

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:*

13

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

16

1

ARTICLE 7

2

2012 LARGE PROJECT FUNDING

3

4

9-15-701. Munn Place conservation easement.

5

6

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

8

9

(b) Project: Munn Place conservation easement:

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11

(i) Project sponsor: Wyoming Land Trust;

12

13

14

15

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

16

17

18

19

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

20

21

22

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

23

24

(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;

13

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.

21

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: Devil's 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.

15

16 **9-15-703. North Cottonwood 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: 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:

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.

15

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;

1

2

3

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

4

5

(C) Maintain agricultural production.

6

7

8

(iii) Project description: Conservation easement;

9

10

11

12

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

13

14

15

16

(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;

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(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;

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:

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)