

ENROLLED ACT NO. 78, SENATE

SIXTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WYOMING
2015 GENERAL SESSION

AN ACT relating to public lands; providing that the office of state lands and investments shall commission a study and provide a report addressing management of public lands in Wyoming by the state of Wyoming as specified; specifying what the study shall not include; providing an appropriation; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1.

(a) The office of state lands and investments shall commission a study to address the management of specified federally administered public lands in the state of Wyoming by the state of Wyoming.

(b) The study shall include:

(i) An identification of the public lands to be managed and the interests, rights and uses associated with those lands;

(ii) The development of a proposed plan for the administration, management and use of the public lands under the principle of multiple use and sustained yield that includes, but is not limited to, the continuation of all existing public access to the lands for hunting, fishing and recreation subject to closure for special circumstances including public safety and environmental sensitivity;

(iii) An economic analysis concerning the management of the public lands, including but not limited to:

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(A) The identification of the costs directly incident to the management of those lands;

(B) A comparison of the likely costs for the state of Wyoming to manage the identified land and the costs incurred by the federal government to manage those same lands;

(C) The identification of sources of revenue to pay for the administration and maintenance of those lands by the state of Wyoming, including appropriate fees to charge the federal government for management of the specified lands;

(D) A determination of the amount of any revenue that is currently received by the state of Wyoming or political subdivision thereof in connection with those lands, including but not limited to, any payments made in lieu of taxes and mineral royalties and leases;

(E) The identification of any potential revenue which may be received from those lands by the state of Wyoming after the management of the lands by the state of Wyoming and recommendations for the distribution of those revenues;

(F) A consideration of other relevant federal actions or policies determined to impact revenues to the state of Wyoming due to federally managed lands.

(c) The study shall not include consideration of management by the state of Wyoming of current congressionally designated wilderness areas, national conservation areas or lands currently administered by the department of energy, department of defense or the

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department of interior's Bureau of Indian Affairs, United States fish and wildlife service or national park service.

(d) The office of state lands and investments may engage the services of research or consulting firms as necessary to carry out the purposes of this act. The office of state lands and investments shall consult with the attorney general's office, the governor's office and county commissioners in developing the study pursuant to this act.

(e) The office of state lands and investments shall regularly provide updates on the study to the select federal natural resource management committee. The office of state lands and investments shall submit a final report to the select federal natural resource management committee no later than November 30, 2016. The final report shall include the study results and recommendations with respect to the issues specified in subsection (b) of this section. The select federal natural resource management committee shall consider the recommendations and develop legislation it deems appropriate for consideration by the legislature.

Section 2. There is appropriated seventy-five thousand dollars (\$75,000.00) from the general fund to the office of state lands and investments. This appropriation shall only be expended for the purpose of commissioning a study and hiring consultants to assist in the study pursuant to this act. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, this appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation shall revert on June 30, 2017.

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

(END)

Speaker of the House

President of the Senate

Governor

TIME APPROVED: _____

DATE APPROVED: _____

I hereby certify that this act originated in the Senate.

Chief Clerk