

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0111

Wolf management.

Sponsored by: Joint Travel, Recreation, Wildlife and  
Cultural Resources Interim Committee

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to wolf management; providing for the  
2 reclassification and management of gray wolves as  
3 specified; and providing for an effective date.

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

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7 **Section 1.** W.S. 11-6-302 (a) (x) (B) (I),  
8 23-1-101 (a) (viii) (B) (I) and (xii) (B) (I),  
9 23-1-304 (b) (intro), (i) (intro), (A), (ii) and (d) and  
10 23-3-115 (c) are amended to read:

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12 **11-6-302. Definitions.**

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14 (a) As used in this article:

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16 (x) "Trophy game animal" means:

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(B) From and after the date gray wolves are removed from the list of experimental nonessential population, endangered species or threatened species in Wyoming as provided by W.S. 23-1-108:

(I) "Trophy game animal" shall include any gray wolf within those tracts of land within the boundaries of Wyoming designated as Yellowstone National Park, Grand Teton National Park, the John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Memorial Parkway, and ~~these~~ the Absaroka-Beartooth, North Absaroka, Washakie, Teton, Jedediah Smith, Winegar Hole and Gros Ventre federally designated wilderness areas contiguous to these national parks and this parkway as defined by the United States congress as of January 1, 2003; and

**23-1-101. Definitions of wildlife.**

(a) As used in this act:

(viii) "Predatory animal" means:

1 (B) Until the date gray wolves are removed  
2 from the list of experimental nonessential population,  
3 endangered species or threatened species in Wyoming as  
4 provided by W.S. 23-1-108, "predatory animal" includes  
5 wolves. After that date, "predatory animal" shall include  
6 any gray wolf not within an area of the state in which the  
7 gray wolf is:

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9 (I) Designated as a trophy game animal  
10 under subdivision (xii)(B)(I) of this subsection; or

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12 (xii) "Trophy game animal" means:

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14 (B) From and after the date gray wolves are  
15 removed from the list of experimental nonessential  
16 population, endangered species or threatened species in  
17 Wyoming as provided by W.S. 23-1-108:

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19 (I) "Trophy game animal" shall include  
20 any gray wolf within those tracts of land within the  
21 boundaries of Wyoming designated as Yellowstone National  
22 Park, Grand Teton National Park, the John D. Rockefeller,  
23 Jr. Memorial Parkway, and ~~those~~ the Absaroka-Beartooth,  
24 North Absaroka, Washakie, Teton, Jedediah Smith, Winegar

1 Hole and Gros Ventre federally designated wilderness areas  
2 contiguous to these national parks and this parkway as  
3 defined by the United States congress as of January 1,  
4 2003; and

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6 **23-1-304. Classification of gray wolves.**

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8 (b) The department shall provide to the commission at  
9 least a quarterly monitoring report on the number of gray  
10 wolf packs within this state and their general location.  
11 Within thirty (30) days of receiving a department quarterly  
12 monitoring report the commission shall, and may after  
13 receiving any monitoring report, at a public meeting:

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15 (i) Determine if there are ~~less than~~ seven (7)  
16 or less packs of gray wolves located in this state and  
17 primarily outside of Yellowstone National Park, Grand Teton  
18 National Park and John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Memorial  
19 Parkway. ~~and less than fifteen (15) packs within this~~  
20 ~~state, including Yellowstone National Park, Grand Teton~~  
21 ~~National Park and John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Memorial~~  
22 ~~Parkway.~~ If such a determination is made:

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1 (A) The commission shall adopt rules and  
2 regulations to classify the gray wolf as a trophy game  
3 animal and ~~prohibit~~ regulate the taking of gray wolves  
4 except as provided by W.S. 23-3-115(c), within that area of  
5 the state the commission determines is necessary to  
6 reasonably ensure that at the end of the current calendar  
7 year at least seven (7) packs of gray wolves are located in  
8 this state and primarily outside of Yellowstone National  
9 Park, Grand Teton National Park and John D. Rockefeller,  
10 Jr. Memorial Parkway; ~~at the end of the current calendar~~  
11 ~~year;~~

12  
13 (ii) Maintain the classification of gray wolves  
14 as a predatory animal and trophy game animal as specified  
15 in W.S. 23-1-101(a) (viii) and (xii) (B) (I), if it determines  
16 there ~~were at least~~ are more than seven (7) packs of gray  
17 wolves located in this state and primarily outside of  
18 Yellowstone National Park, Grand Teton National Park and  
19 John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Memorial Parkway. ~~or at least~~  
20 ~~fifteen (15) packs within this state, including Yellowstone~~  
21 ~~National Park, Grand Teton National Park and John D.~~  
22 ~~Rockefeller, Jr. Memorial Parkway as of the end of the~~  
23 ~~preceding calendar quarter.~~

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1           (d) The department shall institute and maintain an  
2 active program of population monitoring statewide. In all  
3 areas of the state, ~~except where otherwise provided,~~ any  
4 person who ~~harvests~~ takes a wolf shall ~~notify~~ report the  
5 take and required information concerning the wolf to the  
6 department ~~where the harvest occurred within ten (10) days~~  
7 as provided by commission rule and regulation. Any  
8 information regarding the number or ~~nature~~ type of wolves  
9 legally ~~harvested~~ taken within the state of Wyoming shall  
10 only be released in its aggregate form and no information  
11 of a ~~private or confidential~~ personal nature shall be  
12 released without the written consent of the person to whom  
13 the information may refer. Information identifying any  
14 person legally ~~harvesting~~ taking a wolf within this state  
15 is solely for the use of the department or appropriate law  
16 enforcement ~~offices~~ agencies and is not a public record for  
17 purposes of W.S. 16-4-201 through 16-4-205.

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19           **23-3-115. Taking black bear, mountain lion, gray**  
20 **wolf, bobcat, weasel, badger, squirrels or muskrat for**  
21 **damaging property.**

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23           (c) The provisions of subsection (a) of this section  
24 relating to the taking of animals doing damage to private

1 property shall apply to gray wolves from and after the date  
2 gray wolves are removed from the list of experimental  
3 nonessential population, endangered species or threatened  
4 species in Wyoming as provided by W.S. 23-1-108. The owner,  
5 employee or lessee acting under authority of this section  
6 shall notify the department of the ~~kill~~taking of a gray  
7 wolf within ~~an~~any area of the state ~~in which the gray wolf~~  
8 ~~is classified as a trophy game animal. The notification~~  
9 ~~shall be made within ten (10) days of the kill unless the~~  
10 ~~gray wolf was taken in an area where wolves have been~~  
11 ~~classified as trophy game animals pursuant to W.S.~~  
12 ~~23-1-304(b) (i) (A) in which case the notification shall be~~  
13 ~~made within seventy-two (72) hours~~ as provided in W.S.  
14 23-1-304(d).

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16 **Section 2.** Contingent upon a cooperative agreement  
17 between the game and fish commission and the United States  
18 fish and wildlife service to provide for funding, the game  
19 and fish department shall purchase collars using the global  
20 positioning system or collars using a higher technology to  
21 monitor gray wolves. The collars shall be placed on two  
22 (2) wolves in each pack being monitored pursuant to W.S.  
23 23-1-304.

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

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(END)