

Representative Casey Snider proposes the following substitute bill:

WILDLIFE MODIFICATIONS

2021 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Casey Snider

Senate Sponsor: Derrin R. Owens

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill enacts provisions related to the hunting of waterfowl and other wildlife.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ defines terms;
- ▶ authorizes and instructs the Wildlife Board to make rules governing the use of trail cameras;
- ▶ prohibits big game baiting;
- ▶ prohibits the construction of permanent blinds or other structures used for hunting within a waterfowl management area;
- ▶ prohibits commercial hunting guides from transporting individuals across a waterfowl management area; and
- ▶ authorizes and instructs the Wildlife Board to make rules regarding the creation and management of waterfowl management areas.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None



26 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

27 AMENDS:

28 **23-13-18**, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2008, Chapter 34

29 ENACTS:

30 **23-16-11**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

31 **23-32-101**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

32 **23-32-102**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

33 **23-32-103**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

34 **23-32-104**, Utah Code Annotated 1953



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

37 Section 1. Section **23-13-18** is amended to read:

38 **23-13-18. Use of a computer or other device to remotely hunt wildlife prohibited**
39 **-- Trail cameras.**

40 (1) A person may not use a computer or other device to remotely control the aiming
41 and discharge of a firearm or other weapon for hunting an animal.

42 (2) A person who violates Subsection (1) is guilty of a class A misdemeanor.

43 (3) (a) As used in this Subsection (3), "trail camera" means a device that is not held or
44 manually operated by a person and is used to capture images, video, or location data of wildlife
45 using heat or motion to trigger the device.

46 (b) In accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, the
47 Wildlife Board shall make rules regulating the use of trail cameras.

48 (c) The division shall provide an annual report to the Natural Resources, Agriculture,
49 and Environment Interim Committee regarding rules made or changed in accordance with this
50 Subsection (3).

51 Section 2. Section **23-16-11** is enacted to read:

52 **23-16-11. Big game baiting prohibited.**

53 (1) As used in this section:

54 (a) (i) "Bait" means intentionally placing food or nutrient substances to manipulate the
55 behavior of wildlife for the purpose of taking or attempting to take big game.

56 (ii) "Bait" does not include:

57 (A) the use of salt, mineral blocks, or other commonly used types of livestock
58 supplements placed in the field by agricultural producers for normal agricultural purposes;

59 (B) standing crops, natural vegetation, harvested croplands, or lands or areas where
60 seeds or grains have been scattered solely as the result of a normal agricultural planting,
61 harvesting, post-harvest manipulation, or normal soil stabilization practice; or

62 (C) supplemental feeding.

63 (b) "Baited area" means all land within a 50-yard radius of the site where bait is placed,
64 including the site where bait is placed.

65 (c) "Supplemental feeding" means intentionally placing food or nutrient substances for
66 the purpose of maintaining or improving big game animal health if the food or nutrient
67 substances are removed each year during the period beginning August 1 and ending on the last
68 day of the latest big game hunting season for the area where the food or nutrient substances are
69 placed.

70 (2) Unless authorized by a certificate of registration, it is unlawful to:

71 (a) bait big game;

72 (b) take big game in a baited area; or

73 (c) take big game that has been lured to or is traveling from a baited area.

74 (3) The division may only issue a certificate of registration to allow for the baiting of
75 big game if the division determines that baiting is necessary to alleviate substantial big game
76 degradation on cultivated crops or to facilitate the removal of deer causing property damage
77 within cities or towns.

78 Section 3. Section **23-32-101** is enacted to read:

79 **CHAPTER 32. WATERFOWL MANAGEMENT AREAS ACT**

80 **23-32-101. Title.**

81 This chapter is known as the "Waterfowl Management Areas Act."

82 Section 4. Section **23-32-102** is enacted to read:

83 **23-32-102. Definitions.**

84 (1) The definitions in Section [58-79-102](#) apply to this chapter.

85 (2) (a) As used in this chapter, "waterfowl management area" means real property
86 owned or managed by the Division of Wildlife Resources that is:

87 (i) primarily used for the conservation, production, or recreational harvest of ducks,

88 mergansers, geese, brant, swans, and other waterfowl; and

89 (ii) designated as a waterfowl management area by the Wildlife Board in accordance
90 with Section 23-32-104.

91 (b) "Waterfowl management area" includes the Willard Spur Waterfowl Management
92 Area and the Harold Crane Waterfowl Management Area described in Section 23-21-5.

93 Section 5. Section 23-32-103 is enacted to read:

94 **23-32-103. Prohibited Activities.**

95 (1) A commercial hunting guide or outfitter may not use a waterfowl management area
96 for any of the following, unless the commercial hunting guide or outfitter has an annual permit,
97 issued by the Wildlife Board pursuant to this chapter, for the use:

98 (a) hunting guide services or outfitter services; or

99 (b) transportation of an individual to another area for the purpose of providing hunting
100 guide services or outfitter services.

101 (2) An individual may not construct a permanent blind or other permanent structure
102 that is used for hunting within the boundaries of a waterfowl management area.

103 Section 6. Section 23-32-104 is enacted to read:

104 **23-32-104. Rulemaking -- Notice.**

105 (1) In accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, the
106 Wildlife Board shall make rules:

107 (a) designating and establishing the boundaries of a waterfowl management area;

108 (b) governing the management and use of a waterfowl management area in accordance
109 with the provisions of this chapter; and

110 (c) to create an annual permit process by which commercial hunting guides and
111 outfitters may use waterfowl management areas in accordance with the provisions of this
112 chapter.

113 (2) The annual permit process described in Subsection (1)(c) shall:

114 (a) preserve the opportunity for non-guided hunters to use waterfowl management
115 areas; and

116 (b) require a permit holder to comply with safety standards established by the Wildlife
117 Board.

118 (3) The division shall provide an annual report to the Natural Resources, Agriculture,

119 and Environment Interim Committee regarding any rules made or changed in accordance with
120 this chapter.

121 (4) The Wildlife Board shall publish a map of the boundaries of each waterfowl
122 management area.

123 (5) Nothing in this chapter modifies or limits:

124 (a) the provisions of Section [23-21-5](#), or the discretion of the division to manage
125 waterfowl management areas for other beneficial purposes, including for the benefit of the
126 public, shorebirds, waterfowl, and other protected wildlife; or

127 (b) the authority of the division, the director of the division, or the Wildlife Board
128 under Title 23, Chapter 21, Lands and Waters for Wildlife Purposes.