



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

Norman W. Freeman, Chairman
Jack F. Husted, Vice Chair
John W. Harris
Robert E. Mansell
Kurt R. Davis

Publish Date: Thursday, March 15, 2012

W *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: http://www.azgfd.gov/inside_azgfd/edits/legislative_update.shtml

Legislative News:

State Legislature

This was the last week for committees to hear bills in both chambers and for members to introduce Strike Everything amendments (striker). Although tomorrow is the last day by leadership order for House committees to consider Senate bills and Senate committees to consider House bills, strikers may still be offered in future Appropriations Committee hearings. Both House and Senate Appropriations Committees do not adhere to the same rules.

- [HB2639](#): **game and fish omnibus act** passed the Senate's Natural Resources and Transportation Committee 6-0 with a geospatial data and geographic information systems services amendment approved by the Commission at the March 9th meeting. The Senate's companion version ([SB1305](#)) was referred to the House Military Affairs and Public Safety Committee and was held by the chairman.
- The Game and Fish continuation bill [SB1300](#): **game and fish department; continuation** passed the House Energy and Natural Resources (ENR) Committee on a 5-0 vote.
- [SB1521](#): **heritage fund; audit; hearing** also passed the ENR Committee on a 4-2 vote with an amendment requiring the Auditor General to conduct a performance audit of the programs and expenditures of the Arizona Wildlife Conservation Fund (WCF) every fifth year beginning in 2012. The WCF fund is funded through the Arizona Benefits Fund which was established with the passage of Indian Gaming and Self-Reliance Act proposition passed by voters in November 2002.

- [HB2322](#): **watercraft; registration; fees** passed the Senate's Rules Committee. We expect this measure will be debated in Committee of the Whole and possibly voted on by the full Senate before the end of next week.
- [SB1453](#): **applying aquatic poisons** was held in the House Environment Committee along with [SCM1009](#): **rotenone; EPA; deregistration** which urges the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to reevaluate and deregister rotenone. Extensive testimony was taken by the chair of the Committee late into the evening. The Commission Chairman along with several members of the Rotenone Review Advisory Committee also provided key testimony regarding the diligent effort undertaken this last summer and fall to investigate the effects of rotenone in regards to human health and the environment.

Other Bills of interest:

- [HB2640](#): **hunting; firearm; magazine capacity** has passed the House 42-15 and has passed the Senate Judiciary Committee 6-2 and found to be proper for consideration by the Rules Committee.
- [HB2728](#): **firearms; sound suppressors; hunting** has passed the House 42-14 and has passed the Senate Judiciary Committee 6-2 and found to be proper for consideration by the Rules Committee.
- Commission supported, [HB2457](#): **S/E possession of weapons while hunting** passed the House 54-4 and passed the Senate Judiciary Committee 7-0.
- [HB2571](#): **S/E state personnel system** was debated for over two hours by the House Committee of the Whole yesterday and a lengthy floor amendment was offered by the sponsor and adopted on a voice vote. The bill as amended was subsequently passed 39-19 on a party line vote. The Senate Appropriations Committee is scheduled to hear HB2571 on March 20.
- As of the date of this posting, [HB2072](#): **sale of big game tags** has not resurfaced in its originally introduced form. Although we have not seen any striker for the transfer of big game tags, as we have stated repeatedly, "no bill is ever dead until the legislature adjourns sine die." So, we will remain cautiously optimistic and vigilant for strikers and other avenues available for revival of this measure in any other form.

Congress

Tomorrow, March 16, 2012, Congressman Trent Franks will join Congressional Western Caucus Chairman Steve Pearce (R-NM) and Members of the Congressional Western Caucus from Arizona at a hearing to be held in Phoenix entitled, "Washington Barriers to Prosperity and Property Rights in Arizona." Members and witnesses, including Arizona Governor Jan Brewer, will examine the Obama Administration's environmental and natural resource policies and their impacts on jobs, economic growth and private property rights across the West and specifically in Arizona. The hearing will shed light on specific examples, the extent of the problems, and help facilitate a discussion on what needs to be done to fix them.

WHO: Congressional Western Caucus members, Arizona Governor Jan Brewer, and other guests

WHAT: Western Caucus hearing on Washington Barriers to Prosperity and Property Rights in Arizona

WHERE: Senate Hearing Room 1, Arizona State Capitol

DATE: Friday, March 16, 2012

TIME: 10:30 a.m. PST

Confirmed Witnesses

Panel 1 – The Honorable Jan Brewer, Governor of Arizona

Panel 2 – Glenn Hamer, President, Arizona Chamber of Commerce

- Kevin Rogers, President, Arizona Farm Bureau
- Buster Johnson, Chairman of the Mohave County Board of Supervisors, Arizona
- Bob Lynch, Counsel, Irrigation & Electrical Districts Association of Arizona

Members of Congress Confirmed to Attend

Congressman Trent Franks (AZ-02)

Congressman Paul Gosar (AZ-01)

Congressman Ben Quayle (AZ-03)

Congressman Steve Pearce (NM-02)

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

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

[MONITOR](#)

[OPPOSE](#)

[SUPPORT](#)

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

Posted Calendars and Committee Hearings

S1153: HEARING AID DISPENSERS

Hearing: House Appropriations (Wednesday 03/21/12 at 2:00 PM, House Rm. 1)

S1231: APPROP; ATTY GENERAL; HABITAT DESTRUCTION

Hearing: House Appropriations (Wednesday 03/21/12 at 2:00 PM, House Rm. 1)

S1288: MUNICIPAL WATER FEES; REPEAL; APPROP

Hearing: House Appropriations (Wednesday 03/21/12 at 2:00 PM, House Rm. 1)

S1415: PROPERTY STATUS STUDY; APPROP

Hearing: House Appropriations (Wednesday 03/21/12 at 2:00 PM, House Rm. 1)

If you have questions relating to legislation, please contact:

Tony Guiles, Legislative Liaison: aguiles@azgfd.gov

or

Jorge Canaca, Asst. Legislative Liaison: jcanaca@azgfd.gov

This publication may be found online: www.azgfd.gov

