



## Wyoming Wildlife Federation

Founded in 1937, the Wyoming Wildlife Federation (WWF) is the state's grassroots hunting, angling and conservation organization, with more than 2,000 members and thousands of supporters. WWF is dedicated to the conservation of wildlife and habitat and toward maintaining our outdoor heritage. WWF's efforts include a variety of programs aimed at conserving big game and aquatic habitats as well as maintaining hunting and fishing access on public lands, all while inspiring families to continue our outdoor heritage and engage in wildlife conservation.



## Keeping Public Lands in Public Hands

At issue: There is a growing political movement across the West to take away our public lands and transfer them to the states to manage. The same is true in Wyoming. In the last few years there has been a number of land grab bills introduced in the Wyoming Legislature. Bills have also been introduced in the U.S. Congress and that's why this movement is so serious!

## Paying Dividends To Wyoming

**\$4.5 billion dollars of consumer spending** in Wyoming per year for all outdoor recreation (hunting, angling, hiking, camping, biking, wildlife viewing).

**More than \$1 billion per year provided by hunters and anglers** and watchable wildlife enthusiasts; \$750 million from hunters and anglers, and \$350 million from wildlife watchers.

**50,000 Wyoming jobs** provided by outdoor recreation.

## What we are doing:

WWF will work with its partners to ensure a sportsman or sportswoman is at the table for the Wyoming Public Land Initiative (WPLI), and to make recommendations for our wildlife and hunting and fishing interests. Other efforts led by WWF include a study on the economic impacts of hunting and fishing and a major public survey, in partnership with UW's Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics.

## What you can do:

Stay informed, write letters to the editor and attend the WPLI public meetings in your area. Check out the WWF website for a calendar with meeting information and updates, and sign up for our email notices.

[www.wyomingwildlife.org/public-lands/wpli](http://www.wyomingwildlife.org/public-lands/wpli)



# PUBLIC LANDS IN WYOMING



Access to public lands for recreational activities is especially important to hunters and anglers  
**79% of sportsmen** say access to public lands for recreational activities is **very important** to them.

*This land is your land, this land is my land...  
this land belongs to you and me!*

## What would large-scale public land transfers mean?

The risk is too great for losing access to these lands, if the state gains control. The state has a track record of routinely transferring or selling off lands owned by Wyoming. Many of these land swaps and sales are to the detriment of wildlife, habitat and access to hunting and fishing. Wyoming also has a statute that requires it to manage state lands for the most economic benefit (i.e. for energy and mineral development). There is nothing more important than public lands to our wildlife resources, to intact habitats and corridors, and to our way of life – hunting, fishing and enjoying nature and the outdoors.



## That's why WWF is working hard on your behalf, to keep public lands public.

WWF has launched a national campaign designed to bring awareness and to advocate for the protection of public lands in Wyoming.

### Our campaign actions include:

**County resolutions.** In opposition of large-scale public land transfers. This involves communicating and meeting with officials and drafting resolutions.

**Land management funding.** WWF is working to help facilitate a plan, based on a recommendation by the Governor's Task Force, for the creation of a dedicated fund to financially and technically support place-based collaboration on forest issues.

**Outreach.** Writing op-eds, letters to the editor, and facilitating a major outreach program via our website and with our sportsmen and conservation partners.

### Building capacity.

Petitioning our members to sign and oppose large-scale land transfers. This includes WWF information booths at major sportsmen expo events.

### Action in the

**Legislature.** Advocating the Wyoming Legislature to vote “no” on land grab bills; and providing timely notifications to our supporters of how to respond to such legislative measures, as WWF successfully accomplished in 2016 by defeating two land grab bills.



## Wyoming Public Lands Initiative

The Wyoming Wildlife Federation and the Wyoming Sportsmen's Alliance have joined forces for a major stakeholder effort, the Wyoming Public Lands Initiative (WPLI). County commissions across the state have created advisory committees that will consider the status and develop recommendations for final designations of Wilderness Study Areas in the state (45 WSAs). This process will also consider other public lands and land uses in Wyoming. The goal is for the Wyoming delegation to provide the WPLI recommendations to the U.S. Congress for consideration.

**“Ensuring that we as a state continue to hold on to our most beautiful and recreationally significant places as places for all Wyoming citizens and Americans to visit, explore, and enjoy is really important.”**

**—Chamois Andersen,  
WWF Executive Director**

