

---

# INTRODUCTION

---

## Scope and Acknowledgements

---

### Scope

W.S. 28-8-107(b) authorizes the Legislative Service Office to conduct program evaluations, performance audits, and analyses of policy alternatives. Generally, the purpose of such research is to provide a base of knowledge from which policymakers can make informed decisions.

In November 2004, the Management Audit Committee directed staff to undertake a review of the operations and impacts of the Wyoming Business Council (WBC). The Committee requested an analysis focusing on the following questions:

- What is WBC's role in directing Wyoming economic development efforts? Does its role differ from one that the 1997 Steering Committee envisioned?
- How does WBC's quasi-governmental status affect its ability to perform?
- What is the comprehensive economic development strategy by which WBC guides state efforts?
- How does WBC measure and report on its performance and economic impacts?
- How is WBC administering the Business Ready Communities grant and loan program?

The scope of this report does not include an evaluation of WBC's Travel and Tourism Division.

### Acknowledgements

The Legislative Service Office expresses appreciation to those who assisted in this research, including the officials of local economic development organizations; staff members of the Departments of A&I and Employment; the Office of State Lands and Investments; and especially the WBC staff and former and present board members.

This page intentionally left blank.