

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA AMENDMENTS

2019 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Casey Snider

Senate Sponsor: Allen M. Christensen

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill creates and provides for the use of the Willard Spur Waterfowl Management Area.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ addresses definitions;
- ▶ creates the management area and describes the land included in the management area;
- ▶ requires a memorandum of understanding with the Division of Forestry, Fire, and State Lands;
- ▶ provides for management of the management area by the Division of Wildlife Resources in accordance with specified purposes and a management plan;
- ▶ permits the division to restrict public access or recreational opportunity under certain circumstances; and
- ▶ makes technical changes.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:



28 AMENDS:

29 **23-21-.5**, as enacted by Laws of Utah 1998, Chapter 218

30 **23-21-5**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 1975, Chapter 60

31

32 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

33 Section 1. Section **23-21-.5** is amended to read:

34 **23-21-.5. Definitions.**

35 As used in this chapter:

36 (1) "General plan" means a document that a municipality or county adopts that sets
37 forth general guidelines for proposed future development of the land within the municipality or
38 county and includes what is commonly referred to as a "master plan."

39 (2) "Management plan" means a document prepared in accordance with this chapter
40 that describes how one or more tracts of land owned or managed by the Division of Wildlife
41 Resources are to be used.

42 (3) "Regional advisory council" means a council created pursuant to Section **23-14-2.6**.

43 (4) "Wildlife management area" means:

44 (a) a single tract of land owned or managed by the division; or

45 (b) two or more tracts of land owned or managed by the division that are within close
46 proximity of each other and managed as a single unit.

47 Section 2. Section **23-21-5** is amended to read:

48 **23-21-5. State-owned lands authorized for use as wildlife management areas,**
49 **fishing waters and for other recreational activities.**

50 (1) The Wildlife Board is authorized to use any and all unsurveyed state-owned lands
51 below the 1855 meander line of the Great Salt Lake within the following townships for the
52 creation, operation, maintenance and management of wildlife management areas, fishing
53 waters and other recreational activities[-]:

54 Township 2 South, Range 5 West, S.L.B. and M.; Township 2 South, Range 4 West,
55 S.L.B. and M.; Township 1 South, Range 5 West, S.L.B. and M.; Township 1 South, Range 4
56 West, S.L.B. and M.; Township 1 South, Range 3 West, S.L.B. and M.; Township 1 North,
57 Range 3 West, S.L.B. and M.; Township 1 North, Range 2 West, S.L.B. and M.; Township 2
58 North, Range 3 West, S.L.B. and M.; Township 2 North, Range 2 West, S.L.B. and M.;

59 Township 2 North, Range 1 West, S.L.B. and M.; Township 3 North, Range 3 West, S.L.B.
 60 and M.; Township 3 North, Range 2 West, S.L.B. and M.; Township 3 North, Range 1 West,
 61 S.L.B. and M.; Township 4 North, Range 3 West, S.L.B. and M.; Township 4 North, Range 2
 62 West, S.L.B. and M.; Sections 1, 2, 11, 12, 13, 14, 23, and 24, Township 4 North, Range 4
 63 West, S.L.B. and M.; Township 5 North, Range 3 West, S.L.B. and M.; Township 5 North,
 64 Range 4 West, S.L.B. and M.; Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 11, and 12, Township 5 North, Range 5
 65 West, S.L.B. and M.; Township 6 North, Range 5 West, S.L.B. and M.; Township 6 North,
 66 Range 4 West, S.L.B. and M.; Township 6 North, Range 3 West, S.L.B. and M.; Township 7
 67 North, Range 5 West, S.L.B. and M.; Township 7 North, Range 4 West, S.L.B. and M.;
 68 Township 7 North, Range 3 West, S.L.B. and M.; Township 7 North, Range 2 West, S.L.B.
 69 and M.; Township 8 North, Range 5 West, S.L.B. and M.; Township 8 North, Range 4 West,
 70 S.L.B. and M.; Township 8 North, Range 3 West, S.L.B. and M.; Township 8 North, Range 2
 71 West, S.L.B. and M.; Township 9 North, Range 5 West, S.L.B. and M.; Township 9 North,
 72 Range 4 West, S.L.B. and M.; Township 11 North, Range 11 West, S.L.B. and M.; Township
 73 11 North, Range 10 West, S.L.B. and M.; Township 11 North, Range 9 West, S.L.B. and M.;
 74 Township 11 North, Range 8 West, S.L.B. and M.; North 1/2 of Township 10 North, Range 10
 75 West, S.L.B. and M.; North 1/2 of Township 10 North, Range 9 West, S.L.B. and M.; North
 76 1/2 of Township 10 North, Range 8 West, S.L.B. and M.

77 (2) (a) The Wildlife Board shall establish a wildlife management area known as the
 78 "Willard Spur Waterfowl Management Area" on the unsurveyed state-owned lands below the
 79 1855 meander line of the Great Salt Lake in Sections 26, 35, 36 of Township 8 North, Range 4
 80 West, S.L.B. and M.; Township 8 North, Range 3 West, S.L.B. and M.; Sections 1, 2, 11, 12 of
 81 Township 7 North, Range 4 West, S.L.B. and M.; Township 7 North, Range 3 West, S.L.B.
 82 and M.; Sections 20, 21, 29, 30, 31 of Township 8 North, Range 2 West, S.L.B. and M.;
 83 excepting the following:

84 (i) lands within the May 14, 2019, boundaries of the Bear River Migratory Bird
 85 Refuge;

86 (ii) lands within the May 14, 2019, boundaries of Harold Crane Waterfowl
 87 Management Area;

88 (iii) lands within the May 14, 2019, boundaries of Willard Bay Reservoir; and

89 (iv) lands within the May 14, 2019, boundaries of state mineral leases.

90 (b) The division shall execute a memorandum of understanding with the Division of
 91 Forestry, Fire, and State Lands recognizing the division's use of the state-owned lands
 92 described in Subsection (2)(a) as a wildlife management area.

93 (c) The division shall manage the state-owned lands described in Subsection (2)(a) as a
 94 wildlife management area and consistent with:

95 (i) the beneficial purposes identified in Subsection (2)(d); and

96 (ii) a management plan created consistent with the procedures in this chapter for a
 97 management plan.

98 (d) The division shall manage the Willard Spur Waterfowl Management Area for the
 99 following beneficial purposes:

100 (i) propagating and sustaining waterfowl, upland gamebirds, desirable mammals,
 101 shorebirds, and other migratory and nonmigratory birds that use the Great Salt Lake ecosystem
 102 and the Great Salt Lake ecosystem's surrounding wetlands;

103 (ii) preserving and enhancing the natural function, vegetation, and water flows

103a **Ĥ→ [required] under existing or acquired water rights ←Ĥ**

104 to provide productive habitat for the species listed in Subsection (2)(d)(i);

105 (iii) providing recreational opportunity for traditional marsh-related activities,
 106 including hunting, fishing, trapping, and wildlife viewing; and

107 (iv) providing public access in the management area for purposes of hunting, fishing,
 108 trapping, and wildlife viewing, including access with airboats and other small watercraft.

109 (e) The division shall provide the habitat, recreational opportunities, and public access
 110 described in Subsection (2)(d) without construction or use of an impounding dike, impounding
 111 levee, or other impounding structure.

112 (f) Notwithstanding the purposes identified in Subsection (2)(d), the division may

113 **Ĥ→ [restrict public access or recreational opportunity in selected areas or for periods of time] not**
 113a **prohibit year-round public airboat and small watercraft access in the management area except**
 113b **in selected areas during limited periods of time ←Ĥ to**
 114 protect habitat, nesting birds, or vulnerable wildlife.