

## HOUSE BILL NO. HB0122

Hunting and fishing access-reliable funding.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Western, Clausen, Larsen  
and Walters and Senator(s) Baldwin

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to game and fish; increasing conservation  
2 stamp fees; establishing a new account within the game and  
3 fish fund; depositing fee increases as specified;  
4 authorizing expenditure of fee as specified; imposing game  
5 and fish commission reporting requirements on specified  
6 account expenditures; and providing for an effective date.

7

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

9

10 **Section 1.** W.S. 23-1-501 by creating a new subsection  
11 (h) and 23-2-306(a)(intro) and by creating a new subsection  
12 (e) are amended to read:

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14 **23-1-501. Game and fish fund.**

15

1       (h) An account within the game and fish fund is  
2 created. The portion of the revenues collected as specified  
3 under W.S. 23-2-306(e) shall be deposited into the account.  
4 Revenues deposited in the account created under this  
5 subsection are continuously appropriated to the commission  
6 and all earnings on funds in the account shall remain in  
7 the account. The commission shall use revenues in the  
8 account only as specified in this subsection and subject to  
9 the following requirements:

10  
11       (i) Of the revenues collected, not less than  
12 eighty-five percent (85%) shall be used by the commission  
13 for the purchase of access easements or for other  
14 agreements to provide public access to federal and state  
15 and school trust lands within the state that are difficult  
16 to access or inaccessible by the public for hunting and  
17 fishing purposes. The commission shall notify the  
18 appropriate boards of county commissioners in writing  
19 before purchasing any access easements or entering into any  
20 agreements under this paragraph and shall hold public  
21 hearings at the request of any board of county commissions;

22

1           (ii) Of the revenues collected, not greater than  
2 fifteen percent (15%) shall be used to provide for wildlife  
3 conservation efforts related to the transportation system,  
4 including signage, wildlife corridors, wildlife crossings,  
5 fish passages and game fences;

6  
7           (iii) As part of the annual report required  
8 under subsection (e) of this section, the commission shall  
9 report to the legislature on all expenditures pursuant to  
10 this subsection during the preceding fiscal year.

11  
12           **23-2-306. Conservation stamp; exemptions.**

13  
14           (a) Subject to subsections (b), (c) and (d) of this  
15 section and the applicable fee under W.S. 23-1-701, each  
16 sportsman licensed under W.S. 23-2-101, 23-2-107 or  
17 23-2-201 shall purchase a single conservation stamp for  
18 ~~twelve dollars (\$12.00)~~ twenty-one dollars (\$21.00) which  
19 shall be valid for the time period specified in commission  
20 rules not to exceed twelve (12) months. The stamp or an  
21 authorization signifying purchase of the stamp shall be in  
22 the possession of any person exercising rights under any  
23 fishing or hunting license issued pursuant to W.S.

1 23-2-101, 23-2-107 or 23-2-201. Holders of special limited  
2 fishing permits issued under W.S. 23-2-207 and holders of  
3 licenses only under W.S. 23-1-302(q), 23-2-101(j)(v) and  
4 (vi), 23-2-201(d)(vi), (vii) and (ix), 23-2-201(f) and  
5 23-2-201(g) are exempt from the provisions of this section  
6 when exercising hunting or fishing privileges provided  
7 under those specific licenses. Except as provided in  
8 subsection (e) of this section, revenues collected from the  
9 sale of each stamp under this subsection shall be deposited  
10 as follows:

11

12 (e) Of the twenty-one dollars (\$21.00) collected  
13 under subsection (a) of this section, nine dollars (\$9.00)  
14 collected from the sale of each stamp shall be deposited  
15 into the account created under W.S. 23-1-501(h).

16

17 **Section 2.** This act is effective July 1, 2021.

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19

(END)