Organization or Name of Applicant: Teton Regional Land Trust
Mailing address: Po Box 247 Driggs, ID 83422
Website address: www.tetonlandtrust.org
Tax ID number: 94-3146525
Contact information for the person(s) responsible for directing the funding: Joselin Matkins
Mission Statement: The Teton Regional Land Trust’s mission is to conserve working farms and ranches, fish and wildlife habitat, and scenic open spaces in Eastern Idaho for this and future generations.
Title of grant: Teton Valley Crane Project
Amount Received: $5,000

The Greater Yellowstone Sandhill Crane Initiative (Project) is a partnership project comprised of the Teton Regional Land Trust, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, Legacy Works Group, and willing private landowners. The overarching goal of this multi-year project is two-fold:

1) Develop a permanently protected Crane Management Area in Teton Valley, Idaho to benefit the Rocky Mountain Population of Sandhill Cranes.
2) Develop educational opportunities and a watchable wildlife legacy highlighting the role of private land conservation in sustaining the wildlife of the Greater Yellowstone.

As Teton Valley is one of the most important pre-migration staging areas for the Rocky Mountain Population of Sandhill Cranes in the west, the Teton Regional Land Trust and the Project partners have prioritized sustaining and enhancing staging habitat in the Teton Valley.

DESCRIBE HOW THE GRANTED MONEY WAS USED
The funding provided by the MBRWF in 2018 supported the advancement of the Project by providing funds to implement the Grain for Cranes (food plot program) and the annual monitoring of the Teton Valley staging population of Sandhill Cranes. We exceeded the food plot program by 26 acres and completed the annual monitoring surveys and game cam implementation.

DISCUSS HOW THE PROJECT OBJECTIVES IN THE GRANT WERE ACHIEVED
In 2018 the following outcomes were achieved:

- Grain for Cranes:
  - We developed four food plots with four landowners, growing, cutting, and leaving 66 total acreage. This is an increase of 26 acres over 2017.
  - Installed 3 game cameras on food plots.
  - Observed 1059 cranes on food plots during monitoring period.
  - Initiated Grain for Cranes fundraising effort where $250 donation will support an acre of grain in 2020. We raised $5,000.
• Monitoring Program:
  o The 2018 monitoring program occurred over eight days between September 4 and October 2.
  o The survey driving route covered 36 miles each day and monitored 19,137 acres.
  o It took 163 hours to conduct the survey which included both staff monitoring and supervision, along with volunteer students from BYU-Idaho.
  o 7253 observations were made.
  o Over 1059 observations were made on food plots.
  o 15% of all observations came from food plots in 2018.

In addition to providing forage for Staging Sandhills, our game cameras provided evidence that the protected food plots also provide habitat for a wide range of species. In addition to Sandhills, the cameras caught moose, white-tail and mule deer, porcupines, coyotes, and an array of other birds including geese, other waterfowl, and hawks.

STATE THE CONCLUSIONS AND EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROJECT

Overarching Project Goals
The goal of the Crane Project is to maintain and enhance the largest pre-migration staging population of Sandhill Cranes in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. In 2018 we advanced the overarching goal by advancing the objectives in the following ways:

• Create a Crane Management Area:
  o This summer, TRLT staff analyzed properties suitable for the Crane Management Area by mapping all properties within two miles of identified roosts. We then created buffers around existing homes, platted subdivisions, and county roads. This analysis resulted in the identification of priority properties that had sufficiently buffered acreage. Once the properties were identified, we reached out to the landowners of the identified properties to discuss their interest in conserving the property to benefit staging Sandhill Crane. Of the properties identified, five landowners were willing to meet with TRLT to discuss the possibility of selling their land (or a portion), selling a conservation easement, or developing a long-term management agreement with the land trust to develop food plots. These discussions are ongoing. Two of the landowners have expressed interest in selling their land or a conservation easement, however, we are still determining if they are willing to sell at appraised value, which would be required as TRLT is a non-profit accredited land trust, which constrains our ability to pay over appraised value which would be considered private inurnment. In 2019 we will continue to advance the dialogue with these landowners, working towards an agreement that will secure staging habitat.

• Expand Outreach and Education: Crane Festival
  o On September 15, TRLT hosted the inaugural Greater Yellowstone Crane Festival. The events, which occurred over multiple days and activities attracted over 1,000 participants and raised $25,000 towards the conservation initiative.
## 2018 Budget to Actual

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Matching Funds (Source)</th>
<th>Amount Requested (MBRWF)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program Implementation</td>
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<td>$5,000 (Private Funds)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Food Plot Payments</td>
<td>$25,000.00</td>
<td>$20,000 (IDFG) $5,000 (Grain for Cranes fundraising initiative)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Crane Festival Development</td>
<td>$20,000.00</td>
<td>$20,000 (Raised in sponsorships for festival)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Acquisition Pursuit</td>
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<td>$7,500 (Private Funds)</td>
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<td><strong>Total Project Cost</strong></td>
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<td><strong>$5,000.00</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### HOW THE RESULTS/CONCLUSIONS WILL BE COMMUNICATED TO THE PUBLIC AND RESEARCH COMMUNITY

The Land Trust is committed to highlighting this project and its overarching and long-term goals in a variety of mediums. Your foundation will be listed as a project supporter in project materials including printed materials and public presentations. We are currently in the process of compiling all data from 2018 to be presented in a 2018 Crane Project Report. Your gift will be listed in 2019 our Spring/Summer newsletter within the acknowledgement pages for 2018 donations. We’d love to visit more with you on what other acknowledgements we may provide to meet your goals.

### IN 2018 THIS PROJECT HELPED SUPPORT THE MISSION OF MBRWF IN THE FOLLOWING WAYS

The goal and activities of the Crane Project seek to maintain and enhance the largest pre-migration staging population of Sandhill Cranes in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. Because Sandhills nest and raise their young in relative proximity to where they stage, this project is in alignment with the mission of the Bert Raynes Wildlife Fund and helps maintain and sustain wildlife populations of Wyoming and the Jackson area into the future. A study by Drewien et al., 1987 demonstrated that Sandhill Cranes nesting in Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Park staged in the Teton Valley. This project includes population monitoring, habitat protection, development of critical forage resources, and outreach and education activities which is also in close alignment with the mission of the Fund. Further, this project incorporates aspects of science through our annual monitoring program, conservation permanently protecting private lands harboring critical habitat, and education to raise awareness about, and sustain an iconic umbrella species of the Greater Yellowstone, through the Annual Greater Yellowstone Festival. 2018 was the inaugural year. We had over 1,000 people from across the region and the country attend the festival.
GAME CAMERA IMAGES

CAMEA 6
03 SEP 2018 07:43 pm

CAMEA 6
31 AUG 2018 09:56 am

CAMEA 6
06 SEP 2018 02:17 pm