



MIGRATORY BIG GAME INITIATIVE

The USDA's Migratory Big Game Initiative was announced in May 2022, supporting voluntary conservation of private working lands and migratory big game populations. USDA is focusing on using voluntary and incentive-based programs to target assistance on the following:

- **Agricultural Land Protection:** NRCS is investing additional dollars in Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP) funding to use towards permanent conservation easements on important habitats within migration corridors.
- **Restoration, Enhancement, and Management:** NRCS is investing additional dollars in Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) funding to prioritize practices that restore and manage habitats migrating big game need. Some examples include fence conversion, invasive species treatments, and wet meadow restoration.
- **Grassland CRP:** USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) is utilizing the Grassland Conservation Reserve Program (Grassland CRP) to provide up to 15 years of development protection for other properties while still allowing other compatible uses.



Photo: Ken Miracle

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- \$22.4 million in EQIP funds were used to address other resource concerns, primarily fencing, on **217 ranches**
- \$44.5 million in ACEP investment helped establish perpetual conservation easements on **56,416 acres on 32 ranches**
- Ranchers offered 30% more land for Grassland CRP in 2023 than in 2022, **37,000 acres** located in Wyoming's priority area

Learn more about the initiative at <https://www.wlfw.org/wildlife/migratory-big-game/>.

MIGRATORY BIG GAME RESOURCES

FENCING

Improving
Fence Passage
for Migratory
Big Game

*USDA-NRCS
Technical Note*



INVASIVE ANNUAL GRASSES

Toolkit for Invasive
Annual Grass
Management in
the West

*Western Governors'
Association*



CONSERVATION EASEMENTS

Tools for Private
Lands
Conservation

*University of
Wyoming
Ruckelhaus Institute*



Tech Transfer
Partnership

*Institute for
Managing Annual
Grasses Invading
Natural Ecosystems
(IMAGINE)*

