



WEEKLY REPORT

ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

Larry D. Voyles, Director
5000 W. Carefree Highway Phoenix, AZ 85086
www.azgfd.gov

Arizona Game and Fish Commission

John W. Harris, Chairman
Robert E. Mansell
Kurt R. Davis
Edward P. Madden
Jim Ammons

Publish Date: Friday, April 11, 2014

Day of Session:	89
Bills Posted:	1205
Bills Passed:	40
Bills Vetoed:	1
Bills Signed:	6
Mem, Res Posted:	112
Mem, Res Passed:	22

Weekly Report is published by the Arizona Game and Fish Department's Legislative and Government Affairs Division. While the state's Legislature is in session, Legislative staff provides a summary of bills that pertain to the Department, or that the Arizona Game and Fish Commission has voted to support or oppose, and a tracking list of bills that may have potential impacts to the state's wildlife and wildlife resources. The Legislative and Government Affairs staff also actively monitors and reports on Congressional Legislation with potential impacts to the Department, and those reports (Congressional Courant) are also available online at: [AZGFD Government Affairs](#)

News: The House and Senate Conferenced their budget disagreements and transmitted the budget bills to the Governor. Speculation is the Legislature will adjourn *Sine Die* by late next week or early the following week.

Commission Sponsored Legislation

[HB 2303 permits or tags; transfer; veterans](#)

Summary: The Game and Fish Commission is authorized to prescribe the manner and conditions of transferring and using big game permits and tags to allow a person to transfer a permit or tag to a qualified organization for use by a veteran of the U.S. armed forces who has a service-connected disability.

Disposition: 4/14 Senate COW

Position: Support

[SB 1118 hunting on private land; trespassing](#)

Summary: The list of circumstances under which the entry of a person for the taking of wildlife is grounds for an action for criminal trespassing is expanded to include that the person knowingly remains unlawfully on the property after a reasonable request to leave by a law enforcement officer acting at the request of the owner.

Disposition: 3/19 from House Rules do pass

Position: Support

Commission Supported Legislation

[HB 2443 hunting and fishing licenses; military](#)

Summary: Any active duty member of the U.S. armed forces stationed in Arizona for either permanent or temporary duty is permitted to purchase a residential license permitting the taking of wildlife. Previously, the member was required to be stationed in Arizona for a period of 30 days immediately preceding the date of application for the license.

Disposition: 4/10 from Senate COW ok

Position: Support

[SB 1212 appropriations; wolf recovery; litigation costs](#)

Summary: Appropriates \$250,000 from the general fund in FY2014-15 to the Department of Law for litigation expenses relating to **any** expansion of the Mexican Wolf recovery program in Arizona. The bill was [amended](#) by the sponsor.

Disposition: 3/11 from House energy do pass

Position: Support

[HB 2003 watercraft; civil and criminal penalties](#)

Summary: Establishes civil penalties for a person who operated a motorized watercraft and refuses to submit to a test for alcohol concentration or drug content, to be deposited in the Prison Construction and Operations Fund and the Law Enforcement and Boating Safety Fund. Monies from civil and criminal penalties for operating a motorized watercraft while under the influence are deposited in the Law Enforcement and Boating Safety Fund instead of the Public Safety Equipment Fund.

Disposition: 4/3 from Senate Rules Ok

Position: Support

Budget Bills

[SB 1485 budget; general appropriations; FY2014-15](#)

Summary: General appropriations “feed” bill that appropriates a variety of funds to the Game and Fish Department. (\$34,347,800 lump sum)

Disposition: 3/26 Referred to House Approps

[SB 1492 budget; brb; environment; FY2014-15](#)

Summary: Makes policy changes pertaining to environmental regulation that affect the state budget. The Arizona Water Protection Fund Commission is permitted to grant to the Department of Water Resources (DWR) up to \$336,000 of the unobligated balance in the Fund to pay for administrative costs of DWR in FY2014-15. DWR is authorized to increase fees in FY2013-14 to generate revenue up to \$100,200. The Arizona State Parks Board is authorized to spend up to \$692,100 from the Board’s portion of the Off-Highway Vehicle Recreation Fund in FY2014-15 for Board operating expenses. Suspends the administrative cap on the Underground Storage Tank Assurance Account for FY2014-15 and allows the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to transfer a combined total of \$6.5 million from the Account for administrative costs of DEQ. Authorizes DEQ to use up to \$1.8 million from the Emissions Inspection Fund for the Safe Drinking Water Program. Caps the general fund appropriation to the Water Quality Assurance Revolving Fund at \$7 million. The State Parks Board is required to establish the Yarnell Hill Memorial State Park subject to specified conditions. Establishes a 15-member Yarnell Hill Memorial Site Board (Site Board) to determine whether to establish a memorial dedicated to the members of the Granite Mountain Hotshot Crew who lost their lives fighting the Yarnell Hill Fire at the location where the crew lost their lives, work with interested parties to design and construct the memorial, and solicit private monetary donations or public monies for deposit in the newly created Yarnell Hill Memorial Fund. The Site Board is required to submit a report on the progress of the memorial to the Governor and the Legislature by December 31, 2015. The Site Board self-repeals on January 1, 2017. Appropriates \$500,000 from the general fund in FY2013-14 to the State Parks Board to purchase the Yarnell Hill Memorial site. AS PASSED SENATE.

Disposition: 3/26 Referred to House Approps

[HB 2703 budget; general appropriations; FY2014-15](#)

Summary: General appropriations “feed” bill that appropriates a variety of funds to the Game and Fish Department. (\$34,347,800 lump sum)

Disposition: 4/8 transmitted to the Governor for signature

[HB 2707 budget; brb; environment; FY2014-15](#)

Summary: The "feed bill" for FY2014-15, containing appropriations for state agencies and programs. Provisions include: continues deferment of \$35 million in payments to providers of services to the Department of Economic Security, continues deferment of \$930.7 million in basic state aid payments to schools until FY2015-16, and continues deferment of \$200 million in payments to universities until FY2015-16. Appropriates \$20 million from the general fund to the Department of Administration (DOA) for costs associated with the establishment of the Division of Child Safety and Family Services pursuant to executive order. Appropriates \$18.2 million to the Board of Education for accountability and achievement testing, and requires the Board to submit the estimated fiscal impact of any changes to the achievement testing program to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee before making changes that will increase program costs. Appropriates \$16.5 million for school year 2013-14 district-sponsored charter school conversions. Appropriates \$17.1 million from the general fund in FY2014-15 to the Automation Projects Fund, and makes various appropriations from the Automation Projects Fund to DOA for specified information technology projects. Appropriates \$7.1 million to DOA for distribution to counties with a population of less than 900,000 (all but Maricopa and Pima) for maintenance of essential county services and \$500,000 for distribution to a county with a population of more than 30,000 and less than 40,000 (Graham County) for maintenance of essential county services. Appropriates \$13.5 million to AHCCCS for disproportionate share payments to hospitals, including \$4.2 million for the Maricopa County Health Care District and \$9.3 million for private qualifying disproportionate share hospitals. Of the \$21.3 million appropriated to Gang and Immigration Intelligence Team Enforcement Mission (GIITEM), \$9.3 million must be used for 100 Department of Public Safety GIITEM personnel, including at least 50 sworn positions to be used for strict immigration enforcement actions. Of the \$1.2 million appropriated to the county attorney immigration enforcement line item, \$200,000 must be distributed to the Maricopa County Attorney and \$500,000 to the Maricopa County Sheriff to enforce laws prohibiting the employment of unauthorized aliens. Appropriates \$1.1 million from the general fund in FY2014-15 to the Independent Redistricting Commission for operating expenses. Appropriates \$300,000 from the general fund in FY2014-15 to the Arizona Commerce Authority to establish a trade office in Mexico City. Reduces the FY2013-14 appropriation to AHCCCS by \$73 million from the general fund. Makes a supplemental appropriation of \$17 million from the general fund and \$149.8 million from federal title 19 expenditure authority in FY2013-14 to the Department of Health Services. Makes a supplemental appropriation of \$47 million from the general fund in FY2013-14 to the Department of Education for basic state aid. Appropriates \$10.7 million from the Risk Management Revolving Fund to DOA to reimburse the federal government for specified disallowed costs and fund transfers. Appropriates \$2 million from the Health Research Fund in each of FY2014-15 through FY2018-19 to the Department of Health Services for allocation to a nonprofit medical research institute in Arizona that meets specified requirements, and \$3 million from the general fund in each of FY2014-15 through FY2018-19 to Northern Arizona University for distribution to a nonprofit medical research foundation in Arizona that specializes in biotechnology and meets other specified requirements. Requires various reports and makes various fund transfers. AS PASSED SENATE

Disposition: 4/8 transmitted to the Governor for signature

Other Bills of Interest

[SB 1211 Mexican wolf; taking reporting](#)

Summary: This bill was heavily amended by the sponsor to permit an ADA employee to take any wolf that has been documented or caught in the act of killing livestock pursuant to an agreement between ADA and the USFWS. Allows a landowner or lessee, who is a livestock operator or their agents, to take a wolf if the wolf is:

- a) actually engaged in the act of killing, wounding or biting livestock;
- b) taken by livestock guarding dogs; or
- c) taken in self-defense of the lives of others and the take is reported as specified.

Requires AGFD to do all of the following:

- a) request from the USFWS a full DNA profile on each animal reintroduced in Arizona as part of the Mexican Wolf Recovery Program;
- b) request from the USFWS a quarterly report of all incidences in which a wolf harms, kills or harasses a human or livestock; and
- c) notify private landowners, permittees or lessees of federal land within the allotment area where wolves are released or held for release at the time of the placement of the wolves in the area.

Disposition: 4/3 from House COW

[SB 1267 natural resource management; state agencies](#)

Summary: The State Land Department, Department of Water Resources, Department of Environmental Quality and Arizona Game and Fish Department are required to monitor federal natural resource management issues that impact federal lands located in Arizona, encourage increased cooperation with federal agencies and submit comments as necessary regarding federal regulations impacting natural resource management of federal lands in Arizona, and inform the Legislature of federal natural resource management issues considered to be of statewide importance.

Disposition: a [strike everything amendment](#) has been adopted relating to livestock cruelty, not a bill of interest now.

[SB 1268 natural resource protection fund](#)

Summary: Establishes the Natural Resource Protection and Preservation Fund, to be administered by the State Forester. An amount sufficient for the balance of the Fund to be at least an unspecified amount (blank in original) is appropriated from the general fund on July 1 of each year. Specifies conditions and purposes for which monies in the Fund may be spent. Appropriates an unspecified amount (blank in original) from the general fund in FY2014-15 to the Fund.

Disposition: Dead

[SB 1292 Arizona resource advisory council](#)

Summary: Establishes a 15-member Arizona Resource Advisory Council to act as an advisory body regarding the planning and management of federal land resources in Arizona. The Council must submit an annual report to the Governor and the Legislature by December 31 of each year. The Council terminates on July 1, 2024.

Disposition: 4/2 House COW approved with [floor amend](#)

[SB 1458 conservation land; purpose; ownership](#)

Summary: The county assessor is required to identify land used for "conservation purposes" (defined), and the Department of Revenue is required to create a new identifiable property use code for conservation land.

Disposition: Dead

[SCR 1006 Mexican wolf; population rule](#)

Summary: The members of the Legislature support focusing future Mexican Wolf introduction efforts on remote areas within the northern Sierra Madre Occidental mountain range, support shifting primary responsibility for administration of the Mexican Wolf introduction program in Arizona and New Mexico to the game and fish departments of those states, and believe that private landowners in Arizona and New Mexico should be authorized to take Mexican Wolves that are killing, wounding or threatening humans, pets or livestock on private land.

Disposition: 3/11 passed House energy

[HB 2127 wildlife; guides; firearms](#)

Summary: A person acting as a wildlife guide is no longer prohibited from carrying firearms other than a revolver or pistol.

Disposition: Dead

[HB 2699 endangered species programs; rescission; reimbursement](#)

Summary: A landowner or lessee who is a livestock operator is authorized to take a wolf in self-defense or the defense of the lives of others if the taking is reported within 24 hours to the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Establishes a Federal Reimbursement Fund consisting of monies obtained from the federal government by the Attorney General, to be used to reimburse the state for the use of property and private property owners for damage to property in the current areas of the Mexican Wolf Recovery Program. The Attorney General is required to take all steps necessary to obtain from the federal government monies sufficient to pay for all reimbursements, and to work with the State Land Department and private landowners to establish land use agreements with the federal government to compensate the state and private landowners for the use and diminution in value of their lands as a result of the Mexican Wolf Recovery Program. Contains legislative findings. AS PASSED HOUSE.

Disposition: 4/14 Senate COW

**A Quick Reference to the Department's
Monitored, Supported, and Opposed Legislation**

To view the most current language please click the links below.

MONITOR
SUPPORT
OPPOSE

LEGEND

- **Monitor** – The Game and Fish Department is monitoring the progress of these measures, and the Arizona Game and Fish Commission has not taken a position.
- **Oppose** – The Arizona Game and Fish Commission has voted to oppose these bills.
- **Support** – The Arizona Game and Fish Commission has voted to support these bills

**If you have questions relating to legislation, please contact:
Jorge Canaca, Legislative Liaison: jcanaca@azgfd.gov
This publication may be found online: www.azgfd.gov**