

ENROLLED ACT NO. 61, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SIXTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WYOMING  
2013 GENERAL SESSION

AN ACT relating to the Wyoming Wildlife and Natural Resource Funding Act; providing for funding of large projects under that act; specifying large projects approved for funding in 2011; amending funding and timing for specified previously approved large projects; requiring specified conservation easements to include the state of Wyoming as a third party beneficiary; requiring certifications regarding kickbacks and gifts; providing appropriations; providing for reversion of funds; and providing for an effective date.

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

**Section 1.** W.S. 9-15-801 through 9-15-817 are created to read:

ARTICLE 8  
2013 LARGE PROJECT FUNDING

**9-15-801. Alexander Ranch conservation easement.**

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

(b) Project: Alexander Ranch conservation easement:

(i) Project sponsor: The Conservation Fund;

(ii) Project purpose: Permanent use restriction on approximately one thousand six hundred sixty-four (1,664) acres in Sublette county in order to:

(A) Preclude loss of habitat and key migration corridors for elk, deer, antelope, sage grouse, songbirds, amphibians and other species;

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(B) Secure habitat for sage grouse in a core population area; and

(C) Allow for continued agricultural production.

(iii) Project description: Conservation easement;

(iv) Total project budget: Two million five hundred ninety-five thousand three hundred dollars (\$2,595,300.00);

(v) Project grant: The Wyoming wildlife and natural resource trust account board is authorized to grant six hundred twenty-five thousand dollars (\$625,000.00) to the sponsor for the purposes specified in this subsection;

(vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from the income account to the board six hundred twenty-five thousand dollars (\$625,000.00) 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, 2016.

**9-15-802. Wood Ranch conservation easement.**

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

(b) Project: Wood Ranch conservation easement:

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

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(ii) Project purpose: Permanent use restriction on approximately one thousand seven hundred eighty-eight (1,788) acres in Crook county in order to:

(A) Preclude loss of habitat for deer, amphibians, elk, fisheries, songbirds, raptors and other species;

(B) Allow for continued agricultural production.

(iii) Project description: Conservation easement;

(iv) Total project budget: One million six hundred thirty-nine thousand nine hundred dollars (\$1,639,900.00);

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

(vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from the income account to the board three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000.00) 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, 2016.

**9-15-803. Arrowhead Ranch conservation easement.**

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

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(b) Project: Arrowhead Ranch conservation easement:

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

(ii) Project purpose: Permanent use restriction  
on approximately four thousand six hundred forty-one  
(4,641) acres in Natrona county in order to:

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

(B) Secure migration routes and crucial  
seasonal habitats for sage grouse; and

(C) Allow for continued agricultural  
production.

(iii) Project description: Conservation  
easement;

(iv) Total project budget: Three million four  
hundred ninety-six thousand two hundred thirty-three  
dollars (\$3,496,233.00);

(v) Project grant: The Wyoming wildlife and  
natural resource trust account board is authorized to grant  
to the sponsor eight hundred thirty-three thousand three  
hundred thirty-three dollars (\$833,333.00) for the purposes  
specified in this subsection;

(vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from  
the income account to the board eight hundred thirty-three  
thousand three hundred thirty-three dollars (\$833,333.00)  
or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the  
purposes of this subsection. Unexpended and unobligated

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funds appropriated under this subsection shall revert to the income account on June 30, 2016.

**9-15-804. Wilson Ranch conservation easement.**

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

(b) Project: Wilson Ranch conservation easement:

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

(ii) Project purpose: Permanent use restriction on approximately three thousand seven hundred thirty-two (3,732) acres in Crook county in order to:

(A) Preclude loss of habitat for deer, elk, antelope, songbirds, amphibians, fish and other species; and

(B) Allow for continued agricultural production.

(iii) Project description: Conservation easement;

(iv) Total project budget: Two million four hundred twenty-five thousand five hundred forty dollars (\$2,425,540.00);

(v) Project grant: The Wyoming wildlife and natural resource trust account board is authorized to grant to the sponsor six hundred six thousand three hundred eighty-five dollars (\$606,385.00) for the purposes specified in this subsection;

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(vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from the income account to the board six hundred six thousand three hundred eighty-five dollars (\$606,385.00) 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, 2016.

**9-15-805. Big Horn River invasives.**

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

(b) Project: Big Horn River invasives:

(i) Project sponsor: Hot Springs County Weed and Pest Control District;

(ii) Project purpose: Removal and retreatment of invasive Russian Olive and Salt Cedar plants along the main stem of the Big Horn River in Hot Springs and Washakie counties in order to:

(A) Restore habitats for deer, waterfowl, fisheries, songbirds and other species;

(B) Restore agricultural production in areas where economic returns have been reduced or lost; and

(C) Provide flood control and floodplain management to prevent downstream flooding.

(iii) Project description: Invasive species removal and landscape restoration;

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(iv) Total project budget: One million two hundred thousand dollars (\$1,200,000.00);

(v) Project grant: The Wyoming wildlife and natural resource trust account board is authorized to grant to the sponsor three hundred twenty-five thousand dollars (\$325,000.00) for the purposes specified in this subsection;

(vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from the income account to the board one hundred sixty thousand dollars (\$160,000.00) 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, 2016.

**9-15-806. Cabins Ranch conservation easement.**

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

(b) Project: Cabins Ranch conservation easement:

(i) Project sponsor: The Conservation Fund;

(ii) Project purpose: Permanent use restriction on approximately two thousand eight hundred thirty-one (2,831) acres in Sublette county in order to:

(A) Preclude loss of habitat for elk, mule deer, moose, amphibians, fisheries, songbirds, raptors and other species;

(B) Secure habitat for sage grouse in a core population area; and

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(C) Allow continued agricultural  
production.

(iii) Project description: Conservation  
easement;

(iv) Total project budget: Two million ninety-  
three thousand eight hundred dollars (\$2,093,800.00);

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

(vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from  
the income account to the board five hundred thousand  
dollars (\$500,000.00) 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, 2016.

**9-15-807. Culbertson Place conservation easement.**

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

(b) Project: Culbertson Place conservation easement:

(i) Project sponsor: The Conservation Fund;

(ii) Project purpose: Permanent use restriction  
on approximately one thousand five hundred thirty-one  
(1,531) acres in Sublette county in order to:



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(A) Preclude loss of habitat and migration routes for moose, elk, mule deer, sage grouse, antelope, amphibians, songbirds and other species;

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

(C) Allow continued agricultural production.

(iii) Project description: Conservation easement;

(iv) Total project budget: One million six hundred thirty-two thousand seven hundred dollars (\$1,632,700.00);

(v) Project grant: The Wyoming wildlife and natural resource trust account board is authorized to grant to the sponsor three hundred eighty-five thousand dollars (\$385,000.00) for the purposes specified in this subsection;

(vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from the income account to the board three hundred eighty-five thousand dollars (\$385,000.00) 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, 2016.

**9-15-808. Rolling Thunder conservation easement.**

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

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(b) Project: Rolling Thunder conservation easement:

(i) Project sponsor: The Conservation Fund;

(ii) Project purpose: Permanent use restriction on approximately three thousand two hundred thirty-nine (3,239) acres in Sublette county in order to:

(A) Preclude loss of habitat for moose, mule deer, elk, sage grouse, waterfowl, fish, songbirds and other species;

(B) Secure migration routes and crucial habitat for large ungulates; and

(C) Allow for continued agricultural production.

(iii) Project description: Conservation easement;

(iv) Total project budget: Two million ninety-seven thousand three hundred dollars (\$2,097,300.00);

(v) Project grant: The Wyoming wildlife and natural resource trust account board is authorized to grant to the sponsor four hundred twenty-five thousand dollars (\$425,000.00) for the purposes specified in this subsection;

(vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from the income account to the board four hundred twenty-five thousand dollars (\$425,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purposes of this subsection. Unexpended and unobligated funds appropriated under this

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subsection shall revert to the income account on June 30, 2016.

**9-15-809. Barnes Ranch conservation easement.**

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

(b) Project: Barnes Ranch conservation easement:

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

(ii) Project purpose: Permanent use restriction on approximately one thousand nine hundred ten (1,910) acres in Lincoln county in order to:

(A) Preclude loss of habitat for mule deer, bighorn sheep, elk, sage grouse, antelope, Colorado River cutthroat trout and other species;

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

(C) Allow for continued agricultural production.

(iii) Project description: Conservation easement;

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

(v) Project grant: The Wyoming wildlife and natural resource trust account board is authorized to grant

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to the sponsor three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000.00) for the purposes specified in this subsection;

(vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from the income account to the board three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000.00) 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, 2016.

**9-15-810. Red Creek conservation easement.**

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

(b) Project: Red Creek conservation easement:

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

(ii) Project purpose: Permanent use restriction on approximately four thousand five hundred (4,500) acres in Sweetwater county in order to:

(A) Preclude loss of habitat for mule deer, elk, antelope, Colorado River cutthroat trout and other species;

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

(C) Allow continued agricultural production.

(iii) Project description: Conservation easement;

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(iv) Total project budget: Three million four hundred fifty-five thousand dollars (\$3,455,000.00);

(v) Project grant: The Wyoming wildlife and natural resource trust account board is authorized to grant to the sponsor six hundred twenty-five thousand dollars (\$625,000.00) for the purposes specified in this subsection;

(vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from the income account to the board six hundred twenty-five thousand dollars (\$625,000.00) 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, 2016.

**9-15-811. Shell Oil Farson IV.**

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

(b) Project: Shell Oil Farson IV:

(i) Project sponsor: Mule Deer Foundation;

(ii) Project purpose: Restoration and rehabilitation of native rangeland habitats by water development, reseeding, vegetation treatment, fencing and livestock management in order to:

(A) Restore habitats for antelope, deer, elk, songbirds and other species;

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(B) Restore agricultural production in areas where economic returns have been reduced or lost; and

(C) Provide enhanced habitat for sage grouse in a high priority sage grouse core population area.

(iii) Project description: Rangeland enhancement and restoration;

(iv) Total project budget: Five hundred ninety-three thousand two hundred sixty-eight dollars and two cents (\$593,268.02);

(v) Project grant: The Wyoming wildlife and natural resource trust account board is authorized to grant to the sponsor two hundred thousand eight hundred ninety-three dollars and ninety-four cents (\$200,893.94) for the purposes specified in this subsection;

(vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from the income account to the board one hundred five thousand nine hundred eighty-five dollars (\$105,985.00) 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, 2016.

**9-15-812. Munger Mountain conservation easement.**

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

(b) Project: Munger Mountain conservation easement:

(i) Project sponsor: Jackson Hole Land Trust;

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(ii) Project purpose: Permanent use restriction on approximately three hundred (300) acres in Teton county in order to:

(A) Preclude loss of habitat for elk, mule deer, moose, songbirds, wetland and riparian obligates and other species;

(B) Secure migration routes and crucial seasonal habitat for elk and mule deer in an area with high incidents of vehicle collisions;

(C) Maintain viewsheds in an area of high importance to the tourism industry; and

(D) Allow for continued agricultural production.

(iii) Project description: Conservation easement;

(iv) Total project budget: Six million thirty-two thousand thirty dollars (\$6,032,030.00);

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

(vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from the income account to the board six hundred thousand dollars (\$600,000.00) 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, 2016.

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**9-15-813. East Gros Ventre Butte conservation easement.**

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

(b) Project: East Gros Ventre Butte conservation easement:

(i) Project sponsor: Jackson Hole Land Trust;

(ii) Project purpose: Permanent use restriction on approximately four hundred thirteen (413) acres in Teton county in order to:

(A) Preclude loss of crucial habitat for mule deer and sage grouse and seasonal habitats for songbirds and other species;

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

(C) Allow for continued agricultural production.

(iii) Project description: Conservation easement;

(iv) Total project budget: Seven million six hundred fifty-five thousand five hundred dollars (\$7,655,500.00);

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



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(vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from the income account to the board six hundred thousand dollars (\$600,000.00) 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, 2016.

**9-15-814. Charlie Ball Place conservation easement.**

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

(b) Project: Charlie Ball Place conservation easement:

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

(ii) Project purpose: Permanent use restriction on approximately one thousand seven hundred sixty (1,760) acres in Sublette county in order to:

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

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

(C) Allow for continued agricultural production.

(iii) Project description: Conservation easement;

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(iv) Total project budget: One million two hundred twenty-two thousand nine hundred dollars (\$1,222,900.00);

(v) Project grant: The Wyoming wildlife and natural resource trust account board is authorized to grant to the sponsor two hundred sixty-five thousand dollars (\$265,000.00) for the purposes specified in this subsection;

(vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from the income account to the board two hundred sixty-five thousand dollars (\$265,000.00) 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, 2016.

**9-15-815. A Bar One conservation easement.**

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

(b) Project: A Bar One conservation easement:

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

(ii) Project purpose: Permanent use restriction on approximately four thousand one hundred sixty (4,160) acres in Carbon county in order to:

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

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

(C) Allow for continued agricultural production.

(iii) Project description: Conservation easement;

(iv) Total project budget: Five million six hundred sixty-two thousand nine hundred dollars (\$5,662,900.00);

(v) Project grant: The Wyoming wildlife and natural resource trust account board is authorized to grant to the sponsor eight hundred twenty-five thousand dollars (\$825,000.00) for the purposes specified in this subsection;

(vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from the income account to the board eight hundred twenty-five thousand dollars (\$825,000.00) 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, 2016.

**9-15-816. Cottonwood Ranch habitat restoration.**

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

(b) Project: Cottonwood Ranch habitat restoration:

(i) Project sponsor: Teton Science School;

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(ii) Project purpose: Restoration and rehabilitation of native rangeland habitats by water development, reseeding, vegetation treatment, fencing and livestock management in order to:

(A) Restore habitats for moose, antelope, deer, elk, songbirds and other species;

(B) Restore agricultural production in areas where economic returns have been reduced or lost; and

(C) Provide enhanced habitat for sage grouse in a high priority sage grouse core population area.

(iii) Project description: Rangeland enhancement and restoration;

(iv) Total project budget: One million one hundred two thousand five hundred twenty-five dollars (\$1,102,525.00);

(v) Project grant: The Wyoming wildlife and natural resource trust account board is authorized to grant to the sponsor two hundred nine thousand seven hundred thirty-five dollars (\$209,735.00) for the purposes specified in this subsection;

(vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from the income account to the board two hundred nine thousand seven hundred thirty-five dollars (\$209,735.00) 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, 2016.

**9-15-817. Jaw Bone Gulch conservation easement.**

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

(b) Project: Jaw Bone Gulch conservation easement:

(i) Project sponsor: Wyoming Stockgrowers Land Trust;

(ii) Project purpose: Permanent use restriction on approximately one thousand seven hundred thirty-one (1,731) acres in Laramie county in order to:

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

(B) Enhance recreational values of state park lands; and

(C) Allow for continued agricultural production.

(iii) Project description: Conservation easement;

(iv) Total project budget: Two million three hundred eighty thousand dollars (\$2,380,000.00);

(v) Project grant: The Wyoming wildlife and natural resource trust account board is authorized to grant to the sponsor two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000.00) for the purposes specified in this subsection;

(vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from the income account to the board two hundred fifty thousand

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dollars (\$250,000.00) 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, 2016.

**Section 2.** W.S. 9-15-604(b)(iv) through (vi) and 9-15-613(b)(iv) through (vi) are amended to read:

**9-15-604. Little Snake River Aspen.**

(b) Project: Little Snake River aspen:

(iv) Total project budget: ~~One million six hundred thousand (\$1,600,000.00)~~ One million six hundred thirty-five thousand dollars (\$1,635,000.00);

(v) Project grant: The Wyoming wildlife and natural resource trust account board is authorized to grant to the sponsor ~~three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000.00)~~ three hundred thirty-five thousand dollars (\$335,000.00) for the purposes specified in this subsection;

(vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from the income account to the board one hundred one thousand eight hundred eight dollars (\$101,808.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purposes of this subsection. In addition to any amounts appropriated prior to 2013, there is appropriated from the income account to the board an additional thirty-five thousand dollars (\$35,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of this subsection. Unexpended and unobligated funds appropriated under this subsection shall revert to the income account on June 30, ~~2014~~ 2016.

**9-15-613. Little Snake River restoration.**

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(b) Project: Little Snake River restoration:

(iv) Total project budget: ~~One million eight hundred forty three thousand two hundred dollars (\$1,843,200.00)~~ One million eight hundred forty thousand seven hundred ninety-six dollars (\$1,840,796.00);

(v) Project grant: The Wyoming wildlife and natural resource trust account board is authorized to grant to the sponsor ~~two hundred forty five thousand dollars (\$245,000.00)~~ four hundred forty-five thousand dollars (\$445,000.00) for the purposes specified in this subsection;

(vi) Appropriation: There is appropriated from the income account to the board one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purposes of this subsection. In addition to any amounts appropriated prior to 2013, there is appropriated from the income account to the board an additional two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary to carry out the purpose of this subsection. Unexpended and unobligated funds appropriated under this subsection shall revert to the income account on June 30, ~~2014~~ 2016.

**Section 3.** Each conservation easement for which funding is authorized under Section 1 or 2 of this act shall include the state of Wyoming as a third party beneficiary solely with the contingent right to enforce the terms of the easement if the grantee fails to enforce any of the terms of the easement. The agreement shall provide that if the easement is transferred for value, sold or extinguished without the consent of the Wyoming wildlife and natural resource trust account board, the state of Wyoming shall have the right to recover from the proceeds

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of such transfer for value, sale or extinguishment, the state's pro rata share of the proceeds based on the funds the state provided for the creation of the easement.

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

**Section 5.** This act is effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

(END)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker of the House

\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the Senate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor

TIME APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby certify that this act originated in the House.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk



ORIGINAL HOUSE  
BILL NO. 0081

ENROLLED ACT NO. 61, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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