

SENATE FILE NO. SF0069

2018 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 2018; specifying conservation easements
5 shall include the state of Wyoming as a third party
6 beneficiary; authorizing distributions from the Wyoming
7 wildlife and natural resource trust income account for
8 approved large projects; providing for reversion of funds;
9 and providing for an effective date.

10

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

12

13 **Section 1.**

14

15 (a) As used in this section:

16

1 (i) "Board" means the Wyoming wildlife and
2 natural resource trust account board created by W.S.
3 9-15-104;

4
5 (ii) "Income account" means the Wyoming wildlife
6 and natural resource trust income account created by W.S.
7 9-15-103(b).

8
9 (b) Pursuant to the authority granted under W.S.
10 9-15-104(k) and subject to each recipient's certification
11 under W.S. 9-15-103(r), authorization is granted for
12 funding of the large projects provided for in subsections
13 (c) through (k) of this section.

14
15 (c) Condict Conservation Easement:

16
17 (i) Project sponsor: Wyoming Stock Growers Land
18 Trust;

19
20 (ii) Project purpose: Removal of residential
21 development rights of approximately five thousand (5,000)
22 acres in Carbon county in order to:

1 (A) Maintain key seasonal habitats for mule
2 deer, elk, antelope and greater sage grouse;

3

4 (B) Maintain primary migration corridors
5 for native ungulates;

6

7 (C) Conserve valuable aspen, grassland and
8 intermediate shrubland ecotypes;

9

10 (D) Maintain agricultural production and
11 opportunity on high quality farm and ranch lands.

12

13 (iii) Project description: Conservation
14 easement;

15

16 (iv) Total project budget: Seven million five
17 hundred seventy-four thousand seven hundred dollars
18 (\$7,574,700.00);

19

20 (v) Project grant: The board is authorized to
21 grant one million five hundred thousand dollars
22 (\$1,500,000.00) to the sponsor for the purposes specified
23 in this subsection;

1

2 (vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from
3 the income account to the board one million five hundred
4 thousand dollars (\$1,500,000.00) or as much thereof as is
5 necessary to carry out the purposes of this subsection;

6

7 (vii) The conservation easement funded in part
8 under this subsection shall provide that the state of
9 Wyoming is a third party beneficiary to the easement as
10 required by W.S. 9-15-103(n).

11

12 (d) Bates Hole Juniper:

13

14 (i) Project sponsor: Bureau of Land Management;

15

16 (ii) Project purpose: Removal of invasive
17 conifers on approximately five thousand (5,000) acres in
18 Natrona county in order to:

19

20 (A) Maintain key seasonal habitats for mule
21 deer and greater sage grouse;

22

1 (B) Restore valuable aspen and intermediate
2 shrubland ecotypes;

3

4 (C) Increase the carrying capacity for mule
5 deer, greater sage grouse, elk and grassland obligate bird
6 species;

7

8 (D) Increase water infiltration and reduce
9 erosion and water yield on high quality upland habitats.

10

11 (iii) Project description: Invasive species
12 removal and reseeding of native plants;

13

14 (iv) Total project budget: Five hundred
15 sixty-four thousand dollars (\$564,000.00);

16

17 (v) Project grant: The board is authorized to
18 grant two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000.00) to the
19 sponsor for the purposes specified in this subsection;

20

21 (vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from
22 the income account to the board two hundred thousand

1 dollars (\$200,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to
2 carry out the purposes of this subsection.

3

4 (e) Stockade Beaver Mule Deer Habitat II:

5

6 (i) Project sponsor: Wyoming Game and Fish
7 Commission;

8

9 (ii) Project purpose: Removal of invasive
10 conifers on approximately two thousand (2,000) acres in
11 Weston county in order to:

12

13 (A) Maintain key seasonal habitats for mule
14 deer and greater sage grouse;

15

16 (B) Restore valuable aspen and intermediate
17 shrubland ecotypes;

18

19 (C) Increase the carrying capacity for mule
20 deer and elk;

21

22 (D) Reduce the risk of catastrophic
23 wildfire due to excess fuel loading;

1

2 (E) Increase water filtration and reduce
3 erosion and water yield on high quality upland habitats.

4

5 (iii) Project description: Invasive species
6 removal and reseeding of native plants;

7

8 (iv) Total project budget: Four hundred fifty
9 thousand three hundred eight dollars (\$450,308.00);

10

11 (v) Project grant: The board is authorized to
12 grant two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000.00) to the
13 sponsor for the purposes specified in this subsection;

14

15 (vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from
16 the income account to the board two hundred thousand
17 dollars (\$200,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to
18 carry out the purposes of this subsection.

19

20 (f) Bousman Conservation Easement:

21

22 (i) Project sponsor: Wyoming Stock Growers Land
23 Trust;

1

2 (ii) Project purpose: Removal of residential
3 development rights of approximately one thousand three
4 hundred (1,300) acres in Sublette county in order to:

5

6 (A) Maintain key seasonal habitats for mule
7 deer, elk, moose, native fish and greater sage grouse;

8

9 (B) Maintain primary migration corridors
10 for native ungulates;

11

12 (C) Conserve valuable grassland, riparian
13 and mountain shrubland ecotypes;

14

15 (D) Maintain agricultural production and
16 opportunity on high quality farm and ranch lands.

17

18 (iii) Project description: Conservation
19 easement;

20

21 (iv) Total project budget: One million eight
22 hundred seventy-four thousand seven hundred dollars
23 (\$1,874,700.00);

1

2 (v) Project grant: The board is authorized to
3 grant four hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$450,000.00) to
4 the sponsor for the purposes specified in this subsection;

5

6 (vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from
7 the income account to the board four hundred fifty thousand
8 dollars (\$450,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to
9 carry out the purposes of this subsection;

10

11 (vii) The conservation easement funded in part
12 under this subsection shall provide that the state of
13 Wyoming is a third party beneficiary to the easement as
14 required by W.S. 9-15-103(n).

15

16 (g) Green Mountain Aspen II:

17

18 (i) Project sponsor: Wyoming Game and Fish
19 Commission;

20

21 (ii) Project purpose: Restoration of aspen and
22 mountain shrub habitats in an area with extremely high

1 wildlife diversity and public use in Fremont county in
2 order to:

3

4 (A) Maintain carrying capacity and
5 migration routes for mule deer and elk;

6

7 (B) Restore habitats of high importance to
8 mule deer and elk;

9

10 (C) Reduce the risk of catastrophic
11 wildfire;

12

13 (D) Increase water infiltration and reduce
14 erosion on perennial and ephemeral stream channels.

15

16 (iii) Project description: Aspen enhancement;

17

18 (iv) Total project budget: Four hundred
19 seventy-six thousand six hundred dollars (\$476,600.00);

20

21 (v) Project grant: The board is authorized to
22 grant to the sponsor two hundred thousand dollars

1 (\$200,000.00) for the purposes specified in this
2 subsection;

3

4 (vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from
5 the income account to the board two hundred thousand
6 dollars (\$200,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to
7 carry out the purposes of this subsection.

8

9 (h) South Pass Aspen II:

10

11 (i) Project sponsor: Wyoming Game and Fish
12 Commission;

13

14 (ii) Project purpose: Restoration of aspen and
15 mountain shrub habitats in an area with extremely high
16 wildlife diversity and public use in Fremont county in
17 order to:

18

19 (A) Maintain carrying capacity and
20 migration routes for mule deer, moose and elk;

21

22 (B) Restore habitats of high importance to
23 mule deer, moose and elk;

1

2 (C) Reduce the risk of catastrophic
3 wildfire;

4

5 (D) Increase water infiltration and reduce
6 erosion on perennial and ephemeral stream channels.

7

8 (iii) Project description: Aspen enhancement;

9

10 (iv) Total project budget: Six hundred
11 thirty-five thousand two hundred dollars (\$635,200.00);

12

13 (v) Project grant: The board is authorized to
14 grant to the sponsor two hundred fifty thousand dollars
15 (\$250,000.00) for the purposes specified in this
16 subsection;

17

18 (vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from
19 the income account to the board two hundred fifty thousand
20 dollars (\$250,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to
21 carry out the purposes of this subsection.

22

23 (j) Prospect Land and Cattle Conservation Easement:

1

2 (i) Project sponsor: The Nature Conservancy;

3

4 (ii) Project purpose: Removal of residential
5 development rights of approximately ten thousand four
6 hundred eleven (10,411) acres in Hot Springs county in
7 order to:

8

9 (A) Maintain key seasonal habitats for mule
10 deer, elk, bighorn sheep and other species;

11

12 (B) Maintain primary migration corridors
13 for native ungulates;

14

15 (C) Conserve valuable aspen, grassland and
16 mountain shrubland ecotypes;

17

18 (D) Maintain agricultural production and
19 opportunity on high quality farm and ranch lands.

20

21 (iii) Project description: Conservation
22 easement;

23

1 (iv) Total project budget: Three million one
2 hundred eighty-six thousand four hundred forty dollars
3 (\$3,186,440.00);

4

5 (v) Project grant: The board is authorized to
6 grant seven hundred ninety-nine thousand five hundred
7 dollars (\$799,500.00) to the sponsor for the purposes
8 specified in this subsection;

9

10 (vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from
11 the income account to the board seven hundred ninety-nine
12 thousand five hundred dollars (\$799,500.00) or as much
13 thereof as is necessary to carry out the purposes of this
14 subsection;

15

16 (vii) The conservation easement funded in part
17 under this subsection shall provide that the state of
18 Wyoming is a third party beneficiary to the easement as
19 required by W.S. 9-15-103(n).

20

21 (k) West Pass Creek:

22

1 (i) Project sponsor: Wyoming Game and Fish
2 Commission;

3

4 (ii) Project purpose: Channel reconstruction and
5 irrigation diversion enhancement on West Pass Creek in
6 Sheridan county in order to:

7

8 (A) Improve habitats for native cutthroat
9 trout;

10

11 (B) Reduce and eliminate streambank erosion
12 and sediment loading;

13

14 (C) Improve irrigation efficiency and
15 agricultural production on historic ranch and farm lands in
16 northern Wyoming.

17

18 (iii) Project description: River restoration and
19 irrigation enhancement;

20

21 (iv) Total project budget: Seven hundred
22 twenty-eight thousand one hundred sixty dollars
23 (\$728,160.00);

1

2 (v) Project grant: The board is authorized to
3 grant to the sponsor three hundred twenty-eight thousand
4 dollars (\$328,000.00) for the purposes specified in this
5 subsection;

(vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from the income account to the board three hundred twenty-eight thousand dollars (\$328,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purposes of this subsection.

12 (m) Unexpended and unobligated funds appropriated
13 under this section shall revert to the income account on
14 June 30, 2021.

16 **Section 2.** This act is effective immediately upon
17 completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law
18 as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming
19 Constitution.

21 (END)