

**Wyoming Department of Agriculture  
Annual Report  
FY2016**

**Director:** Doug Miyamoto

**Mailing Address:** 2219 Carey Avenue, Cheyenne, 82002

**Other locations:** Analytical Services in Laramie, State Fair in Douglas, Weights and Measures Lab in Cheyenne.

**Web Address:** <http://agriculture.wy.gov>

**Agency Contact:** Julie Cook, Administrative Manager, 777-6570

**Statutory References:** Chapters of Wyoming Statutes Titles 11, 35, 40, and 41 as well as Wyoming Child Care Licensing Rules (Chapter 10); Grade A Pasteurized Milk Ordinance; and Federal Meat Inspection Act.

**Clients Served:** Consumers and agricultural producers (safety of our food, water, and environment; integrity of weights and measures; specialty crop producers and farmers' markets; and agriculture and natural resources policy)

**Budget:** BFY15 budget is \$39,733,786 of which \$32,419,734 is general fund and the remaining from federal or other sources.

**Wyoming Quality of Life Result:**

Wyoming state government is a responsible steward of state assets and effectively responds to the needs of residents and guests.

Wyoming natural resources are managed to maximize the economic, environmental, and social prosperity of current and future generations.

**Contribution to Wyoming Quality of Life:**

The WDA is devoted to the promotion and enhancement of Wyoming's agriculture, natural resources, and quality of life.

**Basic Facts:**

WDA has six divisions with 89 positions, of which 8 are part-time and over 40 deployed around the state:

**Divisions:**

Administration (Admin) provides management and support to WDA divisions and includes grant writing to support specialty crops and agricultural producers and marketers:

Analytical Services Lab (ASL) provides chemistry and microbiological data to support WDA regulatory programs and for the citizens of the state:

Consumer Health Services (CHS) regulates and trains for consumer protection in Wyoming's food and environmental health industries:

Natural Resources and Policy (NRP) reviews, analyzes, monitors, and comments on natural resource issues and provides training and expertise in rangeland monitoring:

State Fair (SF) manages the facilities of State Fair Park for the citizens of Wyoming, offering year-around options for use as well as the annual State Fair:

Technical Services (TS) regulates and trains for consumer protection in Wyoming's agriculture and natural resources industries.

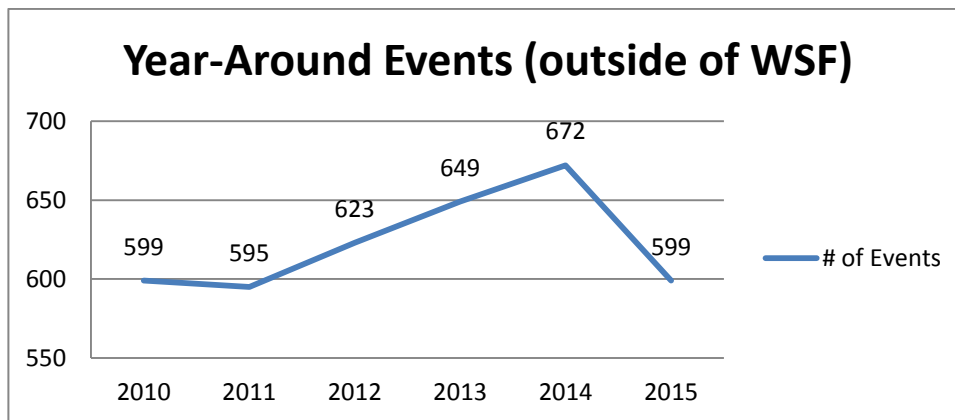
In addition, the Department supports activities of three affiliate organizations: Wyoming Ag in the Classroom (WAIC), Wyoming Beef Council (WBC), and Wyoming Wheat Marketing Commission (WWMC).

The WDA's main functions are customer service, education, and program management. All divisions and affiliate organizations strive to offer Wyoming's citizens exemplary customer service: all divisions offer education for consumers and agricultural producers as well as professional development for staff: we share in the coordination and management of a diverse group of programs serving agriculture in Wyoming including 12 state boards, 34 conservation districts, 23 weed and pest districts, and 23 county predator/animal boards/commissions in addition to our affiliate organizations (WAIC, WBC, WWMC).

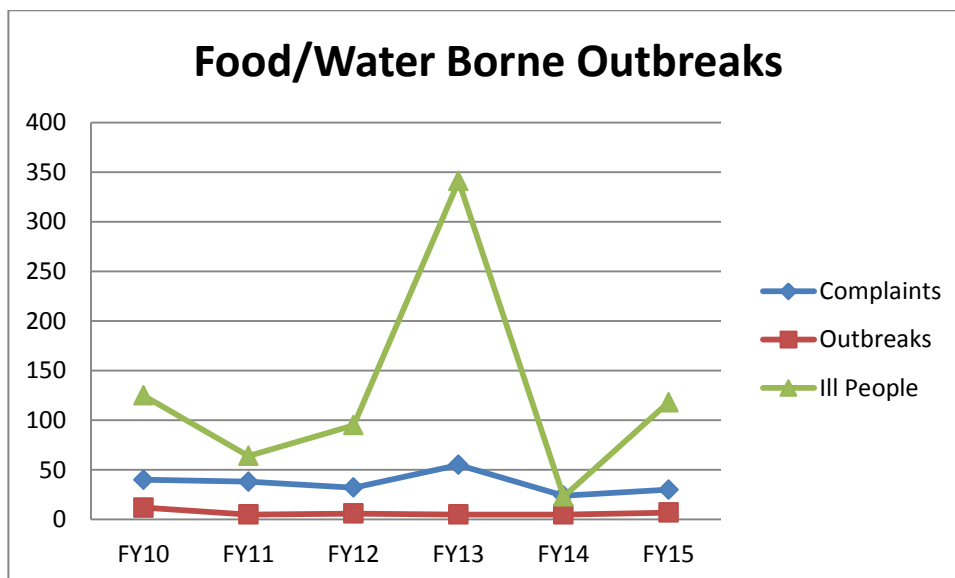
### **Performance Measure #1 Customer Service:**

The WDA's first goal is customer service. Externally, we serve the citizens of Wyoming through the regulatory functions of the WDA, for example, inspections and analytical testing, in CHS, TS, and ASL divisions. We serve agriculture producers through policy, advocacy, and specialty crop grants. State Fair continues to serve our state with year-around use of its venues. Internally, divisions coordinate with each other to coordinate delivery of programs and services to our customers.

A measure of customer service is the number of events hosted at State Fair Park.



One measure of food safety is the number of food/water borne outbreaks. CHS continues to work closely with the Wyoming Department Health (WDH) in the investigation and reporting of illnesses/outbreaks. As detailed below, the WDH received 30 complaints relating to food and water borne issues with seven (7) outbreaks involving 118 people. The number of outbreaks is monitored closely, given the increased concern in food safety nationally and our state's increased numbers of food producers.



### **Story behind the last year of performance:**

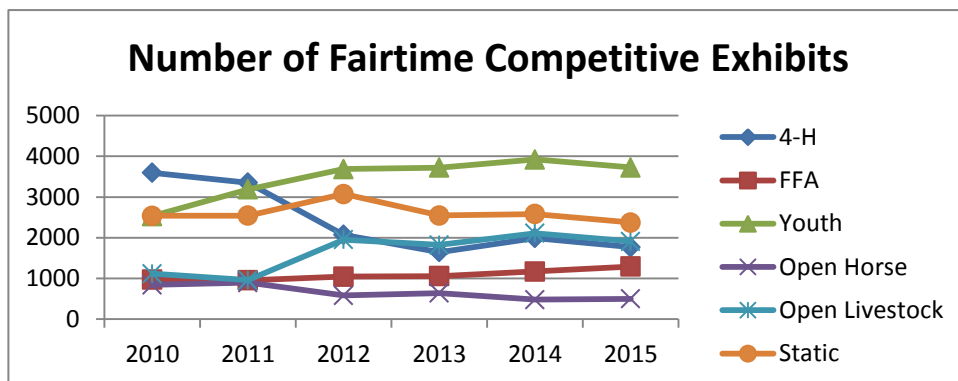
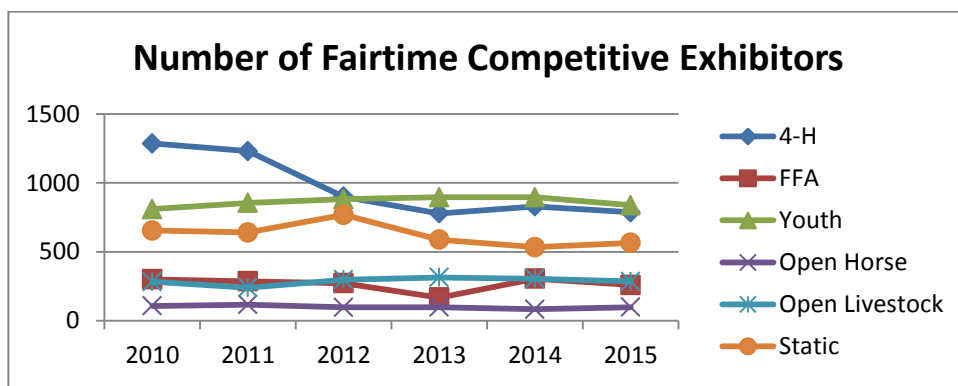
The WDA seeks to find new and improved ways to serve our customers and meet their ever-changing issues.

### **What has been accomplished?**

- ASL has modernized much of the chemical analysis equipment through the legislature's continued funding for instrumentation. Many laboratory staff had the opportunity to attend off-site, intensive instrument training classes; and also have vendor experts on-site for intensive, practical hands-on equipment training.
- ASL continues to work on improving sample turnaround time through the use of modern equipment that requires less run time and faster processors. This new equipment uses fewer hazardous chemicals and hazardous practices which is safer for employees and safer for our environment. ASL is also making better use of our Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS) to get comprehensive reports to our customers using email to enhance customer service.
- ASL has improved quality in the laboratory through our ISO/IEC 17025 accreditation standards and process/policies developed to address the standards. Strict and consistent commitment to ISO standards results in improved quality through the laboratory. This also ensures that the laboratory is working closely with our customers and providing the highest quality defensible results.
- Admin has continued to cross train staff on additional duties and has worked on reorganizing to gain efficiencies and provided additional training for added duties to enhance customer service to the divisions.
- CHS's Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) training for food processors has been implemented state-wide.
- CHS is in the roll out stage for a new licensing and inspection system. The system will incorporate on line capability as well as updated inspection reports.
- NRP is assisting in leading the State's efforts on sage grouse management and implementation of the various federal land agencies sage grouse plans.
- NRP is leading the implementation of rangeland monitoring and applied agriculture research in Wyoming, with funding secured during the 2015 legislative session.
- Natural resource issues on over 8.0 million acres are being managed through the Coordinated Resource Management program and its process.
- Major maintenance funds continue to improve State Fair venues for enhanced service to its customers year-around.
- TS has worked to formalize the newly created Wyoming Dry Bean Commission as established by Wyoming Statute. The Commission goals are to promote, market, provide producer education, research, and consumer awareness of Wyoming's dry bean industry.
- TS is nearing roll-out of the improved licensing database system. TS expects the Stellar Generation II program will go online in September. It will include enhanced features such as online license renewal and credit card acceptance. In addition, we are working with Nover-Englestein to implement the live sync feature of the WinWam software.

### **Performance Measure #2 Education:**

Externally, the WDA seeks to educate citizens through policy analyses of federal projects, to showcase agriculture at SF, to provide consumer protection education, and to increase awareness of the role of agriculture in Wyoming. The SF is an optimal educational opportunity for the public. Hands on, experiential learning for both youth and adults is provided throughout the event. The SF hosts a number of exhibitors and exhibits during the annual event detailed in the two charts below.



#### **Story behind the last year of performance:**

The WDA sponsors both internal (staff) and external (general public) educational events. External education includes mediation training to resolve disputes among agricultural producers and workshops on food safety for establishment employees. Internal education includes professional development and technical training. Internally, the WDA offers appropriate safety training, emergency planning, and other staff development opportunities.

#### **What has been accomplished?**

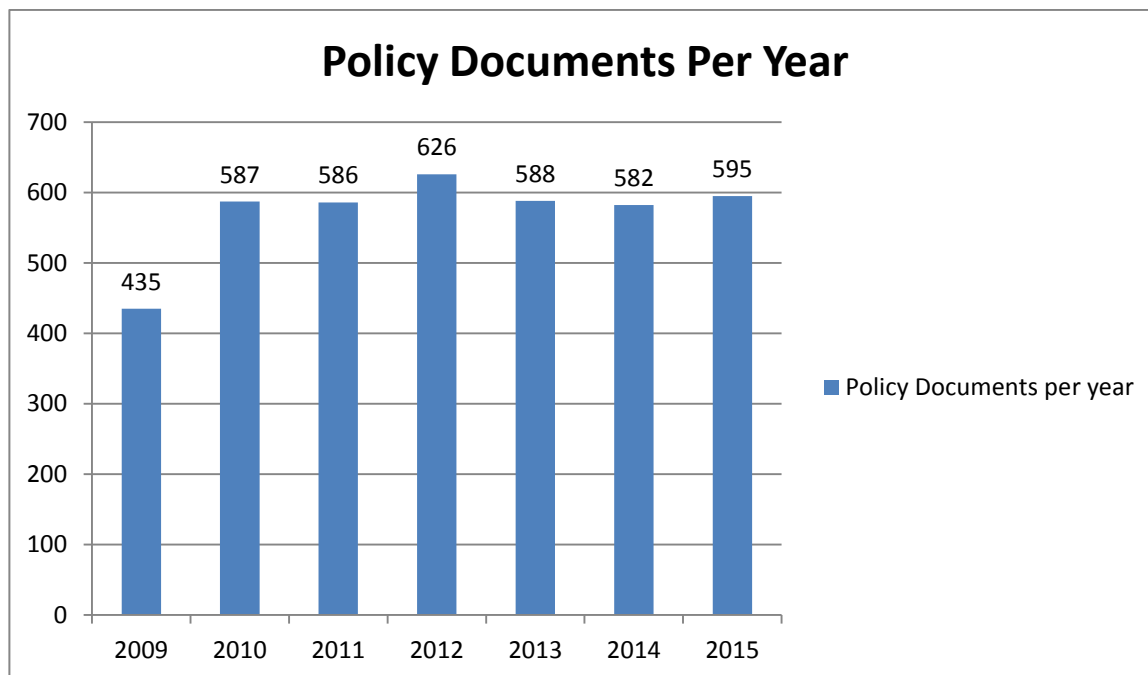
- All divisions sponsored technical, computer, and safety training events as well as cross-training opportunities for employees.
- ASL continues to work closely with CHS to ensure inspectors are trained on sample collection requirements and give feedback to CHS for improvement of this process.
- ASL continues to work closely with TS on complaint and regulatory fuel samples to ensure samples are properly collected and high quality results are being reported out quickly. Discussions between TS inspectors and ASL scientists are frequent to ensure ASL is running tests that are appropriate to the complaint being investigated.
- CHS continues to offer food safety and environmental health seminars for the establishments and the general public and on-going safety training for their staff members.
- CHS and NRP continue to publish their own newsletters electronically and in print for their constituents.
- NRP provided outreach and education to producers and local and state entities regarding the various sage grouse implementation plans.
- NRP provided mediation outreach training and enhanced conservation district supervisor training
- State Fair continues to grow its educational outreach with FFA and 4-H through improved facilities and updated competitive events.
- TS is working closely with the University of Wyoming, Pesticide Education & Safety Program to develop a revised Worker Protection Standards training program for agricultural workers and employers. These

revisions are a result of EPA enacting new federal regulations for pesticide applicator and worker protection.

- TS is working closely with the Wyoming Weed & Pest Council to implement a new national initiative called “Play, Clean, Go” [www.playcleango.org](http://www.playcleango.org) to stop the spread of invasive species.

### **Performance Measure #3 Program Management:**

The WDA continues to work with and coordinate 12 state boards and assists 34 conservation districts, 23 weed and pest districts, and 23 county predator/animal boards. As an example of coordination efforts, under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) rules, NR&P staff participates in the planning and implementation processes of federal actions that impact producers, local entities, and state and federal agencies. This planning involves reviewing, negotiating, and commenting on major Environmental Assessments, Environmental Impact Statements, and Land and Resource Management Plans.



### **Story behind the last year of performance:**

The WDA’s divisions provide coordination and leadership for a variety of constituent groups state-wide. Aware of its responsibilities, the divisions continue to grow strategies to meet agriculture’s needs and skills to implement those strategies.

### **What has been accomplished?**

- Administration continues to monitor databases to track training, performance appraisals, and inventory.
- To implement the new fuel quality program, ASL and TS have collaborated on staff training, established a state-wide sampling schedule and shared space in order to test fuel samples from around the state.
- CHS continues to educate the public as well as establishments on food safety in order to protect our citizens from food borne illnesses. The division continues to work with the Dept. of Health and federal agencies on a variety of food issues and recalls.
- NRP continues to initiate or coordinate proactive work of policy analysts to maintain ag sustainability, continue a rangeland health monitoring program, water quality grant program and an applied agriculture research grant program.

- State Fair completed major construction; continues to perform major maintenance through cooperation with the Construction Management Division; and is reviewing capital construction and further major maintenance for a consistent architectural and visual theme across the entire fairgrounds.
- TS is nearing adoption of the Chapter 1 Wyoming Bean Commission Rules. The formal rule making process is scheduled to be completed in August 2016.
- TS continues to review and revise current regulations to meet the Governor's rules reduction directive to streamline the regulatory environment as an effort to reduce and simplify regulations. Five (5) sets of regulations have been completed, with another three (3) sets under review, and one (1) set near completion.

