

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0036

Natural Resource Protection Act.

Sponsored by: Select Federal Natural Resource Management Committee

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to protection of constitutional rights;  
2 providing a declaration of authority and policy;  
3 prohibiting the enforcement of federal rules or regulations  
4 regarding federal land management as specified; providing  
5 an exception; and providing for an effective date.

6

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

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9 **Section 1.** W.S. 9-14-301 through 9-14-303 are created  
10 to read:

11

ARTICLE 3

12

NATURAL RESOURCE PROTECTION ACT

13

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15 **9-14-301. Short title.**

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2 This article shall be known and may be cited as the  
3 "Natural Resource Protection Act."

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5 **9-14-302. Declaration of authority and policy.**

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7 (a) The Natural Resource Protection Act is enacted  
8 under the authority of the tenth amendment to the United  
9 States constitution and Wyoming's agreement with the United  
10 States that the state adopted when it joined the union  
11 under the United States constitution's system of dual  
12 sovereignty.

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14 (b) The legislature finds and declares:

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16 (i) The federal government shall comply with  
17 federal law when administering federal lands;

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19 (ii) The federal government arbitrarily  
20 restricting significant amounts of federal lands from  
21 public use is contrary to managing federal land under  
22 principles of multiple use and sustained yield;

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1           (iii) Any failure by the federal government to  
2 abide by the law undermines the rule of law that is vital  
3 to our system of government.

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5           **9-14-303. Prohibiting the enforcement of federal**  
6 **regulation regarding federal land management; penalty.**

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8           (a) Upon a determination by the governor, with advice  
9 from the attorney general, that an executive order, final  
10 rule or regulation of the federal government does not  
11 comply with federal laws regarding federal land management  
12 and upon providing notice, this state and all political  
13 subdivisions of this state shall not use any personnel,  
14 funds appropriated by the legislature or any other source  
15 of funds that originate within the state of Wyoming to  
16 enforce or administer that federal executive order, final  
17 rule or regulation. The governor shall not revoke a valid  
18 primacy agreement with a federal agency over the regulation  
19 and enforcement of a federal law or program until a court  
20 of competent jurisdiction determines the federal executive  
21 order, final rule or regulation is unlawful.

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1           (b) Nothing in this act shall limit or restrict a  
2 public officer, as defined by W.S. 6-5-101(a)(v), from  
3 providing assistance to federal authorities for purposes  
4 not specifically identified in subsection (a) of this  
5 section. Nothing in this act shall be construed to prohibit  
6 any governmental entity from accepting federal funds for  
7 law enforcement purposes.

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9           **Section 2.** This act is effective July 1, 2024.

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(END)