

SENATE FILE NO. SF0060

Public lands-constitutional amendment.

Sponsored by: Select Federal Natural Resource Management  
Committee

A BILL

for

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION proposing to amend the Wyoming  
2 Constitution to provide for the management of and public  
3 access to lands granted by the federal government to the  
4 state after January 1, 2019.

5

6 *BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WYOMING,*  
7 *two-thirds of all the members of the two houses, voting*  
8 *separately, concurring therein:*

9

10 **Section 1.** The following proposal to amend Wyoming  
11 Constitution, Article 18 by creating a new Section 7 is  
12 proposed for submission to the electors of the State of  
13 Wyoming at the next general election for approval or  
14 rejection to become valid as a part of the Constitution if  
15 ratified by a majority of the electors at the election:

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2           **Article 18, Section 7. Public lands management and**  
3 **access.**

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5           (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this  
6 constitution and when in accordance with the purposes of a  
7 grant of land to the state of Wyoming from the United  
8 States, lands granted to the state after January 1, 2019  
9 shall be managed for public access and for multiple use and  
10 sustained yield.

11

12           (b) The legislature may provide for the exchange of  
13 state lands acquired pursuant to subsection (a) of this  
14 section. The legislature shall ensure that any exchanges of  
15 lands acquired pursuant to subsection (a) of this section  
16 collectively cause no more than a de minimis loss or gain  
17 in value of the state lands within any county. Other than  
18 the powers expressly granted within this subsection, the  
19 state shall have no power to dispose or sell the lands  
20 acquired pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, except  
21 for exigent circumstances associated with public health and  
22 welfare or to public entities for public purposes.

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1           (c) Any lands acquired pursuant to subsection (a) of  
2 this section or pursuant to any exchange pursuant to  
3 subsection (b) of this section shall be managed to maintain  
4 or increase public access to those lands.

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6           (d) This section shall not apply to any land within  
7 the boundaries of a designated national park, designated  
8 national monument or wilderness area designated under the  
9 national wilderness preservation system.

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11           (e) As used in this section:

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13           (i) "Multiple use" means the management of the  
14 land in a combination of balanced and diverse resource uses  
15 that takes into account the long-term needs for renewable  
16 and nonrenewable resources, including but not limited to  
17 recreation, range, timber, minerals, watershed, wildlife  
18 and fish, natural, scenic, scientific and historical  
19 values, and the coordinated management of the resources  
20 without permanent impairment of the productivity of the  
21 land or the quality of the environment;

22

1           (ii) "Sustained yield" means the maintenance of  
2 a high-level annual or regular periodic output of the  
3 various renewable resources of the state lands consistent  
4 with multiple use.

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6           **Section 2.** That the Secretary of State shall endorse  
7 the following statement on the proposed amendment:

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9 The adoption of this amendment would require lands granted  
10 to the state from the federal government after January 1,  
11 2019 to be managed to maintain or increase public access  
12 and for multiple use and sustained yield. The lands may be  
13 exchanged, however, no net loss or net gain in value of the  
14 lands within any county would be allowed. The lands may not  
15 be sold, except for public purposes.

16

17

(END)