

## CHAPTER 259

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**NATURAL RESOURCES**

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**HOUSE BILL 21-1243**

BY REPRESENTATIVE(S) Will and Valdez D., Bennett, Bird, Catlin, Duran, Exum, Hooton, Jodeh, Kipp, McLachlan, Ortiz, Pelton, Pico, Rich, Roberts, Sirota, Garnett;  
also SENATOR(S) Donovan and Rankin, Bridges, Cooke, Coram, Fenberg, Ginal, Gonzales, Hisey, Jaquez Lewis, Kirkmeyer, Priola, Scott, Simpson, Sonnenberg, Story, Winter.

**AN ACT****CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF FUNDING FOR THE PROGRAM TO REINTRODUCE AND MANAGE GRAY WOLVES IN THE STATE FROM SOURCES OTHER THAN HUNTING AND FISHING LICENSE FEES.**

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

**SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 33-2-105.8, **amend** (2)(e)(II) and (4)(a); and **add** (4.5) as follows:

**33-2-105.8. Reintroduction of gray wolves on designated lands west of the continental divide - public input in commission development of restoration plan - compensation to owners of livestock - definitions.** (2) Notwithstanding any provision of state law to the contrary, including section 33-2-105.5 (2), and in order to restore gray wolves to the state, the commission shall:

(e) Oversee gray wolf restoration and management, including the distribution of state funds that are made available to:

(II) Pay fair compensation to owners of livestock for any losses of livestock caused by gray wolves, as verified pursuant to the claim procedures authorized by sections 33-3-107 to 33-3-110. ~~and, to the extent they are available, from moneys in the wildlife cash fund as provided in section 33-3-107 (2.5).~~

(4) In furtherance of this section and the expressed intent of voters, the general assembly:

(a) Shall make such appropriations as are necessary to fund the programs authorized and obligations IMPOSED BY THIS SECTION, including fair compensation

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*Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material added to existing law; dashes through words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law and such material is not part of the act.*

for livestock losses that are authorized by this section; ~~but cannot be paid from moneys in the wildlife cash fund, imposed by this section;~~ and

(4.5)(a) FOR PURPOSES OF IMPLEMENTING AND ADMINISTERING THIS SECTION, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL APPROPRIATE MONEY TO THE DIVISION OR OTHERWISE AUTHORIZE THE DIVISION TO EXPEND MONEY FROM ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING FUNDS:

(I) THE GENERAL FUND;

(II) THE SPECIES CONSERVATION TRUST FUND CREATED IN SECTION 24-33-111 (2)(a);

(III) THE COLORADO NONGAME CONSERVATION AND WILDLIFE RESTORATION CASH FUND CREATED IN SECTION 33-1-125; OR

(IV) THE WILDLIFE CASH FUND CREATED IN SECTION 33-1-112 (1); EXCEPT THAT ANY MONEY WITHIN THE WILDLIFE CASH FUND THAT IS GENERATED FROM THE SALE OF HUNTING AND FISHING LICENSES OR FROM ASSOCIATED FEDERAL GRANTS IS NOT AVAILABLE FOR APPROPRIATION UNDER THIS SECTION.

(b) THE LACK OF AN APPROPRIATION FROM THE GENERAL FUND SHALL NOT HALT REINTRODUCTION OF GRAY WOLVES AS REQUIRED UNDER SUBSECTION (2)(d) OF THIS SECTION.

(c) THE DIVISION MAY SOLICIT, ACCEPT, AND EXPEND ANY GRANTS, GIFTS, SPONSORSHIPS, CONTRIBUTIONS, DONATIONS, AND BEQUESTS, INCLUDING FEDERAL FUNDS, FOR THE PURPOSE OF IMPLEMENTING AND ADMINISTERING THIS SECTION.

**SECTION 2. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds, determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety.

Approved: June 27, 2021