

2024 DNR Legislation

The 2024 legislative session saw a record number of bills, with over 900 introduced and 591 passed. DNR tracked more than 150 items over the 45-day session and saw 92 pass. It was another year focused on water, with energy also a hot topic.

Water

Bill	Summary
* HB62 /Owens Utah Water Ways Amendments	Directs Utah Water Ways to create resources and professional development opportunities to be used in K-12
* HB61 /Albrecht Water Measuring and Accounting Amendments	Adds the promotion of telemetry to the State Water Policy and provides rule-making authority to the State Engineer relating to telemetry requirements and distribution accounting
* HB280 /Snider Water Related Changes	Addresses long-term water planning needs by creating a process and funding mechanism to plan for and implement water infrastructure projects. It creates the Water Infrastructure Fund, modifies the State Water Plan and studies various state water efforts
* HB453 /Snider Great Salt Lake Amendments	Nicknamed the "Great Salt Lake Conservation Act," this bill sets parameters for responsible mineral extraction when the lake falls below healthy levels and ensures the state is fairly compensated
* SB18 /Sandall Water Modifications	Grants rulemaking authority to the State Engineer related to saved water, allowing farmers to sell or send conserved water downstream without losing their water rights
* SB211 /Adams Generational Water Infrastructure Amendments	Creates the Water District Water Development Council to plan "generational water infrastructure." Requires the Governor to appoint a Utah water agent to oversee water importation and represent the state in interstate compacts and conferences

Energy

Bill Summary	Summary
* HB374 /Jack State Energy Policy Amendments	Requires the Office of Energy Development to develop and implement the state energy plan and report annually to the legislature
* HB 410 /Watkins San Rafael State Energy Lab	Establishes the Utah San Rafael Energy Lab and creates the Utah San Rafael Energy Lab Board
* SB161 /Owens Energy Security Amendments	Prevents the premature demolition of the IPP coal units and requires IPA to notify the PSC of their closure and demolition plans. Requires IPA to put their units up for sale at fair-market value before

demolishing (Makes OED a regulatory office)

<u>*HB48</u> /Jack Utah Energy Act Amendments	Adds responsibilities and changes reprinting structure for OED requiring them to develop strategies to advocate for state interests on federal energy and environmental programs
<u>*SB224</u> /Sandall Energy Independence Amendments	Allows the state to pursue an interest in purchasing additional capacity from proven, dispatchable energy sources should they become available (likely to happen by 2030 from the Hunter and Huntington plants)

Wildlife

Bill Summary	Summary
<u>*HB143</u> /Owens Shooting Range requirements	Waives fees at certain shooting ranges for military service members, veterans, peace officers and retired peace officers, and firefighters and retired firefighters
<u>SB20</u> /Sandall Agricultural and Wildlife Damage Prevention Board Amendments	Extends the sunset date of the Agricultural and Wildlife Damage Prevention Board from 2024 to 2034.
<u>HB222</u> /Gricius Wildlife Hunting Amendments	Determines what amount of hunter orange is acceptable, Provides a mechanism for the use of edible byproducts to be produced into dog food
<u>HB375</u> /Stratton Domesticated Elk Amendments	Establishes requirements for the importation of elk from east of the 100th meridian
<u>HB382</u> /Snider Wildlife Amendments	Modified definitions, provide technical changes to improve the efficiency of state agency management, give rule-making authority to the wildlife board for shed horn gathering
<u>HB262</u> /Snider School and Institutional Trust Lands Amendments	Exempts the sale or lease of certain large aggregations of trust lands from advertising requirements, excludes certain lands from sale or lease under the large aggregation exemption and requires rulemaking for determining the fair market value of trust lands
<u>HCR13</u> /Albrecht Concurrent resolution related to the Division of Wildlife Resources	Resolution thanking the DWR for the efforts in working with Colorado to find a way to return wolves that come in from out-of-state

Oil, Gas & Mining

Bill Summary	Summary
<u>*HB295</u> /Lund Produced Water Amendments	Clarifies the use of produced water within oil and gas operations and describes when a water right is or is not needed (\$120,000 ongoing Fiscal note for 1 FTE within the Oil and Gas program)

<u>HB353</u> /Bolinder Mining Operations Amendments	Clarifies the difference between an amendment and a revision to a large mine notice of intention, moves the public comment period to the beginning of the Division's internal review of the NOI and adds a definition of a 'substantive public comment'
<u>HB373</u> /Snider Environmental Quality Amendments	Allows the Oil and Gas program to help DEQ confirm and issue certificates of pollution control facilities located on property within our jurisdiction (\$10,000 one-time appropriation for programming needs and \$150,000 ongoing for rulemaking costs and staff time to process certificate applications)
* <u>HB433</u> /Bolinder Brine Amendments	Allows for the designation of multiple mineral development areas within mining operations and requires OGM to study brine mining operations and report back to the Legislature during the October interim committee meeting
<u>HB452</u> /Chew Carbon Capture Amendments	Repeals two funds, replaces them with a Carbon Dioxide Storage Fund and allows the Board to impose fees and deposit money into the fund
* <u>HB 502</u> /Snider Critical Infrastructure and Mining	Requires a study by OGM of critical infrastructure material operations and related mining, outlines who the division shall cooperate with in conducting the study, and requires legislative reporting

Forestry, Fire & State Lands

Bill Summary	Summary
* <u>SB270</u> /Bramble Utah Lake and Great Salt Lake Study Amendments	Requires FFSL to conduct a study to determine how to enhance benefits associated with Utah Lake in a manner consistent with the division's management authority over sovereign lands
* <u>HB437</u> /Snider Fire Amendments	Requires FFSL to analyze certain issues related to the wildfire risk assessment mapping tool, adjustments to calculations and participation in CWS

Utah Geological Survey

Bill Summary	Summary
<u>HB 302</u> /Elison Paleontological Landmark Amendments	A state paleontological landmark may be designated by the Legislature and the governor through concurrent resolution (the UGS board can still designate them as well) Allows for UGS to prepare a report on the impacts of a proposed landmark and submit it to the Legislature and governor
<u>HB 384</u> /Albrecht Utah Geological Survey Data Submission Amendments	Cities, counties, and other municipalities are required to submit final geologic reports received with building permits, to the UGS

State Parks

Bill Summary	Summary
<u>HCR8</u> /Albrecht Concurrent Resolution Creating the Butch Cassidy State Monument	Approves the creation of the Butch Cassidy State Monument
<u>SB36</u> /Harper Heber Valley Historic Railroad Authority Sunset Amendments	Extends the sunset date for the Heber Valley Historic Railroad Authority for five years
<u>SB108</u> /Kwan Veteran Access to State Parks	Will allow for 1,600 annual passes to be set as part of a pilot program
<u>SCR6</u> /Sandall Golden Spike State Monument	Approves the creation of the Golden Spike State Monument

Outdoor Rec

Bill Summary	Summary
<u>HB23</u> /Brooks Division of Outdoor Recreation Advisory Council Sunset Extension	Extends the sunset date of the advisory council that advises the Division of Outdoor Recreation on boating policies from 2024 to 2029
<u>HB85</u> /Stenquist Electric Bike Amendments	Amends the definition of an electric assisted bicycle and requires manufacturers to label it correctly
<u>HB88</u> /Stenquist Landowner Liability Amendments	Amends the definition of "recreational purpose" for Title 57, Chapter 14, Limitations on Landowner Liability, to include rock climbing + other technical changes
<u>HB90</u> /Stenquist Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Amendments	Modifies how funding to the Outdoor Adventure Restricted Account is used
<u>HB184</u> /Teuscher Vehicle Owner Registration Requirements	Allows an individual to show proof of registration and insurance for certain vehicles through digital means and requires certain vehicles to be added to the Uninsured Motorist Identification Database Program
<u>HB360</u> /Owens Outdoor Program Amendments	Permits DOR to accept private funding and labor for maintenance of outdoor recreation infrastructure; grants the division rulemaking authority regarding private funding and labor for maintenance of outdoor recreation

infrastructure; and provides a repeal date, subject to legislative review (Ongoing \$58,100 for manager of volunteer labor and financial contributions)

HB441/Thurston
Registration of Novel Vehicles

Establishes a registration process for a novel vehicle, provides a process to appeal to the State Tax Commission to review a registration determination, addresses requirements for a street-legal novel vehicle and requires the State Tax Commission to provide an annual report to the Transportation Interim Committee regarding the registration of novel vehicles

SB179/Harper
Transportation Amendments

This bill amends provisions related to motor vehicles, the Department of Transportation, and highways, and makes technical corrections and changes (Amends the definition of a snowmobile)

Law Enforcement

Bill Summary

Summary

HB469/Wilcox
Department of Natural
Resources Law Enforcement
Amendments

The four divisions currently with law enforcement staff will become one unified division within DNR

DNR All

Bill Summary

Summary

HB335/Peterson
State Grant Process
Amendments

Requires grant recipients to provide a proposed budget and agree on deliverables, reporting, audit, and clawback requirements before receiving any grant funds. It also addresses the disbursement schedule for grant funds and a review at specified times if the grant funds are ongoing

HB519/Snider
Department of Natural
Resources Modifications

This bill modifies, repeals and clarifies some duties and responsibilities of agencies within the department. Most changes are associated with moving PLPCO and OED to DNR and creating the Division of Outdoor Recreation in 2021