

## HOUSE BILL NO. HB0213

Rangeland monitoring.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Jaggi, Blake, Davison, Petersen, Quarberg, Shepperson, Wallis and Zwonitzer, Dn. and Senator(s) Bebout, Cooper, Dockstader, Jennings and Vasey

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to conservation districts; authorizing  
 2 districts to enter into agreements with federal agencies to  
 3 participate in rangeland monitoring and development of  
 4 grazing operating plans; providing an appropriation; and  
 5 providing for 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.** W.S. 11-16-105(a) by creating a new  
 10 paragraph (vii) and 11-16-122(b) by creating a new  
 11 paragraph (xxviii) are amended to read:

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13       **11-16-105. State board of agriculture; duties**  
 14 **generally.**

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1 (a) The commission shall:

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(vii) Authorize and fund, to the extent funding is available, conservation districts to carry out duties authorized by W.S. 11-16-122(b)(xxviii). When more than one (1) district whose boundaries include lands within the jurisdiction of a Wyoming bureau of land management field office request such authorization, the commission may designate a lead district to carry out such duties in cooperation with all other affected districts.

**11-16-122. Powers and duties of districts and supervisors thereof generally.**

(b) A conservation district organized under this act and the supervisors thereof, in addition to other powers granted by this act, may:

(xxviii) Enter into agreements with one (1) or more Wyoming bureau of land management field offices and national forest service offices under the district's cooperating agency authority to:

1                   (A) Conduct rangeland monitoring on lands  
2 within bureau of land management grazing allotments and  
3 national forest grazing allotments. Monitoring shall be  
4 conducted in cooperation with grazing permit holders and  
5 lessees and federal agency personnel;

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7                   (B) Participate in the development of  
8 livestock grazing operating plans, permit renewals and  
9 transfers and resource plans to assure that such plans and  
10 permits are based upon and supported by credible monitoring  
11 data;

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13                   (C) Provide office space for range  
14 professionals employed by or contracted for by the district  
15 in the most appropriate bureau of land management field  
16 office or national forest service office.

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18           **Section 2.** There is appropriated eight hundred  
19 eighty-three thousand dollars (\$883,000.00) from the  
20 general fund to the department of agriculture. This  
21 appropriation shall be for the period beginning with the  
22 effective date of this act and ending July 1, 2010. This  
23 appropriation shall only be expended for the purposes of  
24 this act. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, this

1 appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any  
2 other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds  
3 remaining from this appropriation shall revert as provided  
4 by law on July 1, 2010. This appropriation shall be  
5 included in the department of agriculture's 2011-2012  
6 standard biennial budget request.

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8       **Section 3.** This act is effective July 1, 2009.

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(END)