

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0111

Wolf management.

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

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to wolf management; providing for the
2 reclassification and management of gray wolves as
3 specified; and providing for an effective date.

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5 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:

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7 Section 1. W.S. 11-6-302(a)(x)(B)(I),
8 23-1-101(a)(viii)(B)(I) and (xii)(B)(I),
9 23-1-304(b)(intro), (i)(intro), (A), (ii), (c) and (d) and
10 23-3-115(c) are amended to read:

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12 11-6-302. Definitions.

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14 (a) As used in this article:

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16 (x) "Trophy game animal" means:

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(B) From and after the date gray wolves are removed from the list of experimental nonessential population, endangered species or threatened species in Wyoming as provided by W.S. 23-1-108:

(I) "Trophy game animal" shall include any gray wolf within those tracts of land within the boundaries of Wyoming designated as Yellowstone National Park, Grand Teton National Park, the John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Memorial Parkway, and ~~these~~ the Absaroka-Beartooth, North Absaroka, Washakie, Teton, Jedediah Smith, Winegar Hole and Gros Ventre federally designated wilderness areas contiguous to these national parks and this parkway as defined by the United States congress as of January 1, 2003; and

**23-1-101. Definitions of wildlife.**

(a) As used in this act:

(viii) "Predatory animal" means:

1 (B) Until the date gray wolves are removed  
2 from the list of experimental nonessential population,  
3 endangered species or threatened species in Wyoming as  
4 provided by W.S. 23-1-108, "predatory animal" includes  
5 wolves. After that date, "predatory animal" shall include  
6 any gray wolf not within an area of the state in which the  
7 gray wolf is:

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9 (I) Designated as a trophy game animal  
10 under subdivision (xii)(B)(I) of this subsection; or

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12 (xii) "Trophy game animal" means:

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14 (B) From and after the date gray wolves are  
15 removed from the list of experimental nonessential  
16 population, endangered species or threatened species in  
17 Wyoming as provided by W.S. 23-1-108:

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19 (I) "Trophy game animal" shall include  
20 any gray wolf within those tracts of land within the  
21 boundaries of Wyoming designated as Yellowstone National  
22 Park, Grand Teton National Park, the John D. Rockefeller,  
23 Jr. Memorial Parkway, and ~~those~~ the Absaroka-Beartooth,  
24 North Absaroka, Washakie, Teton, Jedediah Smith, Winegar

1 Hole and Gros Ventre federally designated wilderness areas  
2 contiguous to these national parks and this parkway as  
3 defined by the United States congress as of January 1,  
4 2003; and

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6 **23-1-304. Classification of gray wolves.**

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8 (b) The department shall provide to the commission at  
9 least a quarterly monitoring report on the number of gray  
10 wolf packs within this state and their general location.  
11 Within thirty (30) days of receiving ~~a~~the department  
12 quarterly monitoring report the commission shall at a  
13 public meeting:

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15 (i) Determine if there are ~~less than~~ seven (7)  
16 or less packs of gray wolves located in this state and  
17 primarily outside of Yellowstone National Park, Grand Teton  
18 National Park and John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Memorial Parkway  
19 ~~and less than~~or fifteen (15) or less packs within this  
20 state, including Yellowstone National Park, Grand Teton  
21 National Park and John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Memorial  
22 Parkway. If either such ~~a~~ determination is made:

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1 (A) The commission shall adopt rules and  
2 regulations to classify the gray wolf as a trophy game  
3 animal and ~~prohibit~~regulate the taking of gray wolves  
4 except as provided by W.S. 23-3-115(c), within that area of  
5 the state the commission determines is necessary to  
6 reasonably ensure that at the end of the current calendar  
7 year at least seven (7) packs of gray wolves are located in  
8 this state and primarily outside of Yellowstone National  
9 Park, Grand Teton National Park and John D. Rockefeller,  
10 Jr. Memorial Parkway, ~~at the end of the current calendar~~  
11 ~~year~~ and at least fifteen (15) packs of gray wolves are  
12 located in this state including those specified areas;  
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14 (ii) Maintain the classification of gray wolves  
15 as a predatory animal and trophy game animal as specified  
16 in W.S. 23-1-101(a)(viii) and (xii)(B)(I), if it determines  
17 there were ~~at least~~ more than seven (7) packs of gray  
18 wolves located in this state and primarily outside of  
19 Yellowstone National Park, Grand Teton National Park and  
20 John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Memorial Parkway ~~or at least~~ and  
21 more than fifteen (15) packs within this state, including  
22 Yellowstone National Park, Grand Teton National Park and  
23 John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Memorial Parkway as of the end of  
24 the preceding calendar quarter.

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2 (c) For purposes of this section "pack" means five  
3 (5) or more gray wolves ~~traveling together~~ that form a  
4 group in winter. If a group of gray wolves consists of  
5 more than ten (10) animals, ~~known to be traveling together,~~  
6 the commission may, at its discretion, recognize the number  
7 of packs within such a group to be equal to the number of  
8 reproductively mature females bearing young found within  
9 that group of wolves.

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11 (d) The department shall institute and maintain an  
12 active program of population monitoring statewide. In all  
13 areas of the state, ~~except where otherwise provided,~~ any  
14 person who ~~harvests~~ takes a wolf shall ~~notify~~ report the  
15 take and required information concerning the wolf to the  
16 department ~~where the harvest occurred within ten (10) days~~  
17 as provided by commission rule and regulation. Any  
18 information regarding the number or ~~nature~~ type of wolves  
19 legally ~~harvested~~ taken within the state of Wyoming shall  
20 only be released in its aggregate form and no information  
21 of a ~~private or confidential~~ personal nature shall be  
22 released without the written consent of the person to whom  
23 the information may refer. Information identifying any  
24 person legally ~~harvesting~~ taking a wolf within this state

1 is solely for the use of the department or appropriate law  
2 enforcement ~~offices~~ agencies and is not a public record for  
3 purposes of W.S. 16-4-201 through 16-4-205.

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5 **23-3-115. Taking black bear, mountain lion, gray**  
6 **wolf, bobcat, weasel, badger, squirrels or muskrat for**  
7 **damaging property.**

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9 (c) The provisions of subsection (a) of this section  
10 relating to the taking of animals doing damage to private  
11 property shall apply to gray wolves from and after the date  
12 gray wolves are removed from the list of experimental  
13 nonessential population, endangered species or threatened  
14 species in Wyoming as provided by W.S. 23-1-108. The owner,  
15 employee or lessee acting under authority of this section  
16 shall notify the department of the ~~killing~~ taking of a gray  
17 wolf within ~~an~~ any area of the state ~~in which the gray wolf~~  
18 ~~is classified as a trophy game animal. The notification~~  
19 ~~shall be made within ten (10) days of the kill unless the~~  
20 ~~gray wolf was taken in an area where wolves have been~~  
21 ~~classified as trophy game animals pursuant to W.S.~~  
22 ~~23-1-304(b)(i)(A) in which case the notification shall be~~  
23 ~~made within seventy-two (72) hours~~ as provided in W.S.  
24 23-1-304(d).

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2           **Section 2.**   This act is effective immediately upon  
3 completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law  
4 as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming  
5 Constitution.

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(END)