

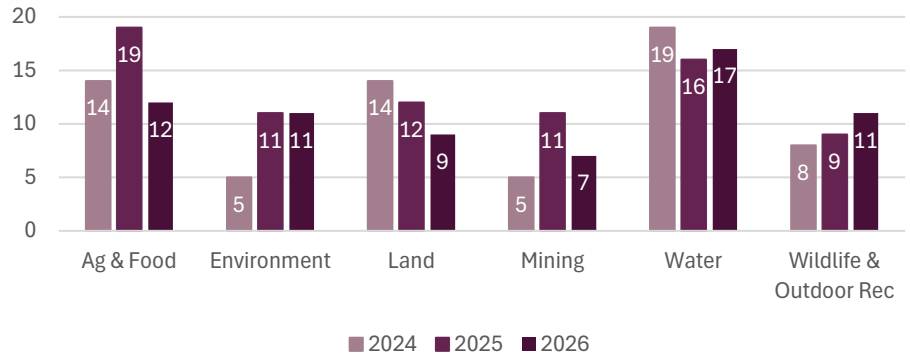


2026 Passed Legislation

Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment | May 20, 2026

The Legislature passed 67 bills during the 2026 General Session related to natural resources, agriculture, and environment (NRAE). The figure to the right shows the number of bills by subject compared to the 2023 and 2024 General Sessions. The table below lists each of the 2026 General Session NRAE bills and provides a summary.

2024-2026 NRAE Bills by Subject



This document is a general resource and may not include every piece of 2026 legislation related to NRAE. For example, it does not include budget bills, bills that affect all state agencies, or the omnibus sunset bill. Please contact NRAE Interim Committee staff with questions.

Number	Bill Name	Sponsor	Summary
Agriculture & Food			
S.B. 26	Pest Control Amds.	Sen. Stratton Rep. Albrecht	Amends provisions related to a pesticide applicator business, including providing for a registration established by rule, modifying fee requirements, and repealing the qualified party concept. Provides for permitting of ornamental and turf technicians and certain salespersons.
S.B. 45	Kratom Adjustments	Sen. McKell Rep. Hall	Requires a kratom processor and kratom retailer to register with the Department of Agriculture and Food. Amends other provisions related to the sale of kratom, including restricting who can sell kratom and banning certain kratom products.
S.B. 66	Medical Cannabis Pharmacy License Amds.	Sen. Vickers Rep. Dailey-Provost	Clarifies and amends provisions related the Department of Agriculture and Food’s authority to establish geographic regions for the locations of medical cannabis pharmacies.
S.B. 121	Medical Cannabis Program Amds.	Sen. Vickers Rep. Brooks	Amends provisions related to the medical cannabis program.
S.B. 217	Local Food Amds.	Sen. Cullimore Rep. Chevrier	Addresses provisions related to locally produced foods, including exempting food/food ingredients or prepared food sold by a home cook from state sales tax and clarifying when a producer or producer’s designated representative may sell a homemade food product at a direct-to-sale location.
H.B. 16	Solar Power Plant Amds.	Rep. Jack Sen. Hinkins	Establishes eligibility criteria for state incentives for solar power plants based on the land’s agricultural value. Provides for reduction of incentives for solar power plants located on certain protected farmland, with exemptions. Requires wildlife impact consultation, establishes requirements for decommissioning plans and financial



			assurance, and creates a permitting process for solar power plants.
H.B. 66	Soil Health Program Amds.	Rep. Albrecht Sen. Stratton	Extends the repeal date for the Utah Soil Health Program to July 1, 2036.
H.B. 179	Milk Amds.	Rep. Chevrier Sen. Cullimore	Outlines general requirements related to raw milk or raw milk products, including requirements related to permits and labeling. Addresses foodborne illness outbreaks and cease and desist orders. Provides for fees and imposes penalties. Exempts from certain requirements the sales or deliveries of raw milk or raw products from a farm and provides for an exemption for small producers.
H.B. 369	Agriculture and Food Amds.	Rep. Albrecht Sen. Ipson	Addresses provisions related to the Department of Agriculture and Food.
H.B. 385	Specialized Product Sales Amds.	Rep. Dailey-Provost Sen. McKell	Amends provisions related to specialized products, including creating a license for a person that sells specialized products, to be administered by the Department of Agriculture and Food.
H.B. 389	Cannabis Amds.	Rep. Dailey-Provost Sen. Vickers	Amends provisions related to cannabis, including moving all Department of Health and Human Services duties related to the medical cannabis program and control of the Qualified Patient Enterprise Fund to the Department of Agriculture and Food.
H.B. 493	Consumer Products Amds.	Rep. Sawyer Sen. Millner	Addresses provisions related to consumer products, including establishing a schedule and timeline of civil penalties for a violation of the weights and measures program under the Department of Agriculture and Food.

Environment

S.B. 146	Industrial Byproduct Amds.	Sen. Grover Rep. Bolinder	Provides that an industrial byproduct may be used in a project, if the director of the Division of Waste Management and Radiation Control approves or has approved an application to reuse the industrial byproduct.
S.B. 234	Rulemaking Amds.	Sen. Brammer Rep. Jack	Prohibits certain rules related to environmental health and waste management from being more stringent or extensive in scope, coverage, or effect than any federal law or regulation. Requires an agency to ensure certain rules involving environmental management are supported by scientific evidence.
S.B. 251	Local Health Department and Department of Environmental Quality Coordination	Sen. Sandall Rep. Peterson	Removes a requirement that the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) report to the Rules Review and General Oversight Committee regarding the evaluation of a policy or rule that affects a local health department. Establishes a process for a local government or local health department to submit a reimbursement request to DEQ for a qualifying extraordinary expense incurred in a qualifying environmental enforcement activity.



H.B. 37	Used Oil Management Act Amds.	Rep. Chew Sen. Stratton	Increases the recycling fee on the sale of lubricating oil beginning on July 1, 2026, from 4 cents/qt. (16 cents/gal.) to 8 cents/qt. (32 cents/gal.). Allows the Division of Waste Management and Radiation Control (division) to set by rule the recycling fee on the sale of lubricating oil beginning on July 1, 2027, requires the division to notify the State Tax Commission of a fee change 90 days in advance, and clarifies that the division may use grant funding to hire permitted transporters as part of a curbside used oil collection program.
H.B. 78	Nuclear Regulatory Amds.	Rep. Albrecht Sen. Owens	Establishes the Nuclear Energy Regulatory Office within the Division of Waste Management and Radiation Control (division), authorizes establishment and collection of fees, and directs the division to pursue expanded Agreement State status with the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission.
H.B. 185	Carbon Credit Amds.	Rep. Shelley Sen. Owens	Creates the Carbon Credit Litigation Fund and specifies the fund’s purpose, establishes reporting for a state entity that sells or exchanges a carbon credit, and requires the state auditor to report on the sale of carbon credits by state entities to the NRAEQ Approps. Subcommittee.
H.B. 222	Limitation of Actions Amds.	Rep. Albrecht Sen. Balderree	Clarifies the limitation on liability of a person for damage or injury caused by greenhouse gas emissions and removes the requirement that a person reside or do business in this state to qualify for the limited liability.
H.B. 323	Solar Panel Disposal Amds.	Rep. Jack Sen. Sandall	Creates a study and a program for the testing and disposal of solar panel waste, including imposing a distributed generation fee on small-scale solar entities and an assessment on renewable energy parent entities.
H.B. 378	Fugitive Dust Mitigation Amds.	Rep. Gricius Sen. Owens	Allows the Division of Air Quality to impose a compliance fee up to certain amounts on an aggregate operation, authorizes the Air Quality Board to set a compliance fee amount by rule beginning on July 1, 2028, and requires a fugitive dust facility to post informational signage.
H.B. 437	Environmental Permitting Amds.	Rep. Shallenberger Sen. Millner	Creates a program for expedited review of environmental permit applications by the Department of Environmental Quality and the Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining.
H.B. 582	Asbestos Amds.	Rep. Peterson Sen. Musselman	Modifies asbestos testing requirements for a residential property with four or fewer units.
Land			
S.B. 21	Geothermal Amds.	Sen. McKell Rep. Albrecht	Provides that a person that owns the surface land also owns the geothermal resources, unless expressly conveyed or reserved, except that the reservation of mineral deposits on state and institutional trust land includes a geothermal resource. Clarifies that the purposes of the geothermal chapter are related to geothermal resources for the purpose



			of electricity production. Modifies provisions related to ownership of geothermal resources or fluids, amends powers of the Division of Water Rights related to confidentiality of information and addresses bonding requirements.
S.B. 44	Statewide Resource Management Plan Amds.	Sen. Stratton Rep. Ivory	Adopts a statewide resource management plan to replace a previously adopted plan.
H.B. 211	Real Property Recording Amds.	Rep. Chew Sen. Balderree	Provides that a county recorder may record a document without acknowledgment or jurat, if the document has the Great Seal affixed by the lieutenant governor.
H.B. 215	Landscaping Restrictions Amds.	Rep. Petersen Sen. Vickers	Restricts a county, municipality, or homeowner association from prohibiting a property owner from removing vegetation on property located in a wildland-urban interface area.
H.B. 376	Land Management Funding Amds.	Rep. Albrecht Sen. Sandall	Establishes the Utah Forest Restoration Institute (institute) in connection with Utah State University and requires the institute to coordinate with the Watershed Restoration Initiative to fund watershed and forest restoration projects and monitor the long-term effectiveness of those projects.
H.B. 496	Forestry and Fire Amds.	Rep. Shelley Sen. Owens	Provides for the Division of Forestry, Fire, and State Lands (FFSL) enforcement and investigatory powers related to wildland fires and heritage trees and allows FFSL to use money related to cooperative agreements for forest management for rehabilitation of federal lands after a wildfire if it benefits state and private lands.
H.B. 509	Wetlands Study Amds.	Rep. Owens Sen. McKell	Restores a requirement that the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) publish land use permits for wetlands. Directs DNR to complete a study on wetlands in counties of the first or second class and report study findings and recommendations to the NRAE Interim Committee.
H.B. 536	Criminal Conduct on Public Lands Amds.	Rep. Barlow Sen. Ipson	Creates the Public Lands Restoration and Protection Fund (fund). Amends the criminal offense of defacing by graffiti on public lands, including adding conduct involving natural and archaeological features. Amends penalty provisions for certain criminal violations of the offense of antiquities alteration, removal, injury, or destruction. Provides that a court may order criminal restitution to be deposited into the fund if the violation is on state lands.
H.B. 546	Public Lands Duty of Care Amds.	Rep. Ivory Sen. Stratton	Asserts the state's jurisdictional interest in land controlled by the federal government under a proprietary interest and directs the Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office (office) to promote the state's jurisdictional interests on landscape-scale public lands. Requires the office to map landscape-scale lands in the state and report annually on the map to the Federalism Commission and NRAE Interim Committee.



Mining

S.C.R. 4	Concurrent Resolution Regarding Permitting of Oil, Gas, and Mining	Sen. Winterton Rep. Albrecht	Supports efforts to formalize a cooperative agreement with Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to enhance the efficiency of the permit review process for oil, gas, and mining operations on BLM lands.
S.C.R. 9	Concurrent Resolution Regarding Critical Minerals Development and Funding	Sen. Millner Rep. Shallenberger	Highlights the urgency to develop domestic supplies of critical minerals. Outlines the role of the proposed Minerals for Industrial, National, and Economic Security Center (MINES Center) in establishing Utah as a critical minerals hub. Calls on the state's congressional delegation to support the state's efforts to create a MINES Center and to achieve a designation and funding for a critical minerals national lab in the state.
S.B. 135	Nuclear Reprocessing Amds.	Sen. Owens Rep. Albrecht	Authorizes the Office of Energy Development (OED) to coordinate with public and private entities regarding nuclear fuel recycling facility development, serve as a liaison between private entities and local communities regarding nuclear fuel recycling facility development, and pursue development of a Nuclear Lifecycle Innovation Campus. Requires OED to analyze state laws and rules for barriers to hosting a campus and provide certain reports. Authorizes the Utah Energy Council to provide strategic guidance, conduct preliminary assessments, and report recommendations.
S.B. 254	Extracted Natural Resources Amds.	Sen. Millner Rep. Shallenberger	Adopts state critical mineral policy and objectives and creates the critical minerals council. Facilitates faster permitting by the Department of Environmental Quality and the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining, and establishes a process to designate critical mineral zones, including providing for property tax differential revenue. Provides for the creation of a critical minerals clearinghouse, addresses the creation of the Minerals for Industrial, National, and Economic Security Center, and creates the Critical Minerals Development Account. Modifies the tax credit for mining exploration and diverts various streams of severance tax revenue into a State Reinvestment Restricted Account.
H.B. 419	Environmental Legal Action Amds.	Rep. Jack Sen. Hinkins	Expands the definition of environmental action to include judicial review of certain permits issued by the Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining.
H.B. 549	Energy Efficiency Rebate Amds.	Rep. Shallenberger Sen. Cullimore	Requires a large-scale public utility to annually report to the Office of Energy Development (OED) regarding its energy rebate program. Requires OED to review energy rebate programs.



H.B. 575	Fuel Tax and Supply Amds.	Rep. Roberts Sen. Brammer	Enacts provisions related to permitting and right-of-way coordination for certain oil and gas infrastructure. Requires refineries to report to the Office of Energy Development regarding production, amends definitions related to the High-Cost Infrastructure Development Tax Credit and reduces the motor fuel tax rate to 31.9 cents per gallon.
Water			
S.B. 20	Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Technical Changes	Sen. Stratton Rep. Albrecht	Repeals and clarifies outdated provisions and makes other technical changes to statutes related to natural resources, agriculture, and environment or related legislative committees.
S.B. 46	Water Wise Landscaping Amds.	Sen. Stratton Rep. Snider	Imposes landscaping requirements on state government facilities, including limits on turf that is not functional turf, limits on overhead spray irrigation, and the use of waterwise landscaping.
S.B. 252	Water Usage at State-owned Facilities Amds.	Sen. Pitcher Rep. Koford	Requires a state agency to take certain actions related to irrigation and use of low-water turf and directs the Division of Facilities Construction and Management to audit irrigation systems.
S.B. 284	Local Land and Water Mods.	Sen. Fillmore Rep. Koford	Modifies provisions related to local land use and water planning, including requiring counties, municipalities and special districts to adopt a written plan, beginning on January 1, 2028, for determining the reasonable future water requirement before imposing a water exaction.
H.B. 19	Drinking Water Utilities Amds.	Rep. Jack Sen. Balderree	Requires a community water system to complete an emergency response plan and report a security breach to the Utah Cyber Center within two hours of discovering the breach. Requires the Division of Drinking Water to report annually on security at community water systems.
H.B. 60	Water Rights Amds.	Rep. Shallenberger Sen. Stratton	Modifies the extent to which the state engineer may consider a protest and the grounds that the state engineer may consider in approving or rejecting an application, including what the state engineer may consider related to public welfare. Clarifies who is an aggrieved person for purposes of seeking judicial review. Addresses temporary applications.
H.B. 63	Livestock Watering Amds.	Rep. Chew Sen. Sandall	Provides for sub-basin livestock watering claims.
H.B. 69	Drinking Water Restructuring Amds.	Rep. Albrecht Sen. Stratton	Addresses violations of the Safe Drinking Water Act (act). Allows a court to appoint a receiver for a supplier of a public water system to implement a corrective or remedial action for a violation of the act or compliance order, and to require a violator to divest ownership of the public water system. Requires the Division of Drinking Water to report to a legislative committee if it brings a civil action that may



			result in a receivership or divestment for a public water system supplier.
H.B. 76	Data Center Water Transparency Amds.	Rep. Koford Sen. Sandall	Directs land use authorities to issue certain notices before approving a land use application for a new large data center. Requires certain large data centers to notify the water provider and submit a report to the Division of Water Rights (division) before construction begins and to submit an annual report to the division after beginning operation. Addresses disclosure of the reported information and provides for enforcement mechanisms.
H.B. 187	Water Amds.	Rep. Jack Sen. Ipson	Exempts certain water conservancy district water rights related to the lower basin from provisions related to abandonment or forfeiture for nonuse. Prohibits certain instream flow applications related to the lower basin.
H.B. 247	Great Salt Lake Related Amds.	Rep. Ward Sen. Sandall	Addresses the Sovereign Land Management Account, including directing revenue generated by the brine shrimp royalty tax to the Sovereign Lands Management Account instead of the Species Protection Account under certain circumstances. Increases the brine shrimp royalty tax rate for a tax year beginning on or after February 1, 2026. Addresses the timing of certification of information and modifies a provision concerning a calculation for severance taxes related to certain Great Salt Lake extraction operators.
H.B. 251	Diligence Claims Water Amds.	Rep. Chew Sen. Hinkins	Creates a rebuttable presumption that a claimant has the right to use a livestock watering pond related to a homestead parcel under certain circumstances. Establishes the process for rebutting the presumption.
H.B. 296	Water Commitment Amds.	Rep. Nguyen Sen. Sandall	Permits a water provider to include a commitment of available water to uses on the Great Salt Lake in the water provider's water conservation plan.
H.B. 313	Landscaper Certification Amds.	Rep. Arthur Sen. Hinkins	Requires that the Division of Professional Licensing to identify a specialty contractor that primarily engages in landscape work and provides continuing education requirements that include water conservation and fire risk management landscaping principles.
H.B. 348	Dedicated Water Amds.	Rep. Koford Sen. Sandall	Addresses the approval of dedicated water applications, including prohibiting segregation of a dedicated water application from an underlying water right, addressing process for approval of instream flow and related actions, and providing for the filing and approval of a dedicated water application.
H.B. 410	Water Leasing Amds.	Rep. Koford Sen. Sandall	Addresses the leasing of water, including creating the Great Salt Lake (GSL) Preservation Board within the Office of the GSL Commissioner to establish a program for the leasing of agricultural water for the benefit of the GSL.



H.B. 473	Colorado River Authority Amds.	Rep. Chew Sen. Hinkins	Moves the Colorado River Authority of Utah (authority) from the governor's office to the Department of Natural Resources. Modifies provisions related to the authority, including the definition, membership, its operation, powers and duties, appointment and compensation of the river commissioner, and the hiring of the executive director.
Wildlife & Outdoor Recreation			
S.B. 130	River Restoration Amds.	Sen. Fillmore Rep. Acton	Modifies how the Division of Forestry, Fire, and State Lands expends money related to a Jordan River improvement project and creates a matching grant program to fund improvement projects that increase access to a recreational activity on the Jordan River.
S.B. 209	Gooseberry Narrows State Park Study	Sen. Owens Rep. Shelley	Requires the Division of State Parks to study the feasibility and potential cost of developing and constructing a state park and dam in the gooseberry narrows and requires the division to report the study results to the NRAE Interim Committee.
H.B. 12	Outdoor Recreation Accessibility Amds.	Rep. Welton Sen. Owens	Expands the Outdoor Recreational Infrastructure Grant Program's definition of "outdoor recreation project" to include construction of trails or facilities, improvements of trails or facilities, or acquisition of equipment for disabled or adaptive users.
H.B. 30	Wildlife Management Area Amds.	Rep. Shallenberger Sen. Stratton	Repeals language requiring a hunting, fishing, or combination license to enter a wildlife management area (WMA) and requires that an individual meet certain conditions (with exceptions) to access a WMA. Directs the Division of Wildlife Resources (division) to approve an educational video and provide digital verification of completion of the educational video. Creates the Wildlife Management Area Stewardship Fund, provides for voluntary financial contributions for the benefit of WMAs, and permits the division to oversee volunteer labor that benefits a WMA.
H.B. 54	Boating Safety Education	Rep. Petersen Sen. McCay	Creates a watercraft (motorboat or sailboat) operator safety course, establishes guidelines for the course, and prohibits the operation of a watercraft without evidence of completion of the course. Grants rulemaking authority to the Division of Outdoor Recreation to create and manage a safety briefing for liveries.
H.B. 93	Goshen Bay Waterfowl Management Area	Rep. Welton Sen. Owens	Provides for the creation of the Goshen Bay Waterfowl Management Area.
H.B. 111	Wildlife Amds.	Rep. Bolinder Sen. Musselman	Addresses the management of wildlife resources and wildlife habitats, including addressing hunting and fishing.
H.B. 125	Department of Natural Resources Related Modifications Amds.	Rep. Shipp Sen. Hinkins	Addresses provisions related to the Department of Natural Resources and related regulated areas, such as the regulation of aquatic invasive species.



H.B. 412	Energy Development Planning Amds.	Rep. Owens Sen. Owens	Requires consultation with the Division of Wildlife Resources as part of local government approval of utility scale solar and wind power plant projects.
H.B. 431	Wildlife Crossing Amds.	Rep. Chew Sen. Owens	Creates the Wildlife Crossing Account for projects that improve wildlife safety and connectivity and livestock safety. Creates a sales and use tax earmark to be deposited into the account and defines the allowed uses of the money. Directs the Department of Transportation to recommend projects to the Transportation Commission and creates the option for certain registration/license applicants to make a voluntary contribution to support wildlife connectivity.
H.B. 567	Outdoor Recreational Infrastructure Grant Program Amds.	Rep. Peterson Sen. Sandall	Clarifies that a recreational infrastructure project may include the restoration of a natural feature, like a waterbody, for greater public access to the state's outdoors.