

SENATE FILE NO. SF0048

2022 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 2022; specifying conditions for large
5 project funding; authorizing distributions from the Wyoming
6 wildlife and natural resource trust income account for
7 approved large projects; providing for the reversion of
8 funds; repealing statutes previously 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
3 natural resource trust account board created by W.S.
4 9-15-104;

5

6 (ii) "Income account" means the Wyoming wildlife
7 and natural resource trust income account created by W.S.
8 9-15-103(b).

9

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

14

15 (c) Northeast Forest Health:

16

17 (i) Project sponsor: Crook County Conservation
18 District;

19

20 (ii) Project purpose: Removal of encroaching
21 conifers and other species from forest understory, and
22 chemical and mechanical treatment of invasive annual
23 grasses on a portion of approximately three hundred fifty

1 thousand (350,000) acres of native forest in Crook and
2 Weston counties in order to:

3

4 (A) Improve and maintain existing habitats
5 for mule deer, white-tailed deer, elk, turkey and
6 neotropical migrant songbirds endemic to the Black Hills;

7

8 (B) Improve and maintain the economic
9 viability of ponderosa pine woodlands;

10

11 (C) Reduce or eliminate the potential for
12 catastrophic wildfire.

13

14 (iii) Project description: Invasive species
15 elimination;

16

17 (iv) Total project budget: one million three
18 hundred eight thousand eight hundred dollars
19 (\$1,308,800.00);

20

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

1 (\$400,000.00) for the purposes specified in this
2 subsection;

3

4 (vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from
5 the income account to the board four hundred thousand
6 dollars (\$400,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to
7 carry out the purposes of this subsection.

8

9 (d) Kaycee-Buffalo Mule Deer Crossings:

10

11 (i) Project sponsor: Wyoming department of
12 transportation;

13

14 (ii) Project purpose: Fence construction,
15 roadway replacement and underpass construction on
16 approximately fifteen (15) miles of Interstate 25 between
17 the towns of Buffalo and Kaycee in Johnson county in order
18 to:

19

20 (A) Allow for safe deer movement across the
21 interstate highway to increase connectivity and maintain
22 populations for an important herd of mule deer;

23

1 (B) Reduce and eliminate the potential for
2 catastrophic collisions that impact human life, wildlife
3 and property damage.

4

5 (iii) Project description: Highway crossing
6 construction;

7

8 (iv) Total project budget: five million fifty
9 thousand dollars (\$5,050,000.00);

10

11 (v) Project grant: The board is authorized to
12 grant to the sponsor one million three hundred eighty-five
13 thousand dollars (\$1,385,000.00) for the purposes specified
14 in this subsection;

15

16 (vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from
17 the income account to the board five hundred thousand
18 dollars (\$500,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to
19 carry out the purposes of this subsection.

20

21 (e) Killdeer Wetlands II:

22

1 (i) Project Sponsor: Green River Greenbelt Task
2 Force;

3

4 (ii) Project purpose: Modification and retrofit
5 of a stream channel and diversion structures on the Green
6 River within the town of Green River in Sweetwater county
7 in order to:

8

9 (A) Maintain fish passage for native
10 species;

11

12 (B) Reduce the potential for catastrophic
13 flooding;

14

15 (C) Enhance the values from natural native
16 wetland habitats.

17

18 (iii) Project description: River restoration;

19

20 (iv) Total project budget: one million one
21 hundred eighty-three thousand dollars (\$1,183,000.00);

22

1 (v) Project grant: The board is authorized to
2 grant three hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$350,000.00) to
3 the sponsor for the purposes specified in this subsection;

4

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

9

10 (f) South Pass Aspen III:

11

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

14

15 (ii) Project purpose: Restoration of aspen
16 woodlands through removal of encroaching conifers by
17 mechanical, chemical and prescribed fire treatment on
18 approximately seventeen thousand five hundred (17,500)
19 acres in Fremont county in order to:

20

21 (A) Maintain habitats and seasonal movement
22 opportunities for mule deer, elk, antelope and other
23 species;

1

2 (B) Reduce or eliminate the potential for
3 catastrophic wildfire;

4

5 (C) Increase the productivity of rangelands
6 for wildlife and livestock.

7

8 (iii) Project description: Aspen enhancement;

9

10 (iv) Total project budget: two million five
11 hundred fifty-nine thousand five hundred dollars
12 (\$2,559,500.00);

13

14 (v) Project grant: The board is authorized to
15 grant to the sponsor nine hundred ninety-five thousand
16 dollars (\$995,000.00) for the purposes specified in this
17 subsection;

18

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

23

1 (g) Henry's Fork Fish Passage:

2

3 (i) Project sponsor: Trout Unlimited;

4

5 (ii) Project purpose: modification and retrofit
6 of stream channel and diversion structures on the Henry's
7 Fork river in southern Wyoming in order to:

8

9 (A) Maintain fish passage for native
10 species;

11

12 (B) Reduce the potential for catastrophic
13 flooding;

14

15 (C) Enhance the values from natural native
16 wetland habitats;

17

18 (D) Improve irrigation delivery and
19 efficiency of water use.

20

21 (iii) Project description: river restoration;

22

1 (iv) Total project budget: seven hundred fifty-
2 two thousand two hundred fifteen dollars (\$752,215.00);

3

4 (v) Project grant: The board is authorized to
5 grant two hundred ninety-six thousand dollars (\$296,000.00)
6 to the sponsor for the purposes specified in this
7 subsection;

8

9 (vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from
10 the income account to the board two hundred ninety-six
11 thousand dollars (\$296,000.00) or as much thereof as is
12 necessary to carry out the purposes of this subsection.

13

14 (h) Unexpended and unobligated funds appropriated
15 under this section shall revert to the income account on
16 June 30, 2026.

17

18 **Section 2.** W.S. 9-15-907 is repealed.

19

1 **Section 3.** 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)