

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0017

Range management at military training areas.

Sponsored by: Joint Transportation, Highways & Military
Affairs Interim Committee

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to the military department; creating a fund
2 for the deposit of monies from grazing fees at military
3 training areas; authorizing the adjutant general to
4 administer the fund and expend monies for range management
5 and grazing operations; requiring annual reports; providing
6 for a continuous appropriation; providing for an
7 appropriation; and providing for an effective date.

8

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

10

11 **Section 1.** W.S. 19-7-209 is created to read:

12

13 **19-7-209. Military department range management**
14 **operations; account; administration; rulemaking.**

15

1 (a) There is created the military department range
2 management and grazing program. The military department
3 shall administer range management and grazing operations at
4 Camp Guernsey and any other Wyoming national guard training
5 areas that are owned in fee by the military department and
6 that are not state lands as defined in W.S.
7 36-1-101(a)(iv). The military department range management
8 and grazing program shall:

9

10 (i) Conduct the day to day range management and
11 grazing operations within the training area;

12

13 (ii) Ensure the safety of customers, users,
14 grazers and property;

15

16 (iii) Arrange for personnel and materials for
17 the management, installation, construction, maintenance and
18 repair of fencing, vegetation, roads, water storage, fire
19 mitigation and other related facilities and range
20 management activities;

21

22 (iv) Calculate animal unit grazing usage and
23 needs and determine forage use plans;

1

2 (v) Manage lessee and neighbor matters;

3

4 (vi) Conduct required cultural and environmental
5 assessments.

6

7 (b) The military department range management and
8 grazing account is created. Monies received from the range
9 management and grazing operations authorized in subsection
10 (a) of this section shall be credited to the account,
11 except as otherwise provided in this subsection. Funds in
12 the military department range management and grazing
13 account are continuously appropriated to the military
14 department and shall only be used for purposes of this
15 section. The state treasurer shall invest monies received
16 under this paragraph in accordance with law and the
17 investment earnings received therefrom shall be deposited
18 into the military department range management operations
19 account. From the monies received from the operations
20 authorized in subsection (a) of this section, any amount in
21 excess of three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000.00) in
22 the account at the end of each fiscal biennium shall be
23 deposited into the general fund.

1

2 (c) The military department shall promulgate rules to
3 administer this section.

4

5 (d) The adjutant general shall report annually by
6 October 15 to the joint transportation, highways and
7 military affairs interim committee regarding all income to
8 and expenditures from the military department range
9 management operations account.

10

11 **Section 2.**

12

13 (a) The adjutant general is authorized to hire not
14 more than three (3) at-will contract employee positions to
15 administer the program created in section 1 of this act.
16 Funds to pay all costs related to these positions shall be
17 available for expenditure only from the military department
18 range management and grazing account created in section 1
19 of this act, except as provided in this section.

20

21 (b) There is appropriated three hundred thousand
22 dollars (\$300,000.00) from the general fund to the military
23 department for purposes of establishing the military

1 department range management program created in section 1 of
2 this act. This appropriation shall be for the period
3 beginning with the effective date of this act and ending
4 June 30, 2022. This appropriation shall not be transferred
5 or expended for any other purpose and any unexpended,
6 unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation shall
7 revert as provided by law on June 30, 2022.

8

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

13

14

(END)