

SENATE FILE NO. SF0082

2014 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 2014; 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. 9-15-901 through 9-15-911 are created
15 to read:

16

17

ARTICLE 9

1

2 (iii) Project description: Conservation
3 easement;

4

5 (iv) Total project budget: One million eight
6 hundred seventy-three thousand two hundred fifty dollars
7 (\$1,873,250.00);

8

9 (v) Project grant: The Wyoming wildlife and
10 natural resource trust account board is authorized to grant
11 four hundred seventy-five thousand dollars (\$475,000.00) to
12 the sponsor for the purposes specified in this subsection;

13

14 (vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from
15 the income account to the board four hundred seventy-five
16 thousand dollars (\$475,000.00) or as much thereof as is
17 necessary to carry out the purposes of this subsection.
18 Unexpended and unobligated funds appropriated under this
19 subsection shall revert to the income account on June 30,
20 2017.

21

22 **9-15-902. Yellowtail Fire Rehabilitation.**

23

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

3

4 (b) Project: Yellowtail fire rehabilitation:

5

6 (i) Project sponsor: Shoshone Conservation
7 District;

8

9 (ii) Project purpose: Habitat restoration and
10 conservation to address the effects of wildfire on an area
11 of high value to multiple species of wildlife and
12 recreational use on approximately one thousand five hundred
13 (1,500) acres in Big Horn county in order to:

14

15 (A) Preclude loss of habitat for deer,
16 amphibians, upland game birds, raptors and other species;

17

18 (B) Allow for continued agricultural
19 production.

20

21 (iii) Project description: Rangeland
22 enhancement;

23

1 (iv) Total project budget: Seven hundred sixty-
2 two thousand dollars (\$762,000.00);

3

4 (v) Project grant: The Wyoming wildlife and
5 natural resource trust account board is authorized to grant
6 to the sponsor two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000.00)
7 for the purposes specified in this subsection;

8

9 (vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from
10 the income account to the board two hundred thousand
11 dollars (\$200,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to
12 carry 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, 2017.

15

16 **9-15-903. Yellowstone Lake II.**

17

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

20

21 (b) Project: Yellowstone Lake II:

22

23 (i) Project sponsor: Wyoming Trout Unlimited;

24

1 (ii) Project purpose: Removal of non-native
2 fishes from a natural native fish area in order to:

3

4 (A) Prevent the loss or endangerment of
5 native species which could create ecological and economic
6 issues for a large portion of the state of Wyoming;

7

8 (B) Increase rearing of juvenile fish and
9 allow seasonal habitats for spawning fish.

10

11 (iii) Project description: Aquatic habitat
12 conservation;

13

14 (iv) Total project budget: One million four
15 hundred seventy-four thousand four hundred twenty-six
16 dollars (\$1,474,426.00);

17

18 (v) Project grant: The Wyoming wildlife and
19 natural resource trust account board is authorized to grant
20 to the sponsor seven hundred seventy-one thousand five
21 hundred seventy-six dollars (\$771,576.00) for the purposes
22 specified in this subsection;

23

1 (vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from
2 the income account to the board six hundred twenty-one
3 thousand five hundred seventy-six dollars (\$621,576.00) or
4 as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purposes
5 of this subsection. Unexpended and unobligated funds
6 appropriated under this subsection shall revert to the
7 income account on June 30, 2017.

8

9 **9-15-904. Wapiti Ridge Conservation Easement.**

10

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

13

14 (b) Project: Wapiti Ridge conservation easement:

15

16 (i) Project sponsor: Wyoming Game and Fish
17 Commission;

18

19 (ii) Project purpose: Permanent use restriction
20 on approximately two thousand eighty (2,080) acres in
21 Platte county in order to:

22

23 (A) Preclude loss of habitat for mule deer,
24 elk, sage grouse, antelope and other species; and

1

2 (B) Allow for continued agricultural
3 production.

4

5 (iii) Project description: Conservation
6 easement;

7

8 (iv) Total project budget: One million two
9 hundred fifty-two thousand dollars (\$1,252,000.00);

10

11 (v) Project grant: The Wyoming wildlife and
12 natural resource trust account board is authorized to grant
13 to the sponsor three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000.00)
14 for the purposes specified in this subsection;

15

16 (vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from
17 the income account to the board three hundred thousand
18 dollars (\$300,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to
19 carry out the purposes of this subsection. Unexpended and
20 unobligated funds appropriated under this subsection shall
21 revert to the income account on June 30, 2017.

22

23 **9-15-905. Stateline Pike.**

24

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

3

4 (b) Project: Stateline Pike:

5

6 (i) Project sponsor: Little Snake River
7 Conservation District;

8

9 (ii) Project purpose: Permanent structures and
10 irrigation improvements on the Little Snake River in Carbon
11 county in order to:

12

13 (A) Preclude loss of habitat for Colorado
14 River cutthroat trout and other aquatic species;

15

16 (B) Secure migration routes and crucial
17 habitat for important fish species;

18

19 (C) Improve efficiency of irrigation
20 systems; and

21

22 (D) Allow for continued agricultural
23 production.

24

1 (iii) Project description: Stream habitat
2 improvement;

3

4 (iv) Total project budget: One million two
5 hundred fifty-five thousand dollars (\$1,255,000.00);

6

7 (v) Project grant: The Wyoming wildlife and
8 natural resource trust account board is authorized to grant
9 to the sponsor three hundred forty-five thousand dollars
10 (\$345,000.00) for the purposes specified in this
11 subsection;

12

13 (vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from
14 the income account to the board three hundred forty-five
15 thousand dollars (\$345,000.00) or as much thereof as is
16 necessary to carry out the purposes of this subsection.
17 Unexpended and unobligated funds appropriated under this
18 subsection shall revert to the income account on June 30,
19 2017.

20

21 **9-15-906. Croonberg Ranch Conservation Easement.**

22

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

1

2 (b) Project: Croonberg Ranch conservation easement:

3

4 (i) Project sponsor: Wyoming Stock Growers
5 Agricultural Land Trust;

6

7 (ii) Project purpose: Permanent use restriction
8 on approximately six thousand six hundred forty (6,640)
9 acres in Albany county in order to:

10

11 (A) Preclude loss of habitat for mule deer,
12 antelope, songbirds and other species;

13

14 (B) Secure migration routes and crucial
15 habitat for a variety of wildlife species; and

16

17 (C) Allow for continued agricultural
18 production.

19

20 (iii) Project description: Conservation
21 easement;

22

1 (iv) Total project budget: Two million five
2 hundred forty-eight thousand one hundred fifty dollars
3 (\$2,548,150.00);

4

5 (v) Project grant: The Wyoming wildlife and
6 natural resource trust account board is authorized to grant
7 to the sponsor five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000.00)
8 for the purposes specified in this subsection;

9

10 (vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from
11 the income account to the board five hundred thousand
12 dollars (\$500,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to
13 carry out the purposes of this subsection. Unexpended and
14 unobligated funds appropriated under this subsection shall
15 revert to the income account on June 30, 2017.

16

17 **9-15-907. Platte River Casper II.**

18

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

21

22 (b) Project: Platte River Casper II:

23

24 (i) Project sponsor: City of Casper;

1

2 (ii) Project purpose: Restoration and
3 rehabilitation of the Platte River corridor along
4 approximately fourteen (14) miles of habitat through the
5 City of Casper, through vegetation treatment, instream
6 structures and wetland habitat establishment in order to:

7

8 (A) Restore habitats for fish in a blue
9 ribbon trout fishery;

10

11 (B) Restore streamside habitats for
12 songbirds, waterfowl and other riparian species; and

13

14 (C) Provide an enhanced opportunity for
15 economic development associated with wildlife and natural
16 resources.

17

18 (iii) Project description: Stream habitat
19 enhancement and restoration;

20

21 (iv) Total project budget: Eleven million three
22 hundred eighty-seven thousand five hundred seventy-six
23 dollars and two cents (\$11,387,576.02);

24

1 (v) Project grant: The Wyoming wildlife and
2 natural resource trust account board is authorized to grant
3 to the sponsor two million dollars (\$2,000,000.00) for the
4 purposes specified in this subsection;

5

6 (vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from
7 the income account to the board two million dollars
8 (\$2,000,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry
9 out the purposes of this subsection. Unexpended and
10 unobligated funds appropriated under this subsection shall
11 revert to the income account on June 30, 2017.

12

13 **9-15-908. Table Mountain Water II.**

14

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

17

18 (b) Project: Table Mountain Water II:

19

20 (i) Project sponsor: Wyoming Game and Fish
21 Commission;

22

23 (ii) Project purpose: Water development and
24 management of wetland habitats on approximately three

1 hundred ninety-five (395) acres in Goshen county in order
2 to:

3

4 (A) Enhance aquatic habitats and nesting
5 areas for waterfowl and upland game birds;

6

7 (B) Maintain and increase vital migration
8 habitat for waterfowl; and

9

10 (C) Maintain irrigation efficiency for
11 landowners in the area.

12

13 (iii) Project description: Water development and
14 aquatic habitat improvement;

15

16 (iv) Total project budget: Nine hundred
17 twenty-three thousand eight hundred seventy dollars
18 (\$923,870.00);

19

20 (v) Project grant: The Wyoming wildlife and
21 natural resource trust account board is authorized to grant
22 to the sponsor three hundred twenty-four thousand seven
23 hundred dollars (\$324,700.00) for the purposes specified in
24 this subsection;

1

2 (vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from
3 the income account to the board two hundred sixty-four
4 thousand dollars (\$264,000.00) or as much thereof as is
5 necessary to carry out the purposes of this subsection.
6 Unexpended and unobligated funds appropriated under this
7 subsection shall revert to the income account on June 30,
8 2017.

9

10 **9-15-909. Wyoming Range Mule Deer Habitat.**

11

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

14

15 (b) Project: Wyoming Range Mule Deer Habitat:

16

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

18

19 (ii) Project purpose: Habitat enhancement
20 through chemical, mechanical, prescribed fire, livestock
21 management and other means on approximately four hundred
22 thousand (400,000) acres in Sublette county in order to:

23

1 (A) Preclude loss of crucial habitat for
2 mule deer and sage grouse and seasonal habitats for moose,
3 elk and other species;

4

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

7

8 (C) Restore aspen and native shrub habitats
9 essential to mule deer.

10

11 (iii) Project description: Terrestrial rangeland
12 habitat enhancement;

13

14 (iv) Total project budget: Three million six
15 hundred ninety-eight thousand three hundred ninety dollars
16 (\$3,698,390.00);

17

18 (v) Project grant: The Wyoming wildlife and
19 natural resource trust account board is authorized to grant
20 to the sponsor five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000.00)
21 for the purposes specified in this subsection;

22

23 (vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from
24 the income account to the board five hundred thousand

1 dollars (\$500,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to
2 carry out the purposes of this subsection. Unexpended and
3 unobligated funds appropriated under this subsection shall
4 revert to the income account on June 30, 2017.

5

6 **9-15-910. Harmony Diversion.**

7

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

10

11 (b) Project: Harmony Diversion:

12

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

15

16 (ii) Project purpose: Improvement and
17 restoration of river function on the Nowood River in Big
18 Horn county in order to:

19

20 (A) Allow migration and passage of fish
21 species in the main stem of the Nowood River;

22

23 (B) Improve and maintain irrigation
24 efficiency; and

1

2

(C) Improve water quality by eliminating sediment discharge in the main stem of the Nowood River.

4

5

(iii) Project description: Stream habitat enhancement;

7

8

(iv) Total project budget: Two million dollars (\$2,000,000.00);

10

11

(v) Project grant: The Wyoming wildlife and natural resource trust account board is authorized to grant to the sponsor five hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$550,000.00) for the purposes specified in this subsection;

16

17

(vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from the income account to the board five hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$550,000.00) 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, 2017.

23

24

9-15-911. Purple Sage Ranch Conservation Easement.

1

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

4

5 (b) Project: Purple Sage Ranch conservation
6 easement:

7

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

10

11 (ii) Project purpose: Permanent use restriction
12 on approximately two thousand eight hundred (2,800) acres
13 in Carbon county in order to:

14

15 (A) Preclude loss of habitat for mule deer,
16 elk, antelope, songbirds and other species;

17

18 (B) Maintain important river and wetland
19 habitats;

20

21 (C) Secure migration routes and crucial
22 habitat for a variety of wildlife species; and

23

1 (D) Allow for continued agricultural
2 production.

3

4 (iii) Project description: Conservation
5 easement;

6

7 (iv) Total project budget: One million six
8 hundred sixty-eight thousand one hundred fifty dollars
9 (\$1,668,150.00);

10

11 (v) Project grant: The Wyoming wildlife and
12 natural resource trust account board is authorized to grant
13 to the sponsor three hundred seventy-five thousand dollars
14 (\$375,000.00) for the purposes specified in this
15 subsection;

16

17 (vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from
18 the income account to the board three hundred seventy-five
19 thousand dollars (\$375,000.00) or as much thereof as is
20 necessary to carry out the purposes of this subsection.
21 Unexpended and unobligated funds appropriated under this
22 subsection shall revert to the income account on June 30,
23 2017.

24

1 **Section 2.** W.S. 9-15-201(b)(iv) through (vi) is
2 amended to read:

3

4 **9-15-201. Wyoming wildlife and natural resource large**
5 **project funding; 2007.**

6

7 (b) Project - Bates Creek Watershed Restoration:

8

9 (iv) Total project budget: ~~two million four~~
10 ~~hundred twenty five thousand dollars (\$2,425,000.00)~~ Four
11 million thirty-five thousand three hundred nine dollars
12 (\$4,035,309.00) over an anticipated period of approximately
13 sixteen (16) years;

14

15 (v) Project grant: The Wyoming wildlife and
16 natural resource trust account board is authorized to
17 grant to the sponsors not to exceed ~~eight hundred sixty-~~
18 ~~seven thousand two hundred ninety three dollars~~
19 ~~(\$867,293.00) over a period of not more than three (3)~~
20 years one million one hundred sixty-two thousand eight
21 hundred forty-three dollars (\$1,162,843.00) for the
22 purposes specified in this subsection;

23

1 (vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from
2 the income account to the board three hundred thousand
3 dollars (\$300,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to
4 carry out the purpose of this subsection. In addition to
5 any amounts appropriated prior to 2009, there is
6 appropriated from the income account to the board two
7 hundred sixty-seven thousand two hundred ninety-three
8 dollars (\$267,293.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to
9 carry out the purpose of this subsection. In addition to
10 any amounts appropriated prior to 2010, there is
11 appropriated from the income account to the board three
12 hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000.00) or as much thereof
13 as is necessary to carry out the purposes of this
14 subsection. In addition to any amounts appropriated prior
15 to 2014, there is appropriated from the income account to
16 the board two hundred ninety-five thousand five hundred
17 fifty dollars (\$295,550.00) or as much thereof as is
18 necessary to carry out the purposes of this subsection.
19 Notwithstanding W.S. 9-2-1008, 9-2-1012(e) and 9-4-207(a),
20 unexpended and unobligated funds appropriated under this
21 subsection shall ~~not lapse on June 30, 2012, but shall~~
22 revert to the income account on June 30, ~~2013~~2017.

23

1 **Section 3.** Each conservation easement for which
2 funding is authorized under Section 1 or 2 of this act
3 shall include the state of Wyoming as a third party
4 beneficiary with the right to enforce the terms of the
5 agreement and, if the easement is transferred or
6 extinguished, the right to recover the state's pro rata
7 share of funds provided for the creation of the easement up
8 to one hundred percent (100%) of the funds granted by the
9 state for the creation of the easement.

10

11 **Section 4.** Before any distribution of funds is made
12 pursuant to the appropriations authorized by Sections 1 and
13 2 of this act, the person receiving the funds shall certify
14 that no gratuities, kickbacks, gifts, commissions,
15 contingency fees or other considerations have been or will
16 be made in connection with the appropriation or the
17 associated grant made by the Wyoming wildlife and natural
18 resource trust account board.

19

1 **Section 5.** 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)