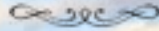




WYOMING

**STOCK GROWERS  
LAND TRUST**



- Fall 2023 Newsletter -





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Dylan Freeman  
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Conservation & Stewardship  
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Development & Outreach  
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Clara Keyt  
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Katie Wynne  
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Conservation Director

Dear Friends, Partners, and Supporters,

After a busy summer season, the Wyoming Stock Growers Land Trust is ready to settle into fall. It was a pleasure to travel around Wyoming this summer, visiting with landowners and partners, and seeing the land replenished after ample precipitation. Summer travels remind us how amazing Wyoming truly is – the beauty, lifestyle, and open spaces we enjoy here are unmatched. Traveling across the state is an opportunity to see firsthand how the conservation of agricultural lands contributes to the characteristics that we value and enjoy daily. It is a reminder of how important it is to conserve these lands and support those who steward natural and agricultural resources. Reminders like these keep us motivated to continue our efforts in protecting what makes Wyoming so special.

This newsletter provides a glimpse into our stewardship intern's busy summer, a wrap up of the 2023 Annual Roundup Fundraiser and BBQ, and information about ways to support our efforts. We also highlight a landowner in Carbon County committed to keeping wildlife habitat and agricultural values intact for future generations. I hope you enjoy this landowner story and the accompanying photos of this amazing property.

We appreciate your commitment to conserving Wyoming's agricultural lands and look forward to continued partnerships.

Together, we are keeping Wyoming, Wyoming.

With gratitude,

Jessica L. Crowder, Executive Director



Adelynn, Jason and Jessica Crowder

" I serve on the Wyoming Stock Growers Land Trust board because I believe healthy working lands are an integral part of what sustains Wyoming's rural communities, wildlife population, and rich cultural heritage. The organization provides tools and support to land owners to help them achieve their personal goals while working toward a common goal of keeping Wyoming, Wyoming. " - Marissa Taylor



## Board of Directors

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Mission: The Wyoming Stock Growers Land Trust is dedicated to conserving Wyoming's working agricultural

lands, which also provide open space, wildlife habitat, and other environmental benefits for future generations.



# Little Jack Creek Ranch



Photos and story by Katie Shockley

Down a rural county road and three right turns along the way, you are led into a valley of crisp autumn colors that house Joe Kaspar's place on Little Jack Creek in Carbon County. The property is home to deer, elk, pronghorn antelope, and cattle at various times throughout the year. The vast views show no neighboring houses and even allow for a glimpse of Elk Mountain.

Kaspar purchased this property ten years ago after eyeing it for some time. He grew up in Rawlins, attended the University of Wyoming and returned home to his father's petroleum business. The business started as Phillips 66 and a couple of service stations, and when his father turned the business over to him, he opened a couple of convenience stores, a truck stop, and fuel delivery business.

*"That's how I found this place," said Kaspar. "I drove down the hill delivering gas, saw the place, and thought, 'wow, I like this, I'd like to have it sometime.'"*

The ranch offers a place of solitude, beauty, water, and wildlife. There are a few groves of trees, natural springs and creeks of water, the remnants of corrals from an old sheep operation, two small bunk houses, a cabin and garage; things to make for a relaxing get away.

Snow drifts throughout the winter making this home nearly impossible to get to mid-October through early May. Kaspar noted he has seen snow drifts last until August. While the snow may seem burdensome, it provides consistent water to the springs throughout the property. The tree groves on the property are dense and provide a hideout for wildlife. Kaspar placed trail cameras in one valley of trees to watch the deer and elk that pass through, enjoying the abundant food, water, and security.

While Kaspar traveled a lot over the years, including completing a foreign exchange program in Sweden during his time in high school, Wyoming is the place he calls home.

*"I traveled a lot, but I like the open spaces that Wyoming has to offer," he shared. "I like being outdoors and in the country."*

The 1,019 acres of property owned by Kaspar was placed in a conservation easement with the Wyoming Stock Growers Land Trust less than a year ago.

*"I never really intended to do an easement but as time goes on and you go around the state and start seeing more and more subdivisions you have to do something," said Kaspar.*

Kaspar talked to his attorney who mentioned a few different groups that do easements, but the Wyoming Stock Growers Land Trust stood out to him. He wanted to ensure it would remain a ranch going forward and knew an agricultural conservation easement with the Wyoming Stock Growers Land Trust would allow the land to be utilized for agriculture in the future.

*"Agriculture is critical, and wildlife can and should co-exist," said Kaspar.*

He appreciates the work the Wyoming Stock Growers Land Trust did to make this conservation easement happen and shared that he is glad he doesn't have to worry too much about the ranch.

*"I want to keep this place the way it has been for the last 100 years and maybe for the next 100 years," Kaspar shared.*





## Mission

The Wyoming Stock Growers Land Trust is dedicated to conserving Wyoming's working agricultural lands, which also provide open space, wildlife habitat, and other environmental benefits for future generations.

### The Wyoming Stock Growers Land Trust:

- Is the first and only Wyoming-based, statewide ag land conservation organization.
- Maintains a board of directors composed primarily of agricultural producers who have a first-hand understanding of agricultural and community issues.
- Is affiliated with the Wyoming Stock Growers Association, a trusted advocate for the state's agricultural community.

## Impact

*119 Easements*

*90 Families*

*23 Years*

*297,058*

*Acres of  
Land Conserved*



## Ways to Give

### Monthly Donations

Giving monthly allows you to maximize and spread your impact! This option provides consistent support to the land trust and allows us to improve our long-range planning efforts.

### Gifts of Stock

Stocks, bonds and securities can be transferred directly to the Land Trust and will then be sold by our advisors for profit.

### Crypto Donations

Donating cryptocurrency is a non-taxable event, meaning you do not owe capital gains tax on the appreciated amount and can deduct it on your taxes. Bitcoin, Ethereum and other cryptocurrency donations are one of the most tax efficient ways to support the Land Trust.

*What kind of legacy will you leave?*

You can help preserve Wyoming's open spaces, wildlife, and agricultural heritage for future generations while also fulfilling your financial goals.

*Together we can keep Wyoming, Wyoming.*

Photo by Land Trust Staff

## Bequests

Bequests may be made through your will or revocable trust and may include financial assets, real estate, or other property.

Donors may identify a specific asset or sum of money, a percentage of an asset or of their entire estate, or a residual amount after other heirs have been taken care of.

Supporters may also designate the Wyoming Stock Growers Land Trust as a sole or partial beneficiary of a retirement plan such as an IRA or 401(k).

Donors making gifts by bequest retain the flexibility of changing their bequests as their needs (and the needs of their heirs) change, and their bequests will pass to the Wyoming Stock Growers Land Trust free of estate taxes.

## Planned Giving Fund Options

Donors of planned gifts may specify how they want the proceeds of their gifts to be used to help the Wyoming Stock Growers Land Trust achieve its mission.

### Unrestricted funds

Available for use at the Land Trust's discretion in areas where the most need exists.

### Ag Land Conservation Fund

The Land Trust helps landowners protect their land, not just during their lifetimes, but in perpetuity. This restricted fund was created to ensure the Land Trust has adequate financial resources to meet the permanent responsibility of monitoring and enforcing its conservation easements. Donations to this fund shall be invested and managed as a restricted fund.

### Ranchland Succession Fund

The Land Trust initiated this fund to address the issue of disappearing ag lands across Wyoming. The intention of the fund is to identify tools to ensure the next generation of Wyoming producers remain on the land and keep private, working land in agriculture.

### Cultural Landscape Fund

This Fund was established in memory of Alvin Weiderspahn, who served on the Wyoming Stock Growers Land Trust's Board of Directors from 2009 until his death in 2014, to help private landowners maintain lands through ranching culture. Funds in this account will be directed by the Land Trust to assist with voluntary conservation of private ranch lands. Donations to this fund may be utilized for traditional conservation purposes, such as the acquisition of conservation easements or costs associated with completing that work, estate or succession planning assistance to ranching families, or to further awareness and conservation of ranch culture.

Questions? Ready to start planning? We are happy to help!

Please contact Sarah Kauer at  
307.772.8751 or [sarah@wsglt.org](mailto:sarah@wsglt.org)



Scan to donate

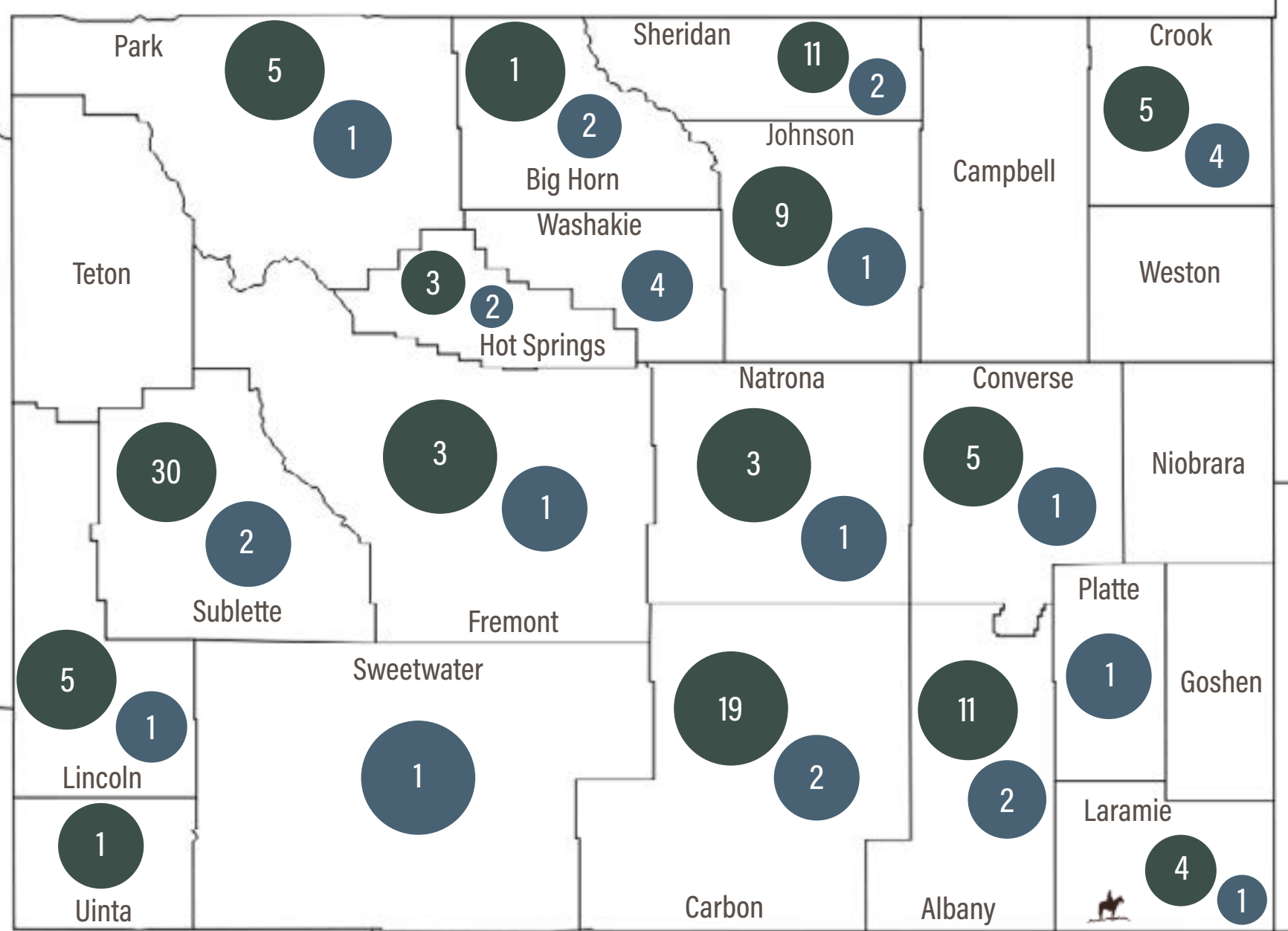


Photos by Trey Mullen





# Easements & Active Projects by County



**Completed Easements**

**297,058**  
Acres  
Conserved

**Active Projects**

**98,097**  
Acres  
In-progress

## A NOTE FROM OUR STEWARDSHIP INTERN

"The land trust provided a major highlight for my summer, an opportunity that most law student interns don't get – the freedom to be outside almost every day! Over the span of three months, I monitored roughly 50 ranches with conservation easements across almost every county in Wyoming. My desire to become an attorney for ranchers and agricultural producers was bolstered this summer as I was blessed to have met so many of them that also share my passion to preserve America's ranchland!"

- Garrett Gwin  
2023 Stewardship Intern



Photo by Garrett Gwin



# 2023 Annual Roundup Fundraiser and Barbecue Sponsors

Thank you for your unwavering support and playing a role in keeping Wyoming's working lands thriving and intact for generations to come.

## Diamond Sponsor

Gretchen Swanson Family Foundation

## Gold Sponsors

Burns Insurance  
Farm Credit Services of America  
Jim Purdy and Mantha Phillips  
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## Silver Sponsors

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Wilson Ranch  
Wyoming Wildlife Federation  
Wyoming Stock Growers Association



Painting by Kathy Wipfler

## Bronze Sponsors

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Davis and Cannon, LLP	Scott and April Sims
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Intermountain West Joint Venture	The Conservation Fund
Janet Marschner	The Wrangler Futurity Focused Equine News
Jason and Jessica Crowder	US Fish and Wildlife
Joe Glode	Wayne and Judi Fahsholtz
Jonah Energy, LLC	Wyoming Downs, LLC
Jonita Sommers	Wyoming Livestock Roundup



Photos by Gwin Photography







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