



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
LANSING



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TO: Natural Resources Commission

FROM: Craig Brunet, Legislative Liaison

SUBJECT: Department of Natural Resources Legislative Update

HB 4313 (H-2) – Create a Pheasant Stamp – Rep. Howell

This bill amends the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection act by creating an annual pheasant hunting license. The annual license would cost \$25.00 and would require all hunters to also have the base hunting license. The Department shall use the money to acquire, restore or enhance lands to be managed for the benefit of pheasants, and to release pheasants on lands managed for the benefit of pheasants.

- This bill was passed out of the House Committee on Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation and the House Committee on Judiciary and is currently awaiting a vote on the House floor.
- The Administration is neutral on this legislation.

HB 4332 (H-1) – Allow Pneumatic Guns During Certain Seasons – Rep. LaFave

This bill amends the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to provide the NRC the ability to allow an individual to use a pneumatic gun during any firearm season. The bill would also give the department the ability to determine whether a pneumatic gun could be allowed during archery season for individual with a disability or physical limitation.

- This bill was passed by the House of Representatives and will be referred to the Senate.
- The Administration is opposed to this legislation.

HB 4340 (H-1) – Prohibit the recording of individuals to obstruct or interfere with taking of animals or fish – Rep. Reilly

This bill amends the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection act to prohibit an individual from photographing or recording an individual lawfully taking an animal or fish with the intent to harass that individual. This language will join a list of other actions currently prohibited when the intent is to obstruct or interfere with an individual's lawful taking of animal or fish.

- This bill was passed by the House Committee on Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation and referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.
- The Administration is opposed to this legislation.

**HBs 4567, 4568, 4569 – Update Commercial Fishing Statute –
Reps. O’Malley, Wendzel, Lilly**

The legislative package will update the commercial fishing statute. The bills include language that establishes/updates fees and penalties, clarifies authority regarding the commercial fishing industry, updates reporting requirements and codifies several existing practices under administrative rules or Director’s Orders.

- The bills were passed out of the House of Representatives and have referred to the Senate Committee on Natural Resources.
- The Administration supports this legislation.

HBs 4735, 4736, 4737 – Prohibit Certain Activities with Information Obtained under Freedom of Information Act – Reps. VanSingel, Cherry, and Love

This legislation amends the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act by preventing an individual from using information listing the location of game obtained under the Freedom of Information Act to take game. The individual would be required to sign an affidavit stating that the data would not be used to take game or assist others in taking game.

- The bills were passed by the House of Representatives and have referred to the Senate Committee on Natural Resources.
- The Administration supports this legislation.

House Bills 5002 and 5003 – Youth Fishing License – Reps. Howell and Brixie

This bill package would reinstitute a \$2.00 fee for resident and nonresident youth under 17 years of age who wish to obtain an all-species fishing license. Youth under 17, would still be allowed to fish in Michigan without a license. However, youth under 17 who wish to purchase an all-species fishing license, would once again be able to do so for a \$2.00 fee.

- The bills were passed by the House of Representatives and are awaiting a vote on the floor of the Senate.
- The Administration is neutral on this legislation.

HB 5333 – Place Restrictions on Forest Development Fund Monies – Rep. Markkanen

This bill would amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, Act 451 of 1994, to prohibit the use of Forest Development Funds for certain administrative costs or for making PILT payments.

- The bill was passed by the House of Representatives and referred to the Senate Committee on Appropriations.
- The Administration supports this legislation.

HBs 5401-5402 – Create Emergency Temporary Speed Restrictions on Local Waters – Rep. Eisen

These bills would amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, Act 451 of 1994, to grant authority to the Department of Natural Resources, local sheriff, or county emergency management coordinator to create an emergency temporary speed restriction on local waters.

- The bills were passed by the House of Representatives and is awaiting a vote on the floor of the Senate.
- The Administration supports this legislation.

HB 5463 – Provide for Temporary Emergency Rules in Water Control Zones – Rep. Lilly

This bill would amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, Act 451 of 1994, to provide for procedures to allow local political subdivisions to apply for temporary emergency rules for local watercraft controls.

- The bills were passed by the House of Representatives and is awaiting a vote on the floor of the Senate.
- The Administration supports this legislation.

HB 5540 – Require Warrants for the DNR to Enter Upon Private Property – Rep. LaFave

This bill would amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, Act 451 of 1994, to restrict DNR employees ability to enter upon private property unless they have permission from the land owner or lessee or if they are a DNR peace officer or park and recreation officer with a warrant, reasonably believes evidence of a crime will be destroyed or they are in hot pursuit of criminal suspect.

- The bill was referred to the House Committee on Judiciary.
- The Administration has not taken a position on this legislation.

HB 5551 – Decriminalize Improper Display of a Snowmobile Registration Decal or Trail Permit – Rep. Alexander

This bill would amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, Act 451 of 1994, to make the improper display of a snowmobile registration decal or trail permit sticker to be guilty of a state civil infraction and may be ordered to pay a civil fine of not more than \$150.00.

- The bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.
- The Administration has not taken a position on this legislation.

HB 5566 – Require Probable Cause for Peace Officers to Require Individual to Display Hunting, Fur Harvester’s or Fishing License – Rep. S. Johnson

This bill would amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, Act 451 of 1994, to prohibit a conservation officer, law enforcement officer, or tribal law enforcement officer to require that individual to display his or her hunting, fur harvester's, or fishing license unless the peace officer has probable cause.

- The bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.
- The Administration has not taken a position on this legislation.

HBs 5558-5560 – Provide Regulations for Commercial Hunting and Fishing Guides – Reps. Howell, Cherry and Wakeman

These bills would amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, Act 451 of 1994, to provide for the licensure and regulation of commercial hunting and fishing guides and to provide the Natural Resources Commission with the exclusive authority to regulate hunting and fishing guides.

- The bills were referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources and one hearing has been held.
- The Administration supports this legislation.

HB 5590 –Allow the Use of Purple Paint to Designate a No Trespassing Area – Rep. Reilly

The bill would the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to prohibit a person from engaging in recreational activity or trapping on another person's property if, among other things, the property was posted against entry with purple paint marks on trees or posts around the property.

- The bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.
- The Administration has not taken a position on this legislation.

HBs 5592-5594 – Create an Upper Peninsula Natural Resources Commission – Reps. Markkanen and LaFave

These bills would create an Upper Peninsula Natural Resources Commission that would have the exclusive authority to regulate the taking of game that only has an impact on the Upper Peninsula or has no significant impact outside of the Upper Peninsula and sport fishing in the waters of the Upper Peninsula.

- The bills were referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.
- The Administration has not taken a position on this legislation.

SB 789 – Allow the Use of Purple Paint to Designate a No Trespassing Area – Sen. VanderWall

The bill would amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to prohibit a person from engaging in recreational activity or trapping on another person's property if, among other things, the property was posted against entry with purple paint marks on trees or posts around the property.

- The bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and one hearing has been held.
- The Administration opposes this legislation.

SB 799 – Reconveyance of Property in Gogebic County – Sen. McBroom

The bill would authorize the Department of Natural Resources to accept a transfer of property from the Gogebic County Road Commission in Gogebic County and then to transfer that property to Watersmeet Township. The parcel currently is owned by the Gogebic County Road Commission, which received ownership of the parcel from the DNR under the land conveyance authorized by Public Act 183 of 1988. The bill would require Watersmeet Township to use the parcel as a township park.

- The bill was passed out of the Senate Committee on Appropriations and is currently awaiting a vote on the floor of the Senate.
- The Administration supports this legislation.

SB 800 – Modify Penalty for Feeding or Baiting Deer – Sen. Stamas

The bill amends the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to modify the penalty for baiting or feeding deer to a state civil infraction subject to a possible fine of not more than \$1. Unlawful deer baiting is currently a misdemeanor offense, punishable by up to 90 days in jail and/or a fine of between \$50 and \$500 plus the costs of prosecution.

- The bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Natural Resources.
- The Administration has not taken a position on this legislation.