

SENATE FILE NO. SF0077

2019 large project funding.

Sponsored by: Select Natural Resource Funding Committee

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to the Wyoming Wildlife and Natural Resource  
2 Funding Act; providing for funding of large projects under  
3 that act; specifying large projects approved for funding in  
4 2019; specifying conservation easements shall include the  
5 state of Wyoming as a third party beneficiary; authorizing  
6 distributions from the Wyoming wildlife and natural resource  
7 trust income account for approved large projects; providing  
8 for reversion of funds; repealing statutes authorizing large  
9 projects that are completed; and providing for an effective  
10 date.

11

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

13

14 **Section 1.**

15

16 (a) As used in this section:

1

2 (i) "Board" means the Wyoming wildlife and natural  
3 resource trust account board created by W.S. 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 funding  
12 of the large projects provided for in subsections (c) through  
13 (m) of this section.

14

15 (c) Double Bar E Conservation Easement:

16

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

18

19 (ii) Project purpose: Removal of residential  
20 development rights of approximately five hundred (500) acres  
21 in Sublette county in order to:

22

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

3

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

6

7                   (C) Maintain core population areas for  
8 greater sage grouse and other sagebrush obligate species;

9

10                  (D) Conserve valuable riparian, wetland,  
11 grassland and intermediate shrubland ecotypes;

12

13                  (E) Maintain agricultural production and  
14 opportunity on high quality farm and ranch lands.

15

16                  (iii) Project description: Conservation easement;

17

18                  (iv) Total project budget: One million eighty  
19 thousand dollars (\$1,080,000.00);

20

21                  (v) Project grant: The board is authorized to  
22 grant two hundred sixty thousand dollars (\$260,000.00) to the  
23 sponsor for the purposes specified in this subsection;

1

2           (vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from the  
3 income account to the board two hundred sixty thousand dollars  
4 (\$260,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out  
5 the purposes of this subsection;

6

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

11

12           (d) Big Fork Canal:

13

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

16

17           (ii) Project purpose: River restoration and  
18 replacement of headgate structure on the Shoshone river near  
19 Lovell to eliminate debris dams and assure delivery of water  
20 to the Yellowtail habitat area and adjacent irrigators on  
21 approximately one thousand (1,000) acres in Big Horn county  
22 in order to:

23

1                   (A) Maintain wetland habitats for mule deer,  
2 white-tailed deer, turkey, pheasants, waterfowl and other  
3 species;

4

5                   (B) Maintain and enhance recreational  
6 opportunities for hunters and fishermen on a highly used area  
7 in northern Wyoming;

8

9                   (C) Reduce the threat of infrastructure  
10 failure and catastrophic flooding;

11

12                   (D) Restore natural stream function on a  
13 major waterway.

14

15                   (iii) Project description: River restoration;

16

17                   (iv) Total project budget: Eight hundred fourteen  
18 thousand four hundred forty-five dollars (\$814,445.00);

19

20                   (v) Project grant: The board is authorized to  
21 grant three hundred twenty-five thousand dollars  
22 (\$325,000.00) to the sponsor for the purposes specified in  
23 this subsection;

1

2           (vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from the  
3 income account to the board three hundred twenty-five  
4 thousand dollars (\$325,000.00) or as much thereof as is  
5 necessary to carry out the purposes of this subsection.

6

7           (e) Richie Ranch Conservation Easement II:

8

9           (i) Project sponsor: Wyoming Stock Growers Land  
10 Trust;

11

12           (ii) Project purpose: Removal of residential  
13 development rights of approximately one thousand three  
14 hundred thirty (1,330) acres in Sublette county in order to:

15

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

18

19           (B) Maintain primary migration corridors for  
20 native ungulates;

21

22           (C) Maintain core population areas for  
23 greater sage grouse and other sagebrush obligate species;

1

2 (D) Conserve valuable riparian, wetland,  
3 grassland and intermediate shrubland ecotypes;

4

5 (E) Maintain agricultural production and  
6 opportunity on high quality farm and ranch lands.

7

8 (iii) Project description: Conservation easement;

9

10 (iv) Total project budget: Two million one hundred  
11 thirty-six thousand two hundred dollars (\$2,136,200.00);

12

13 (v) Project grant: The board is authorized to  
14 grant three hundred fifteen thousand dollars (\$315,000.00) to  
15 the sponsor for the purposes specified in this subsection;

16

17 (vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from the  
18 income account to the board three hundred fifteen thousand  
19 dollars (\$315,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to  
20 carry out the purposes of this subsection;

21

22 (vii) The conservation easement funded in part  
23 under this subsection shall provide that the state of Wyoming

1 is a third party beneficiary to the easement as required by  
2 W.S. 9-15-103(n).

3

4 (f) Richie Ranch Conservation Easement III:

5

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

8

9 (ii) Project purpose: Removal of residential  
10 development rights of approximately two thousand six hundred  
11 eighty (2,680) acres in Sublette county in order to:

12

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

15

16 (B) Maintain primary migration corridors for  
17 native ungulates;

18

19 (C) Conserve valuable grassland, riparian  
20 and mountain shrubland ecotypes;

21

22 (D) Maintain agricultural production and  
23 opportunity on high quality farm and ranch lands.



1

2 (iii) Project description: Conservation easement;

3

4 (iv) Total project budget: Three million one  
5 hundred seventy-eight thousand one hundred forty dollars  
6 (\$3,178,140.00);

7

8 (v) Project grant: The board is authorized to  
9 grant three hundred eighty-eight thousand dollars  
10 (\$388,000.00) to the sponsor for the purposes specified in  
11 this subsection;

12

13 (vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from the  
14 income account to the board three hundred eighty-eight  
15 thousand dollars (\$388,000.00) or as much thereof as is  
16 necessary to carry out the purposes of this subsection;

17

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

22

23 (g) Encampment River WYCO Dam:

1

2 (i) Project sponsor: Trout Unlimited;

3

4 (ii) Project purpose: Restoration of dam  
5 infrastructure and construction of a fish passage channel on  
6 the Encampment river in Carbon county in order to:

7

8 (A) Maintain migration and fish passage;

9

10 (B) Restore irrigation infrastructure to  
11 maintain a major water delivery system in the Saratoga valley.

12

13 (iii) Project description: River restoration;

14

15 (iv) Total project budget: One million two hundred  
16 forty-three thousand dollars (\$1,243,000.00);

17

18 (v) Project grant: The board is authorized to  
19 grant two hundred twenty thousand dollars (\$220,000.00) to  
20 the sponsor for the purposes specified in this subsection;

21

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

1 dollars (\$220,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to  
2 carry out the purposes of this subsection.

3

4 (h) Dunham Ranch Conservation Easement:

5

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

8

9 (ii) Project purpose: Removal of residential  
10 development rights of approximately two thousand (2,000)  
11 acres in Sublette county in order to:

12

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

15

16 (B) Maintain primary migration corridors for  
17 native ungulates;

18

19 (C) Conserve valuable grassland, riparian  
20 and shrubland ecotypes;

21

22 (D) Maintain agricultural production and  
23 opportunity on high quality farm and ranch lands;

1

2 (E) Maintain fisheries on four (4) miles of  
3 Cottonwood creek.

4

5 (iii) Project description: Conservation easement;

6

7 (iv) Total project budget: Two million seven  
8 hundred eighty thousand dollars (\$2,780,000.00);

9

10 (v) Project grant: The board is authorized to  
11 grant three hundred thirty-eight thousand dollars  
12 (\$338,000.00) to the sponsor for the purposes specified in  
13 this subsection;

14

15 (vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from the  
16 income account to the board three hundred thirty-eight  
17 thousand dollars (\$338,000.00) or as much thereof as is  
18 necessary to carry out the purposes of this subsection;

19

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

1

2 (j) Lower Swift Creek:

3

4 (i) Project sponsor: Trout Unlimited;

5

6 (ii) Project purpose: Restoration of stream  
7 channel and adjacent wetland habitats on Swift creek in  
8 Lincoln county in order to:

9

10 (A) Maintain migration and fish passage for  
11 native cutthroat trout;

12

13 (B) Improve irrigation infrastructure to  
14 reduce erosion and loss of valuable farm and ranch lands;

15

16 (C) Reduce impacts to the Salt river fishery.

17

18 (iii) Project description: River restoration;

19

20 (iv) Total project budget: One million two hundred  
21 eighty-four thousand nine hundred twenty-seven dollars  
22 (\$1,284,927.00);

23

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

4

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

9

10          (k) Sublette Cheatgrass:

11

12           (i) Project sponsor: Sublette County Weed and Pest  
13 District;

14

15           (ii) Project purpose: Chemical, mechanical and  
16 other treatments of noxious weeds and grasses of the genus  
17 Bromus on approximately one hundred eighty thousand (180,000)  
18 acres in Sublette county in order to:

19

20           (A) Improve habitats for native wildlife  
21 species;

22

1                   (B) Reduce and eliminate the potential for  
2 catastrophic wildfire;

3

4                   (C) Improve habitats for greater sage grouse  
5 in core population areas;

6

7                   (D) Enhance rangelands for livestock use.

8

9                   (iii) Project description: Invasive species  
10 elimination;

11

12                   (iv) Total project budget: Two million four  
13 hundred sixty-five thousand five hundred ninety-five dollars  
14 (\$2,465,595.00);

15

16                   (v) Project grant: The board is authorized to  
17 grant three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000.00) to the  
18 sponsor for the purposes specified in this subsection;

19

20                   (vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from the  
21 income account to the board three hundred thousand dollars  
22 (\$300,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out  
23 the purposes of this subsection.

1

2 (m) Gun Barrel Flats Conservation Easement:

3

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

5

6 (ii) Project purpose: Removal of residential  
7 development rights of approximately one hundred (100) acres  
8 in Teton county in order to:

9

10 (A) Maintain key seasonal habitats for moose,  
11 elk, mule deer and other wetland species;

12

13 (B) Maintain primary migration corridors for  
14 native ungulates between the Absaroka and Teton ranges;

15

16 (C) Maintain aquatic resources and fisheries  
17 on the Buffalo Fork drainage;

18

19 (D) Conserve valuable riparian, wetland,  
20 grassland and intermediate shrubland ecotypes;

21

22 (E) Maintain agricultural production and  
23 economic opportunity on historic ranch lands.



1

2 (iii) Project description: Conservation easement;

3

4 (iv) Total project budget: Two million eight  
5 hundred thirty-one thousand five hundred forty dollars  
6 (\$2,831,540.00);

7

8 (v) Project grant: The board is authorized to  
9 grant three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000.00) to the  
10 sponsor for the purposes specified in this subsection;

11

12 (vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from the  
13 income account to the board three hundred thousand dollars  
14 (\$300,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out  
15 the purposes of this subsection;

16

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

21

1           (n) Unexpended and unobligated funds appropriated under  
2 this section shall revert to the income account on June 30,  
3 2022.

4

5           **Section 2.** W.S. 9-15-201, 9-15-301 through 9-15-311,  
6 9-15-401 through 9-15-410, 9-15-501 through 9-15-508,  
7 9-15-601 through 9-15-614, 9-15-701 through 9-15-712,  
8 9-15-801 through 9-15-817, 9-15-901 through 9-15-905,  
9 9-15-909, 9-15-1001, 9-15-1003 and 9-15-1004 are repealed.

10

11           **Section 3.** This act is effective immediately upon  
12 completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as  
13 provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

14

15

(END)