

SENATE FILE NO. SF0032

Recreation enhancement act of 2002.

Sponsored by: Joint Travel, Recreation, Wildlife and  
Cultural Resources Interim Committee

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to game and fish; authorizing certain  
2 activities related to the development and restoration of  
3 recreational areas; providing an appropriation; specifying  
4 legislative intent; requiring a report; and providing for  
5 an effective date.

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7 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

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9       **Section 1.** The legislature finds that a number of  
10 areas managed or potentially developed and managed by the  
11 game and fish commission are wastefully underutilized and  
12 should be rehabilitated or further developed to provide  
13 additional recreational opportunities for nonresidents and  
14 residents of the state. The intent of this act is to begin  
15 the process of rehabilitating and further developing such  
16 areas.

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**Section 2.**

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4 (a) The game and fish commission shall rehabilitate  
5 or further develop the areas specified in this section. In  
6 taking action pursuant to this act the commission shall  
7 consult with the Wyoming Business Council, regarding  
8 tourist related activities that might be promoted with the  
9 rehabilitation or further development of the designated  
10 areas. The commission shall also attempt to establish  
11 partnerships with public or private entities as deemed  
12 beneficial and economically efficient to the further  
13 development and rehabilitation of the designated areas.  
14 The areas to be initially rehabilitated or further  
15 developed under this act, in such manner as determined to  
16 be best by the commission are:

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18 (i) Yellowtail wildlife habitat management area:  
19 The rehabilitation may include modifying vegetation,  
20 rehabilitating and constructing levies, rehabilitating  
21 irrigation and water distribution systems and planting food  
22 plots desirable for upland game birds, turkeys, deer and  
23 nongame species;

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1           (ii) Northeast Wyoming fishing access: The  
2 development may include using excess coal bed methane water  
3 or other available water for the development of ponds and  
4 fish stocking to provide additional recreational  
5 opportunities;

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7           (iii) Grayrocks reservoir wildlife management  
8 area: The rehabilitation and further development may  
9 include additional camping facilities, a nature trail for  
10 wildlife viewing and hunting opportunities and associated  
11 facilities;

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13           (iv) Whiskey basin wildlife management area:  
14 Actions may include repair and upgrade of the conservation  
15 camp operated by the department and developing the camp for  
16 conservation education, training seminars and bighorn sheep  
17 and other wildlife viewing;

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19           (v) Saratoga lake public fishing and wetland  
20 area: Rehabilitation may include repair of the dam to  
21 enhance the longevity of the fishery. The wetlands area  
22 may be further developed to accommodate additional users.  
23 Additional facilities shall be developed as necessary.

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1           **Section 3.**     There is appropriated from the general  
2 fund to an earmarked account within the game and fish fund,  
3 one million two hundred thousand dollars (\$1,200,000.00) or  
4 as much thereof as is necessary for purposes of this act.  
5 The commission shall not expend more than thirty percent  
6 (30%) of this appropriation on any single area specified in  
7 section 2 of this act.

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9           **Section 4.**     The commission shall report to the joint  
10 travel, recreation, wildlife and cultural resources interim  
11 committee not later than September 1, 2002 regarding  
12 expenditures under this act.    The report shall contain a  
13 summary of plans for further action under this act and  
14 identification of additional development needs of the areas  
15 identified under section 2 of this act or other areas the  
16 commission deems appropriate as potential areas for  
17 enhanced recreational opportunities.

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19           **Section 5.**     This act is effective July 1, 2002.

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(END)