



# 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

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

**Publish Date: Friday, February 22, 2013**

Day of Session:	40
Bills Posted:	1145
Bills Passed:	2
Bills Vetoed:	0
Bills Signed:	2
Mem, Res Posted:	69
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 Tuesday, February 19, Commission bill [SB1223: license classifications; fees](#) was passed unanimously by the Senate’s Appropriations Committee with an amendment sponsored by Sen. Don Shooter. The amendment adds an expiration date of July 1, 2019, to 17-333(A) on Page 11, line 17. The amended text (in blue) reads:

**THROUGH JULY 1, 2019, THE COMMISSION SHALL PRESCRIBE BY RULE LICENSE CLASSIFICATIONS THAT ARE VALID FOR THE TAKING OR HANDLING OF WILDLIFE, FEES FOR LICENSES, PERMITS, TAGS AND STAMPS AND APPLICATION FEES.**

This is an added “check and balance” on the commission’s authority under the new bill. The commission would need to seek reauthorization, through the Legislature, to extend this authority after this date. On Thursday, February 21<sup>st</sup>, the Commission voted unanimously to support the Amendment.

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 SB1223 please click [HERE](#).

- [SB1469](#): **applying aquatic poisons**, seeks to prohibit the Game and Fish Department from applying rotenone or antimycin A to any body of water unless an impact analysis of risks is submitted to the Game and Fish Commission. The Commission is required to approve the analysis if it determines the application will not endanger the health of the environment, humans or livestock. Some exceptions. On Thursday, February 21<sup>st</sup>, the Commission voted to support this bill. It was subsequently passed out of the Government and Environment Committee on a (4-3) party-line vote.

The Department is tracking the following bills:

- [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.
- [HB2654](#): **full-time students; hunting licenses**, states that a nonresident "full-time student" (defined as a student registered for at least 12 credit hours per semester at a post secondary educational institution in Arizona) is permitted to purchase a resident hunting license.
- [HB2594](#): **local transportation assistance fund; restoration**, establishes the Local Transportation Assistance Fund consisting of various State Lottery Fund monies and annual appropriations to provide that the total monies available in each fiscal year equal \$20.5 million. Municipalities and counties will receive monies from LTAF in the proportion that their population bears to the total population. Annual State Lottery Fund transfers to the general fund are reduced. Also establishes the AZ State Parks Board Heritage Fund consisting of specified State Lottery Fund monies.
- [SB1403](#): **United Nations Rio declaration; prohibition**. Prohibits state and political subdivisions from adopting or implementing any tenet of the United Nations Rio

Declaration on Environment and Development and the Statement of Principles for Sustainable Development adopted at the U.N. Conference on Environment and Development held in Brazil in 1992, or any other international law that contravenes the U.S. Constitution or the state Constitution.

- [SB1372](#): **S/E trespass; private; noncommercial property** classifies, as criminal trespass in the third degree, knowingly entering, traversing or remaining on any private noncommercial real property within 100 miles of the Mexico border without written permission of the property owner.

*The following bills have not received a hearing:*

- [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. Although this bill was referred to the House Public Safety and Military Affairs Committee, but did not receive a hearing.
- [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. This bill was referred to the Agriculture and Water Committee and has not received a hearing.

---

## 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:**

**Tony Guiles, Legislative Liaison:** [aguiles@azgfd.gov](mailto:aguiles@azgfd.gov)

**Jorge Canaca, Asst. Legislative Liaison:** [jcanaca@azgfd.gov](mailto:jcanaca@azgfd.gov)

**This publication may be found online:** [www.azgfd.gov](http://www.azgfd.gov)

