

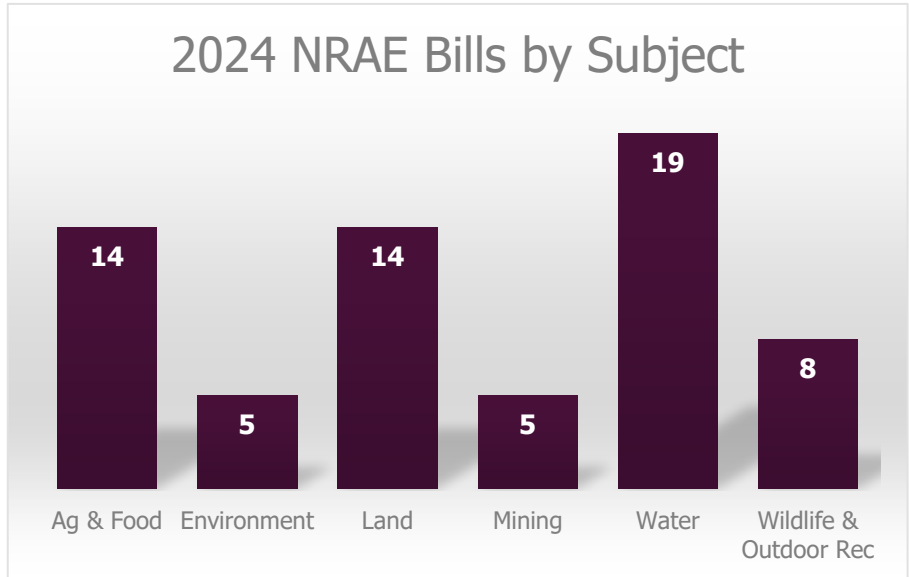


2024 Passed Legislation

Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment | May 15, 2024

The Legislature passed 64 bills during the 2024 General Session related to Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment (NRAE). The figure to the right shows the number of bills by subject. The table below lists each bill and provides a summary. Bill numbers are hyperlinked to the full bill.

This document is a general resource for legislators and may not include every piece of 2024 legislation related to NRAE. For example, it does not include budget bills or bills that affect all state agencies. Please contact NRAE Interim Committee staff with questions, comments, or additional information.



| Number | Bill Name | Sponsor | Summary |
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| Agriculture & Food | | | |
| H.B. 31 | Agritourism Amendments | Rep. Albrecht/ Sen. Sandall | Expands agricultural nuisance liability and civil liability protections related to agritourism. Provides that an agricultural protection area may include an agritourism activity. Includes additional risks inherent to participating in an agritourism activity and requires an agritourism operator to post signage regarding the inherent risks. Requires the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food (UDAF) to maintain an agritourism registry. |
| H.B. 52 | Industrial Hemp Amendments | Rep. Dailey- Provost/ Sen. Vickers | Modifies and enacts provisions related to industrial hemp, including enacting the Cannabinoid Licensing and Tax Act. |
| H.B. 291 | Department of Agriculture and Food Amendments | Rep. Shipp/ Sen. Winterton | Modifies provisions related to UDAF. |
| H.B. 297 | Utah Bee Inspection Act Amendments | Rep. Shipp/ Sen. Winterton | Restricts the ability of a governmental entity to regulate beekeeping on private property and provides exceptions for a governmental entity to restrict beekeeping in its jurisdiction. Requires UDAF to convene a working group to recommend standards that governmental entities must follow when restricting beekeeping. Grants UDAF related rulemaking authority. |



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| H.B. 375 | Domesticated Elk Amendments | Rep. Stratton/ Sen. Sandall | Establishes requirements for the importation of domesticated elk from east of the 100-degree meridian. Authorizes UDAF to stop importation or quarantine an elk in which UDAF identifies the spread of meningial worm. |
| H.B. 389 | Medical Cannabis Pharmacy Modifications | Rep. Brooks/ Sen. Vickers | Creates a medical cannabis pharmacy ownership limit and clarifies that the pharmacist-in-charge of a medical cannabis pharmacy determines which products are stocked. Authorizes the use of a closed-door medical cannabis pharmacy and limits their number in certain areas. |
| H.B. 478 | Animal Care Amendments | Rep. Thurston/ Sen. Plumb | Establishes requirements for animal care by an animal care facility. Authorizes UDAF to impose civil penalties for certain violations and criminalizes a violation of animal care requirements as an infraction. |
| H.B. 522 | Veterinarian Education Loan Repayment Program Amendments | Rep. Albrecht/ Sen. Winterton | Modifies the Veterinarian Education Loan Repayment Program to make annual loan balance payments. Expands the program to a veterinarian whose practice includes at least 30% livestock medicine. |
| H.B. 526 | Shell Egg Producers Amendments | Rep. Shipp/ Sen. Vickers | Removes a requirement that small shell egg producers only sell to an end consumer and establishes requirements for labeling and display of eggs from small producers at a grocery store. Authorizes rulemaking for UDAF relating to small producers that sell eggs wholesale. |
| S.B. 20 | Agricultural and Wildlife Damage Prevention Board Amendments | Sen. Sandall/ Rep. Brooks | Extends the sunset date of the Agricultural and Wildlife Damage Prevention Board from 2024 to 2034. |
| S.B. 73 | State Food Supply Amendments | Sen. Winterton/ Rep. Stratton | Places restrictions on state regulation of local food and limits rulemaking authority in relation to local food. |
| S.B. 222 | Egg Production Amendments | Sen. McKell/ Rep. Burton | Extends the deadline for a farm owner or operator to have a cage-free housing system for an egg-laying hen in an enclosure from 2025 to 2030. Requires UDAF to provide a report on implementation of the cage-free requirement to the Business and Labor Interim Committee. |
| S.B. 233 | Medical Cannabis Amendments | Sen. Escamilla/ Rep. Ward | Modifies provisions related to medical cannabis. |
| S.B. 235 | Railroad Amendments | Sen. Harper/ Rep. Christofferson | Establishes a rail ombudsman position within the rail division, whose duties include facilitating resolution of disputes related to injury or loss of livestock. Modifies implementation dates of certain provisions. |
| Environment | | | |
| H.B. 107 | Recycling Facility Transparency Amendments | Rep. Welton/ Sen. Bramble | Requires a recyclable material hauler to report data to political subdivisions and the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) about the amount of recycling material collected. Requires a political subdivision to publish the recycling data. |



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| H.B. 373 | Environmental Quality Amendments | Rep. Snider/ Sen. Sandall | Requires meetings between the Federalism Commission and DEQ. Addresses sales and use tax exemptions and certifications related to pollution control. Repeals the Air Quality Policy Advisory Board. Addresses the powers and duties of the Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining (DOGM) and the Board of Oil, Gas, and Mining. |
| H.B. 452 | Carbon Capture Amendments | Rep. Chew/ Sen. Hinkins | Repeals two existing funds and replaces them with the Carbon Dioxide Storage Fund. Addresses the Board of Oil, Gas, and Mining's authority to impose fees and deposit money into the fund. Addresses the holding of title by the state of storage facilities, including oversight of facilities used to store carbon dioxide after the board issues a certificate of project completion. Clarifies fee provisions. |
| H.B. 470 | Federal Agency Regulatory Review Amendments | Rep. Snider/ Sen. Sandall | Requires certain state agencies to identify and report to the attorney general on federal regulations impacted by the judicial doctrine of Chevron deference. Addresses a potential U.S. Supreme Court decision overturning Chevron deference and potential litigation by the attorney general. |
| H.B. 567 | Fire Regulation Amendments | Rep. Brooks/ Sen. Hinkins | Prohibits under certain circumstances the Air Quality Board or Division of Air Quality from prohibiting burns and addresses rulemaking authority. |
| Land | | | |
| H.B. 76 | State Resource Management Plan Amendments | Rep. Stratton/ Sen. Winterton | Adopts a state resource management plan to replace a previously adopted plan. |
| H.B. 159 | Bears Ears Visitor Center Advisory Committee Repeal Amendments | Rep. Owens/ Sen. Hinkins | Deletes a December 31, 2024, repeal date and enacts a December 31, 2026, sunset date for the Bears Ears Visitor Center Advisory Committee. |
| H.B. 262 | School and Institutional Trust Lands Amendments | Rep. Snider/ Sen. Cullimore | Exempts the sale or lease of certain large aggregations of trust lands from advertising requirements and excludes certain lands from sale or lease under the large aggregation exemption. Requires rulemaking for determining the fair market value of trust lands. |
| H.B. 302 | Paleontological Landmark Amendments | Rep. Elison/ Sen. Ipson | Modifies the process to designate a state paleontological landmark. Addresses ownership and control of a state paleontological landmark and amends the permitting requirements to excavate on a privately owned paleontological landmark. |
| H.B. 363 | Livestock Grazing Amendments | Rep. Albrecht/ Sen. Sandall | Recognizes a federal grazing allotment as a valid existing right in range management. |
| H.B. 437 | Fire Amendments | Rep. Snider/ Sen. McKell | Modifies provisions concerning control and funding related to fire. |
| H.B. 471 | Public Lands Possession Amendments | Rep. Lyman/ Sen. Bramble | Asserts ownership and jurisdiction over roads included on a county's class B and class D road map or a county travel plan unless the road has been closed through proper |



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| | | | adjudicative proceedings. Allows the state or a county to disregard any attempted closure of a road without due process and asserts that the burden of proof to show the need to close a road or to claim ownership falls on the federal government. |
| H.B. 496 | Public Land Use Amendments | Rep. Albrecht/ Rep. Balderree | Requires PLPCO to recognize and promote principles of multiple use and sustained yield on federal public lands within the state. Prohibits natural asset companies from purchasing or leasing state public lands. |
| H.B. 519 | Department of Natural Resources Modifications | Rep. Snider/ Sen. Sandall | Modifies provisions related to the Department of Natural Resources. |
| H.C.R. 8 | Concurrent Resolution Creating the Butch Cassidy State Monument | Rep. Albrecht/ Sen. Owens | Approves the creation of the Butch Cassidy State Monument. |
| H.J.R. 19 | Joint Resolution Encouraging Support for the Houses Act | Rep. Ivory/ Sen. Winterton | Highlights the benefits to Utah's communities and families if, pursuant to the HOUSES Act, the state was able to acquire federally-controlled lands for the development of attainable housing. Urges members Congress to enact the HOUSES Act. |
| H.J.R. 26 | Joint Resolution Rejecting Exchange of School and Institutional Trust Lands | Rep. Snider/ Sen. Sandall | Rejects the proposed exchange of state school and institutional trust lands and mineral interests in and around the Bears Ears National Monument for U.S. government lands. |
| S.B. 108 | Veteran Access to State Parks | Sen. Kwan/ Rep. Gwynn | Creates a one-year pilot program that expands free access to state parks on a limited basis to veterans who have an Interagency Military-Lifetime Pass for national parks and are a resident of the state. |
| S.C.R. 6 | Concurrent Resolution Creating the Golden Spike State Monument | Sen. Sandall/ Rep. Peterson | Approves the creation of the Golden Spike State Monument. |
| Mining | | | |
| H.B. 54 | Coal Miner Certification Panel Amendments | Rep. Albrecht/ Sen. Hinkins | Extends the sunset date for the Coal Miner Certification Panel from 2024 to 2034. |
| H.B. 353 | Mining Operations Amendments | Rep. Bolinder/ Sen. Hinkins | Amends the process for approval of notice of intentions for large mining operations and addresses conversion between small and large mining operations. Provides procedures for review of permit orders, addresses judicial review, and clarifies the process of amending or revising a notice of intention. |
| H.B. 407 | Eminent Domain Modifications | Rep. Bolinder/ Sen. Sandall | Addresses when eminent domain related to mining is prohibited. |
| H.B. 433 | Brine Amendments | Rep. Bolinder/ Sen. Owens | Requires a study by DOGM related to brine mining operations. Provides for the designation of multiple mineral development areas and addresses the Board of Oil, Gas, and Mining's powers and rulemaking authority. |



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| H.B. 502 | Critical Infrastructure and Mining | Rep. Snider/ Sen. Cullimore | Requires a study by the Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining of critical infrastructure materials operations and related mining. |
| Water | | | |
| H.B. 11 | Water Efficient Landscaping Requirements | Rep. Owens/ Sen. Winterton | Restricts the use of overhead spray irrigation by certain governmental entities. |
| H.B. 42 | Water Rights Publication Amendments | Rep. Briscoe/ Sen. McKell | Permits the state engineer to confirm publication of a notice of application through electronic means. |
| H.B. 57 | Snake Valley Aquifer Advisory Council Amendments | Rep. Brooks/ Sen. Sandall | Repeals the Snake Valley Aquifer Council chapter and removes language citing provisions of that chapter. |
| H.B. 61 | Water Measuring and Accounting Amendments | Rep. Albrecht/ Sen. McKell | Modifies the state water policy to address telemetry and grants rulemaking authority regarding measurement and accounting. |
| H.B. 62 | Utah Water Ways Amendments | Rep. Owens/ Sen. Sandall | Outlines coordination between Utah Water Ways and the public education system to create water related resources for grades K-12. |
| H.B. 206 | Columbia Interstate Compact Amendments | Rep. Peterson/ Sen. Sandall | Removes Utah's ratification of the Columbia Interstate Compact. |
| H.B. 275 | Water Amendments | Rep. Snider/ Sen. Sandall | Addresses homeowners associations and water-wise landscaping. Clarifies who is eligible for grant money for water conservation efforts other than secondary water metering. Permits the state engineer to require data be submitted in a particular format under certain circumstances. |
| H.B. 280 | Water Related Changes | Rep. Snider/ Sen. Sandall | Requires a study of the financing of water infrastructure projects. Enacts provisions related to planning and prioritizing water infrastructure projects and creates the Water Infrastructure Fund. Modifies provisions related to the formulation of a state water plan, the Water Development Coordinating Council, and the Watershed Councils Act. |
| H.B. 295 | Produced Water Amendments | Rep. Lund/ Sen. Vickers | Addresses the Board of Oil, Gas, and Mining's regulation of produced water. Enacts the Produced Water Act. Addresses water right issues and enacts provisions related to possessory interests and control. |
| H.B. 453 | Great Salt Lake Revisions | Rep. Snider/ Sen. Sandall | Addresses actions affecting the Great Salt Lake, including addressing mineral lease and royalty agreement provisions, modifying provisions related to severance taxes, enacting the Great Salt Lake Preservation Act, and directing the state engineer to develop a Great Salt Lake distribution management plan related to water rights. |
| H.B. 507 | Construction Amendments | Rep. Musselman/ Sen. Bramble | Establishes standards regarding how municipality systems regulate controls for storm water runoff and inspect construction sites impacting storm water runoff. Establishes penalties for non-compliance. |



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| S.B. 17 | Safe Drinking Water Act Sunset Extension | Sen. Sandall/ Rep. Brooks | Extends the sunset date for the Safe Drinking Water Act from 2024 to 2029. |
| S.B. 18 | Water Modifications | Sen. Sandall/ Rep. Snider | Addresses provisions related to saved water. Modifies requirements for grants for agricultural water optimization and repeals certain language related to agricultural water optimization. |
| S.B. 39 | Water Shareholder Amendments | Sen. Sandall/ Rep. Snider | Addresses the timing of a water company's response to a shareholder's proposed change application. |
| S.B. 77 | Water Rights Restricted Account Amendments | Sen. Sandall/ Rep. Snider | Modifies the purposes for which money in the Water Rights Restricted Account may be expended. |
| S.B. 125 | Secondary Water Amendments | Sen. Hinkins/ Rep. Albrecht | Modifies who may meter at strategic points of a system as approved by the state engineer. Changes certain caps on grants for secondary water metering. |
| S.B. 211 | Generational Water Infrastructure Amendments | Sen. Adams/ Rep. Schultz | Addresses the development of water resources, including creating the Water District Water Development Council to plan for generational water infrastructure and providing for the appointment of the Utah water agent to explore and negotiate possible water importation projects. |
| S.B. 242 | Utah Lake Modifications | Sen. McKell/ Rep. Brammer | Repeals the Utah Lake Restoration Act and the provisions related to the Utah Lake Diking Project. |
| S.B. 270 | Utah Lake and Great Salt Lake Study Amendments | Sen. Bramble/ Rep. Stratton | Requires the Division of Forestry, Fire, and State Lands to conduct a study to determine how to enhance certain benefits associated with Utah Lake. |
| Wildlife & Outdoor Recreation | | | |
| H.B. 23 | Division of Outdoor Recreation Advisory Council Sunset Extension | Rep. Brooks/ Sen. Sandall | Extends the sunset date of the advisory council that advises the Division of Outdoor Recreation on boating policies from 2024 to 2029. |
| H.B. 222 | Wildlife Hunting Amendments | Rep. Gricius/ Sen. Bramble | Addresses what is sufficient wearing of hunter orange while hunting big game and grants the director of the Division of Wildlife Resources authority related to the wearing of hunter orange by non-hunters. Addresses the commercial use of big game byproducts, including the payment of fees. |
| H.B. 360 | Outdoor Recreation Amendments | Rep. Owens/ Sen. Hinkins | Permits the Division of Outdoor Recreation to accept private funding and labor for maintenance of outdoor recreation infrastructure and grants the division related rulemaking authority. |
| H.B. 382 | Wildlife Amendments | Rep. Snider/ Sen. McKell | Addresses wildlife, including political subdivisions and wildlife, the taking of antlers and horns, and requiring the use of certain bird names in the management of birds and bird habitat. |
| H.B. 469 | Department of Natural Resources Law Enforcement Amendments | Rep. Wilcox/ Sen. Owens | Creates the Division of Law Enforcement within the Department of Natural Resources. |



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| H.C.R. 13 | Concurrent Resolution Related to the Division of Wildlife Resources | Rep. Albrecht/ Sen. McKell | Acknowledges the Division of Wildlife Resources' role in managing and protecting Utah wildlife and encourages the division to capture and return wolves to Colorado. |
| S.B. 20 | Agricultural and Wildlife Damage Prevention Board Amendments | Sen. Sandall/ Rep. Brooks | Extends the sunset date of the Agricultural and Wildlife Damage Prevention Board from 2024 to 2034. |
| S.B. 76 | Evidence Retention Amendments | Sen. Harper/ Rep. Ivory | Amends provisions related to the retention and disposal of evidence of an offense, including clarifying the requirements for disposing of wildlife seized by the Division of Wildlife Resources. |