|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Region:** | Laramie |
| **Habitat Priority Area Name:** |  Encampment River Watershed |
| **Habitat Area Type (s):** | **[x]  Aquatic [ ]  Terrestrial [ ]  Combined**River, stream, floodplain, wetland, riparian, cottonwood, aspen, coniferous forest |
| **Habitat Issues:** | Irrigation diversion dams, research weirs, climate change, browsing pressure in riparian habitats, at-risk aspen communities, undersized road culverts which impede fish passage, and cumulative impacts from historic tie drives, channelization, land use activities, and mining. |
| **Reason Selected:** | Numerous habitat projects have occurred in the Encampment River Watershed over the past 5+ years including channel restoration below Riverside and fish passage projects (cobble push-up dam replacements and research weir removal). The watershed has become a focal point for habitat improvement activities supported by private landowners, WGFD, Trout Unlimited, and Saratoga-Encampment-Rawlins Conservation District, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Medicine Bow National Forest, and many others. |
| **Area Boundary Description:** | Level 5 HUC Basin (1018000205) – Encampment River (only Wyoming portion) |
| **Focal species or species assemblage(s) (limit 6):** **SWAP Tier 1 species:** |  Brown trout, rainbow troutboreal toad |
| **Solutions or actions:** | * Continue with channel restoration in the Lower Encampment River with landowner approval.
* Manage and restore beaver populations to improve riparian and stream habitat conditions.
* Manage wildlife populations so that aspen and riparian and upland shrub growth is not inhibited by excessive browsing.
* Promote aspen restoration activities.
* Seek opportunities to help reduce recreational impacts to wetland, riparian, and stream habitats.
* Promote livestock grazing management practices to maintain or restore riparian habitat function.
* Apply active stream and riparian rehabilitation techniques when necessary.
* Conduct watershed habitat assessments and collect river channel reference reach data.
* Promote and establish fish passage and screening solutions at irrigation diversions.
 |
| **Additional Information:** | A planning document for potential habitat projects the Lower Encampment River watershed was drafted by WGFD and Trout Unlimited for Wyoming Wildlife and Natural Resource Trust.  |
| **General land ownership and surface area:** |

|  |
| --- |
| BLM: 16,211 ac (13%), USFS: 71,773 ac (56%), State: 5,538 ac (4%), Private: 34,182 ac (27%), Water: 805 ac (1%), Total area: 128,509 ac |

 |