

Introduced by

Senator Anderson

Representative Longmuir

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact subsection 17 of section 20.1-02-05 of the North
2 Dakota Century Code, relating to the powers of the director of the game and fish department; to
3 provide an appropriation; to provide for a transfer; and to declare an emergency.

4 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

5 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Subsection 17 of section 20.1-02-05 of the North Dakota
6 Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

7 17. Carry out a private land habitat and access improvement program by:

- 8 a. Entering cost-sharing, habitat enhancement, and access agreements with
9 landowners or agencies working on private land to help defray all or a portion of
10 their share of local, state, or federally sponsored conservation practices
11 considered beneficial to fish and wildlife.
- 12 b. Leasing and developing fish and wildlife habitat or sport fishing areas on private
13 land. Except for purposes of ~~subdivisions~~subdivisions i and j, public access to
14 leased land may not be prohibited.
- 15 c. Carrying out practices or designating an individual to carry out practices or
16 authorizing or having the designee authorize landowners to carry out practices
17 that will alleviate depredations caused by predatory animals and big game
18 animals.
- 19 d. Publishing a brochure on an annual basis describing areas funded from the game
20 and fish department private land habitat and access improvement fund which are
21 open to public access in this state.
- 22 e. Receiving advice from the game and fish advisory board concerning
23 expenditures from the game and fish department private land habitat and access
24 improvement fund.

- f. Working with livestock producers experiencing chronic deer depredation problems to develop site-specific deer depredation management plans.
- g. Giving first consideration to producers impacted by deer foraging on stored winter forage when purchasing winter deer management supplies.
- h. Making available the sum of one million dollars from each biennial game and fish department appropriation to be used to provide feeding and other winter management practices to alleviate depredation caused by big game animals. Any unexpended funds under this subdivision, up to two million dollars, are not subject to section 54-44.1-11 and may be carried forward for expenditure in future bienniums.
- i. Making available the sum of one hundred thousand dollars from each biennial game and fish department appropriation to be used for food plots on private property for the purpose of providing winter feed. These food plots are not subject to public access considerations.
- j. Assisting interested landowners in improving soil health and water quality and creating wildlife habitat.

**SECTION 2. GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATION AND TRANSFER - PRIVATE LAND
HABITAT AND ACCESS IMPROVEMENT FUND - GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT.**

1. There is appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$2,000,000, which the director of the office of management and budget shall transfer to the private land habitat and access improvement fund for the period beginning with the effective date of this Act, and ending June 30, 2021.
2. There is appropriated out of any moneys in the private land habitat and access improvement fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$2,000,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the game and fish department for the purpose of assisting interested landowners in improving soil health and water quality and creating wildlife habitat, for the period beginning with the effective date of this Act, and ending June 30, 2021.

**SECTION 3. GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATION AND TRANSFER - SPECIAL ROADS
FUND - DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION.**

- 1 1. There is appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not
2 otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$500,000, which the director of the office of
3 management and the budget shall transfer to the special roads fund for the period
4 beginning with the effective date of this Act, and ending June 30, 2021.
- 5 2. There is appropriated out of any moneys in the special roads fund in the state
6 treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$500,000, or so much of the sum as
7 may be necessary, to the department of transportation for the purpose of recreational
8 road access, for the period beginning with the effective date of this Act, and ending
9 June 30, 2021.

10 **SECTION 4. APPROPRIATION.** There is appropriated out of any moneys in the private
11 land habitat and access improvement fund, the sum of \$500,000, or so much of the sum as may
12 be necessary, to the game and fish department for the purpose of implementing the private land
13 habitat and access improvement program to assist interested landowners in improving soil
14 health and water quality and creating wildlife habitat, for the period beginning with the effective
15 date of this Act, and ending June 30, 2021. This appropriation is a one-time funding item.

16 **SECTION 5. EMERGENCY.** This Act is declared to be an emergency measure.