

- The Wyoming Game and Fish Department (WGFD) recently revised its State Wildlife Action Plan that provides a framework and information to assist in setting conservation priorities for the state's wildlife and habitats, including both terrestrial and aquatic. Data gathered for the revised State Wildlife Action Plan represents myriad sources and extensive public comment. Recognizing the benefits of sharing this information, the WGFD developed a web-based data viewer, the Wyoming Interagency Spatial Database Online Management System, or WISDOM. WISDOM is part of a west-wide initiative supported by the Western Governors' Association.
- WISDOM is a part of a much larger west-wide effort to develop a regional "Crucial Habitat Assessment Tool" (CHAT), an effort that has been endorsed by the Western Governors' Association. Each state is developing their version of a non-regulatory Crucial Habitat Assessment Tool. Total control of individual state data sets will be maintained by each state and each state version will contain components that will allow compilation of a regional viewer of wildlife resources in the western United States. A handful of states have rolled out their application, but most are still in the development phase. Wyoming will be prepared to roll out its version in summer of 2012, and all states should have a publicly accessible application by 2013 in addition to the west-wide compatible regional CHAT.
- The Wyoming Game and Fish Department has a statutory responsibility to serve as stewards of our state's wildlife resources by maintaining healthy wildlife populations. WISDOM will improve the delivery of the most current information about Wyoming's wildlife conservation potential.
- WISDOM is a user-friendly tool that will allow any interested individual to discover, consider, and assess Wyoming's wildlife resources. WISDOM has been developed in partnership with the Western Governors' Association, WY Geographic Information Science Center (WyGISC), WY Natural Diversity Database, The Nature Conservancy, WY Department of Environmental Quality, WY Office of State Lands and Investments, WY Department of Transportation, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, and the US Fish and Wildlife Service.
- WISDOM is intended to provide useful, landscape-level information during the early stages of project planning. It does not replace or supersede site specific analysis with appropriate agencies. WISDOM should be used in concert with all available data and expertise to ensure project plans address wildlife and habitat conservation at all levels.

- WISDOM is an easily accessible web-based delivery system for providing a set of natural resource data layers. This non-regulatory, landscape-level information allows a user to visually explore the distribution of important Wyoming wildlife habitat, identify wildlife migration corridors, identify potential stressors to wildlife, and other relevant data.
- WISDOM preserves the confidentiality of sensitive data sets. No private landowner information, including ownership boundaries are identified within the application. Land ownership is simply identified as federal, state, or private. Sensitive species data are generalized preventing a user from determining specific point locations. For example, point locations are not shown for sage grouse leks, raptor nests, or other sensitive species; instead that information is available as just presence or absence within a buffer distance from a project location (e.g. a sage grouse lek is within 4 miles of the project boundary), or in the case of Wyoming Natural Diversity Database data, it is only recognized as present within a given township. Agencies that house the actual data will continue to have access to site specific information.
- WISDOM is designed to be user-friendly and simple to use, so anyone can take advantage of best available information. As new or additional information becomes available, real time updates will be made to keep WISDOM current. Modifications will be made in the future if needed, based on user input to ensure this goal is met. Feedback and questions are welcome and may be submitted through WISDOM or emailed to wgfwisdomcomments@wyo.gov.
- Hands-on training will be held around the state. In addition, the WISDOM website includes a quick start tutorial, self-paced learning materials, and video tutorials.

