

HOUSE BILL 219

Introduced by Raney, et al.

1/16	Introduced
1/16	Referred to Fish & Game
1/17	First Reading
1/17	Fiscal Note Requested
1/23	Fiscal Note Received
1/24	Fiscal Note Printed
1/31	Hearing
	Died in Committee

1 *HOUSE* BILL NO. *219*
 2 INTRODUCED BY *Raney* *McIntosh* *Russell* *Garnica* *Ellison*
 3 *Delbert* *Coon* *Whalen* *Marko* *Ream*
 4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT SUSPENDING THE SALE OF *Bradley*
 5 SPECIAL WILD BUFFALO LICENSES UNTIL A LONG-TERM MANAGEMENT *McCallister*
 6 PLAN HAS BEEN ENTERED INTO BETWEEN APPROPRIATE STATE AND
 7 FEDERAL AGENCIES; AMENDING SECTION 87-2-723, MCA; AND
 8 PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE AND A CONTINGENT
 9 TERMINATION DATE."

11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

12 **Section 1.** Section 87-2-723, MCA, is amended to read:

13 *87-2-723. Regulation of special wild buffalo licenses
 14 -- fees used for management of Yellowstone national park
 15 wild buffalo herd -- moratorium on license sales. (1) The
 16 department shall adopt rules regulating special wild buffalo
 17 licenses. The rules shall provide for:

- 18 (a) license drawing procedures based on a year-round
- 19 season;
- 20 (b) an entry fee for the drawing of a license, which
- 21 must be a minimum of \$5;
- 22 (c) notification of license recipients as to when and
- 23 where they may hunt;
- 24 (d) means of taking;
- 25 (e) tagging requirements for carcasses, skulls, and

- 1 hides;
- 2 (f) possession limits; and
- 3 (g) requirements for transportation and exportation.
- 4 (2) The money collected from drawing and license fees
- 5 must be placed in a special fund to manage and control the
- 6 wild buffalo entering Montana from the Yellowstone national
- 7 park herd.

8 (3) After [the effective date of this act], a special
 9 wild buffalo license may not be sold until the department
 10 and any federal agencies responsible for the management of
 11 the Yellowstone national park herd have entered into an
 12 agreement for the long-term management of the herd."

13 NEW SECTION. Section 2. Effective date -- contingent
 14 termination. [This act] is effective on passage and approval
 15 and terminates October 1, 1993, or on the date of adoption
 16 of a long-term management plan that allows the sale of wild
 17 buffalo licenses, whichever occurs first.

-End-



-2- INTRODUCED BILL
 HB 219

STATE OF MONTANA - FISCAL NOTE
Form BD-15

In compliance with a written request, there is hereby submitted a Fiscal Note for HB0219, as introduced.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION:

To suspend the sale of special wild buffalo licenses until a long-term management plan has been entered into between the appropriate state and federal agencies.

ASSUMPTIONS:

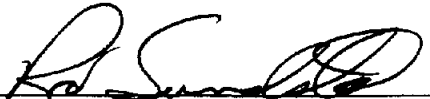
The Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks does not have enough data to accurately predict the fiscal impact of this bill at this time. Some of the unknown variables are summarized below.


1. In the past few years, bison control was primarily accomplished by using sportsmen to harvest the animals. The control action cost more to administer than revenue generated from sale of the licenses (costs of \$272,000 with revenue of \$161,000 over last 3.5 years).
2. Last month an interim management plan was adopted by the state that changes the method of bison control. Sportsmen will harvest animals only under conditions outlined in the plan. Montana and the National Park Service will also help control the bison. Therefore, the department's historic cost data cannot be used to predict the future costs.
3. Future costs to control bison may increase but could be offset by sale of carcasses and calves.
4. A long-range management plan for bison is currently being developed by the state and the National Park Service. There will be some development costs to the department, but neither the required detail of the plan, nor the involvement of the agency is known at this time.
5. Therefore, HB0219 will cause no increased costs to the department.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks:

No fiscal impact from HB0219. Total potential fiscal impacts are unknown.

 1-22-91
ROD SUNDSTED, BUDGET DIRECTOR DATE
Office of Budget and Program Planning


BOB RANEY, PRIMARY SPONSOR DATE
Fiscal Note for HB0219, as introduced

HB 219