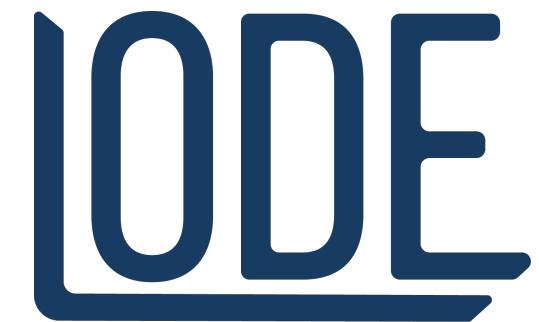


# The Definitive Guide to the Wyoming Blockchain & Crypto Community

Curated & updated bi-annually  
by Chris J Snook & Rich Kopcho

Version 1.0 Last Revision July 1, 2020

A publication of



With Partnership Support From



# Thank You

## Contributors to this guide:

1. Chris J Snook, *Managing Director at LODE; Chairman of Sandcastle Challenge & UWYO S.N.A.P.*
2. Rich Kopcho, *Managing Director at LODE; Executive Producer Wyoming Blockchain Stampede*
3. Caitlin Long, *CEO/Founder Avanti Financial Group; Governor's Appointee at Wyoming Blockchain Coalition*
4. IMPACT307.org. Incubator at University of Wyoming
5. Brad Enzi, *President; Laramie Business Chamber Alliance*
6. Josh Dorrell (CEO) and Wendy Lopez of Wyoming Business Council
7. Chris Land, *General Counsel, Wyoming Division of Banking*
8. Craig Russow, *Major Gifts Officer; University of Wyoming Foundation*
9. Adam Novak, Kyle Custis, Jordan O'Hayre, and Marvin Vinluan; *SNAP Cohort 1*

# Etiquette

## Guidelines to engaging with Wyoming's crypto, blockchain, & emerging tech ecosystems

1. This ecosystem must be led by the Entrepreneurs, supported by Feeders, and amplified by Mentors
2. Promote Wyoming as an AWESOME place to incorporate, live, work, and innovate by building great tech!
3. Give generously (of your time, energy, & network resources) before you expect to get!
4. Enjoy the culture, lifestyle, and people!
5. No Whining...Act and Make a Positive Difference!
6. When you have a BIG EXIT...Give back to the ecosystem!
7. Contribute something to each interaction even when nothing immediate is in it for you!
8. Have an "Open Door" policy when entrepreneurs and investors enter the ecosystem.
9. Be in a constant state of "discovery." Learn and connect others to resources they need!
10. Promote your fellow ecosystems and the hub nodes of Laramie, Cheyenne, and Jackson and collaborate to assist smaller nodes like Casper and Sheridan by visiting often, encouraging them to do likewise!

# Pledge 3.07%

LODE Studio has standardized that 3.07% of the cap table on all its startups in portfolio will be pledged in warrants back to the Wyoming ecosystem through the UW Blockchain Center for Excellence, Sandcastle Foundation, and UWYO Foundation. Several other Wyoming-based crypto and emerging tech companies are following suit to help the ecosystem grow with every successful exit. Wyoming startup founders can join the founders of companies like prod<sup>X</sup>, LODE, IOHK and more and support the long-term viability of our ecosystem and to build generosity into the DNA of the community. Take the pledge by contacting Chris Snook [chris@lode.llc](mailto:chris@lode.llc) and Craig Russow at [crussow@uwyo.edu](mailto:crussow@uwyo.edu)

1

**Connectivity**—Rally a generous community by leveraging existing assets like WyoHackathon, Sandcastle Invitational, S.N.A.P., the Cardano CEAS R&D lab, etc. and Pledge 3.07% of your cap or token table in warrants or airdrops.

2

**Capital**—Entrepreneurs can change the world! Help connect capital into the most promising early stage companies in Wyoming.

3

**Talent**—Support talent development and a sustained workforce that can grow companies and the economy.

# Want to skip around? Here's what we're going to cover.

## Overview

- 7. Why Wyoming?
- 8. Notable Successes
- 9. Movements
- 10. Meetups/Events

## Resources

- 13. UWYO Entrepreneurship
- 15. UWYO Tech Transfer
- 21. Startup Comps
- 22. Prototype labs
- 26. Capital
- 28. Office Space
- 30. Qualified Opp. Zones
- 32. Co-Working
- 35. Get Connected

## Lifestyle

- 37. "HIPSTER" Places
- 38. Stay Caffeinated
- 39. Trails/Parks/Outdoors
- 42. Author Profiles



# Overview

*The essential understanding that'll get you up to speed and connected in a hurry!*

## ***DISCLAIMER: Last Updated 6/15/20***

We're going to walk you through a snapshot of the most relevant resources, players, and movements to help you insert into, contribute to, and benefit from the Wyoming Crypto & Tech Ecosystem.

*We are continually adding to this guide as we become aware of new additions and changes in the marketplace. We don't know it all, but this is a great place to start! Your feedback is welcomed.*

# Why Wyoming?

1



Wyoming has now enacted a total of 13 blockchain-enacting laws, making it the only US state to provide a comprehensive, welcoming legal framework that enables blockchain technology to flourish, both for individuals and companies.

*-Forbes*

(\*Wyoming now has 20 blockchain-enacting laws)

2

Wyoming created the Special Purpose Depository Institution (SPDI). SPDI-chartered firms may be able to operate anywhere in the U.S.

The Cowboys Got It Right: Wyoming's New Blockchain Laws Will Create More Jobs And Capital

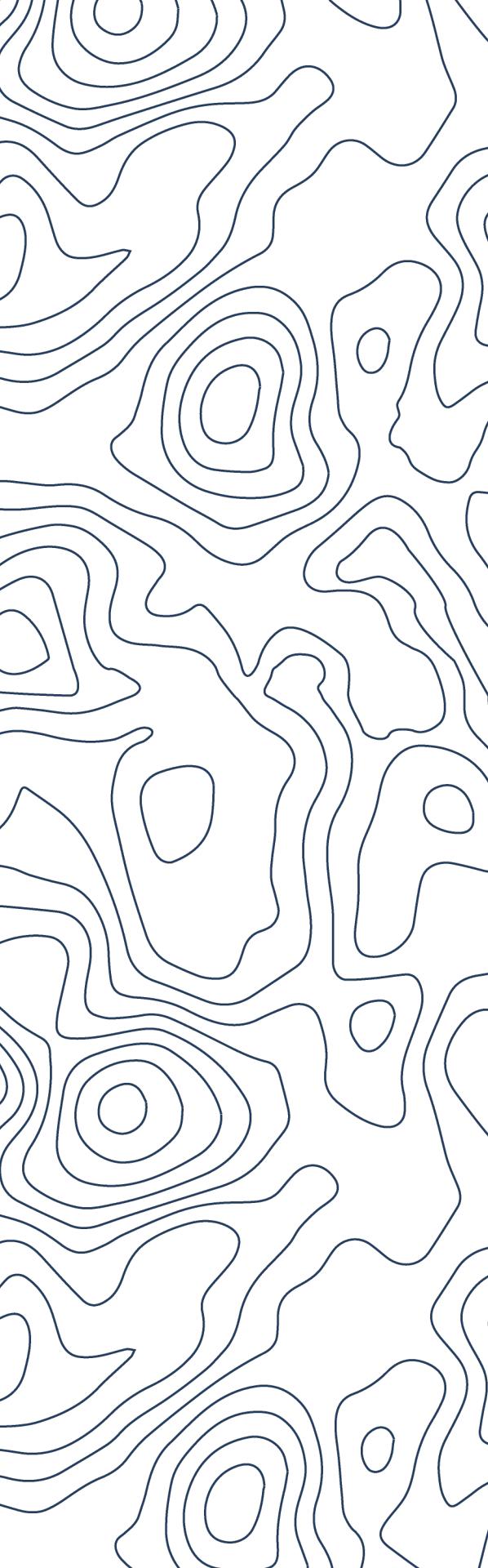
Rachel Wolson Former Contributor Crypto & Blockchain  
Former Contributor

865 views | Mar 22, 2019, 10:00am EDT

Getty GETTY

Last year, Wyoming passed five bills into law as the beginning of a legal framework to define the use of cryptocurrencies and blockchain technology. Almost a year later, Wyoming has legislated a total of 13 blockchain laws. As one of the least populous states in the U.S., Wyoming happens to be the only region to offer a lawful structure designed to advance blockchain technology for both individuals and companies.

# Notable Successes



# Movements

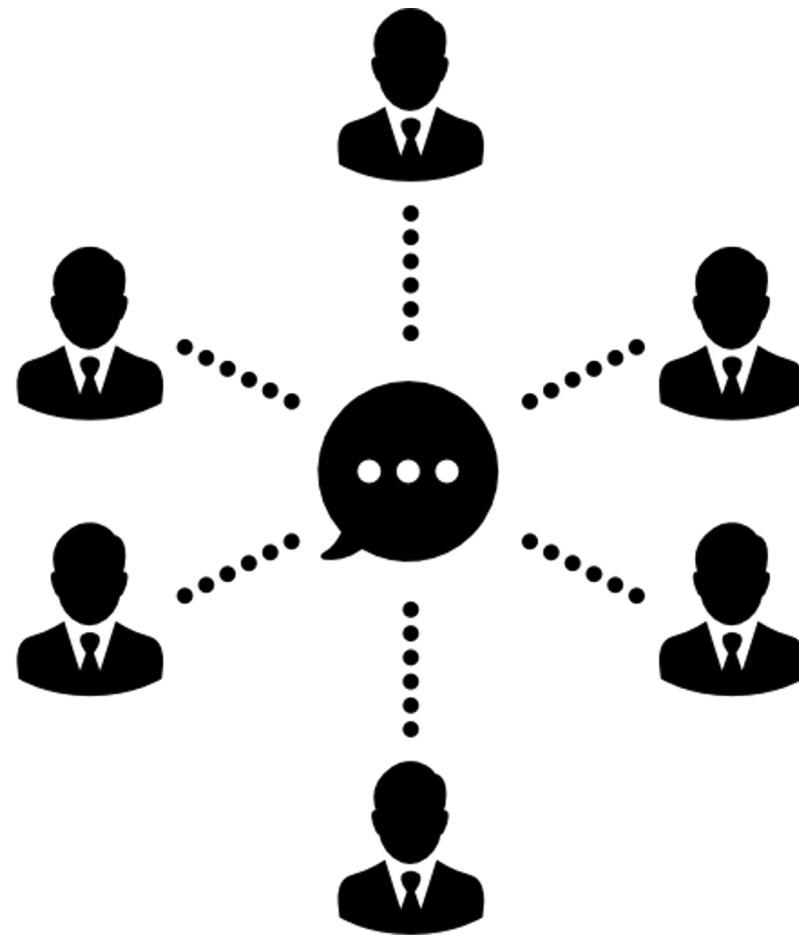
- [Wyoming Business Council](#)
- [Wyoming Small Business Development Network](#)
- [Wyoming Nonprofit Network](#)
- [Wyoming Blockchain Community \(Telegram\)](#)
- [Wyoming Arts Council](#)
- [National Museum of Wildlife Art](#)



# Meetups

*Show Up—Contribute—Receive*

- Coffee and Connections Women's Network
- TechTalkLaramie
- Cheyenne Makers and Creatives
- Teton Tech Meetup
- Champagne and Business Tuesdays
- Jackson Hole Blockchain Meetup
- Park County Entrepreneur Network Meetup
- Hear Me Roar Toastmasters
- Silicon Couloir



# Wyoming Blockchain Community

*Join the Telegram Channel!*

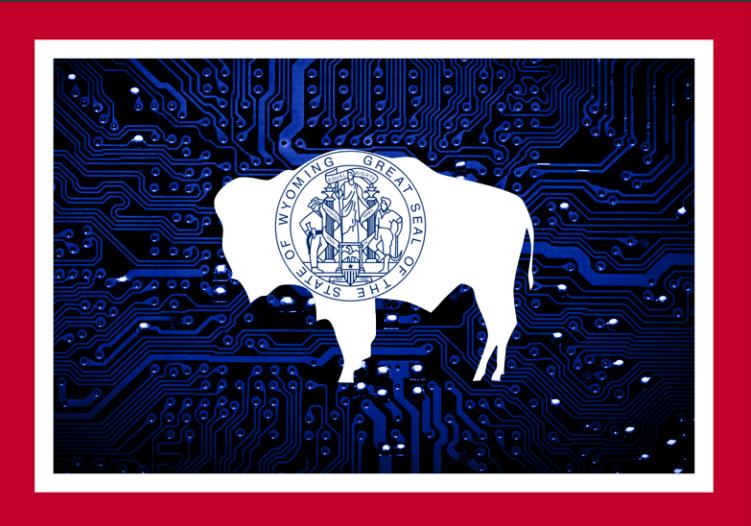
The unofficial place to be to learn  
and engage with the community making  
Wyoming the global home of all things  
Blockchain. 😎

<https://t.me/wyomingblockchain>



# Resources

*The Places and People You Need  
to Meet and Visit in Wyoming,  
“The Equality State”*



# UWYO Entrepreneurship

IMPACT307, our network of incubators still supports Wyoming's goal of economic diversification by encouraging innovation and creative thinking to find business solutions that add value to our lives and the state. We do this by providing free deep business mentoring, entrepreneurial and start-up resources and connections to help you make a positive impact on your business and Wyoming. As always, all IMPACT 307 services and counsel is free.

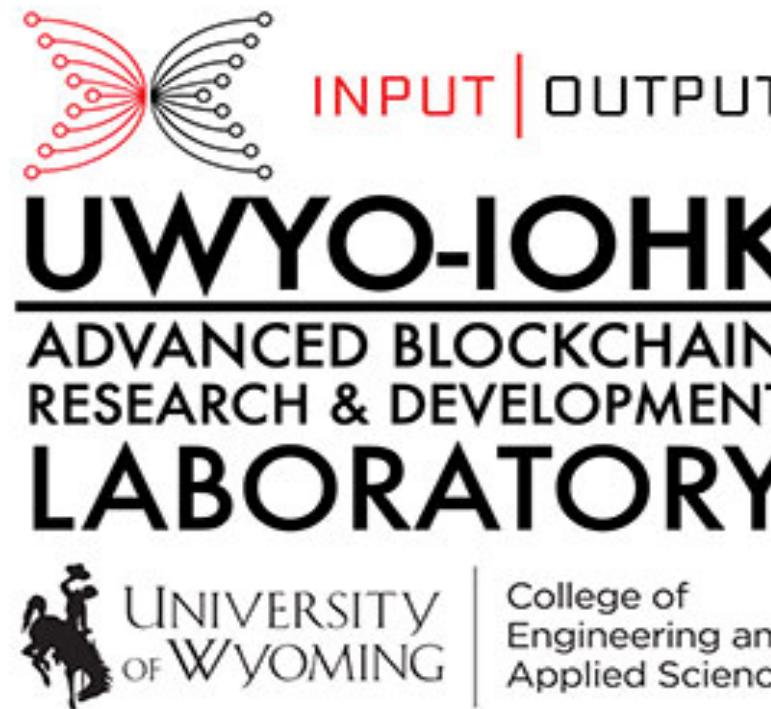
Visit [www.impact307.org](http://www.impact307.org)

S.N.A.P. - *Sandcastle NextGen Apprenticeship Platform* is a 16-week intensive college credit experiential learning course available to students from the College of Agriculture, College of Business, College of Engineering & Applied Sciences, and Law School. Each semester a cohort of students that stood out will be awarded scholarships in the amount of \$2,500 to work as apprentices inside of the LODE Studio startup portfolio.

Visit [www.sandcastle.foundation/snap](http://www.sandcastle.foundation/snap)



# UWYO Cardano Research Lab



IOHK's \$500,000 donation, in the native Cardano cryptocurrency, ADA, will not just fund research into real-world uses of blockchain technology, but will also develop Wyoming further as a talent hub for software engineers, trained in the most advanced software development methods in the world.

- Caitlin Long

The company has centers attached to the University of Edinburgh, the University of Athens and the Tokyo Institute of Technology. UW will be the first American campus to be fully affiliated with the company. Go Pokes!

# Venture Catalysts

## Technology Transfer



The screenshot shows the University of Wyoming's website header with links for STUDENTS, PARENTS, ALUMNI, PEOPLE, WYOWEB, VIRTUAL TOUR, GIVE, and EVENTS. Below the header is the UW NAVIGATION logo featuring a cowboy silhouette. To the right are links for A-Z DIRECTORY, Search, and a magnifying glass icon. The main content area features a large banner for the WYOMING TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER CENTER (WYT2). The banner includes the text "Wyoming Technology Transfer Center", "WYT<sup>2</sup>", "LTAP", and "Local Technical Assistance Program". To the right of the banner is a section titled "WYT2/LTAP Center" which describes the T2/LTAP Center's mission to assist local Wyoming agencies and individuals in gaining technical transportation knowledge through workshops and direct requests. Below this is a section titled "LTAP Mission" which describes the National Local Technical Assistance Program's mission to foster a safe, efficient, and environmentally sound surface transportation system.

**WYOMING TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER CENTER**

**WYT<sup>2</sup>/LTAP Center**

The T2/LTAP Center assists local Wyoming agencies and individuals in gaining technical transportation knowledge. This is accomplished by communicating new and developing technology, responding to direct requests, providing reference materials, and conducting T2/LTAP workshops throughout Wyoming. T2 is part of the Local Technical Assistance Program, which supports centers in all 50 states and Puerto Rico. The T2/LTAP Center is sponsored by the Federal Highway Administration, in cooperation with the University of Wyoming, the Wyoming Transportation Department, and Wyoming cities and counties.

**LTAP Mission**

The National Local Technical Assistance Program mission is to foster a safe, efficient, and environmentally sound surface transportation system by improving skills and increasing knowledge of the transportation workforce through training, technical assistance, and technology transfer.

- Discover I.P. & Co-Founders
- License, R&D, Incubate, and Commercialize new solutions
- Access capital, new tech & world class research
- Visit  
<https://www.uwyo.edu/wyt2/>



# Array School Apprenticeship



<https://arrayschool.com/>

- Our vision is to build a world-class coding, technology, and design school in the heart of downtown Cheyenne. A community of thinkers, doers, and entrepreneurs who share the vision and passion for creating beautiful things and moving our society forward.
- Array works with project partners to identify if their projects would be a good fit for the Array Apprenticeship program. It is never too late to become the person you were always meant to be.

# Democratizing Digital Intelligence

#OwnYourData is a unifying banner for empowering individuals through digital intelligence education. We envision a world where every person has the skills to critically evaluate their digital presence while, and not instead of, benefiting from the perks of the many advancements in our digital world.



FOUNDATION

<https://ownyourdata.foundation/>

# UWYO Blockchain Center of Excellence

BIG NEWS COMING SEPT. 23-27



# NCAR Wyoming Super Computing Center

- The NCAR-Wyoming Supercomputing Center (NWSC) provides advanced computing services to scientists studying a broad range of disciplines, including weather, climate, oceanography, air pollution, space weather, computational science, energy production, and carbon sequestration. It also houses a landmark data storage and archival facility that will hold, among other scientific data, unique historical climate records.

<https://nwsc.ucar.edu/>





# Competitions

# Startup Competitions

1

**WyoHackathon**- We're holding the WyoHackathon in Laramie and virtually as part of a larger, more inclusive event. September 23 - October 24, 2020. Last year over \$207K in bounties and prizes were awarded.

2

**Ellbogan \$50K Entrepreneurship Program Competition**- The UW competition encourages college students across Wyoming to act on their talents, ideas, and energy to produce tomorrow's leading businesses.

3

**Sandcastle Invitational \$25K**- Sandcastle Foundation produces its North American regional qualifying Sandcastle Startups Challenge exclusively in Wyoming during the annual Wyoming Blockchain Stampede. Winners get a bid into the \$250K World Finals in Dubai in 2021.

IDEA TO PRODUCT



# Prototype Labs



# STUDENT INNOVATION CENTER

The Coe Student Innovation Center (CSIC) is a cutting-edge makerspace created to foster imaginative, collaborative, and innovative design projects.

Visit them in Laramie, WY:

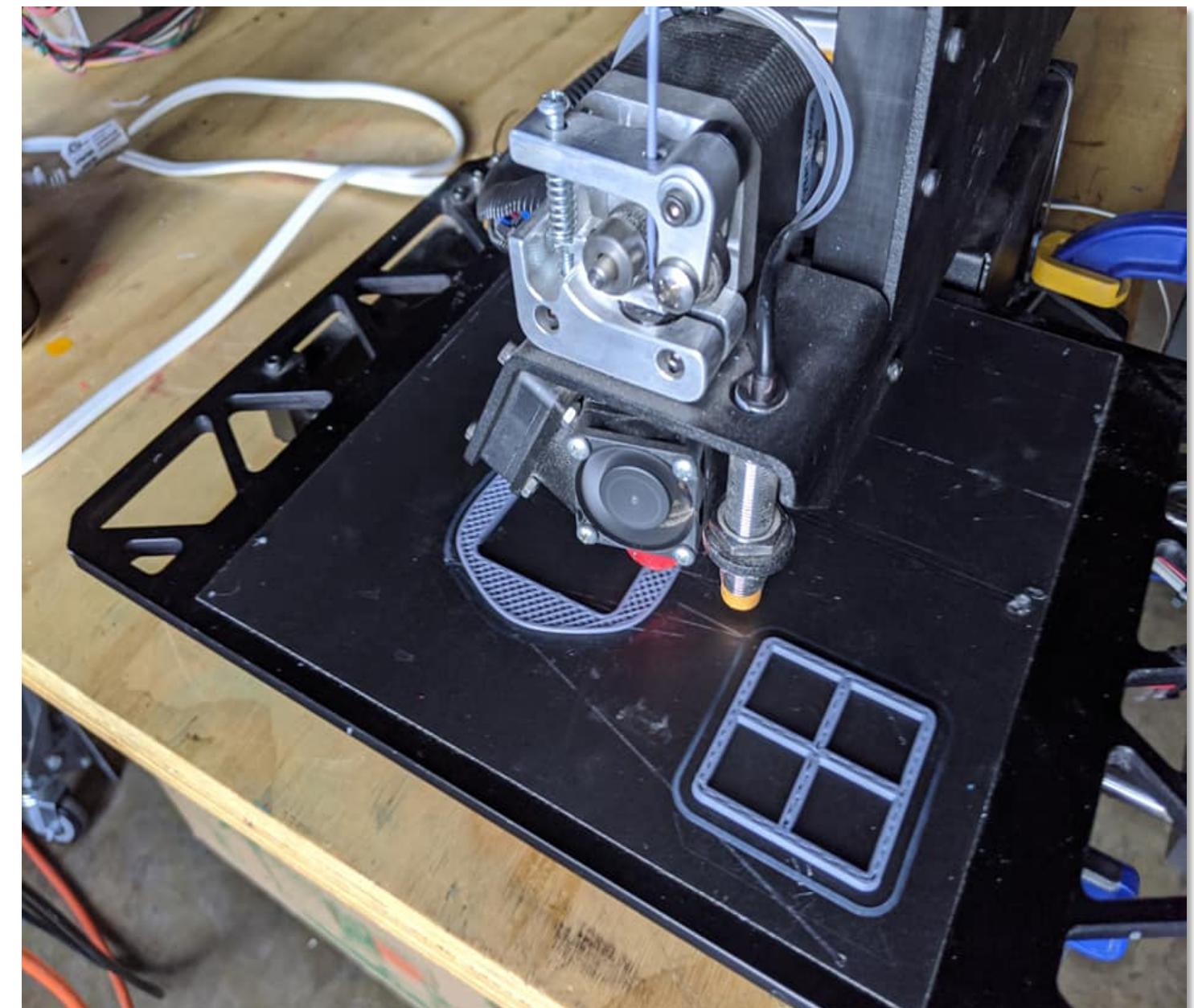
- <https://www.uwyo.edu/sic/makerspaces/csic/index.html>
- Location: Coe Library, room #233
- Hours: 10AM to 6PM, Monday through Friday
- Phone: (307) 766-7009

# MakerSpace307

Maker Spaces, Fab Labs, Maker Labs, Tech Shops are a big part of the new DIY community movement. In a Maker Space you will find other familiar equipment from sewing machines to hand tools and equipment familiar to anyone who ever took a shop class or a sculpture class.

Visit them: <https://makerspace307.org/>  
Phone: (307) 438-1452

2255 Brunton Court, Suite A, Riverton,  
Wyoming 82501



# Powell MakerSpace

Powell MakerSpace is a community workshop where members of the community can get access to technology and education that might otherwise be unavailable to them.

1

Members have access to many digital fabrication techniques – even 3D printing and laser cutting.

2

Open Build Evening: A 2-hour event every Friday to create collaborate and, have fun.

Visit them:

<https://powellmakerspace.org/calendar/>



POWELL  
**MAKER**  
**SPACE**



Capital

# Local Capital Providers

- Wyoming Smart Capital Network
- Fifth Column Capital, LLC.
- Teton Equity Partners
- Thermopolis Partners
- UW Foundation
- BitAngels
- Blue Ocean Digital Management



To view the whole list of Wyoming capital providers, visit:

<https://www.dnb.com/business-directory/company-information.investment-firms.us.wyoming.html?page=4>



3-500 EMPLOYEES

# Office Spaces

# Ready to Scale?

Contact Brad Enzi, at the Laramie Chamber Business Alliance for leasing or development inquiries.

- (307) 745-7339
- <https://laramie.org>
- <https://www.cirrusskywyoming.tech/>

## Flexible Space for Growth

## New Facilities in Laramie!



# Qualified Opportunity Zones

Wyoming Business Council  
214 West 15th St.  
Cheyenne, WY 82002  
307.777.2800  
[info.wbc@wyo.gov](mailto:info.wbc@wyo.gov)

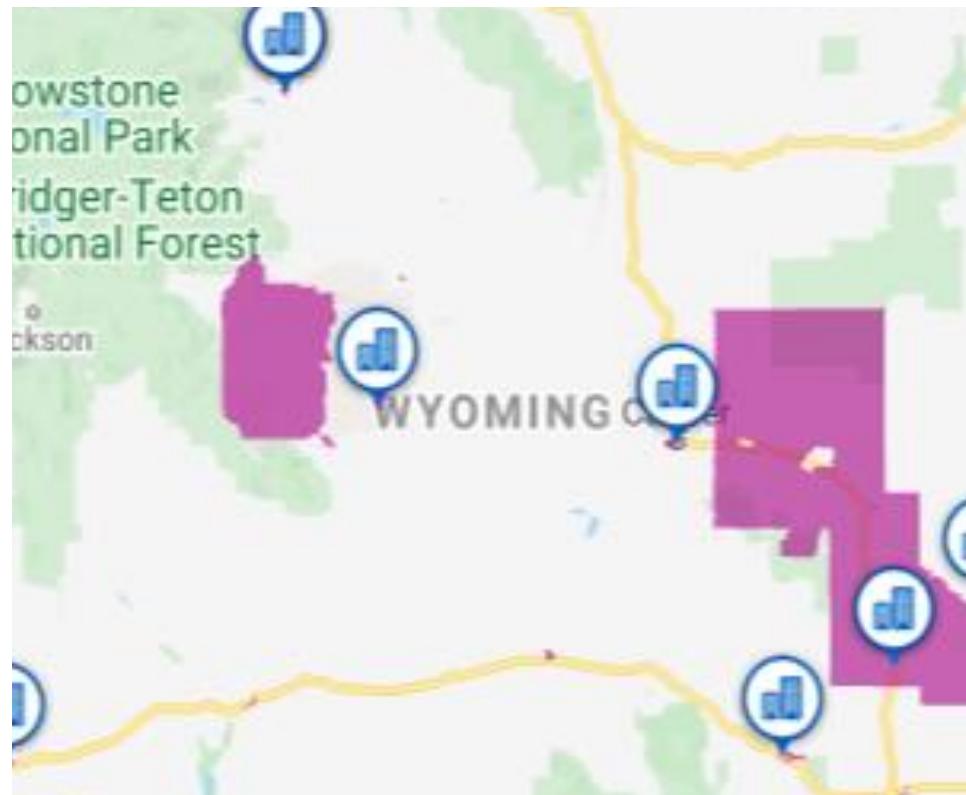
<https://www.wyomingbusiness.org/opportunityzones>



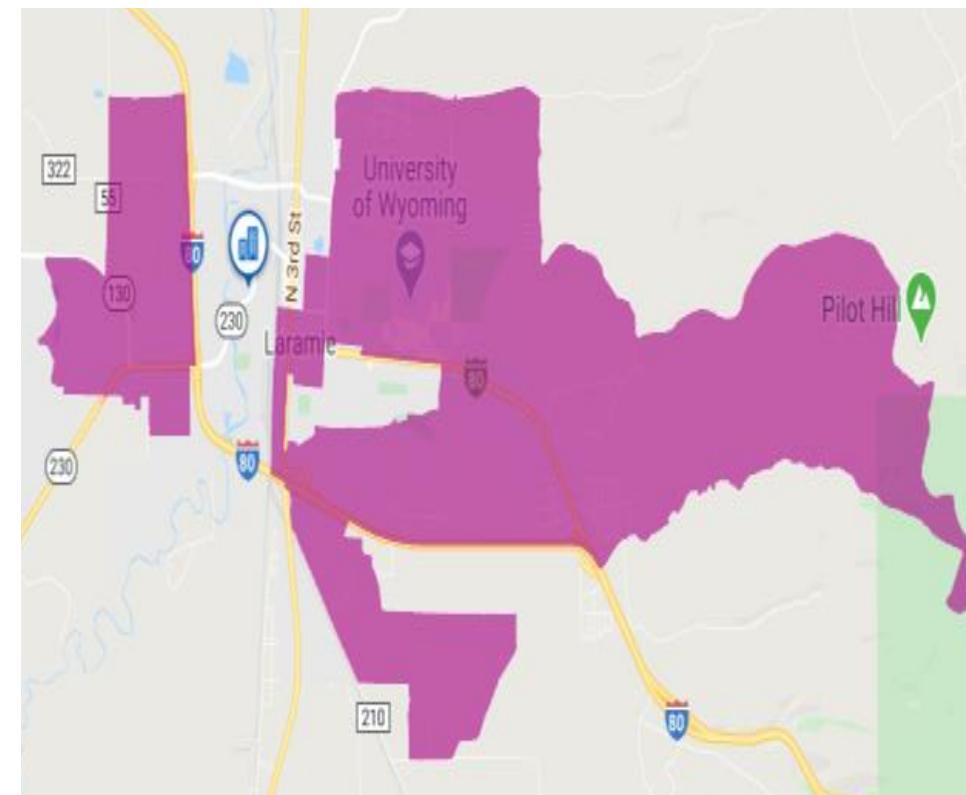
# Qualified Opportunity Zones Map

Wyoming Business Council  
214 West 15th St.  
Cheyenne, WY 82002  
307.777.2800  
[info.wbc@wyo.gov](mailto:info.wbc@wyo.gov)

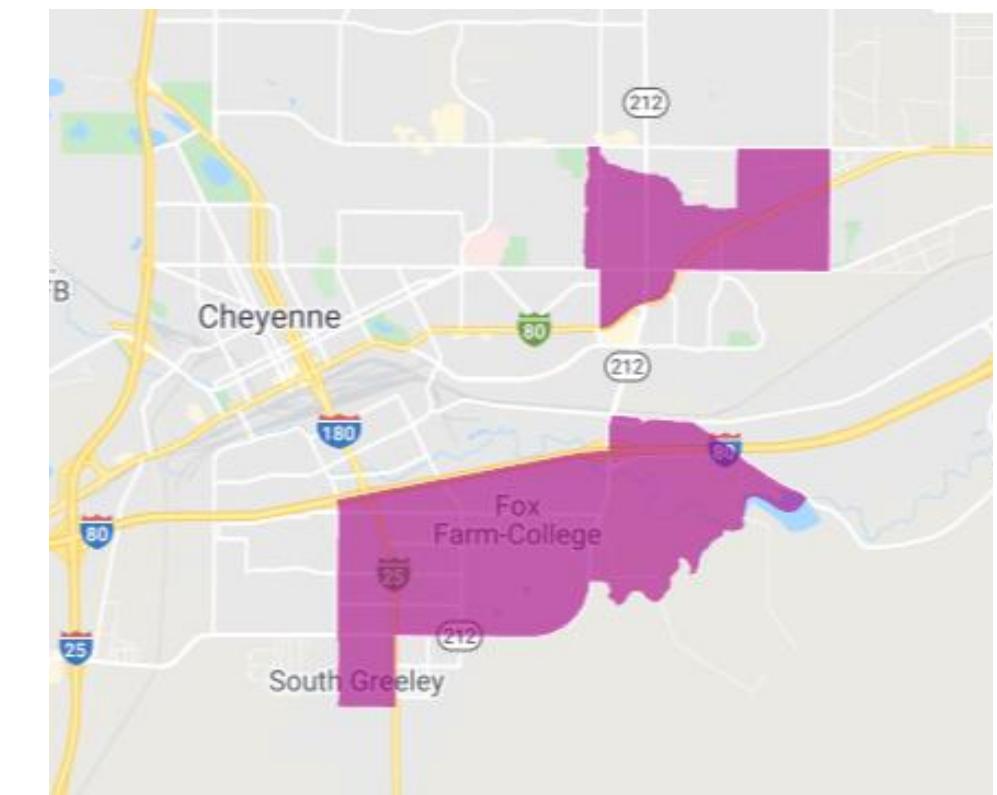
Wyoming



Laramie



Cheyenne





Co-Working

# "Work is changing."

Democratizing Access To Tools

- 1 The CoWork Space – Jackson
- 2 The Office Coworking Space – Laramie
- 3 The Durlacher – Laramie
- 4 CoWork@TheMontgomery – Sheridan
- 5 Paramount Second Floor - Cheyenne



# Finding Talent/Startup Jobs

- Silicon Couloir – Align entrepreneurship with community vision to promote a diverse economy and a healthy environment for current and future generations.
- Wyoming Startup Job distribution list - Send your CV to Chris J Snook for distribution to relevant local startups in Wyoming.

# Get Connected

## Press/Newsletters/Social



- <https://www.siliconcouloir.com/news>
- <https://twitter.com/SiliconCouloir>
- <https://rpk3law.com/blog/>
- <https://www.wyomingbusiness.org/news>
- <https://wyomingwins.com/wyoming-startup-network/>
- <https://www.twitter.com/CaitlinLong>
- <http://www.twitter.com/chrisjsnook>
- <https://www.launchha.us/blog/tag/chris+j+snook>



Work ~~X~~ Life  
Balance

Lifestyle

# Hipster Places

---

- Sweet Melissa's—Laramie
- Svilar's Bar & Steakhouse—Hudson
- The Crowbar—Laramie
- The Branding Iron—Casper
- The Office Bar & Grill—Casper
- The Metropolitan Downtown—Cheyenne
- The Blue Lion—Jackson
- Fridays on the Plaza—Cheyenne
- Altitude Chophouse & Brewery—Laramie



# Stay Caffeinated

---

- Coal Creek Coffee
- Cowboy Coffee
- Turtle Rock Coffee
- Metro Coffee Co.
- Dazbog Coffee
- The Paramount Café
- Central Cafe
- Starbucks
- City Brew



# Trails, Parks, Wine, etc.

---

- Vedauwoo
- Medicine Bow National Forest
- 12 State Parks
- 5 National Forests
- 7 Wildlife Refuges
- Grand Tetons National Park
- Yellowstone National Park
- Jackson Hole Winery



# The Wyoming Newcomer Integration Checklist

- Study and Review This Guide and its Links*
- Email [chris@lode.llc](mailto:chris@lode.llc) or [rich@lode.llc](mailto:rich@lode.llc) for personal introductions*
- Attend a relevant Meetup or Open Event*
- Take a Tour of Wyoming, UWYO Incubators, and local makerspaces and plug in!*

# Was this helpful?



Welcome to the Wyoming Startup Ecosystem! Please help us make this guide more valuable in future versions by emailing [chris@lode.llc](mailto:chris@lode.llc) your feedback Thanks in advance!

# Chris J. Snook & Rich Kopcho

LODE



[@chrisjsnook](https://twitter.com/chrisjsnook)



[chris@lode.llc](mailto:chris@lode.llc)



[@kopcho](https://twitter.com/kopcho)



[rich@lode.llc](mailto:rich@lode.llc)