



Request for Proposals (RFP)

2025 Cheyenne Frontier Days™ Chuckwagon Experience

Submission Deadline: June 20, 2025

Event Dates: July 18–27, 2025

Event Location: Cheyenne Frontier Days™ on Frontier Park, 1230 W. 8th Avenue, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82001

Project Overview

Cheyenne Frontier Days™ (CFD) is seeking proposals from qualified Chuckwagon teams to participate in the 2025 CFD Chuckwagon Experience. We are looking to fill **three (3)** openings for this unique and immersive event, which celebrates Western heritage and traditional chuckwagon cooking.

Chuckwagon teams will provide an authentic and educational experience to our guests by demonstrating traditional chuckwagon cooking methods, engaging with the public, participating in competitive cook-offs, and contributing to VIP dinners throughout the week.

Scope of Work

Selected Chuckwagon teams will be responsible for:

- Setting up camp between July 17–18, 2025 (must be completed by noon on July 18).
- Remaining set up for the duration of the event (tear-down begins at noon on July 27).
- Engaging with guests and fairgoers to educate them about chuckwagons and traditional cooking practices.
- Preparing meals alongside other teams for VIP Dinners (approximately 500 meals total over the week, split across four events).

- Assisting with a Youth Chuckwagon Cook-Off event.
 - Competing in the Chuckwagon Cook-Off, judged across six categories:
 - Meat (Chicken Fried Steak)
 - Potatoes
 - Beans
 - Bread (Biscuits)
 - Dessert (Cobbler)
 - Wagon Authenticity
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Compensation & Awards

- **Appearance Fee:** \$650 per wagon.
 - **Distance Bonus:** An additional \$250 to the team traveling the farthest.
 - **VIP Dinner Payout:** \$15 per meal cooked, split among teams for the four VIP events.
 - **Cook-Off Awards:**
 - 1st Place in each category: \$300 + Plaque
 - 2nd Place in each category: \$200 + Plaque
 - 3rd Place in each category: \$100 + Plaque
 - Overall Champion: \$1,000 + Champion Plaque + Matching Belt Buckles
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Requirements

Team Composition:

- Up to four (4) adult members and one (1) youth under 18 per team.

Cooking Rules:

- All food preparation and cooking must be done at the wagon over open wood fires using Dutch ovens (no wood stoves, propane, butane, or aluminum pots allowed).
- Food must meet specific preparation standards outlined in the official **2025 Cooking Rules**.
- Authenticity of wagons and food preparation methods is critical.
- No alcohol or peanuts are allowed in food preparation.

- Each wagon must supply their own cooking wood (conversation wood for guest interaction provided by CFD).
- Sanitary practices must be maintained, including the availability of a porcelain wash pan, hand soap, bleach for rinsing, and a concealed fire extinguisher.

Camping & Facilities:

- Dry camping is available approximately 100 yards from wagon setup site.
- Space accommodates campers, trucks, tents, and tables.
- 24-hour security provided by CFD.

Food and Supplies:

- All food ingredients, utensils, plateware, charcoal, and firewood for cooking will be provided by CFD.
- Ingredients include: Chicken Fried Steaks, pinto beans, potatoes, flour, onions, fruit, coffee, sugar, oil, milk, eggs, water, and ice.
- Teams must provide their own seasonings.

Proposal Submission Requirements

Interested teams should submit a proposal including:

- Team name and contact information.
- Background and experience of team members.
- Photos and description of wagon (including authenticity details).
- Past event participation and awards (if applicable).
- Description of your team's approach to guest interaction and educational components.

Optional: References from previous events or organizations.

Selection Criteria

Proposals will be evaluated based on:

- Team and wagon authenticity.
- Cooking and event experience.
- Ability to meet all CFD rules and guidelines.

- Approach to guest engagement and education.

Submission Deadline

All proposals must be submitted by June 20, 2025.

Selected teams will be notified by June 27, 2025.

Submit proposals to:

Cheyenne Frontier Days™ Chuckwagon Committee

C/O Matt Mullen

countrymullen@gmail.com

Contact Information

For questions or additional information, please contact:

Matt Mullen

Email: countrymullen@gmail.com

Phone: (307)216-0752

Cheyenne Frontier Days™ reserves the right to reject any and all proposals or to request additional information from applicants as needed.

CHEYENNE FRONTIER DAYS™

CHUCKWAGON COOK-OFF 2025 COOKING RULES

Provided Ingredients

Each wagon will be furnished with the following:

- 35 Chicken Fried Steaks
- 2 lbs Pinto Beans
- 5 lbs Potatoes
- 5 lbs Flour
- Onions
- Fruit
- 5 lbs Coffee
- 4 lbs Sugar
- 1 gallon Oil
- 1 gallon Milk
- 1 dozen Eggs
- 5 gallons Water
- Ice

All food preparation and cooking must be performed at the wagon.

Menu Requirements:

- **Beef:** Chicken Fried Steak
- **Bread:** Biscuits
- **Dessert:** Cobbler (using dried, canned, frozen, or fresh fruit)

Cooking Guidelines

1. Cooking Method:

- All food must be cooked in Dutch ovens over an open wood fire.
- No barbecue grills, wood stoves, butane, propane, or other cookers are allowed.

- Aluminum pots are prohibited.

2. **Wood Supply:**

- Each wagon must provide its own cooking wood.
- CFD will supply wood for conversation and guest engagement purposes.

3. **Team Composition:**

- Each wagon crew may consist of up to four (4) adult members and one (1) youth under the age of 18.

4. **Basic Menu:**

- Each wagon must prepare beef, beans, bread, potatoes, and dessert as part of their meal.
- Teams must provide their own seasonings.

5. **Ingredient Restrictions:**

- The use of seasoned dried sauces, gravy mixes, soup mixes, or cake mixes is not permitted.

6. **Food Presentation:**

- Items turned in for judging must strictly adhere to category guidelines:
 - **Chicken Fried Steak:** Steak with breading only; no additional toppings, coatings, or gravy.
 - **Beans:** May only include items naturally incorporated into the sauce.
 - **Biscuits:** Must be served plain (sourdough permitted); no butter, jelly, or jam.
 - **Potatoes:** No cheese or gravy allowed.

7. **Prohibited Items:**

- **No alcohol** or **peanuts** may be used in any food preparation.

8. **Ticket Holder Meals:**

- Each wagon will cook for approximately 20 ticket holders on judging day.
- (Subject to change at the discretion of the Cheyenne Frontier Days™ General Committee.)

9. **Supplies Provided:**

- Eating supplies for judging and guests will be provided by CFD.

10. **Camp Regulations:**

- No dogs are allowed in camp.

Sanitation Requirements

Each wagon must maintain a clean and sanitary cooking environment, including:

- An authentic porcelain wash pan with hand soap readily available.
- Bleach (such as Clorox) for adding to rinse water.
- A fire extinguisher kept out of sight within the chuck box.

Disputes

The CFD Chuckwagon Committee will resolve all disputes and rule violations.

All decisions made by the Committee are final.