

Chapter 21a Pelican Management Act

23-21a-1 Short title.

This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Pelican Management Act."

Enacted by Chapter 103, 1977 General Session

23-21a-2 Legislative findings and policy.

The legislature of the state of Utah recognizes that the number of breeding sites of the American white pelican has been reduced from in excess of 50 prior to 1932 to only seven major sites in 1976 as a result of the removal of water barriers around breeding sites, loss of food supply, and human disturbance of nesting colonies. The legislature of the state of Utah further recognizes that Gunnison Island in the Great Salt Lake, one of the seven remaining pelican rookeries in North America, produces over 20% of the world's population of the American white pelican, and is the only remaining major pelican rookery that does not have refuge status. It is hereby declared to be the policy of the state of Utah that areas that will support certain threatened life forms shall be preserved for their benefit and for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations of people.

Enacted by Chapter 103, 1977 General Session

23-21a-3 State to condemn and purchase islands in Great Salt Lake -- Protection of American white pelican.

This act proposes to implement the policy set forth in Section 23-21a-2 by initiating the condemnation and purchase of the 163-acre Gunnison Island and the 22-acre Hat (Bird) Island in the Great Salt Lake situated in Box Elder County in the state of Utah, to be designated as wildlife management areas under jurisdiction of the Utah state Division of Wildlife Resources to be administered for the protection and perpetuation of the American white pelican.

Enacted by Chapter 103, 1977 General Session

23-21a-4 Payment of fair market value to landowners -- Impartial appraisal.

The state of Utah, through condemnation, will pay to the landowners a sum equal to the fair market value, as determined by impartial appraisal, for their right, title and interest in and to the surface of said lands.

Enacted by Chapter 103, 1977 General Session

23-21a-5 Mineral rights retained by landowners -- Oil discovery.

The landowners will retain the mineral rights to said lands and in the event of oil discovery, it shall be obtained by off-shore slant drilling.

Enacted by Chapter 103, 1977 General Session

23-21a-6 Nonlapsing appropriation for appraisal and purchase.

There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Division of Wildlife Resources the sum of \$11,000 for appraisal and purchase of the lands designated in Section 23-21a-3. This appropriation shall be non-lapsing.

Enacted by Chapter 103, 1977 General Session