



Rocky Mountain Rangelands

NFWF CONTACTS

Chris West

Regional Director,
Rocky Mountain Region
chris.west@nfwf.org
303-398-7042

Seth Gallagher

Director,
Grasslands and Mountain West,
seth.gallagher@nfwf.org
303-222-6483

Daley Burns

Manager,
Rocky Mountain Regional Office
daley.burns@nfwf.org
202-595-2440

PARTNERS

- Cargill
- Capri
- Nestlé
- Yum! Brands
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

ABOUT NFWF

Chartered by Congress in 1984, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) protects and restores the nation's fish, wildlife, plants and habitats. Working with federal, corporate and individual partners, NFWF has funded more than 6,000 organizations and generated a total conservation impact of \$8.1 billion.

Learn more at www.nfwf.org



Sage grouse

OVERVIEW

The Intermountain West is a vast area, stretching from the Colorado Rockies to the Sierra Nevada, and includes much of the states of Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah and Wyoming. The Rocky Mountains Rangelands program was established in 2019 to support conservation efforts in the human-wildlands interface of the region that maintain robust wildlife populations in a working landscape.

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), Cargill, Taco Bell, Nestlé, Capri, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announced the third round of funding for Rocky Mountain Rangelands projects. Eight grants were awarded for \$2.4 million which generated \$3.7 million in match from the grantees, providing a total conservation impact of \$6.1 million.

The following eight projects address three key categories identified as a priority by the Rocky Mountain Rangelands Program: 1) improving management and restoration of sagebrush rangelands to benefit sagebrush-obligate and other associated species; 2) securing important ungulate migrations across the landscape with specific focus on transportation conflicts, winter range and stopover sites; and 3) restoring habitat and expanding occupancy of wetland birds and native fish. This slate will:

- Remove or improve 63 miles of fencing
- Restore 14,540 acres of rangelands with native grasses, forbs and brush
- Improve grazing management on 57,036 acres of land
- Treat 26,621 acres to remove annual invasive plant species
- Install 427 beaver analog structures to restore mesic habitat
- Protect 35,000 acres under easement

(continued)

Addressing Idaho Invasive Grasses-Cheatgrass Challenge

Grantee: Pheasants Forever

Grant Amount:..... \$155,000

Matching Funds:..... \$160,000

Total Project Amount:..... \$315,000

Communicate and work collaboratively across jurisdictions in southern Idaho to implement ecologically-based rangeland improvement projects to reduce the threat of annual grass invasion. Project will treat 8,571 acres of land for annual invasive plants, restore 1,093 acres on private land, restore 121 acres on public land and restore 8,571 acres by removing woody invasives.

Advancing Voluntary Conservation Efforts on Working Lands in Idaho

Grantee: Heart of the Rockies Initiative

Grant Amount:..... \$302,300

Matching Funds:..... \$302,700

Total Project Amount:..... \$605,000

Support outreach and engagement with private landowners to advance voluntary conservation efforts on working lands in Idaho. Project will fund the Agricultural Lands Easement Coordinator, protect 5,000 acres under easement and change 10 people's behavior through outreach.

Continuing the Effective Monitoring of Sagebrush Obligate Songbirds (CO, ID, MT, UT, WY)

Grantee: Bird Conservancy of the Rockies

Grant Amount:..... \$284,700

Matching Funds:..... \$284,600

Total Project Amount:..... \$569,300

Continue monitoring the effects of conifer removal and treatment of annual invasive grasses on sagebrush obligate songbirds in the Rocky Mountain Region. The project will result in a study that will inform management decisions.

Phase 2: Increasing the Pace of Conservation in the Bear River Watershed (ID, UT, WY)

Grantee: Bear River Land Conservancy

Grant Amount:..... \$387,000

Matching Funds:..... \$488,000

Total Project Amount:..... \$875,000

Continue to increase the pace and scale of conservation in the Bear River Watershed. Project will continue to assist in funding the Bear River Watershed Conservation Coordinator and part of an additional land protection position to protect 10,000 acres of land under easements.

Restoring Mesic Habitats and Connectivity in the Trout Creek and Pueblo Mountains (OR)

Grantee: Oregon Desert Land Trust

Grant Amount:..... \$314,400

Matching Funds:..... \$661,300

Total Project Amount:..... \$975,700

Restore mesic habitats and connectivity to benefit sage-grouse, pronghorn, antelope, Lahontan cutthroat trout and numerous other priority species in and between the Pueblo



Pronghorn

and Trout Creek mountains of southeast Oregon. Project will improve 12 miles of fencing, remove 6 miles of fencing and install mesic restoration structures.

Stream Restoration in California Park Wet Meadows (CO)

Grantee: National Forest Foundation

Grant Amount:..... \$119,200

Matching Funds:..... \$138,400

Total Project Amount:..... \$257,600

Install low-tech structures within wet meadow ephemeral streams to capture sediment and reconnect the streams to their historic floodplains. Project will install 224 structures, engage 140 youth and volunteers, and restore 15.2 acres of mesic habitat.

Treating Invasive Plants and Removing Fencing to Restore Wildlife Habitat (CO, ID, MT, NV, UT, WY)

Grantee: The Mule Deer Foundation

Grant Amount:..... \$420,000

Matching Funds:..... \$1,167,500

Total Project Amount:..... \$1,587,500

Restore and improve big game and sage-grouse habitat. Project will complete 18,000 acres of treatment for the management of annual invasive species, restore 3,600 acres and remove 20 miles of fencing.

Virtual Fencing to Support Wildlife Habitat and Grazing Management in Central Montana

Grantee: National Wildlife Federation

Grant Amount:..... \$412,800

Matching Funds:..... \$481,000

Total Project Amount:..... \$893,800

Implement grazing management practices with electric collars to limit overgrazing, reduce pressure on riparian areas, and improve habitat and browse vegetation. Project will remove 16 miles of fencing, manage grazing on 27,000 acres of private land, manage grazing on 15,036 acres of public land and restore 715 acres of habitat on private land.