



# LEGISLATIVE WEEKLY REPORT

Tuesday March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Day of Session: 72

<u>Legislation</u>		<u>Memorial / Resolution</u>	
Bills Posted:	1605	Posted:	126
Bills Passed:	58	Passed:	1
Bills Vetoed:	0		
Bills Signed:	23		

## Legislative News:

The Arizona Legislature passed what is being called a “skinny budget” yesterday, substituting identical Senate bills for House counterparts and going so far as to limit their own discussion of the measures to advance it to the Governor’s desk. Legislators will return home until April 13<sup>th</sup>, or such a time as President Fann and Speaker Bowers reconvene the session. This recess is not an adjournment Sine Die and legislators have vowed to return to business, including future budget determinations upon their return.

Accordingly, there is little change in legislation monitored by the Game and Fish Department. The Commission supported HB2219, updating provisions regarding signage on private land, remains where it was in the process before Arizona’s government shifted its focus to the COVID-19 pandemic. Likewise, the skinny budget does not include Commission priorities such as the authorization to use \$3M in Game and Fish funds (dollars derived from license sales) for maintenance and updating of the Game and Fish Department’s hatcheries. The government affairs team continues to work for these measures in hopes that they can be taken up when the session resumes.

Governor Ducey has issued seven executive orders since the time of last publishing. These include closing non-essential businesses and other measures intended to limit the spread of COVID-19. These [orders can be found on the Governor’s website](#). Like all large gatherings the annual Game and Fish Outdoor Expo scheduled for this weekend has been cancelled. We will miss seeing you and your families this year.



CONSERVE AND PROTECT

## ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Government affairs staff continues to monitor federal legislation while Congress shifts its focus to pandemic response. The House and Senate are currently working on a “phase 3” stimulus package. The current bill with \$1.8 trillion in stimulus spending may pass as soon as tonight if a bipartisan agreement can be reached.

The Arizona Game and Fish Department is committed to staying connected with its customers and continuing to provide exceptional service.

The Department's highest priority is the safety and wellness of customers, staff, partners and volunteers. As a reminder, outdoor enthusiasts can conduct most department business without having to visit any of the seven statewide offices.

At this time, all department offices remain open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday (except holidays). Customers also can call the department's main number at (602) 942-3000, or email [customerservice@azgfd.gov](mailto:customerservice@azgfd.gov).

Stay engaged by signing up for the department's free e-News service to get the latest information on wildlife conservation, fishing, hunting, off-highway vehicle recreation, boating, shooting sports, wildlife watching and more. Sign up today by visiting [www.azgfd.gov/signup](http://www.azgfd.gov/signup).

The following products and services are available online 24/7 by visiting [www.azgfd.gov](http://www.azgfd.gov).

[Fishing, hunting, and combo licenses \(including duplicates\), and migratory bird stamps](#)

[Watercraft registration renewals](#)

[Off-highway vehicle \(OHV\) decals](#)

The following services must be conducted in-person or by U.S. mail:

- New watercraft registrations.
- Watercraft transfers of ownership.
- Duplicate watercraft decals and certificates.
- Special licenses (crossbow, CHAMP, pioneer).

The following products and services require visiting a department office:

- Watercraft inspections.
- Duplicate hunt permit-tags (also can be purchased at license dealers).



CONSERVE AND PROTECT

## ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

# COMMISSION SUPPORTED LEGISLATION

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### **HB2219 G&F; PRIVATE LANDS ; TRESPASSING ([House Engrossed](#))**

**Summary:** Clarifies that the Game and Fish Commission may take action against the license privileges of individuals who enter private lands that are properly posted with "No trespassing, no hunting, no fishing" signs for the purpose of taking wildlife. Adds "no guiding" to the list of permissible language on signs prohibiting entry to private property.

**Sponsor:** Representative Gail Griffin, District 14

**Disposition:** Natural Resources, Energy and Water 1/21/2020

**DO PASS** 11-0-0-2

House of Representatives Third Read 1/30/2020

**PASSED** 60-0-0-0

Natural Resources and Energy 3/04/2020

**PASSED** 6-1-0-0

# OTHER BILLS OF INTEREST

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### **HB2062 ANIMAL FIGHTING PARAPHERNALIA; OFFENCE ([House Engrossed](#))**

**Summary:** It is a class 1 misdemeanor for a person to knowingly own, possess, purchase, sell, transfer or manufacture "animal fighting paraphernalia" for the purpose of engaging in, promoting or facilitating animal fighting or cockfighting.

**Sponsor:** Representative John Kavanagh, District 23

**Disposition:** House Judiciary 1/22/2020

**DO PASS** 10-0-0-0

Land and Agriculture 2/06/2020

**DO PASS AMENDED** 7-0-0-0

House of Representatives Third Read 2/27/2020

**PASSED** 51-8-1-0

Commerce 3/12/2020



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## ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

**DO PASS** 6-1-1-0

### **HB2098 DAM SAFETY STUDY COMMITTEE** ([House Engrossed](#))

**Summary:** Establishes a 5-member Dam Safety Study Committee to collect information on the status of dams in Arizona with respect to their safety, age and need for maintenance. The Committee is required to submit a report of its findings to the Governor and the Legislature by December 31, 2020, and self-repeals July 1, 2021.

**Sponsor:** Representative Gail Griffin, District 14  
**Disposition:** Natural Resources, Energy and Water 2/11/2020

**DO PASS AMENDED** 12-0-0-1

House of Representatives Third Read 2/24/2020

**PASSED** 51-9-0-0

Referred to Water and Agriculture

### **HB2288 STATE LICENSING; FEE WAIVER** ([House Engrossed](#))

**Summary:** The list of persons that state agencies are required to waive any initial license fee charged for, with some exceptions, is expanded to include any active duty military service member and the member's spouse and any veteran.

**Sponsor:** Representative Nancy Barto, District 15  
**Disposition:** Military and Veteran's Affairs 1/22/2020

**DO PASS** 10-0-0-0

House of Representatives Third Read 2/06/2020

**PASSED** 60-0-0-0

Referred to Commerce

### **HB2551 APPROPRIATION; STATE PARKS: HERITAGE FUND** ([House Engrossed](#))

**Summary:** Appropriates \$10 million from the general fund in FY2020-21 to the Arizona State Parks Heritage Fund.

**Sponsor:** Representative Joanne Osborne, District 13  
**Disposition:** Land and Agriculture 1/30/2020

**DO PASS** 7-0-0-0

House Appropriations 2/19/2020

**DO PASS** 9-1-0-1

House of Representatives Third Read 2/27/2020

54-6-0-0



CONSERVE AND PROTECT

## ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Referred to Senate Appropriations

### **HB2594 NOW: SALVAGE PERMIT; BIG GAME ANIMALS (House Engrossed)**

**Summary:** Expands the list of persons eligible to receive big game salvage permits under specified conditions.

**Sponsor:** Representative Gail Griffin, District 14  
**Disposition:** Natural Resources, Energy & Water 2/18/2020  
**DO PASS AMENDED, STRIKE EVERYTHING** 12-0-0-1  
House of Representatives Third Read 2/26/2020  
**PASSED** 54-5-1-0  
Natural Resources and Energy 3/11/2020  
**DO PASS** 6-0-1-0

### **HB2612 APPROPRIATION; SURVEY; DESERT TORTOISES (House Engrossed)**

**Summary:** Appropriates \$300,000 in FY2021 to the University of Arizona for conducting species assessment surveys of desert tortoises, cactus ferruginous pygmy owls and yellow billed cuckoos in Arizona.

**Sponsor:** Representative Tim Dunn, District 13  
**Disposition:** Land and Agriculture 2/06/2020  
**DO PASS** 7-0-0-0  
House of Representatives Third Read 2/26/2020  
**PASSED** 46-13-1-0  
Senate Appropriations 3/10/2020  
**DO PASS AMENDED** 6-1-2-0

### **HB2673 LIVESTOCK LOSS BOARD; AVOIDANCE MEASURES (House Engrossed)**

**Summary:** The Livestock Loss Board is authorized to use monies in the Livestock Compensation Fund to compensate landowners, lessees or livestock operators for implementing "avoidance measures" (defined) to prevent wolf depredation on livestock.

**Sponsor:** Representative Gail Griffin, District 14  
**Disposition:** Land and Agriculture 2/06/2020  
**DO PASS** 7-0-0-0  
House of Representatives Third Read 2/24/2020  
**PASSED** 59-0-1-0  
Referred to Water and Agriculture



CONSERVE AND PROTECT

## ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

### **HB2749 ENDANGERED SPECIES CONSERVATION; CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION ([House Engrossed](#))**

**Summary:** Information collected from a private landowner, property owner or other participant or potential participant in an endangered species survey or other species research or conservation plan is confidential and cannot be disclosed to any person, including state or federal agencies, if the information relates to the specific location, species identification or quantity of any animal or plant life for which an endangered species survey or other species research and/or a conservation plan is under consideration, development or implementation. A state agency is required to disclose such information only to the person that provided the information unless the person consents in writing to full or specified partial disclosure of such information. Confidential information about species must be collected only through a standardized form in which property owners provide express written consent to have their property surveyed or enrolled or potentially subject to enrollment in a conservation plan. A person who violates these confidentiality requirements is subject to a civil penalty of \$25,000 for each violation. Effective January 1, 2021.

**Sponsor:** Representative Gail Griffin, District 14  
**Disposition:** Natural Resources, Energy and Water 2/11/2020  
**DO PASS AMENDED** 6-5-0-2  
House of Representatives Third Read 2/25/2020  
**PASSED** 31-29-0-0  
**Substituted for SB1666**  
**Signed by Governor** 3/10/2020 Chapter 5

### **HB2844 G&F; TRANSFERS; GOLD STAR CHILDREN ([House Engrossed](#))**

**Summary:** The Game and Fish Commission is authorized to prescribe conditions for transferring and using permits and tags to allow a person to transfer the person's big game permit or tag to a qualified organization for use by a "gold star child" (defined as a minor child whose parent was killed in action while serving in the U.S. military). If the gold star child is under 14 years of age, the child is required to satisfactorily complete the Arizona Hunter Education Course before the beginning of the hunt for which the permit is transferred.

**Sponsor:** Representative Anthony Kern, District 20  
**Disposition:** Natural Resources, Energy and Water 2/18/2020  
**DO PASS** 12-0-0-1  
House of Representatives Third Read 2/27/2020



CONSERVE AND PROTECT

## ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

**PASSED** 52-8-0-0

Natural Resources and Energy 3/11/2020

**DO PASS** 6-0-1-0

### **HB2858 SALT RIVER HORSES; ENFORCEMENT; BRIDGE ([As Introduced](#))**

**Summary:** Requires interaction with the Salt River horse herd to be limited in order to maintain the wild nature of the horses. If a horse that is part of the Salt River horse herd must be removed from the lower Salt River and Saguaro Lake areas, the plan for removal is required to be approved by the Governor and posted on the Department of Agriculture's website before the Dept or county sheriff authorizes the removal. The entity that removes the horse is required to document the removal and notify the Governor, Legislature, and the Dept within ten business days. On receipt of the notice, the Dept is required to post the notice online. The Dept or the county sheriff are authorized to enforce statute relating to the Salt River horse herd. ~~Additionally, the Game and Fish Commission is authorized to impose a civil penalty of \$8,000 against any person for unlawfully taking, wounding, killing or possessing a horse that is part of the Salt River horse herd.~~

**Sponsor:** Representative Kelly Townsend, District 16

**Disposition:** Land and Agriculture 2/20/2020

**DO PASS, AMENDED** 4-2-0-1

### **SB1083 AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT; LIVESTOCK LOSS BOARD**

#### **([As Introduced](#))**

**Summary:** The Livestock Loss Board is authorized to compensate, using monies in the Livestock Compensation Fund, landowners, lessees or livestock operators for implementing "avoidance measures" to prevent wolf depredation on livestock.

**Sponsor:** Senator Sylvia Aleen, District 6

**Disposition:** Water and Agriculture 2/06/2020

**DO PASS, AMENDED** 7-0-0-0

Senate Third Reading 2/12/2020

**PASSED** 29-0-1-0

Referred to Land and Agriculture

### **SB1239 OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE RECREATION FUND; REPORTS**

#### **([House Engrossed](#))**



CONSERVE AND PROTECT

## ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

**Summary:** Annual reports from each agency that receives monies from the Off-Highway Vehicle Recreation Fund are required to be available on the Department of Transportation's website.

**Sponsor:** Senator David Gowan, District 14  
**Disposition:** Natural Resources and Energy 1/29/2020  
**DO PASS** 7-0-0-0  
Senate Third Reading 2/10/2020  
**PASSED** 30-0-0-0

### **SB1350 STATE PARKS; LOTTERY; HERITAGE FUND ([As Introduced](#))**

**Summary:** Of the monies remaining in the State Lottery Fund each fiscal year after statutory appropriations and deposits and after the \$10 million deposit in the Game and Fish Commission Heritage Fund, \$10 million must be deposited in the Arizona State Parks Board Heritage Fund.

**Sponsor:** Senator Kate Brophy-McGee, District 28  
**Disposition:** Senate Appropriations 2/25/2020  
**DO PASS, AMENDED** 8-1-0-0  
Senate Third Reading 3/05/2020  
**PASSED** 29-0-1-0  
Natural Resources Energy & Water  
**Hearing** 3/17/2020

### **SB1666 ENDANGERED SPECIES CONSERVATION; CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION ([As Introduced](#))**

**Summary:** Information collected from a private landowner, property owner or other participant or potential participant in an endangered species survey or other species research or conservation plan is confidential and cannot be disclosed to any person, including state or federal agencies, if the information relates to the specific location, species identification or quantity of any animal or plant life for which an endangered species survey or other species research and/or a conservation plan is under consideration, development or implementation. A state agency is required to disclose such information only to the person that provided the information unless the person consents in writing to full or specified partial disclosure of such information. Confidential information about species must be collected only through a standardized form in which property owners provide express written consent to have their property surveyed or enrolled or potentially subject to enrollment in a conservation plan. A person who violates these confidentiality requirements is subject to a civil penalty of \$25,000 for each violation. Effective January 1, 2021.





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## ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

**Sponsor:**

Senator David Gowan, District 14

**Disposition:**

Natural Resources and Energy 2/19/2020

**DO PASS, AMENDED** 4-2-1-0

Senate Third Reading 3/03/2020

17-13-0-0

**Substitute Bill - HB2749**

