

**From:** Nancy Hilding nhilshat@rapidnet.com  
**Subject:** Prairie Hills Audubon Society suggests Amendments to Senate Bill 21 - on funding state and county review of the BHNF Forest Planning  
**Date:** February 14, 2023 at 6:30 AM  
**To:** appropriations@sdlegislature.gov, Taylor Van Emmerik Taylor.VanEmmerik@sdlegislature.gov



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February 14, 2023

Dear Joint Appropriations Committee,

**Prairie Hills Audubon Society suggests Amendments to Senate Bill 21 - on funding state and county review of the BHNF Forest Planning**

During testimony today at the Joint Appropriations on 2/14/23 I will suggest these amendments to Senate Bill 21. I am the registered lobbyist for Prairie Hills Audubon Society of Western SD.

Amend:

**Section 1.** There is hereby appropriated from the general fund the sum of \$500,000 to the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources, for the purpose of creating a one-to-one cost-share program, available to the five counties in this state that have Black Hills National Forest System lands within their boundaries and to federally recognized Native American Tribes in SD with historic claims to the Black Hills, to allow for the counties' and tribes' participation in the Black Hills National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan revision process.

The Division of Resource Conservation and Forestry, within the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources, shall design and administer the cost-share program and provide grants to the eligible counties and tribes, provided no one county or tribe is entitled to receive more than fifty-five percent of the moneys allocated for the program.

Amend:

**Section 2.** There is hereby appropriated from the general fund the sum of \$450,000 to the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources, for the purpose of employing one full-time-equivalent staff person, during the Black Hills National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan revision process and also to provide for awards to other Departments of State Government to compensate for their staff time and resources spent reviewing and commenting on the BHNF Land and Resource Management Plan Revision. The Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources shall make its written communications to the Forest Service available to the public at no cost. The Department shall periodically hold public meetings to gather public comments on its' positions on BHNF forest planning. The Department shall also be available to occasionally meet with a diversity of stakeholders and interest groups to collect broad input on the Department's positions.

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Add a new section:

Section 6.

No funds appropriated under this act will be used for litigation or administrative appeal without further legislative approval.

Thanks,

Nancy Hilding

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Nancy Hilding

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or

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