HOUSE BILL NO. HB0182

State heritage lands-protection and revenue.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Campbell, K

A BILL

for

1   AN ACT relating to state lands; authorizing the board of

2   land commissioners to designate state land as a state

3   heritage site; providing a process for the nomination and

4   review of state land for designation as a state heritage

5   site; providing definitions; nominating the Glenrock

6   buffalo jump for designation as a state heritage site; and

7   providing for an effective date.

8

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

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11   **Section 1.** W.S. 36-1-122 is created to read:

12

13   **36-1-122. Designation of land as a state heritage**

14 **site.**

15

1   (a) When the designation is consistent with the

2   greatest long-term benefit of the state land trust

3   beneficiaries, the board may designate specific parcels of

4   state land as a state heritage site if the board finds that

5   the land possesses exceptional archeological, historical or

6   cultural value that would be irreparably degraded by

7   industrial use on the land.

8

9   (b) The board may consider state lands for

10 designation as a state heritage site under this section on

11 its own motion. In addition, any citizen of Wyoming, the

12 legislature, any local government entity, a tribal

13 government of either the Northern Arapaho or Eastern

14 Shoshone tribes or the state archeologist may nominate

15 lands for designation as a state heritage site under this

16 section by making an application to the department of state

17 parks and cultural resources. The department of state parks

18 and cultural resources shall review any state lands

19 nominated for designation as a state heritage site under

20 this subsection and shall provide a recommendation to the

21 board after consultation with the Wyoming parks and

22 cultural resources commission and the state historic

23 preservation office.

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2   (c) Any lands designated by the board as a state

3   heritage site, after consideration of any recommendation

4   under subsection (b) of this section, shall be subject to

5   the following:

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7   (i) The board shall not authorize any industrial

8   use on the state heritage site or on any surrounding lands

9   that significantly impairs the visual integrity or

10 archaeological, historical or cultural value of the site;

11

12   (ii) The board shall consider the issuance of

13 leases of the state heritage site for the greatest benefit

14 to trust beneficiaries, including leases for:

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16   (A) Educational and research programs;

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18   (B) Sustainable tourism related activities,

19 including guided tours of the state heritage site;

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21   (C) Recreational use that the board finds

22 will not deplete, destroy or permanently alter the state

23 heritage site.

1

2   **Section 2.** W.S. 36-1-101(a) by creating a new

3   paragraph (ix) and 36-4-104 by creating a new subsection

4   (g) are amended to read:

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6   **36-1-101. Definitions.**

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8   (a) Unless the context indicates otherwise, as used

9   in this act:

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11   (ix) "Greatest benefit" or "greatest long-term

12   benefit" shall include a consideration of the long-term

13   protection of the financial and intrinsic value of the

14   land. For any land designated as a state heritage site,

15   "greatest benefit" shall include a consideration of the

16   need to mitigate any depletion or alteration of the state

17   heritage site.

18

19   **36-4-104. Powers; interpretive service agreements.**

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21   (g) The department, in consultation with the

22   commission and the state historic preservation office,

23   shall accept applications for designation of state lands as

1   a state heritage site and shall make recommendations to the

2   board of land commissioners as provided by W.S.

3   36-1-122(b).

4

5   **Section 3.** The legislature hereby nominates the

6   Glenrock buffalo jump as described in the national register

7   of historic places for designation as a state heritage site

8   under W.S. 36-1-122 as created by section 1 of this act.

9

10   **Section 4.** This act is effective July 1, 2026.

11

12   (END)