

HOUSE BILL NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Game and fish-funding.

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

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to game and fish; authorizing funding for  
2 certain programs; providing an appropriation; specifying  
3 legislative intent; requiring a report; and providing for  
4 an effective date.

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

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8       **Section 1.** The legislature finds that a number of  
9 programs managed by the game and fish commission are of  
10 benefit to the citizens of the state of Wyoming whether or  
11 not those citizens hunt and fish. Historically, funding  
12 for wildlife conservation has been almost totally dependent  
13 on user fees from hunters and anglers. The intent of this  
14 act is to provide general funding for programs managed by  
15 the game and fish commission that benefit the population in  
16 general.

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**Section 2.**

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(a) The game and fish commission shall maintain the programs specified in this section. The programs to be maintained under this act, in such manner as determined to be best by the commission are:

(i) Sensitive species programs: The programs include management of terrestrial native non-game species, aquatic native nongame species and trophy game conflict resolution;

(ii) Habitat programs: The programs include aquatic habitat management, habitat extension and terrestrial habitat management;

(iii) Conservation education programs: The programs include publications and education, excluding hunter education;

(iv) General programs: The programs include cost allocation which consists of costs that are a result of services provided to the commission by other entities in

1 state government as required by state law and costs for use  
2 of the state agency law enforcement communications system;

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4 (v) Sage grouse conservation: This program  
5 includes continued funding for sage grouse planning and  
6 protection;

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8 (vi) Veterinary services programs: This  
9 includes continued funding for brucellosis, chronic wasting  
10 disease and other disease management.

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12 **Section 3.** There is appropriated from the general  
13 fund to an earmarked account within the game and fish fund,  
14 seven million six hundred sixty thousand dollars  
15 (\$7,660,000.00) or as much thereof as is necessary for  
16 purposes of this act. The commission shall not expend more  
17 than fifty percent (50%) of this appropriation on any  
18 single program specified in section 2 of this act.

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20 **Section 4.** The commission shall report to the joint  
21 travel, recreation, wildlife and cultural resources interim  
22 committee not later than December 1, 2007 regarding  
23 expenditures under this act. The report shall contain a  
24 summary of expenditures for programs under this act and

1 identification of additional funding needs in the areas  
2 identified under section 2 of this act or other areas the  
3 commission deems appropriate as potential areas for general  
4 funding.

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6       **Section 5.** This act is effective July 1, 2007.

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(END)