

SENATE FILE NO. SF0056

Study on management of public lands.

Sponsored by: Select Federal Natural Resource Management
Committee

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to public lands; providing that the office
2 of state lands and investments shall commission a study and
3 provide a report addressing management of public lands in
4 Wyoming by the state of Wyoming as specified; specifying
5 what the study shall not include; providing an
6 appropriation; and providing for an effective date.

7

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

9

10 **Section 1.**

11

12 (a) The office of state lands and investments shall
13 commission a study to address the management of specified
14 federally administered public lands in the state of Wyoming
15 by the state of Wyoming.

1

2 (b) The study shall include:

3

4 (i) An identification of the public lands to be
5 managed and the interests, rights and uses associated with
6 those lands;

7

8 (ii) The development of a proposed plan for the
9 administration, management and use of the public lands
10 under the principle of multiple use and sustained yield
11 that includes, but is not limited to, a pledge to maintain
12 public access to the lands for hunting, fishing and
13 recreation subject to closure for special circumstances
14 including public safety and environmental sensitivity;

15

16 (iii) An economic analysis concerning the
17 management of the public lands, including but not limited
18 to:

19

20 (A) The identification of the costs
21 directly incident to the management of those lands;

22

1 (B) A comparison of the likely costs for
2 the state of Wyoming to manage the identified land and the
3 costs incurred by the federal government to manage those
4 same lands;

5
6 (C) The identification of sources of
7 revenue to pay for the administration and maintenance of
8 those lands by the state of Wyoming, including appropriate
9 fees to charge the federal government for management of the
10 specified lands;

11
12 (D) A determination of the amount of any
13 revenue that is currently received by the state of Wyoming
14 or political subdivision thereof in connection with those
15 lands, including but not limited to, any payments made in
16 lieu of taxes and mineral royalties and leases;

17
18 (E) The identification of any potential
19 revenue which may be received from those lands by the state
20 of Wyoming after the management of the lands by the state
21 of Wyoming and recommendations for the distribution of
22 those revenues;

23

1 (F) A consideration of other relevant
2 federal actions or policies determined to impact revenues
3 to the state of Wyoming due to federally managed lands.

4

5 (c) The study shall not include consideration of
6 management by the state of Wyoming of current
7 congressionally designated wilderness areas, national
8 conservation areas or lands currently administered by the
9 department of energy, department of defense or the
10 department of interior's Bureau of Indian Affairs, United
11 States fish and wildlife service or national park service.

12

13 (d) The office of state lands and investments may
14 engage the services of research or consulting firms as
15 necessary to carry out the purposes of this act. The
16 office of state lands and investments shall consult with
17 the attorney general's office, the governor's office and
18 county commissioners in developing the study pursuant to
19 this act.

20

21 (e) The office of state lands and investments shall
22 regularly provide updates on the study to the select
23 federal natural resource management committee. The office

1 of state lands and investments shall submit a final report
2 to the select federal natural resource management committee
3 no later than November 30, 2016. The final report shall
4 include the study results and recommendations with respect
5 to the issues specified in subsection (b) of this section.
6 The select federal natural resource management committee
7 shall consider the recommendations and develop legislation
8 it deems appropriate for consideration by the legislature.

9

10 **Section 2.** There is appropriated one hundred thousand
11 dollars (\$100,000.00) from the general fund to the office
12 of state lands and investments. This appropriation shall
13 only be expended for the purpose of commissioning a study
14 and hiring consultants to assist in the study pursuant to
15 this act. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, this
16 appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any
17 other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds
18 remaining from this appropriation shall revert on June 30,
19 2017.

20

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

5

6

(END)