



# WEEKLY REPORT

## ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

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## Arizona Game and Fish Commission

Jack F. Husted, Chairman  
John W. Harris  
Robert E. Mansell  
Kurt R. Davis  
Edward P. Madden

**Publish Date: Monday, February 11, 2013**

Day of Session:	29
Bills Posted:	1098
Bills Passed:	2
Bills Vetoed:	0
Bills Signed:	2
Mem, Res Posted:	57
Mem, Res Passed:	2

### Upcoming February Session Deadlines

- 4 Last day for Senate bills to be introduced without special permission
- 11 Last day for House bills to be introduced without special permission**
- 22 Last day for House consideration of House bills and last day for Senate consideration of Senate bills

**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 Legislative Affairs](#)

## Legislative News:

### State Legislature

- On Wednesday, February 6, the Senate Natural Resources and Rural Affairs Committee unanimously passed Commission bill [SB1223: license classifications; fees](#). Commission Chairman, Jack Husted, testified in support of the legislation and answered questions related to oversight, fees, constituent outreach, and the proposed license simplification process. SB1223 will next be scheduled for a hearing in the Senate Appropriations Committee. The Commission’s proposed legislation on License Simplification. The legislation’s intent is to allow the Arizona Game and Fish Commission to set future license structures and fees directly through a streamlined, customer focused process as opposed to the current complex, legislative and rulemaking process. This legislation would also allow the Department to operate more like a business and have the ability to react to changing market conditions and customer needs in a timely manner. For more information on this proposed legislation please click [HERE](#).

*The Department is closely tracking the following bills:*

- [HB2468: discounted hunting licenses for veterans; soldiers](#), the bill seeks to allow the Commission the authority to issue a class A fishing license or a class G general hunting license for a reduced fee to a veteran. The Commission is allowed to reduce the fee

by ten percent for every four years of the veteran's service in the U.S. armed forces. [HB2172: ADOT administration](#), allows that on a monthly basis, the Director of the Department of Transportation is required to deposit 1.6 percent of motor vehicle fuel tax monies in the State Lake Improvement Fund. Repeals statute requiring the Dept to conduct a survey to determine the taxes paid on fuel for watercraft in order to determine the amount put in the Fund.

- [HB2299: all-terrain vehicles; definition](#), states that the definition of "all-terrain vehicles" is modified to include vehicles with bench or bucket seats, exclude vehicles that were originally manufactured for use on a public highway, and to increase the maximum width of the vehicles to 65 inches, from 64,. Currently, language in the statute is somewhat vague (or open for interpretation) when referring to golf cart, sand rail or home-made off road machines. The proposed change captures these vehicles and consequently brings greater clarity to how all other associated OHV regulations bear regarding those machines.
- [SCR1013: endangered species act](#), states that the members of the legislature support the efforts of the U.S. Congress to update the Endangered Species Act to improve its effectiveness while ensuring sustainable natural resources and relieving Arizona from burdensome regulatory measures.
- [HB2429: water protection fund; annual funding](#), requires that at the beginning of each fiscal year, an amount equal to \$5 million minus the sum of the amounts deposited in the Arizona Water Protection Fund from certain fees for the purchase or lease of Central Arizona Project water is appropriated from the general fund to the Fund. If the amounts deposited from the fees exceed \$5 million, the amount in excess is credited against the general fund appropriation in subsequent fiscal years. The appropriation cannot exceed \$5 million in any fiscal year.
- [HB2567: animal cruelty; offense](#), states that acts that constitute cruelty to animals are expanded to include intentionally, knowingly or recklessly subjecting an animal to "cruel possession," defined as confining an animal in a manner that is detrimental to the animal's health.

### Congressional

- **Rep. Raúl M. Grijalva** introduced a package of bills earlier this week that, taken together, represent his vision for regional job creation and land conservation. The bills focus on border security, jobs and conservation issues. As soon as the text of the bills are available, they will be summarized and passed along.
- **President Obama** has nominated Sally Jewel to be the next Secretary of the Interior. Ms. Jewel is the current CEO of REI. Secretary Salazar is expected to step down in early March.
- The Department made several hill visits with our congressional delegation this week to **discuss renewable energy legislation, bison issues on GCNP, sequestration and travel management** issues to name a few. The discussions were well received.

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

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