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# **APPENDICES**

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**Wyoming Game & Fish Department: Private Lands  
Public Wildlife Access Program**

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# APPENDIX A

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## Selected Statutes

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23-1-103. Ownership of wildlife; purpose of provisions.

For the purpose of this act, all wildlife in Wyoming is the property of the state. It is the purpose of this act and the policy of the state to provide an adequate and flexible system for control, propagation, management, protection and regulation of all Wyoming wildlife. There shall be no private ownership of live animals classified in this act as big or trophy game animals.

23-1-201. Composition; appointment; terms; oath.

(b) The commission shall be composed of eight (8) members including the governor as an ex officio member. Not more than four (4) of the seven (7) appointed commissioners shall be of the same political party, and all appointed commissioners shall have a general knowledge of wildlife and wildlife propagation, management, and control.

(c) Commencing in 1973, a commissioner shall be appointed from each appointment district pursuant to W.S. 9-1-218.

(d) Commissioners shall be appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the senate for a term of six (6) years to commence March 1, except the first term for two (2) appointees shall be two (2) years and for two (2) appointees shall be four (4) years as designated by the governor prior to submission to the senate. Terms of current appointees are ratified and continued in existence until terms of new appointees under this section become effective. The governor shall fill any vacancy as provided in W.S. 28-12-101.

23-1-302. Powers and duties.

(a) The commission is directed and empowered:

(iii) To acquire lands and waters in the name of Wyoming by purchase, lease, agreement, gift or devise, not including powers of eminent domain, and to develop, improve, operate, and maintain the same for the following purposes:

(B) Management of game animals, protected animals and birds, furbearing animals, game birds, fish, and their restoration, propagation, or protection;

(C) Public hunting, fishing, or trapping areas as places where the public may hunt, trap, or fish in accordance with law.

(iv) To acquire easements and construct suitable access roads leading to public lands and department lands and waters acquired pursuant to W.S. 23-1-302(a)(iii);

(v) To sell or exchange land, water, or other property which is no longer of any practical use to the commission;

(x) To enter into cooperative agreements with educational institutions and other agencies to promote wildlife research;

- (xi) To enter into cooperative agreements with federal agencies, corporations, associations, individuals, and landowners for the development of state control of wildlife management and demonstration projects;
- (xii) To supervise the protection, management, and propagation of fish and all fish culture of a public nature and the fish hatcheries now owned or established in the future by Wyoming;
- (xx) To authorize the collection, classification, and dissemination of such statistics, data and information as in its discretion will tend to promote the objects and purposes of this act;
- (xxiv) To approve and make public budgets and establish policy for the department;
- (xxviii) To reject or to accept and expend for purposes authorized under this section any and all gifts of cash, stocks, bonds or any other form of monies. Gifts shall be deposited and expended as provided in W.S. 23-1-501.

23-1-401. Game and fish department; creation; control.

(b) The department is under the direction and supervision of the commission.

(c) The department consists of the director who is the chief administrative officer and such divisions as the commission may create.

23-1-501. Game and fish fund.

(e) An account within the game and fish fund is created. Revenues collected under W.S. 23-2-101(m), 23-2-201(e) and as specified under W.S. 23-2-306(a) shall be deposited within the account. The commission shall use revenues in the account to purchase access easements to provide access to public and private lands. The commission shall notify in writing the appropriate boards of county commissioners before purchasing any access easements under this subsection. In addition and on or before February 1 of each year, the commission shall annually report to the legislature on easements purchased pursuant to this subsection during the preceding fiscal year.

(f) A trust account separate and apart from the trust account established under subsection (d) of this section is created within the Wyoming game and fish fund. The account shall consist of those funds appropriated or designated to the account by law or by gift from whatever source. Funds deposited within the account are intended to be inviolate and constitute a permanent or perpetual trust account which shall be invested by the state treasurer as authorized under W.S. 9-4-711 and in a manner to obtain the highest return possible consistent with preservation of the account corpus. Any interest earned from investment of the account corpus shall be credited by the state treasurer into the Wyoming game and fish fund to be expended by the commission for purposes specified under subsection (b) of this section.

23-1-502. Financial policy; budget; fiscal year; debts.

(a) The commission shall govern its financial policies, subject to the written approval of its budgets by the governor. The commission shall fix the budgets for the operation and maintenance of the department and its divisions for each fiscal year at its first stated meeting of each fiscal year, and shall submit its budget estimates for the following fiscal year as provided by W.S. 9-2-1012.

23-1-503. Annual reports.

The commission shall submit an annual report of its official transactions and audit reports, and the conditions of Wyoming wildlife in accordance with W.S. 9-2-1014.

23-2-101. Fees; restrictions; nonresident application fee; nonresident licenses; verification of residency required.

(m) In addition to other fees under this section, persons applying for a license or tag under this section may pay any whole dollar amount to fund the purchase of access easements by the commission to provide access to public and private lands.

23-2-201. Fees; restrictions; verification of residency required.

(e) In addition to other fees under this section, persons applying for a license or tag under this section may pay any whole dollar amount to fund the purchase of access easements by the commission to provide access to public and private lands.

23-2-306. Conservation stamp; exemptions.

(a) Subject to subsection (b) of this section, each sportsman licensed under W.S. 23-2-101, 23-2-107 or 23-2-201 shall purchase a single conservation stamp for ten dollars (\$10.00) which shall be valid for one (1) calendar year and in the possession of any person exercising rights under any fishing or hunting license issued pursuant to W.S. 23-2-101, 23-2-107 or 23-2-201. Holders of pioneer licenses as defined under W.S. 23-1-705(d) and (e), of special limited fishing permits issued under W.S. 23-2-207 and holders of licenses only under W.S. 23-2-101(j)(v) and (vi) and 23-2-201(d)(vi) and (vii) are exempt from the provisions of this section. Revenues collected from the sale of each stamp under this subsection shall be deposited as follows:

- (i) Two dollars and fifty cents (\$2.50) into the account created under W.S. 23-1-501(e);
- (ii) Of the amount remaining:
  - (A) Fifty percent (50%) into the trust account created under W.S. 23-1-501(f); and
  - (B) Fifty percent (50%) into the game and fish fund.

23-3-305. Hunting from highway; entering enclosed property without permission; penalty; hunting at night without permission prohibited.

(b) No person shall enter upon the private property of any person to hunt, fish, or trap without the permission of the owner or person in charge of the property. Violation of this subsection constitutes a 7th degree misdemeanor.

23-6-302. Execution of Compact.

The legislature hereby approves and the governor is authorized to enter into a compact on behalf of this state with any other state or states legally joining therein in the form substantially as follows:

(a) The participating states find that:

- (i) Wildlife is managed by the respective states for the benefit of all residents and visitors;

- (ii) The protection of the wildlife of a state is materially affected by the degree of compliance with state statutes, laws, regulations, ordinances and administrative rules relating to the management of those resources;
- (iii) The preservation, protection, management and restoration of wildlife contributes immeasurably to the aesthetic, recreational and economic aspects of those natural resources;
- (iv) Wildlife is valuable without regard to political boundaries; therefore, every person should be required to comply with wildlife preservation, protection, management and restoration laws and ordinances and administrative rules and regulations of the participating states as a condition precedent to the continuance or issuance of any license to hunt, fish, trap or possess wildlife as determined by local law;