

**2009 WSGA/WWGA JOINT WINTER CONVENTION
NEW POLICIES AND DIRECTIVES**

Wildlife:

Policy

WWSGA/WWGA support efforts to monitor and control the introduction of aquatic invasive species into the state of Wyoming.

Directive

The officers and staff of WSGA/WWGA are directed to continue efforts to assure that the sage grouse and the leopard frog are not listed under the Endangered Species Act

Ag Finance and Tax:

Directive:

The officers and staff of WSGA/WWGA are directed to support the Memorandum of Resolution from the Governor's office on State Sovereignty.

Policy:

Whereas proposed Federal Health Care Legislation threatens to infringe upon the individual right to make health care decisions, choose health care plans, and pay directly for health care services; and

Whereas such legislation would be accompanied by penalties and fines intended to mandate certain health care decisions by individuals, businesses and states; therefore

Be It Resolved that the WSGA/WWGA support the Wyoming Health Care Freedom Amendment, request the Wyoming State Legislature to pass and the Governor to sign a joint resolution placing this Constitutional Amendment on the ballot and urge Wyoming voters to support the Amendment.

Brand and Theft:

Policy:

WSGA/WWGA oppose any increases in brand inspection and registration fees and urge the Wyoming Livestock Board to recognize the difficult economic challenges facing Wyoming's livestock industry and to refrain from proposing any increases in fees related to brand inspection and brand registration.

Federal Lands:

Policy:

WSGA/WWGA support efforts to control the number of wild and feral horses on private, state and BLM lands both in and out of established Herd Management Areas (HMA's) at such a level that the BLM can manage the annual increase in population in a manner consistent with Wild Horse Management Section 2 of the Wild Horse and Burro Act which states, "When the Secretary determines on the basis of [information available to him] that an overpopulation exists on a given area of the public lands and that action is necessary to remove excess animals, he shall immediately remove excess animals from the range so as to achieve appropriate management levels. Such action shall be taken, [in a specified priority], until all excess animals have been removed so as to restore a thriving natural ecological balance to the range, and protect the range from the deterioration associated with overpopulation."

Directive:

The Officers and Staff of WSGA/WWGA are directed to support the efforts of the Western Legacy Alliance and other groups to pursue full disclosure of payments made under the Equal Access to Justice Act (EAJA).

Private and State Lands:

Directive:

The officers and staff of WSGA/WWGA are directed to vigorously oppose legislation that would expand the power of eminent domain to the acquisition of right of ways for highway snow fences.

Directive

The officers and staff of WSGA/WWGA are directed to strongly support proposed legislation to require the Economic Analysis Division of the Department of Administration and Information to provide county specific analysis related to the uses of federal, private and state lands and minerals.

Policy:

Whereas excessive and burdensome requirements imposed by federal and state agencies on the routing and construction of energy transmission facilities results in a disproportionate share of these facilities being routed and constructed on private lands; therefore

Be It Resolved that WSGA/WWGA support legislative and regulatory changes that assure that the standards and requirements for the routing and construction of energy transmission facilities on federal and state lands are no more restrictive than those imposed on private lands.

Livestock Health and Production:

Policy:

Whereas collaborative scientific research is an essential component of long-term goals to manage, control and eradicate brucellosis in cattle and wildlife through the development of vaccines, improved tests, and other items related to understanding brucellosis and it's impacts; and

Whereas the University of Wyoming College of Agriculture and Natural Resources has, with the support of the Wyoming Governor and Wyoming Legislature, established a consortium of scientists and stakeholders from around the nation to coordinate, direct and seek funding for such research; therefore

Be It Resolved that WSGA/WWGA actively support the UW Consortium for the Advancement of Brucellosis Science and assist in efforts to secure adequate federal, state and/or private funding for approved research projects.

Floor Resolution

Policy

WSGA/WWGA oppose the State Engineers Office's pending practice of using wildlife management issues and approval from Wyoming Game and Fish to determine the issuance of water use permits.