

SENATE FILE NO. SF0178

Mountain lion pursuit seasons.

Sponsored by: Senator(s) Boner and Representative(s)  
Haroldson and Western

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to game and fish; providing for mountain  
2 lion pursuit seasons; providing for a special management  
3 permit for a mountain lion pursuit as specified; specifying  
4 the use of dogs to hunt, kill or pursue mountain lions;  
5 providing a penalty; requiring rulemaking; and providing  
6 for effective dates.

7

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

9

10 **Section 1.** W.S. 23-1-302(a) by creating a new  
11 paragraph (xxxiii), 23-2-307 by creating a new subsection  
12 (c), 23-3-102(d) and 23-3-109(a) are amended to read:

13

14 **23-1-302. Powers and duties.**

15

1 (a) The commission is directed and empowered:

2

3 (xxxiii) To establish and regulate resident and  
4 nonresident mountain lion pursuit seasons. In any areas of  
5 the state where mountain lion hunting has been authorized  
6 and during a mountain lion pursuit season, a person may use  
7 dogs to pursue a mountain lion but no mountain lion shall  
8 be killed.

9

10 **23-2-307. Special management permit.**

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12 (c) The commission may by rule require the purchase  
13 of a special management permit by any person participating  
14 in resident and nonresident mountain lion pursuit seasons.

15

16 **23-3-102. Taking certain game animals without license**  
17 **or during a closed season prohibited.**

18

19 (d) Any person who knowingly takes any antlered elk,  
20 antlered deer, antlered moose, horned antelope, bighorn  
21 sheep, mountain goat, mountain lion, grizzly bear or black  
22 bear without the proper license or during a closed season  
23 and any person who knowingly kills a mountain lion during a

1 mountain lion pursuit season, except as otherwise permitted  
2 by this act, is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a  
3 fine of not less than five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00) nor  
4 more than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00), imprisonment  
5 for not more than one (1) year, or both. A third or  
6 subsequent conviction within ten (10) years for a violation  
7 of this subsection shall constitute a felony punishable by  
8 a fine of not less than five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00)  
9 nor more than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00),  
10 imprisonment for not more than two (2) years, or both. For  
11 the purposes of determining whether a violation of this  
12 subsection is a felony, convictions resulting from the same  
13 occurrence shall be considered a single conviction even if  
14 the result of the occurrence is more than one (1)  
15 misdemeanor conviction. The provisions of W.S. 6-8-101(a)  
16 shall not apply to convictions under this section.

17

18 **23-3-109. Use of dogs; dogs injuring big or trophy**  
19 **game animals may be killed; citation of owners of dogs**  
20 **harassing game animals; penalties; leashed dogs for**  
21 **tracking.**

22

1 (a) No person shall use any dog to hunt, run or  
2 harass any big or trophy game animal, protected animal or  
3 furbearing animal except as otherwise provided by this act.  
4 The commission shall regulate the use of dogs to take  
5 mountain lions and bobcats and to pursue mountain lions by  
6 residents and nonresidents during hunting or trapping  
7 seasons.

8

9 **Section 2.** The game and fish commission shall  
10 promulgate all rules necessary to implement the provisions  
11 of this act on or before July 1, 2023.

12

13 **Section 3.**

14

15 (a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this  
16 section, this act is effective July 1, 2023.

17

18 (b) Sections 2 and 3 of this act are effective  
19 immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a  
20 bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of  
21 the Wyoming Constitution.

22

23

(END)