

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 (j) 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
23 barriers to fish movement on approximately forty eight

1 thousand eight hundred fifty (48,850) miles of streams in
2 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)