



ANNUAL REPORT FISCAL YEAR 2018

A LETTER FROM OUR LEADERSHIP

Dear Friends and Partners,

We believe Wyoming is an extraordinary place – your support helps ensure it will stay that way. Thank you for your commitment to our mission and trust in our leadership.

You have countless options when it comes to supporting nonprofit organizations. Thank you for choosing us. Thank you for believing in our work, investing in our mission, and trusting we will use your investments wisely. We know this is important when you choose to support a nonprofit, and we are proud to report that in fiscal year 2018, 94% of our funds were used directly for land conservation and stewardship. This equated to nearly 18,000 acres of pivotal agricultural lands conserved.

To date, your support and your investments have conserved over 268,000 acres across Wyoming in partnership with 74 families. These conserved lands not only help sustain our economy and provide food to a growing population, they serve as Wyoming's iconic open space and allow our world renowned wildlife to thrive.

The Wyoming Stock Growers Land Trust is as strong today as it has ever been because of people like you. In 2019, we are on track to close seven new conservation easements, on over 26,000 acres – continuing to put your donations to work.

We look forward to continuing to earn your support as we work together in conserving Wyoming agricultural lands.

Sincerely,

Bo Ally

Bo Alley **Executive Director**



Heath Hurs

Heath Hunter Board Chairman





BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Heath Hunter Chairman Annaliese Wiederspahn Vice-Chairman **Janet Marschner** Treasurer Budd Betts Secretary Jim Magagna Member Ex-Officio Jack Berger Ryan Ford Rob Hendry Kelly Lockhart Mantha Phillips Scott Sims Nels Smith

STAFF

Bo Allev Executive Director

Eric Schacht Conservation Director

Travis Brammer Stewardship Coordinator

Maggie Rux External Relations Coordinator

Kaylee Madigan Office Manager



in his local and state-wide agricultural community and is a wonderful asset as a board member.

Current Board Member Wyoming Business Council, current Member of the Teton County Natural Resource Stakeholder Group, current Member Housing Supply Board, current Member JH Working, past Board Member Jackson Hole Land Trust, past Member Board of Agriculture, past Member Teton County Planning Commission, past Volunteer Teton County 4-H, past Member Teton County Fair Board.

Our Mission

WELCOME TO THE **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Kelly Lockhart Jackson Hole, Wyoming

Kelly joined the Board of Directors in June of 2018. He is a partner in the Lockhart Cattle Company and is the past Senior Vice President of Wells Fargo Advisors. Kelly is active

Leadership Roles:

Conserving Wyoming's working family ranches, farms and the wide-open spaces, natural habitats, and rural communities they support.



Photo courtesy of Brush Creek Ranch



FISCAL YEAR 2018



\$4,566,190

ASSETS

Endowment net asset	
Investments	\$2,203,590
Contributions receivable, net current portion	\$215,943
	\$3,390,949

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

TOTAL LIABILITIES\$200,272
NET ASSETS
Unrestricted\$499,281
Temporarily restricted\$2,114,117
Permanently restricted\$577,279
TOTAL NET ASSETS\$3,190,677
TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS\$3,390,949

Total support and revenue.



RANCHES CONSERVED



ACRES CONSERVED

As of June 30, 2018



FISCAL YEAR 2018

94 %

Revenue directly utilized for land conservation and stewardship. \$1

Invested in land conservation returns \$4 to \$12 in natural goods and services according to a recent study by Colorado State University.

Conserving Wyoming's Open Space

It seems as though the West begins and ends with open space. The farms and ranches that the WSGLT conserves play a role in keeping those open spaces beautiful and unbroken.

These open spaces are the foundation on which our story begins. The landscapes of Wyoming's farms and ranches are where our food grows, wildlife roam and streams and rivers flow. Each year, our organization works to conserve another portion of open space and with it, so many important natural resources, viewscapes, and stories.

In fiscal year 2018 WSGLT conserved 17,272 acres of wide-open spaces in partnership with three families in three different counties. To date, our organization has conserved over 268,000 acres of open space. These places offer beautiful views and so much more to those living in and visiting Wyoming. In fiscal year 2018 we conserved...





Ranches



Ecosystems on average per project (NLCD2011)

A Statewide View: Farms and Ranches Conserved as of June 30, 2018



NORTH COTTONWOOD RANCH **Sublette County**

© Alder Environmental, LLO

Wildlife and water thrive on the North Cottonwood Ranch

The sprawling landscapes of the North Cottonwood are home to vast ecological resources conserved by the WSGLT in partnership with The Conservation Fund (TCF). The 15,231 - acre conservation project was transferred from TCF to the WSGLT in December of 2017.

The North Cottonwood Ranch is located near Daniel, Wyoming and is comprised of five original homesteads. The property has sustained as an active agricultural operation throughout time, shifting from a cow-calf program to a yearling program in recent years. The conservation of the property keeps the ranch available for agricultural use in the future and will keep the landscape open for the diverse populations of wildlife that utilize the area throughout the year.

There are several factors that play a role in making the ranch stand out ecologically. It supports thousands of acres of critical habitat for mule deer, pronghorn, and elk. The agricultural operation as well as the healthy wildlife population benefit from the waterways that are found on the property. There are 16 reservoirs and over 20 miles of streams on the ranch including North Cottonwood Creek, Spring Creek, and Killpecker Creek.

The North Cottonwood Ranch is contiguous with several other conserved properties and is bordered by US Forest Service, US Bureau of Land Management, and Wyoming State lands. To date, the WSGLT has conserved over 68,000 acres of agricultural land in Sublette County.

"Over the last decade, the Fund has been honored to work cooperatively with private landowners, public agencies, and non-profit partners-like WSGLT-to conserve nearly 118,000 acres in Sublette County. These efforts in the Upper Green River Valley and along the Hoback Rim conserve working agricultural ranches that are part of Wyoming's world-renowned migration routes. secure miles of river frontage, and protect core sage grouse habitat and crucial winter range for moose, elk, mule deer and pronghorncreating benefits for people, communities and wildlife.' -Dan Schlager, Wyoming State Director with The Conservation Fund

"Not only do we raise beef cattle, but we raise antelope, deer, moose, elk, and all the other species." Maggie Miller, Sublette County Rancher

Photo courtesy of Brush Creek Ranch

Conserving Wyoming's Wildlife Habitat

In Wyoming we love our wildlife, but did you know the important role private agricultural lands play in the health of wildlife populations in the state? Over 50% of crucial, year-long habitat is made up of private lands, according to the Wyoming's State of Space Report from the University of Wyoming Haub School and Ruckelshaus Institute.

Wyoming farmers and ranchers have a unique understanding of wildlife populations, and they strive to steward landscapes that offer healthy habitats alongside healthy agricultural operations.

In fiscal year 2018 the WSGLT worked with landowners to conserve nearly ten miles of migration corridors and over 5,000 acres of crucial habitat.



In fiscal year 2018 we conserved...





6,004

Acres of Moose and **Elk Crucial Range**



57

Acres of Pronghorn and Mule Deer **Crucial Range**



12,446

Acres of Sage Grouse Core Area



Wildlife and agriculture share the landscape of the Hidden Canyon Ranch

Southwest of Douglas, Wyoming sits the Hidden Canyon Ranch. The ranch is situated within the Laramie Mountain Range and offers beautiful viewscapes, healthy rangeland, thriving wildlife and an agricultural history that dates back to the 1800s. The development rights on 707 acres of the property were donated to the WSGLT at the end of 2017.

The story of the ranch began when the Teeter family homesteaded the property as a cattle and hay operation in the late 1800s. The family eventually sold the property to the Canady family in the early 1940s, who owned the ranch until it was sold to the current owners in 2015. Though the operation has changed hands throughout time, indications of the early years are still apparent on the ranch with the original loading chute still standing and the original irrigation system is still in use.

The rolling, rocky hillsides of the ranch are crucial habitat and migration corridors which support the abundant populations of mule deer, elk, big horn sheep, and pronghorn. The La Bonte Creek, which is located within a mile of the northern border of the ranch, supports the wildlife populations and ag operations in the area. Additionally, the ranch is bordered by US Forest Service lands, which provide outdoor recreational opportunities to the public.

"The ranch's many square surface miles now protects critical Fort Fetterman road and USFS viewscapes, seasonal migration and important groundwater sources in the LaBonte Creek watershed. It plays a key role in our summer pasture regimen, and is winter habitat to a variety of ungulate, carnivorous and raptor species." - Reid Lance Rosenthal, manager and part-owner of the ranch, and #1 Best Selling author.

'It has been said 'that water is the new gold.' It is more than that. Water is life." "Toole , Past Bucholz Conservation Award Winner

Conserving Wyoming's Water

Rivers often speak to the health of the land and the vitality of an area. The rivers and creeks that flow through the Cowboy State feed the landscapes, agricultural industry, and wildlife that make Wyoming incredible.

In fiscal year 2018, the WSGLT conserved over 25 miles of waterways in Wyoming. These conserved rivers and streams are home to a significant number of aquatic species and are water sources for agricultural operations and wildlife.

The WSGLT also conserved 1,600 acres of wetlands around the state in fiscal year 2018. The state's wetlands are home to an array of wildlife including as much as 70% of Wyoming's bird species, according to the Wyoming Game and Fish Department.



In fiscal year 2018 we conserved...



25 Miles of rivers and streams



6 **Streams and Rivers**



1,600

Acres of wetlands



A multi-generational family is growing on the Woolery Ranch

The Woolery Ranch is located south of Lander, Wyoming. In fiscal year 2018 the Woolery family chose to conserve 880 acres of their ranch in partnership with the WSGLT. The project was completed with funding assistance from the USDA - Natural Resources Conservation Service and the Wyoming Wildlife and Natural Resource Trust.

The Woolery family has been part of the agricultural community in Fremont County for over 90 years, and purchased the conserved property from the Rate Sheep Company in the 1940s. The story of the ranch is visible in the sheepherders monuments that speckle the hillsides and with the Mormon and Oregon National Historic Trails that are within three miles of the property.

The family chose to partner with the WSGLT to conserve the ranch as part of their goal to expand their operation to account for a growing family. The family was able to use funds from the conservation easement to purchase the property adjoining the ranch to help fill the needs of the expanding operation.

Not only does the ranch support generations of the Woolery family, it also supports thriving populations of sage grouse and moose. The ranch is near deer and elk crucial habitats and borders other conserved properties. The Woolery Ranch conservation project is the third WSGLT easement completed in Fremont County.

"Woolery Ranch has entered into a WSGLT conservation easement on a portion of our summer range. Money realized from the easement was used to purchase land adjoining our winter operation. This helped balance our needs with our summer grazing. We enjoyed working with the WSGLT in making this easement possible." - Clyde Woolery, president of the Woolery Ranch

"Ranch culture is comprised of a distinctive set of cultural components, which include animal husbandry, architecture, courtship, cuisine, dance, dress, etiquette, free enterprise, gestures, individual freedom, language, music, values and work ethic. -Al Wiederspahn, Former Board Member



Conserving Wyoming's Cultural Landscape

In 2018 the state of Wyoming welcomed nearly 8.9 million visitors according to the Wyoming Office of Tourism. One of the drivers that brought people to Wyoming was an interest in Western Culture. At the heart of the Western appeal are agricultural lands.

Each farm or ranch we conserve tells a story beyond

These places are home to history, tradition, and multi-generational families. These agricultural lands often inspire the arts. The cultural value that these

with a combined history of over 150 years. We look forward to seeing what these landscapes

In fiscal year 2018 we conserved...



3

Ranches partnered to conserve their land and their stories



150 +

Years of history and lore of the land



Infinite Possibilities for future inspiration



Leaving a Legacy of Conservation

A legacy is a beautiful and powerful thing that can have a tremendous impact on the mission of the Wyoming Stock Growers Land Trust.

Through the process of planned giving you have the opportunity to direct your legacy in a way that conserves Wyoming's agricultural landscapes, open space, waterways, wildlife habitat, and culture. Plans made today will help define your legacy and ensure that your philanthropic wishes are carried out.

There are several ways to leave a legacy of conservation and our staff is happy to support you and your family through this decision. Planned gifts have a tremendous impact on our organization, and we are happy to discuss how your gift will be put to work on Wyoming's landscapes. Please contact your tax, legal, or financial advisor to plan for a gift that best fits

Benefits of Planned Giving



Leaving a legacy on the Wyoming landscape



Some planned giving donations may also work as income for the donor



Planned giving donations offer tax benefits to the donor

RETIREMENT PLANS

Many financial advisors suggest using these funds to make charitable gifts to reduce the tax burden on heirs by reporting the amount withdrawn combined with an offsetting charitable donation.

SECURITIES

Giving appreciated securities (stocks, bonds and mutual funds) can generate additional tax savings. Such gifts are generally deductible for income tax purposes at their full current value if owned for longer than one year. They can be used to offset taxes up to 30% of adjusted gross income.

LIFE INSURANCE

The donation of a policy that has been paid for allows the donor to receive a tax deduction for its fair market value. A life insurance policy naming the Wyoming Stock Growers Land Trust as the irrevocable owner and beneficiary provides the donor with a tax deduction for the policy's cash value. Future payments to the WSGLT to cover the premiums on the policy can also be deducted. In each example above, you can name more than one charitable organization as a beneficiary.

BEOUEST

A bequest is made through a will or trust. Bequests of real estate can also be made through provisions in a deed. Typically, a bequest in a will or trust would specify that a dollar amount or percentage of your estate be left to the Wyoming Stock Growers Land Trust. The donation is exempt from federal estate tax and allows the donor use and control of the assets during his or her lifetime.

REAL ESTATE

Gifts of real estate can be made to the Wyoming Stock Growers Land Trust for the benefit of Wyoming's next generation of producers. A bequest of working land can be passed along to a young ranching family through our Ranchland Succession Program. Or individuals may choose to donate the property and retain a life estate, realizing the value of the gift during their lifetime and remaining on the land they love. Condos and houses in town can also be left to the Wyoming Stock Growers Land Trust and the proceeds derived from their sale directed to support our mission.

LEGACY SOCIETY

Our Legacy Society includes individuals and families who have left the Wyoming Stock Growers Land Trust as a beneficiary in their will or trust. If you would like more information about the Legacy Society please contact our office.

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LEGACY SOCIETY MEMBERS

Pam Dewell - Jackie Griffith - Fred and Catherine Kusel Dr. John and Susie Lunt - Carrol and Chris Machan Georgene Lebar Charitable Trust - Marcia Gladstone

Thank you to our fiscal year 2018 donors!

Anonymous (3) Tyler Abbott Bo and Tara Allev Lee and Ellen Alley Leron and Rosalyn Allred Brad and Heather Andres Brandon and Priscilla Bailey Carole and Burke Baker Lollie Benz Plank Bob and Rosie Berger Ioel and Gail Bernstein Budd and Emilie Betts Gib and Kinta Blumenthal Richard and Ann Boelter Jackie Boice Laurie Boner Chuck and Laurie Box Jay and Ray Ann Brammer Brent Bright Kermit and Margaret Brown Kathy Browning Paul and Amy Burgener Warren Burke Jason and D'Ron Campbell Kim and Susie Cannon Carly-Ann Carruthers Liz Cheney and Jonathan Perry Carol Chidsey - In Memory of Chuck Chidsey Reb and Molly Clark Haultain Corbett and Katie Curtiss Fred and Leanne Correll Anna Cosner John and Maggie Cosner Andrew Coulter Curt Cox Arnold Cunningham John D'Amico - In Memory of Marian Berger Luann Dekracker Dave DeRuiter

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> Donor lists reflect donations received July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018. We apologize for any mistakes or omissions. Please contact us with any corrections so we can update our records and thank you more appropriately.

Alden and Sherilyn Prosser Ross and Mary Read Daniel and Shelley Reinke Bill Resor and Story Clark Dan and Jean Runner Jean Rux Maggie Rux Megin Rux Gregory Ryan Dick and Maggie Scarlett - In Memory of Bill Scarlett Eric and Brooklyn Schacht Dan Schiffer Tony and Linda Schiffer Brian and Maggie Schilling Paul and Beverly Schwieger Sam Scott Karen Sevfert Ruth Shepherd Scott Sims Pepper Jo Six Nels and Jeanette Smith Albert and Susan Sommers Jared and Rebecca Souza Mark and Lucy Stacy Tracy and Liz Swanson James and Jaime Tarver Bob and Suzanne Taylor - In Memory of Marian Berger Susan Thomas Stanley and Betty Thompson Dennis and Suzanne Tschacer Robert and Kristin Veldman Kevin Voyles Miriam Walsh Jerry Webb Greg and Teri Weisz Will Cole and Annaliese Wiederspahn Robert and Susan Wilson Jack and Nancy Zeller David and Kym Zwonitzer

Thank you to the businesses, organizations, foundations, and grants that supported our organization in fiscal year 2018!

Anonymous (2) Admiral Beverages Corporation Alexander Ranch Anadarko Petroleum Corporation Antler Motel Ballinger Rocking R Ranch, LP Bar K Bar Berger Ranches **Big 5 Sporting Goods** Broken R Ranch Burns Insurance C.H. Brown Co. Candi Apple Insurance Company Cheyenne Frontier Days Old West Museum Clarendon Ranch Clark Country Ranch, LLC Condict & Sons Cattle Co., Inc. Dan and Jeanne Scott Foundation Davis & Cannon Denver Center for the Performing Arts Denver Museum of Nature & Science Dreaming Hollow Photography Eaton's Ranch Elk Mountain Consulting Ellis Sheep Company Farm Credit Services Of America Fremont Motors Frogg Toggs Glen Powell Artworks Goertz Family Wyoming Natural Beef Grainger Charitable Fund Grand Targhee Resort Gretchen Swanson Family Foundation Inc. Grindstone Cattle Company Hellyer Limited Partnership Henry Pride, LLC Houston Designs Indian Springs Ranch IXL Ranch I/N Mercantile **Jenkins** Creek Ranch Jonah Bank K-Coe Isom, LLP King Ranch Land For Good Land Trust Alliance

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> Photo courtesy of Padlock Ranch Credit: Wavne Fahsholtz



Kurt Bucholz Conservation Award 2018 Awardee: Kermit Brown



The Kurt Bucholz Conservation Award is given in memory of the late Dr. Kurt Bucholz DVM, a rancher from Carbon County, and early supporter of the Wyoming Stock Growers Land Trust. The Bucholz Award winner encompasses the values and stewardship goals that Kurt exemplified in his life. Kurt had a unique understanding of water and land issues and worked to protect the historic water rights that are fundamental to the North Platte Valley. Each year, our organization partners with Kurt's wife, Laura, to present the award to a deserving individual or family at the Annual Roundup Fundraiser and Barbeque.

Kermit Brown was presented with the award at the fundraiser on August 26, 2018, at the Sommers Ranch. Brown has been an ardent supporter of conservation and agriculture in Wyoming throughout his career as an attorney in Laramie and as a former Republican member of the Wyoming House of Representatives where he served as the House Majority Leader and Speaker of the House.

Brown's passion for agriculture began in his youth, working on ranches in the Saratoga area. He obtained first-hand experience of the important work that is done by Wyoming's farmers and ranchers and came to understand the piv-

otal relationship between agriculture and conservation. Here, he also met and became lifelong friends with Dr.Bucholz. These experiences impacted his future career choices and helped him become a respected voice and advocate for ranching and conservation. Brown was one of the three co-sponsors of the Wyoming Uniform Conservation Easement Act and played a part in the creation of the Wyoming Wildlife and Natural Resource Trust, which helps fund conservation and habitat restoration projects throughout the state.

Brown commented on the meaning of receiving the award saying, "I am honored and deeply humbled to receive this award. Dr. Bucholz' vision for Wyoming should be a model for everyone to consider. He loved open spaces and untrammeled landscapes where agriculture could quietly coexist with nature and wildlife free of the clutter and chaos of human development. I appreciate all the people and especially landowners who love this state and who have helped advance Kurt's vision."

Photo Credit: Wvatt DeVries Description: Laura Bucholz presents the award to Kermit at the Annual Roundup Fundraiser and Barbeque.



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SAVE THE DATE ANNUAL ROUNDUP FUNDRAISER AND BARBEQUE

* Ramblin' M Ranch * Cody, Wyoming

August 24, 2019