


Sommers-Grindstone Habitat Conservation and Public Access Project		2009
Wyoming Stock Growers Agricultural Land Trust and Wyoming Game and Fish Commission		
Grant: \$50,000	<p>Partners: WGBGLC, Wildlife Heritage Foundation of Wyoming, Wyoming Game and Fish Commission, Wyoming Wildlife Natural Resource Trust, Pinedale Anticline and Jonah Field mitigation Funds (JIO & PAPO) Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service landowner Incentive Grant Program, Walmart Acres for America through the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, Wyoming Landscape Conservation Initiative through the Bureau of Land Management, Doris Duke Charitable Trust through The Nature Conservancy, Turner Foundation, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, and the Mule Deer Foundation as well as significant contribution from the landowners</p>	
	<p>Nearly 19,000 acres of historic agricultural land, critical wildlife habitat and iconic view sheds. The Sommers-Grindstone Conservation Project is one of the most extensive private lands conservation efforts in Wyoming's history and includes four separate conservation easements and public fishing access, walking and boating access on nearly five miles of the Green River.</p> <p>The landmark agreements of the Sommers-Grindstone project were made possible by the vision of landowners Albert Sommers, his sister Jonita Sommers and Maggie Miller of Grindstone Cattle Co. The project is a partnership between the landowners, the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission and the Wyoming Stock Growers Agricultural Land Trust.</p> <p>"This easement will allow the land to remain undeveloped, which is a benefit to cattle and wildlife, and it will allow us to pass our ranch along to another generation of ranchers," Albert Sommers said. "We are trying to create a future for this ranch."</p> <p>The conservation easements are held by the Wyoming Stock Growers Agricultural Land Trust and the ranches remain under the ownership and management of the landowners. The Wyoming Game and Fish Commission holds the public fish access easements, to be managed by the Wyoming Game and Fish Department in cooperation with the landowners.</p>	

WGBGLC Member Organizations



Wyoming Governor's Big Game License Coalition—WGBGLC



History

- Initiated January 2003
- Supported by Governor Dave Freudenthal
- Numerous Wyoming Wildlife/Habitat Conservation Organizations Involved



Purpose

- Fundraising for Wildlife Conservation
- Marketing Statutorily-Authorized Wyoming Governor's Complimentary Big Game Hunting Licenses
- Cooperatively Selecting/Funding Projects


WHFW Administrator of WGBGLC Funds



In partnership with the Wyoming Game and Fish Department



Wyoming Governor's Big Game License Coalition-WGBGLC

Wyoming Hunting and Fishing Heritage Expo		2003-2010
Wyoming Game and Fish Department		
Grant: \$80,448	Partners: WGBGLC, numerous private and public donors including Governor Freudenthal, National Rifle Association, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Shikar-Safari International, Weatherby Foundation International	
		
The Wyoming Hunting and Fishing Heritage EXPO's goal is to promote a lifetime of outdoor skills and conservation education and serve as a catalyst to promote the O.R.E.O (Outdoor Recreation Education Opportunities) program to teachers and youth leaders. O.R.E.O was initiated to teach our youth outdoor skills and related conservation education concepts that can be enjoyed a lifetime. O.R.E.O schools are well represented each year at the EXPO.		

Devil's Canyon BHS Supplemental Transplants		2004, 2005, 2006
Wyoming Game and Fish Department		
Grant: \$147,000	Partners: WGBGLC, Wyoming FNAWS, Bureau of Land Management, Bighorn Canyon National Recreation Area, Bighorn National Forest, Wyoming Animal Management Damage Board, Big Horn County Predatory Animal Board, Wildlife Services, Bowhunters of Wyoming and Grand Slam Club/Ovis	
		
An existing population of bighorn sheep along Devil's Canyon was supplemented with transplants of bighorns from low elevation, xeric, canyon habitats in Oregon and Montana. All individuals were radio marked to track migrations and habitat use.		
The objective of this project is to develop and maintain a huntable population of bighorn sheep in Devil's Canyon. We eventually hope to be able to use sheep from this herd as a source herd for similar canyon habitats across Wyoming.		

Snowy Range Moose Habitat Ecology and Carrying Capacity		2003-2007
University of Wyoming		
Grant: \$65,872	Partners: WGBGLC, University of Wyoming, Renewable Resources Dept., Wyoming Game and Fish Dept., Bowhunters of Wyoming	
Habitat models were constructed following a combination of published methods and incorporated several data layers (variables) important to moose (e.g. vegetation, hydrology, elevation, roads, etc.). Model validation is crucial to determining the accuracy of our predictions. Vegetation sampling and our estimates of carry capacity will focus on where the refined winter model predicts high quality moose habitat.		

Torrey Lake & Ring Lake Ranches Conservation Easements		2008 & 2009
Jackson Hole Land Trust		
Grant: \$144,100	Partners: WGBGLC, Wyoming Game and Fish Commission, Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, Wyoming Wildlife Natural Resource Trust, Wyoming FNAWS, Mule Deer Foundation Natural Resources Conservation Service, The Nature Conservancy, Dubois Anglers and Wildlife Group, National Bighorn Sheep Interpretive Center, and Private donors	
		
Prevent subdivision of private lands in an area with extremely high wildlife values, and with extremely high development potential.		
Within and adjacent to the ranch is crucial winter range for mule deer, elk, moose, and bighorn sheep. In 1954, the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission established the Whiskey Basin/Little Red Creek Wildlife Management Area, preserving more than 12,000 acres of habitat.		

WGBGLC Application Procedure & Project Proposal Forms

<http://www.whfw.org/governor.asp>

(Electronic) Application Deadline
February 1st, each calendar year

Further Information contact:
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WGBGLC Funds Distributed via Five Species Project Committees:

8-Year Project Funding (2003-2010)

Just a few are highlighted in this brochure

Bighorn Sheep:
75 projects funded, \$1,060,883

Moose:
57 projects funded, \$387,400

Elk:
77 projects funded, \$389,902

Deer:
81 projects funded, \$341,056

All Wildlife:
86 projects funded, \$351,265

Cumulative:
376 projects funded, \$ 2,530,506

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