

Rancher's Stewardship Alliance (U.S.):

- secured a 2nd round of National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, Northern Great Plains funding
- support continuation of grassland restoration and enhancement projects
- hired an Executive Director, 1st full-time employee; Paula Enkerud started November 2018, a ranching background and a professional career working with volunteers, Boards, and strategic planning and implementation. She presently lives and works in Malta and grew up on the hi-line and is personally very interested in moving the work of RSA forward.



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS), Montana Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program (MT-PFW)

- continue to work on the Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances in partnership with The Nature Conservancy, with over 50,000 acres of private land in process of enrolling.

- Partnership with the community-based collaborative led by the Ranchers Stewardship Alliance is growing in impact, with over \$1.1 million spent on restoration and enhancement affecting over 18,000 acres of grazing systems in just under two years.

- Emerging funding priorities include conservation and enhancement of big game winter range and movement corridors.

- Canadian jurisdictions could contribute by coordinating knowledge about key connectivity areas across the border and potentially developing complimentary programs north of the border to support movement and migration across the region as a whole.

- Annual monitoring of trends in grassland songbird populations could also be enhanced with expansion and collaboration across the Canadian border.

National Wildlife Federation (NWF)

- Multi-species fence design and targeting fence modification and removal; using targeting approaches and citizen-science (using PronghornXing program) to ID and mitigate key areas for wildlife –road interactions; riparian restoration using natural materials to increase forage quality and biodiversity.
- The Pronghorn Xing program has started in Phillips Co with two high schools on board (Malta and Whitewater) and we look to engage other high schools along the Hi-Line
- Working with MTDOT, we are completing barrier analysis looking and the effects of fencing on where wildlife cross the HWY 2 transportation corridor
- We look to start riparian restoration projects using beaver dam analogs and Zeedyk structures. These structures are of interest to our organization as well as local collaborators.
- Published 4 articles this year related to wildlife-fence interactions and identifying pronghorn migratory movements.

World Wildlife Fund-US Northern Great Plains Program

- 2018 Plowprint report in September; perennial cover (go-back) increased throughout TGP area
- U.S. policy- pushing for a grass-friendly Farm Bill
- Healthy watersheds grant for 'conservation roadshow' to all e. MT County Conservation Districts; DST data
- Secured 3 years more funding for Sustainable Ranching Initiative and ranch bird surveys
- some members (Costco, WWF, TNC, Noble) of US Roundtable for Sustainable Beef piloting a beef project in MT
- completed 60 ranch bird surveys, 15 MT ranches
- U.S. Fish & Wildlife Conservation plan for 5 songbird species (2 longspurs, Baird's sparrow and Sprague's pipit)
- Tribal team continues facilitating Fort Peck tribes' development of their bison program
- Hiring a Sustainable Tribal Finance senior specialist and a Tribal program specialist

