

SENATE FILE NO. SF0042

Large project funding.

Sponsored by: Select Natural Resource Funding Committee

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to the Wyoming Wildlife and Natural  
 2 Resource Funding Act; providing for funding of large  
 3 projects under that act; specifying large projects approved  
 4 for funding in 2012; amending funding and timing for  
 5 specified previously approved large projects; requiring  
 6 specified conservation easements to include the state of  
 7 Wyoming as a third party beneficiary as specified;  
 8 requiring certifications regarding kickbacks and gifts;  
 9 providing appropriations; providing for reversion of funds;  
 10 and providing for an effective date.

11

12 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

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14 **Section 1.** W.S. 9-15-701 through 9-15-712 are created  
 15 to read:

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ARTICLE 7

2012 LARGE PROJECT FUNDING

**9-15-701. Munn Place conservation easement.**

(a) Authorization is granted for funding of the following large project as provided in this section.

(b) Project: Munn Place conservation easement:

(i) Project sponsor: Wyoming Land Trust;

(ii) Project purpose: Permanent use restriction on approximately two thousand two hundred eighty (2,280) acres in Sublette county in order to:

(A) Preclude loss of habitat for deer, antelope, sage grouse, songbirds, amphibians and other species; and

(B) Secure habitat for sage grouse in a core population area; and

(C) Maintain agricultural production.

1

2 (iii) Project description: Conservation  
3 easement;

4

5 (iv) Total project budget: One million eight  
6 hundred twenty-four thousand dollars (\$1,824,000.00);

7

8 (v) Project grant: The Wyoming wildlife and  
9 natural resource trust account board is authorized to grant  
10 to the sponsor two hundred seventy-three thousand six  
11 hundred dollars (\$273,600.00) for the purposes specified in  
12 this subsection;

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14 (vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from  
15 the income account to the board two hundred seventy-three  
16 thousand six hundred dollars (\$273,600.00) or as much  
17 thereof as is necessary to carry out the purposes of this  
18 subsection. Unexpended and unobligated funds appropriated  
19 under this subsection shall revert to the income account on  
20 June 30, 2015.

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22 **9-15-702. Devil's Tower conservation easement.**

23

1           (a) Authorization is granted for funding of the  
2 following large project as provided in this section.

3

4           (b) Project: Devils Tower conservation easement:

5

6                   (i) Project sponsor: Wyoming Stock Growers  
7 Agricultural Land Trust;

8

9                   (ii) Project purpose: Permanent use restriction  
10 on approximately seven thousand four hundred ninety-three  
11 (7,493) acres in Crook county in order to:

12

13                           (A) Preclude loss of habitat for deer,  
14 amphibians, fisheries, songbirds, raptors and other  
15 species;

16

17                           (B) Secure viewsheds of significant local,  
18 regional and national importance; and

19

20                           (C) Maintain agricultural production.

21

22                   (iii) Project description: Conservation  
23 easement;

24

1           (iv) Total project budget: Eight million nine  
2 hundred three thousand fifteen dollars (\$8,903,015.00);

3

4           (v) Project grant: The Wyoming wildlife and  
5 natural resource trust account board is authorized to grant  
6 to the sponsor one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00) for the  
7 purposes specified in this subsection;

8

9           (vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from  
10 the income account to the board one million dollars  
11 (\$1,000,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry  
12 out the purposes of this subsection. Unexpended and  
13 unobligated funds appropriated under this subsection shall  
14 revert to the income account on June 30, 2015.

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16           **9-15-703. North Cottonwood conservation easement.**

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18           (a) Authorization is granted for funding of the  
19 following large project as provided in this section.

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21           (b) Project: North Cottonwood Ranch conservation  
22 easement:

23

24           (i) Project sponsor: The Conservation Fund;

1

2 (ii) Project purpose: Permanent use restriction  
3 on approximately fifteen thousand three hundred forty  
4 (15,340) acres in Sublette county in order to:

5

6 (A) Preclude loss of habitat for moose,  
7 mule deer, elk, antelope, amphibians, songbirds and other  
8 species;

9

10 (B) Secure migration routes and crucial  
11 habitat for sage grouse in a core population area; and

12

13 (C) Maintain agricultural production.

14

15 (iii) Project description: Conservation  
16 easement;

17

18 (iv) Total project budget: Twelve million one  
19 hundred thirty-seven thousand two hundred fifty dollars  
20 (\$12,137,250.00);

21

22 (v) Project grant: The Wyoming wildlife and  
23 natural resource trust account board is authorized to grant

1 to the sponsor one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00) for the  
2 purposes specified in this subsection;

3

4 (vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from  
5 the income account to the board one million dollars  
6 (\$1,000,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry  
7 out the purposes of this subsection. Unexpended and  
8 unobligated funds appropriated under this subsection shall  
9 revert to the income account on June 30, 2015.

10

11 **9-15-704. Luman Ranch conservation easement.**

12

13 (a) Authorization is granted for funding of the  
14 following large project as provided in this section.

15

16 (b) Project: Luman Ranch conservation easement:

17

18 (i) Project sponsor: Wyoming Land Trust;

19

20 (ii) Project purpose: Permanent use restriction  
21 on approximately two thousand one hundred fifty-six (2,156)  
22 acres in Sublette county in order to:

23

1                   (A) Preclude loss of habitat for deer,  
2 antelope, moose, waterfowl, sage grouse, songbirds,  
3 amphibians, fish and other species;

4

5                   (B) Secure habitat for sage grouse in a  
6 core population area; and

7

8                   (C) Maintain agricultural production.

9

10                   (iii) Project description: Conservation  
11 easement;

12

13                   (iv) Total project budget: Two million seventy-  
14 five thousand one hundred fifty dollars (\$2,075,150.00);

15

16                   (v) Project grant: The Wyoming wildlife and  
17 natural resource trust account board is authorized to grant  
18 to the sponsor three hundred eleven thousand two hundred  
19 seventy-two dollars (\$311,272.00) for the purposes  
20 specified in this subsection;

21

22                   (vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from  
23 the income account to the board three hundred eleven  
24 thousand two hundred seventy-two dollars (\$311,272.00) or



1 as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purposes  
2 of this subsection. Unexpended and unobligated funds  
3 appropriated under this subsection shall revert to the  
4 income account on June 30, 2015.

5

6 **9-15-705. Johnson sections conservation easement.**

7

8 (a) Authorization is granted for funding of the  
9 following large project as provided in this section.

10

11 (b) Project: Johnson sections conservation easement:

12

13 (i) Project sponsor: Wyoming Land Trust;

14

15 (ii) Project purpose: Permanent use restriction  
16 on approximately one thousand five hundred sixty (1,560)  
17 acres in Sublette county in order to:

18

19 (A) Preclude loss of habitat for moose,  
20 mule deer, elk, sage grouse, songbirds and other species;

21

22 (B) Secure migration routes and crucial  
23 habitat for sage grouse in a core population area; and

24

1 (C) Maintain agricultural production.

2

3 (iii) Project description: Conservation  
4 easement;

5

6 (iv) Total project budget: One million four  
7 hundred eighteen thousand forty dollars (\$1,418,040.00);

8

9 (v) Project grant: The Wyoming wildlife and  
10 natural resource trust account board is authorized to grant  
11 to the sponsor two hundred twelve thousand seven hundred  
12 six dollars (\$212,706.00) for the purposes specified in  
13 this subsection;

14

15 (vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from  
16 the income account to the board two hundred twelve thousand  
17 seven hundred six dollars (\$212,706.00) or as much thereof  
18 as is necessary to carry out the purposes of this  
19 subsection. Unexpended and unobligated funds appropriated  
20 under this subsection shall revert to the income account on  
21 June 30, 2015.

22

23 **9-15-706. Diamond G conservation easement.**

24

1           (a) Authorization is granted for funding of the  
2 following large project as provided in this section.

3

4           (b) Project: Diamond G conservation easement:

5

6                   (i) Project sponsor: Jackson Hole Land Trust;

7

8                   (ii) Project purpose: Permanent use restriction  
9 on approximately five thousand one hundred thirty (5,130)  
10 acres in Fremont county in order to:

11

12                           (A) Preclude loss of habitat for elk, mule  
13 deer, moose, amphibians, fisheries, songbirds, raptors and  
14 other species;

15

16                           (B) Secure viewsheds of significant local,  
17 regional and national importance; and

18

19                           (C) Maintain agricultural production.

20

21                           (iii) Project description: Conservation  
22 easement;

23

1           (iv) Total project budget: Twenty million  
2 seventy-five thousand dollars (\$20,075,000.00);

3

4           (v) Project grant: The Wyoming wildlife and  
5 natural resource trust account board is authorized to grant  
6 to the sponsor one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00) for the  
7 purposes specified in this subsection;

8

9           (vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from  
10 the income account to the board one million dollars  
11 (\$1,000,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry  
12 out the purposes of this subsection. Unexpended and  
13 unobligated funds appropriated under this subsection shall  
14 revert to the income account on June 30, 2015.

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16           **9-15-707. Wunder Ranch conservation easement.**

17

18           (a) Authorization is granted for funding of the  
19 following large project as provided in this section.

20

21           (b) Project: Wunder Ranch conservation easement:

22

23           (i) Project sponsor: Jackson Hole Land Trust;

24

1           (ii) Project purpose: Permanent use restriction  
2 on approximately two thousand seven hundred (2,700) acres  
3 in Fremont county in order to:

4  
5           (A) Preclude loss of habitat and migration  
6 routes for elk, mule deer, sage grouse, antelope,  
7 amphibians, songbirds and other species;

8  
9           (B) Secure migration routes and crucial  
10 habitat for sage grouse in a core population area; and

11  
12           (C) Maintain agricultural production.

13  
14           (iii) Project description: Conservation  
15 easement;

16  
17           (iv) Total project budget: Two million three  
18 hundred three thousand dollars (\$2,303,000.00);

19  
20           (v) Project grant: The Wyoming wildlife and  
21 natural resource trust account board is authorized to grant  
22 to the sponsor five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000.00)  
23 for the purposes specified in this subsection;

24

1           (vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from  
2 the income account to the board five hundred thousand  
3 dollars (\$500,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to  
4 carry out the purposes of this subsection. Unexpended and  
5 unobligated funds appropriated under this subsection shall  
6 revert to the income account on June 30, 2015.

7

8           **9-15-708. Richie Ranch conservation easement.**

9

10           (a) Authorization is granted for funding of the  
11 following large project as provided in this section.

12

13           (b) Project: Richie Ranch conservation easement:

14

15           (i) Project sponsor: Wyoming Game and Fish  
16 Commission;

17

18           (ii) Project purpose: Permanent use restriction  
19 on approximately one thousand three hundred seventy-nine  
20 (1,379) acres in Sublette county in order to:

21

22           (A) Preclude loss of habitat for moose,  
23 mule deer, elk, sage grouse, waterfowl, fish, songbirds and  
24 other species;

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(B) Secure migration routes and crucial habitat for sage grouse in a core population area; and

(C) Maintain agricultural production.

(iii) Project description: Conservation easement;

(iv) Total project budget: Two million five hundred twenty-five thousand dollars (\$2,525,000.00);

(v) Project grant: The Wyoming wildlife and natural resource trust account board is authorized to grant to the sponsor four hundred thousand dollars (\$400,000.00) for the purposes specified in this subsection;

(vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from the income account to the board four hundred thousand dollars (\$400,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purposes of this subsection. Unexpended and unobligated funds appropriated under this subsection shall revert to the income account on June 30, 2015.

1           **9-15-709. Mooncrest/MC Ranch conservation easements.**

2

3           (a) Authorization is granted for funding of the  
4 following large project as provided in this section.

5

6           (b) Project:           Mooncrest/MC Ranch conservation  
7 easements:

8

9                   (i) Project sponsor: Wyoming Land Trust;

10

11                   (ii) Project purpose: Permanent use restriction  
12 on approximately seventeen thousand nine hundred fifty-  
13 three (17,953) acres in Park county in order to:

14

15                           (A) Preclude loss of habitat for mule deer,  
16 bighorn sheep, elk, sage grouse, antelope and other  
17 species;

18

19                           (B) Secure migration routes and crucial  
20 habitat for sage grouse in a core population area; and

21

22                           (C) Maintain agricultural production.

23



1           (iii) Project description: Conservation  
2 easement;

3

4           (iv) Total project budget: Fourteen million  
5 twenty-five thousand dollars (\$14,025,000.00);

6

7           (v) Project grant: The Wyoming wildlife and  
8 natural resource trust account board is authorized to grant  
9 to the sponsor one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00) for the  
10 purposes specified in this subsection;

11

12           (vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from  
13 the income account to the board one million dollars  
14 (\$1,000,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry  
15 out the purposes of this subsection. Unexpended and  
16 unobligated funds appropriated under this subsection shall  
17 revert to the income account on June 30, 2015.

18

19           **9-15-710. Weber Ranch conservation easement.**

20

21           (a) Authorization is granted for funding of the  
22 following large project as provided in this section.

23

24           (b) Project: Weber Ranch conservation easement:

1

2 (i) Project sponsor: The Nature Conservancy;

3

4 (ii) Project purpose: Permanent use restriction  
5 on approximately four thousand one hundred sixty-six  
6 (4,166) acres in Carbon county in order to:

7

8 (A) Preclude loss of habitat for elk, mule  
9 deer, antelope, sage grouse, songbirds and other species;

10

11 (B) Secure migration routes and crucial  
12 habitat for elk and mule deer in an area with high  
13 incidents of vehicle collisions; and

14

15 (C) Maintain agricultural production.

16

17 (iii) Project description: Conservation  
18 easement;

19

20 (iv) Total project budget: One million six  
21 hundred sixty-eight thousand seven hundred eighteen dollars  
22 (\$1,668,718.00);

23

1           (v) Project grant: The Wyoming wildlife and  
2 natural resource trust account board is authorized to grant  
3 to the sponsor three hundred twenty thousand dollars  
4 (\$320,000.00) for the purposes specified in this  
5 subsection;

6

7           (vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from  
8 the income account to the board three hundred twenty  
9 thousand dollars (\$320,000.00) or as much thereof as is  
10 necessary to carry out the purposes of this subsection.  
11 Unexpended and unobligated funds appropriated under this  
12 subsection shall revert to the income account on June 30,  
13 2015.

14

15           **9-15-711. Double A Ranch conservation easement.**

16

17           (a) Authorization is granted for funding of the  
18 following large project as provided in this section.

19

20           (b) Project: Double A Ranch conservation easement:

21

22           (i) Project sponsor: The Nature Conservancy;

23

1           (ii) Project purpose: Permanent use restriction  
2 on approximately two thousand three hundred eighty-two  
3 (2,382) acres in Fremont county in order to:

4  
5           (A) Preclude loss of habitat for elk, mule  
6 deer, antelope, sage grouse, songbirds, amphibians and  
7 other species;

8  
9           (B) Secure migration routes and crucial  
10 habitat for sage grouse directly adjacent to a core  
11 population area; and

12  
13           (C) Maintain agricultural production.

14  
15           (iii) Project description: Conservation  
16 easement;

17  
18           (iv) Total project budget: Two million three  
19 hundred fifty-three thousand five hundred eighteen dollars  
20 (\$2,353,518.00);

21  
22           (v) Project grant: The Wyoming wildlife and  
23 natural resource trust account board is authorized to grant

1 to the sponsor four hundred thousand dollars (\$400,000.00)  
2 for the purposes specified in this subsection;

3

4 (vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from  
5 the income account to the board four hundred thousand  
6 dollars (\$400,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to  
7 carry out the purposes of this subsection. Unexpended and  
8 unobligated funds appropriated under this subsection shall  
9 revert to the income account on June 30, 2015.

10

11 **9-15-712. Three Bar X Ranch conservation easement.**

12

13 (a) Authorization is granted for funding of the  
14 following large project as provided in this section.

15

16 (b) Project: Three Bar X Ranch conservation  
17 easement:

18

19 (i) Project sponsor: The Nature Conservancy;

20

21 (ii) Project purpose: Permanent use restriction  
22 on approximately one thousand two hundred twenty (1,220)  
23 acres in Fremont county in order to:

24

1 (A) Preclude loss of habitat for elk, mule  
2 deer, antelope, sage grouse, songbirds and other species;

3

4 (B) Secure migration routes and crucial  
5 habitat for sage grouse in a core population area; and

6

7 (C) Maintain agricultural production.

8

9 (iii) Project description: Conservation  
10 easement;

11

12 (iv) Total project budget: One million one  
13 hundred sixty-nine thousand six hundred eighty-four dollars  
14 (\$1,169,684.00);

15

16 (v) Project grant: The Wyoming wildlife and  
17 natural resource trust account board is authorized to grant  
18 to the sponsor two hundred twenty thousand dollars  
19 (\$220,000.00) for the purposes specified in this  
20 subsection;

21

22 (vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from  
23 the income account to the board two hundred twenty thousand  
24 dollars (\$220,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to

1 carry out the purposes of this subsection. Unexpended and  
2 unobligated funds appropriated under this subsection shall  
3 revert to the income account on June 30, 2015.

4

5 **Section 2.** W.S. 9-15-503(b)(iv) through (vi) is  
6 amended to read:

7

8 **9-15-503. Greybull River Watershed.**

9

10 (b) Project: Greybull River Watershed:

11

12 (iv) Total project budget: ~~Two million five~~  
13 ~~hundred seventy thousand dollars (\$2,570,000.00)~~ Three  
14 million six hundred ninety-five thousand dollars  
15 (\$3,695,000.00);

16

17 (v) Project grant: The Wyoming wildlife and  
18 natural resource trust account board is authorized to grant  
19 to the sponsor ~~three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000.00)~~  
20 four hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$450,000.00) for the  
21 purposes specified in this subsection;

22

23 (vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from  
24 the income account to the board one hundred fifty thousand

1 dollars (\$150,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to  
2 carry out the purpose of this subsection. In addition to  
3 any amounts appropriated prior to 2012, there is  
4 appropriated from the income account to the board an  
5 additional one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000.00)  
6 or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose  
7 of this subsection. Unexpended and unobligated funds  
8 appropriated under this subsection shall revert to the  
9 income account on June 30, ~~2013~~2015.

10

11 **Section 3.** Each conservation easement for which  
12 funding is authorized under Section 1 or 2 of this act  
13 shall include the state of Wyoming as a third party  
14 beneficiary with the right to enforce the terms of the  
15 agreement and, if the easement is transferred or  
16 extinguished, the right to recover the state's pro rata  
17 share of funds provided for the creation of the easement up  
18 to one hundred percent (100%) of the funds granted by the  
19 state for the creation of the easement.

20

21 **Section 4.** Before any distribution of funds is made  
22 pursuant to the appropriations authorized by Sections 1 and  
23 2 of this act, the person receiving the funds shall certify  
24 that no gratuities, kickbacks, gifts, commissions,



1 contingency fees or other considerations have been or will  
2 be made in connection with the appropriation or the  
3 associated grant made by the Wyoming wildlife and natural  
4 resource trust account board.

5

6       **Section 5.** This act is effective immediately upon  
7 completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law  
8 as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming  
9 Constitution.

10

11

(END)