



**Welcome** to the team of business and industry leaders who are dedicated to promoting Southwest Wyoming manufacturing and technology.

Visit our website

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## SOUTHWEST WYOMING MANUFACTURING PARTNERSHIP

### OUR MISSION AND GOALS INCLUDE:

**Awareness** of career opportunities.

**Alignment** of education and skill development for career paths.

**Planning** for what is needed now for future opportunities.

**Results** for how to measure success.

Greetings!

Welcome to the SWMP newsletter!

Please enjoy the content and feel free to reach out with questions or to add any news items of your own!

Send info or questions to  
[swregion.nextgenteam@gmail.com](mailto:swregion.nextgenteam@gmail.com)





## CENTER FOR APPRENTICESHIP & WORK-BASED LEARNING

### How to Diversify Your Manufacturing Workforce

Thursday, November 4 | 2:00-3:00 p.m. ET

Hear manufacturing leaders and workforce experts share tips and insights on how manufacturing firms can expand their talent pipeline and diversify their workforce.

This event, hosted by Manufacturers Alliance, JFF, and The Apprenticeship Programs at the State University of New York (SUNY), will be of interest to human resources professionals, executives, and hiring managers within manufacturing firms, as well as educators, intermediaries, or workforce development professionals interested in advancing diversity in the U.S. manufacturing workforce.

Here is the link to register:

[https://www.jff.org/events/dont-leave-talent-table-how-diversify-your-manufacturing-workforce/?utm\\_campaign=Center%20for%20Apprenticeship%20%26%20WBL&utm\\_source=hs\\_email&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_content=170726700&hsenc=p2ANqtz-52xBdxmpOGhLCjB070pyPELzzDuijxZpMXULkGsT8DqqJboWLLrJLX26tphv8crEEDOYZSJxBMVDO29\\_1CRK30WIJKg](https://www.jff.org/events/dont-leave-talent-table-how-diversify-your-manufacturing-workforce/?utm_campaign=Center%20for%20Apprenticeship%20%26%20WBL&utm_source=hs_email&utm_medium=email&utm_content=170726700&hsenc=p2ANqtz-52xBdxmpOGhLCjB070pyPELzzDuijxZpMXULkGsT8DqqJboWLLrJLX26tphv8crEEDOYZSJxBMVDO29_1CRK30WIJKg)



An Update from the Sweetwater Economic Development  
Coalition (SEDC)



## SEDC Supports Sweetwater County's Build Back Better Regional Challenge Proposal

The Sweetwater Economic Development Coalition (SEDC) recently wrote a letter of support for the Clean Energy Transformation Hub that Sweetwater County is proposing as part of the ARPA EDA Build Back Better Regional Challenge for Coal Impacted Communities. The Wyoming Energy Authority (WEA) is preparing the state wide proposal for this initiative. In 2021, Sweetwater County completed an important study to lay out the framework of developing a comprehensive strategy for the purpose of recruiting and cultivating industrial or other development in the area. Funded jointly between the County, the Cities of Green River and Rock Springs, and a Planning Grant from the Wyoming Business Council, the project was driven by economic threats from the region's primary minerals industry as well as the upcoming closures of Units 3 and 4 at the Jim Bridger Power Plant. [Continue Reading](#)

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## Planting Your Roots

We strive to keep our students here in Wyoming after they graduate from high school or college and here's a great story about Kayson Randall's return home.

Kayson Randall grew up in Rock Springs Wyoming and attended Rock Springs High School. During his sophomore year Kayson joined the Energy Resource Academy as he had a passion to have a career in the energy field. Kayson graduated from Rock Springs High School in 2014 and then moved to Texas to pursue a career in welding. Kayson lived in Texas for four years, working on the pipeline, and working his way up to running his own welding truck.

In 2018 Kayson was engaged to be married and looking for a job that was closer to home, where he could start planting roots. He started looking for job opportunities in his home state where he came across a welding position at Wyoming Machinery Company. Kayson worked in the weld shop for three years and just currently accepted a position as a Field Lube Technician. Kayson hopes to grow his knowledge of the machinery and build relationships with the customers as he hopes to move into a sales position one day. There is no state that Kayson would rather be in than his home state of Wyoming, and no where he would rather work than here at Wyoming Machinery Company.



Wyoming Department  
of Workforce Services

Training, granted.  
Get reimbursed for employee training.

The Workforce Development Training Fund (WDTF) is a unique Wyoming-based program

connecting employers with professional development opportunities to increase employee skill attainment. Grant Options include: Business Training Grants, Pre-Hire Economic Development Grants, and Pre-Obligation Grants, and Apprenticeship Grants.

[Click HERE For more information](#)

## Growth of Trona

**An Update from Genesis Alkali - David Caplan**

Wyoming's trona deposits have provided significant economic value to the federal government, the State of Wyoming and our local communities for nearly 70 years. Roughly 90 percent of the nation's supply of this precious resource are located here. The trona beds in Wyoming cover roughly 1,085 square miles. The technologies employed to mine trona and produce refined sodium-based chemical products have made Wyoming producers leaders in the domestic soda market and have progressed the supply of soda ash at competitive prices around the world.



Wyoming's trona industry is on the rise globally. As technology transforms efficiency, resource extraction is the beneficiary, as is the environment. Wyoming's trona industry employs more than 2,300 people and it is an exciting time to be in the industry. As vertically integrated, value-added operations, the industry must employ a full team to ensure success including careers in: mining, chemical processing, mechanics, operators, technology, Information Technology, accounting engineering, marketing and sales, health, safety and environmental, and human resources.



Safety is a core cultural value for Wyoming's Trona mining industry with a record that speaks for itself. Wyoming trona mines are recognized by the U.S. Department of Labor as some of the safest mining operations in the nation.

Being a world leader means driving for excellence. Wyoming's trona industry boasts world class operations with cutting edge technology. Investments in education enables industry to attract top talent. Recent partnerships with higher education – Western Wyoming Community College and the University of

Wyoming – are designed with students at the forefront and how they become employment ready. Those same partnerships are also helping industry solve tomorrow's problems today.

Experts estimate there are still billions of tons of trona remaining to be mined. That translates over time into strong growth and expansion for the industry. Although this bountiful deposit is not exactly gold, the soda ash and sodium specialty products extracted and manufactured within the Green River basin have been coveted by consumers around the world for a whole host of products considered essential to everyday life. The corresponding economic benefits to Wyoming and the United States from this high-demand natural resource cannot be overstated and its continuing supply for future generations is unrivaled on the planet.





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### Executive SWMP Meeting Notes 9/22/2021 3:00pm to 4:30pm

Attendance: Ron, Fred, Jed (Online), Carl, Jessica, Matt (Online), Lauren, Tosha (Online), Kelly (Online), Wyoming Business Council at 3:30 Josh Dorrell, Kiley Ingersoll, Cindy Johnson, Kathy  
Absent: Craig B., Joan,

**Safety Shares:** Fred -Make sure you get checked out with health professionals. Something that could be wrong with you may not be what you think it is. What he thought was tendinitis was gout.

Make sure you have emergency and cold weather kits in your vehicles with the weather changing.

[Full Meeting Notes](#)

## Local Business Champion Spotlight



Climb's Sweetwater Area program was established in 2007 and offers trainings such as short-haul truck driving, warehouse technology, and healthcare careers.

Celebrating 35 years of working with single mothers to achieve self-sufficiency, Climb Wyoming is a statewide nonprofit organization whose mission is for low-income single mothers to discover self-sufficiency through career training and

placement. Climb graduates consistently double their monthly income and decrease their reliance on public assistance programs, thanks to a comprehensive, evidence-based program approach that includes job skills training, life skills, and mental health services.

The most recent Commercial Driving training in the Sweetwater Area included four weeks behind the wheel learning to operate 70-foot, 40,000-pound semi-trucks. The moms drove in rain, snow, and ice to complete final testing and earn CDL licenses that will offer a wide range of career opportunities. Together, they addressed challenges that might have kept them from finding job success in the past. They gained confidence and are now filling critical transportation positions in our community's workforce, with high-paying careers that will change their families' lives.



“The women in my group were unstoppable and exceptionally courageous,” says Lisa, one of the graduates. “I am so grateful to the Climb program and that cowboy spirit in Wyoming that has inspired us to be independent and self-sufficient.”

Employers from the program include FedEx Freight, Lewis and Lewis, R&D Sweeping and Asphalt, and Sweetwater County Road and Bridge. Climb works with employers who need skilled and motivated workers and are interested in partnering with an organization that has a proven record of providing

quality employees. While the basis of the Climb model focuses on job-training and placement, the program also addresses life skills including workplace communication, problem-solving, budgeting and parenting. These additional components ensure successful relationships at the workplace and in the home, and provide the employer with a dependable, qualified employee.





## JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Explore the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services website for current job openings or to post an opening within your company.



## Friendly Reminder . . . .

### What is our Purpose and How do we Get There?

#### ***Purpose:***

#### **Improve outcomes for our students and those seeking career changes**

- **Business, Educators, Government Services and the Community working together to improve**
  - **Awareness** of career opportunities
  - **Alignment** of education and skill development for career paths
  - **Planning** for what is needed now and for future opportunities
  - **Results** for how to measure success
- **Awareness**
  - Increase awareness of career opportunities within our community
  - Students, Educators, Counselors, Government Agencies, Parents and the Community
  - Engagement events and opportunities
  - Career Fairs,
  - Jr. High and High School events
  - Mentoring and job shadowing etc.
  - Engagement & Dialog with the stakeholders
- **Alignment to better prepare our students for careers in our community and beyond**
  - Direct from high school including career technical training
  - Secondary education, certificate programs, two-year degrees, CTE
  - University alignment (pathways and career paths)
- **Planning**
  - What is needed now,
  - Where will the opportunities be
  - What will we do to prepare and fill the pipeline?
  - Promotion, Communication processes, Scholarships, etc.
  - Measurements; Create metrics such as % Secondary Education, % successful career changes

- **Membership**

- **Southwest Wyoming: Carbon, Fremont, Sublette, Sweetwater, Uinta, Lincoln**

**Membership:**

**Core Business Champions:** Fred von Ahrens, Ron Wild, Craig Rood, Matt McQueen, Carl Lembke, Lauren Schoenfeld, Kim Dale, Kelly McGovern, Craig Barringer, Joan Evans, Jed Vigil, Marty Carollo

**Core Co-Conveners:** Bridget Stewart, Lacey Bluemel, Tosha Garner

**2020-2021 Schedule:**

**Meeting Location:** Monthly Conference Calls

**Meeting Time:** 3 PM- 4:30 PM



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Get In Touch

