

ANNUAL REPORT 2013

# WYOMING

*Wild and Working*



## The Nature Conservancy in Wyoming (as of June 30, 2013)

### STAFF LEADERSHIP TEAM

Andrea Erickson Quiroz, *State Director*  
Molly Hampton, *Director of Philanthropy*  
Paula Hunker, *Associate State Director*  
Arlen Lancaster, *Conservation Initiatives Director*  
Jim Reasor, *Director of Finance*

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Lynne Boomgaarden, Cheyenne  
Joe Brady, Jackson  
David Carlin, Jackson  
John Carney, Jackson  
Mary Anne Dingus, Cody  
Dan Doak, Laramie  
Mark Doelger, Casper  
Frank Goodyear, Jr., Cody  
John Hauer, Piedmont, SD  
Robert Kaplan, Ten Sleep  
Brian Kuehl, Sheridan  
Ken Lay, Glenrock  
Mayo Lykes, Wilson  
Chris Madson, Cheyenne  
Linda Murchison, Cody  
Judy Opatrny, Jackson  
Anne Pendergast, Big Horn  
Lollie Plank, Banner  
Deborah de la Reguera, Lander  
Jason Shogren, Laramie  
Adair B. Stifel, Dubois  
Margie Taylor, Sheridan  
Page Williams, Wapiti  
David Work, Victor, ID

### BOARD EMERITUS

|                    |               |
|--------------------|---------------|
| Frank Bonsal       | Gilman Ordway |
| Barron Collier, II | John Schiffer |
| Richard Davis      | Fred Whiting  |
| Dennis Knight      | Anne Young    |

## Dear Friends,



Late September came and suddenly it was winter. I was heading home and the weather closed in. When I'm traveling on the road in a snowstorm, I mark my journey by landmarks and road signs, happy to know

that I'm on the right path and making progress. Crossing the Sweetwater Station Bridge, passing a familiar ranch, a sign announcing eight miles to Lander. These milestones give me hope and encouragement.

We've been on another kind of journey over the past five years here at The Nature Conservancy: the *Wyoming Wild and Working* Conservation Campaign, which is coming to a close next summer. Thanks to the momentum we gained through the campaign, this year we passed a really exciting milestone in our history: one million acres and 1,500 miles of rivers and streams conserved, together with our partners.

How'd we do it? We increased our pace of conservation four-fold during the campaign by adding to our toolbox and broadening our partnerships. Along the way, thousands of landowners, partner organizations, donors and members like you have been essential—and in many cases leading the charge. Often the best way to get conservation done is to support the goals and aspirations of others.

The projects that make up those tallies—whether a conservation easement or habitat restoration along a stream—represent tangible results on the

ground. They are real places that are in better shape today and more likely to stay that way for future generations.

You can see some recent examples in this report, like safeguarding a family ranch in the grasslands, kick-starting watershed conservation along the Tongue River in northeast Wyoming, or reducing barriers to elk migration on our Heart Mountain Ranch Preserve.

Yet with all of these results to celebrate, we know we need to be a greater force for conservation. To do this, we are working to influence conservation in broad ways with sound science. In this report, you can read about one of our key partnerships to conserve sage-grouse. And we're building a conservation pipeline for the future with community events that engage youth and families, from Jackson's Picnic for the Planet to Cody's Wild West River Fest. These are results that will never get tallied on an acreage balance sheet but are critical to securing Wyoming's conservation future.

Where to next? As we round the corner to our chapter's 25th anniversary in 2014, we're working hard to finish this campaign with our strongest year yet. And we're setting out a new vision, building our roadmap for the future. I hope you'll be inspired to join us.

Thanks for all you do to power us down the road!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrea', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Andrea Erickson Quiroz  
*State Director*

ON THE COVER Canada geese © Kathy Lichtendahl  
INSET Carrie Peters/TNC, Amy Pocewicz/TNC,  
Chuck Diggins, Trevor Cook/Cody High School

THIS PAGE Andrea Erickson Quiroz © Joe Quiroz

# WYOMING WILD AND WORKING

*Campaign results to date achieved through conservation easements, restoration and improved management of lands and waters.*

*(July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2013)*

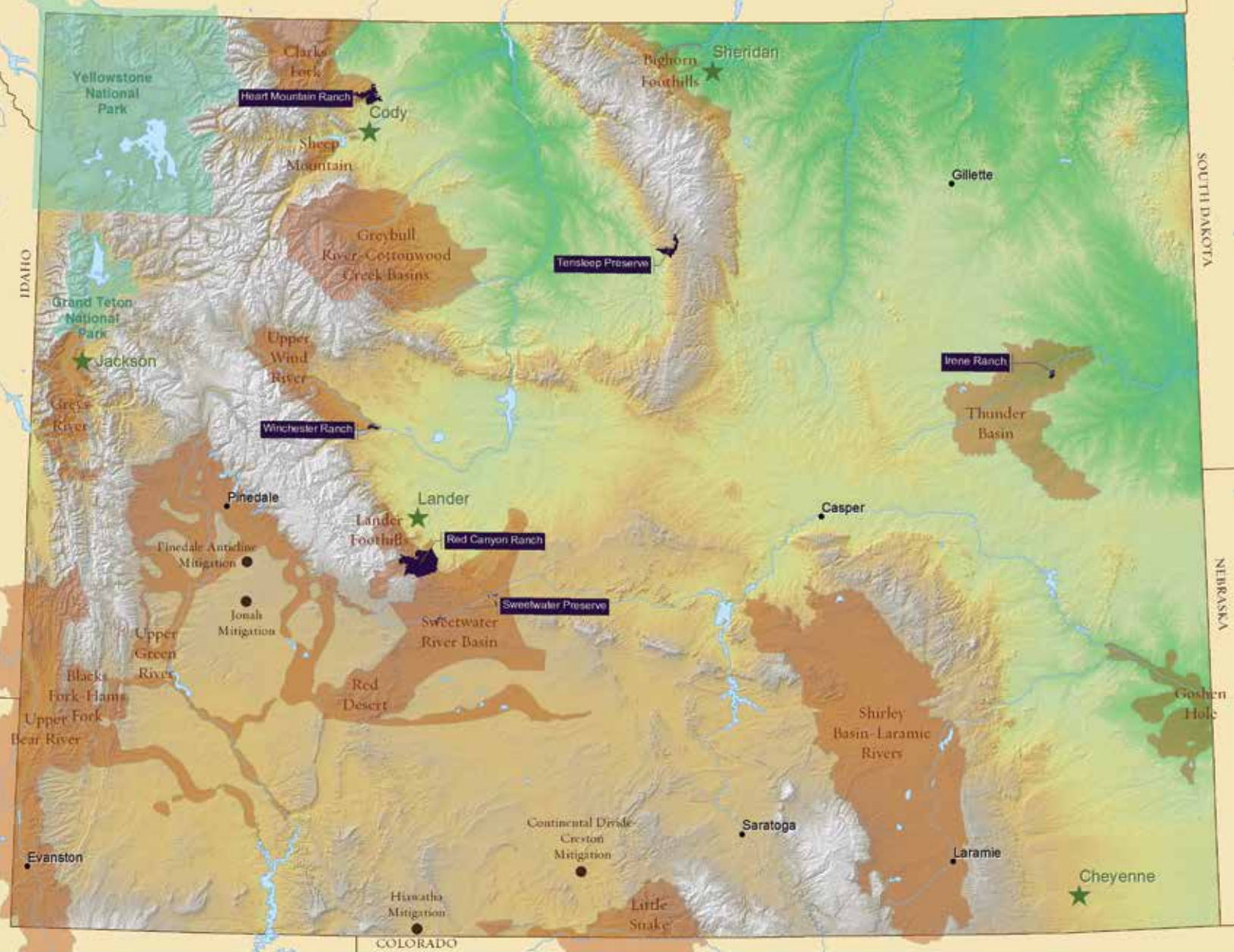
Crucial Winter Range and Migratory Corridors  
**132,030 acres**

Grasslands  
**147,703 acres**

Rivers and Streams  
**653 miles**

Wetlands and Riparian Areas  
**11,629 acres**

Sagebrush Steppe  
**357,755 acres**



## The Conservancy's Current Focus Areas

-  The Nature Conservancy's Offices
-  Mitigation Projects
-  Priority Conservation Areas
-  The Nature Conservancy's Preserves & Ranches



ABOVE: Gros Ventre Mountains  
© Amy Poczewicz/TNC

# Now more than ever, we need you.

Together, working with many partners and landowners since our first project in Wyoming, we've helped conserve more than a million acres and 1,500 miles of rivers and streams in Wyoming through land protection, restoration and best management practices.

From our sweeping grasslands on the state's eastern border, to our mountain headwaters that feed the Colorado River, to our ranchlands in the Greater Yellowstone, it's all been possible because of you.

You can help us finish our campaign and keep going strong to safeguard the Wyoming you love for years to come. How? Here are some simple actions you can take now!

## 1. Spread the word!

Invite a friend or family member to join The Nature Conservancy. Even easier, give a gift membership.

## 2. Leave a legacy.

Members of our Legacy Club have made a life-income gift to the Conservancy or named us as a beneficiary in their estate plans.

## 3. Get social.

Have you "liked" us yet on Facebook? Follow, enjoy and share in all kinds of nature conversations.

## 4. Double your current gift.

Every dollar counts—and helps us achieve more conservation results on the ground.

## 5. Volunteer.

We have volunteer opportunities in our offices and at our ranches and preserves. Join us for a few hours or for a special day.

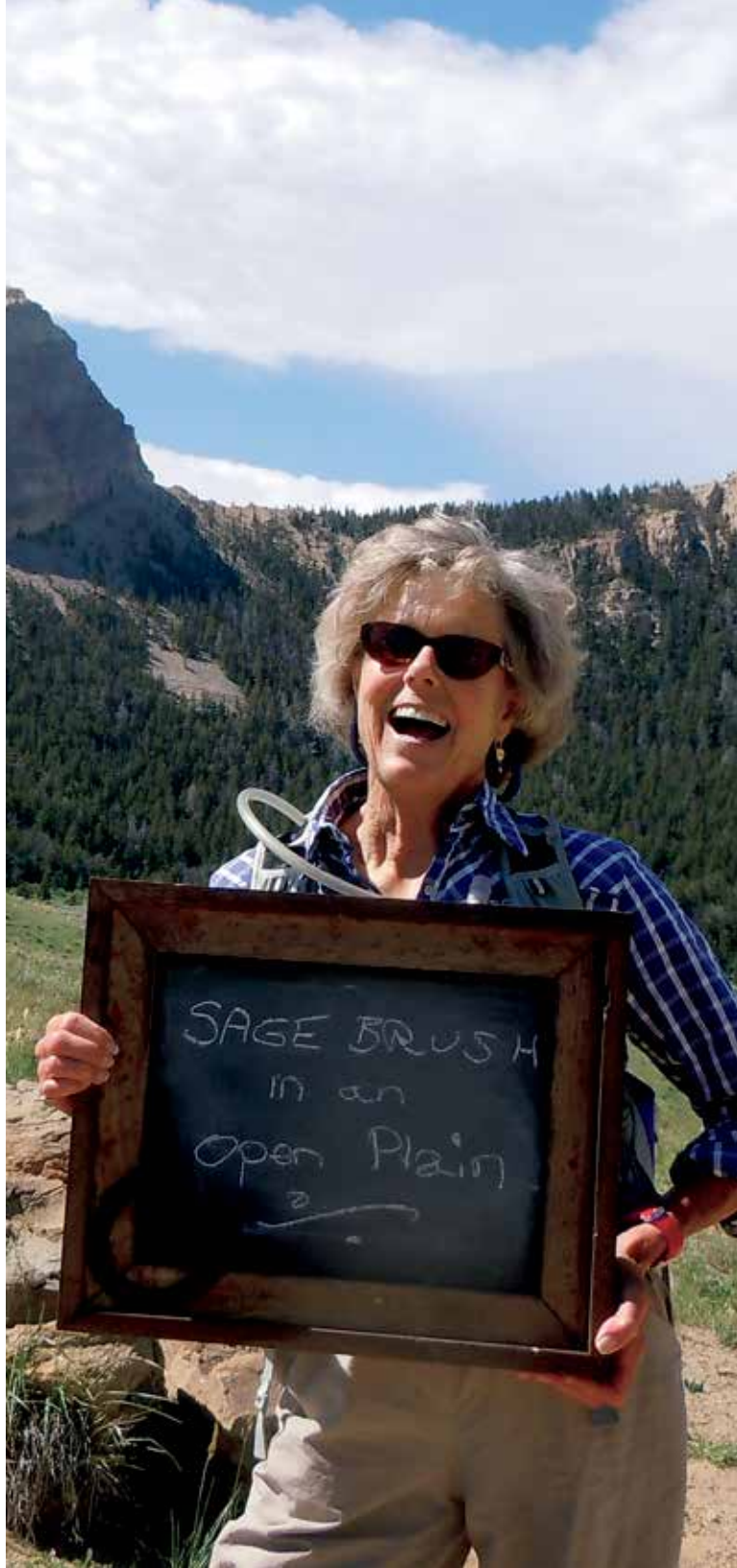
## 6. Go outside.

Visit our ranches and preserves and invite your friends.



**THIS PAGE** Board member Deborah de la Reguera (top); Brian Liesinger and Emelee Volden (middle); Dave, David, Emily and Molly Buckles (bottom) © Amy Pocerwicz/TNC

**OPPOSITE PAGE** Everyone loves something about Wyoming, including Boden Rieman (top left), the Wyoming Board of Trustees and friends at Heart Mountain (bottom left), and Emeritus Board Member Anne Young (middle). © Amy Pocerwicz/TNC



## What Do YOU Love About Wyoming?

It's hard to put into words, we know. But if you had to pick one (or, maybe three) words to sum up what you love about Wyoming, what would you say?

Snap a picture displaying what you love about the Cowboy State and share it with us on Facebook at "Wyoming Nature Conservancy."



# Greater Yellowstone

## NEW FENCES HELP ELK ON THE MOVE

Life can be stressful for elk traveling through the Greater Yellowstone in winter, with deep snow, predators on the hunt, food availability...and fences.

**B**rian and Carrie Peters, The Nature Conservancy's Heart Mountain Ranch Preserve managers, have seen how these human-made obstacles affect elk moving across the property and other nearby ranches.

"We've found a number of elk tangled up in barbed wire on Heart Mountain," says Carrie. "We've seen calves get separated from cows. It's heartbreaking when you find animals that got caught and couldn't get out."

That's why the Conservancy started a major undertaking to tear down the ranch's old barbed wire fences and install new wildlife-friendly fences. More than six miles of the old fence line is gone—some yanked away by volunteers and ranch interns. The property now has more than seven miles of new fencing, a portion made from high-tensile wires attached to fiberglass posts that flex and snap back into place after wildlife move through.

Your support has been critical to making this fence project possible—your dollars helped the Conservancy match funds from the Wyoming Wildlife and Natural Resource Trust, Wyoming Game and Fish Department, Nancy Carroll Draper Fund, and Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation.

Heart Mountain's elk herd is iconic in the Greater Yellowstone. When the snow flies, up to 1,200 elk can be seen traveling in a long, single-file line from the Sunlight Basin, toward the top of Heart Mountain, and down into the surrounding farm fields.

"People get so excited when they see large groups of elk," says Carrie. "It's really an awesome sight to see them trailing at daylight across the mountain."



| What's happening on our ranches and preserves? Find out at [nature.org/wyoming](https://nature.org/wyoming) |

THIS PAGE Intern Stephanie Winters replaces fenceline. © Carrie Peters/TNC

OPPOSITE PAGE Elk on the move © Scott Copeland

INSET LEAF in Wyoming © Carrie Peters/TNC



## Meet the New Faces of Conservation

Four teens and their mentor from Georgia traded in summer break for a step toward their future...and into the wilds of big, wonderful Wyoming!

The students experienced life on a Wyoming cattle ranch with The Nature Conservancy's Leaders in Environmental Action for the Future (LEAF) program,

a paid internship to empower the next generation of conservationists.

The interns worked on the Conservancy's Heart Mountain Ranch Preserve, learning rangeland ecology and environmental science firsthand.

*"I never thought I'd get to see a rodeo or a live bison."*

The teens rolled up their sleeves for invasive species removal, trail work, fencing modifications, and native seed and plant collection.

"There's a lesson in everything out here," says Carrie Peters, who manages Heart Mountain Ranch Preserve with her husband, Brian.

"I never thought I'd get to see a rodeo or a live bison," said student Lyric West. "I almost stepped on a rattlesnake too, but it didn't scare me."



Watch the interns share their experience at [nature.org/LEAFwest](https://nature.org/LEAFwest)

# Headwaters

## CONSERVANCY REACHES OUT TO LANDOWNERS IN SHERIDAN COUNTY

“Sometimes being rich has nothing to do with money,” says John Buyok, who ranches along the Tongue River in Sheridan County. “We’re rich because of the biodiversity and productivity of our small corner of the planet. We want to do what we can to ensure that it continues in the future.”

Three years ago, John and his wife, Vanessa, worked with the Sheridan Community Land Trust to put a conservation easement on their ranch in northeast Wyoming.

Now The Nature Conservancy, the Sheridan Community Land Trust and the Sheridan County Conservation District have launched a partnership to protect the Tongue River by reaching out to other landowners in the area. The effort enrolls landowners in cost-share conservation projects to improve water quality, agricultural efficiency and wildlife habitat. It also helps them set up conservation easements.

“These exciting partnerships will strengthen our ability to get the work done,” says Rick Pallister, the Conservancy’s Northeast Wyoming program director.

From its majestic headwaters in the Big Horn National Forest, the Tongue River snakes through one of the state’s most fertile, productive valleys on its way to Montana, providing water to three towns and many ranches.

Although its upper sections are in good condition, the lower river is plagued by high levels of *E. coli* and *Cryptosporidium*, invasive plants, and irrigation diversions that are often aging, inefficient and detrimental to fish and wildlife.

Projects will run the gamut from moving corrals away from water sources to replacing antiquated livestock watering systems, and planting trees that stabilize the stream bank. Cost-share initiatives can reduce a landowner’s costs for these projects to as little as 10 percent of the total bill.

John says that what’s good for the river is ultimately good for all the region’s residents. Thanks to his good stewardship, his ranch provides habitat for a wide variety of wildlife.

“There’s beaver, otter, mink, snapping turtles, badgers, porcupines” he says. “Lots of pronghorns. There’s mule deer up in the hills. Bald eagles, marsh hawks, great horned owls, burrowing owls, weasels.”

His enthusiastic inventory paints a picture of an intact and thriving landscape that, with the help of the Conservancy and our partners, will remain that way.



THIS PAGE The Buyoks © Sheridan Community Land Trust

OPPOSITE PAGE Tongue River © Rick Pallister/TNC

INSET Cody's Wild West River Fest © Katherine Thompson/TNC  
Whitewater slalom race © Gradient Mountain Sports



## Wild West River Fest

### INAUGURAL CELEBRATION KICKS OFF IN CODY

Kayakers raced through slalom gates. Anglers competed in a “one fly” tournament. Families planted trees, landowners discussed water quality and kids learned how trout migrate through a river corridor.

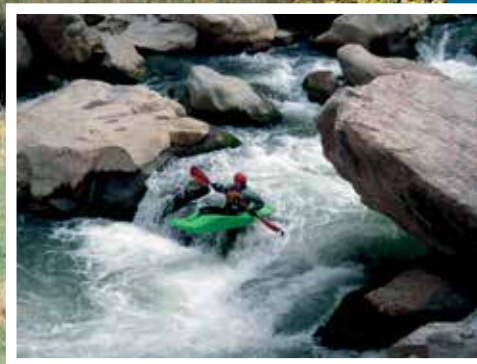
All of this and more enticed 1,000 people out to celebrate northwest Wyoming’s Shoshone River during the first annual Cody Wild West River Fest in August.

Katherine Thompson, The Nature Conservancy’s Northwest Wyoming program director, organized the event. “I loved working with such diverse partners to celebrate the importance of the Shoshone River to our communities,” says Katherine.

Dozens of partner organizations participated in planning and implementing the festival, and almost 100 volunteers helped.

For Katherine, this public awareness and participation will help pave the way for increased watershed conservation efforts. The Shoshone River system is an important community resource providing irrigation, drinking water and amazing recreational opportunities.

The Conservancy works in several watersheds across the Big Horn Basin to improve water quality and riparian areas. Katherine hopes the festival will continue for years to come — an annual reminder that water is always worth celebrating.



# Grasslands

## CONSERVATION EASEMENT KEEPS SAGE-GROUSE HOME ON THE RANGE

John Johnson's family has been on the land for a long time. "Five generations on both sides," he says with pride. This year the Carbon County rancher took a commitment to good land stewardship a step further when his family worked with The Nature Conservancy to complete a 960-acre conservation easement connecting to 6,120 acres safeguarded in 2010.

**L**ocated near Wyoming's iconic Elk Mountain, the ranch sits at the edge of the Shirley Basin, some of the world's last intact grasslands. It's a landscape of mixed-grass prairie and big sage, where Greater sage-grouse are active. There are three leks located near the Johnson Ranch.

Because of its importance to sage-grouse, the project received funding from the Sage Grouse Initiative, a Natural Resources Conservation Service program to conserve the bird's habitat on the West's ranchlands.

John didn't want to see his family's property subdivided or commercially developed.

"We want to keep the heart and soul in agriculture, and keep farming and ranching in the family for generations to come," says John. "I believe we can help keep the best stewards on the land, preserve Wyoming's crucial sagebrush steppe, and ensure that one of the most iconic birds of the Rocky Mountain region thrives and stays off the endangered species list."



**THIS PAGE** The Johnsons' ranch in Carbon County © *Kathy Browning/TNC*  
Reese and John Johnson © *Janet Britt/TNC*

**OPPOSITE PAGE** Dave Naugle © *Courtesy Dave Naugle*; Ranching and sage-grouse © *Brent Lathrop/TNC*

# Science & Policy Leadership

## CONSERVANCY SCIENCE INFORMS MAJOR SAGE GROUSE INITIATIVE

“Take the reins. And keep them.” That’s the Sage Grouse Initiative’s vision for landowners who are conserving the iconic bird across 11 western states. The Natural Resources Conservation Service-led program wants conservation to be less divisive and more collaborative.



Dave Naugle, Ph.D., is the Natural Resources Conservation Service’s science advisor for the initiative and a professor at the University of Montana. He works alongside scientists from The Nature Conservancy, using our research to bring sage-grouse back from the brink.

Together, Naugle and our Wyoming science team recently published a paper in *PLoS One* asking: Can protecting core sage-grouse habitat, while allowing energy and housing development in less sensitive areas, help conserve this declining bird?

### **Q: How did you begin collaborating with Conservancy scientists?**

A: When I started doing research into the impacts of energy development on wildlife, I was looking for really good science partners. I found them at the Conservancy in Wyoming, and we’ve been working together now for almost a decade.

### **Q: How does science inform the Sage Grouse Initiative?**

A: Science is what we use to assess the effectiveness of our projects. We use outcome-based science that has results on the ground. That’s how the

*PLoS One* paper came about—it shows how making well-informed decisions and doing proactive conservation can reduce sage-grouse losses by nearly two-thirds within Wyoming’s core breeding areas.

### **Q: Are you optimistic about the future of sage-grouse in the West?**

A: I’m a very optimistic person by nature, and when I look at the level of investment going into sage-grouse conservation now versus just five years ago, it’s way ahead of where we were.

I know we’ll continue to add more partners; refine our approach; and benefit birds, ranching and our rural economy.



### **Q: Is the Sage Grouse Initiative’s incentive-based approach with landowners working?**

A: Ranchers are the real heroes in the Sage Grouse Initiative story—people who voluntarily implement conservation measures. This is a new paradigm, not the old top-down approach to regulatory measures. It’s really the way of the future in areas with big chunks of private land.

### **Q: How will the Sage Grouse Initiative’s scientific collaborations with the Conservancy continue?**

A: The Conservancy’s science team has elevated the quality of our science. That’s why I’ll keep going back to the well. Right now, we’re working on a study to understand how sage-grouse and mule deer conservation efforts intersect in Wyoming. That way, we can make sure all sagebrush species are part of the equation.

We’ve built something together that can be around for decades to come and play a far-reaching role in Western conservation.



**Watch a video to see the Sage Grouse Initiative in action at [nature.org/wyoming](https://www.nature.org/wyoming)**

# THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

The following donors made gifts/pledges to the Wyoming program or live in Wyoming and made gifts/pledges to other Conservancy programs between July 1, 2012 and June 30, 2013.

## CONSERVATION EASEMENT DONORS

John & Reese Johnson  
Margi Schroth

### \$1,000,000 +

Anonymous (2)  
LOR Foundation

### \$100,000-\$999,000

Anonymous (1)  
Drs. Lenox & Fran Baker, Jr.  
Mr. & Mrs. Barron Collier\*, II  
Wyoming Philanthropic Trust  
Nancy-Carroll Draper Foundation  
C. P. Johnson Family  
Charitable Foundation  
Knobloch Family Foundation  
David & Alexia Leuschen - The  
David M. Leuschen Foundation  
Richard J. & Kristine E. McGuire  
Gil\* & Marge Ordway

### \$10,000 - \$99,999

Anonymous (6)  
Andrew Allen  
Charitable Foundation  
Alice & Michael Arlen,  
Arlen Charitable Trust  
William & Terri Baas  
Robert & Carol Berry - Wolf Creek  
Charitable Foundation  
Peter Boerma  
Frank\* & Helen Bonsal in memory  
of Thomas Stroock  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Bresnahan  
David\* & Lisa Carlin  
John\* & Elaine Carney  
Steb & Mary Carolyn Chandor  
Community Foundation of  
Jackson Hole  
Conservation Fund  
Deborah de la Reguera\*  
Mary Anne\* & William Dingus  
Anne & Charles W. Duncan, Jr.

Exxon Mobil Corporation  
Frank\* & Elizabeth Goodyear, Jr.  
Mark & Jennie Gordon  
Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Haberdell  
Mr. & Mrs. Hoyle "Bronco" Jones  
Mayer & Morris Kaplan  
Family Foundation  
Robert\* & Laurence Kaplan  
Carl & Emily Knobloch  
Ken Lay\* & Alessandra Iorio  
Kenneth & Kathleen Lichtendahl  
David MacKenzie  
Marathon Oil Corporation  
Mr. Forrest E. Mars, Jr.  
Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Morong  
Mule Deer Foundation  
Linda\* & Reid Murchison III  
Judy\* & Donald Opatrny  
Larry & Susan Patrick  
Estate of Dr. Richard Paull  
Erika Pearsall &  
Edgar D. Jannotta, Jr.  
Anne Pendergast\*  
Lollie Benz Plank\*  
Winifred & Kevin P. Reilly, Jr., Fund  
of Baton Rouge Area Foundation  
Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation  
The Rosenthal Family Foundation-  
Nancy Stephens, Rick, Noah,  
Mick & Jane Rosenthal  
James & Christine Scott  
Margaret J. Taylor\*  
Trillium Family Foundation  
Summerfield & Gillian Johnston,  
Tucker Foundation  
Mary W. Vaughan  
Nick & Whiteley Wheeler  
Mr. & Mrs. George White, Jr.  
Wiancko Charitable Foundation  
Page\* & Pearre Williams  
Mr. & Mrs. John Winsor  
David\* & Susan Work  
Wyoming Governor's Big Game  
License Coalition/Wyoming  
Wildlife-The Foundation

### \$1,000 - \$9,999

Anonymous (6)  
Anonymous - in memory of  
Peter Absolon  
Paul Asper & Nancy Weidman  
Dana & Gail Atkins  
Dorothy Baker  
James & Lynne Bama  
STS Foundation  
Andreas Bednarski  
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph C. Bennett  
Michael T. Bies  
Birdsong Family Foundation  
Lynne\* & Rick Boomgaarden  
Dr. & Mrs. Donald Boyd  
Nancy Brizuela, Antelope Dash  
Broadwaters Foundation  
Thomas Brundage  
Jeff Carlton  
Edward Otis & Laura Carney  
Ann D. Catlett  
Christ Episcopal Church  
Mr. Mark A. Collins  
F.J. & Ann Cornwell, Jr.,  
Antler Foundation  
Davis & Cannon  
Richard\* & Tami Davis -  
Tandem Productions  
The Doug and Michele Dillard  
Charitable Fund  
Daniel Doak\* & Alexandra Rose  
Mark\* & Nancy Doelger  
Dr. & Mrs. David Doll  
David & Nancy Donovan  
James & Sally Duffy  
Fran & Ron Chilcote - Foundation  
for Sustainability and Innovation  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Garmon  
Bob Giurgevich  
Charles R. Godchaux  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Granville  
Molly\* & Bruce Hampton  
Margaret M. Harris  
The Hart Family,  
Clarks Fork Foundation

Karen Hatch  
John\* & Sena Hauer  
Donald R. Hinton  
Mr. & Mrs. Walter Holt  
Homer & Mildred  
Scott Foundation  
Jacqueline Howell  
A.C. & Penney Hubbard  
Foundation, Inc.  
Eric Huber  
Mr. & Mrs. Bob Hughes  
Paula\* & George Hunker  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard A. Jones  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Keith, Jr.  
Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Kirk  
Thomas A. Klotz, M.D.  
Dennis\* & Judy Knight  
Kosman, Inc.  
Lander Community Foundation  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Lansing  
Mr. & Mrs. James Lawrence  
Christine G. Love  
Mr. & Mrs. John Love  
Mayo\* & Susan Lykes  
Mr. & Mrs. Jonathan Madsen  
Kate McBride Puckett  
Mr. & Mrs. Philip McIntyre  
Mr. & Mrs. William McKinley  
Ms. Ester J. Murray  
George D. & Abby M. O'Neill  
Mrs. Mary W. Orbin  
Leigh & Annie Perkins, Perkins  
Charitable Foundation  
Dr. & Mrs. Austin Platt  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Polemis  
Andrea Erickson Quiroz\* &  
Joe Quiroz  
Ralph Nye Charitable Foundation  
Kathleen & Keith Rittle  
Stephen & Lisa Robertson  
Scott Rosenlieb  
Senator John & Nancy Schiffer\*  
Todd & Julie Schnuck, Jr.  
Mrs. Corlene H. Cathcart,  
Seven C Foundation

Steve & Sonja Sharkey  
Mr. & Mrs. D. Michael Shasby  
Mr. John A. Sherman, Jr.  
Adair\* & Arnold Stifel  
Howard F. & Cara Stirn  
James & Dianne Stuart  
Michelle Sullivan & Brian Kuehl\*  
Catherine Symchych  
Julie Talley  
Katherine A. Thompson  
Trout Unlimited  
Mrs. Allison W. Von Maur  
Newcomb in memory of  
Betty Syverud  
Dr. & Mrs. Charles Walter  
Scott Watson  
Steve Williams  
Yonder Star  
Anne Young\* and James Nielson

## NEW LEGACY CLUB MEMBERS

Anonymous (2)  
John & Elaine Carney  
Rex Gantenbein & Judy Powers  
Daniel Moede  
Richard Pearson  
Dr. & Mrs. Eddie Seo  
Jane Sullivan

## COLLABORATION IS KEY We didn't do it alone! Thanks to the following organizations that helped us reach our goal this year.

Audubon Rockies  
Bighorn Canyon National  
Recreation Area  
BP American Production Company  
Buffalo Bill Center for the West  
Center for the Arts-Jackson Hole  
City of Cheyenne  
City of Cody  
Cody High School  
Cody Middle School

Cody Parks, Recreation and Public  
Facilities Department  
Community Foundation of  
Jackson Hole  
The Conservation Fund  
Cottonwood Creek/Grass  
Creek Coordinated Resource  
Management Group  
Cottonwood /Grass Creek  
Watershed Improvement District  
Draper Museum of Natural History  
Ducks Unlimited  
E & B Landmark Ranch  
Environmental Defense Fund  
Family Farm Alliance  
F3T Fly Fishing Film Tour  
Fremont County Weed and Pest  
Gradient Mountain Sports  
Green River Valley Land Trust  
Heart Mountain  
Wyoming Foundation  
Hillberry Ranches  
Hot Springs Conservation District  
Hot Springs County  
Weed and Pest  
Intermountain West Joint Venture  
Jackson Hole Land Trust  
Jackson Hole Wildlife Film Festival  
Johnson Resource LLC  
Lake Desmet  
Conservation District  
Land Steward Services  
Laramie Rivers  
Conservation District  
Little Snake River  
Conservation District  
LU Ranch  
Marathon Oil Co.  
Meadowlark Audubon Society  
Medicine Bow  
Conservation District  
Meeteetse Conservation District  
Minnesota State University  
National Museum of  
Wildlife Art in Jackson

North Fork Anglers  
Northwest College  
Padlock Ranch  
Park County Travel Council  
Park County Parks and Recreation  
Park County Weed & Pest  
Popo Agie Conservation District  
Powell-Clarks Fork  
Conservation District  
Restoring Sacred Lands on  
Common Ground Alliance  
Saratoga-Encampment-Rawlins  
Conservation District  
Science Kids  
Sheridan College  
Sheridan Community Land Trust  
Sheridan County  
Sheridan County  
Conservation District  
Sonoran Institute  
State Engineers Office  
Sublette County  
Conservation District  
Sunlight Sports  
TCTWest  
Teton County School District  
Teton Raptor Center  
Teton Science School

Thunder Basin Prairie  
Ecosystem Association  
Trout Unlimited  
Trout Unlimited,  
East Yellowstone Chapter  
University of Montana  
University of Wyoming  
University of Wyoming—  
Cooperative Fish and Wildlife  
Research Unit  
University of Wyoming —  
Cooperative Extension  
University of Wyoming—  
Ruckelshaus Institute  
US Department of Agriculture—  
Agricultural Research Service  
US Department of Agriculture —  
Natural Resources  
Conservation Service  
US Department of Agriculture —  
United States Forest Service  
US Department of Interior —  
Bureau of Land Management  
US Department of Interior—  
Fish & Wildlife Service's Partners  
for Fish and Wildlife  
US Environmental  
Protection Agency

Washakie County  
Conservation District  
Washakie County Weed and Pest  
Wyoming Association of  
Conservation Districts  
Wyoming Association of  
Professional Archeologists  
Wyoming Business Council  
Wyoming Conservation Corps  
Wyoming Department of Agriculture  
Wyoming Department of  
Environmental Quality  
Wyoming Game & Fish Department  
Wyoming Native Plant Society  
Wyoming Natural Diversity Database  
Wyoming State Forestry Division  
Wyoming Stock Growers Association  
Wyoming Stock Growers  
Agricultural Land Trust  
Wyo Trout Guides  
Wyoming Wildlife and  
Natural Resource Trust

And thank you to 2,000+ supporters  
who also contributed amounts up  
to \$999.

*\*Wyoming board member, emeritus  
board member or staff member.*

*We have made every attempt to make certain that this information is correct, and we apologize for any unseen errors. Please contact Sara Deur, philanthropy manager, at [sdeur@tnc.org](mailto:sdeur@tnc.org) if you note any inaccuracies.*

The mission of  
The Nature  
Conservancy is  
to conserve  
the lands and  
waters on which  
all life depends.



## Why We Give TO THE NATURE CONSERVANCY

"It's amazing to think that four generations of our family have been coming to Wyoming—starting in the early 1960s," says Frank Goodyear. "What keeps us here: Wyoming's natural beauty and freshness, a healthy, outdoor way of life, and the values of a self-reliant, independent, and hardy way of life."

Frank joined the Conservancy's Wyoming Board of Trustees in 2009 and currently co-chairs our *Wyoming Wild and Working* campaign. Along with his wife, Betsy, Frank has provided annual gifts as well as a special campaign gift to broaden membership in the state.

"We have a dream that the Conservancy in Wyoming will someday have a grassroots membership that is ten times what it is today," says Frank. "And that members will form an 'army of ambassadors' out in communities advancing the Conservancy's cause in Wyoming."

Frank, who has 40 years of experience as a museum curator and director, is also working with the Buffalo Bill Center of the West, the Park County Library, the Conservancy, and photographers Michael Berman and Willy Sutton to organize an exhibition on Wyoming's grasslands. The show will tour four museums and ten libraries across Wyoming in 2015.

Frank and Betsy have made a planned gift to the Conservancy, and a special donation in memory of Frank's father, who passed away recently, for our Heart Mountain Endowment. The Goodyears also donated a conservation easement on their family ranch in the Sunlight Basin northwest of Cody.

Why does the family support the Conservancy? "It's the Conservancy's great sense of purpose that moves us," says Frank. "In the conservation world, it's a beacon of light. The organization will never be deterred from working hard to secure the future of the lands and waters it strives to preserve."

**Interested in finding more ways you can make a difference?** Visit [nature.org/waysofgiving](http://nature.org/waysofgiving)

# By the Numbers

## FINANCIALS (JULY 1, 2012–JUNE 30, 2013)

The Nature Conservancy in Wyoming's FY13 conservation successes are reflected in—and supported by—our equally strong financial performance.

### A few highlights:

- In FY13, the Wyoming chapter received \$3,842,000 in private cash contributions from members and donors, which represents a 3.4% increase over FY12. In addition, the chapter received \$2,553,000 in grants from government agencies, an increase of 234% over FY12. More than 85% of the government grants are reimbursements for conservation easements that went to conservation-minded landowners.
- The chapter received more than \$2,145,000 through gifts of conservation easements from dedicated landowners. The value of these easements, which cannot be sold, make up the majority of the conservation lands on our balance sheets and reflects the generosity of Wyoming landowners who to date have granted 170 easements to the Conservancy.
- To ensure that we will always be able meet our tremendous responsibilities to monitor and protect our conservation easements and investments, we have built an endowment of \$11 million. The majority of our endowment contributions are bequests from generous Conservancy supporters who include the Wyoming chapter in their estate plans.



## YOUR RETURN ON INVESTMENT

Your individual contributions were matched 2.7 times this year through our other revenue sources, including public funds and landowner donations. This fiscal year, we conserved together with partners approximately 315,000 acres of land and 168 river miles through conservation easements, restoration, or improved management of lands and waters, at a cost of roughly \$12 per acre in private contributions! Without your gifts and the matching dollars they generate, it would be impossible to put the boots on the ground to accomplish the projects we do.

In addition to the acres and streams your donations helped conserve, they support many other areas of conservation work, such as science, policy, outreach and education represented in this annual report. We hope this FY13 financial summary illustrates the critical importance of supporters like you who have helped the Conservancy safeguard Wyoming's unique natural legacy for future generations.



## FY13 WYOMING RESULTS

(JULY 1, 2012–JUNE 30, 2013)

### Grasslands

112,038 acres

### Greater Yellowstone

11,315 acres

### Headwaters

348 acres of riparian & wetlands

191,920 acres of sagebrush

168 river miles

## HISTORICAL TO DATE

### Total conservation easements:

170 (286,296 acres)

### Rivers:

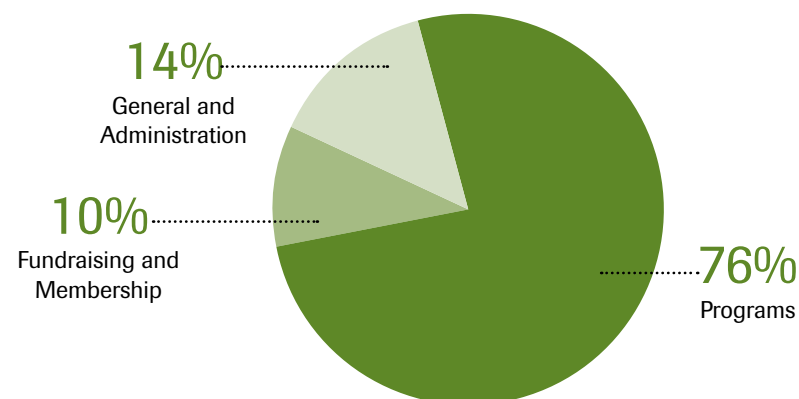
936 miles legally protected,  
537 miles restored

### Total lands:

488,552 acres legally protected,  
511,494 acres conserved through  
stewardship and habitat improvement

## THE NATURE CONSERVANCY'S PROGRAMMATIC EFFICIENCY

(From audited FY12 numbers)



OPPOSITE PAGE Winning image from our annual student photo contest  
© Anna Reed / Cody High School

THIS PAGE Horned lark © Kathy Lichtendahl



“Like” the Wyoming Nature Conservancy on Facebook and receive updates on our work!



## In the News: Ospreys Get a New Home

“Like an old-fashioned barn-raising, Jackson residents flew to the rescue of a pair of homeless osprey,” reported the *Jackson Hole News & Guide* this spring. The Nature Conservancy’s Lisa Lord Price helped erect a new nesting pole after Canada geese displaced the raptors. After the news story appeared, the ospreys raised three hatchlings in their new digs.



Osprey © Doug Wechsler