#### For More Information Contact

i2 Capital Co-Op Conservation Bank Model:

Upper Green River Conservancy (307) 264-0290 info@uppergreenriver.com www.uppergreenriver.com

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(307) 673-4535

Brad.Mohmann@kcoe.com

http://www.kcoe.com/services/kcoeconservation/

#### Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

(307) 233-6750

www.wy.nrcs.usda.gov

www.sagegrouseinitiative.com

Sweetwater River Conservancy (307) 459-3636 rlance@Sweetwaterriverconservancy.com www.sweetwaterriverconservancy.com



Wyoming Conservation Exchange	
(307) 763-7225	CONSERV
wyconex@wyomingconservationexchange.org	EXCHA
www.wyomingconservationexchange.org	

Wyoming Field Office, Fish & Wildlife Service (U.S. FWS) (307) 772-2374 heather_mcpherron@fws.gov www.fws.gov/wyominges	FISH & WILL SERVIC
Wyoming Stock Growers Association (WSGA)	SGA
(307) 638-3942 www.wysga.org	

"Ranching is our business and to be sustainable you have to be good stewards of the land. Good ranching practices leads to good wildlife habitat. Having an opportunity to participate in a program to get recognition for providing good wildlife habitat is a plus."

- Jack Berger, Berger Ranches



# **Frequently Asked Questions**

### Q: What is mitiaation?

A: Steps taken to avoid or minimize negative environmental impacts.

#### **Q:** What is included in mitigation?

A: Mitigation can include: avoiding the impact; minimizing the impact; rectifying the impact by repairing or restoring the affected environment; reducing the impact by protective steps required with the action; and/or compensating for the impact by replacing or providing substitute resources.

#### **Q:** What is a conservation (mitigation) credit?

**A:** A conservation credit is a defined environmental benefit that can be sold on the open market, a scientifically derived measure of habitat quality. Companies sometimes have to mitigate for the environmental impacts of their projects by purchasing conservation credits. Also known as compensatory mitigation.

#### **Q:** What is a regulatory incentive?

A: Incentives for program participation are realized in the form of government regulation/policy "regulatory assurances" instead of a monetary payment.

#### **Q**: What opportunities exist for creating conservation credits?

A: Mitigation needs may be short or long term, large or small. Credits can be developed for term or perpetual contracts, and credits arising from habitat enhancement or from protecting existing good habitat.

#### **Q**: Why would a conservation credit be of value?

A: Negative habitat impacts from habitat disturbing activities may require being adequately offset through compensatory mitigation—one option being a conservation credit purchase.

Developed by Leanne Correll of SunAgri, LLC for WSGA Landowner Outreach Program

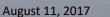
# Conservation Opportunities for Wyoming Private Landowners

Included are some of the more common programs currently available



# Joint Outreach Effort by Wyoming Stock Growers Association and the **USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service**









Program	Eligible Land	Contact Entity (ies)	Length of Agreement / Contract	Payment Info	Landowner Commitments	Other Notes
Regulatory Incentives						
Umbrella Candidate Conservation Agree- ment with Assurances (CCAA) for Wyoming Ranch Management		Wildlife Service or	Voluntary agreement for up to 20 years. May be extended an additional 20 years.	None	Develop / Implement a range monitoring plan.	"assurances" to the lands enrolled. Incidenta take permit issued and becomes effective if
Technical and/or Final						
(SGI)	Private Land with sage-grouse habitat	Conservation Service (NRCS)	Varies from 1 to 10 years depending upon tailored agreement. Endangered Species Act predictability for up to 30 years.	Financial Assistance payments are based on the level of conservation stewardship.	plan developed, and meet SGI standards.	plan consistent with the NRCS/USFWS Confer ence Report have regulatory predictability for up to 30 years as long as the participant continues to implement selected conservatio practices. Complementary with CCAA.
NRCS - Farm Bill Conser- vation Programs	Private, State, Federal, and other public lands	NRCS	Varies, depending on program	Cost share or financial assistance based on specific program	Dependent on specific program requirements	See local NRCS office for programs available for your specific needs.
Financial Incentives						
i2 Capital Co-Op Conservation Bank Model: Upper Green River Conservancy	Current program is limited to lands in the Upper Green River Basin of Southwestern Wyoming.	Green River Conservancy	agreements will mirror the length of the projects they	and designed to provide equita-	Landowners must commit to management practices that protect the habitat at value negotiated with regulators.	UGRC is a co-op conservation bank designed to enter into close partnerships with landowr ers that deliver equitable economic benefits t all partners.
Catalyzing Private Investment in Habitat Mitigation Markets	Private Land in California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Utah, or Wyoming. Minimum of 3,000 acres located in priority sage-grouse habitat or mule deer crucial winter range or designated migration corridor.	Conservation	depending on the specifics of the agreement.	ated through an assessment of the habitat conditions and then marketed to companies needing	Landowners will receive funds up to \$35,000 for early-stage credit development to be repaid if credits are eventually sold. Landowners must be willing to undertake either an enhancement, restoration, or preservation project on their property.	Eligible for habitat mitigation. A conservation easement is not required but one agreement option.
Sweetwater River Conservancy	Any land that meets the state cred- it framework is eligible to be enrolled, subject to approval of Sweetwater and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Conservation Bank Review Team.		for enrollment in perpetuity.	-	Lands approved for program inclusion would have an initial deed restriction. Upon associated land credit sale, permanent conservation easement agreement.	Eligible for habitat mitigation.
Wyoming Conservation Exchange	Private Land Potential for State Land Investigating Federal Land	vation Exchange	Term or perpetual agreement depending on the project and compliance with the State mitigation framework.		maintain conservation status as measured with appropriate resource assessment methods. Term or perpetual easement contract	Tailored conservation contracts would assure monitoring and maintenance of conservation status for the term of the agreement. Hope t serve as a market platform for other credit needs in the future.