

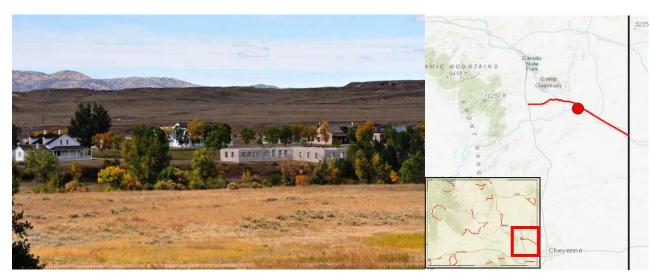
# Wyoming

# **The National Scenic Byways Program**

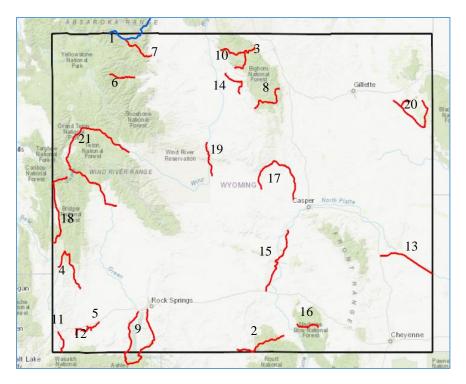
The National Scenic Byways Program, established by Congress in 1991, recognizes historic, scenic and culturally important roads and promotes tourism and economic development in nearby communities. In 1988, the Wyoming State Highway Commission designated State Highway 296 as Chief Joseph Scenic Byway. The Wyoming Division of Tourism soon established Loop Tours designed to encourage travelers to experience more of Wyoming's history, wildlife and breathtaking scenery. The U.S. Forest Service designated seven scenic State Highways as National Forest Service Scenic Byways. By 1995, more than 1,640 miles of road and highway were designated as scenic highways, byways, or loop tours by federal and state agencies. The success and importance of these roads prompted the Governor to declare the Wyoming Department of Transportation (WYDOT) responsible for overseeing the Wyoming Scenic Byways Program in 1995. To help coordinate the several federal and state agencies interested in scenic byways, the WYDOT established the Wyoming Scenic Byways Advisory Committee in 1998. Through collaboration, these agencies aim to promote and enhance state roads that offer an opportunity for recreational travel through lands of significant scenic, cultural and historic value.

### Key points:

- Wyoming is home to 1 National Scenic Byway and 20 State Scenic Byways.
- Researchers studying Wyoming's Beartooth Highway found that nonresident visitors contributed over \$53 million in economic activity over 2012-2013.
- Buffalo Bill Cody Scenic Byway travels through the town of Cody, a gateway community to Yellowstone National Park, which had an estimated <u>4,115,000</u> visitors in 2018.
- Big Horn Scenic Highway travels through the town of Sheridan, home to historic sites such as the Sheridan Inn and one of the top polo locations in North America.



Fort Laramie is one of the many historic landmarks located along the Oregon Trail Historic Byway.



# — National Scenic Byways in Wyoming:

Beartooth Highway (1)\*

#### **State Scenic Byways in Wyoming:**

Battle Pass Scenic Byway (2)
Bighorn Scenic Byway (3)
Big Spring Scenic Backway (4)
Bridger Valley Historic Byway (5)
Buffalo Bill Cody Scenic Byway (6)
Chief Joseph Scenic Byway (7)
Cloud Peak Skyway Scenic Byway (8)
Flaming Gorge/Green River Basin
Scenic Byway (9)

Mirror Lake Scenic Byway (11)
Muddy Creek Historic Backway (12)
Oregon Trail Historic Byway (13)
Red Gulch/Alkali National Back Country
Backway (14)
Seminoe to Alcova Scenic Backway (15)
Snowy Range Scenic Byway (16)
South Big Horn/Red Wall Scenic Backway (17)
Star Valley Scenic Byway (18)
Wind River Canyon Scenic Byway (19)
Wyoming Black Hills Scenic Byway (20)
Wyoming Centennial Scenic Byway (21)

Medicine Wheel Passage (10)

## Map Key:

The numbers following each byway name above match with the respective byway's numbered location on the map.

Asterisk denotes an All-American Road.