shoemaker at: shoemakers@sweetwatercountywy.gov
****If your handout is not accompanied with the request, your request may be dismissed and you may reschedule for the next meeting provided the handout(s) are received.****
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- If a request to be placed on an agenda is received **AFTER** the deadline, you will be considered for the next meeting date.



Sweetwater County Department of Human Resources



80 W. Flaming Gorge Way, Suite 17
Green River, WY 82935

E-MAIL: swchr@sweet.wy.us

Phone: 307-922-5429 (RS)
307-872-3910 (GR)
Fax: 307-872-3996

MEMORANDUM

To: Board of County Commissioners
From: Garry McLean 
Date: June 28, 2022
RE: Pareto - 2022 Business Agreement

As you may recall Sweetwater County's stop loss is provided through Pareto Health Technologies. Pareto has recently submitted the 2022 Business Agreement for approval.

Attached for your review and approval is the Pareto 2022 Business Agreement.

I am available for any questions that you may have.

BUSINESS ASSOCIATE AGREEMENT

In order to comply with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, Public Law 104-191, 42 U.S.C. §§ 1320d through 1320d-8 (“HIPAA”), the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, Public Law 111-5 (“ARRA”), and specifically, the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act provisions of ARRA (“HITECH”) and its implementing regulations, and 45 C.F.R. Parts 160, 162 and 164 (“Privacy Rule”) and (“Security Rule”), (“Covered Entity”) and **Pareto Health Technologies, LLC** (“Business Associate”), agree as follows:

RECITALS

A. Covered Entity and Business Associate have executed an underlying service agreement (the “Service Agreement”) describing the relationship between the parties.

B. All provisions of the Service Agreement which are not amended by this Business Associate Agreement (“Agreement”) shall be given the same meaning as they are given in the Service Agreement. In the event of a conflict between a specific term of this Agreement and the Service Agreement, the term of this Agreement shall control.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the above Recitals and of the mutual covenants and agreements in this Agreement, and intending to be legally bound, the parties agree to the following:

1. DEFINITIONS

a. Administrative Safeguards: “Administrative Safeguards” shall mean administrative actions and policies and procedures used to manage the selection, development, implementation, and maintenance of security measures to protect electronic Protected Health Information and to manage the conduct of the Business Associate’s workforce in relation to the protection of that information, as more particularly set forth in 45 C.F.R. § 164.308.

b. Breach: “Breach” shall mean the acquisition, access, use, or disclosure of Protected Health Information not permitted by HIPAA which compromises the security or privacy of Protected Health Information as stated in 45 C.F.R. § 164.402.

c. Business Associate: “Business Associate” shall generally have the same meaning as the term “business associate” at 45 CFR § 160.103, and in reference to the party to this agreement, shall mean **Pareto Health Technologies, LLC**.

d. Catch-all Definition: Terms used, but not otherwise defined, in this Agreement shall have the same meaning as those terms in the HIPAA Rules, HITECH or ARRA and its implementing regulations.

e. Covered Entity: “Covered Entity” shall generally have the same meaning as the term “covered entity” at 45 CFR § 160.103, and in reference to the party to this agreement, shall mean

f. HIPAA Rules: “HIPAA Rules” shall mean the Privacy, Security, Breach Notification and Enforcement Rules at 45 CFR Part 160, 162 and Part 164.

g. Individual: “Individual” shall have the same meaning as the term “individual” in 45 C.F.R. § 160.103 and shall include a person who qualifies as a personal representative in accordance with 45 C.F.R. § 164.502(g).

h. Physical Safeguards: “Physical Safeguards” shall mean the physical measures, policies and procedures used to protect Business Associate’s electronic information systems and related buildings and equipment, from natural and environmental hazards, and unauthorized intrusion, as more particularly set forth in 45 C.F.R. § 164.310.

i. Privacy Rule: “Privacy Rule” shall mean the Standards for Privacy of Individually Identifiable Health Information at 45 C.F.R. Part 160 and Part 164.

j. Protected Health Information: Protected Health Information (“PHI”) shall mean Individually Identifiable Health Information that is (i) transmitted by electronic media; (ii) maintained in any medium constituting electronic media, or (iii) transmitted or maintained in any other form or medium, as more particularly set forth in 45 C.F.R. § 160.103.

k. Required by Law: “Required by Law” shall have the same meaning as the term “required by law” in 45 C.F.R. § 164.103.

l. Secretary: “Secretary” shall mean the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services or his designee.

m. Security Incident: “Security Incident” shall mean the attempted or successful unauthorized access, use, disclosure, modification, or destruction of information or interference with system operations in an information system containing Covered Entity’s PHI, pursuant to 45 C.F.R. § 164.304.

n. Security Rule: “Security Rule” shall mean the Security Standards for the Protection of Electronic PHI at 45 C.F.R. Part 160 and Part 164.

o. Technical Safeguards: “Technical Safeguards” shall mean the technology and the policy and procedures for its use that protect electronic PHI and control access to it, as more particularly set forth in 45 C.F.R. § 164.312.

p. Unsecured Protected Health Information: “Unsecured Protected Health Information” shall mean PHI that is not rendered unusable, unreadable, or indecipherable to unauthorized individuals through the use of a technology or methodology specified by the Secretary, as stated in 45 C.F.R. § 164.402.

2. OBLIGATIONS AND ACTIVITIES OF BUSINESS ASSOCIATE

a. Business Associate agrees not to use or disclose PHI other than as permitted or required by this Agreement or as Required by Law;

b. Business Associate agrees to use reasonable and appropriate safeguards, and comply with Subpart C of 45 CFR Part 164 with respect to electronic PHI, to prevent use or disclosure of PHI other than as provided for by the Agreement. Business Associate agrees to mitigate, to the extent practicable, and will act in good faith with Covered Entity, any harmful effect that is known to the Business Associate of a use or disclosure of PHI by Business Associate in violation of the requirements of this Agreement.

c. Business Associate agrees to report promptly, and within no more than sixty (60) calendar days, to Covered Entity any use or disclosure of PHI not provided for by the Agreement of which it becomes aware, including Breaches of Unsecured PHI as required at 45 CFR § 164.410, and any Security Incident of which it becomes aware. Notwithstanding anything in this Agreement to the contrary, this Agreement shall constitute ongoing notice of “Unsuccessful Security Incidents” (as herein defined), and Business Associate shall not be required to provide further notice to Covered Entity of any Unsuccessful Security Incident. For purpose of this Agreement, “Unsuccessful Security Incidents” include, without limitation, pings and other broadcast attacks on Business Associate’s firewall, port scans, unsuccessful log-on attempts, denial of service attacks, and any combination of the above, so long as no such incident results in unauthorized access to, use or disclosure of PHI.

d. Business Associate agrees to ensure, in accordance with 45 CFR §§ 164.502(e)(1)(ii) and 164.308(b)(2), if applicable, that any subcontractors that create, receive, maintain, or transmit PHI on behalf of the Business Associate agree to the same restrictions, conditions, and requirements that apply to the Business Associate with respect to such information.

e. Business Associate agrees to make available PHI in a designated record set to Covered Entity as necessary to satisfy Covered Entity’s obligations under 45 CFR § 164.524.

f. Business Associate agrees to make any amendment(s) to PHI in a designated record set as directed or agreed to by Covered Entity pursuant to 45 CFR § 164.526, or take other measures as necessary to satisfy Covered Entity’s obligations under 45 CFR § 164.526

g. Business Associate agrees to maintain and make available the information required to provide an accounting of disclosures to Covered Entity as necessary to satisfy Covered Entity’s obligations under 45 CFR § 164.528.

h. To the extent Business Associate is to carry out one or more of Covered Entity's obligation(s) under Subpart E of 45 CFR Part 164, Business Associate agrees to comply with the requirements of Subpart E that apply to Covered Entity in the performance of such obligation(s).

i. Business Associate agrees to make its internal practices, books, and records, including policies and procedures relating to the use and disclosure of PHI received from, or created or received by Business Associate on behalf of Covered Entity, available to the Secretary for purposes of determining compliance with the HIPAA Rules and other applicable ARRA and HITECH provisions.

3. PERMITTED USES AND DISCLOSURES BY BUSINESS ASSOCIATE

a. Business Associate may use or disclose PHI to perform functions, activities, or services for, or on behalf of, Covered Entity as specified in this Agreement.

b. Business Associate may use or disclose PHI as Required by Law.

c. Business Associate agrees to make uses and disclosures and requests for PHI consistent with Covered Entity's minimum necessary policies and procedures.

d. Business Associate may not use or disclose PHI in a manner that would violate Subpart E of 45 CFR Part 164 if done by Covered Entity, except for the specific uses and disclosures set forth below.

e. Business Associate may use PHI for the proper management and administration of Business Associate or to carry out the legal responsibilities of Business Associate.

f. Business Associate may disclose PHI for the proper management and administration of Business Associate or to carry out the legal responsibilities of Business Associate, provided the disclosures are Required by Law, or Business Associate obtains reasonable assurances from the person to whom the information is disclosed that the information will remain confidential and used or further disclosed only as Required by Law or for the purposes for which it was disclosed to the person, and the person notifies Business Associate of any instances of which it is aware in which the confidentiality of the information has been breached or impermissibly used in violation of this Agreement.

g. Business Associate may provide data aggregation services relating to the health care operations of Covered Entity and any other covered entity client of Business Associate.

h. Business Associate may use PHI to create de-identified information and use and disclose de-identified information for any purpose whatsoever if the de-identification meets the standard and implementation specifications for de-identification under 45 C.F.R. §164.514.

4. HIPAA SECURITY RULE REQUIREMENTS

Business Associate agrees to:

a. Implement and document, as set forth in 45 C.F.R. § 164.316, Administrative Safeguards, Physical Safeguards and Technical Safeguards that reasonably and appropriately protect the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of the electronic PHI that it creates,

receives, maintains, or transmits on behalf of the Covered Entity, as required by 45 C.F.R. Part 164, and specifically, but not exclusively, including the following:

i. Ensure the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of all electronic PHI the Business Associate creates, receives, maintains, or transmits on behalf of Covered Entity;

ii. Protect against any reasonably anticipated threats or hazards to the security or integrity of such information;

iii. Protect against any reasonably anticipated uses or disclosures of such information that are not permitted under this Agreement or required under the Privacy Rule, Security Rule or ARRA and its implementing regulations; and

iv. Ensure compliance with these sections by its workforce.

b. Ensure that any agent, including a subcontractor, to whom it provides this information agrees to implement and document reasonable and appropriate Administrative Safeguards, Physical Safeguards, and Technical Safeguards, including at least the requirements set forth in this section for the Business Associate;

c. Assist the Covered Entity and act in good faith and to mitigate potential or actual harms or losses and to assist and protect PHI, if appropriate, and to further protect any known suspected or actual Breaches, Security Incidents, or known inappropriate or unlawful use or disclosure of PHI;

d. Make its policies, procedures, and documentation required by this Section relating to such safeguards, available to the Secretary and to Covered Entity for purposes of determining the Business Associate's compliance with this section; and

e. Authorize termination of the relationship with Covered Entity if Covered Entity notifies the Business Associate of a pattern of an activity or practice of the Business Associate that constitutes a material breach or violation of the Business Associate's obligation under this Agreement and the Business Associate has failed to cure the breach or end the violation in accordance with Section 6.b. hereof.

5. OBLIGATIONS OF COVERED ENTITY

a. Covered Entity shall notify Business Associate of any limitation(s) in the notice of privacy practices of Covered Entity under 45 CFR § 164.520, to the extent that such limitation may affect Business Associate's use or disclosure of PHI.

b. Covered Entity shall notify Business Associate of any changes in, or revocation of, the permission by an Individual to use or disclose his or her PHI, to the extent that such changes may affect Business Associate's use or disclosure of PHI.

c. Covered Entity shall notify Business Associate of any restriction on the use or disclosure of PHI that Covered Entity has agreed to or is required to abide by under 45 CFR 164.522, to the extent that such restriction may affect Business Associate's use or disclosure of PHI.

6. TERM AND TERMINATION

a. Term. The term of this Agreement shall be effective as of the date written on the signature page below and shall terminate upon termination of the Service Agreement, unless sooner terminated as provided herein. Nothing in this Section 6.a. shall affect those provisions of this Agreement that survive termination of this Agreement.

b. Termination for Cause. Either party may terminate this Agreement and the Service Agreement if that party determines the other has violated a material term of this Agreement and the breaching party has not cured the breach or ended the violation within thirty (30) days after written notification thereof by the non-breaching party. The non-breaching party may require the breaching party to submit reports to demonstrate that the breach has been cured or the violation has ended.

c. Obligations of Business Associate Upon Termination. Upon termination of this Agreement for any reason, Business Associate shall return to Covered Entity, or, if agreed to by Covered Entity, destroy all PHI received from Covered Entity, or created, maintained, or received by Business Associate on behalf of Covered Entity, that Business Associate still maintains in any form. Business Associate shall retain no copies of the PHI. This provision shall apply to PHI that is in the possession of subcontractors or agents of Business Associate. In the event that Business Associate determines that returning or destroying the PHI is infeasible, Business Associate shall provide to Covered Entity notification of the conditions that make return or destruction infeasible. Upon mutual agreement of the parties that return or destruction of PHI is infeasible, Business Associate shall extend the protections of this Agreement to such PHI and limit further uses and disclosures of such PHI to those purposes that make the return or destruction infeasible, for so long as Business Associate maintains such PHI.

7. MISCELLANEOUS

a. Regulatory References. A reference in this Agreement to a section in the HIPAA Rules means the section as in effect or as amended, and for which compliance is required.

b. Amendment. The parties agree to take such action as is necessary to amend this Agreement from time to time as is necessary for either party to comply with the requirements of the HIPAA, ARRA and/or the HIPAA Rules. This Agreement may only be amended by a writing signed on behalf of each of the parties hereto.

c. Survival. The respective rights and obligations of Business Associate under Section 6.c of this Agreement shall survive the termination of this Agreement

d. Construction of Terms and Interpretation. The terms of this Agreement shall be construed in light of any applicable interpretation or guidance on HIPAA, ARRA and/or the HIPAA Rules issued by the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services (“HHS”) or the Office For Civil Rights and the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services at HHS and the U.S. Federal Trade Commission from time to time. Any ambiguity in this Agreement shall be resolved in favor of a meaning that permits the parties to comply with the HIPAA, ARRA and/or the HIPAA Rules.

e. Ownership of PHI. The PHI to which Business Associate, or any agent or subcontractor of Business Associate has access under this Agreement shall be and remain the property of Covered Entity.

f. Notices. Any notice, demand or communication required or permitted to be given by any provision of this Agreement shall be in writing and will be deemed to have been given when actually delivered (by whatever means) to the party designated to receive such notice, or on the next business day following the day sent by overnight courier with delivery confirmation, or on the third (3rd) business day after the same is sent by certified United States mail, postage and charges prepaid, directed to the addresses noted below, or to such other or additional address as any party might designate by written notice to the other party.

If to Covered Entity: Sweetwater County
80 W. Flaming Gorge Way, Ste. 17
Green River, WY 82935
Attn: Garry McLean

If to Business Associate: Pareto Health Technologies, LLC
2929 Walnut Street, Suite 1500
Philadelphia, PA 19104
Attn: Privacy Officer

With a copy to: Stuart B. Kurtz, Esq.
Kurtz & Revness, P.C.
1265 Drummers Lane, Suite 120
Wayne, PA 19087

g. Severability. If any provision of this Agreement is rendered invalid or unenforceable by the decision of any court of competent jurisdiction, that invalid or unenforceable provision shall be severed from this Agreement and all other provisions of this Agreement shall remain in full force and effect if it can reasonably be done in conjunction with the original intent of this Agreement.

h. Assignment. No assignment of the rights or obligations of either party under this Agreement shall be made without the express written consent of the other party, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld.

i. Successors and Assigns. This Agreement shall be binding upon, and shall inure to the benefit of, the parties, their respective successors and permitted assignees.

j. Waiver of Breach. Waiver of breach of any provision of this Agreement shall not be deemed a waiver of any other breach of the same or different provision.

k. Governing Law, Jurisdiction, and Venue: This Agreement shall be governed by, construed and enforced in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania regardless of the choice of law rules of any jurisdiction. Each party irrevocably agrees that the courts of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania located in Philadelphia County shall have the sole and exclusive jurisdiction with respect to any action or proceeding at law or in equity arising out of or relating to this Agreement. Each party hereby submits to the personal jurisdiction of, and venue in, such court(s) for the purposes thereof, and expressly waives any claim of lack of jurisdiction, improper venue, or that such venue constitutes an inconvenient forum.

l. Entire Agreement. This Agreement embodies the entire understanding and agreement among the parties regarding the matters contained herein, and supersedes all prior or contemporaneous negotiations, understandings or agreements concerning such matters, whether written or oral.

m. Counterparts. This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts with the same effect as if all parties had signed the same document. All counterparts shall be construed together and shall constitute one agreement. The parties agree that a copy or facsimile copy (whether by email, fax, photocopy or otherwise) of a signature on behalf of a party shall be evidence of that party's assent to the terms of this Agreement.

SIGNATURE PAGE TO FOLLOW

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have duly executed this Agreement as of
July 5, 2022.

By: _____

Signature

Jeffrey W. Smith

Printed Name

Board Chairman

Title

Pareto Health Technologies, LLC

By: _____

Signature

Andrew Cavenagh

Printed Name

CEO

Title

Sally Shoemaker

From: Mary Thoman
Sent: Monday, June 20, 2022 8:44 AM
To: Sally Shoemaker
Subject: FW: Comments on NOI to Prepare EIS for Dry Creek Trona Mine Project
Attachments: CLG Comments on NOI to Prepare EIS for Dry Creek Trona Mine Project_050422 (02513400xA6534).doc

Please save for Next meeting...to ratify

Sent from my Galaxy

----- Original message -----

From: "Danielle R. Bettencourt" <DBettencourt@fwlaw.com>

Date: 6/17/22 5:11 PM (GMT-07:00)

To: Eric South <ersouth@uintacounty.com>, Carol Hamilton <quarter08@mac.com>, Eric Bingham <binghame@sweetwatercountywy.gov>, Mary Thoman <thomanm@sweetwatercountywy.gov>, Darrell Walker <dwalker@sublettecd.com>, Jean Dickinson <jdickinson@vermillionranchlp.com>, Karen Pecheny <admin@swccd.us>, Kay Lynn Nield <kniel@starvalleycd.org>, Kelly Guild <kellyguild68@gmail.com>, Larry Folks <larry@pmgvegetation.com>, Larry Hicks <lsrkd@yahoo.com>, Mike Henn <mhenn@sublettecd.com>, Randy Wendling <wendlingr@sweetwatercountywy.gov>, Sally Shoemaker <shoemakers@sweetwatercountywy.gov>, Tom Burris <wyoappy@wyoming.com>, bob peternal <peternalranch@gmail.com>, WY NRCS-CD Cokeville <demont.grandy@usda.gov>
Cc: Kent Connelly <kent@kjcconsulting.com>, Connie Brooks <Connie@ceb Brooks.com>
Subject: Comments on NOI to Prepare EIS for Dry Creek Trona Mine Project

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

All,

Attached please find the comments on the BLM's Notice of Intent to Prepare an EIS for the Dry Creek Trona Mine Project located in Sweetwater County, Wyoming. I will be submitting these today.

Danielle



Danielle R. Bettencourt
Director
303-894-4431
DBettencourt@fwlaw.com | fwlaw.com
1801 California Street, Suite 2600

Denver, CO 80202-2645



Member of MERITAS Law Firms Worldwide

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This email and any attachments may contain confidential information which may be legally privileged. If you are not the intended recipient, please be advised that any disclosure, copying, distribution, or use of any of the information contained is prohibited. If you have received this email in error, please immediately notify us and destroy the original email and its attachments. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.



COALITION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

1689 COUNTY ROAD 263
FORT BRIDGER, WY 82933

COUNTY COMMISSIONS FOR SWEETWATER AND UINTA, AND CONSERVATION DISTRICTS FOR LINCOLN,
LITTLE SNAKE, STAR VALLEY, SUBLETTE, SWEETWATER, AND UINTA - WYOMING

June 17, 2022

VIA EMAIL: BLM_WY_Dry_Creek@blm.gov

Kelly Lamborn, Project Manager
BLM Kemmerer Field Office
430 North Highway 189
Kemmerer, WY 93101

Re: Coalition of Local Governments' Comments on the Notice of Intent to
Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Dry Creek Trona
Mine Project

Dear Kelly Lamborn,

The Wyoming Coalition of Local Governments ("Coalition") submits these comments on the Bureau of Land Management's Notice of Intent to prepare an environmental impact statement ("EIS") for the Dry Creek Trona Mine Project located in Sweetwater County, Wyoming. This project involves the construction of mining facilities, infrastructure, ancillary facilities, and transportation and utility features across about 3,330 acres of private land, 2,809 acres of BLM land, and a small section of U.S. Forest Service land. The Coalition generally supports this project and requests that the following comments be considered as the EIS is prepared.

I. STATEMENT OF INTEREST

The Coalition is a voluntary association of local governments organized under the laws of the State of Wyoming to educate, guide, and develop public land policy in the affected counties and to protect the natural resources within the respected counties. Wyo. Stat. Ann. §§ 11-16-103, 11-16-122, 18-5-201. Coalition members include Sweetwater County, Uinta County, Lincoln Conservation District, Sweetwater County Conservation District, Uinta County Conservation District, Sublette County Conservation District, Little Snake River Conservation District, and Star Valley Conservation District. The Coalition serves many purposes for its members, including helping to develop local

Kelly Lamborn

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government plans and policies, the protection of vested rights of individuals and industries dependent on utilizing and conserving existing resources and public lands, the promotion and support of fish and wildlife habitat improvement, the support and funding of scientific studies addressing federal land use plans and projects, and providing comments on behalf of members for the educational benefit of those proposing federal land use plans and land use projects.

Both county and conservation district members of the Coalition are local governments with special expertise as set out in the CEQ regulations in a variety of different contexts. The county and conservation district members of the Coalition enjoy the authority to protect the public health and welfare of Wyoming citizens and to promote the management and protection of federal land natural resources. Wyo. Stat. § 18-5-102; Wyo. Stat. § 11-16-122. Given this statutory charge and wealth of experience in federal land matters, the Coalition members have participated as cooperating agencies on most Wyoming projects and land use plans and have coordinated efforts with BLM, U.S. Forest Service, and other federal, state, and local entities.

II. SWEETWATER COUNTY PERMITTING REQUIREMENTS

Pacific Soda and Atlantic Soda must submit and receive approval on all applicable Sweetwater County permits, and are required to be in compliance with any applicable development regulations. Since the project area is zoned as primarily Agricultural, the companies will be required to submit and receive approval from the Board of County Commissioners a zone map amendment to allow for the use of underground in situ mining along with the construction of any structures that are ancillary to the operations.

III. POTENTIAL IMPACTS TO LIVESTOCK GRAZING

Livestock grazing does occur in the proposed project area and the EIS must address the potential impacts to grazing, as well as the identification of appropriate mitigation measures. This includes a discussion about the loss of any forage and corresponding loss of Animal Unit Months from the construction of the mine facilities and other supporting infrastructure. The draft mine plan also states that there will be “restricted access for livestock grazing based on fencing installation.” Draft Mine Plan at 154 (2022). The BLM must consult with livestock grazing permittees to ensure that livestock are still able to access grazing areas.

The EIS must address the use of groundwater wells during the early phases of construction and how that will impact any existing groundwater uses, including stock water wells. The BLM should coordinate with Sweetwater County Conservation District, livestock grazing permittees, and private landowners regarding the current use and availability of groundwater in the project area.

IV. POTENTIAL IMPACTS TO WILDLIFE AND SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES

The project area is located partially within and next to Greater Sage-grouse priority habitat management areas (“PHMA”) and also within antelope crucial winter range. Under the 2015 Approved Resource Management Plan Amendments for Greater Sage-grouse protection (“2015 ARMPA”), disturbance in PHMA may not exceed a 5% disturbance threshold. *See* 2015 ARMPA at 18; MDSSS2. The disturbance analysis for this project must not only include a description of the amount of land that will be disturbed by the project, but the amount of pre-existing disturbance must be disclosed and, most importantly, the type and extent of future development that could be precluded. Construction activities and other surface disturbing activities will also have to comply with Greater Sage-grouse seasonal limitations to protect nesting and early brood-rearing habitat.

The EIS must also discuss the project’s impact on vegetation within antelope crucial winter range and other impacts to antelope movement in the project area. The Draft Mine Plan states that any reclamation fencing will allow for wildlife passage, but it also must address any fencing and restrictions on wildlife passage during construction and the life of the project. *See* Draft Mine Plan at Appendix J-8 (2022).

V. POTENTIAL IMPACTS ON WATER RESOURCES

The project will be using groundwater wells to provide water for the early phases of construction and then will be piping water from the Green River. The EIS must address how this project will impact water resources, including any impact on private landowners and livestock grazing permittees access to and use of groundwater near the project area. The BLM must disclose the aquifers, wells, and other water rights that may be impacted by this project.

The EIS must also address potential impacts to groundwater from mining operations and disposal of the mine waste in a leachate evaporation pond at the project

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site, as well as the mitigation measures required to ensure protection of surface and groundwater.

VI. CONCLUSION

The Coalition appreciates the consideration of these comments, and its members look forward to continuing to coordinate with the BLM as the EIS and project are developed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Eric South".

Eric South, Chairman
Wyoming Coalition of Local Governments



SWEETWATER C·O·U·N·T·Y



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING REQUEST FORM

Meeting Date Requested: 7/5/2022	Contact Phone and E-mail:
Presenters Name, Title and Name of Organization: BOCC	Exact Wording for Agenda: Consideration of 2022 Specific Purpose Tax Resolution
Preference of Placement on Agenda & Amount of Time Requested for Presentation 10 minutes	Will there be handouts? (If yes, include with meeting request form) Yes
Will handouts require SIGNATURES: Yes PLEASE CHECK THE BOX AND BRIEFLY EXPLAIN IF YOUR ITEM SHOULD BE MARKED CONFIDENTIAL: <input type="checkbox"/>	If you are submitting a Resolution or Proclamation, please forward in word format to shoemakers@sweetwatercountywy.gov
Additional Information:	

INSTRUCTIONS:

- All requests to be added to the agenda, along with handouts and original documents to be signed, must be submitted in writing on the “Meeting Request Form” by Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. prior to the scheduled meeting and returned in person or electronically to Administrative Assistant Sally Shoemaker at: shoemakers@sweetwatercountywy.gov
****If your handout is not accompanied with the request, your request may be dismissed and you may reschedule for the next meeting provided the handout(s) are received.****
- If you are presenting a **Resolution or Proclamation**, it must be submitted in Word Format and emailed to: shoemakers@sweetwatercountywy.gov
- As always, if you are unable to attend the meeting after being placed onto an agenda, please send a representative in your place or your item may be rescheduled.
- In order to determine placement on the agenda, please review the county website www.sweet.wy.us on Thursday afternoon by clicking “Commissioner’s Agenda”.
- If a request to be placed on an agenda is received **AFTER** the deadline, you will be considered for the next meeting date.

RESOLUTION NO. 22-07-CC-02

A RESOLUTION APPROVING A PROPOSITION TO IMPOSE A 1% SPECIFIC PURPOSE SALES AND USE TAX IN SWEETWATER COUNTY, STATE OF WYOMING, FOR THE EXCLUSIVE PURPOSE OF FUNDING SPECIFIC PURPOSES FOR SPECIFIC AMOUNTS; THE PROPOSITION TO BE VOTED ON AT THE GENERAL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 8, 2022.

WHEREAS, pursuant to Wyoming Statute §§39-15-203(a)(iii), 39-15-204(a)(iii), 39-16-203(a)(ii), 39-16-204(a)(ii) and 39-16-202(e), counties may impose a sales and use excise tax not to exceed two percent (2%) (hereinafter the “Tax”) upon retail sales of tangible personal property, admissions and services made, and upon sales and storage, use and consumption of tangible personal property, within the county, for specific purposes and in specific amounts as authorized by the qualified electors of the county; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners for Sweetwater County, State of Wyoming (the “Commissioners”), in response to the needs of the County and requests received from the governing bodies of the Town of Bairoil, the Town of Granger, the Town of Superior, Town of Wamsutter, the City of Green River and the City of Rock Springs (hereinafter, being sometimes individually referred to as “Sponsoring Entity” and collectively referred to as “Sponsoring Entities”), has determined to make such source of funding available in the following specific amounts for the following specific purposes (the “Projects”):

For the following Projects in the amount of \$83,511,570 and interest earned thereon:

1. \$2,310,215 to the Town of Bairoil for the repairs/replacements needed for the water and sewer lines, including replacing all defective valves, upgrading old chlorine system, street repairs from decay and excavations, upgrade obsolete mapping for water and sewer system, engineering costs with the above projects;
2. \$1,343,148 to the Town of Granger to reconstruct and pave the currently unpaved town streets with 3” asphalt, including curbing and gutters.
3. \$22,027,627 to Green River for the following: (1) paving, curb, gutter, sidewalk, and rehabilitation of water, sewer and storm sewer infrastructure in various locations on the following streets – westbound Riverview Drive (from Hackberry Street to Locust Street), eastbound Riverview Drive (from Locust Street to Fir Street), Bridger Drive (from East Teton Boulevard to West Teton Boulevard), Faith Drive, Evans Drive (from Faith Drive to Faith Drive), Easy Street (from Hutton Street through Easy Circle), Wilkes Drive (from Hutton Street to Evans Drive), and Indian Hills Drive (from Shoshone Avenue to Uinta Drive); and (2) Cape seal selected streets to preserve the integrity of the asphalt surface.
4. \$9,670,666 to the Jamestown-Rio Vista Water and Sewer District, Sweetwater County, for installation of a sewer trunk line through the district to connect to the City of Green River sewer system.;
5. \$1,998,604 to the Town of Superior for water system upgrades and improvements including water well testing and maintenance and a new transition line and valves, sewer system updates and a new water well.;
6. \$6,662,014 to the North Sweetwater Water and Sewer District, Sweetwater County, to rebuild its over 50 year old lagoons and replace about 12,000 linear feet of collection system piping in order to address compliance, capacity and structural issues such as cracked, collapsed and misaligned pipe. ;
7. \$35,093,771 to the City of Rock Springs the following five (5) water, sewer, wastewater, storm water, and building repair infrastructure projects:

- a. Water facility odor control and improvements - Design and construction of a processing facility that will utilize solar and supplemental heating sources to dry and process biosolids produced from the wastewater treatment process. The year around processing of the biosolids will reduce the odors released during this operation. In addition, air scrubbers will be installed to reduce the odors emitted from the facility.
 - b. Northeast Rock Springs detention basin - Design and Construction of two detention basins near Century Park to reduce flooding impacts in the area. These basins will decrease the peak storm water outflows from the natural drainages flowing into them.
 - c. Killpecker creek detention basin - Design and Construction of two detention basins located along the Killpecker drainage along with channel improvements to the lower limits of Killpecker Creek. One Basin will be located near the White Mountain Golf Course and the other North of Reliance. These improvements will reduce the peak flood flow rate of Killpecker creek within the City of Rock Springs and reduce the impacts to adjacent properties.
 - d. Facility infrastructure repairs - Replace the original irrigation system at Wataha Recreation Area. This system irrigates the original 18-holes on the golf course along with the ball complex, picnic areas, driving range and clubhouse grounds. The system was installed in 1977 and is the lifeblood of this outdoor facility. Replace the original Holmsten ice compressor system that cools the Family Rec Center ice rink floor. The system was built in 1984 and utilizes R22 Freon which has not been manufactured for years and will soon be unavailable or if reclaimed R22 is available it will be cost prohibitive. This unit is the lifeblood of the ice rink and without it we have no rink. Replace the original field lights on the three softball fields at Wataha Ball Complex. These incandescent lights were installed in 1978 and need to be upgraded soon if we want to continue using these fields at night. Currently replacement bulbs are difficult to purchase.
 - e. Rehabilitation of water, sewer and storm sewer infrastructure in various locations throughout the City of Rock Springs. This will include line replacement and/or pipe lining along with replacement of other necessary appurtenances.
8. \$4,405,525 to the Town of Wamsutter to replace the red clay sewer pipe and waterline and curb and gutter, sidewalk and pavement for 7 blocks.

WHEREAS, the Commissioners have determined that in order to fund the above-referenced projects, and to pay debt service, and/or lease payments relating to the Projects, and if available, to be used to leverage or match federal and/or state grant funds or other revenue sources relating to the Projects, a specific purpose sales and use excise tax should be imposed within the County; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioners have determined it is necessary to submit the proposition for the imposition of the Tax to the qualified registered electors of the County; and

WHEREAS, the Tax will end when the amounts set forth above have been collected; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of Wyoming Statute §§ 39-15-203(iii)(A) and 39-16-203(a)(ii)(A), before any proposition to impose or extend the Tax or incur debt shall be placed before the electors of the County, the Commissioners and the governing bodies of at least fifty percent (50%) of the incorporated municipalities within the County shall adopt a resolution approving propositions, setting forth a procedure for the qualification of a proposition for the placement on the ballot, and specifying how excess funds shall be expended.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY AT LEAST FIFTY PERCENT (50%) OF THE GOVERNING BODIES OF THE INCORPORATED MUNICIPALITIES OF SWEETWATER COUNTY AND THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SWEETWATER COUNTY, STATE OF WYOMING, THAT:

Section 1. At the general election to be held in Sweetwater County, State of Wyoming, on Tuesday, November 8, 2022, between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m., there will be submitted to the qualified registered electors of the County a proposition for imposing a 1% Specific Purpose Sales and Use tax for the exclusive purpose of funding the above-referenced Projects, as more particularly set forth in the ballot question at the general election and in the Sweetwater County General Election Proclamation, to be published by the Sweetwater County Clerk in accordance with law.

Section 2. The election on the propositions shall be held at those Election Districts, Precincts and Polling Places as more particularly set forth in the Sweetwater County General Election Proclamation, to be published by the Sweetwater County Clerk in accordance with law.

Section 3. The votes, including absentee votes, shall be registered on official ballots. The ballots shall be in substantially the following form:

“Shall Sweetwater County, Wyoming, be authorized to adopt and cause to be imposed a one percent (1%) specific purpose sales and use excise tax within the County, the proceeds from which and the interest earned thereon to be used and applied for funding acquisition of land (if necessary), the planning, engineering, constructing, remodeling, furnishing, equipping and supplying; and, to the extent allowed by law, the payment of operation and maintenance, debt service, federal and/or state grant funds or revenue streams as leverage or a match and/or lease payments, in the following specific principal amounts for the following specific purposes:

For the following Projects in the amount of \$83,511,570 and interest earned thereon:

1. \$2,310,215 to the Town of Bairoil for the repairs/replacements needed for the water and sewer lines, including replacing all defective valves, upgrading old chlorine system, street repairs from decay and excavations, upgrade obsolete mapping for water and sewer system, engineering costs with the above projects;
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e. Rehabilitation of water, sewer and storm sewer infrastructure in various locations throughout the City of Rock Springs. This will include line replacement and/or pipe lining along with replacement of other necessary appurtenances.

8. \$4,405,525 to the Town of Wamsutter to replace the red clay sewer pipe and waterline and curb and gutter, sidewalk and pavement for 7 blocks.

FOR THE TAX _____

AGAINST THE TAX _____

Section 5. The County Clerk shall cause the Sweetwater County General Election Proclamation to be published in accordance with law.

Section 6. The election on the propositions shall be held, conducted and the results canvassed as provided by the Wyoming Election Code of 1973, more particularly, the Political Subdivision Bond Election Law (Wyoming Statute §§22-21-101 to 22-21-112, inclusive).

Section 7. In the event the proposition shall be approved by the qualified registered electors of Sweetwater County, the Tax shall commence on January 1, 2023. Upon distribution of the approved Tax funds to the County (or such lesser amount if the County agrees to terminate the Tax pursuant to the provisions of Wyo. Stat §§ 39-15-203(a)(iii)(G) and 39-16-203(a)(ii)(G), excess Tax funds shall be retained by the Sweetwater County Treasurer for one (1) year for refund of overpayments. After one (1) year, the excess Tax funds (less any refunds), plus any interest earned thereon, shall be distributed to the County and the Municipalities based upon the respective ratio which the principal amount of each Project approved bears to the total principal amount of all Projects approved. All Tax funds, and interest thereon, shall be used for construction, operation, equipment and maintenance of the Projects specified in the ballot question.

Section 8. Before the proposition may be placed before the qualified electors of Sweetwater County, the Commissioners and the governing bodies of at least fifty percent (50%) of the incorporated municipalities within the County must adopt this joint resolution as required by Wyo. Stat §§ 39-15-203(a)(iii)(A) and 39-16-203(a)(ii)(A).

Section 9. The passage of this resolution shall constitute written notification to the County Clerk, in accordance with Wyo. Stat § 22-21-103, specifying the date of the election and the propositions, and shall further constitute approval as required by Wyo. Stat §§ 39-15-203(a)(iii)(A) and 39-16-203(a)(ii)(A).

Section 10. Should any part or provision of this resolution ever be judicially determined to be invalid or unenforceable, such determination shall not affect the remaining parts and provisions hereof, the intention being that each part or provision of this joint resolution is severable.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED as of the _____ day of _____ 2022.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS IN AND FOR SWEETWATER COUNTY,
WYOMING

BY _____
JEFFREY SMITH, CHAIRMAN

BY _____
ROY LLOYD, MEMBER

BY _____
LAUREN SCHOENFELD, MEMBER

BY _____
MARY THOMAN MEMBER

BY _____
RANDY WENDLING, MEMBER

STATE OF WYOMING)
):SS
COUNTY OF SWEETWATER)

Signed or attested before me on _____, 20____ by Jeff Smith, Chair, Roy Lloyd, Member, Lauren Schoenfeld, Member, Mary Thoman, Member and Randy Wendling, Member, Board of Sweetwater County Commissioners.

CYNTHIA LANE,
SWEETWATER COUNTY CLERK

(Seal)

My commission expires: _____



SWEETWATER

C·O·U·N·T·Y



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING REQUEST FORM

Meeting Date Requested: July 5 2022	Contact Phone and E-mail: LSRCD@yahoo.com 307-380-7010
Presenters Name, Title and Name of Organization: Jack Cobb, Chairmen Tom Chant, member Larry Hicks, Natural Resource Coordinator Little Snake River Conservation District	Exact Wording for Agenda: Petition to the SWC Commissioners for the submission to the voters of a 1 mill levy for the lands in Sweetwater County that are in the Little Snake River Conservation District.
Preference of Placement on Agenda & Amount of Time Requested for Presentation Between 1&2 PM	Will there be handouts? (If yes, include with meeting request form) Yes, also would like to have 15 minute power point presentation if equipment is availbe.
Will handouts require SIGNATURES: No PLEASE CHECK THE BOX AND BRIEFLY EXPLAIN IF YOUR ITEM SHOULD BE MARKED CONFIDENTIAL: <input type="checkbox"/>	If you are submitting a Resolution or Proclamation, please forward in word format to shoemakers@sweetwatercountywy.gov
Additional Information:	
<small>Requesting 20 minutes on the agenda to provide a power point presentation of current and proposed conservation work in those lands in SweetWater County that reside in the Little Snake River Conservation District and discussion with commissioners about future opportunities.</small>	

INSTRUCTIONS:

- All requests to be added to the agenda, along with handouts and original documents to be signed, must be submitted in writing on the “Meeting Request Form” by Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. prior to the scheduled meeting and returned in person or electronically to Administrative Assistant Sally Shoemaker at: shoemakers@sweetwatercountywy.gov
****If your handout is not accompanied with the request, your request may be dismissed and you may reschedule for the next meeting provided the handout(s) are received.****
- If you are presenting a **Resolution or Proclamation**, it must be submitted in Word Format and emailed to: shoemakers@sweetwatercountywy.gov
- As always, if you are unable to attend the meeting after being placed onto an agenda, please send a representative in your place or your item may be rescheduled.
- In order to determine placement on the agenda, please review the county website www.sweet.wy.us on Thursday afternoon by clicking “Commissioner’s Agenda”.
- If a request to be placed on an agenda is received **AFTER** the deadline, you will be considered for the next meeting date.

6-22-2022

Little Snake River Conservation District
P.O. Box 355, 285 N. Penland, Baggs, WY 82321
307-383-7860, lsrkd@yahoo.com

Petition to:
Sweetwater County Commissioners

Pursuant to W.S. 11-16-134(b) the Little Snake River Conservation District Board of Supervisors is petitioning the Sweetwater County Commissioner for the purposes of placing the proposition to impose a conservation district tax to the voters a (1) mill tax assessment on each one (\$1.00) dollar of assessed valuation for those lands in Sweetwater County that are encompassed within the boundaries of the Little Snake River Conservation District at the next general election pursuant to W.S. 22-21-103 or by a mail ballot pursuant to W.S. 22-29-115 and 22-29-116.

Pursuant to 11-16-134(c) The Little Snake River Conservation District Board has selected the language in 11-16-134(c)(ii) to be include on the election ballot.

John "Jack" Cobb, Chairmen  6-21-22
Date

Meagan Lally, Vice Chairmen _____ Date


Robert "Bob" Davis, Treasurer 6/21/22
Date


Trent Arnell, member 6-21-22
Date


Tom Chant, member 6-22-22
Date

11-16-133. Tax levied on property in district; maximum amount; soil and water conservation fund; other appropriation authorized.

(a) Subject to W.S. 11-16-134, the county commissioners may annually levy a tax to carry out this act. The tax shall be levied upon all property in the district and shall not exceed one (1) mill on each one dollar (\$1.00) of assessed valuation. The tax is not part of the general county or city mill levies. The tax shall be levied and collected as other county taxes and the county treasurer shall remit the taxes collected to the district to a separate fund to be known as the conservation district fund, which shall be used only to carry out the purposes of this act.

(b) Whether or not a tax levy is authorized under W.S. 11-16-134, each board of county commissioners may make appropriations from the county general fund to districts established under this act for the purpose of providing soil and water conservation programs.

11-16-134. Imposition of tax; vote of electors required.

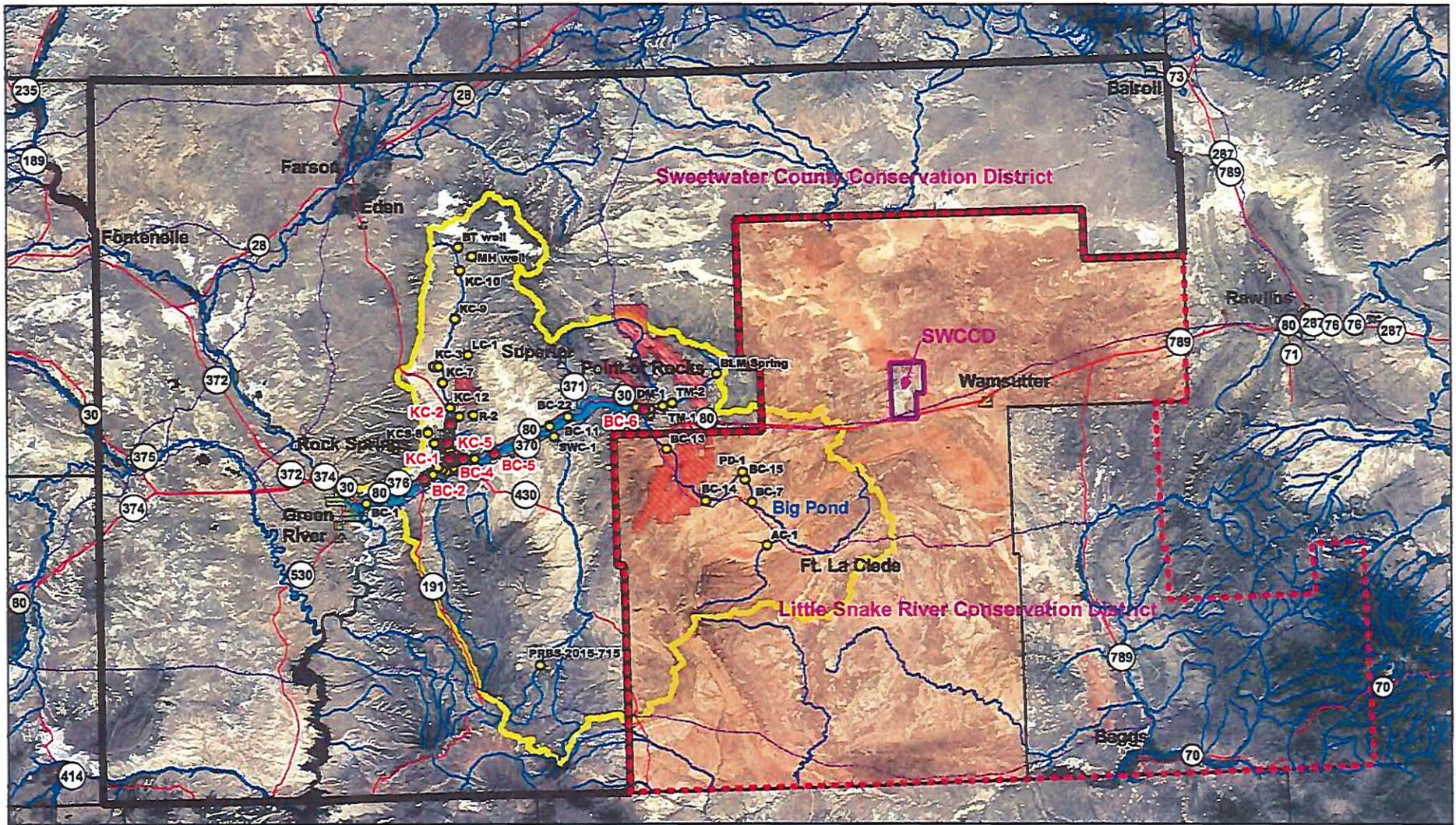
(a) No tax shall be imposed under W.S. 11-16-133 until the proposition to impose the tax is submitted to a vote of the voters of the district and a majority of those casting their ballots vote in favor of imposing the tax. Any tax imposed under this act shall be levied in the year following the election at which the imposition of the tax is approved.

(b) The proposition to impose a tax under this act shall be at the expense of the county and may be submitted to the voters of the county upon the receipt by the board of county commissioners of a petition requesting the election signed by a majority of the supervisors of the district. The election shall be at the direction and under the supervision of the board of county commissioners.

(c) Subject to the limitation of subsection (b) of this section, the proposition to impose a tax under this act shall be submitted on an election date authorized under W.S. 22-21-103, or by mail ballot pursuant to W.S. 22-29-115 and 22-29-116. A notice of election shall be given by the county clerk in at least one (1) newspaper of general circulation published in the county wherein the election is to be held and shall specify the object of the election. The notice shall be published at least once each week for a thirty (30) day period preceding the election. At the election the ballots shall contain the words "for the conservation district tax" and "against the conservation district tax". Upon the initial submission of the conservation district tax, or any renewal thereof, after July 1, 1995, the conservation district board of supervisors shall choose one (1) of the following options and the words of the chosen option shall be clearly printed in the appropriate area on the election ballot:

(i) If this proposition is approved, the same proposition shall be submitted at the second following general election or by mail ballot pursuant to W.S. 22-29-115 and 22-29-116, and thereafter at succeeding general elections or by mail ballot pursuant to W.S. 22-29-115 and 22-29-116, every four (4) years until the proposition is defeated; or

(ii) If this proposition is approved, the tax shall remain in effect until a petition to discontinue the tax, signed by not less than ten percent (10%) of the voters of the district, is received by the board of county commissioners, and the proposal to discontinue the tax is approved by the voters. The proposal to discontinue the tax shall be submitted to the voters of the district at the expense of the county at the next general election or by mail ballot pursuant to W.S. 22-29-115 and 22-29-116 for approval or disapproval.



**Sweetwater and Little Snake River Conservation Districts
Boundary Adjustment as of May 5th, 2022**

- Legend**
- 2021 Sample Sites
 - All SWCCD Sites
 - Bitter Cr. Watershed
 - Major Roadways
 - Historic Trails
 - Major Streams
 - ▭ City Limits
 - ▨ Coal Mines
 - SWCCD May 2022
 - LSRCD May 2022
 - LSRCD New Area
 - LSRCD Excluded Area
 - County Boundaries
 - Stream Impairments