



Hello,

This past week, warm weather hit the foothills. A few washes were running brown and the cowboys have been staying up late for calving season. The warmth was followed by snow and a reminder our big game herds are still on winter range. It will be a few months before any fawns or calves are born. With the legislature session over, we are not in the off season. Remember your legislators and commissioners work/volunteer throughout the year for Wyoming's wildlife. Stay engaged in what is a year-long process. This is an election year, so pay close attention, candidates are announcing their bids to run. Ask them about wildlife and public lands. Enjoy the beginning of spring and let's hope for a few less road closures, but still a little more mountain snow.

Dwayne Meadows

Executive Director



## **TAKE ACTION** for Wildlife

### Wyoming Commissioners Tag Giveaway

Wyoming Wildlife Federation is offering a Wyoming Commissioners Tag Giveaway that includes a gear package from *First Lite Hunting*. Your contribution not only enters you for a chance to win a dream hunt in Wyoming (any season, any unit, elk, deer, or pronghorn), but it will also fund wildlife conservation efforts and public programs that give back.

Enter the drawing **HERE**

Photo: Born and Raised Outdoors [@bornandraisedoutdoors](#)

## New Wildlife Conservation Plate Available 2019

Thanks to incredible public support, along with a collaborative effort throughout the conservation world, Wyoming House Bill 0039 was successfully passed into law. This would not have been possible without the legislative support and active involvement from Rep. Stan Blake of Sweetwater County - for that we thank you! Check out the official press release surrounding the 'Conservation License Plate' [HERE](#)



Thank You

We would like to thank those who were active with us during the legislative session, calling, writing, and emailing representatives with support/opposition of key bills. Stay informed on issues as they happen throughout the year by following along with our newsletter and through social media. Also, check out the legislature yearly calendar [HERE](#)



## Our Work:

### Legislative Wrap-Up

This session saw some major successes for wildlife conservation and management policy. Wyoming Wildlife's Jessi Johnson was in attendance throughout the entire legislative session - lobbying, attending the general session and special committee meetings, and generally "running around" the building - as the voice for WWF and our members. She played a vital role in the passage of the 'Conservation License Plate', and she found the time to write about her experiences in Cheyenne for [Artemis Sportswomen](#).



You can read her blog post [HERE](#)

- Here are updates on other bills that were on our radar -

- HB0094- State Lands Net Gain in Acreage -

- This bill, as described by its sponsors, was a federal land transfer related bill and was an easy one to organize opposition around, however the tricky language was important to catch.
- HB0020- Game and Fish Agreements With Federal Agencies-
  - This bill did not pass General File. Camo at the Capitol was held the day before this bill was heard on General File. Fifteen Legislators were pulled off the floor by constituents and asked to vote against this bill, due to it's legislative overreach in regards to wildlife management. This bill was "postponed indefinitely".
- SF0067- Wyoming Public Lands Day-
  - In Senate Rules Committee the bill was amended to read "Wyoming Multiple Use Public Lands Day". The bill was not heard in general committee after passing the Senate Rules Committee. We feel that this is a 'good bill' for everyone who enjoys the incredible public resources in Wyoming but we will have to wait for the 2019 session.

#### Recovering America's Wildlife:

One of WWF's core efforts is working for well-funded wildlife management. In the past few years the state legislature has cut all general funding for Wyoming Game and Fish. To off set this loss, we are working with Sen. Barrasso and partners



around the country on Federal legislation called The Recovering America's Wildlife Act. This is a proactive measure to provide funding to state fish and wildlife agencies for sensitive species conservation. The act is moving forward, the Senate bill has moved to the House.

Learn more about Recovering America's Wildlife Act [HERE](#)

#### Sweetwater County Commission Meeting

In early March, WWF attended the Sweetwater County Commission meeting in Green River. The meeting was prompted by a proposed bill from Con. Liz Cheney proposing to release Wilderness Study Areas (WSA's) in the county from protection previous to Rock Springs BLM writing their resource Management Plan (RMP). After hearing public testimony, the commission voted 2:3 to recommend the release of the WSA designation. We were disappointed with this result, but will continue our work on teh Rock Springs RMP. The Rocket Miner write and editorial on what could be lost if these lands are opened up to development. You can read it [HERE](#)

## 2018 Wyoming Commissioners Tag Funding Wildlife Conservation and Public Outreach

By entering into the Commissioners Tag giveaway, you are directly CONTRIBUTING to community programs and initiatives that give back to the communities across Wyoming, cultivating new and empowered wildlife and wild land enthusiasts. WWF sees these initiatives to be vital in forging sound and effective wildlife policy into the future.

Additionally, we have partnered with **First Lite Hunting** for the tag giveaway. First Lite is a leader in the hunting industry as a conservation-

forward company that sees the value and the necessity in giving back to wildlife and habitat conservation. Check out the link below to enter - the last day to enter will be May 15th.

**[Enter The Drawing Here](#)**

Photo: Garret Smith

### Living Wyoming Wild:

***Jackson Hole Ecotour Naturalist, Josh Metten, speaks to the wildlife migrations that define Wyoming's wildlife***

Wildlife migrations and the corridors in which they occur have recently come to the forefront of the debates around wildlife and habitat conservation. The importance of these seasonal movements has been shown through the research of organizations like the **Wyoming Migration Initiative**. Human dominated landscapes are becoming more and more prevalent and in order to be effective in our conservation efforts, we must focus on the needs of wildlife populations and how those needs are directly tied to habitat corridors. Read Josh's piece **HERE** and learn more about the movements of Wyoming's Wildlife.

### Upcoming Events:

Bowhunters of Wyoming Convention





- Lander, March 23-24th
- Details and event schedule [HERE](#)

#### Fly Fishing Film Tour Coming To A Wyoming Community Near You

- Cody, March 25th (Facebook event page [HERE](#))
- Check out the list of other loactions and buy tickets [HERE](#)

#### Wyoming Wildlife Hosts 'Field to Table' event

- Cody, May 4th at Joyvagen Cycles
- Quest Speakers and short film screening
- Menu prepared by local chef Jacob Scott
- More information to come

#### Wyoming Game and Fish Public Meetings

- Commission and public meetings held throughout the state
- Get involved. Schedule [HERE](#)

#### Wyoming Game and Fish Outdoor Expo

- Casper, May 17th-19th
- Details [HERE](#)

#### Wyoming Outdoor Weekend and Expo

- Lander, May 18th and 19th
- Details [HERE](#)



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