

SENATE FILE NO. SF0151

Grizzly bear season.

Sponsored by: Senator(s) Barnard, Bebout and Hicks and
Representative(s) Burkhart, Davison and
Jaggi

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to game and fish; providing for a grizzly
2 bear hunting season as specified; providing legislative
3 findings; and providing for an effective date.

4

5 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

6

7 **Section 1.**

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9 (a) The legislature finds that:

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11 (i) The resurgence of the grizzly bear in
12 Wyoming has been a result of successful conservation;

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14 (ii) With more than six hundred (600) grizzly
15 bears in the greater Yellowstone ecosystem, the quality
16 grizzly habitat in Wyoming is full;

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2 (iii) As a result of the recovered population of
3 grizzly bears, classification of the grizzly bear as
4 threatened under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 is
5 restricting the ability of Wyoming to properly manage the
6 grizzly bear population;

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8 (iv) While thirteen (13) grizzly bears were
9 managed in Wyoming through euthanization or relocation to a
10 zoo, more than forty (40) additional grizzly bears were
11 killed in Wyoming through human causes; and

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13 (v) Proper management in order to successfully
14 maintain the grizzly bear population in Wyoming may include
15 hunting managed by the Wyoming game and fish department.

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17 (b) Notwithstanding the fact that after delisting of
18 the grizzly bear a federal district court has determined
19 that the grizzly bear is again considered to be threatened
20 as defined in the Endangered Species Act of 1973, and in
21 accordance with the legislative findings under subsection
22 (a) of this section, the Wyoming game and fish department
23 shall open a grizzly bear hunting season as specified in
24 subsection (c) of this section.

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2 (c) The grizzly bear hunting season under subsection
3 (b) of this section shall:

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5 (i) Provide for the taking of a number of
6 grizzly bears as determined by the department in order to
7 properly manage the population provided that the season
8 shall not allow the taking of more than forty (40) grizzly
9 bears;

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11 (ii) Otherwise be conducted in accordance with
12 state law and the rules and regulations of the game and
13 fish commission including the application and draw process
14 as implemented for hunting seasons of other trophy animals;

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16 (iii) Occur after the effective date of this act
17 and not later than January 1, 2012.

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19 **Section 2.** This act is effective immediately upon
20 completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law
21 as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming
22 Constitution.

23

24

(END)