

**DRAFT ONLY
NOT APPROVED FOR
INTRODUCTION**

HOUSE BILL NO. _____

Feral livestock.

Sponsored by: Joint Agriculture, State and Public Lands
and Water Resources Interim Committee

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to feral livestock; providing definitions;
2 providing for the identification and destruction of feral
3 livestock; providing for reimbursement of costs of
4 destruction and removal; and providing for an effective
5 date.

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7 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

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9 **Section 1.** W.S. 11-48-101 and 11-48-102 are created

10 to read:

11

12

CHAPTER 48

13

FERAL LIVESTOCK

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11-48-101. Definitions.

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(a) As used in this chapter:

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(i) "Board" means the Wyoming livestock board;

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(ii) "Director" means the director of the Wyoming livestock board;

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(iii) "Feral" means a domestic animal that is not under the control of nor cared for by a person and which has returned to a wild or semi-wild state;

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(ii) "Livestock" means as defined in W.S. 11-6-302(a)(vi).

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11-48-102. Destruction of feral livestock.

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(a) Before any livestock can be declared feral, a reasonable attempt shall be made by the director or the state veterinarian to locate and identify the owner of the

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1 livestock and to notify the owner to take possession of the
2 livestock.

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4 (b) If the state veterinarian or the director are
5 unable to identify and notify the owner of the livestock or
6 the owner refused to take possession for the livestock
7 within three (3) days, the livestock shall be declared to
8 be feral livestock.

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10 (c) If the director or the state veterinarian
11 determines that any feral livestock are damaging private or
12 public property, including grass, cultivated crops or
13 stored crops, or determines the feral livestock is on
14 private or public property where the feral livestock are
15 not authorized to be and that capturing the feral livestock
16 is not feasible or is cost prohibitive, the director or the
17 state veterinarian shall order the destruction of the feral
18 livestock.

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20 (d) If the state veterinarian determines or suspects
21 any feral livestock are likely to be infected with or able
22 to spread any infectious or contagious disease, the state

1 veterinarian shall order the destruction of the feral
2 livestock.

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4 (e) There shall be no right for any future indemnity
5 or payment to the owner for the destruction of any feral
6 livestock destroyed in accordance with this section.
7 Should the owner of any feral livestock destroyed in
8 accordance with this section be subsequently identified,
9 the board may seek reimbursement from the owner for all
10 costs associated with the destruction and removal of the
11 feral livestock.

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13 (f) The Wyoming livestock board shall promulgate
14 rules necessary for the administration of this section.

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16 **Section 2.** This act is effective immediately upon
17 completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law
18 as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming
19 Constitution.

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21

(END)