

Travel Committee

2025 Interim Planning – Proposed Interim Topics

N/A-Topic requested by legislator

Proposed Interim Topic: Pelican Delisting

Contact Person:

Gary Crum
Senate 10
Gary.Crum@wyoleg.gov
307-399-0286

Related to 2025 legislation:

No

Recommended priorities Committee should consider:

Delisting of Pelicans from the protective class of birds. We will need to work with the US Fish and Wildlife. Pelicans eat around 5 pounds of fish per day, and they are destroying private and public fisheries in Wyoming.

Expected goal or result:

Delisting of pelicans which can be managed by the Wyoming Game and Fish which will improve public fisheries in Wyoming.

Estimated Committee time for topic:

1 hour in the committee. The Wyoming Game and Fish will need to spend time working with US Fish and Wildlife to understand the issues.

Resources for Committee review prior to topic consideration:

Wyoming Game and Fish working with US Fish and Wildlife to come up with a solution to recommend to the legislature.

Proposed Interim Topic: Nonresident native/come home to hunt licenses

Contact Person:

JD Williams
jd.williams@wyoleg.gov

Related to 2025 legislation:

No

Recommended priorities Committee should consider:

This law would encourage nonresidents who once lived in Wyoming to "come home to hunt" with parents, siblings, and other close family members. The program is aimed at continuing Wyoming family traditions by making an effort to bring sons, daughters, and family back home during hunting season at a substantially reduced price.

Expected goal or result:

The sponsoring adult family member must claim Wyoming as his or her legal residence and must have a valid Wyoming hunting license. The sponsor can be a parent, step-parent, grandparent, sibling, step-

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sibling, child, step-child, spouse, or in-law. The applicant must have completed a Wyoming Hunter Education course and have previously purchased a Wyoming resident hunting license.

Estimated Committee time for topic:

Resources for Committee review prior to topic consideration:

Wyoming Game and Fish recommendations to determine if this idea is feasible.

Proposed Interim Topic: State Lands Recreation Management Authority

Contact Person:

Lloyd Larsen

lloyd.larsen@wyoleg.gov

3073211221

Related to 2025 legislation:

Yes

Related Bills:

2022 HB0054- Recreation Management Authority

Recommended priorities Committee should consider:

To allow State Parks & Cultural Resources to have recreational use permits on State Lands that allow for greater public access to state lands while protecting any existing lease and use of those state lands.

Expected goal or result:

State Parks would develop and maintain the resource (trails and access), preventing the unintended damage from public use, and coordinating the recreational use of the state lands in a way that doesn't conflict with the lease holders' intended use.

Estimated Committee time for topic:

Resources for Committee review prior to topic consideration:

The Office of State Lands is familiar with the topic and have ideas on how we can use the state lands for a greater good. State Parks is also familiar with the topic and have ideas as well.

Proposed Interim Topic: Long Range shooting effects on hunt areas and animals Fair chase issues

Contact Person:

McKay Erickson

House District 21

mckay.erickson@wyoleg.gov

3078846119

Related to 2025 legislation:

No

Recommended priorities Committee should consider:

Fair chase. Long range rifle shooting is devastating to big game hunt areas.

Expected goal or result:

Limit use in big game areas

Estimated Committee time for topic:

One day

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Resources for Committee review prior to topic consideration:

game and fish studies of the effects of relating to not being fair chase.

Proposed Interim Topic: Corner Crossing

Contact Person:

Karlee Provenza

Karlee.Provenza@wyoleg.gov

3079770202

Related to 2025 legislation:

Yes

Related Bills:

HB99 2025

Recommended priorities Committee should consider:

Wyoming has 2.44 million acres of corner locked public lands. The public's ability to travel from one piece of public land to another via adjacent corners has been in the courts in recent years given the ambiguity in our statutes and the influx of out-of-state wealthy land owners who wish to restrict access to neighboring public lands. The legislature should close the door on this issue in a way that reflects Wyoming's values and not allow courts to make decisions for us.

Expected goal or result:

A person who travels on foot from one section of land owned or managed by a local or municipal government, the State of Wyoming, or the federal government to an immediately adjacent and section of land also owned or managed by a government entity that is contiguous at the surface with the first section where the two sections meet at a corner and without contacting the surface of or causing damage to any adjacent privately owned land shall not be charged or prosecuted under this section.

Estimated Committee time for topic:

6 - 8 hours given the overwhelming public support that will come cheer us on ;)

Resources for Committee review prior to topic consideration:

Experience the joy of crossing a corner yourself.

Proposed Interim Topic: Wildlife & Tourism Center

Contact Person:

Pam Thayer

pam.thayer@wyoleg.gov

3073215624

Related to 2025 legislation:

Yes

Related Bills:

NA

Recommended priorities Committee should consider:

A Wildlife and Tourism Center, strategically placed in the middle of the southern part of the state along the I-80 corridor. An information center can play a variety of roles, it should be considered a key player in the development and marketing of multiple destinations and used as a tool to create a demand to get

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people visiting less popular area increasing economic development. The center with an LED sign that would be a multiplier for weather, accidents, amber alerts along the I-80 corridor.

Expected goal or result:

The feasibility of another center location in the state, to be used for wildlife education, increase tourism and safety along the I-80 corridor.

Estimated Committee time for topic:

16 hours

Resources for Committee review prior to topic consideration:

Talk with WYDOT on support on LED sign, and with Wyoming Office of Tourism for additional locations. Location support from Carbon County and private landowners.

Proposed Interim Topic: House Joint Resolution - U.S. Treaties Formative to the State of Wyoming - exact draft text no amendments

Contact Person:

Rep. Pepper Ottman

Related to 2025 legislation:

No

Recommended priorities Committee should consider:

A joint resolution affirming the position of the Wyoming Legislature, requesting Congress to promote verified land designation history and supporting collaboration with all heirs of treaty land.

Expected goal or result:

Pass the resolution through both chambers and be signed, promoting, symbolically and in reality to said resolution.

Estimated Committee time for topic:

Unknown. Should be common sense.

Resources for Committee review prior to topic consideration:

All treaties formative to the State of Wyoming. U.S. Constitution, Treaties of Guadalupe Hidalgo, Ft. Bridger, Ft. Laramie

Proposed Interim Topic: Predator consideration or taking of predators on public land

Contact Person:

Rep. Mike Schmid

mike.schmid@wyoleg.gov

Related to 2025 legislation:

Yes

Related Bills:

HB331

Recommended priorities Committee should consider:

Stop using vehicles as a weapon to intentionally maim or kill wildlife on public lands only

Expected goal or result:

Stop the practice of "predator whacking"

Estimated Committee time for topic:

1 hour from 2 meetings

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Resources for Committee review prior to topic consideration:

Refer to HB331

Proposed Interim Topic: Wilderness Cleanup and Maintenance

Contact Person:

Rep. Mike Schmid

mike.schmid@wyoleg.gov

Related to 2025 legislation:

No

Recommended priorities Committee should consider:

Tap into lodging tax to have influx of hikers and backpackers to clean-up after them in wilderness areas

Expected goal or result:

Permanent funding for the health of our mountains and wilderness

Estimated Committee time for topic:

1 hour per meeting

Resources for Committee review prior to topic consideration:

Local information from resources like chamber of commerce and local testimony

Representative Byron, Chairman

Proposed Interim Topic: Mule Deer Management

Contact Person:

Doug Brimeyer

Wyoming Game and Fish Department

Doug.brimeyer@wyo.gov

307-777-4501

Related to 2025 legislation:

No

Recommended priorities Committee should consider:

Mule deer continue to be on the front of people's minds due to the concern of their population numbers. We will provide an overview of the population status and details of the stressors facing mule deer. We will discuss which ones the Department can influence and our limitations. We will provide information on our current actions and the development of our new mule deer strategy.

Expected goal or result:

Informational although these management details may guide future management decisions to ensure the long-term sustainability and recovery of Wyoming's mule deer populations. This topic may lead to a discussion on Department revenue.

Estimated Committee time for topic:

1 hour

Resources for Committee review prior to topic consideration:

Department will provide informational materials prior to committee meeting.

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Proposed Interim Topic: Habitat and Access Management

Contact Person:

Doug Brimeyer
Wyoming Game and Fish Department
Doug.brimeyer@wyo.gov
307-777-4501

Related to 2025 legislation:

No

Recommended priorities Committee should consider:

The Wyoming Game and Fish Commission owns and manages approximately 600,000 acres of land across Wyoming, which includes 48 Wildlife Habitat Management Areas and 201 Public Access Areas. This topic will cover the purposes and the collaborative management approach by the agency with landowners, sportsmen and recreationists. In addition, the Department could provide an overview of its Access Yes program which assists landowners through the management of hunters and anglers.

Expected goal or result:

This topic continues to be of interest to hunters and anglers. A discussion on what more Wyoming can do may be warranted. This may be a good opportunity for a tour.

Estimated Committee time for topic:

2 hours

Resources for Committee review prior to topic consideration:

Department will provide informational materials prior to committee meeting.

Proposed Interim Topic: Gaming

Contact Person:

Nicholas Larramendy
Gaming Commission
nick.larramendy1@wyo.gov
307-265-4015

Related to 2025 legislation:

No

Recommended priorities Committee should consider:

- Continued discussion to create uniformity among laws governing pari-mutuel, skilled games and sports wagering.
- Continued discussion on the structure, organization of the Wyoming Gaming Commission within the executive branch, including resources, staffing and oversight.
- Clarification of Title 6 Gambling laws, IE. Bona Fide Social Relationship, Profit, etc.
- Consolidation of Skill Based Amusement, Online Sports Wagering, and Pari-Mutuel Wagering statutes

Expected goal or result:

- Create statutory uniformity with laws pertaining to legal wagering and gambling activity, IE ages requirements, and any additional “side boards”
- Organizational consideration of the Wyoming Gaming Commission, IE a professional paid board - vs – volunteer board.
- Define and clarify what constitutes illegal gambling for better clarity and enforcement of criminal statutes.
- Grouping all programs the commission oversees into one title.

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Estimated Committee time for topic:

24 hrs

Resources for Committee review prior to topic consideration:

• §6-7-101 –106: Gambling • §9-24-101 –106: Online Sports Wagering • §11-25-102 –104: In General, Definitions • §11-25-201–209: Pari- Mutuel Wagering • §11-25-301 –306: Skill Based Amusement Games • 2024 Spectrum Wyoming Gaming Expansion Study

Proposed Interim Topic: Archives research and State Museum fees

Contact Person:

Dave Glenn
WY State Parks and Cultural Resources
dave.glenn@wyo.gov
307.274.5007

Related to 2025 legislation:

No

Recommended priorities Committee should consider:

Study the idea of the WY State Museum to charge fees for specific events and for non-resident admission. Additionally WY State Statutes do not provide explicit permission for charging fees for Wyoming State Archives research and or certification services. We would like to discuss the topic of a scaled fee for research fees. This scale would start at zero and be based on the number of hours of staff time for specific research projects. Some of these requests take dozens of hours of staff time.

Expected goal or result:

Change WY State Statutes to allow the WY State Museum to charge fees for specific events and non-resident admission. Change WY state Statutes to all the WY State Archives to use a scaled fee for larger research projects.

Estimated Committee time for topic:

4 hours.

Resources for Committee review prior to topic consideration:

Wyoming Statutes § 9-2-401 through -415

Proposed Interim Topic: Non-motorized trails fees

Contact Person:

Dave Glenn
WY State Parks and Cultural Resources
dave.glenn@wyo.gov
307.274.5007

Related to 2025 legislation:

No

Recommended priorities Committee should consider:

The topic of charging a fee to non-motorized recreationists that take advantage of trails and infrastructure which are funded by motorized users. Skin in the game for non-motorized recreationists. This has been a request by many in the motorized community. This could focus solely on those activities

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such as skiing and fat tire biking on snowmobile trails and mountain biking on OHV trails, or could be broader in scope to incorporate a non-motorized user fee on a statewide enrolled trail system.

Expected goal or result:

Potential charging of fees to non-motorized users. Revenue would go to construction/maintenance of these trails as well as education and enforcement.

Estimated Committee time for topic:

4-5 hours

Resources for Committee review prior to topic consideration:

State Statutes 31-2-401 through 31-2-410

Representative Provenza

Proposed Interim Topic: Prevention of wildlife cruelty in Wyoming: No vehicular killing of wildlife

Contact Person:

Kristin Combs

Wyoming Wildlife Advocates

kristin@wyowild.org

3074134116

Related to 2025 legislation:

Yes

Related Bills:

HB0275 and HB0331

Recommended priorities Committee should consider:

Wyoming residents want to end the killing of wildlife with vehicles, including snowmobiles. Such conduct is cruel, unsportsmanlike, and damages Wyoming's reputation as a responsible manager of wildlife. It is also unpopular, according to two polls that show super majorities of Wyoming voters and hunters alike oppose this form of animal abuse. The anticipated passage of HB0275 is a good first step but it failed to address this issue. A vehicle should never be used as a weapon against wildlife.

Expected goal or result:

Draft a bill that would be introduced in the 2026 legislature. The bill should be focused on prohibiting the pursuit and killing of predators on public and private lands in Wyoming which Wyomingites agree is torture. Review the language of House Bill 331 from the 2025 legislature - tighten up the language and exempt the accidental collision with wildlife while operating a motorized vehicle on public roads.

Estimated Committee time for topic:

No more than five hours.

Resources for Committee review prior to topic consideration:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1mC2raiekBjiFPqborpjNxCIJN-4LiuHI/view>

<https://wyomingsportsmanship.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Wyoming-Sportsmanship-Clean-Kill-Poll.pdf>

<https://www.humaneworld.org/sites/default/files/docs/WYOMING%20HSUS%20PUBLIC%20OPINION%20SURVEY%20MEMO%20%28003%29.pdf> <https://www.boone-crockett.org/fair-chase-statement>

Review House Bill 0331

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Representative Storer

Proposed Interim Topic: Fairs and Fairgrounds

Contact Person:

Elizabeth Storer

HD 23

liz.storer@wyoleg.gov

3074214711

Related to 2025 legislation:

Yes

Related Bills:

HB 0218 from 2023

Recommended priorities Committee should consider:

Investigate the status of county fairs and fairgrounds statewide; review revenues and costs for holding county fairs and maintaining fairgrounds; history of fairgrounds and whether county fairgrounds have moved from their original sites to more suitable sites; provide a cost-benefit analysis for whether the state should acquire, condemn, or assume control of county fairgrounds or designate any of them historic sites; whether the state should commit to local oversight of county fair and fairground

Expected goal or result:

The goal would be for the state to determine if any fairgrounds in the state should be considered historic sites and determine the cost of acquisition and ongoing oversight.

Estimated Committee time for topic:

4 hours

Resources for Committee review prior to topic consideration:

Representative Wharff

Proposed Interim Topic: Land Owner/Access Programs in Other States

Contact Person:

Rep. Bob Wharff

robert.wharff@wyoleg.gov

Related to 2025 legislation:

Yes

Related Bills:

SF118 & HB99

Recommended priorities Committee should consider:

Review land owner/access programs in other states, such as the CWM program in Utah and ranching for wildlife in Colorado.

Expected goal or result:

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Develop proposed legislation that provides access to sportsman, opportunities for landowners to generate revenue, and a possibility of eliminating damage claims.

Estimated Committee time for topic:

Rep. Wharff has discussed this proposed topic with the Director of Game & Fish and would like to explore the idea of holding a joint committee meeting on this topic between Joint Agriculture and Joint Travel.

Resources for Committee review prior to topic consideration:

Rep. Wharff would like to see testimony from other state agencies that have implemented the program.

Senator Boner

Proposed Interim Topic: Trapping Licenses

Contact Person:

Brian Boner

Related to 2025 legislation:

No

Recommended priorities Committee should consider:

Consider having separate licenses for trapping - one for recreational trapping on publicly accessible land and another for predator control on private lands.

Expected goal or result:

Codifying separate licenses for trapping - one for recreational trapping on publicly accessible land and another for predator control on private lands.

Estimated Committee time for topic:

2 hours

Resources for Committee review prior to topic consideration:

Senator Hicks

Proposed Interim Topic: Review, update and repeal archaic provision in title 23

Contact Person:

Senator Larry Hicks

larry.hicks@wyoleg.gov

3073807010

Related to 2025 legislation:

No

Recommended priorities Committee should consider:

Review update and repeal archaic provision in title 23.

Expected goal or result:

Results will be update and revised title 23 by repealing archaic provision, provide consistency and conformity by updating the staues.

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Estimated Committee time for topic:

4 hours

Resources for Committee review prior to topic consideration:

Senator Landen, Chairman

Proposed Interim Topic: WGFD Updates

Contact Person:

Doug Brimeyer

Wyoming Game and Fish Department

Doug.brimeyer@wyo.gov

307-777-4501

Related to 2025 legislation:

No

Recommended priorities Committee should consider:

The Department will provide TRW updates at each meeting we attend. These include major actions taken by the Commission and other significant issues. This may include our work with ESA species, land management plans and private lands initiatives.

Expected goal or result:

Informational

Estimated Committee time for topic:

1 Hour

Resources for Committee review prior to topic consideration:

Department will provide informational materials prior to committee meeting.

Proposed Interim Topic: Safety and Modernization of the Lottery

Contact Person:

Jessie Dafoe

Wyoming Lottery

jessie@dafoestrategies.com

307-421-4341

Related to 2025 legislation:

Yes

Related Bills:

Chairman Byron and Senator Schuler also have offered to support

Recommended priorities Committee should consider:

Over the interim, we recommend reviewing the modernization of the Wyoming Lottery to improve the safety and security of retailers and to ensure the Wyoming Lottery continues pace with current business practices.

Expected goal or result:

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The result of this topic should find a way to ensure small retailers are not holding on to large sums of money that put their places at risk and provide the Wyoming Lottery with the opportunity to look at ways to modernize their practice in the business place.

Estimated Committee time for topic:

We do not intend for this topic to take long. A few hours over the interim should be sufficient.

Resources for Committee review prior to topic consideration:

Review current statutes related to the Wyoming Lottery, as they are not like the other gaming entities and should be kept separate. This will also provide the opportunity to educate new legislators.

Proposed Interim Topic: Fishing outfitters and guides-registration of fishing boats

Contact Person:

Doug Brimeyer
Wyoming Game and Fish Department
Doug.brimeyer@wyo.gov
307-777-4501

Related to 2025 legislation:

Yes

Related Bills:

HB0005 Fishing outfitters and guides-registration of fishing boats

Recommended priorities Committee should consider:

This will continue the conversation and will be essential if HB5 passes. The Department will use this opportunity to provide updates on our work with the Advisory Committee. Points for the committee to consider may be the laws of several surrounding states that do license fishing guides, review available data on the increase of guided fishing trips in Wyoming, and provide oversight and work to promote consensus with the public and industry moving forward.

Expected goal or result:

Informational topic

Estimated Committee time for topic:

1 hour

Resources for Committee review prior to topic consideration:

Department will provide informational materials prior to committee meeting.

Proposed Interim Topic: Problem Gaming Fund Consolidation

Contact Person:

Jerimiah Rieman
Wyoming County Commissioners Association
jrieman@wyo-wcca.org
307-632-5409

Related to 2025 legislation:

No

Recommended priorities Committee should consider:

The Wyoming Gaming Commission, Wyoming Lottery, and Department of Health (distributed to counties) manage problem gaming funds. For example, per W.S. 9-24-104, counties statewide share

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\$300,000 to "prevent problematic gambling behavior[.]" This funding, while appreciated, and it's associated usage limitations have prevented some communities from accessing and/or utilizing these funds to assist residents who need support.

Expected goal or result:

Draft legislation for introduction during the 2026 Legislative Budget Session. Ideally, this evaluation would determine whether consolidation of funding is warranted, who is best suited to administer problem gaming funds, and whether their uses should be clarified and/or expanded, perhaps combined with mental health and substance abuse funding.

Estimated Committee time for topic:

60 minutes or less per meeting

Resources for Committee review prior to topic consideration:

Proposed Interim Topic: Landowner Licenses-reconsideration of 2025 SF118

Contact Person:

JoAnn True
Natrona County resident
joann.true@outlook.com
3072627830

Related to 2025 legislation:

Yes

Related Bills:

2025 SF118

Recommended priorities Committee should consider:

Allowing Landowners to market the Landowner Licenses for which they already qualify. Reconsideration of 2025 SF0118 topic

Expected goal or result:

Reconsideration of 2025 SF118

Estimated Committee time for topic:

3 hours

Resources for Committee review prior to topic consideration:

2025 SF118

Proposed Interim Topic: Agency Update

Contact Person:

Diane Shober
Wyoming Office of Tourism
diane.shober@wyo.gov
3072143741

Related to 2025 legislation:

No

Recommended priorities Committee should consider:

Agency update and report of the impacts of the visitor economy.

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Expected goal or result:

Enhanced understanding of the Office of Tourism's program of work, including work with all 23 counties to grow the benefits of the visitor economy. Opportunities to further leverage the visitor economy for the benefit of Wyoming communities and residents.

Estimated Committee time for topic:

1 hour per meeting, including discussion.

Resources for Committee review prior to topic consideration:

<https://travelwyoming.com/> <https://industry.travelwyoming.com/>

Senator Schuler

Proposed Interim Topic: Continued Discussion on HB85

Contact Person:

Wendy Schuler
Wyoming State Legislature
Wendy.Schuler@wyoleg.gov
3076796774

Related to 2025 legislation:

No

Recommended priorities Committee should consider:

Discussion on the issues of gaming with the stakeholders who are doing live horse racing and wanting to take a closer look at historic horse racing machines and their proliferation in our cities and counties.

Expected goal or result:

Hopefully, we can find some solutions for oversight and also come up with a process to have the ability to deal with potential issues with vendors who may have some issues similar to our liquor license holders.

Estimated Committee time for topic:

4 hours approximately

Resources for Committee review prior to topic consideration:

Look at some of the other states who have similar issues and certainly involve our gaming commission.