

SENATE BILL NO. 860

May 07, 2024, Introduced by Senator CHERRY and referred to the Committee on Natural Resources and Agriculture.

A bill to amend 1994 PA 451, entitled
"Natural resources and environmental protection act,"
(MCL 324.101 to 324.90106) by adding section 40503.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 **Sec. 40503. (1) The department shall create a plan to restore**
2 **American woodcock (*Scolopax minor*) populations in alignment with**
3 **the American Woodcock Conservation Plan. The department shall**
4 **develop the plan in consultation with all of the following:**

- 5 **(a) The American Woodcock Society.**
6 **(b) The Ruffed Grouse Society.**

1 (c) The Michigan United Conservation Clubs.

2 (d) The Wildlife Management Institute.

3 (e) The department's timber and forest products advisory
4 council.

5 (f) The United States Forest Service.

6 (g) The United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

7 (h) Other interested persons.

8 (2) The plan must include all of the following:

9 (a) Interim and final habitat and population goals for
10 American woodcock and associated species for the entire state and
11 each region of this state, state or national forest management
12 unit, state wildlife area, and state game area.

13 (b) Habitat treatments.

14 (c) Use of good neighbor authority under federal law on
15 national forest lands.

16 (d) Information identifying American woodcock habitat needs on
17 private lands, methods to expand American woodcock habitat and
18 populations on private lands, and implementation of those methods.

19 (e) Any other measures necessary for this state to properly
20 contribute to the restoration of American woodcock populations.

21 (3) The department shall do all of the following:

22 (a) By December 31, 2025, submit the initial plan to the
23 standing committees of the senate and house of representatives with
24 primary responsibility for natural resources issues.

25 (b) In consultation with persons described in subsection (1),
26 review the plan every 5 years and, if necessary, update the plan.

27 (c) Submit updated plans to the legislative committees
28 specified in subdivision (a).

29 (d) Every 2 years on July 1, submit to the legislative

- 1 committees specified in subdivision (a) a report on progress in
- 2 meeting the goals set by the plan.