

SENATE FILE NO. SF0008

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.

6

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

14

15 **11-48-101. Definitions.**

16

1 (a) As used in this chapter:

2

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

4

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

7

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

11

12 (iv) "Livestock" means as defined in W.S.
13 11-6-302(a)(vi).

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15 **11-48-102. Destruction of feral livestock.**

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17 (a) Before any livestock can be declared feral, a
18 reasonable attempt shall be made by the director or the
19 state veterinarian to locate and identify the owner of the
20 livestock and to notify the owner to take possession of the
21 livestock.

22

23 (b) If the state veterinarian or the director are
24 unable to identify and notify the owner of the livestock or

1 the owner refused to take possession for the livestock
2 within three (3) days, the livestock may be declared to be
3 feral livestock.

4

5 (c) If the director or the state veterinarian
6 determines that any feral livestock are damaging private or
7 public property, including grass, cultivated crops or
8 stored crops, or determines the feral livestock is on
9 private or public property where the feral livestock are
10 not authorized to be and that capturing the feral livestock
11 is not feasible or is cost prohibitive, the director or the
12 state veterinarian may order the destruction of the feral
13 livestock.

14

15 (d) If the state veterinarian determines or suspects
16 any feral livestock are likely to be infected with or able
17 to spread any infectious or contagious disease, the state
18 veterinarian may order the destruction of the feral
19 livestock.

20

21 (e) There shall be no right for any future indemnity
22 or payment to the owner for the destruction of any feral
23 livestock destroyed in accordance with this section.
24 Should the owner of any feral livestock destroyed in

1 accordance with this section be subsequently identified,
2 the board may seek reimbursement from the owner for all
3 costs associated with the destruction and removal of the
4 feral livestock.

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

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9 **Section 2.** This act is effective immediately upon
10 completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law
11 as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming
12 Constitution.

13

14 (END)