

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0126

Public land access.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Laursen, Allen, Halverson,
Jennings, Kroeker, McKim and Miller

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 on restrictions of access to public lands
4 in Wyoming as specified; providing an appropriation; and
5 providing for an effective date.

6

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

8

9 **Section 1.**

10

11 (a) The office of state lands and investments shall
12 commission a study to determine the amount of access to
13 public lands and the number of roads and trails on public
14 lands in the state of Wyoming which have been blocked or

1 restricted by any federal agency or action of the federal
2 government since 1976.

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4 (b) The study shall include:

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6 (i) An identification and description of all
7 public lands in Wyoming as of 1976 through the effective
8 date of this act;

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10 (ii) An identification of roads, trails or other
11 access to public lands that has been blocked or restricted
12 in Wyoming by any federal agency or action of the federal
13 government since 1976;

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15 (iii) A compilation of the reasons for blocking
16 or restricting roads, trails or other access to public
17 lands in Wyoming including any relevant federal laws,
18 regulations, orders or federal judicial decisions;

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20 (iv) A comparison of topographical maps from
21 prior to 1976 and current maps;

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1 (v) A comprehensive review of other sources of
2 data related to restrictions on access to public lands in
3 Wyoming including local newspapers and state and federal
4 agencies;

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6 (vi) A survey of county commissions on
7 information related to restrictions on access to public
8 lands in their county since 1976.

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10 (c) The office of state lands and investments may
11 engage the services of research or consulting firms as
12 necessary to carry out the purposes of this act.

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14 (d) The office of state lands and investments shall
15 submit a final report to the select federal natural
16 resource management committee no later than November 30,
17 2017. The final report shall include the items specified in
18 subsection (b) of this section and any other information
19 related to restrictions on access to public lands in
20 Wyoming since 1976. The select federal natural resource
21 management committee shall consider the report and develop
22 any legislation it deems appropriate for consideration by
23 the legislature.

1

2 **Section 2.** There is appropriated one hundred thousand
3 dollars (\$100,000.00) from the general fund to the office
4 of state lands and investments. This appropriation shall
5 only be expended for the purpose of conducting the study
6 and hiring consultants to assist in the study required by
7 this act. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, this
8 appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any
9 other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds
10 remaining from this appropriation shall revert on June 30,
11 2018.

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

17

18

(END)