

Bill No.: SF0044 **Effective:**3/4/2015

LSO No.: 15LSO-0311

Enrolled Act No.: SEA 47

Chapter No.: 132

Prime Sponsor: Select Natural Resource Funding Committee

Catch Title: Large project funding.

Subject: Wildlife and Natural Resource Funding Projects

Summary/Major Elements:

- Wyoming's Wildlife and Natural Resource Funding Act was created in 2005 to fund a trust account which is to be used for the improvement and maintenance of Wyoming's wildlife habitat and the conservation, maintenance, protection and development of Wyoming's wildlife resources, environment and natural resource heritage.
- The Wyoming Wildlife and Natural Resource Trust Account Board receives project grant proposals and approves them for funding.
- All projects with a cumulative grant total in excess of \$200,000 must be approved by the Legislature.
- This legislation approves 5 new projects for funding, including one conservation easement.
- The legislation requires the State of Wyoming be included as a third party beneficiary in any conservation easement entered pursuant to the Wyoming Wildlife and Natural Resources Funding Act. It also requires that the State be given the right to enforce the terms of the conservation easements and recoup the State's pro-rata share of funds provided for the creation of the easements.
- Before any funds can be distributed to any project, the persons receiving the funds must certify that no gratuities or kickbacks have been made in connection with the project's funding.
- The new projects approved for funding are:
 - Beaumee/Heward Ditch
 - Neonatal Mule Deer II
 - Bolton Creek III
 - Little Snake River Fisheries
 - Little Laramie Conservation Easement