

SENATE FILE NO. SF0053

2016 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 2016; requiring specified conservation  
 5 easements to include the state of Wyoming as a third party  
 6 beneficiary as specified; requiring certifications  
 7 regarding kickbacks and gifts; providing appropriations;  
 8 providing for reversion of funds; and providing for an  
 9 effective date.

10

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

12

13 **Section 1.** W.S. 9-15-1101 through 9-15-1104 are  
 14 created to read:

15

16

ARTICLE 11

1                                2016 LARGE PROJECT FUNDING

2

3                    **9-15-1101. Lazy BV Conservation Easement.**

4

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

7

8            (b) Project: Lazy BV Conservation Easement:

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10                    (i) Project sponsor: The Nature Conservancy;

11

12                    (ii) Project purpose: Restriction on residential  
13 development on approximately two thousand five hundred  
14 (2,500) acres in Park county in order to:

15

16                    (A) Maintain key winter ranges and  
17 migration corridors for bighorn sheep, elk, deer and moose;

18

19                    (B) Maintain access to spawning and  
20 year-round habitat for Yellowstone cutthroat trout;

21

22                    (C) Maintain distribution of Greater  
23 Sage-grouse in a core population area; and

1

2

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

4

5

(iii) Project description: Conservation Easement;

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8

(iv) Total project budget: One million one hundred sixty-six thousand five hundred thirty-eight dollars (\$1,166,538.00);

11

12

(v) Project grant: The Wyoming wildlife and natural resource trust account board is authorized to grant two hundred sixty-nine thousand six hundred thirty-five dollars (\$269,635.00) to the sponsor for the purposes specified in this subsection;

17

18

(vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from the income account to the board two hundred sixty-nine thousand six hundred thirty-five dollars (\$269,635.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purposes of this subsection. Unexpended and unobligated funds

1 appropriated under this subsection shall revert to the  
2 income account on June 30, 2019.

3

4 **9-15-1102. Lower Encampment Watershed.**

5

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

8

9 (b) Project: Lower Encampment River Restoration:

10

11 (i) Project sponsor: Trout Unlimited;

12

13 (ii) Project purpose: Stream habitat  
14 enhancement, fish passage modification, wetland enhancement  
15 and irrigation improvement in order to:

16

17 (A) Provide stability to stream function;

18

19 (B) Allow natural movement of trout in an  
20 area of high recreational value; and

21

22 (C) Enhance irrigation efficiency in an  
23 area of high productivity for agriculture.

1

2 (iii) Project description: Streambank  
3 stabilization, channel design and modification and  
4 enhancement of diversion structures;

5

6 (iv) Total project budget: Two million one  
7 thousand four hundred ninety dollars (\$2,001,490.00);

8

9 (v) Project grant: The Wyoming wildlife and  
10 natural resource trust account board is authorized to grant  
11 to the sponsor six hundred thousand dollars (\$600,000.00)  
12 for the purposes specified in this subsection;

13

14 (vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from  
15 the income account to the board six hundred thousand  
16 dollars (\$600,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to  
17 carry out the purposes of this subsection. Unexpended and  
18 unobligated funds appropriated under this subsection shall  
19 revert to the income account on June 30, 2019.

20

21 **9-15-1103. South Pass Aspen II.**

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

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4           (b) Project: South Pass Aspen II:

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

8

9                   (ii) Project purpose: Removal of invasive  
10 conifers from sagebrush and aspen habitats in an area with  
11 high wildlife populations in the southern Wind River Range  
12 in order to:

13

14                           (A) Provide seasonal and year-long habitats  
15 for elk, mule deer, antelope, Greater Sage-grouse and other  
16 species; and

17

18                           (B) Reduce the risk of catastrophic fire in  
19 an area with high to very high risk of property damage.

20

21                   (iii) Project description: Removal of conifer  
22 through fire, mechanical, chemical and other methods;

23

1           (iv) Total project budget: One million one  
2 hundred four thousand one hundred dollars (\$1,104,100.00);

3

4           (v) Project grant: The Wyoming wildlife and  
5 natural resource trust account board is authorized to grant  
6 to the sponsor four hundred forty-five thousand dollars  
7 (\$445,000.00) for the purposes specified in this  
8 subsection;

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10           (vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from  
11 the income account to the board two hundred fifty thousand  
12 dollars (\$250,000.00) 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, 2019.

16

17           **9-15-1104. Rocking Chair Ranch Conservation Easement.**

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

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22           (b) Project: Rocking Chair Ranch Conservation  
23 Easement:

1

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

4

5 (ii) Project purpose: Restriction on residential  
6 development in an area with extremely high wildlife  
7 diversity and critical habitat function in Lincoln county  
8 in order to:

9

10 (A) Maintain habitats and migration  
11 corridors for moose, elk, deer, antelope and other species;

12

13 (B) Maintain and enhance aquatic function  
14 including large wetland resources;

15

16 (C) Maintain seasonal habitats for Greater  
17 Sage-grouse in a core population area; and

18

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

21

22 (iii) Project description: Conservation  
23 Easement;



1

2 (iv) Total project budget: One million six  
3 hundred fifty thousand eight hundred dollars  
4 (\$1,650,800.00);

5

6 (v) Project grant: The Wyoming wildlife and  
7 natural resource trust account board is authorized to grant  
8 to the sponsor four hundred thousand dollars (\$400,000.00)  
9 for the purposes specified in this subsection;

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11 (vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from  
12 the income account to the board four hundred thousand  
13 dollars (\$400,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to  
14 carry out the purposes of this subsection. Unexpended and  
15 unobligated funds appropriated under this subsection shall  
16 revert to the income account on June 30, 2019.

17

18 **Section 2.** Each conservation easement for which  
19 funding is authorized under Section 1 of this act shall  
20 include the state of Wyoming as a third party beneficiary  
21 with the right to enforce the terms of the agreement and,  
22 if the easement is transferred or extinguished, the right  
23 to recover the state's pro rata share of funds provided for

1 the creation of the easement up to one hundred percent  
2 (100%) of the funds granted by the state for the creation  
3 of the easement.

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5       **Section 3.** Before any distribution of funds is made  
6 pursuant to the appropriations authorized by Section 1 of  
7 this act, the person receiving the funds shall certify that  
8 no gratuities, kickbacks, gifts, commissions, contingency  
9 fees or other considerations have been or will be made in  
10 connection with the appropriation or the associated grant  
11 made by the Wyoming wildlife and natural resource trust  
12 account board.

13

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

18

19

(END)