

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0053

Invasive plant species.

Sponsored by: Joint Agriculture, State and Public Lands &
Water Resources Interim Committee

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to agriculture; creating duties for the
2 Wyoming weed and pest council related to the management and
3 control of invasive species; implementing recommendations
4 from the Governor's Invasive Species Initiative; providing
5 rulemaking authority; and providing for effective dates.

6

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

8

9 **Section 1.** W.S. 11-5-120 is created to read:

10

11 **11-5-120. Wyoming weed and pest council duties.**

12

13 (a) In addition to other duties prescribed by law,
14 the Wyoming weed and pest council shall aid county weed and
15 pest control districts in creating, managing and enhancing

1 a coordinated and comprehensive invasive plant species
2 control programs by:

3

4 (i) Developing and implementing data systems to
5 support each district in making invasive plant species
6 control decisions informed by accurate, timely data, local
7 experts, cultural practices and best available science;

8

9 (ii) Coordinating with the University of Wyoming
10 and community colleges to assess, to the extent
11 practicable, the impacts that invasive plant species can
12 have on socio-ecological systems. As used in this
13 paragraph, "socio-ecological system" means a dynamic system
14 encompassing interactions between people and nature within
15 a defined geographical area;

16

17 (iii) Coordinating with the University of
18 Wyoming, community colleges and government agencies to
19 support and expand outreach and provide applied research on
20 the best use of existing tools to control invasive plant
21 species and the development of new invasive plant species
22 management methods;

23

1 (iv) Working with federal partners to reduce
2 barriers to timely, effective invasive plant species
3 management on federal lands and adjoining nonfederal lands;
4

5 (v) On a biennial basis, report to the joint
6 agriculture, state and public lands and water resources
7 interim committee on the status of current funding models,
8 existing or new funding challenges and opportunities to
9 improve funding for designated or declared invasive plant
10 species;
11

12 (vi) Encouraging and incentivizing cooperative,
13 landscape-scale projects to control invasive plant species
14 that include multi-jurisdictional partnerships with clear,
15 long-term strategies;
16

17 (vii) Coordinating with other state and federal
18 agencies to increase public awareness of the challenges
19 presented by invasive plant species and to encourage
20 prevention and mitigation practices.
21

22 (b) The Wyoming weed and pest council may, with the
23 approval of the majority of the board, adopt and publish

1 rules in accordance with the Wyoming Administrative
2 Procedure Act, W.S. 16-3-101 et seq. to carry out the
3 purposes of this act.

4

5 **Section 2.** W.S. 11-5-102(a)(xxiv), 11-5-105(a) by
6 creating a new paragraph (ix) and 11-5-303(c)(v), (d)(iii)
7 and (g)(intro) are amended to read:

8

9 **11-5-102. Definitions.**

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11 (a) As used in this act:

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13 (xxiv) "This act" means W.S. 11-5-101 through
14 ~~11-5-119~~ 11-5-120.

15

16 **11-5-105. Duties; powers; supervisor compensation.**

17

18 (a) The district board shall:

19

20 (ix) Share data with the Wyoming weed and pest
21 council and take other actions to support the coordinated
22 and comprehensive invasive plant species control authorized
23 in W.S. 11-5-120.

1

2 **11-5-303. Program components; funding; rulemaking**
3 **authority; penalties.**

4

5 (c) Any district which implements a special
6 management program under this article shall:

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8 (v) ~~At least ten (10) days before~~ Upon final
9 approval of the program by the district board, supervisors,
10 ~~publish~~ notice shall be given to the public in at least one
11 ~~(1) newspaper of general circulation within the county~~
12 describing the special management program, ~~listing the~~
13 ~~participating landowners~~ and ~~stating the approximate~~
14 approximating the cost of the program.

15

16 (d) Programs under this article shall be funded as
17 follows:

18

19 (iii) State or federal agencies owning lands or
20 administering lands, which are untaxed for the purposes of
21 this act, shall contribute to the total cost of the
22 ~~treatment~~ special management program; ~~on those lands;~~

23

