

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION THROUGH SUSTAINABLE RANCHING

Working Lands for Wildlife (WLFW) is the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service's premier approach for conserving America's working lands to benefit people, wildlife and rural communities.

WLFW uses win-win solutions to target voluntary, incentive-based conservation that improves agricultural productivity and wildlife habitat on working lands.

Through the Farm Bill, NRCS provides technical and financial assistance to participants who voluntarily make improvements to their working lands.

BUILDING ON PAST SUCCESS

A call-to-action has emerged among broad public and private partners to conserve America's sagebrush biome. In 2020, a multi-state planning effort produced the first biome-level frameworks for wildlife conservation in grassland and sagebrush biomes. This joint effort builds on past achievements of the Sage Grouse Initiative and other programs that have partnered with more than 3,261 ranchers and conserved 10,309,950 acres of working rangelands.



A CALL TO ACTION

This action-based framework for 2021-2025 renews the NRCS commitment to sagebrush ecosystem conservation to benefit wildlife and people.

This framework focuses on addressing the four most severe and large-scale threats to the sagebrush biome: exotic annual grass invasion, land use conversion, woodland expansion, and riparian and wet meadow degradation.

[WLFW.RANGELANDS.APP](https://www.wlfw.gov/rangelands)



A FRAMEWORK FOR CONSERVATION ACTION





CONSERVATION OBJECTIVES

2021-2025

TARGETING THREATS ON 1.7 MILLION ACRES



Exotic Annual Grass Invasion

OBJECTIVE: Defend relatively uninvaded sagebrush cores from annual grass conversion and expand them through restoration to maintain productive working lands that are resilient to fire and resistant to invasive annuals.



Riparian/Meadow Degradation

OBJECTIVE: Protect intact but vulnerable riparian areas and wet meadows from loss and degradation. Increase riparian and meadow area size and resilience through restoration of degraded valley bottoms and associated watersheds.



Woodland Expansion

OBJECTIVE: Maintain and grow intact sagebrush rangeland cores through conifer removal in priority landscapes at a pace that exceeds the rate of expansion.



Land Use Conversion

OBJECTIVE: Avoid further land use conversion within sagebrush cores and restore former croplands to productive rangelands.

Photos clockwise from upper left: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Nathan Seward, John Carlson, Jeremy Maestas

GET INVOLVED

Your local NRCS service center is the best place to start. Visit the NRCS Service Center Locator: <https://offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app?agency=nrccs> and click your state and then county for contact information.

