

SENATE FILE NO. SF0052

2026 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 the funding of large  
 3 projects under that act; specifying large projects approved  
 4 for funding in 2026; authorizing distributions from the  
 5 Wyoming wildlife and natural resource trust income account  
 6 for approved large projects; providing for the reversion of  
 7 funds; and providing for an effective date.

8

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

10

11 **Section 1.**

12

13 (a) As used in this section:

14

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 (h) of this section.

14

15           (c) Upper Greybull Fish Passage III:

16

17           (i) Project sponsor: Wyoming game and fish  
18 commission;

19

20           (ii) Project purpose: Restoration of native  
21 fisheries, riparian and aquatic ecosystems through  
22 vegetation management, riparian restoration and removal of

1 barriers to fish movement on approximately forty-eight (48)  
2 miles of streams in northeast Wyoming in order to:

3

4 (A) Maintain migration and movement for  
5 native fish species;

6

7 (B) Maintain river function;

8

9 (C) Reduce or eliminate excessive erosion;

10

11 (D) Stabilize irrigation delivery systems.

12

13 (iii) Project description: River restoration;

14

15 (iv) Total project budget: Three million three  
16 hundred seventy-three thousand nine hundred eleven dollars  
17 (\$3,373,911.00);

18

19 (v) Project grant: The total grant for the  
20 project, including all grants previously awarded for the  
21 project and the additional one hundred fifty thousand  
22 dollar (\$150,000.00) grant authorized under this

1 subsection, shall be one million three hundred thousand  
2 dollars (\$1,300,000.00);

3

4 (vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from  
5 the income account to the board one hundred fifty thousand  
6 dollars (\$150,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to  
7 carry out the purposes of this subsection.

8

9 (d) Baggs Valley Headwaters V:

10

11 (i) Project sponsor: Little Snake River  
12 conservation district;

13

14 (ii) Project purpose: Restoration of native  
15 vegetation through mechanical, chemical and prescribed fire  
16 across a varied landscape of approximately five thousand  
17 five hundred (5,500) acres in Carbon county in order to:

18

19 (A) Maintain key seasonal habitats for mule  
20 deer, elk, moose, antelope and other species;

21

22 (B) Maintain primary migration corridors  
23 for native ungulates;

1

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

4

5 (D) Conserve valuable grassland and  
6 intermediate shrubland ecotypes.

7

8 (iii) Project description: Rangeland  
9 restoration;

10

11 (iv) Total project budget: Five million two  
12 hundred six thousand five hundred dollars (\$5,206,500.00);

13

14 (v) Project grant: The total grant for the  
15 project, including all grants previously awarded for the  
16 project and the additional seven hundred thousand dollar  
17 (\$700,000.00) grant authorized under this subsection, shall  
18 be two million one hundred forty-eight thousand dollars  
19 (\$2,148,000.00);

20

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

1 dollars (\$700,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to  
2 carry out the purposes of this subsection.

3

4 (e) Absaroka Front Cheatgrass:

5

6 (i) Project sponsor: Park county weed and pest  
7 district;

8

9 (ii) Project purpose: Removal of invasive  
10 grasses on approximately forty-eight thousand (48,000)  
11 acres in Park county in order to:

12

13 (A) Maintain key seasonal habitats for mule  
14 deer, elk, moose, antelope and bighorn sheep;

15

16 (B) Maintain core population areas for  
17 greater sage grouse and other sagebrush obligate species;

18

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

21

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

1

2 (iii) Project description: Invasive species  
3 management;

4

5 (iv) Total project budget: Three million five  
6 hundred thirty-four thousand eight hundred ninety dollars  
7 (\$3,534,890.00);

8

9 (v) Project grant: The total grant for the  
10 project, including all grants previously awarded for the  
11 project and the additional three hundred ninety-five  
12 thousand dollar (\$395,000.00) grant authorized under this  
13 subsection, shall be six hundred eighty-five thousand  
14 dollars (\$685,000.00);

15

16 (vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from  
17 the income account to the board three hundred ninety-five  
18 thousand dollars (\$395,000.00) or as much thereof as is  
19 necessary to carry out the purposes of this subsection.

20

21 (f) Cody Canal Fish Screen:

22

1           (i) Project sponsor: Wyoming game and fish  
2 commission;

3

4           (ii) Project purpose: Removal of fish species  
5 from entrainment in irrigation systems by screening and by  
6 returning to the main headgate infrastructure in Park  
7 county in order to:

8

9           (A) Maintain fish populations on a river  
10 system with extraordinarily high losses of fish;

11

12           (B) Maintain recreational opportunity on a  
13 river with high values for fishing;

14

15           (C) Conserve species considered vulnerable  
16 to loss.

17

18           (iii) Project description: River restoration;

19

20           (iv) Total project budget: Four million four  
21 hundred twenty-nine thousand three hundred sixty-seven  
22 dollars (\$4,429,367.00);

23

1           (v) Project grant: The board is authorized to  
2 grant to the sponsor eight hundred thousand dollars  
3 (\$800,000.00) for the purposes specified in this  
4 subsection;

5

6           (vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from  
7 the income account to the board eight hundred thousand  
8 dollars (\$800,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to  
9 carry out the purposes of this subsection.

10

11           (g) North Platte Cheatgrass:

12

13           (i) Project sponsor: Natrona county weed and  
14 pest district;

15

16           (ii) Project purpose: Removal of invasive  
17 grasses on approximately nine thousand (9,000) acres in  
18 Natrona county in order to:

19

20           (A) Maintain key seasonal habitats for mule  
21 deer, elk and antelope;

22

1 (B) Reduce or eliminate the potential for  
2 catastrophic fire;

3

4 (C) Allow regeneration of cottonwood  
5 gallery forests.

6

7 (iii) Project description: Invasive species  
8 management;

9

10 (iv) Total project budget: Two million nine  
11 hundred sixteen thousand dollars (\$2,916,000.00);

12

13 (v) Project grant: The board is authorized to  
14 grant one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00) to the sponsor  
15 for the purposes specified in this subsection;

16

17 (vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from  
18 the income account to the board one million dollars  
19 (\$1,000,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry  
20 out the purposes of this subsection.

21

22 (h) Western Wyoming Cheatgrass:

23

1           (i) Project sponsor: Teton county weed and pest  
2 district;

3

4           (ii) Project purpose: Removal of invasive  
5 grasses on approximately forty-eight thousand five hundred  
6 (48,500) acres in western Wyoming in order to:

7

8           (A) Maintain key seasonal habitats for mule  
9 deer, elk, moose, antelope and bighorn sheep;

10

11           (B) Maintain core population areas for  
12 greater sage grouse and other sagebrush obligate species;

13

14           (C) Conserve valuable grassland and  
15 intermediate shrubland ecotypes;

16

17           (D) Maintain agricultural production and  
18 opportunity on high-quality ranch lands.

19

20           (iii) Project description: Invasive species  
21 management;

22

1           (iv) Total project budget: Six million nine  
2 hundred sixty-three thousand eight hundred three dollars  
3 (\$6,963,803.00);

4

5           (v) Project grant: The total grant for the  
6 project, including all grants previously awarded for the  
7 project and the additional two million dollar  
8 (\$2,000,000.00) grant authorized under this subsection,  
9 shall be three million four hundred thousand dollars  
10 (\$3,400,000.00);

11

12           (vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from  
13 the income account to the board two million dollars  
14 (\$2,000,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry  
15 out the purposes of this subsection.

16

17           (j) Any unexpended and unobligated funds remaining  
18 from appropriations under this section shall revert to the  
19 income account on June 30, 2030.

20

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

5

6

(END)