



Rocky Mountain Rangelands

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PARTNERS

- Cargill
- Darden Foundation
- Bureau of Land Management
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation 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 \$7.4 billion.

Learn more at www.nfwf.org



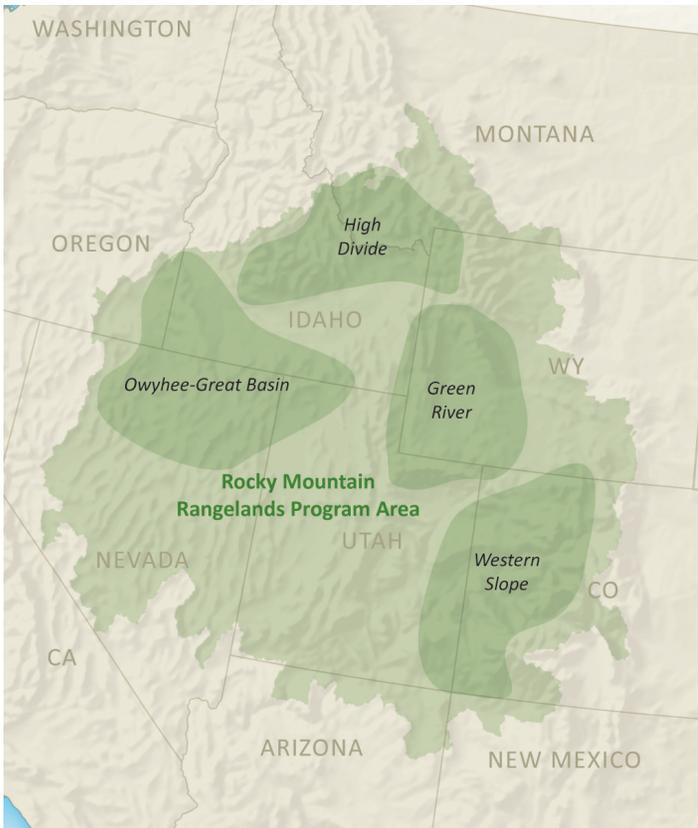
Mule deer

BACKGROUND

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 Rangeland 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 program builds on existing interests and expertise within the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) and the larger Intermountain West conservation community, while remaining flexible to support innovation, strategic investments and new approaches. NFWF plays an important role in this landscape by providing a proven ability to match private funding with federal resources, a unique landscape perspective that is not limited by land ownership or state boundaries, and the ability to catalyze collaboration among partners.

(continued)



Rocky Mountain Rangelands focal areas

This program will build on efforts already in place throughout the region, including:

- Rancher and local community-led landscape scale partnerships, which are flourishing across the region and offer promising new approaches that support the conservation and improvements of rangelands, with dual emphasis on cattle production and species and habitat. Increasingly, rancher-led associations recognize the need to promote a conservation ethic to conserve wildlife habitat and productive agricultural communities.
- The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) provides resources for the implementation of conservation practices and the long-term protection of working agricultural lands, both of which have significant benefits to priority wildlife and habitat.
- Efforts focused on aquatic habitat and wetland-dependent species, including the Intermountain West Joint Venture's Working Wetlands & Water in the West Initiative to support agricultural producers and other partners with conservation on working lands, and the Western Native Trout Initiative to secure the diverse suite of native trout found in the region.
- In 2018, the Secretary of the Interior issued Order 3362 that provides resources to states to increase research of ungulate migration and habitat, and provides resources to restore, enhance and protect those places.
- State game and fish agencies and funding sources, which provide a tremendous opportunity in the arena of matching funds and complementing existing conservation priorities as identified in State Wildlife Action Plans.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The vision of the Rocky Mountain Rangelands [Business Plan](#) is to work in focal landscapes in the region to restore and conserve wildlife species associated with sagebrush, irrigated meadows and aquatic systems, while conserving the phenomenon of large mammal migration. To achieve this vision, the Business Plan identifies both species and habitat outcomes it will achieve by 2029. NFWF focuses grants in areas that will have the highest impact on the conservation outcomes. Combined habitat outcomes will restore, enhance or improve management on over 1 million acres by 2029.

Priority species for this program include mule deer, pronghorn, sagebrush sparrow, sage thrasher, Lahontan cutthroat trout, arctic grayling, Gunnison and greater sage-grouse.

PROGRAM ACHIEVEMENTS

Since 2020, the Rocky Mountain Rangelands Program has funded 12 grants totaling \$3.3 million, drawing an additional \$4.8 million in grantee match for a total conservation impact of \$8.1 million.

54,000 ACRES

treated to remove annual invasive plant species

37,500 ACRES

of improved grazing management

19,356 ACRES

of rangelands restored with native grasses, forbs and brush

12,338 ACRES

protected under long-term easement

212 ACRES

with restored hydrology

34 MILES

of fencing removed or improved



A rancher drives his cattle at the foot of the Bitterroot Mountains