

SENATE FILE NO. SF0097

Wyoming's wildlife.

Sponsored by: Senator(s) Roberts and Representative(s) Cooper, Luthi and Olsen

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to wildlife; asserting the state's
2 exclusive jurisdiction over wildlife; prohibiting
3 activities in conflict with that exclusive jurisdiction;
4 imposing specified duties upon the game and fish commission
5 pertaining to wildlife introduced within this state; and
6 providing for an effective date.

7

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

9

10 **Section 1.** W.S. 23-1-302 by creating new subsections
11 (m) and (n) is amended to read:

12

13 **23-1-302. Powers and duties.**

14

15 (m) For purposes of mitigating detrimental impacts to
16 Wyoming from the introduction of any wildlife species

1 including endangered species, which have been or may be
2 introduced, planted or propagated in this state by any
3 person, including any federal agency, the commission shall:
4

5 (i) Prohibit by rule any such introduction,
6 reintroduction, propagation or management of any wildlife
7 species within the boundaries of Wyoming by any person,
8 including any federal agency, other than the department;
9

10 (ii) Demand reimbursement from the federal
11 government and seek compensation by all means available for
12 damages to Wyoming wildlife and wildlife habitat caused by
13 any species, including endangered species, introduced
14 within Wyoming under federal mandate or programs;
15

16 (iii) Except for damages qualifying under W.S.
17 23-1-901, assist any landowner, lessee, outfitter or agent
18 whose property or livelihood is being damaged by any
19 endangered species introduced within Wyoming under federal
20 mandate or programs, in seeking reimbursement and other
21 assistance from the federal government;
22

1 (iv) On behalf of Wyoming, require and demand
2 the removal of such species introduced within Wyoming by
3 the federal government.

4
5 (n) For purposes of proper management of all wildlife
6 species within Wyoming, the commission shall:

7
8 (i) Notify all federal agencies operating within
9 Wyoming, whose duties directly affect wildlife, public
10 lands or the environment, that Wyoming has sole
11 jurisdiction over any and all wildlife existing within
12 Wyoming and will exercise exclusive management of all
13 wildlife;

14
15 (ii) Notify all federal agencies that Wyoming
16 specifically prohibits any officer or employee of any
17 federal agency from attempting to manage wildlife or from
18 interfering with wildlife management by the department;

19
20 (iii) Notify all county sheriffs in Wyoming that
21 any and all wildlife violations are to be investigated by
22 department personnel and Wyoming law enforcement officers
23 and not by any federal agency official.

24

1 **Section 2.** 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)