



State Librarian Report to the WYLD Network May 2026

The State library migrated all WYLD libraries off of VDX to an in-system lending process. We are repurposing the funds that would have been used to pay for VDX to instead support Wyoming libraries directly and to encourage continued interlibrary loaning of books in-state.

Cristine Braddy, Cass Kvenild, and I met with our Congressional Delegation in March for Voices for Libraries. It was a quick meeting but we still believe this continued effort is beneficial in reminding our federal legislators of all the good projects that come from the IMLS Grants to State program.

State Library priorities have not changed:

1. **Shared library infrastructure** including the statewide Integrated Library System, interlibrary loan software, and electronic resource platforms (OverDrive)
2. State Library **staff**
3. State Library programs and projects **required by statute**
4. Statewide library databases, resources, and digital content, and State Library programs, projects, and collections that are not required by statute

Budget News:

Congress voted to increase the amount of Grants to States funds by \$1,400,000. This gave the State Library \$254 more than last year for a total grant of \$1,219,133. WSL will begin to spend this funding in October. President Trump's 2027 Budget recommendation again reduces the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) to \$6M. This amount is the suggested amount to shut down an agency. We remain optimistic that Congress understands the value of IMLS and will continue to fund the Grants to States program.

In a recent cost analysis of the 2025 WYLD integrated library system, we found that the State Library uses federal Library Services and Technology Act funds and State General Funds to pay approximately 74% of the cost of the ILS software and 100% of salaries of the five WSL staff members who manage the system. This system continues to be a valuable resource for our Wyoming library community.

FY26 Project Updates:

The WSL provided valuable training to the Wyoming library community by conducting 43 formal training sessions with 584 library workers, state employees, teachers, Wyoming residents, and others during the State FY26 period. Archived training videos, including the popular PB&J Show webinars and GoWYLD database features, were accessed 6,865 times and watched for over 590 hours. WSL supported the Wyoming Library Directors' workshop with Hot Springs County Library hosting in October.

The Wyoming Library Multipurpose Community Facility Program (WLMCF) was granted a total of \$21 million dollars to fund construction projects in ten Wyoming counties. Progress of the WLMCF program is going well with seven libraries reaching substantial completion at this time. Many libraries have had opening ceremonies for their projects. Wyoming State Library staff have been making site visits to complete project documentation and see first hand the awesome work happening at each library. All projects will be complete by the end of September.

Respectfully submitted,
Abby Beaver
State Librarian