

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0054

Federal natural resource policy account-amendments.

Sponsored by: Select Federal Natural Resource Management
Committee

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to the federal natural resource policy
2 account; authorizing expenditure of funds in the account as
3 specified; providing an appropriation; and providing for an
4 effective date.

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

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8 **Section 1.** W.S. 9-4-218(a)(intro) and by creating a new
9 paragraph (viii) is amended to read:

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11 **9-4-218. Federal natural resource policy account**
12 **created; purposes.**

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14 (a) There is created an account known as the "federal
15 natural resource policy account." Funds within the account

1 may be expended by the governor on behalf of the state of
2 Wyoming and its local governments, to take any of the actions
3 specified in this subsection ~~in response~~ related to federal
4 land, water, air, mineral and other natural resource policies
5 which may affect the tax base of the state, wildlife
6 management, state species, recreation, private property
7 rights, water rights or leasehold rights. Funds also may be
8 expended for preparing and participating in environmental
9 impact statements and environmental assessments, including
10 analysis of economic or social and natural or physical
11 environmental effects on the human environment. Funds also
12 may be expended for coordinating and participating in
13 rangeland health assessments pursuant to W.S. 11-2-207. The
14 governor may expend funds from the federal natural resource
15 policy account for:

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17 (viii) Development and revision of comprehensive
18 natural resource management plans prepared by counties.
19 Plans funded pursuant to this paragraph shall:

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21 (A) Identify objectives and priorities for
22 the use, development and protection of natural resources and
23 land in Wyoming;

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(B) Be based on criteria established by the governor's office in consultation with the counties and consistently applied in each comprehensive natural resource management plan;

(C) Serve as a basis for communicating and coordinating with the federal government and its agencies on land and natural resource management issues.

Section 2. There is appropriated one million one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$1,150,000.00) from the general fund to the federal natural resource policy account created in W.S. 9-4-218(a). The governor shall only expend this appropriation for development and revision of comprehensive natural resource management plans pursuant to W.S. 9-4-218(a)(viii) provided that for the period beginning with the effective date of this act and ending June 30, 2020, not more than fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) shall be granted to or expended for any one (1) county in Wyoming. On and after July 1, 2020, the governor may grant or expend the unexpended, unobligated and uncommitted funds remaining from this appropriation for development and revision of

1 comprehensive natural resource management plans for any
2 county or counties. Notwithstanding W.S. 9-4-218(b) or any
3 other provision of law, these funds shall not be transferred
4 or expended for any other purpose and any unexpended,
5 unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation shall
6 revert to the general fund on June 30, 2022.

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8 **Section 3.** This act is effective July 1, 2019.

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(END)