

[BUDGET(s) AFFECTED]

Section Under Consideration:

Section 346. [NATURAL DISASTER MITIGATION LOANS]

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1 Delete the Haroldson second reading amendment (HB0001H2013/A) and
2 the Provenza second reading amendment
3 (HB0001H2035/A) entirely and further amend as
4 follows:

5
6 Page 1-line 9 Delete "loans and loan repayments;" and insert
7 "grants; creating a steering committee;"

8
9 Page 76-line 4 Delete "LOANS" and insert "GRANTS".

10
11 Page 76-lines 8 through 26 Delete entirely.

12
13 Pages 77 and 78 Delete entirely.

14
15 Page 79-line 1 through 10 Delete entirely and insert the
16 following:

17
18 "(a) There is appropriated from the legislative stabilization
19 reserve account the amounts specified in this subsection to the
20 Wyoming wildlife and natural resource trust income account for
21 mitigation and restoration projects needed as a result of the
22 wildfires that occurred within the state of Wyoming in calendar
23 year 2024. Notwithstanding the Wyoming Wildlife and Natural
24 Resource Funding Act, amounts appropriated in this section shall
25 not be subject to the grant process or other requirements specified
26 in the Wyoming Wildlife and Natural Resource Funding Act. Following
27 review and recommendation by the steering committee created in
28 subsection (b) of this section, the following amounts are for
29 grants and expenditures approved by the executive director of the
30 Wyoming wildlife and natural resource trust account board:

31
32 (i) One hundred million dollars (\$100,000,000.00) for
33 purposes of restoring grass and vegetation destroyed by wildfires
34 on private and state lands, preventing the establishment of
35 nonnative invasive terrestrial vegetation on private and state
36 lands affected by wildfires, replacing and restoring habitats

1 destroyed by wildfires on private and state lands and restoring
2 lost public infrastructure;

3
4 (ii) Ten million dollars (\$10,000,000.00) for projects
5 to restore watershed health and infrastructure for municipal,
6 community and county water supplies.

7
8 (b) There is created a steering committee, which shall
9 terminate on December 31, 2026, to consist of the following
10 members:

11
12 (i) One (1) member of the Wyoming house of
13 representatives, appointed by the speaker of the house;

14
15 (ii) One (1) member of the Wyoming senate, appointed by
16 the president of the senate;

17
18 (ii) The executive director of the Wyoming wildlife and
19 natural resource trust account board, who shall be the chairman of
20 the steering committee; and

21
22 (iii) Not to exceed six (6) members appointed by the
23 governor representing or having expertise in, but not limited to,
24 the Wyoming office of the governor, the Wyoming game and fish
25 department, the weed and pest control division of the Wyoming
26 department of agriculture, the agricultural extension services of
27 the University of Wyoming, Wyoming county commissioners and the
28 agricultural industry.

29
30 (c) The steering committee created in subsection (b) of this
31 section shall:

32
33 (i) Establish a process to accept and review
34 applications for grants and expenditures from funds appropriated
35 in subsection (a) of this section;

36
37 (ii) Develop grant and expenditure eligibility criteria
38 for receipt of funds appropriated in subsection (a) of this
39 section; and

40
41 (iii) Make recommendations to the executive director of
42 the Wyoming wildlife and natural resource trust account board for
43 grants and expenditures from funds appropriated in subsection (a)
44 of this section.

1 (d) Any proposed grant or expenditure of funds appropriated
2 in subsection (a) of this section shall be subject to the following
3 requirements:

4
5 (i) The proposed grant or expenditure shall be reviewed
6 by the attorney general, who shall determine whether the grant or
7 expenditure provides a substantial public benefit and constitutes
8 a lawful use of funds; and

9
10 (ii) The executive director of the Wyoming wildlife and
11 natural resource trust account board may impose conditions on his
12 approval of any grant or expenditure, including a requirement for
13 consideration from the recipient or beneficiary thereof.

14
15 (e) There is appropriated twelve thousand five hundred
16 dollars (\$12,500.00) from the general fund to the legislative
17 service office for purposes of providing salary, mileage and per
18 diem to the legislative members of the steering committee appointed
19 under subsection (b) of this section. Payments shall be made in
20 the manner and amount provided by W.S. 28-5-101 for conducting
21 official business of the steering committee.

22
23 (f) From amounts appropriated under subsection (a) of this
24 section, there shall be paid per diem and mileage to the non-
25 legislative members and nonstate employee members of the steering
26 committee appointed under subsection (b) of this section. Payments
27 shall be made in the amount provided for members of the legislature
28 by W.S. 28-5-101 for conducting the official business of the
29 steering committee. The members of the steering committee
30 representing Wyoming state government shall be considered to be
31 acting within the scope of regular employment when conducting the
32 official business of the steering committee and shall receive their
33 regular pay without additional compensation.

34
35 (g) Appropriations in this section shall not be transferred
36 or expended for any other purpose. Notwithstanding W.S. 9-2-1008
37 and 9-4-207, any unexpended, unobligated funds appropriated in
38 this section shall not revert until June 30, 2027." . LARSEN, L,
39 CONNOLLY, DAVIS, EKLUND