

THE WYOMING RURAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

The Wyoming Rural Development Council is a collaborative public/private partnership that brings together six partner groups: local/regional government, state government, federal government, tribal government, non-profit organizations and private sector individuals and organizations.

WRDC is governed by a Steering Committee representing the six partner groups. The Steering Committee as well as the Council membership has established the following goals for the WRDC:

- Assist rural communities in visioning and strategic planning
- Serve as a resource for assisting communities in finding and obtaining grants for rural projects
- Serve and be recognized as a neutral forum for identification and resolution of multi-jurisdictional issues
- Promote, through education, the understanding of the needs, values, and contributions of rural communities.

The Council seeks to assist rural Wyoming communities with their needs and development efforts by matching the technical and financial resources of federal, state, and local governments and the private sector with local development efforts.

If you would like more information about the Wyoming Rural Development Council and how you may benefit as a member, contact:

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Green River Resource Team **February 4-5, 2003**

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PROCESS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THIS REPORT

The Wyoming Rural Development Council (WRDC) has provided a resource team to assist the town of Green River, Wyoming in evaluating the community's assets and liabilities and in developing suggestions for improving the environment, social and economic future of Green River.

The Town of Green River requested a community assessment from the Wyoming Rural Development Council. Mary Jones, Clerk/Treasurer served as the community contact and took the lead in agenda development, logistics and publicity in town for the assessment. Resource team members were selected to visit, interview citizens and develop a plan of recommended action for the town. The team members were carefully selected based on their fields of expertise that Green River officials indicated would be needed to respond to the problem areas identified.

The Resource Team toured the town and interviewed approximately 50 people over a two-day period from February 4-5, 2003. Each participant was asked to respond to three questions designed to begin communication and discussion and to serve as a basis for developing the action plan. The three questions were:

- ❑ What do you think are the major problems and challenges in Green River?
- ❑ What do you think are the major strengths and assets in Green River?
- ❑ What projects would you like to see completed in two, five ten and twenty years in Green River?

Upon completion of the interviews, the team met to compare notes and share comments following the two days of intense study. The team then agreed that each team member would carefully analyze what was said, synthesize what they heard with their knowledge of programs and resources, prepare their notes and suggestions, and forward these items to be combined into WRDC's final report to Green River.

The oral report was presented to the people of Green River on February 5, 2003 and many of the citizens of Green River who participated in the interviews were in attendance.

Following the oral report, a formal written report was prepared and presented to the Town of Green River.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

I commend the leadership in Green River for having the foresight to sponsor a community assessment. You have taken the first and most important step in planning the future of your community – finding out what the citizens like, do not like and what their vision is for your community. The elements are all here for Green River to have a successful future. To become a growing, vibrant community takes only a few people willing to roll up their sleeves and go to work. Once this nucleus begins to exert effort, it will begin to show some successes. Then this nucleus needs to expand to include more and more of the community until the entire community is involved. But the work is not on big jobs; it is on small ones that can be achieved quickly. The big ones come later after Green River has seen the results of the smaller and sees that it can accomplish things.

There is a number of short term, accomplishable recommendations that the review team has provided. The most important thing is to get the entire community involved in trying to find ways to accomplish its goals. A few celebrations at the successful conclusion of an activity which has involved a large number of citizens will lead to a feeling of accomplishment that will carry over into other activities. Look through the short-term suggestions, pick out one that you know what you can do, and get started!

Each of you individually must decide what it is that you want to do what kind of project you want to tackle. There are enough tasks for everyone. Each small step, every accomplishment, no matter

how limited, is movement in the right direction toward achieving Green River's goals. It can be done! There is no problem facing Green River that cannot be solved by the people living in the community. It is your choice, your decision, you can do it.

On behalf of the Green River Resource Team, I want to thank the community and our sponsors, the Town of Green River for the warm hospitality shown to us during our stay. The meals were incredible, especially the pie!! We heard over and over in the listening sessions that Green River was filled with warm, caring individuals and we certainly can attest to that! Thank you very much.

We hope you will find great value in this report and remember any team member is available for you to call to clarify information or provide more information and assistance.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Bailey, Co-team leader
Roger Bower, Co-team leader

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**Green River, Wyoming
February 2-5, 2004**



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Green River, approx. 1907

GREEN RIVER COMMUNITY PROFILE 2003

Green River, the Sweetwater county seat, started as a station on the Overland and Pony Express routes. Settlement came with the Union Pacific in July 1869, when developers hoping to profit from the railroad boom, laid out a town. By September 2,000 people occupied the site. The Union Pacific paid the speculators no attention, bridged the river, and moved on as fast as possible to start a new town on down the line. People settled at Green River anyway.

The stream from which the community takes its name was called Seedske-dee by the Indians and Rio Verde, Spanish River, or other names by early white explorers. The Green forms the headwaters of the massive Colorado River system, which supplies water to millions of residents in Nevada, California, Arizona, and Mexico. As the Union Pacific tracks pushed west, timbermen cut ties in the mountains near Pinedale and Dubois, then floated them down the Green for eventual use on the line. During the annual spring tie drives, some 300,000 logs moved down the river. Daring youngsters amused themselves by walking up the bank a mile or so and riding the ties down the swollen stream.

Green River straddles the river of the same name and is a prosperous trona-mining and transportation town with I-80 cutting a swath just north of town, plunging through tunnels beneath memorable badlands topography. The huge Union Pacific Railroad yard divides Green River. Older town sections have tidy wooden frame homes, while ranch-style suburbs spread to the south. During the 1970s and '80s, Green river saw an enormous growth surge as the trona mines expanded their operations, as oil and gas explorations

attracted thousands of roustabouts, and as a helium facility opened nearby. The population jumped from fewer than 5,000 in 1970 to almost 13,000 in 1980 and has held steady since then. Throughout the town are enormous, towering rock formations with names like The Palisades, Tollgate Rock, and the mammoth, Castle Rock, sitting smack in the middle of a residential area off the main street, a behemoth beige boulder with houses and a neighborhood clustered at its feet. Although the town is in an area considered desert, the Green River that divides the town in half means there is enough water for plenty of trees and people. The downtown area includes a mix of modern and historic architecture on Flaming Gorge Way, where the older business section is located. History buffs will delight in landmarks such as The Brewery, a bar located in the historic 1898 building which housed Wyoming’s first brewery.

Tourism is a growing industry in the town, which also is known as the “Gateway to Flaming Gorge.” Many fly fishermen come to fish the Green River both in town and upstream. Many fishermen also come to fish the Flaming Gorge Recreation Area, both on the lakeshores and in boats. Flaming Gorge National Recreational Area, named for the vivid red rocks encircling the reservoir south of town, is a favorite spot for fishing, hiking, and other sports.

Spectacular scenic rock formations throughout the Green River area serve as physical reminders of geological history dating back millions of years to the river basin’s existence as a land-locked lake. The flamboyant views beckon photographers. In May of 1869, Major John Wesley Powell brought fame to the town when his expedition of 10 men climbed off the train at Green River City and began a long float down the Green and Colorado rivers. According to one observer, while in Green River awaiting orders, Powell and his men “tried to drink all the whiskey there was in town. The result was a failure, as Jake Field persisted in making it faster than we could drink it.” They make it all the way through the Grand Canyon in stout wooden boats. Seven men survived; three who decided to hike out rather than face the treacherous rapids were never seen again. Powell returned to Green River in 1871 for a second voyage with a large contingent of scientists, who helped map the region and later directed the U.S. Geological Survey.

GREEN RIVER DEMOGRAPHICS

<u>Major Cities</u>	<u>Distances</u>
Cheyenne	271 miles
Chicago	1,254 miles
Dallas	1,148 miles
Denver	365 miles
New York	2,027 miles
Phoenix	847 miles
Seattle	982 miles

Salt Lake City	176 miles
San Francisco	919 miles
Washington, DC	1,790 miles

Climate:

Temperature:

Annual Ave = 44.2 °

Monthly Ave: January: 8.0 °, July: 68.0 °

Precipitation:

Annual Ave = 8.7"

Ave Rainfall = 5.5"

Ave Snowfall = 34.9"

Humidity:

Ave = 45%

Growing Season:

Ave: 101 Days

Statistics & Facts:

Land area: 13.7 square miles

Elevation: 6,109 feet

Positioned 41.51 degrees N of the equator, 109.46 degrees W of the prime meridian.

GREEN RIVER CITY & REGIONAL FACILITIES, INSTITUTIONS, SERVICES

Government:

Type:

Mayor/Council

Police Department:

31 Full-time

Fire Department:

1 Full time

35 Volunteer

Planning Commissioner: Yes

Business License Required: Yes

Zoning Regulations: Yes

Industrial Plan Approval: Yes

Building Codes: UBC

Taxes:

Industrial Property is assessed at 11.5% of market value. Commercial and residential is assessed at 9.5%. Personal property (e.g. machinery and equipment) is assessed at the same rate as the classification in which it is used. The property tax is figured by multiplying the assessed value by the mill levy.

Total Sales/Use Tax: 4% plus an additional 1% capital improvement tax.

State Worker's Compensation: Costs vary from 0.11% to 3.8% depending on the occupation. The rate is adjusted according to each businesses record after two years.

Unemployment Compensation Rate: Average rate for new employers for the first 24 months is 3.33% on the first \$10,500 annual wages. Adjustment factors are made after the initial 24 months based on the employer's rating.

No state or local personal income tax.

No state or local corporate income tax.

No state or local inventory tax.

Utilities:

Electricity:

Supplier - Pacific Power

Max Generating Capacity: 4,029 MW

Loop System: yes

Average Cost Per Kilowatt/Hour: Industrial - 3.7 cents

Commercial - 5.5 cents

Residential - 4.7 cents

Natural Gas:

Supplier - Questar Gas

Industrial rates: Load factors of 15% - 40%, \$1.07 per decatherm

Load factor of 40% or greater - 94 cents for first 80 decatherms

81-739 decatherms - 83 cents

Over 740 decatherms - 72 cents

Commercial Rates: \$3.57 per decatherm

Residential Rates: \$4.60 per decatherm

Water:

Supplier - Municipal

Daily Max Capacity: 5 M (gal/day) summer

Residual Pressure: 65 psi

Excess Capacity Available: Yes

Loop System: Yes

Tap fees: 3/4" -- 2", \$50.00

Industrial Rates: Variable (actual cost)

Sewer:

Supplier - Municipal

Treatment Type: Lagoon
Tap fees: \$8.75 (standard 4 inch line)
Present Load: 1M (gal/day)
Capacity: 1.5M (gal/day)
Industrial Rates: Multiply .011893 (per cubic foot water)
Solid Waste Disposal Available: Yes
Hazardous Waste Disposal Available: No

Communications:

Media:

Newspapers: "Green River Star"- weekly
 "Rocket Miner"- daily
Radio Reception: Stations - KUGR (AM), KYCS (FM), KFRZ (FM)
Cable Television: Green River Cable

Communications:

Available Telephone Companies - US West
Cellular Phone Companies - Union Cellular, CommNet Cellular
Digital Switch: Yes
Fiber Optic Availability: No

Post Office:

Number - 1

Transportation:

Major Highways: US 30, Wyoming 372 and 530

Nearest Interstate: I-80, 1 mile

Railroad: Union Pacific

Trucking: Company Name/Distance to Terminal
 Consolidated Freightway/16 miles
 Edson Express/16 miles
 Zueck Transportation/16 miles

Parcel/Express Service: Federal Express/12 miles
 Pony Express/1 mile

United Parcel Service/12 miles

Nearest Airport: Rock Springs/26 miles

Runway length: 10,000 feet
Type of surface: friction, porous
Instrument Landing System: yes
Lights: yes
Tower: yes

Fixed Base Operator/ Air Taxi: yes
Fuel Available: yes
Restrooms: yes
Airlines Serving Area: United Express (serving United to DIA)
Daily Flights: four incoming, four outgoing

Bus Service: Greyhound Lines
Public Transportation: Sweetwater County Transit Authority

Hospitals/Medical Centers near Green River:

Memorial Hospital Sweetwater County (22 miles; Rock Springs, WY)
Ashley Valley Medical Center (69 miles; Vernal, UT)
South Lincoln Medical Center (71 miles; Kemmerer, WY)

Airports Certified for Carrier Operations Nearest to Green River:

Rock Springs – Sweetwater County (26 miles; Rock Springs, WY)
Riverton Regional (127 miles; Riverton, WY)
Jackson Hole (169 miles; Jackson, WY)

Other Public-Use Airports Nearest to Green River:

Greater Green River Intergalactic Spaceport (5 miles; Green River, WY)
Manila (40 miles; Manila, UT)
Dutch John (42 miles; Dutch John, UT)

Public Primary/Middle Schools in Green River:

Lincoln Middle School (Students: 333; Grades: 06 - 08)
Harrison Elementary (Students: 302; Grades: KG - 05)
Monroe Middle School (Students: 297; Grades: 06 - 08)
Truman elementary (Students: 286; Grades: KG - 05)
Jackson Elementary (Students: 252; Grades: KG - 05)
Washington Elementary (Students: 250; Grades: KG - 05)

Public High Schools in Green River:

Green River High School (Students: 979; Grades: 09 - 12)
Expedition Academy (Students: 43; Grades: 09 - 12)

Colleges/Universities with Over 2000 Students Nearest to Green River:

Utah State University (169 miles; Logan, UT; FT Enrollment: 16,384)
University of Utah (172 miles; Salt Lake City, UT; FT Enrollment: 19,866)
Weber State University (174 miles; Ogden, UT; FT Enrollment: 12,112)
Brigham Young University (176 miles; Provo, UT; FT Enrollment: 29,977)
Utah Valley State College (178 miles; Orem, UT; FT Enrollment: 14,182)
Salt Lake Community College (179 miles; Salt Lake City, UT; FT Enrollment: 11,896)
Mesa State College (180 miles; Grand Junction, CO; FT Enrollment: 4,415)
Western Wyoming Community College, Green River Campus.

Library in Green River:

Sweetwater County Library System (Operating income: \$2,528,354; 207,278 books; 12,255 audio materials; 8,172 video materials; 700 serial subscriptions)

Community Services:

1 Library, 67,552 total volumes
4 Day Care Centers
Churches: 1 Catholic, 15 Protestant, 1 Jewish, 3 Others
2 Shopping Centers
9 Hotels/Motels, 271 total rooms
1 RV Park, 53 total spaces
2 Meeting Facilities
1 Medical Center (Castle Rock Medical)
1 Nursing Home, 59 Total Rooms
5 Doctors, 2 Physician Assistants, 6 Dentists
2 Senior Housing Facilities, 104 total rooms

Recreation:

10 Baseball Fields, 10 Tennis Courts, 2 Swimming Pools
1 Golf Course (country club), 6 Soccer Fields, 1 Recreation Center
18 Parks, 1 Skate Park

AREA ATTRACTIONS

Expedition Island:

Expedition Island is a historic landmark indicating the starting point of Major John Wesley Powell's first expedition, but Expedition Island not only marks Powell's adventure. Many followed his footsteps, on a lark, or to prove some other point, such as testing a new watercraft, or, to make the first motion picture of the Powell expedition, as the famous Grand Canyon photographers, Emery and Ellsworth Kolb did in 1911. Throughout the Island are historical markers all along a paved walkway telling the stories of all the Green River adventurers.

Killpecker Sand Dunes:

About 20 miles outside of Green River City lies the Killpecker Sand Dunes, a vast, expansive landscape of 10,500 acres of soft, alabaster sand dunes, some as high as 100 feet, sharing space with white buttes, black rock formations from ancient volcanoes, and etchings of Indian petroglyphs. Herds of brown, black, and white wild mustangs in fierce gallops break the lifeless landscape while passive desert elk and antelope roam aimlessly nearby.

Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area:

About 22 miles south, Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area covers 94,308 acres of wild country reaching 91 miles from Green River into northeastern Utah. The region is

named for the impressive canyon that Major John Wesley Powell described in his famous 1869 expedition down the river.

Flaming Gorge Reservoir backs up behind a 502-foot-high concrete arch dam, completed in 1964 and located 15 miles south of the Wyoming border. The waters of the Green River back up behind this dam into a 91-mile lake that provides flood control, water storage, and irrigation for Utah farmers down stream, along with recreation for boaters, water-skiers, and anglers. Each of the dam's three enormous generators produces 50,000 kilowatts of power, electricity that powers communities and factories throughout the West. Below the dam is a renowned trout fishery and river runner's funhouse. The area attracts nearly one million visitors annually.

Seedskadee National Wildlife Refuge: 37 miles north.

Cultural Attractions: Sweetwater County Museum, Flaming Gorge Days, Overland Stage Stampede Rodeo, Baja Mountain Bike Race.

ECONOMICS

Trona Mining:

Wyoming's Green River Basin supplies 90 percent of the United States' demand for natural trona, which is refined to soda ash. Trona is used in making glass, laundry detergent, toothpaste, and baking soda. The trona mines northwest of town are among the area's largest employers, providing jobs for more than 2,800 people. Trona can be found in Africa, Turkey, China, and Mexico, but Sweetwater County is one of the few sites where the mineral is commercially mined.

Most trona here occurs in a 10-foot-thick bed some 1,500 feet underground. The mineral was deposited 50 million years ago when a saline lake developed, reaching 100 by 60 miles in size and up to 50 to 2,000 feet in depth. As the climate fluctuated, the lake periodically dried out, precipitating sodium salts. The trona deposits were first discovered in 1938, when an unsuccessful natural-gas well brought up core samples containing trona. Commercial production began in 1948.

Today the four major trona mines are the region's largest employers, producing more than 18 million tons of trona and 8 million tons of soda ash annually. The world's largest trona mine is run by FMC Corporation and has 2,000 miles of tunnels, more than all the streets of San Francisco. Its tunnels are 14 feet wide and eight feet tall, big enough to use as two-lane roads. Mining methods include a continuous mining machine that grinds out six tons of trona per minute; a long-wall process in which hydraulic rams hold the roof up as it is being mined and then allow the walls to collapse behind after the ore is removed; and solution mining, by which the trona is dissolved underground and pumped to the surface. Once at the surface, trona is processed and sent out on railroad tank cars or in 100-pound bags of soda ash. The production is staggering: at FMC's plant alone the mine extracts more than 900 tons per hour.

The Green River mineral beds are so vast they contain about 100 billion tons and could serve the world's needs for another 2,000 years. Sweetwater County was awarded the

designation “Trona Capital of the World” by former Wyoming Gov. Mike Sullivan in 1989.

GREEN RIVER DEMOGRAPHIC SUMMARY

Population

The 2003 population for Green River was 11,484. The population in 1990 was 12,384, representing a -4.65% change from 2003. It is estimated that the population in Green River will be 11,029 in 2008, representing a change of -3.96% from 2003. The population is 51.01% male and 48.99% female. In 2003, the median age of the population was 34.4, compared to the U.S. median age which was 36.1. The population density was 819.1 people per square mile.

Households

In 2003 there were 4,163 households in Green River. The Census revealed household counts of 3,986 in 1990, representing a change of 4.43%. It is estimated that the number of households will be 4,154 in 2008, representing a change of -0.22% from 2003. The average household size is 2.76 persons.

In 2003, the median number of years in residence for Green river was 4.02. The average household size was 2.75 people and the average family size was 3.12 people. The average number of vehicles per household was 2.3.

Income

The 2003 median household income in Green river was \$56,325, compared to the U.S. median which was \$45,128. The Census revealed median household incomes of \$40,765 in 1990 representing a change of 38.17%. It is estimated that the median household income will be \$63,936 in 2008, which would represent a change of 13.51% from 2003.

The 2003 per capita income was \$22,405, compared to the U.S. per capita, which was \$23,201. The 2003 average household income was \$61,601, compared to the U.S. average which was \$60,600.

Race & Ethnicity

In 2003, the racial makeup of Green River was as follows: 91.67% White; 0.34% Black; 1.23% Native American; 0.32% Asian/Pacific Islander; and 4.33% Other. Compare these to the U.S. racial makeup which was: 75.06% White; 12.30% Black; 0.88% Native American; 3.66% Asian/Pacific Islander and 5.52% Other.

People of Hispanic ethnicity are counted independently of race. People of Hispanic origin make up 10.44% of the 2003 population. Compare this to the U.S. makeup of 13.79%.

Housing

The median housing value for Green River was \$71,079 in 1990, compare this to the U.S. median of \$78,382 for the same year. The 2000 Census median housing value was

\$97,948, which is a 37.8% change from 1990. In 1990, there were 2,858 owner occupied housing units in this area versus 4,177 in 2000. Also in 1990, there were 1,130 renter occupied housing units in this area versus 981 in 2000. The average rent in 1990 was \$282 versus \$382 in 2000.

Employment

In 2003, there were 8,640 people over the age of 16 in the labor force in Green River. Of these 68.97% were employed, 3.79% were unemployed, 27.18% were not in the labor force and 0.07% were in the armed forces. In 1990, unemployment in this area was 3.67% and in 2000 it was 2.81%.

In 2003, there were 2,556 employees in this selected area (daytime population) and there were 393 establishments.

For Green River in 1990, 44.97% of employees were employed in white-collar occupations and 55.02% were employed in blue-collar occupations. In 2000, white collar workers made up 46.53% of the population, and those employed in blue collar occupations made up 53.47%. In 1990, the average time traveled to work was 15 minutes and in 2000 it was 21 minutes.

2003 Age Demographics

Population by Age									
Population	Median Age	0-13	14-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75 Plus
11,484	34.4	21.1%	18.1%	11.6%	14.8%	18.3%	9.3%	3.9%	2.9%

2003 Crime Index Report

Crime Index Total	Assault	Burglary	Larceny	Motor Vehicle Theft	Murder	Personal Crime	Property Crime	Rape	Robbery
48	64	54	116	17	40	34	62	21	9

All values are displayed as indexed numbers indexed against the U.S. index base. (U.S. Average = 100)

Green River Business Report

2003 Business Summary Estimates

Daytime Population: Total Employees	2,556
Business Counts: Total Establishments	393

Employees By Occupation	2003 Estimate	% of Total
Administrative Support Workers	446	17.47%
Construction Repair and Mining	79	3.09%
Executive Managers and Administrators	284	11.11%
Farming Forestry and Fishing	67	2.63%
Handlers Helpers and Laborers	52	2.03%
Machine Operators Assemblers and Inspectors	26	1.01%
Other Services Field Based	23	0.90%
Other Services Site Based	430	16.81%
Precision Craft and Repair	219	8.58%
Private Household Service	0	0.00%
Professional Specialty Occupations	463	18.14%
Protective Services	64	2.50%
Sales Professionals	48	1.88%
Sales Workers and Clerks	242	9.45%
Technical Sales and Administrative	4	0.17%
Technologies and Technicians	47	1.85%
Transportation and Materials Moving Workers	58	2.27%

Establishments: Size	2003 Estimate	% of Total
1-4 Employees	259	65.98%
5-9 Employees	83	21.04%
10-19 Employees	25	6.33%
20-49 Employees	17	4.27%
50-99 Employees	8	1.96%
100-249 Employees	2	0.42%
250-499 Employees	0	0.00%
500-999 Employees	0	0.00%
1,000+ Employees	0	0.00%

Major Industry: Employees	2003 Estimate	% of Total
Agricultural, Forestry, Fishing	11	0.45%
Construction	70	2.73%
Finance, Insurance And Real Estate	84	3.27%
Manufacturing	63	2.48%
Mining	19	0.73%
Public Administration	41	1.59%
Retail Trade	638	24.96%
Services	909	35.56%
Transportation and Communications	81	3.17%
Unclassified	18	0.71%
Wholesale Trade	40	1.57%

Major Industry: Establishments	2003 Estimate	% of Total
Agricultural, Forestry, Fishing	8	1.98%
Construction	20	5.05%
Finance, Insurance And Real Estate	38	9.70%
Manufacturing	5	1.32%
Mining	3	0.80%
Public Administration	55	14.08%
Retail Trade	84	21.44%
Services	140	35.66%
Transportation and Communications	19	4.85%
Unclassified	55	14.08%
Wholesale Trade	11	2.79%

Retail: Employees	2003 Estimate	% of Total
Auto Dealers and Gas Stations	21	0.84%
Bars	17	0.65%
Building Materials Hardware and Garden	2	0.09%
Catalog and Direct Sales	34	1.33%
Clothing Stores	72	2.82%
Convenience Stores	83	3.23%
Drug Stores	41	1.59%
Electronics and Computer Stores	10	0.39%
Food Markets	31	1.20%
Furniture Stores	5	0.20%
General Merchandise Stores	47	1.82%
Home Furnishings	2	0.08%
Liquor Stores	12	0.47%
Music Stores	2	0.08%
Other Food Service	206	8.05%
Other Food Stores	38	1.48%
Restaurants	6	0.23%
Specialty Stores	10	0.39%

Retail: Establishments	2003 Estimate	% of Total
Auto Dealers and Gas Stations	8	2.10%
Bars	9	2.22%
Building Materials Hardware and Garden	8	1.97%
Catalog and Direct Sales	0	0.00%
Clothing Stores	2	0.51%
Convenience Stores	6	1.59%
Drug Stores	1	0.25%
Electronics and Computer Stores	1	0.25%
Food Markets	1	0.22%

Furniture Stores	1	0.14%
General Merchandise Stores	3	0.73%
Home Furnishings	4	1.02%
Liquor Stores	3	0.76%
Music Stores	1	0.25%
Other Food Service	2	0.53%
Other Food Stores	5	1.20%
Restaurants	12	3.07%
Specialty Stores	18	4.61%

Service: Employees	2003 Estimate	% of Total
Advertising	19	0.75%
Auto Repair/Services	14	0.56%
Beauty and Barber Shops	11	0.42%
Child Care Services	1	0.02%
Colleges and Universities	341	13.36%
Computer Services	0	0.00%
Dry Cleaning and Laundry	23	0.92%
Entertainment and Recreation Services	20	0.78%
Health and Medical Services	116	4.54%
Hospitals	100	3.92%
Hotels and Lodging	60	2.36%
Legal Services	18	0.71%
Membership Organizations	30	1.18%
Miscellaneous Repair Services	44	1.72%
Motion Pictures	19	0.74%
Museums and Zoos	34	1.33%
Other Business Services	4	0.17%
Other Personal Service	35	1.37%
Primary and Secondary Education	18	0.70%
Professional Services	0	0.00%
Social Services	0	0.00%

Service: Establishments	2003 Estimate	% of Total
Advertising	0	0.00%
Auto Repair/Services	16	4.16%
Beauty and Barber Shops	13	3.41%
Child Care Services	7	1.90%
Colleges and Universities	0	0.00%
Computer Services	2	0.53%
Dry Cleaning and Laundry	5	1.24%
Entertainment and Recreation Services	8	2.04%
Health and Medical Services	14	3.58%

Hospitals	2	0.41%
Hotels and Lodging	7	1.70%
Legal Services	7	1.78%
Membership Organizations	0	0.00%
Miscellaneous Repair Services	11	2.77%
Motion Pictures	3	0.76%
Museums and Zoos	4	1.00%
Other Business Services	6	1.63%
Other Personal Service	6	1.58%
Primary and Secondary Education	10	2.55%
Professional Services	18	4.61%
Social Services	0	0.01%

Green River Consumer Expenditure Report

Consumer Expenditure Totals (Average Household Annual Expenditures)

	2003 Estimate	2008 Projection	% Change 2003-2008
Total Households	4,163	4,154	-0.20%
Total Avg Household Expenditure	\$49,511	\$53,828	8.70%
Total Avg Retail Expenditure	\$20,808	\$22,608	8.70%

Consumer Expenditure Detail (Average Household Annual Expenditures)

	2003 Estimate	% of Total	2008 Projection	% of Total	% Change 2003-2008
Airline Fares	\$340.93	0.70%	\$371.18	0.70%	8.90%
Alcoholic Beverages	\$467.78	0.90%	\$508.57	0.90%	8.70%
Alimony & Child Support	\$148.29	0.30%	\$160.76	0.30%	8.40%
Apparel	\$2,670.19	5.40%	\$2,903.77	5.40%	8.70%
Apparel Services & Accessories	\$345.96	0.70%	\$376.76	0.70%	8.90%
Audio Equipment	\$76.77	0.20%	\$83.61	0.20%	8.90%
Babysitting & Elderly Care	\$268.68	0.50%	\$292.04	0.50%	8.70%
Books	\$90.82	0.20%	\$98.80	0.20%	8.80%
Books & Supplies	\$133.79	0.30%	\$145.19	0.30%	8.50%
Boys Apparel	\$143.54	0.30%	\$155.81	0.30%	8.50%
Cellular Phone Service	\$80.41	0.20%	\$87.28	0.20%	8.50%
Cigarettes	\$411.07	0.80%	\$446.47	0.80%	8.60%

Computer Hardware	\$391.09	0.80%	\$425.09	0.80%	8.70%
Computer Information Services	\$40.06	0.10%	\$43.89	0.10%	9.60%
Computer Software	\$50.36	0.10%	\$54.73	0.10%	8.70%
Contributions	\$1,467.11	3.00%	\$1,598.89	3.00%	9.00%
Coolant & Other Fluids	\$11.52	0.00%	\$12.52	0.00%	8.70%
Cosmetics & Perfume	\$108.93	0.20%	\$118.73	0.20%	9.00%
Deodorants & Other Personal Care	\$36.37	0.10%	\$39.47	0.10%	8.50%
Education	\$846.60	1.70%	\$918.46	1.70%	8.50%
Electricity	\$1,478.57	3.00%	\$1,605.09	3.00%	8.60%
Entertainment	\$2,545.34	5.10%	\$2,769.62	5.10%	8.80%
Fees & Admissions	\$641.03	1.30%	\$698.39	1.30%	8.90%
Finance Chgs Exc Mort & Veh	\$218.92	0.40%	\$237.84	0.40%	8.60%
Floor Coverings	\$81.50	0.20%	\$89.01	0.20%	9.20%
Food & Beverages	\$8,117.61	16.40%	\$8,821.27	16.40%	8.70%
Food At Home	\$4,817.50	9.70%	\$5,230.25	9.70%	8.60%
Food Away From Home	\$2,832.33	5.70%	\$3,082.44	5.70%	8.80%
Footwear	\$489.21	1.00%	\$531.94	1.00%	8.70%
Fuel Oil & Other Fuels	\$96.22	0.20%	\$104.43	0.20%	8.50%
Funeral & Cemetery	\$118.57	0.20%	\$128.26	0.20%	8.20%
Furniture	\$487.74	1.00%	\$532.55	1.00%	9.20%
Gasoline & Oil	\$1,782.10	3.60%	\$1,940.80	3.60%	8.90%
Gifts	\$1,480.45	3.00%	\$1,609.26	3.00%	8.70%
Girls Apparel	\$174.99	0.40%	\$190.07	0.40%	8.60%
Hair Care	\$69.01	0.10%	\$74.92	0.10%	8.60%
Hard Surface Flooring	\$13.33	0.00%	\$14.46	0.00%	8.50%
Health Care	\$3,180.64	6.40%	\$3,451.90	6.40%	8.50%
Health Care Insurance	\$1,512.12	3.10%	\$1,640.31	3.00%	8.50%
Health Care Services	\$969.81	2.00%	\$1,051.48	2.00%	8.40%
Health Care Supplies & Equip	\$698.72	1.40%	\$760.12	1.40%	8.80%
Household Services	\$398.29	0.80%	\$433.17	0.80%	8.80%
Household Supplies	\$792.05	1.60%	\$866.14	1.60%	9.40%
Household Textiles	\$118.62	0.20%	\$129.23	0.20%	8.90%
Housewares & Small Appliances	\$1,043.80	2.10%	\$1,135.98	2.10%	8.80%
Indoor Plants & Fresh Flowers	\$81.81	0.20%	\$88.82	0.20%	8.60%
Infants Apparel	\$123.58	0.20%	\$134.21	0.20%	8.60%
Jewelry	\$124.54	0.30%	\$135.92	0.30%	9.10%
Legal & Accounting	\$108.17	0.20%	\$117.76	0.20%	8.90%
Magazines	\$55.40	0.10%	\$60.20	0.10%	8.70%
Major Appliances	\$224.96	0.50%	\$245.17	0.50%	9.00%
Mass Transit	\$103.14	0.20%	\$112.29	0.20%	8.90%
Men's Apparel	\$499.26	1.00%	\$542.83	1.00%	8.70%
Mortgage Interest	\$2,965.99	6.00%	\$3,231.27	6.00%	8.90%
Natural Gas	\$459.19	0.90%	\$498.50	0.90%	8.60%

New Car Purchased	\$1,240.25	2.50%	\$1,345.56	2.50%	8.50%
New Truck Purchased	\$941.49	1.90%	\$1,022.33	1.90%	8.60%
New Vehicle Purchase	\$2,181.74	4.40%	\$2,367.89	4.40%	8.50%
Newspapers	\$115.02	0.20%	\$124.90	0.20%	8.60%
Oral Hygiene Products	\$32.69	0.10%	\$35.49	0.10%	8.60%
Other Lodging	\$889.99	1.80%	\$959.35	1.80%	7.80%
Other Miscellaneous Expenses	\$111.18	0.20%	\$120.85	0.20%	8.70%
Other Repairs & Maintenance	\$101.80	0.20%	\$110.60	0.20%	8.60%
Other Tobacco Products	\$43.96	0.10%	\$47.80	0.10%	8.70%
Other Transportation Costs	\$827.99	1.70%	\$899.15	1.70%	8.60%
Other Utilities	\$403.13	0.80%	\$439.03	0.80%	8.90%
Paint & Wallpaper	\$49.53	0.10%	\$53.96	0.10%	8.90%
Personal Care Products	\$192.68	0.40%	\$209.66	0.40%	8.80%
Personal Care Services	\$532.58	1.10%	\$579.78	1.10%	8.90%
Personal Insurance	\$574.47	1.20%	\$625.54	1.20%	8.90%
Pet Supplies & Services	\$274.07	0.60%	\$297.96	0.60%	8.70%
Photographic Equip & Supplies	\$124.20	0.30%	\$135.13	0.30%	8.80%
Plumbing & Heating	\$63.35	0.10%	\$68.95	0.10%	8.80%
Property Taxes	\$506.98	1.00%	\$549.86	1.00%	8.50%
Public Transportation	\$534.39	1.10%	\$581.73	1.10%	8.90%
Records/Tapes/CD Purchases	\$129.31	0.30%	\$140.52	0.30%	0.00%
Recreational Equip & Supplies	\$959.78	1.90%	\$1,044.90	1.90%	8.90%
Rental Costs	\$3,660.05	7.40%	\$3,974.14	7.40%	8.60%
Roofing & Siding	\$80.76	0.20%	\$87.64	0.20%	8.50%
Satellite Dishes	\$7.99	0.00%	\$8.73	0.00%	9.30%
Shaving Needs	\$14.70	0.00%	\$15.97	0.00%	8.70%
Shelter	\$8,846.79	17.90%	\$9,610.78	17.90%	8.60%
Telephone Svc Excl Cell	\$1,259.82	2.50%	\$1,369.10	2.50%	8.70%
Televisions	\$111.80	0.20%	\$121.61	0.20%	8.80%
Transportation	\$10,357.61	20.90%	\$11,267.04	20.90%	8.80%
Tuition	\$712.80	1.40%	\$773.27	1.40%	8.50%
Used Car Purchase	\$1,474.47	3.00%	\$1,608.84	3.00%	9.10%
Used Truck Purchase	\$850.93	1.70%	\$926.51	1.70%	8.90%
Used Vehicle Purchase	\$2,325.40	4.70%	\$2,535.35	4.70%	9.00%
VCRs & Related Equipment	\$49.85	0.10%	\$54.19	0.10%	8.70%
Vehicle Insurance	\$1,157.50	2.30%	\$1,260.05	2.30%	8.90%
Vehicle Repair	\$1,126.21	2.30%	\$1,223.03	2.30%	8.60%
Vehicle Repair & Maintenance	\$1,137.72	2.30%	\$1,235.55	2.30%	8.60%
Video & Audio Equipment	\$944.54	1.90%	\$1,026.33	1.90%	8.70%
Video Game Hardware/ Software	\$31.84	0.10%	\$34.55	0.10%	8.50%
Watches	\$24.68	0.00%	\$26.94	0.10%	9.20%
Women's Apparel	\$893.65	1.80%	\$972.15	1.80%	8.80%



Sweetwater County Profile

Population

The 2003 population for Sweetwater County is 37,006. The population in 1990 it was 38,823 representing a -3.12% change from 2003. It is estimated that the population will be 36,085 in 2008, representing a change of -2.49% from 2003. The population is 50.67% male and 49.33% female. In 2003, the median age of the population in this area was 34.8, compared to the U.S. median age which was 36.1. The population density was 3.5 people per square mile.

Households

In 2003 there were 14,237 households in Sweetwater County. The Census revealed household counts of 13,616 in 1990, representing a change of 4.56%. It is estimated that the number of households will be 14,439 in 2008, representing a change of 1.42% from 2003. The average household size is 2.60 persons.

In 2003, the median number of years in residence in Sweetwater County was 3.28. The average household size was 2.56 people and the average family size was 3.02 people. The average number of vehicles per household was 2.1.

Income

The 2003 median household income in Sweetwater County was \$49,866, compared to the US median which was \$45,128. The Census revealed median household incomes of \$36,765 in 1990 representing a change of 35.64%. It is estimated that the median household income will be \$55,604 in 2008, which would represent a change of 11.51% from 2003.

The 2003 per capita income was \$21,482, compared to the U.S. per capita, which was \$23,201. The 2003 average household income was \$55,377, compared to the U.S. average which was \$60,600. The Annual Cost of Living for Sweetwater County is slightly below the average among Wyoming counties.

Race & Ethnicity

In 2003, the racial makeup of this selected area was as follows: 91.59% White; 0.73% Black; 1.01% Native American; 0.64% Asian/Pacific Islander; and 3.61% Other.

Compare these to the US racial makeup which was: 75.06% White, 12.30% Black, 0.88% Native American, 3.66% Asian/Pacific Islander and 5.52% Other.

People of Hispanic ethnicity are counted independently of race. People of Hispanic origin make up 9.58% of the 2003 population. Compare this to the US makeup of 13.79%.

Housing

The median housing value for Sweetwater County was \$70,905 in 1990, compare this to the U.S. median of \$78,382 for the same year. The 2000 Census median housing value was \$92,993, which is a 31.2% change from 1990. In 1990, there were 9,552 owner occupied housing units in this area versus 14,105 in 2000. Also in 1990, there were 4,065 renter occupied housing units in this area versus 3,519 in 2000. The average rent in 1990 was \$279 versus \$355 in 2000.

Employment

In 2003, there were 28,517 people over the age of 16 in the labor force in Sweetwater County. Of these 66.40% were employed, 4.04% were unemployed, 29.45% were not in the labor force and 0.12% were in the armed forces. In 1990, unemployment in this area was 3.63% and in 2000 it was 4.03%.

In 2003, there were 16,348 employees in this selected area (daytime population) and there were 2,031 establishments.

For this area in 1990, 44.96% of employees were employed in white-collar occupations and 55.03% were employed in blue-collar occupations. In 2000, white collar workers made up 47.11% of the population, and those employed in blue collar occupations made up 52.89%. In 1990, the average time traveled to work was 14 minutes and in 2000 it was 15 minutes.

2003 Age Demographics

Population by Age									
Population	Median Age	0-13	14-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75 Plus
37,006	34.8	19.7%	18.5%	12.1%	14.4%	17.0%	9.8%	4.7%	3.8%

2003 Crime Index Report

Crime Index Total	Assault	Burglary	Larceny	Motor Vehicle Theft	Murder	Personal Crime	Property Crime	Rape	Robbery
75	96	81	150	38	59	59	90	72	11

All values are displayed as indexed numbers indexed against the U.S. index base. (U.S. Average = 100)

COUNTY EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS	
Employment (2003 average)	20,572
Labor Force (2003 average)	21,267
Unemployment (2003 average)	695
Unemployment Rate (2003 average)	3.3%

Source: State of Wyoming, Department of Employment, Research & Planning (Data as of Oct 2003)

FULL TIME AND PART TIME EMPLOYMENT	2001
Wage and salary	21,065
Proprietors	3,739
Farm	202
Forestry, fishing, related activities	(D)
Mining	(D)
Utilities	(D)
Construction	1,831
Manufacturing	1,394
Wholesale trade	(D)
Retail Trade	3,032
Transportation and warehousing	1,070
Information	263
Finance and insurance	603
Real estate and rental and leasing	729
Professional and technical services	665
Management of companies and enterprises	83
Administrative and waste services	811
Educational services	1,143
Health care and social assistance	309
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	2,169
Accommodation and food services	1,050
Other services, except public administration	4,268
Government and government enterprises	
TOTAL	24,804

(D) - not shown to avoid disclosure of confidential information.

Source: U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), Regional Economic Information System

EARNINGS (000s of \$):	2001
Wage and salary	\$750,902
Proprietors	\$68,715
Other Labor Income	\$82,037

Farm	\$837
Forestry, fishing, related activities	(D)
Mining	(D)
Utilities	(D)
Construction	\$73,664
Manufacturing	\$102,106
Wholesale trade	(D)
Retail Trade	\$50,587
Transportation and warehousing	\$49,070
Information	\$6,628
Finance and insurance	\$14,215
Real estate and rental and leasing	\$11,383
Professional and technical services	\$18,633
Management of companies and enterprises	\$4,410
Administrative and waste services	\$18,318
Educational services	\$573
Health care and social assistance	\$27,738
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	\$3,026
Accommodation and food services	\$30,337
Other services, except public administration	\$19,169
Government and government enterprises	\$137,549
TOTAL	\$901,654

Sweetwater County's Top Employers (2000)

Company	Product	Employees
FMC Wyoming Corporation	Soda Ash	1,076
Sweetwater County School District #1	Education	860
General Chemical Company	Soda Ash	616
Sweetwater County School District #2	Education	502
OCI Wyoming	Soda Ash	486
Jim Bridger Power Plant	Electricity	455
Solvay Minerals	Soda Ash	410
Bridger Coal Company	Coal	388
Sweetwater County Memorial Hospital	Medical Care	350
TG Soda Ash, Inc.	Soda Ash	337
Western Wyoming Community College	Education	300
City of Rock Springs	Government	285
Little America	Restaruant/Hotel	220
Exxon Company, USA	Natural Gas	200
Black Butte Coal Company	Coal	200
Church & Dwight	Baking soda	193
Union Pacific Railroad	Railroad	181
SF Phosphates	Fertilizers	181
Questar Pipeline Company	Natural Gas	175
Halliburton Oilfield Services	Oilfield Services	125

City of Green River	Government	101
Wyoming Dept. Of Transportation	Transportation	100

SALES TAX COLLECTIONS	FISCAL 99	FISCAL 00	FISCAL 01	FISCAL 02	FISCAL 03
Agriculture	\$38,585	\$34,151	\$33,784	\$44,140	\$200,157
Mining	\$3,251,826	\$3,514,019	\$5,845,055	\$7,485,170	\$6,992,707
Construction	\$1,261,192	\$1,109,073	\$1,036,678	\$994,680	\$1,077,937
Manufacturing	\$3,016,567	\$2,916,180	\$2,620,677	\$2,843,594	\$2,721,500
Transportation (TCPU)	\$2,683,025	\$3,753,099	\$3,261,438	\$3,781,735	\$4,034,353
Wholesale Trade	\$5,501,807	\$5,449,483	\$6,891,791	\$7,337,188	\$7,102,863
Retail Trade	\$14,202,478	\$14,551,772	\$14,926,937	\$16,373,747	\$17,543,954
Finance (FIRE)	\$116,255	\$128,403	\$110,757	\$67,003	\$50,670
Service	\$5,639,548	\$5,907,808	\$6,939,877	\$8,558,501	\$8,481,943
Government	\$3,305,059	\$3,179,955	\$3,558,972	\$3,594,683	\$3,935,668
TOTAL	\$39,016,342	\$40,543,944	\$45,225,966	\$51,080,441	\$52,141,752

Source: State of Wyoming, Department of Revenue

COUNTY FINANCE	
Assessed Valuation (FY2002)	
<u>\$1,404,271,421</u>	
Total Taxes Levied (FY2002)	\$93,192,391
Sales and Use Tax Distribution (FY2002)	\$26,021,006
Bank Deposits (12/31/2002)	\$343,012,000
FY2002 Average County Levy (mills)	66.364

Source: State of Wyoming, Department of Revenue, Audit Department/Banking Division

LANDOWNERS	Acres	Square Miles
United States Government		
National Park Service	0	0.0
Forest Service	93,276	145.7
Fish and Wildlife	25,291	39.5
Bureau of Land Mgt.	4,304,983	6,726.5
Bureau of Reclamation	200,250	312.9
Wyoming		
State Lands Comm.	212,095	280.2
Recreation Comm.	25	0.0
Game and Fish	35,395	55.3
Local Govt.		
County	1,483	2.3
City	4,110	6.4
School Dist. & Colleges	910	1.4
Other Lands	4,852,849	7,582.6
Total Public	1,880,085	2,906.4
Total Private	43,546	68.0
Surface Water	8,705,792	10,477.8

SELECTED STATISTICS: SCHOOL YEAR 2001 - 2002

Number of School Districts	2
Number of Schools	31
Wyoming Fall Enrollment, 2001	7,175
High School Graduates, 2002	482
Average Daily Membership (ADM)	7,098
Average Daily Attendance (ADA)	6,627
Certified Teachers	531
Certified Staff	113
Classified Staff	454
Administration	41
Students Transported Daily	2,494
Bonded Indebtedness, 6/30/2002	\$24,015,000
Total General Fund Revenues	\$61,040,992
Total General Fund Expenditures	\$61,087,077
Operating Cost Per ADM	\$9,917

Business Summary Report

2003 Business Summary Estimates

Daytime Population: Total Employees	16,348
Business Counts: Total Establishments	2,031

Employees By Occupation	2003 Estimate	% of Total
Administrative Support Workers	2,749	16.82%
Construction Repair and Mining	763	4.67%
Executive Managers and Administrators	1,686	10.31%
Farming Forestry and Fishing	437	2.67%
Handlers Helpers and Laborers	441	2.70%
Machine Operators Assemblers and Inspectors	262	1.60%
Other Services Field Based	134	0.82%
Other Services Site Based	2,765	16.91%
Precision Craft and Repair	1,453	8.89%
Private Household Service	0	0.00%
Professional Specialty Occupations	2,417	14.78%
Protective Services	224	1.37%
Sales Professionals	349	2.13%
Sales Workers and Clerks	1,579	9.66%
Technical Sales and Administrative	52	0.32%
Technologies and Technicians	420	2.57%
Transportation and Materials Moving Workers	516	3.16%

Establishments: Size	2003 Estimate	% of Total
1-4 Employees	1,298	63.91%
5-9 Employees	388	19.10%
10-19 Employees	173	8.52%
20-49 Employees	118	5.81%
50-99 Employees	38	1.87%
100-249 Employees	12	0.59%
250-499 Employees	4	0.20%
500-999 Employees	0	0.00%
1,000+ Employees	0	0.00%

Major Industry: Employees	2003 Estimate	% of Total
Agricultural, Forestry, Fishing	79	0.48%
Construction	1,500	9.18%
Finance, Insurance And Real Estate	531	3.25%
Manufacturing	1,054	6.45%
Mining	68	0.42%
Public Administration	232	1.42%
Retail Trade	3,965	24.25%
Services	5,923	36.23%
Transportation and Communications	898	5.49%

Unclassified	238	1.46%
Wholesale Trade	518	3.17%

Major Industry: Establishments	2003 Estimate	% of Total
Agricultural, Forestry, Fishing	23	1.13%
Construction	140	6.89%
Finance, Insurance And Real Estate	181	8.91%
Manufacturing	43	2.12%
Mining	66	3.25%
Public Administration	148	7.29%
Retail Trade	418	20.58%
Services	695	34.22%
Transportation and Communications	106	5.22%
Unclassified	149	7.34%
Wholesale Trade	110	5.42%

Retail: Employees	2003 Estimate	% of Total
Auto Dealers and Gas Stations	70	0.43%
Bars	82	0.50%
Building Materials Hardware and Garden	202	1.24%
Catalog and Direct Sales	297	1.82%
Clothing Stores	517	3.16%
Convenience Stores	284	1.74%
Drug Stores	137	0.84%
Electronics and Computer Stores	53	0.32%
Food Markets	386	2.36%
Furniture Stores	94	0.57%
General Merchandise Stores	228	1.39%
Home Furnishings	36	0.22%
Liquor Stores	49	0.30%
Music Stores	31	0.19%
Other Food Service	1,207	7.38%
Other Food Stores	196	1.20%
Restaurants	12	0.07%
Specialty Stores	84	0.51%

Retail: Establishments	2003 Estimate	% of Total
Auto Dealers and Gas Stations	61	3.00%
Bars	28	1.38%
Building Materials Hardware and Garden	37	1.82%
Catalog and Direct Sales	2	0.10%

Clothing Stores	21	1.03%
Convenience Stores	23	1.13%
Drug Stores	7	0.34%
Electronics and Computer Stores	9	0.44%
Food Markets	4	0.20%
Furniture Stores	6	0.30%
General Merchandise Stores	12	0.59%
Home Furnishings	13	0.64%
Liquor Stores	7	0.34%
Music Stores	3	0.15%
Other Food Service	7	0.34%
Other Food Stores	19	0.94%
Restaurants	63	3.10%
Specialty Stores	96	4.73%

Service: Employees	2003 Estimate	% of Total
Advertising	116	0.71%
Auto Repair/Services	201	1.23%
Beauty and Barber Shops	39	0.24%
Child Care Services	58	0.35%
Colleges and Universities	1,123	6.87%
Computer Services	20	0.12%
Dry Cleaning and Laundry	677	4.14%
Entertainment and Recreation Services	95	0.58%
Health and Medical Services	344	2.10%
Hospitals	529	3.24%
Hotels and Lodging	223	1.36%
Legal Services	643	3.93%
Membership Organizations	85	0.52%
Miscellaneous Repair Services	413	2.53%
Motion Pictures	108	0.66%
Museums and Zoos	672	4.11%
Other Business Services	19	0.12%
Other Personal Service	106	0.65%
Primary and Secondary Education	102	0.62%
Professional Services	0	0.00%
Social Services	350	2.14%

Service: Establishments	2003 Estimate	% of Total
Advertising	5	0.25%
Auto Repair/Services	81	3.99%

Beauty and Barber Shops	37	1.82%
Child Care Services	59	2.90%
Colleges and Universities	1	0.05%
Computer Services	7	0.34%
Dry Cleaning and Laundry	12	0.59%
Entertainment and Recreation Services	35	1.72%
Health and Medical Services	106	5.22%
Hospitals	14	0.69%
Hotels and Lodging	35	1.72%
Legal Services	36	1.77%
Membership Organizations	0	0.00%
Miscellaneous Repair Services	40	1.97%
Motion Pictures	10	0.49%
Museums and Zoos	13	0.64%
Other Business Services	54	2.66%
Other Personal Service	30	1.48%
Primary and Secondary Education	32	1.58%
Professional Services	83	4.09%
Social Services	5	0.25%

Sweetwater County Consumer Expenditure Report

Consumer Expenditure Totals (Average Household Annual Expenditures)

	2003 Estimate	2008 Projection	% Change 2003-2008
Total Households	14,237	14,439	1.40%
Total Avg Household Expenditure	\$46,034	\$49,798	8.20%
Total Avg Retail Expenditure	\$19,355	\$20,923	8.10%

Consumer Expenditure Detail (Average Household Annual Expenditures)

	2003 Estimate	% of Total	2008 Projection	% of Total	% Change 2003-2008
Airline Fares	\$316.07	0.70%	\$342.36	0.70%	8.30%
Alcoholic Beverages	\$436.56	0.90%	\$472.25	0.90%	8.20%
Alimony & Child Support	\$139.35	0.30%	\$150.32	0.30%	7.90%
Apparel	\$2,484.76	5.40%	\$2,688.55	5.40%	8.20%
Apparel Services & Accessories	\$320.47	0.70%	\$347.30	0.70%	8.40%
Audio Equipment	\$70.94	0.20%	\$76.92	0.20%	8.40%

Babysitting & Elderly Care	\$248.39	0.50%	\$268.65	0.50%	8.20%
Books	\$84.64	0.20%	\$91.63	0.20%	8.30%
Books & Supplies	\$124.89	0.30%	\$134.86	0.30%	8.00%
Boys Apparel	\$133.26	0.30%	\$143.92	0.30%	8.00%
Cellular Phone Service	\$75.15	0.20%	\$81.17	0.20%	8.00%
Cigarettes	\$382.56	0.80%	\$413.48	0.80%	8.10%
Computer Hardware	\$364.93	0.80%	\$394.76	0.80%	8.20%
Computer Information Services	\$37.14	0.10%	\$40.41	0.10%	8.80%
Computer Software	\$46.85	0.10%	\$50.66	0.10%	8.10%
Contributions	\$1,365.30	3.00%	\$1,480.64	3.00%	8.40%
Coolant & Other Fluids	\$10.72	0.00%	\$11.59	0.00%	8.10%
Cosmetics & Perfume	\$101.09	0.20%	\$109.64	0.20%	8.50%
Deodorants & Other Personal Care	\$33.98	0.10%	\$36.70	0.10%	8.00%
Education	\$791.56	1.70%	\$854.40	1.70%	7.90%
Electricity	\$1,377.70	3.00%	\$1,487.93	3.00%	8.00%
Entertainment	\$2,364.68	5.10%	\$2,560.14	5.10%	8.30%
Fees & Admissions	\$594.82	1.30%	\$644.74	1.30%	8.40%
Finance Chgs Exc Mort & Veh	\$204.15	0.40%	\$220.71	0.40%	8.10%
Floor Coverings	\$75.50	0.20%	\$82.00	0.20%	8.60%
Food & Beverages	\$7,545.96	16.40%	\$8,159.22	16.40%	8.10%
Food At Home	\$4,481.33	9.70%	\$4,841.19	9.70%	8.00%
Food Away From Home	\$2,628.07	5.70%	\$2,845.78	5.70%	8.30%
Footwear	\$455.88	1.00%	\$493.21	1.00%	8.20%
Fuel Oil & Other Fuels	\$89.28	0.20%	\$96.40	0.20%	8.00%
Funeral & Cemetery	\$112.06	0.20%	\$120.63	0.20%	7.60%
Furniture	\$451.29	1.00%	\$490.25	1.00%	8.60%
Gasoline & Oil	\$1,648.90	3.60%	\$1,786.94	3.60%	8.40%
Gifts	\$1,380.19	3.00%	\$1,492.77	3.00%	8.20%
Girls Apparel	\$161.84	0.40%	\$174.88	0.40%	8.10%
Hair Care	\$64.41	0.10%	\$69.58	0.10%	8.00%
Hard Surface Flooring	\$12.41	0.00%	\$13.39	0.00%	7.90%
Health Care	\$2,971.11	6.50%	\$3,208.55	6.40%	8.00%
Health Care Insurance	\$1,413.92	3.10%	\$1,525.94	3.10%	7.90%
Health Care Services	\$906.27	2.00%	\$977.82	2.00%	7.90%
Health Care Supplies & Equip	\$650.92	1.40%	\$704.79	1.40%	8.30%
Household Services	\$370.94	0.80%	\$401.54	0.80%	8.20%
Household Supplies	\$730.12	1.60%	\$794.56	1.60%	8.80%
Household Textiles	\$110.67	0.20%	\$119.95	0.20%	8.40%
Housewares & Small App	\$970.80	2.10%	\$1,051.31	2.10%	8.30%
Indoor Plants & Fresh Flowers	\$75.58	0.20%	\$81.66	0.20%	8.00%
Infants Apparel	\$115.08	0.30%	\$124.34	0.20%	8.00%
Jewelry	\$114.85	0.20%	\$124.76	0.30%	8.60%
Legal & Accounting	\$100.60	0.20%	\$108.93	0.20%	8.30%

Magazines	\$51.75	0.10%	\$55.96	0.10%	8.10%
Major Appliances	\$208.24	0.50%	\$225.71	0.50%	8.40%
Mass Transit	\$95.67	0.20%	\$103.61	0.20%	8.30%
Men's Apparel	\$465.48	1.00%	\$503.55	1.00%	8.20%
Mortgage Interest	\$2,747.72	6.00%	\$2,978.59	6.00%	8.40%
Natural Gas	\$427.98	0.90%	\$462.24	0.90%	8.00%
New Car Purchased	\$1,158.45	2.50%	\$1,250.99	2.50%	8.00%
New Truck Purchased	\$879.19	1.90%	\$949.93	1.90%	8.00%
New Vehicle Purchase	\$2,037.64	4.40%	\$2,200.92	4.40%	8.00%
Newspapers	\$107.34	0.20%	\$115.98	0.20%	8.00%
Oral Hygiene Products	\$30.47	0.10%	\$32.92	0.10%	8.00%
Other Lodging	\$807.78	1.80%	\$864.58	1.70%	7.00%
Other Miscellaneous Expenses	\$103.73	0.20%	\$112.19	0.20%	8.20%
Other Repairs & Maintenance	\$94.47	0.20%	\$102.06	0.20%	8.00%
Other Tobacco Products	\$40.92	0.10%	\$44.27	0.10%	8.20%
Other Transportation Costs	\$771.52	1.70%	\$833.84	1.70%	8.10%
Other Utilities	\$375.52	0.80%	\$406.62	0.80%	8.30%
Paint & Wallpaper	\$46.04	0.10%	\$49.89	0.10%	8.40%
Personal Care Products	\$179.22	0.40%	\$194.05	0.40%	8.30%
Personal Care Services	\$495.91	1.10%	\$537.11	1.10%	8.30%
Personal Insurance	\$533.32	1.20%	\$577.59	1.20%	8.30%
Pet Supplies & Services	\$254.83	0.60%	\$275.72	0.60%	8.20%
Photographic Equip & Supplies	\$115.25	0.30%	\$124.77	0.30%	8.30%
Plumbing & Heating	\$58.50	0.10%	\$63.36	0.10%	8.30%
Property Taxes	\$460.84	1.00%	\$498.49	1.00%	8.20%
Public Transportation	\$495.81	1.10%	\$536.93	1.10%	8.30%
Records/Tapes/CD Purchases	\$120.65	0.30%	\$130.46	0.30%	0.00%
Recreational Equip & Supplies	\$890.09	1.90%	\$964.12	1.90%	8.30%
Rental Costs	\$3,428.81	7.40%	\$3,703.94	7.40%	8.00%
Roofing & Siding	\$75.22	0.20%	\$81.24	0.20%	8.00%
Satellite Dishes	\$7.47	0.00%	\$8.12	0.00%	8.70%
Shaving Needs	\$13.68	0.00%	\$14.79	0.00%	8.10%
Shelter	\$8,210.88	17.80%	\$8,874.44	17.80%	8.10%
Telephone Svc Excl Cell	\$1,173.70	2.50%	\$1,269.26	2.50%	8.10%
Televisions	\$103.69	0.20%	\$112.26	0.20%	8.30%
Transportation	\$9,619.65	20.90%	\$10,412.92	20.90%	8.20%
Tuition	\$666.67	1.40%	\$719.54	1.40%	7.90%
Used Car Purchase	\$1,364.19	3.00%	\$1,481.13	3.00%	8.60%
Used Truck Purchase	\$786.31	1.70%	\$851.80	1.70%	8.30%
Used Vehicle Purchase	\$2,150.50	4.70%	\$2,332.93	4.70%	8.50%
VCRs & Related Equipment	\$46.35	0.10%	\$50.14	0.10%	8.20%
Vehicle Insurance	\$1,074.28	2.30%	\$1,163.54	2.30%	8.30%
Vehicle Repair	\$1,049.34	2.30%	\$1,133.93	2.30%	8.10%

Green River, Wyoming Assessment Report

Vehicle Repair & Maintenance	\$1,060.06	2.30%	\$1,145.52	2.30%	8.10%
Video & Audio Equipment	\$879.77	1.90%	\$951.28	1.90%	8.10%
Video Game Hardware/Software	\$29.76	0.10%	\$32.13	0.10%	8.00%
Watches	\$22.78	0.00%	\$24.73	0.00%	8.60%
Women's Apparel	\$832.75	1.80%	\$901.35	1.80%	8.20%

Green River Community Assessment Schedule

Monday February 2, 2004

11:30 am to 1:00	Lunch with local Team	Sage Creek Bagel
1:30 to 4:00	Green River tour	
6:00	Working Dinner	Pizza Hut

Tuesday February 3, 2004

6:30 am to 7:30 am	Breakfast	Buckaroos
7:30	Travel	<i>City Hall</i>
8:00 to 8:50	Retail	
9:00 am to 9:50 am	Law Enforcement	
10:00 to 10:15	Break	
10:15 to 11:05	Tourism	
11:15	Depart for Senior Center	
11:30 to 12:50	Lunch at Senior Center	
1:00 pm	<i>travel to Library</i>	
1:15	Review morning session	
2:00 to 2:50	Business	
3:00 to 3:50	Utilities and Construction	
4:00 to 4:15	Break	
4:15 to 5:05	Industry	
5:15 to 6:05	Agriculture	
7:00	dinner	Denalis

Wednesday February 4, 2004

6:30 to 7:30	Breakfast	Clearview
7:30	<i>Travel to Rec Center</i>	
8:00 am to 8:50	Banking and Financial Planners	
9:00 to 9:50	Non-profits, civic and churches	
10:00 to 10:15	Break	
11:15 to 12:05	Social Service Providers	
12:15	Travel to Lunch	
12:30 to 1:45	Lunch	Krazy Moose
1:45 to 2:00	<i>travel to High School</i>	
2:00 to 2:50	Youth	
3:00 to 3:50	City government	
4:00 to 4:50	Educators	
5:00 to 5:15	break	
5:20 to 6:00	Parents	

6:15 Dinner Don Pedros
7:30 General Session for public *WWCC/GR Center*

Thursday February 5, 2004

6:30 Breakfast Penny's Diner
7:30 *Travel to Fire Station #2*
8:00 to 8:50 County Government
9:00 to 9:50 Emergency Services
10:00 Break and travel to *Island Pavilion*
10:30 to 11:10 Healthcare Providers
11:20 to 12:00 Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development
12:00 Travel and Lunch *City Hall (from Mia Casita)*
1:30 to 2:10 Federal Agencies
2:15 to 6:50 Team Preparation and working dinner at *City Hall (China Garden)*
7:00 Town Meeting

WHAT WE HEARD FROM WHAT WAS SAID

After listening to the citizens of Green River the Resource Team reviewed what was said and condensed the comments down to a few basic statements that are defined as major themes. These themes are in no particular order or priority.

Green River Major Themes

Economic Development:

Grocery Store
Movie Theater
Support Existing Businesses
Diversity of Economy
Jobs for Returning Adults
Multi-Use Indoor Arena
Lack of Direction/Image
Benefits of I-80 and Railroad
Hotel/Motel Convention Center
Restaurants

Beautification:

Continue Urban Renewal
City Ordinances
Continue Enhancement of the Greenbelt
and River

History:

Expedition Island
Union Pacific

Natural Resources/Tourism:

Rock Formations
River/Whitewater Park
Wild Horses
Flaming Gorge
Trona Mines
Recreation Opportunities
Golf Course

Infrastructure:

Second Bridge
Access Road to Rock Springs
Water
Sewer
Communication

Services:

Medical
Educational
Seniors
Social Services
Great Fire/EMT Staff

RESOURCE TEAM MEMBER REPORTS

Jennifer Bailey

Wyoming Department of Agriculture/Wyoming Rural Development Council
2219 Carey Ave.
Cheyenne, WY 82002
307-777-7180
jbaile@state.wy.us

Introduction: After years of driving past Green River along the interstate, I was pleasantly surprised to drive into Green River itself and find so many riches in the community. Green River is rich in its surroundings, including the river running through town, the glorious rock formations, and recreation areas including Flaming Gorge, the timeless wild horse herds, and rich sense of history.

Green River is also rich in its overall wage base of employees in the trona mines and oil fields, resulting in a high demand for quality housing. Small town, owner-run shops and services displayed obvious pride in their business and their community.

We heard wonderful reviews of the school staff and facilities, the fire and ambulance staff, and the efforts of the Chamber of Commerce. Where so many Wyoming communities struggle to meet a goal of having a recreation center, Green River has had a high-quality recreation center for approximately twenty years!

I heard so many times the comparison between Rock Springs and Green River, however the comment was frequently made that Green River did not want the same kind of “large community” problems and safety concerns that Rock Springs experienced. Green River citizens expressed their feelings of security in knowing their neighbors and, in this modern day, the rare ability to comfortably send their children outside to play.

The primary challenge presented in listening sessions centered around the community’s “land-locked” problems with expansion, both for housing and business needs. This challenge trickled down into so many other areas of concern, such as the lack of a grocery store, lack of industrial business, the need for more job diversification and more restaurants, and the desire for a hotel and convention center.

Green River has already taken so many positive steps to improve itself. The team was impressed by the urban renewal efforts underway, the focus on history to draw tourists off the interstate, the exciting possibilities already being realized with the White Water Park, and the community-wide desire for an image and direction. We extend our thanks to our community hosts, local government for taking the time to meet with us and give us insight, the hospitality of shop owners we visited, and Green River’s residents for sharing their thoughts and hopes for the future.

Theme: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Challenge: MULTI-USE INDOOR ARENA: The city-organized horse boarding sheds were very surprising to see located in the heart of town, down on the river. For a community the size of Green River to have such a large population of horse owners, it shows a strong interest in equine-related recreation. The team was told that there is a waiting list of people to get their horses into the owner-maintained boarding facility. Based on Green River's land-lock problem, it is difficult for community residents to purchase land on which to live and have their horses, so it appears boarding is the only option for local horse owners. We heard that there is a small riding arena, however it is not enclosed for winter use. Many residents spoke of the desire for a multi-use indoor arena, not only for the equine community, but for livestock 4-H and FFA interests, as well as special-interest shows including gun shows, car shows, archery competitions, etc. Boarding available at the arena would help alleviate the wait to get into the city's existing facilities.

Solution: In researching the area need for such a facility, it does appear that Rock Springs is in the process of expanding their capabilities for hosting equine and other events by constructing an additional multi-purpose facility at the Sweetwater Events Complex. Below is information found regarding the new 145,000 square foot multipurpose building according to their website:

“The Sweetwater Events Complex Board of Trustees will be seeking voter approval for the funding of improvements and additions to the Sweetwater County Events Complex. The Board will seek voter approval for a temporary 1/2-cent capital facility sales tax to fund the project. Following approval from the County Commissioners and a majority of the incorporated municipalities in the county, the funding issue will be placed before the voters in August of 2004. “The new multipurpose building will include overall seating for approximately 7500, a 50,000 to 60,000 square foot arena floor, convention-type meeting rooms, and food and restroom areas. The building will be designed to accommodate portable type flooring to meet a variety of recreational and sporting type activities. “Overall projected cost will be \$23.8 million. If approved, the cost of the project will be collected through a ½ cent capital facility sales tax. Maintenance and operational cost are projected to be absorbed through building revenues resulting in no additional funding from the County mill levy. “The multipurpose building and convention center will be used for trade shows; local, state, and regional sporting events; concerts; indoor motor sports activities; conventions; commencement ceremonies for high school and colleges; cultural events; state and regional meetings and gatherings; livestock and rodeo activities; and seasonal home and craft shows.”

Before Green River begins any planning for their own multi-purpose indoor arena, it would be wise to wait and see if the ½ cent capital facilities sales tax is approved by voters in August, as the additional building could greatly affect Sweetwater County's demand for indoor riding/events arenas.

Resources: For more information about the Sweetwater Events Complex addition:
(307) 352-6789 or (307) 872-6348
via email at: lloyd@sweetwaterevents.com
or visit their website at www.sweetwaterevents.com.

Theme: NATURAL RESOURCES / TOURISM

Challenge: It is easy to see a great visitor draw in the area's wild horses. Prior to my visit, I had no idea I could see wild horses in the Green River area. The "Wild Horse Loop" tour Green River has worked on is a great step in realizing the potential of interest in seeing the herds. One problem is the access to the loop tour. Much like the problem of directing people through housing areas to the local grocery store, directing tourists through residential areas to the tour area can be daunting. When the team visited Green River, we could not come close to accessing the herd areas due to snow and ice on the roads.

Solution: Painting the horse shoes onto the pavement was an innovative solution to the problem; however an alternative access, perhaps including business opportunities for gas stations and restaurants, would be a more effective draw for tourists. Improving off-season access to the area would be another step in the right direction, maybe paving the road and maintaining the snow removal up to a good lookout area for watching the herds. Signage is lacking for the wild horse tour. A bill board with a very scenic photo of wild horses, much like those I saw in the city building, would go far in drawing tourists off the interstate and into Green River. Perhaps, with enough tourists visiting the area, a volunteer or paid guide could be found to take tourists out to the area and give historical information about the herd and the Green River area in general. Photography opportunities in and around Green River are boundless. With increased signage and advertising of this draw to visitors fascinated by the romanticism of wild horses and the old west, wild horse areas and tours, combined with so many other assets of Green River, could create a big tourist boom for your community.

Resources: Some resources with ideas for upgrading and marketing the wild horse tour are as follows:

South Dakota Badlands National Park area - Sunka Wakan, named after the Lakota word for horse, is a project of the International Society for the Protection of Mustangs and Burros, the oldest and largest wild horse and burro organization in the United States. Tours are led by wild horse historians and behavioral experts.

<http://www.ispmb.com/tourism.html>

Black Hills Wild Horse Sanctuary <http://www.wildmustangs.com/about/wherewild.htm>

The LET 'EM RUN FOUNDATION is a nonprofit organization in partnership with government, business and community, committed to the protection and preservation of

wild horses and the heritage of the American West. Let 'em Run Foundation, Inc. P.O. Box 1176 Virginia City, NV 89440 (800) 729-5046 Toll-Free (775) 847-4705 Fax info@letemrun.com <http://www.letemrun.com/index.html>

Theme: SERVICES

Challenge: The availability of medical services seems to be a concern for many residents. The local clinics are open limited hours and is apparently overwhelmed with appointments, making last-minute visits for children with ear infections and people with the flu nearly impossible to get.

Solution: The rivalry between Green River and Rock Springs seems to cause a lot of feelings of resentment on the part of Green River citizens, resulting in their not wanting to use Rock Springs services. However, the increased medical services available in Rock Springs should be utilized by Green River's residents, considering the drive to Rock Springs is much the same in time and miles as a trip to the doctor's office for people living in larger cities. By combining the medical needs of two small communities into one larger region, the region creates a larger draw for increased numbers of physicians and more specialized medical care for everyone involved. Physicians have high overhead, and must be guaranteed enough patient base to support their practice.

Resources: N/A

Theme: SERVICES

Challenge: The availability of medical services seems to be a concern for many residents. The local clinics are open limited hours and is apparently overwhelmed with appointments, making last-minute visits for children with ear infections and people with the flu nearly impossible to get.

Solution: Hospital and medical facility funding grants and loans are a possible option through the State Lands and Investments Board. This board does give grants and loans based on public safety concerns and needs, including projects for access to medical services. A secondary road to Rock Springs has been a big item in discussions, both for medical needs and for easier access in shopping. Green River residents dislike driving on the interstate with the semi-trucks, particularly in foul weather, and express the desire of a quality access road. It is possible that the State Lands and Investments Board may have a program to assist in construction of the access road, as well as facilities located in Green River. With regards to the Wyoming Department of Transportation, for construction and maintenance projects, programming and funding recommendations are made by various WYDOT programs. Public and local government input is also sought. Programs and funding are approved by the seven-member Transportation Commission of Wyoming.

Resources: Office of State Lands and Investments Brad Miskimins Herschler Building, 3rd Floor West 122 West 25th Street Cheyenne, WY 82002 (307) 777-7331

bmiski@state.wy.us Wyoming Transportation Commission Nancy Wiehagen, Secretary
5300 Bishop Blvd. Cheyenne, WY 82009 (307) 777-4780
Nancy.Wiehagen@dot.state.wy.us

Theme: SERVICES

Challenge: The availability of medical services seems to be a concern for many residents. The local clinics are open limited hours and are apparently overwhelmed with appointments, making last-minute visits for children with ear infections and people with the flu nearly impossible to get.

Solution: It was stated in a listening session that the local doctor's office used to have a block of time for "walk-in" appointments and for "advance scheduled" appointments, however this is no longer the case. Working with the medical community to re-establish these "walk-in" available times would relieve a lot of the burden on parents trying to get medical services for ill children, and for acute care needs of the elderly. In researching the available medical services, I find that Green River has one chiropractic service, one optometrist, four family practice physicians, one orthopedic/sports medicine practice, and just one pediatrician, all of whom are listed below.

Resources: Chiropractic: Associated Back Pain Centers 1695 Indian Hills Dr Green River, WY 82935 - 5316 (307) 875-4980 Optometrist: Vandervort Charles R. OD PC 665 Uinta Dr Green River, WY 82935 - 5031 (307) 875-4538 Family Practice: Long Marilyn A MD Reilly Christian D.O. Roberts M L "Peggy" M.D. Sloan J Stephen MD 1400 E Uinta Dr Green River, WY 82935 - 5004 (307) 872-4500 Orthopedic/Sports Medicine: Gem City Bone & Joint P.C. Castle Rock Medical Center 1400 Uinta Dr Green River, WY (800) 446-5684 Pediatrician: Smith Dean A. M.D. FAAP 1400 E Uinta Dr Green River, WY 82935 - 5004 (307) 872-4500

Theme: SERVICES

Challenge: The team heard about the difficulty in getting citizens to Department of Family Services in Rock Springs to apply for assistance. The shuttle bus only goes back and forth to Rock Springs once per day, creating a hardship for a single parent and their children to get to appointments with caseworkers and then wait around Rock Springs until the shuttle is ready to go back. Apparently, shuttle bus tokens are not distributed to get people back and forth for assistance, so there is the problem of DFS applicants finding ways to pay for the shuttle service on their own.

Solution: A part-time, perhaps even one evening a week, DFS field office with one or two benefits specialists and one social worker in Green River would be an ideal solution. It would be worth a phone call to the DFS Sweetwater District Manager, Dana Ward, to discuss the idea. According to Andy Aldrich of DFS, it is anticipated that there will be agency structure changes under the Governor Freudenthal and the current legislative

session. The legislature is currently looking at the Workforce Services program, which may result in improving services of economic assistance, employment training, as well as other programs, to the small towns of Wyoming.

Resources:

Dana Ward

Department of Family Services

(307) 362-5630

dward@state.wy.us

Andy Aldrich

Department of Family Services

Field Operations Division

2300 Capitol Avenue, 3rd Floor

(307) 777-6031

aaldri1@state.wy.us

Linda Ziegler

USDA Rural Development
P.O. Box 190
Afton, WY 83110
(307) 886-9001, Ext. 4
Afton, WY 83110

Introduction: I want to take this opportunity to thank all the gracious people of Green River who organized and attended the listening sessions. It shows that they have an interest in where they live and want to see improvements in their community to make it an even better place to live.

Theme: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Challenge: The number one challenge we heard through most of the listening sessions is the need for another grocery store. A majority of the people wanted to see the movie theater reopened. Many of the citizens want to see the existing businesses supported and more diversity of the economy providing jobs for returning adults. A multi-use indoor arena and a hotel/motel convention center with new restaurants were also what the citizens of Green River want.

Solution: It is my understanding that there have been several attempts to get a new grocery store to locate in Green River with little success. Is there enough business to sustain 2 grocery stores? Perhaps instead of enticing a large chain grocery store to the area the community looks at trying to get Smiths to open a second store closer to the main road artery of town. Do you know that grocery stores need to buy anywhere from \$5,000 to \$10,000 worth of inventory every week from their supplier or pay a penalty to buy less? One store pays an additional 2 percent per week because they cannot purchase the larger quantities needed. One solution that has taken root in Kansas is that one store buys a large inventory and then delivers to other small stores providing a way for each of them to stay alive. A Hotel/Motel Convention Center is a big-ticket item. It is an item that would be good for Green River. It should be located in an area that has good access to the hotel/motel and convention center. It should be located near the I-80 corridor. A Multi-use indoor arena is something that the community could also use. This could be done either through the private sector or a non-profit organization. This is something that the horse enthusiasts should be the ones to pursue.

Resources:

In researching the Internet, I discovered a website called Kansas Sampler Foundation at www.kansasampler.org/wekan/gstores.htm. This Foundation has a web page that discusses supporting small grocery stores.

USDA/Rural Development has a business and industry guarantee loan program that could be used to assist a private individual in constructing and operating this type of business. Any party interested in pursuing this can contact:

Linda Ziegler
Rural Development Manger at USDA/Rural Development
P. O. Box 190
Afton, WY 83110
(307) 886-9001, Ext. 4
linda.ziegler@wy.usda.gov.

These types of business loans are given through a lender who then applies to USDA/Rural Development through the Rural Business Programs for a loan guarantee.

The Multi-use indoor arena is something that could be financed through USDA/Rural Development's Business and Industry Program by a private individual or through USDA/Rural Development's Community Facility Guarantee and/or Direct Loan Program by a non-profit organization.

Contact:

Linda Ziegler
Rural Development Manager
P. O. Box 190
Afton, WY 83110
or e-mail linda.ziegler@wy.usda.gov.

Theme: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Challenge: We heard several times that Green River needs more diverse jobs and businesses, and that the community should think of other ways to employ the residents of Green River instead of relying on the mines being around forever. This includes creating jobs for both the youth and also livable wage jobs that would keep people in the community and encourage families who have left the area to return. Some of the people at the listening sessions seem to want the same types of shopping and job opportunities in Green River that are in Rocks Springs.

Solution: Instead of trying to compete with Rocks Springs maybe the solution is to find a new and innovative businesses that Rock Springs does not have that will bring those living in Rock Springs to Green River to shop.

Encourage business start-ups. The Small Business Development Center sponsors an NxLevel Program that teaches existing and would-be entrepreneurs how to write and implement a business plan. Several communities offer scholarships to offset the \$250 tuition fee. USDA/Rural Development has a Rural Business Enterprise Grant that can be given to non-profit organizations to be used to help pay the tuition for the NxLevel Program or pay for feasibility studies to determine if a particular business may succeed in a community. It can be a win-win situation for the entrepreneur, the community and the Chamber; the entrepreneur receives monetary assistance, Green River would have a new business and the Chamber may have a new member.

Encourage the school to participate in a work program for students in the local businesses. Thermopolis has such a program where students can earn credit for working in local businesses in Town to get experience and see what career they may be interested in.

Resources:

For NxLevel information contact:

Bill Ellis, Small Business Development Center Regional Director

P. O. Box 1168

Rock Springs, WY 82901

800-348-5205

307-352-6894

307-352-6876 (fax)

bellis@uwyo.edu.

For assistance in identifying scholarship resources contact your local chamber of commerce, town or county government or:

Ray Sarcletti

Wyoming Business Council Southwest Regional Director

1400 Dewar Drive, #280A

Rock Springs, WY 82901

307-382-3163

307-382-3217(fax)

rsarcl@state.wy.us.

For more information regarding the Rural Business Enterprise Grant contact:

Linda Ziegler

Rural Development Manager

P.O. Box 190

Afton, WY 83110

307-886-9001, Ext. 4

307-886-3744(fax)

linda.ziegler@wy.usda.gov.

For the working program with students contact the Hot Springs County School District

Theme: BEAUTIFICATION

Challenge: Several people wanted to see people have to clean up yards in all neighborhood to strengthen pride in the community.

Solution: One solution is for the city to create stronger city ordinances. The need for stronger city ordinance was evident in our tour of the City. Another solution could be having a community clean-up day or neighborhood clean-up day. The City council could develop a purpose statement in which they declare the purpose of their ordinances to be

to preserve the beauty of the community and neighborhoods; to foster pride in our community and neighborhoods; and to promote a healthy and safe environment for the residents and businesses of the community.

Another program could be "Adopt-A-Street Program", where individuals, families, schools, churches, companies, or neighborhood organizations can get involved. This has been done in Phoenix. They have cleanup efforts of approximately 510 miles of city streets including litter and trash pickup, weed and grass removal, painting over graffiti and installing and maintaining landscaping.

It was suggested that volunteers could work on their street as needed, and a minimum of four cleanups a year were recommended. The city could provide trash bags and pick up the contained trash. Phoenix also has a Neighborhood Preservation Division, which resolves property maintenance and zoning problems through combination of education and enforcement of the Neighborhood Preservation and Zoning ordinances.

Resources:

On the Internet I found a Neighborhood Beautification Ordinances prepared for the City of Milpitas, California. The website is:
www.ci.milpitas.ca.gov/citydept/planning/neighborhoodbeautification.htm.

The Adopt-A-Street program was found on the City of Phoenix website:
www.ci.phoenix.az.us/STREETS/adopstr.html

Theme: NATURAL RESOURCES / TOURISM

Challenge: A major challenge under natural resources is the River that runs right through Town. Everyone at the listening sessions stated they liked the white water park even though some of them did not use it they enjoyed watching those that did. They wanted to see more enhancements done along the river.

Solution: It would seem that more should be done to attract businesses and recreational activities along the river. Restaurants could be established and small shops would enhance the economy of the Green River.

Resources:

There are grant opportunities provided by the William C. Kenney Watershed Protection Foundation that exists to protect, preserve, and restore watersheds in the western United States and British Columbia. (The western United States includes Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming). The foundation supports two types of outcome-based, multi-constituency campaigns for protection of wild rivers; place-based campaigns focused on a specific western river or river system, and policy development campaigns working on regional or national policies and laws. The Foundation considers two different grants: Scoping Grants (up to \$5,000) that support initial strategic planning and initial campaign development activities including capacity building and assessment, and Campaign

Development Grants (up to \$50,000) that support activities that further develop a new or existing campaign. Applications are accepted at any time at the following website www.kenneyfdn.org/.

Theme: INFRASTRUCTURE

Challenge: A few of the participants stated that it would be nice to have a 2nd Bridge crossing the river on the west end of Town and many others thought an access road between Rock Springs and Green River would be great.

Solution: The main solution to any problem of challenge is communication. The public needs to work with the community and if in fact a 2nd Bridge is needed and/or wanted by the community and if there is in fact a need for the secondary access road between Rock Springs and Green River feasibility studies are needed to determine the need and cost of such undertakings. These items sound good, but are they in fact needed now or something that can be considered in the future.

Resources: The City and County should work hand in hand on a project of this magnitude. They would want to involve the Wyoming Highway Department at the onset of any plans in this direction. The State Land and Investment Joint Power Board has financing available for infrastructure improvements. Contact State of Wyoming or search the web site at lands.state.wy.us/.

USDA/Rural Development has community facility loans for public service facilities including community buildings, courthouses, public maintenance buildings, libraries, child care centers, schools, industrial parks, roads, bridges, airports, fairgrounds, utilities and other improvements or to acquire interest in lands, leases and rights-of-way necessary to develop the facilities. Loan funds may also be used for necessary equipment for the operation of these facilities. Loans are available for public use in rural areas and towns of not more than 20,000 populations.

Contact person with USDA/Rural Development is:

Linda Ziegler, Rural Development Manager

PO Box 190, Afton, WY 83110

or e-mail at linda.ziegler@wy.usda.gov.

Theme: INFRASTRUCTURE

Challenge: One of the biggest challenges of the infrastructure when a City wants to expand is their water and sewer system. Expanding water and sewer systems to accommodate new development areas can be a challenge. A large challenge is what is facing Johnstown's sewer in the future.

Solution: When new development is planned and the need for water and sewer expansion is needed, the City needs to contact the State of Wyoming Lands and Investment Joint

Powers Board for assistance in financing. Johnstown's Water and Sewer District as well as The City of Green River need to contact the Midwest Rural Community Assistance Program and/or Rural Water Circuit Rider for Technical Assistance. The Circuit Rider can provide on-site technical assistance to help assure cost effective operation of rural water and sewer systems. USDA/Rural Development has assisted rural water and sewer systems - via contracting - with day-to-day operational, financial, and management problems. The assistance is provided at no charge and may be requested by officials of rural water and sewer systems of by Rural Development personnel.

Resources:

Midwest Assistance Program can provide water and wastewater related technical assistance to small communities for development and support. Development assistance is provided to help communities obtain or expand water or wastewater facilities. It includes needs assessments, income surveys, dealing with engineers, financial packaging, and application preparation, construction supervision and may other kinds of "front end" work necessary to put facilities into place. Support assistance helps communities manage, operate, and maintain facilities that are already in place. It may include operator training , improving financial management systems, setting rates, or other items to help systems work more effectively.

Contact:

Midwest Assistance Program
P. O. Box 688
Green River, WY 82935
Phone (307) 875-4200
web site map-inc.org.

Another contact is:

Wyoming Association of Rural Water Systems
715 W. Birch Street
P.O. Box 1750
Glenrock, WY 82637
(307) 436-8636, or
view web site at www.warws.com.

You can also contact:

Linda Ziegler, Rural Development Manager
USDA/Rural Development
P. O. Box 190
Afton, WY 83110
(307) 886-9001, Ext. 4 or e-mail
linda.ziegler@wy.usda.gov.

Theme: SERVICES

Challenge: Although Green River has an effective Medical clinic it is not open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and residents of Green River at times still have to drive to Rock Springs for medial assistance. Educational facilities are excellent and the Senior Citizens are getting a new facility of which they are extremely excited about. There are great fire protection personnel; equipment and well-trained emergency medical technicians. But access to social service is sometimes difficult for low income people and seniors since they have to travel to Rock Springs many times by the local bus service. This service does not always provide timely service between Rock Springs and Green River. This causes the patrons to have to wait an excessive amount of time in between bus schedules.

Solution: It seems to me that the solution regarding social services would be to get the social service providers to hold a clinic in Green River at least once a week. I am not sure that there is an easy solution regarding the medical clinic being open on weekend and nights because of the cost of doing this may be too high compared to how many people would need to utilize the facilities on the weekend and at nights. The City needs to contact the State of Wyoming regarding working with them in getting a social services clinic located in Green River once or twice a week.

Resources: Contact State of Wyoming at wyoming.gov.

WHAT WAS SAID IN THE INTERVIEWS

The Resource Team spent 2 days interviewing local residents to hear what they had to say. Those being interviewed were directed to answer three questions:

What are the major problems and challenges in your community?

What are the major strengths and assets of your community?

What projects would you like to see implemented in your community in the next two, five, ten or twenty years?

We have listed below, without comment, what we heard from those who volunteered to be interviewed.

1. What are the major problems and challenges in your community?

- Land acquisition, the ability to have land to expand
- Providing infrastructure. Ditto
- Blighted areas in the community rehab of 2nd South, providing an attractive appearance for tourists that pass through our town.
- Telecommunication infrastructure needs to be improved.
- Get out of the Bedroom community syndrome, would like to be viewed as a Business Community
- Retail is lacking, grocery store is in a poor location, very difficult to direct tourist to places to purchase what they are looking for. Retail is dwindling. Need another grocery store for out of town visitors.
- Owner of properties are asking too much for rental of spaces and buildings. Startups have difficult time with paying \$1000.00 per month. Would like owners to give them a break on new business. Would even like to have City subsidize that amount.
- Property owners are willing to leave buildings vacant than accept lower rent. Space available but not affordable.
- Perception of the community still being in an boom environment...lots of money flowing around.
- The City does not buy local. Community does not buy local.
- City does not ask local businesses to place bids on items that they are buying.
- Continuing challenge is nuisance enforcement for community, stuck with the way the ordinance is written. The same people violating the law with no solution to the problem other than changing the ordinance.
- The recruitment and retention of employees, the ability to attract employees to the area, need 50 to 75 people to man the correction facility. Problem is partially attributed to salary as it relates to the "Trona Industry" salary. Starting salary for detention officers are at \$24,016.00 per month. Ditto \$18,000.00 for communication, Patrol \$26,064.00

- Pay Scale has not moved with the experience and number of years an officer is employed. Creates a problem in retaining officers at City level. They can make more money at a starting wage in another department.
- Economic Development is not progressing, would like to see more retail. Ditto
- I-80 Corridor provides opportunity for problems related to drugs, criminal activities such as car theft etc. Ditto
- Transients getting off trains, more of a problem during the summer.
- No Detox or rehab facility any person found under influence go to jail.
- Juvenile crime is responsible for %50 of larceny.
- Perception of “nothing to do in town”.
- Drug of choice is Meth, when we talk about drug problem it is meth.
- The school has a minimal amount of drugs occurring in school.
- Alcohol seems to be more of a problem in school district.
- Clean up appearance of major entrances
- Ditto appearance, entryways
- Ditto appearance
- Lack of advertising, knowledge who we are, history
- Ditto advertising,
- Lack of image
- Lack of promotion
- Lack of visibility on I-80
- Green River is considered a bedroom community (not always a problem) but is for business development
- Ditto bedroom community image/fact
- Lack of retail opportunities, the feeling you have to go to rock springs for extravagances and essentials
- Feeling local businesses can’t compete with Wal-mart and SLC businesses
- Housing issues, more opportunities to rent houses and apartments in Rock Springs
- Ditto housing issues, affordable housing for families and individuals
- Land locked
- Ditto, lots of property is unavailable for expansion
- Landscape of community is difficult to develop
- West, narrow area along I-80
- South, difficulty in infrastructure
- Higher education opportunities are limited here, this with lack of economic opportunities make it difficult for kids to come back
- Ditto, my kids have moved out of state for schooling in the areas they are interested in
- Ditto on education opportunities
- Difficulty of signage for tourism especially difficulty with WY-DOT in regards to signage.
- The more population, the more sales tax we get
- We can’t compete as tourist destination; we have underdeveloped attractions, like the white water park

- Competition with other communities
- Wild horse loop problem is directing people to the loop, the directions from Rock Springs are easier to follow
- Lack of development of river area
- Too many surveys- need to utilize local knowledge and save money
- People don't shop local-need to education people to shop at home ditto
- WyDot doesn't help Green River- too restrictive on signage—they don't help Green River promote Green River (tourism) ditto
- Isolation is difficult for some residents
- No place for tourists to camp or picnic for the day ditto,x
- Need more retail in Green River (clothing and shoes) ditto, x,x,x,x
- Need another grocery store ditto x,x,x,x,x,x,x,x,x
- The rodeo arena is only utilized in good weather-needs to be covered
- Green River should quit spending money on studies and spend it on actual projects ditto
- Such as infrastructure expansion
- Lack of communication about what is really going on in Green River
- Newsprint in the Green River Star is too small ditto
- Extend the Greenbelt
- Poor quality health care in Green River ditto xxx
- Lack of retail and entertainment ditto xx
- Lack of theaters- movie and plays ditto x
- Lack of citizens to shop local ditto xx
- Lack of organized and focused direction in the City – shotgun effect
- Government tries to be too much to too many people
- Lack of activities for youth ditto x
- Limited job opportunities
- Limited space for new retail
- Green Rivers answer to any problem is to build another park
- We do to many studies—we study Green River to death
- People are afraid of change in Green River- like status quo
- School facilities are not designed for the needs, and we don't have the dollars to keep what we have open
- City and school districts don't support the local businesses when making purchases
- Lack of a comprehensive growth and master plan for the city of Green River ditto xxx
- Green River is land locked—no room for expansion ditto xxx
- Lack of available lots for new residential construction
- Lack of jobs for youth in Green River
- Lack of cooperation between the governing bodies and the community groups
- Lack of retail--- people go to Rock Springs to shop ditto
- A large percentage of the City sewer lines need to be replaced
- Outdated waste water treatment plan ditto

- City does not have infrastructure to accommodate growth (water and sewer lines)
- Lack of industrial park with a building in Green River for industrial growth
- Too dependant on natural resource—no economic diversity ditto xxx
- Lack of businesses in the Green River business park
- Lack of promotion and utilization of the Gorge
- Lack of an annexation plan for Green River
- Only one crossing of the River—could be a big problem in case of an emergency
- Rock Springs aggressive growth and Green Rivers laid back attitude results in Green River losing facilities
- Difficulty in getting access to medical services in Green River—hard to get an appointment so they go to Rock Springs
- Green River doesn't take advantage of being a quality “bedroom community”
- City's unrealistic plans for the City – not in line with existing and potential infrastructure
- Green River is land locked with limited pieces of land available for development
- Limited access to Interstate 80, and limited land for development along the interstate
- UPRR is a detriment to economic growth because they limit the amount of rail spurs and rail service to new industry
- Both rail and truck traffic don't have a reason to stop here- they are long haul freight carriers
- Predator problems- wolves and bears
- Mad cow, brucellosis, prices
- Decreasing sheep market—most are switching to cattle
- Limited agriculture community
- Recruiting qualified help
- Appearance of community, high desert was not appealing
- Commercial appraisers are not readily available, nearest appraiser is in Pinedale
- Volunteers for different events and project are difficult to get involved
- Business customers have a very difficult time dealing with City planner and community development department. City is not willing look at funding options for infrastructure for development
- City is not business friendly
- Have to go somewhere else for shopping ditto x x x x
- Can't find building materials, cheaper to go out of state to afford projects
- Business local have an attitude about product, if you don't like the price go to SLC
- Would like to have another grocery store x x x x
- Lack things for youth to do, see drug and alcohol problem x x x x
- Finding organizations that will work with other non-profits and groups, many of the same volunteers in each groups x x
- Rock Springs clubs have more support that we have, a lack of community spirit x
- Isolated community, x
- Money leaving community to Las Vegas

- Bedroom Community, lack of support to business x
- Need for religion
- Medical providers are lacking especially in the mental health sector x
- Restaurants
- Theistically based drug help and mental health
- Lack of funding for Child Development Center, restrictions on funding,
- need new building
- Lack of a facility for drug interim rehab to work with new drug court
- Youth leaving community, lack of professional jobs to keep them here x
- Struggles with community pride, business leave junk around, need for nuisance ordinance
- Big Brother & Big Sisters program is a need in the community
- Seem to be a mentality of who you are or whom you know. Is a lot of closed mindedness to new ideas.
- Communication to others related between entities and citizens about needs and services
- Getting people to the needed services, most of services are in Rock Springs
- Transportation a problem
- Substance abuse is a huge issue community wide, both youth and adults ditto
- No adolescent programs available in Green River as in Rock Springs
- Better paying jobs
- Increase in adolescent activities like skate park, whitewater park
- Alternative education opportunities, many kids leave school and never come back
- Vocational education is lacking
- Ability for newcomers to be aware of what there is to do, no welcome wagon program
- No non-alcohol related activities for people to get to know each other
- Shift-working creates isolation, those people are not able to be involved in activities, schedule demands are not compatible with groups, churches boards, etc.
- Increase the availability of low-income & elderly housing, not much in Green River, people moving to Rock Springs to get that type of housing. Ditto
- Low income and elderly have problems getting to Rock Springs services
- Busing schedule is not convenient
- No treatment facility available for teen/children on substance or behavior problems ditto
- Problem children sent away to places like Sheridan and Worland and a disconnect to family is an issue
- The strong religious affiliation sometimes leaves out those without or not involved, kids get left out and isolated
- Mental health care issue is not being taught to Law enforcement ditto
- Lack of education to Law enforcement sector as to what problems are available ditto
- Lack of awareness of programs that are available in Green River
- Need for better communication between agencies

- Silent group is not communicating their need and left without support
- Not enough family based activities that are smoke free, alcohol free ditto
- Not enough activities for youth ditto xx
- Not enough medical services ditto x
- No where for shopping, shoes, groceries, etc ditto xxx
- Haven't developed the outdoor recreation facilities enough
- Not enough variety of activities ditto x
- Not enough good jobs for teens ditto xxxxxxx
- Governing body is afraid to change
- Not jobs to bring young people back to the area
- Not enough restaurants and entertainment ditto x
- Not enough diverse activities and clubs for non main street kids (paint ball) ditto
- Need more large employers
- Green River is land locked and small population ditto xxx
- Alcohol and drugs—lots of parties (there is nothing else to do) ditto xxxxx
- Lots of drugs coming in to town off of I 80 ditto
- Alcohol and drugs are part of the culture and are open
- Teens either like the cops or hate them, no in between, they tend to hassle certain kids
- Never see the cops—poor visibility, so if you don't see them you don't consider the consequences
- Not enough drug use and long term effects education program
- Not enough coping skills to handle stress- so they turn to drugs and alcohol
- Lost a lot of good teachers due to cut backs
- Teachers should be RIF'd based on quality not tenure ditto xxxxxxx
- Cut-backs resulted in loss of electives classes and programs that help students, and now some teachers are now teaching classes that they don't have experience in
- Limited opportunities and pay drive teachers out of the area to more urban areas
- Inconsistent community views on growth- a lot of no growth attitude ditto xx
- Citizens don't want to change status quo and don't want to spend money
- Editorials drive community sentiment ditto x
- Downtown needs to be improved- poor first impression on Flaming Gorge Way ditto
- Green River is a unknown- doesn't appear on maps-- lack of visibility or knowledge of its existence
- Shortage of land for development—land locked ditto xxx

- Lack of commercial land
- Done lots of studies but haven't found the right niche, or theme for growth—lack of focus
- Green River hasn't determined an identity and developed it – there is just a “void”
- Green River/Rock Springs rivalry is self-defeating ditto x
- Green River shops in Rock Springs

- Lack of private investment in Green River in terms of projects and business
- Older businesses are against the City helping new businesses get established “nobody helped me!”
- Lack of financial resources- impacted by the “boom and bust” cycle ditto
- Lack of economic diversity- too dependant on trona
- Lack of cooperation and communication within the county on a governmental level- Green River is not getting their share of the county resources ditto
- Lack of state funding to help with maintaining existing infrastructure and building new - need a more stable, dependable, sustainable source of city funding ditto
xx
- Leakage of retail dollars out of the area both public and private—need to shop local
- Small community size limits employment opportunities—lack of diversity ditto
- Lack of retail in Green River, groceries, household items, etc ditto x
Lack of specialty medical services ditto
- Dying downtown ditto
- Declining population due to limited job opportunities ditto x
- Young people don’t want to live here; there are not jobs here for them ditto x
- Limited housing due to the mini boom in the area
- Lack of economic diversity
- No movie theater or other facilities and opportunities for the youth other than sports
- No meeting facilities in the town ditto
- Need a second grocery store
- Need more restaurants
- Lack of arts, and artistic events, in the area—due to lack of support ditto
- Lack of utilization of the High School theater ditto
- Lack of culture ditto
- Change the perception that it is further from Rock Springs people to drive to Green River than for Green River people to drive to Rock Springs
- High occurrence of substance abuse in youth and adults
- Need another grocery store ditto xxx
- Losing too many businesses in Green River ditto
- Mixed zoning makes the town look bad—to many eyesores in the business district ditto
- More events, activities, and facilities for youth that are not geared to sports ditto
- Need more day care
- No art programs for youth and adults
- Not enough cultural events
- Limited retail in Green River ditto
- Lack of transportation for local income families and seniors that need to get to Rock Springs for services -- even STAR can be too expensive for some ditto
x

- Not enough services for seniors including long term care facilities ditto x
- Downtown is rundown with too many abandoned buildings; even some of the businesses that are down there look rundown
- Green River appears “lifeless”
- Sidewalks are deteriorating and unsafe
- Can’t keep doctors in town
- Not enough businesses
- Not enough grocery stores
- No movie theater
- Declining school enrollment
- Major funding cuts in school district due to declining enrollments resulting in program cuts
- Lack of Infrastructure, restaurants ditto x
- No Convention Center ditto
- No chain motel or restaurants ditto x
- Rec. Center needs to be expanded not enough services, things like indoor track, skating rink, pool needs to be bigger
- Monroe Middle School’s pool is experiencing problems and will need to be repaired
- Major soccer meets bring people to town but not staying here or shopping here ditto
- Other communities provide vendors at events
- Losing business to Rock Springs
- Green River is bedroom community to Rock Springs ditto
- People traveling to SLC weekly for shopping
- Don’t have a theater in Green River
- Harley moved because City did too little too late ditto
- Lack of sense of community
- Only one Grocery Store
- Services moving to south side pull shoppers from the north side
- Seniors leaving
- Food Bank leaving
- Community Nursing leaving
- Health Inspector leaving
- New Jail leaving downtown
- Don’t keep our small businesses in the community ditto x
- All the big retail is in Rock Springs, there is nothing here ditto
- Not enough activities for kids besides the rec center (too expensive) ditto xx
- Boom and bust cycle that is mineral dependant
- Land locked ditto
- There are no businesses that draw our youth back into the city when they grow up ditto x
- Lack of project and activity coordination, schools and Rec. Center ditto
- Not enough coordinated activities for youth in the summer ditto x

- No real progress is ever made- all talk, no action
- Don't utilize resources between Green River and Rock Springs due to the rivalry- lots of Separation resulting in duplication
- Need to coordinate school days off with county and federal days off
- Too much time spent on bickering and not supporting what is really here
- Lack of coordination of government entities
- Not enough retail need a grocery store ditto
- Housing Development
- More for the youth to do
- Community needs to be more involve
- Better communication between youth and adults
- To many studies done with no follow up-action ditto x
- Not enough promotion the town's history
- Business suffer from inaction from City leaders lack of consistency ditto
- Lack of support from the community for volunteers for ambulance and fire department
- Downtown dilapidated
- City inspector does not work with people in their clean up efforts
- Local government does not follow through with action or plans
- Willingness of community to stay "Bedroom Community" ditto
- Don't want things to change
- No support for local business, people don't shop local
- Landlocked
- Satellite status to Rock Springs limits business growth- mindset to head to Rock Springs to everything
- No facilities for Alzheimer's patients
- Lack of job diversity for youth and adults ditto
- Lack of sustainable and diversified development ditto x
- Not enough things for kids to do, places for them to go
- Limited medical care in regards to diversity, availability and choice
- Medical staff is overworked
- Green River can't decide what it wants to be so we continue to spin our wheels ditto
- Lack of funding at a local level to fund infrastructure and local facilities
- Boom and Bust economy and our dependency on the mines ditto xx
- Long distance phone charge to Rock Springs
- The gas boom is threatening our life style; the gas development threatens the scenery and the wildlife
- Lack of communication between the governing body and the citizens; Council is not responding to the needs of the residents
- Lack of affordable high speed broadband
- Lack of true cooperation on a countywide basis ditto xxx
- Economic development efforts are under funded ditto
- Local government lacks focus

- Green River is land locked the land ownership issue ditto x
- Insufficient funds for infrastructure
- Lack of economic diversification ditto xx
- UPRR is a deterrent to economic development due to their restriction of access
- Green River, and Wyoming, lacks an image
- Green River in denial about the enormity of the alcohol and drug problems
- Lack of visibility from Interstate 80
- Restricted incentives for business
- City permitting process not user friendly
- Green River's topography limits growth
- Lack of development along the river
- City doesn't enforce the existing ordinances
- Insufficient funding, for basic services, to the municipalities from the state
- Sweetwater county helps generate the state surplus but doesn't get the money to help deal with the impacts that come with the tax generation from natural resource development
- Ditto
- Lack of shopping Ditto
- No 18 hole Golf Course
- Economic development Ditto
- To dependant on industry Ditto
- Housing is lacking Ditto
- Poorly supported Zoning ordinance, appearance poor Ditto
- Building inspector does not appear to be doing job by letting builder "dawdle" in completing a building on 2nd south Ditto
- Inspector is not consistent with enforcing ordinances, Ditto
- Break from bedroom community philosophy
- Signage ordinance is a problem; businesses have difficulty providing visible signage
- Seem to be a culture of "protecting the old guard" within the city related to business practices and philosophies.

2. What are the major strengths and assets in your community?

- The location is beautiful. River and rock formations are beautiful. Wonderful esthetics. Ditto, Ditto
- Locals are friendly, dedicated and involved. Ditto Ditto, Ditto
- We have very unique businesses that are not found in Rock Springs are anywhere else. We are not the Wal-Mart. Ditto
- Businesses work together helping each other. Ditto
- Safe, clean and reliable community. Ditto
- Services are great.

- Money is readily available to spend and locals will spend if the product is available. Ditto
- Majority of community is not from Green River and have gotten to know each other and formed a close knit and bonded group.
- Low Crime rate, much higher safety, we don't have a highly visible community and transients are going to Rock Springs. They also have more retail and so higher crime rates.
- Good inter-agency cooperation between Sheriffs office and City Law enforcement. 65% of crime occurs in Rock Springs.
- Police Department takes care of cutting weeds on public right of ways. The public right- of-ways are kept attractive.
- The services provide by the Ambulance and Fire Department a great asset.
- River is a major asset, not many communities have a river running through it. River and Flaming Gorge Lake are great assets.
- Castle Rock Medical Center has a great working relation with the Sheriffs office they are able to provide care for prisoners.
- Teams from law enforcement are contributed to the efforts of Southwest Counseling to help with the drug problem.
- Have a full-time DARE officer in the City of Green River.
- High average income (because of mineral extraction industry)
- Community has abundant and readily accessible oportintes for outdoor recreation
- The river is an assest for reactions and making the community a livable community and as a future attractant
- Ditto the river and recreational activities
- Many assests a short distance from here
- Many employment oportunities here, especially for young people
- Ditto
- Ditto the white water park
- Renewal boards, old city market area is a good example
- Everyone is afraid of change, they think it will became a major metropolis, we can increase our population and bring in businesses without becoming a metropolis. Many outsiders wouldn't be attracted to Green River, but those who live here love it. It is not going to grow too much
- Ditto the white water park
- The river is good for manufacturing
- The day of the mines is over, it will continue to get smaller, the community needs other sources of income
- The major interstate and rail yard for transportation for industry
- Ditto how you capitalize these, that is the issue
- The people here are pretty good people we're pretty friendly
- At times the community can be dysfunctional maybe because of scheduling but the community provides oportunities for seniors and children/youth
- We are constantly trying to improve the quality of life here

- The scenic highway designation will help to capture the tourists headed to other destinations
- I-80 is there and is going to stay
- Good people and great scenery ditto, xxx
- The Greenbelt is a great addition
- Friendly community ditto
- Our location with the river and the Gorge—so much potential for attraction ditto, xx
- Expand the services provided at the rodeo arena which will allow more use
- Great schools and teachers
- Great local entrepreneurs
- Generous, giving people (fund raisers and financial support of needy people) ditto
- Great teamwork among the people
- “Feels like home”
- Good housing facilities for seniors (Green Rock, Mansface, and the Villa) ditto
- Resilient business community – those that have survived
- Getting a new senior center that will accommodate more people and services
- Great staff at Senior Center
- Great rock formations and scenery
- Good convalescent care for ailing seniors
- Attractive, well maintained cemetery
- Good City services, snow removal, street repair, etc ditto
- The river ditto x
- The history of the area ditto
- The Flaming Gorge and the recreation areas that are nearby providing fishing, hiking, etc
- Good schools and good school employees ditto
- Interstate 80 and the UPRR mainline—good transportation network
- Safe town, low crime rate
- Caring, compassionate people that look out for each other
- The river ditto
- A regional water system
- Bedroom community- quieter, quaint, etc
- Rich community in regards to natural resources, dollars and intelligent people
- Extensive fiber network and DSL—good access to service ditto
- Good cooperation between the utility providers ditto
- Major hub for gas, good infrastructure that allows that
- Transportation is good with I-80, UPRR, etc ditto
- Great access to open spaces ditto
- Great small town to raise a family—safe
- Great people, generous, giving people willing to take care of each other ditto
xxx

- Good regional water system and sufficient water supply even in the recent drought
- Good quality water
- Great utilization of river with the green belt ditto x
- Cooperation between Green River and Rock Springs is improving
- Great recreational opportunities, such as hunting, fishing, Gorge, recreation center
- The governing body is highly motivated to make something happen
- Western Wyoming Community College and the great on-line programs they offer
- The ability to work together on common problems to come up with solutions—great Relationships between agencies and groups
- Green Rivers location – physically located in the center of things
- Which includes the river, the natural resources (minerals), the national fiber lines and gas lines in the area, power lines, I 80, UPRR, etc
- Green Rivers abundance of water in an age of water shortages and drought
- Great river recreation including kayaking, fishing, etc
- Great natural resources including the oil and gas, trona and the refined soda ash, coal, and fertilizer
- Church and Dwight (which adds value to the soda ash industry)
- Volunteer emergency services are outstanding- fire and ambulance
- Access to Interstate 80 to ship product out
- New hunting game farm in the area
- Western Wyoming Community College provides adult learning and fills in gaps in training, stress management, time management. They are willing to work with community and provide classes that are asked for
- Community as a whole does become involved when issues arise
- Renovation of Hutton Heights Plaza has changed the business climate on Uinta Drive, private individual stepped up to the plate
- Very strong Chamber of Commerce, involved with the business community
- Janet and staff try very hard to meet business community needs.
- Great location x s x
- Outdoor recreation x x x
- WWCC in Rock Springs x x x
- Beautiful area, river, rocks x x xx
- Desert with river running through it x x x
- Green Belt, Whitewater Park, Expedition Island is great, utilization of river is great x x x
- Those that volunteer are very dedicated and committed group x x
- Size of community is wonderful, easy to get around, love it x
- Access to winter recreating is great x
- Everyone is very nice, very welcoming to newcomers, the feel of the town is great x
- No traffic problems x
- Air quality is great x
- Crime rate is low, don't have to lock the doors, rural community is great x

- Religious community is very open each other, as is the rest of the community in relation to the religious sector ditto
- Green River Campus is great, adult learning classes and non-credit opportunity is wonderful
- After age 60 tuition to college is waived
- Alternative High School is wonderful for community
- Police department deals very well with intoxicated people, give them a ride home with no questions and no problems, “Daddy Rides”
- Officials other governmental entities are very assessable, friendly, non-territorial ditto
- Infrastructure is very good, things like Recreation Center, parks, library,
- Very good at having neighborhoods, the atmosphere of a safe environment
- Youth programs that exist are great, skate park, Green Belt, whitewater park, athletic programs ditto
- Surrounding Flaming Gorge, etc areas are close assessable and you can get away very easily
- School kids try very hard to not isolate new or different kids, not as cliquish
- Schools provide many opportunities for the kids,
- Expedition Academy, the Alternative High School is wonderful ditto
- They do not feel isolated or punished for being there
- YWCA is meeting daycare issues in Green River ditto
- Has domestic violence help and has Big Brother/Big Sisters
- Industry is fairly solid and is a good job base, very community oriented ditto
- Supports United Way, youth sports team and service organizations
- Sweetwater Family Resource Center is able to provide a place for kids after school
- Provides supervision visitation exchangers, parenting classes, the first in the State
- A facilitator for other agencies to work together
- There are people working on Economic Development to provide more jobs
- The skate park
- Good outdoor recreation ditto xx
- Close knit community
- Good white water park
- Abundance of public land
- Community supports the high school sports ditto x
- Recreation Center
- Good link between schools and community
- Safe community ditto xxx
- Flaming Gorge ditto xx
- Easy access to skiing and snow boarding
- Good community facilities
- Nice clean town, well maintained ditto
- Easy to get around ditto xx
- Prettier than Rock Springs because of the trees

- Green belt
- Not a lot of traffic
- Can count the stop lights on one hand
- Safe school and good education ditto xxx
- Good teacher-student relationships ditto xx
- Cops are very visible especially on the weekends
- Lots of opportunities for improvement
- High visibility with the interstate, would be great for some big retail stores
- Abundance of natural resources, gas, oil, trona, etc
- Good curriculum at the high school
- Good teachers, but have also lost some really good ones due to cut backs ditto
- Good state accreditation standards for the high school
- Caring, involved teachers
- The river
- Small town atmosphere
- Beautiful scenery, rock formations, river, etc
- Natural resources (trona, gas, wind, etc) ditto x
- The People ditto x
- The education system and the facilities
- Great quality of life
- Great facilities such as the recreation center, high school, city hall, college ditto
- Low population and low crime rate
- Great access to transportation via I 80, UPRR, airport ditto
- Great history in the area ditto x
- Low taxes low cost of living
- Because of the low population base, we all know each other and have access to each other including our elected officials
- Visionaries are working on a future for the town ditto
- Good infrastructure, including streets, water, sewer, etc
- Safe, secure community
- Pro active city council
- Good leadership, both elected and in organizations and agencies
- Good health care
- Great BOCES program
- Basic family values ditto x
- Strong teaching community ditto
- Great education system and facilities ditto
- Good community facilities such as the recreation center, WWCC, parks, etc ditto x
- Good activities and programs for the youth
- Safe, secure community
- Lots of opportunity for personal growth (education, theater, music, etc)
- Great outdoor recreational opportunities ditto
- Great greenbelt and the white water park and the Gorge ditto

- Ability to own horses in the city and areas to ride
- Strong volunteer groups (fire, EMTs, etc)
- Supportive people, generous, and giving ditto
- Good variety of services for the elderly that come to the customer
- “Wyoming is a small town with long streets”
- Good community events, Flaming Gorge Days, Twilight in the Park, Ice Crystal Classic, rodeo, etc ditto
- Stratton Myers park and the soccer fields
- Gorgeous scenery that can be capitalized on
- Clean city
- Community events, ice classic, twilight in the park, adopt a tree
- Beautification efforts—flowers
- The natural attractions such as the Gorge, the wild horse loop
- The greenbelt
- Great sports facilities such as soccer field, recreation center, etc
- Safe community to raise kids
- Good Parks and Recreation department and the events they sponsor
- Strong church community—even though there is a lot of diversity, they work well together
- Good strong small businesses such as Book N Bean, Sage Creek Bagels,
- Community supports each other in times of crisis or need
- Green belt
- Community pulls together in times of crisis
- Cleanliness
- Lots of trees and flowers
- Great facilities such as Recreation Center, schools, etc
- Great school system
- Right on the way to Flaming Gorge
- Museum ditto
- Library ditto
- Green Belt, Whitewater Park
- Island is great we have wonderful history
- Recreation Facilities
- Groups and organizations are able to affect change
- Having WWCC extension office in GR
- Wild Horse Loop
- New Senior Center is good
- The Gorge
- Wide open spaces ditto xxx
- Small town atmosphere (you know your neighbors) ditto x
- Good jobs and cost of living ditto x
- Safe, secure community
- Good natural resources and their utilization ditto
- Greenbelt

- White water park
- A lot of accessibility to activities
- Good youth programs in town, sports, dancing, archery, etc ditto
- Good volunteer emergency services (fire and ambulance)
- High per capita income due to industry- a rich community ditto
- Western Wyoming Community College
- The people are great ditto x x
- Schools ditto x
- River ditto x
- All entities do a great job
- Town has great history
- Railroad
- Only soda ash producer x
- Source of natural resources
- Rock formations
- Services for the size of town is great
- Chamber and SWEDA do a great job, they work hard, very strong asset ditto x
- Chamber has greatly improved in last 10 years
- Pleasant community to live in
- Low crime rate
- Capable people that can carry out projects; a variety of skill sets and ability ditto
- Good entrepreneurial spirit
- Good community spirit; close knit; lots of “spunk” , lots of community pride ditto
- Lots of great History- River, railroad, artists, etc
- Good basic infrastructure
- Great education system ditto
- Great access to quality health care for a community of this size
- Great location on Interstate 80 that can be captured ditto
- Great tourism potential with the wild horses, Gorge, scenery, fishing
- Natural beauty including the river ditto x
- The new Urban Renewal Authority
- Low tax structure
- Great people, caring and compassionate, we take care of each other ditto
- Access to transportation via the interstate and railroad (inter-modal hub) ditto x
- Interstate 80 ditto
- Greater Green River Inter Galactic Space Port
- Scenic beauty, great views ditto
- Natural resources such as gas, trona, coal, etc
- Quaint community—an intangible quality that appeals to people
- Great emergency personnel including fire and ambulance
- Great bedroom community, which means less traffic, quieter pace

- Core group of highly trained employees due to industry ditto
- Small community life is great
- Provides very good quality of life
- Positive citizen involvement
- Good place to live low crime
- River is a huge asset, is just now being developed, Whitewater Park and Green Belt is wonderful
- Activity provided by the City and Chambers, Overland Stage Stampede, Flaming Gorge Day's etc.
- Flaming Gorge Lake provide traffic, people coming in to recreate
- Green River is blessed with it's setting,
- Rich wildlife and recreation opportunities
- People move here for recreation opportunities
- Local government is accessible
- Police and other agencies are great. Good inter-agency relationships
- Very good people organization and churches, several opportunities to participate in community