

TITLE 11 - AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND OTHER ANIMALS

CHAPTER 1 - GENERAL PROVISIONS

**11-1-101. Definitions.**

(a) As used in title 11, unless the context otherwise requires or unless otherwise specifically noted:

(i) "Board" means the state board of agriculture;

(ii) "Director" means the director of the department of agriculture for the state of Wyoming or his designated representative;

(iii) "Crop" or "agricultural crop," when not otherwise defined by statute, means corn, oats, wheat, barley, flax, sorghums and other grains, potatoes, vegetables, hay, wheatgrasses (agropyron species), needlegrasses (stipa species), bluegrasses (poa species), fescue grasses (festuca species), grama grasses (bouteloua species), sedges and rushes, shrubby or woody forage plants which include salt sages (atriplex species), sagebrushes (artemisia species), winterfat (eurotia lanata), and forage legumes which include astragalus, lupinus and other members of the family leguminosae;

(iv) "Department" means the Wyoming department of agriculture;

(v) "Person" includes an individual, partnership, corporation, joint stock company or any other association or entity, public or private.

**11-1-102. Disposition of revenue.**

Except as otherwise provided by law, all licensing, registration and service fees collected by the department together with such other monies as may accrue by law to the department shall be deposited with the state treasurer and credited to the general fund.

**11-1-103. Penalty for violations.**

A person who violates any of the following sections commits a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than six (6) months, a fine of not more than seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00), or both for the first offense, or by imprisonment for

not more than one (1) year, a fine of not more than one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500.00), or both for second or subsequent offenses: W.S. 11-6-210(a) or (f), 11-18-112, 11-19-101, 11-19-102, 11-19-103, 11-19-111, 11-19-210, 11-19-215, 11-19-304, 11-19-306, 11-19-401, 11-20-114, 11-20-117, 11-20-229, 11-20-230, 11-21-104, 11-22-118, 11-23-106, 11-23-207, 11-24-103, 11-24-106, 11-26-101(b), 11-30-114 and 11-48-102. A person who violates board rules promulgated pursuant to W.S. 11-18-103(a) (v) shall be subject to the penalties specified in this section.

**11-1-104. License and regulation by the department of agriculture; fee.**

(a) The department shall collect a minimum annual fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) for the first license or activity issued or regulated under subsection (b) of this section which shall be deposited in the general fund. An additional annual fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) shall be collected for each subsequent license issued or activity regulated under subsection (b) of this section. No person shall be required to pay more than one hundred dollars (\$100.00) in any calendar year for each place of business even if the person obtains more than four (4) licenses from the department.

(b) The fee imposed by subsection (a) of this section shall be collected upon the following persons or activities:

- (i) Aerial hunting permit under W.S. 11-6-105;
- (ii) Apiary registration under W.S. 11-7-212;
- (iii) Resident and nonresident nursery stock dealers and salesmen licensed under W.S. 11-9-102;
- (iv) Repealed by Laws 1994, ch. 46, § 2.
- (v) Seed dealers licensed under W.S. 11-12-103;
- (vi) Aircraft registration under W.S. 35-7-373(b);
- (vii) Repealed By Laws 2000, Ch. 37, § 4.
- (viii) Repealed By Laws 2000, Ch. 37, § 4.
- (ix) Repealed By Laws 2000, Ch. 37, § 4.

- (x) Repealed By Laws 2000, Ch. 37, § 4.
- (xi) Repealed By Laws 2000, Ch. 37, § 4.
- (xii) Repealed by Laws 1995, ch. 21, § 2.
- (xiii) Repealed by Laws 2009, Ch. 191, § 2.

## CHAPTER 2 - DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### ARTICLE 1 - BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

#### **11-2-101. Department and board created; director.**

(a) A state department of agriculture is created under the management and control of the director with the advice of the board of agriculture.

(b) Repealed by Laws 1993, ch. 191, § 4.

(c) The department is authorized to accept, administer and expend agricultural commodity promotion, research and advertising assessments.

#### **11-2-102. Composition; qualifications; appointment and removal of members; quorum.**

(a) The board shall consist of thirteen (13) members, including the governor and the dean of the University of Wyoming college of agriculture or his designated representative as ex officio nonvoting members. Eleven (11) voting members shall be appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the senate and may be removed by the governor as provided in W.S. 9-1-202.

(b) One (1) member shall be appointed from each of the seven (7) appointment districts pursuant to W.S. 9-1-218. Appointments in each appointment district shall be rotated among the several counties comprising the district.

(c) Members appointed in accordance with subsection (b) of this section from appointment districts shall be appointed for a term of six (6) years.

(d) The seven (7) members appointed from the appointment districts:

(i) Shall be selected to represent a cross-section of the agricultural industry;

(ii) Shall be engaged chiefly in agricultural work;  
and

(iii) Not more than seventy-five percent (75%) shall be members of the same political party.

(e) One (1) member shall be appointed from each of the four (4) board of agriculture youth leadership quadrants as follows:

(i) The northeast quadrant shall consist of Campbell, Crook, Johnson, Niobrara, Sheridan and Weston counties;

(ii) The northwest quadrant shall consist of Big Horn, Hot Springs, Park, Teton and Washakie counties;

(iii) The southeast quadrant shall consist of Albany, Converse, Goshen, Laramie, Natrona and Platte counties; and

(iv) The southwest quadrant shall consist of Carbon, Fremont, Lincoln, Sublette, Sweetwater and Uinta counties.

(f) The four (4) members appointed from the board of agriculture youth leadership quadrants:

(i) Shall be selected by considering a cross-section of the agricultural industry;

(ii) Shall be engaged chiefly in agricultural work;

(iii) Shall be between eighteen (18) and thirty (30) years of age at the time of submitting the application for board membership; and

(iv) Shall be appointed for a term of four (4) years.

(g) A majority of the appointed members of the board constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business.

(h) Appointments and terms shall be in accordance with W.S. 28-12-101 through 28-12-103.

**11-2-103. Regular and special meetings.**

The board shall meet annually on the second Monday of April, and special meetings of the board may be held by a call of the director, the president of the board or a majority of the members of the board.

**11-2-104. Salary and expenses; oath; election of president and vice-president.**

The board members, except the governor and the dean of the University of Wyoming college of agriculture, shall be paid the salary, for attending and traveling to and from official board business shall be one hundred dollars (\$100.00) per day and the mileage and per diem for attending and traveling to and from official board business in the same manner and amount as state employees. The appointed board members, within a reasonable time after their appointment, shall qualify by taking the constitutional oath of office and filing it with the secretary of state. The appointed members shall elect from their members a president and vice-president.

ARTICLE 2 - DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

**11-2-201. Qualifications; appointment.**

(a) The director of the department of agriculture shall:

(i) Be a college graduate with at least five (5) years experience in agriculture; or

(ii) Have at least twelve (12) years experience in agriculture and otherwise be qualified if not a college or university graduate.

(b) The governor with the approval of the senate, shall appoint the director. The director shall serve at the pleasure of the governor and may be removed by the governor as provided in W.S. 9-1-202. Any vacancy shall be filled by the governor in accordance with W.S. 28-12-101.

**11-2-202. Powers and duties of director generally.**

(a) The director shall have his office in Cheyenne and shall:

(i) Act as secretary and executive officer of the board;

(ii) Through the appropriate division established by W.S. 11-2-101 and with the advice of the board, enforce and execute all laws of the state and rules and regulations of the board;

(iii) Repealed By Laws 1998, ch. 6, § 5.

(iv) Cooperate with other state institutions and organizations, the agricultural departments of other states and the secretary of agriculture of the United States;

(v) Foster a practicable conservation of state natural resources;

(vi) Publish information of practical value to state agricultural interests for free distribution among the farmers and other interested persons within the state;

(vii) Promulgate necessary rules and regulations to implement W.S. 11-2-202.

(b) Repealed by Laws 1993, ch. 191, § 4.

(c) Repealed by Laws 1993, ch. 191, § 4.

(d) The director in collecting information necessary to perform duties of the department and its divisions, may request information from any agency of the state, a county, city, town or other political subdivision. An agency shall furnish information upon written request of the director. An owner, operator or manager of any manufacturing, mining or other business establishment operating in this state or other person having information necessary to carry out the purposes of this act shall upon request of the director, furnish the information upon forms supplied by the board.

(e) For purposes consistent with duties imposed by law and rule and regulation, the director may accept grants from private or public agencies, organizations or other persons.

(f) The director may allow the permitting, registration, licensing, testing, inspection and reporting requirements of this title to be conducted electronically as provided by the Uniform Electronic Transaction Act, W.S. 40-21-101 through 40-21-119 and any applicable federal electronic requirements.

**11-2-203. Deputy director; employment of personnel.**

The deputy director shall serve at the pleasure of the director and is responsible to and under the control and supervision of the director. The director may employ professional, technical and other personnel as necessary to perform duties prescribed by law and rule and regulation of the board.

**11-2-204. Services of persons in employ of university; reimbursement; applicability of provisions.**

(a) In performing duties imposed by law which require technical scientific training, the director may request the services of qualified members of the University of Wyoming faculty, resident or extension. Faculty members shall serve without additional compensation but the department shall reimburse the University of Wyoming for fifty percent (50%) of the salary paid by the university while the faculty member is actually performing services for the director. The use of faculty members and the proportion and distribution of their time shall be determined by agreement between the director and the president of the university and the faculty member shall be employed by the department when performing duties for the director under this section.

(b) This section applies to horticulture, apiculture, poultry, dairying, food, oils, seeds, marketing farm crops and any other duties imposed upon the department which the director and the board determine to be more efficiently and economically administered by use of university faculty members. This section does not apply to any branch of agriculture otherwise specifically provided for by law.

**11-2-205. Repealed by Laws 1987, ch. 111, § 2.**

**11-2-206. Reports to governor.**

The director shall report to the governor respecting the programs and fiscal activities of the department as required by W.S. 9-2-1014.

**11-2-207. Rangeland health assessments.**

(a) The rangeland health assessment program is hereby created. The director shall provide for the cooperation and participation with the University of Wyoming, state agencies, county governments, federal agencies and private landowners in the assessment of the condition of the health of Wyoming grazing

lands. The rangeland health program shall include, but not be limited to:

(i) The necessity for a rangeland health assessment for a particular area of Wyoming grazing lands, including the impact on state, federal, local and private property;

(ii) The rangeland health assessment shall be done only with the voluntary cooperation and participation of all participants, including the private landowner, the state grazing lessee and the federal grazing permittee or lessee;

(iii) The rangeland health assessment shall be conducted on federal or state managed lands only under a memorandum of agreement with the federal or state land management agency and with the participation of that federal or state land management agency;

(iv) The rangeland health assessment shall include, as necessary, establishment of rangeland monitoring, compliance with federal agency standards and guidelines and participation in the incorporation of assessment outcomes into any federal or state decision affecting livestock grazing;

(v) The rangeland health assessment shall include any protections necessary for the management of soil erosion and vegetation loss.

(b) The director is authorized to contract with the University of Wyoming, institutions of higher education and other qualified state and local governmental agencies to:

(i) Conduct rangeland health assessments as provided pursuant to subsection (a) of this section;

(ii) Conduct rangeland health assessments on previously established exclosures which exclude livestock grazing to determine what effect the elimination of grazing has had on the quality of the rangeland. These assessments may include an assessment of nearby grazed rangeland as provided in paragraph (i) of this subsection to assist in the evaluation of the effect of excluding grazing.

(c) The director shall establish matching funds for any contract entered into pursuant to subsection (b) of this section.



(d) The director may accept additional matching funds to augment the planned rangeland health assessment to:

(i) Vetoed by Governor;

(ii) Identify tools and strategies for resource use that best promote rangeland health;

(iii) Facilitate the efficacy of the rangeland study.

(e) The director shall establish priorities for the distribution of available funding, including consideration of:

(i) Applications that include multiple resource partners;

(ii) Amount and variety of funding sources;

(iii) Timing and urgency of the project.

(f) The director is authorized to adopt rules and regulations necessary to implement this section.

**11-2-208. Agricultural research funding program.**

(a) The director shall, through rule and regulation, establish a process to solicit applications from the agricultural industry in the state for applied agricultural research projects.

(b) The director, with approval from the board, may solicit applications for applied research under this section and shall contract with any appropriate educational institution or other qualified entity to conduct the research as provided in the application.

(c) In soliciting and reviewing applications under this section, the director and the board shall:

(i) Consult with producers and nonprofit organizations representing Wyoming agricultural producers;

(ii) Consider the potential impacts of the research in strengthening Wyoming's agricultural industry and agricultural production;

(iii) Consider the time for anticipated completion of the research;

(iv) Consider the educational institution or other qualified entity which will conduct the research, giving preference to educational institutions located within the state;

(v) Ensure that the research results will be widely disseminated to the appropriate sectors of Wyoming agriculture;

(vi) Establish requirements for matching contributions from the educational institution or entity involved in the research and give preference to those projects which include additional private and institutional funding in support of the projects.

### CHAPTER 3 - AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS

#### **11-3-101. Duty of county assessors.**

At the time of making annual assessment of property, each county assessor shall collect statistics in relation to farm products and agricultural resources from each farm and ranch owner, operator or renter as called for by the director. Necessary forms shall be furnished by the director, but shall not duplicate questions in assessor's schedules.

#### **11-3-102. Disposition of forms.**

The original forms upon which statistics are gathered by the county assessor shall be returned to the director immediately upon completion of the assessment work, and not later than June 1 each year.

#### **11-3-103. Reports confidential.**

The reports made to the director are confidential. The records of individuals, firms or corporations supplying information called for by law shall not be used to disclose personal or corporate affairs.

#### **11-3-104. Service to be performed under general assessment law.**

The service performed by the several assessors in the state shall be performed in connection with their service under the general assessment law of the state and as one of the regular

duties devolving upon the county assessor's office. No extra compensation shall be allowed.

#### CHAPTER 4 - STATE ENTOMOLOGIST

**11-4-101. Repealed by Laws 1991, ch. 16, § 1.**

**11-4-102. Repealed by Laws 1991, ch. 16, § 1.**

**11-4-103. Repealed by Laws 1991, ch. 16, § 1.**

**11-4-104. Repealed by Laws 1991, ch. 16, § 1.**

#### CHAPTER 5 - WEED AND PEST CONTROL

##### ARTICLE 1 - IN GENERAL

**11-5-101. Short title; purpose of provisions.**

(a) This act may be cited as the "Wyoming Weed and Pest Control Act."

(b) The purpose of this act is controlling designated and declared weeds and pests.

**11-5-102. Definitions.**

(a) As used in this act:

(i) "Pesticide" means any material used to control or eradicate weeds or pests;

(ii) "Authorized dealer" means any pesticide dealer licensed in Wyoming who sells, retails, wholesales, distributes, offers or exposes for sale, exchanges, barter or gives away any pesticide within this state;

(iii) "Board" means the Wyoming board of agriculture established by authority of W.S. 11-2-101 through 11-2-104;

(iv) "Director" means the director of the department of agriculture for the state of Wyoming or his designated agent;

(v) "Control" means the process of containing, preventing, identifying and mitigating weed and pest infestations by using multiple integrated management practices, including but not limited to, regulation, prevention, survey,

eradication, pesticides, cultivation, competition, grazing and biological control in an adaptive management effort designed to reduce economic and ecological impacts from designated and declared species and to protect uninfested lands;

(vi) "County commissioners" means the board of county commissioners of a county within which a district is located;

(vii) "Declared pest" means any animal or insect species which the board and the Wyoming weed and pest council have found, either by virtue of its direct or indirect effect to negatively impact management of agricultural or natural ecosystems, or as a carrier of disease or parasites, to be detrimental to the general welfare of persons residing within a district;

(viii) "Declared weed" means any plant species which the board and the Wyoming weed and pest council have found, either by virtue of its direct or indirect effect to negatively impact management of agricultural or natural ecosystems, or as a carrier of disease or parasites, to be detrimental to the general welfare of persons residing within a district;

(ix) "Department" means the state department of agriculture;

(x) "Designated list" means the list of weeds and pests from time to time designated by joint resolution of the board and the Wyoming weed and pest council or by an emergency declaration of the director;

(xi) "Designated noxious weed" means plant species having seeds or other plant parts determined to be detrimental to the general health or welfare of the state based upon the following:

(A) Has demonstrated the ability to aggressively invade native plant communities and agricultural crops;

(B) Is injurious or poisonous to livestock;

(C) Is a carrier of disease or parasites;

(D) Can, by virtue of either direct or indirect effect, negatively impact management of agricultural or natural ecosystems.

(xii) "Designated pest" means any animal or insect species that is determined to be detrimental to the health or general welfare of the state based upon the following:

(A) Has demonstrated the ability to aggressively invade native plant communities and agricultural crops;

(B) Is injurious or poisonous to livestock;

(C) Is a carrier of disease or parasites;

(D) Can, by virtue of either its direct or indirect effect, negatively impact management of agricultural or natural ecosystems.

(xiii) Repealed by Laws 1993, ch. 191, § 4.

(xiv) "District" means any county weed and pest control district;

(xv) "District board" means the board of directors of a district having jurisdiction within the boundaries of the district it represents;

(xvi) "District board member area" means a geographical area within a district from which a member of the board of the district is appointed;

(xvii) Repealed by Laws 1993, ch. 191, § 4.

(xviii) "Farm products" means all crops, crop products, nursery stock, plants or portions thereof, but shall not mean livestock;

(xix) "Infested farm products" means farm products which contain injurious insects, pests, weed seed, poisonous or injurious plants or any injurious portion thereof, or plant diseases;

(xx) "Landowner" means any person who has actual use, exclusive possession of or exercises control over the land through any lease, easement, right-of-way or estate in the land. Federal landowner means the federal agency having jurisdiction over any lands affected by this act;

(xxi) "District supervisor" means the person appointed or employed by the district board for the purpose of carrying out this act within a district;

(xxii) "Wyoming weed and pest council" means the state council composed of one (1) representative of each district as authorized in writing by that board of directors. The director of the department of agriculture or his designated representative shall serve ex officio;

(xxiii) "Emergency declaration" means the addition of a weed or pest to either the statewide designated list or to a county declared list on an emergency basis to allow for immediate control activities. An emergency declaration shall only last until formal action can be taken by the council and the board to list the species through established rules, and in any case not to exceed one (1) year;

(xxiv) "This act" means W.S. 11-5-101 through 11-5-120.

#### **11-5-103. Composition of districts.**

All land within the boundaries of Wyoming including all federal, state, private and municipally owned lands, is hereby included in weed and pest control districts within the county in which the land is located, with the boundaries of the district being the same as the boundaries of the county. Each district shall be known as the ".... County Weed and Pest Control District, State of Wyoming."

#### **11-5-104. District board of directors; appointment; terms; vacancies; compensation and expenses.**

(a) The county commissioners of each district shall hold a public meeting for appointing a district board of directors for the district. Prior to the meeting the county commissioners shall establish the number of members of the district board and shall establish district board member areas. The county commissioners may seek the advice and counsel of the members of the former district board for the establishment of district board member areas. Each district board member area shall be contiguous. Notice of the meeting shall be advertised at least once in the designated official newspaper of the county and posted on the county's official website in the manner provided in W.S. 18-3-516(f) at least twenty (20) days prior to the date of the meeting. The notice shall solicit nominations for

directors by petition signed by at least ten (10) landowners to be submitted at least five (5) days before the date of the meeting.

(b) From the nominations submitted the county commissioners shall appoint the district board which shall consist of five (5) or seven (7) directors. Directors shall serve for a term of four (4) years or until their successors are appointed and qualified.

(c) Any qualified elector in the district board member area he is appointed to represent is eligible to hold the office of director.

(d) All district board members shall be appointed by the county commissioners at their first regular meeting in January of each year from among nominations submitted by petition in the manner set forth in subsection (a) of this section. In districts encompassing cities or towns with a population of five thousand (5,000) or more, one (1) district board member shall be appointed from within the limits of a city or town. A district board member shall assume office at the first regular meeting of the district board following appointment.

(e) The county commissioners shall remove a director for repeated unexcused failure to attend meetings or for refusal or incapacity to act as a district board member.

(f) When a vacancy occurs on a district board the county commissioners shall, at the next regular meeting, appoint an individual who possesses the necessary qualifications as a district board member to fill the unexpired term.

(g) At the first regular meeting in February the district board shall elect from its members a chairman and a vice-chairman, and appoint a secretary and a treasurer. The positions of secretary and treasurer need not be members of the district board. The treasurer shall furnish a surety bond to the district before entering upon the duties of office in an amount to be set by the district board but not less than fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00).

(h) The members of the district board shall serve without pay, but are entitled to reimbursement for actual and necessary expenses and a mileage allowance at the rate as established for state employees.

**11-5-105. Duties; powers; supervisor compensation.**

(a) The district board shall:

(i) Implement and pursue an effective program for the control of designated weeds and pests;

(ii) Fix the time and place of regular meetings, which shall occur at least once each month and shall be open to the public;

(iii) Keep minutes of all meetings and a complete record of all official acts, including all warrants issued against monies belonging to the district, which are open for public inspection during regular office hours;

(iv) Employ certified district supervisors and if certified personnel are not available, employ an acting district supervisor who shall become certified within twenty-four (24) months from the initial date of employment;

(v) Make at least one (1) annual inspection to determine the progress of weed and pest activities within a district;

(vi) Obtain competitive bids for any purchase costing more than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00);

(vii) Control and disburse all monies received from any source;

(viii) Render technical assistance to any city or town with a population of five thousand (5,000) or more which establishes a program as provided in W.S. 11-5-115;

(ix) Share data with the Wyoming weed and pest council and take other actions to support the coordinated and comprehensive invasive plant species control authorized in W.S. 11-5-120.

(b) The district board of each district may:

(i) Sue and be sued;

(ii) Employ personnel and determine duties and conditions of employment;



(iii) Coordinate activities with the department and enter into cooperative agreements with other agencies;

(iv) Secure and maintain bond or liability insurance, when deemed feasible by the district board;

(v) Submit to the department reports required by the board;

(vi) Participate in programs for the control of declared weeds and declared pests not included on the designated list;

(vii) Buy and sell real property, personal property and equipment as needed to carry out district programs.

(c) The district supervisor shall receive a salary and expenses as approved by the district board.

**11-5-106. Board of certification; duties.**

A board of certification is established consisting of the director or his designee, a University of Wyoming weed or pest specialist appointed by the dean of the college of agriculture, two (2) certified district supervisors and a district board member appointed by the Wyoming weed and pest council. The board of certification shall promulgate rules and requirements for certification of district supervisors and shall certify all personnel meeting the established requirements.

**11-5-107. Purchase and sale of pesticides; cost share with landowner.**

(a) The district board may purchase from authorized dealers such quantities of pesticides as are necessary, and hire labor to carry out the provisions of this act. Warrants in payment shall be drawn on the weed and pest control fund.

(b) The district board may sell pesticides which have been registered with the department for designated or declared noxious weed and pest control.

(c) In the case of delinquent indebtedness under this section the district board may seek a judgment from the district court for the indebtedness, reasonable attorneys' fees and costs. The judgment shall be enforced as provided by law.

(d) The district board may cost share with the landowner the cost of the pesticides, the cost of the application and the cost of any other integrated management practice for the control of designated or declared noxious weeds and pests.

**11-5-108. Rates and application of pesticides; payment by landowner; bidding restriction.**

(a) The district board may establish rates and engage in the application of pesticides for weed and pest control, subject to subsection (b) of this section. If services provided are not paid for by the landowner for whom rendered as provided in W.S. 11-5-107(d), such indebtedness may be collected as provided by W.S. 11-5-107(c).

(b) A district board shall not engage in competitive bidding of bare ground application of pesticides for industrial weed control, unless there are no commercially licensed entities operating in the state that are able and willing to perform the service. Nothing in this subsection shall limit the district board's authority to act pursuant to W.S. 11-5-105(a)(i) and 11-5-109.

**11-5-109. Inspection of land; remedial requirements; cost to landowner.**

(a) Whenever the district board has probable cause to believe that a landowner's property is infested by weeds or pests which are liable to spread and contribute to the injury or detriment of others and the board has provided written notice of probable cause to the landowner, it shall make or have made an inspection of the suspected premises through the use of lawful entry procedures. No entry upon any premises, lands or places shall be permitted under this subsection until the landowner or occupant has been notified by certified mail and, if the landowner has consented to receive notices electronically, by electronic means that provide actual notice to the landowner or occupant that the inspection is pending at least fifteen (15) days prior to the inspection. If possible, inspections shall be scheduled and conducted with the concurrence of the landowner or occupant. If, after receiving notice that an inspection is pending, the landowner or occupant denies access to the district supervisor or the supervisor's designee, the supervisor may seek an administrative inspection warrant issued by a municipal, circuit or district court having jurisdiction over the land. No landowner shall deny access to land when presented with an administrative inspection warrant issued by a court. The court

shall issue an administrative inspection warrant upon presentation by the district board, through its agent or employee, of an affidavit stating:

(i) The information that gives the district board probable cause to believe that any provision of this chapter is being or has been violated;

(ii) That the landowner or occupant has denied access to the district supervisor or the supervisor's designee or has not responded within fifteen (15) days of receiving notice; and

(iii) A particularized description of the location of the affected land.

(b) If the suspected area is found to be infested, the district board, by resolution adopted by two-thirds (2/3) of its members, shall confirm such fact. The resolution may set forth minimum remedial requirements for control of the infested area, provided that:

(i) The remedial requirements are likely to be effective in controlling an infestation of the species in question at the infested area;

(ii) The board includes potential estimated costs if available;

(iii) The benefits, both economic and environmental, exceed the estimated costs of the remedial requirements;

(iv) The board may assist the landowner in developing an integrated pest management plan for the species in question; and

(v) The landowner may propose alternate remedial requirements.

(c) The district board shall deliver, by certified mail, to the address of the landowner appearing on the most recent tax rolls of the district and, if the landowner has consented to receive notices electronically, by electronic means that provide actual notice to the landowner all of the following:

(i) A copy of the resolution;

(ii) A statement of the estimated cost to the landowner of fulfilling the requirements and the amount that may be shared with the landowner, as determined by district board policy.

(iii) Repealed by Laws 2020, ch. 135, § 2.

(d) At the request of the landowner, the district board shall hold a hearing in accordance with the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act. The landowner may appeal the board's resolution to the district court.

(e) A landowner who is responsible for an infestation and fails or refuses to perform the remedial requirements for the control of the weed or pest on the infested area within the time designated in the district board's resolution may be fined not more than fifty dollars (\$50.00) per day for each day of violation and not more than a total of two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500.00) per year as determined by the court. Any person accused under this act is entitled to a trial by jury. The accumulated fines under this section are a lien against the property of the landowner from the day notice is delivered to the landowner by the district board. All fines shall be deposited with the county treasurer and credited to the county school fund.

**11-5-110. Appraisal of damage to landowner; hearing.**

When the district board determines by resolution that the landowner's property has been damaged as a result of carrying out its requirements, the district board shall by resolution appoint three (3) disinterested freeholders within the district to appraise the amount of damage, upon which the district shall forthwith compensate the landowner. The landowner may file a claim for damages and is entitled to a hearing relative to the amount of damages pursuant to the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act.

**11-5-111. Tax levied on property in district; maximum amount; weed and pest control fund.**

The county commissioners shall annually levy a tax to carry out this act. The tax shall be levied upon all property in the district and shall not exceed one (1) mill on each one dollar (\$1.00) of assessed valuation. The tax is not part of the general county or city mill levies. All taxes levied and collected shall be remitted to the district for a separate fund

to be known as the weed and pest control fund, which shall be used only to carry out this act.

**11-5-112. Repealed by Laws 1979, ch. 135, § 3.**

**11-5-113. Allocation of funds; formula; special funding.**

(a) An allocation committee composed of the director of the department of agriculture, three (3) members appointed by the Wyoming weed and pest council and one (1) member of the board shall allocate the funds of any legislative appropriation to the district boards pursuant to a formula adopted by the committee. No district board shall receive an amount in excess of one-third ( $1/3$ ) of its actual expenditures from any appropriation, unless the appropriation provides assistance in control to a district board under subsection (b) of this section.

(b) If the district board determines a weed or pest is seriously endangering areas of a district or the state, assistance in control may be provided by legislative appropriation for this purpose, and the allocation committee shall allocate the appropriation accordingly, and the allocation committee and each affected district board shall be responsible for insuring that the funds are properly expended.

**11-5-114. Allocated funds; procedure to disburse.**

A request for allocated funds pursuant to W.S. 11-5-113 shall be initiated by the district board by submitting a voucher and documentation. Upon the approval of the voucher by the allocation committee, payment shall be made by the state auditor out of funds provided for control of weeds and pests.

**11-5-115. Program in cities and towns authorized; funding; use of monies.**

(a) The governing body of any city or town with a population of five thousand (5,000) or more may establish and administer a program for the control of weeds and pests within the jurisdictional limits of the city or town. If such a program is not established, the district board shall administer a program for the city or town.

(b) A district having a city or town with a population of five thousand (5,000) or more which establishes a program shall, within thirty (30) days after receipt of any funds collected

pursuant to W.S. 11-5-111, transfer eighty-five percent (85%) of the funds attributed to the property within the corporate limits of the city or town to the governing body of the city or town, retaining fifteen percent (15%) of the funds for administration of the district and for technical assistance rendered to the city or town by the district board.

(c) Monies received by the cities from the district shall be used to control noxious weeds and pests as determined by the governing body of the city or town. The city or town shall provide an annual report to the district board on designated and declared weed and pest work completed within the jurisdictional limits of the city or town.

(d) The governing body of a city or town which establishes a control program may petition the district board for special assistance and funding authorized by W.S. 11-5-113 and 11-5-114.

**11-5-116. Quarantine by director; request by district.**

(a) Whenever the director, the district board or their agents find any section of the state to be infested with insects, pests, poisonous or injurious plants or plant diseases, and it is established that farm products from that section are liable to spread the insects, pests, poisonous or injurious plants or plant diseases into other sections to the injury of others, the director shall without unnecessary delay, declare a quarantine against such section to prevent the transfer of farm products from the quarantined area. When it is ascertained that insects, pests, weed seed, poisonous or injurious plants or plant diseases are likely to be introduced into Wyoming by the importation of farm products, domestic animals or other objects, the director shall declare a quarantine against the importation of such farm products.

(b) A district may initiate a district-wide quarantine by one (1) of the following procedures:

(i) A district may request in writing that the director declare a district-wide quarantine. Upon receipt of the request, the director shall instruct the district to circulate a petition for ninety (90) days within the district to obtain signatures of at least two-thirds (2/3) of all resident landowners owning at least fifty-one percent (51%) of all resident-owned land. Upon receipt of the properly executed petition, the director shall declare a district-wide quarantine;

(ii) A district board may hold a hearing in compliance with the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act. The director shall declare a district-wide quarantine when the district has provided the director with proper documentation that a hearing has been held and the district has found a need for a district-wide quarantine;

(iii) The district board may hold a district-wide referendum. The director shall declare a district-wide quarantine upon receipt of a certified document indicating that the referendum was accepted by a majority of the electors who voted in the election.

(c) The director shall declare an individual quarantine when requested by resolution adopted by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the board.

(d) The district board in compliance with W.S. 11-5-101 through 11-5-119 may request a quarantine against the entry of infested farm products that may be injurious and detrimental to the state and enter into agreements with the law enforcing agencies to carry out the quarantine provision:

(i) Farm products and equipment shall be certified free of designated noxious weed seeds or infested farm products prior to entry into the state, with the exception of any processed feed or grain to be reprocessed and fed to livestock;

(ii) Farm products and equipment are to be certified in the state of origin by the proper officials;

(iii) Interstate shipment of farm products through the state need not be certified if covered in a prescribed manner as not to allow the dissemination of infested farm products.

**11-5-117. Criminal provision; penalty; civil penalties; limitations; necessary proof.**

(a) Any person violating any provision of this act is guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall be fined not more than seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00) in addition to fines provided for in W.S. 11-5-109(e).

(b) In any proceeding to impose any fine or penalty for any failure to perform a remedial requirement ordered by a

district board for control of a weed or pest in any infested area, the district board shall have the burden of proving:

(i) That the proposed remedial action would control the target weed or pest;

(ii) That the remedial action would be a cost effective action and would be more cost effective than any alternative action proposed or adopted by the landowner; and

(iii) That the weed or pest to be controlled was at risk of spreading to the land of others in the area.

**11-5-118. Inspection for contamination.**

Farm products and agricultural, commercial or industrial equipment entering or moving within the district are subject to inspection for contamination of designated weeds and pests by the district board through its designated agents. The board and the Wyoming weed and pest council may promulgate rules and regulations which establish inspection standards and remedial requirements under this section.

**11-5-119. Rules and regulations.**

The board, with the approval of a majority of the districts, may promulgate, adopt and publish rules and regulations in accordance with the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act for the purpose of carrying out the intent of this act.

**11-5-120. Wyoming weed and pest council duties.**

(a) In addition to other duties prescribed by law, the Wyoming weed and pest council shall aid county weed and pest control districts in creating, managing and enhancing coordinated and comprehensive invasive plant species control programs by:

(i) Developing and implementing data systems to support each district in making invasive plant species management decisions informed by accurate, timely data, local experts, cultural practices and best available science;

(ii) Coordinating with the University of Wyoming and community colleges to assess, to the extent practicable, the impacts that invasive plant species can have on socio-ecological systems. As used in this paragraph, "socio-ecological system"



means a dynamic system encompassing interactions between people and nature within a defined geographical area;

(iii) Coordinating with the University of Wyoming, community colleges and government agencies to support and expand outreach and provide applied research on the best use of existing tools to control invasive plant species and the development of new invasive plant species management methods;

(iv) Working with federal partners to reduce barriers to timely, effective invasive plant species management on federal lands and adjoining nonfederal lands;

(v) On a biennial basis, reporting to the joint agriculture, state and public lands and water resources interim committee on the status of current funding models, existing or new funding challenges and opportunities to improve funding for designated or declared invasive plant species;

(vi) Encouraging and incentivizing cooperative, landscape-scale projects to control invasive plant species that include multi-jurisdictional partnerships with clear, long-term strategies;

(vii) Coordinating with other state and federal agencies to increase public awareness of the challenges presented by invasive plant species and to encourage prevention and mitigation practices.

(b) The Wyoming weed and pest council may, with the approval of the majority of the board, adopt and publish rules in accordance with the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act, W.S. 16-3-101 et seq. to carry out the purposes of this act.

## ARTICLE 2 - LEAFY SPURGE CONTROL

**11-5-201. Repealed by Laws 1983, ch. 87, § 1.**

**11-5-202. Repealed by Laws 1983, ch. 87, § 2.**

## ARTICLE 3 - SPECIAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

**11-5-301. Authorization of program.**

A weed and pest special management program may be carried out as provided by this article and legislative appropriation acts.

All state and local governmental entities shall comply with the program.

**11-5-302. Definitions.**

(a) As used in this article:

(i) "District" means any county weed and pest control district;

(ii) "Integrated management system" means the planning and implementation of a coordinated program utilizing all proven methods for containing and controlling undesirable plants and pests, including but not limited to education, preventive measures, physical methods, biological agents, pesticide methods, cultural methods and management;

(iii) "Management zone" means a geographical area within a district;

(iv) "Materials" means materials used in carrying out the objectives of integrated management system;

(v) "Method" means a procedure or process for carrying out the application method prescribed;

(vi) "Pest" means any declared pest or designated pest defined by W.S. 11-5-102(a);

(vii) "Treatment program" means the use of an integrated management system prescribed by the district board or the board's designated representative;

(viii) "Undesirable plant" means any declared weed or designated noxious weed as defined by W.S. 11-5-102(a).

**11-5-303. Program components; funding; rulemaking authority; penalties.**

(a) Any district may carry out a weed and pest special management program in accordance with this article. If a district initiates a program, leafy spurge (*Euphorbia esula*) shall receive priority in the program. A district may also implement an integrated management system under W.S. 11-5-101 through 11-5-119 using funds specified by W.S. 11-5-111, provided leafy spurge shall receive priority pursuant to this article.

(b) Repealed by Laws 2021, ch. 2, § 3.

(c) Any district which implements a special management program under this article shall:

(i) Establish one (1) or more management zones within the district. A management zone can only be formed with the written consent of a majority of the landowners in the proposed management zone;

(ii) Complete an inventory on lands within each management zone to determine the scope of infestation;

(iii) Establish management criteria for the special management program;

(iv) Select the materials and methods for the special management program based upon best available scientific facts, current technology and economic considerations;

(v) At least ten (10) days before final approval of the program by the district board, give notice to the public in at least one (1) newspaper of general circulation within the county describing the special management program and approximating the cost of the program. Notice shall also be given through another medium if the board determines additional publication is necessary to ensure sufficient notice to the public.

(d) Programs under this article shall be funded as follows:

(i) Landowners shall contribute to the cost of the treatment program on their land as determined by the district board not to exceed twenty percent (20%) of the total cost;

(ii) The district shall contribute to the cost of the treatment program within the limitation of district funds available under subsection (e) of this section;

(iii) State or federal agencies owning lands or administering lands, which are untaxed for the purposes of this act, shall contribute to the total cost of the special management program;

(iv) Assistance to a district's coordinated program may be provided by legislative appropriation pursuant to W.S. 11-5-113(b).

(e) A district may levy not to exceed an additional one (1) mill on the assessed value of the taxable property within the district to fund its contributions under this section. Upon request by the district board, the board of county commissioners may levy the amount of tax requested not to exceed the mill levy authorized by W.S. 11-5-111 and this subsection.

(f) Any landowner who refuses to perform remedial requirements as established by the district board after due notice as required by W.S. 11-5-109 may be subject to a fine provided by W.S. 11-5-109.

(g) The Wyoming weed and pest council, with the approval of the majority of the board, may:

(i) Adopt rules and regulations as provided by W.S. 11-5-119 to implement an effective special management program in Wyoming; and

(ii) Establish procedures for prompt reporting and billing of expenditures made and for timely forecasting of future expenditures which will be required.

#### ARTICLE 4 - EMERGENCY INSECT MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

##### **11-5-401. Definitions.**

(a) As used in this article:

(i) "Account" means the emergency insect management special revenue account created under W.S. 11-5-402;

(ii) "Committee" means the director of the department of agriculture, the director of the department of health, the director of the game and fish department, the Wyoming state veterinarian and the governor;

(iii) "Insect pests" mean infestations of grasshoppers, Mormon crickets or other cyclic or outbreak insect infestations or insect species new, recently introduced or which present a substantial possibility to be introduced into Wyoming such as fire ants, Africanized honeybees or other insect pests;

(iv) "Insect vectors" mean blood-feeding arthropods, mosquitoes, biting flies and other such insects that harbor or transmit pathogens harmful to human health and safety, animal health including livestock and wildlife, agriculture or natural resources.

**11-5-402. Emergency insect management account; established.**

The emergency insect management program account is created to consist of funds appropriated or designated to the account by law for the emergency management of insect pests or insect vectors.

**11-5-403. Administrative support for committee.**

Administrative support to the committee shall be provided by the department of agriculture. Expenses of the committee incurred under this article including administrative support shall be paid from the account.

**11-5-404. Program development; additional committee responsibilities; annual report.**

(a) Emergency insect management programs developed and receiving funds from the account under this article shall be based upon integrated pest management principles using the most current, scientifically valid methods to manage insect pests and vectors.

(b) Subject to subsection (a) of this section, the committee shall establish policies, standards and guidelines for programs receiving funds from the account under this article. In accordance with established program guidelines and policies, the committee shall review applications for participation submitted under this article, and based upon its review and evaluation, approve or disapprove program applications and if approved, establish the amount of program funding from the account.

(c) In addition to subsection (b) of this section, the committee shall, in cooperation with the governor, collect and compile data necessary to determine if emergency insect management programs under this article involve any threatened or endangered species under the federal Endangered Species Act of 1973, 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq., as amended. If programs involve such species, the committee, in cooperation with the governor,

shall request an exemption from federal regulation under this act for insect management purposes.

(d) The committee shall establish necessary procedures to process applications filed pursuant to this article.

(e) In addition to subsection (d) of this section, the committee shall annually report its activities for each fiscal period as required under W.S. 9-2-1014.

**11-5-405. Advisory assistance; assistance specified; expenses.**

(a) To assist with the establishment of policies, guidelines and the development of programs under this article, the committee may assemble necessary expertise from one (1) or more of the following organizations, institutions, groups or individuals:

- (i) The Wyoming county commissioners association;
- (ii) The Wyoming association of municipalities;
- (iii) Pesticide applicators;
- (iv) Landowners;
- (v) Agricultural producers;
- (vi) University of Wyoming faculty and staff;
- (vii) Scientific and technology industry representatives;
- (viii) Public representatives; and
- (ix) Other representatives or individuals as may be determined by the committee.

(b) Persons assisting the committee in an advisory capacity pursuant to subsection (a) of this section and not employed by the state nor any political subdivision of the state shall receive reimbursement for actual and necessary expenses and mileage allowance at the rates established by law for state employees.

**11-5-406. Program participation requirements; application; funding participation levels specified; restriction on expenditures.**

(a) Any state agency, any political subdivision, the Eastern Shoshone Tribe, the Northern Arapaho Tribe or the cooperative tribal governing body may apply to the committee for participation in emergency insect management programs under this article. Applications shall be filed with the department of agriculture and shall at minimum, substantiate compliance with standards and guidelines established by the committee. Applicants shall coordinate participation in emergency insect management programs under this article with applicable weed and pest control districts.

(b) Emergency management program participation under this article shall be subject to the following requirements:

(i) Insect vector management programs or nonoutbreak insect programs shall receive not more than fifty percent (50%) of total program costs from the account;

(ii) Subject to paragraph (iii) of this subsection, a reactive program for the suppression of outbreaks of grasshoppers, Mormon crickets or other outbreak insects on state and private lands shall receive not more than fifty percent (50%) of total program costs from the account;

(iii) If the emergency insect management program under paragraph (ii) of this subsection is for grasshopper suppression, the program shall consist of treatments targeting infestations greater than two thousand (2,000) acres or those suppressing less than the entire infestation regardless of size;

(iv) Subject to paragraph (v) of this subsection, a proactive, preventative program targeting incipient infestations of grasshoppers, Mormon crickets or other outbreak insects on state and private lands, with the potential to expand into outbreaks, shall receive not more than seventy-five percent (75%) of total program costs from the account;

(v) If the emergency insect management program under paragraph (iv) of this subsection is for grasshoppers, the program shall include up to two thousand (2,000) acres if the entire infestation is included within the program;

(vi) During the first three (3) years of operation of any emergency insect management program, not more than twenty percent (20%) of funds provided to the program from the account shall be used for administrative costs, equipment and mapping activities, and not more than ten percent (10%) of such funds shall be used for these purposes in subsequent years;

(vii) In addition to paragraph (vi) of this subsection and during the first three (3) years of program operation, not more than twenty percent (20%) of funds provided from the account to any program shall be expended for applied research specifically designed to provide immediate results directly in support of improved integrated pest management practices, and not more than ten percent (10%) of such funds may be used for this purpose in subsequent years.

## CHAPTER 6 - PREDATORY ANIMALS

### ARTICLE 1 - CONTROL GENERALLY

#### **11-6-101. Permission to eradicate upon refusal of entry by property owner.**

Whenever predatory animals become a menace to livestock owned or controlled by any resident of Wyoming and the owner or lessee of any real estate in the vicinity where the livestock is ranged or pastured refuses permission to the owner of the livestock, his agents or employees, to enter upon the real estate for the purpose of destroying such predatory animals, entry may be obtained as provided by W.S. 11-6-102 and 11-6-103.

#### **11-6-102. Application to county commissioners; hearing; determination; limitation on use of firearms.**

The owner of the livestock may file a written application with the board of county commissioners of the county where the real estate is located, applying for permission to eradicate predatory animals. If, after giving the owner or lessee an opportunity of a hearing, the county commissioners may grant such permission, but the person receiving the permission shall not use firearms in destroying such animals without first obtaining permission from the owner or lessee of the real estate.

#### **11-6-103. Liability for damage to property.**



The permission granted shall permit the petitioner to enter upon the real estate but shall not relieve the petitioner from any damages which he inflicts upon any property of the owner or lessee of the real estate.

**11-6-104. Department to coordinate control efforts; centralized and coordinated rodent and predator control plan authorized; release of information restricted.**

(a) The department shall coordinate control efforts and may contract among agencies and counties for predator control under this chapter. The department may establish and implement a cooperative and coordinated plan for rodent and predator control. It may cooperate with federal agencies in the control of rodents, predatory animals and predacious birds, as defined in W.S. 23-1-101, which are destructive to livestock, game and poultry, or are detrimental to feed and foodstuffs, crops and forage production and human health. The department may promulgate necessary rules and regulations to carry out the purposes of this section.

(b) Any information regarding the number or nature of rodents or predators legally taken within the state pursuant to this section shall only be released in its aggregate form. The identity of any person legally taking a rodent or predator within this state is solely for the use of the responsible agency or appropriate law enforcement agency, shall not be released without the individual's written consent and is not a public record for purposes of W.S. 16-4-201 through 16-4-205.

**11-6-105. Issuance of aerial hunting permits authorized.**

The department may issue permits for the aerial hunting of rodents and predators to any person for the protection of livestock, domesticated animals or human life, upon a showing that the person or their designated pilot, along with the aircraft to be utilized in the aerial hunting, have been licensed and qualified in accordance with the requirements of the Wyoming aeronautics commission. The department shall furnish to the game and fish department a list of the names and addresses of the persons to whom they have issued aerial permits. The department may predicate the issuance or retention of such permits upon the recipients' full and prompt disclosure of information as the department may request for submission to the authorities designated in accordance with section 13 of the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 or its successor. The department shall collect a fee from each person who has any aircraft

permitted under this section on or before April 1 of each year in the amount authorized by W.S. 11-1-104.

**11-6-106. Receiving and expending monies for supplies.**

The department may receive money for rodent and predator control from the federal government, state appropriations, counties, agencies, boards, associations, commissions, individuals and any other cooperators and may expend such monies to purchase supplies, materials, services, and to employ or contract personnel for rodent and predator control. The department may make such supplies, materials, services and personnel available to cooperators at approximate cost.

**11-6-107. Disposition of proceeds.**

All predator furs, skins and specimens taken by hunters or trappers whose salaries are paid in full by cooperating agencies, shall be sold and the proceeds returned to the respective predator management district of the county in which the furs, skins or specimens originated. All receipts from sales of materials and services related to predatory animal and rodent control received by the department shall be paid into the state general fund.

**11-6-108. Cooperative agreements generally.**

The department may enter into cooperative agreements with other governmental agencies, counties, associations, corporations or individuals for carrying out the purposes of W.S. 11-6-104 through 11-6-107.

ARTICLE 2 - DISTRICTS AND DISTRICT BOARDS

**11-6-201. Creation and designation of districts; state predator management advisory board.**

(a) Each county is created and designated as a predator management district. Each district shall be known as the "Predator Management District of .... County, Wyoming," and it may hold property and be a party to suits and contracts.

(b) There is created a state predator management advisory board composed of one (1) representative of each predator management district. The state predator management advisory board representative shall be appointed by the individual

predator management district boards of directors and so designated in writing.

**11-6-202. Administration of districts by district boards; number and qualifications of members; term; filling of vacancies; removal.**

(a) The affairs of each district shall be administered by a board of directors, each of whom shall be a bona fide resident of Wyoming. Directors for the positions identified in paragraphs (i) and (ii) of this subsection shall be elected at an annual meeting of district livestock owners. Directors for the positions identified in paragraphs (iv) and (v) of this subsection shall be appointed as described. The composition of the board shall be as follows:

(i) Three (3) directors shall be sheep owners having paid predator management fees on sheep in the district in the year preceding election. At each subsequent annual district meeting one (1) director shall be elected for a three (3) year term. Subject to the provisions of W.S. 11-6-203(a), all sheep owners whether an individual, corporation or partnership, having paid predator management fees on sheep in the district regardless of the domicile of the sheep, are entitled to one (1) vote at the meeting;

(ii) Three (3) directors shall be cattle owners having paid predator management fees on cattle in the district in the year preceding election. At each subsequent annual district meeting one (1) director shall be elected for a three (3) year term. Subject to the provisions of W.S. 11-6-203(a), all cattle owners whether an individual, corporation or partnership, having paid predator management fees on cattle in the district regardless of the domicile of the cattle, are entitled to one (1) vote at the meeting;

(iii) If a qualified applicant for a director position identified in paragraph (i) or (ii) of this subsection cannot be found or if no qualified applicant seeks election to the board of directors, then the director position may be filled by an otherwise qualified elector, provided no more than four (4) directors may represent any one (1) species of livestock;

(iv) The board of county commissioners shall appoint one (1) director to serve for an initial term of two (2) years and thereafter for three (3) year terms from electors in the county not engaged in raising sheep or cattle. No appointed

member may serve for a consecutive period of more than six (6) years;

(v) If the board of directors determines state funds are necessary for an effective predator management program to assure the statutory requirements provided in W.S. 11-6-205 are fulfilled and state funds are appropriated and received for that purpose, then three (3) directors representing sportsmen and hunters from the district shall be appointed to the board of directors by the county commissioners serving the local district. Sportsmen and hunter representatives shall be bona fide residents of the district not engaged in raising sheep or cattle and shall hold or have held a valid Wyoming fishing or hunting license within the preceding twelve (12) month period. County commissioners, to the greatest extent practical, shall select sportsmen and hunter representatives to ensure representation from as broad a geographic distribution of the district as possible. The county commissioners shall determine who of the three (3) sportsmen and hunter directors appointed to a board under this paragraph shall serve an initial term of one (1) year, who shall serve an initial term of (2) years and who shall serve a term of three (3) years. Thereafter, each term shall be for three (3) years.

(b) No director shall continue to hold office after disqualification under any of the provisions of this section. All vacancies on the district board may be filled for unexpired terms by the other directors in office except the public member's and the sportsmen and hunter member's unexpired term shall be filled by board of county commissioners appointment. All members shall hold their offices until their successors are elected and qualified.

(c) For directors appointed by a board of county commissioners, the county commissioners may remove the director for cause without a public hearing unless the director requests that the action be taken during a public hearing.

**11-6-203. Manner of calling annual meeting of predator management districts; when held; election of chairman and secretary.**

(a) The annual meeting of each predator management district shall be held within the first two (2) weeks of December. Any person having paid predator fees in the district within the preceding twelve (12) months shall be entitled to one (1) vote at the annual meeting. Predator fees paid in the name

of a business entity may be represented by one (1) representative of the entity paying the fees, provided that the representative is authorized by the entity to vote on behalf of the entity and has provided proof of such written authorization. Proof of payment of predator fees within the district shall only be through a verified copy of a brand inspection certificate which clearly shows that the fees have been paid and the date upon which the fees were paid. No person paying fees within the district shall be entitled to more than one (1) vote at the annual meeting and no proxies shall be allowed. Each board shall:

(i) Repealed By Laws 2012, Ch. 46, § 2.

(ii) Publish a notice stating the time and place of any meeting of the district and that directors of the board representing livestock interests as provided in W.S. 11-6-202(a)(i) and (ii) shall be elected at the meeting. Notice shall be published once in a newspaper of general circulation in the district ten (10) days prior to the date of the meeting;

(iii) Set the date of the meeting so as not to conflict with the date of similar meetings held in adjoining districts in order that sheep and cattle owners operating in more than one (1) district may attend and vote in other districts where they are engaged in such business;

(iv) Set the annual predatory animal control fee for the district as provided by W.S. 11-6-210(a).

(b) When assembled in accordance with the provisions of subsection (a) of this section, the sheep and cattle owners shall elect a chairman and secretary who shall act as judges of the election of directors representing livestock interests of the board.

**11-6-204. District boards; election and appointment of officers; meetings; quorum; oath; appropriation requests.**

At the annual meeting of the district board, following election of directors pursuant to W.S. 11-6-202(a)(i), (ii) and (iv) and upon appointment of directors pursuant to W.S. 11-6-202(a)(v), if applicable, the directors shall organize by choosing from their number a president and vice-president and shall appoint a secretary-treasurer. Subsequent meetings may be called by the president upon reasonable notice. A majority of the board constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business at any

board meeting. The members of the board shall receive no compensation for serving as members. Each director shall take an oath for the faithful performance of his duties. If the board determines to request an appropriation of funds from the board of county commissioners, it shall, at least thirty (30) days prior to the time for annual levy of general taxes, notify the board of county commissioners of the amount the district board considers necessary for district operations during the following year.

**11-6-205. District boards; duties generally.**

(a) Each predator management district board shall:

(i) Exercise general supervision over the control of predatory animals and predacious birds that prey upon and destroy livestock, other domestic animals and wildlife;

(ii) Devise and put in operation those methods that best manage or control damage caused by predatory animals or predacious birds;

(iii) Administer funds received from predator management fees and from other sources to carry out the predator management program;

(iv) Coordinate with affected individuals and entities to develop a comprehensive predator management program for each respective predator management district which addresses livestock, wildlife and public health concerns.

**11-6-206. District boards; powers generally.**

Each predator management district board may adopt rules and regulations necessary for carrying out the purpose and provisions of this article. Each board may appoint employees and assistants as necessary and fix their compensation. Each board may work through the department to coordinate predator control including contracting for predator control services or may directly enter into cooperative agreements with boards of county commissioners, other predator management districts, the animal damage management board, federal or state agencies or other organizations or associations for the purpose of controlling predatory animals and predacious birds. Each board is authorized to pay bounties for predatory animals and predacious birds.

**11-6-207. District boards; record of proceedings and expenditures; monthly warrants issued by county for monies collected.**

(a) The secretary-treasurer of each predator management district shall keep a complete and accurate record of the proceedings of the board.

(b) All salaries, expenses or bounties shall be paid from the predator management district fund of the district by the secretary-treasurer.

(c) All expenditures of the district shall be supported by properly approved vouchers and supporting documents in writing signed by the board president and any other director.

(d) The county treasurer shall issue monthly warrants to the predator management district for all monies collected in the county for the predator management district.

**11-6-208. District boards; annual report.**

On or before October 1 of each year, the president and secretary-treasurer of each district board and each county treasurer shall make an annual report to their board of county commissioners showing all receipts and disbursement of district funds made by direction of the board during the preceding fiscal year. A report of the receipts, expenditures and financial transactions of the district shall be made as provided by W.S. 9-1-507. The director of the state department of audit may call upon any district board or upon any county treasurer for further information relating to any predator management district.

**11-6-209. Annual meetings of predator management boards.**

Annual meetings for the election of members of boards of directors of predator management districts shall be called by the president of each board. The meetings shall be called by a notice published in the manner provided by W.S. 11-6-203.

**11-6-210. Creation of predator management district fund; predator management fees; donations; appropriation by county commissioners.**

(a) At the time of collecting brand inspection fees imposed under W.S. 11-20-401 and 11-20-402, the brand inspector shall collect predator management fees on all sheep and cattle

inspected within each predator management district. However, predator management fees shall not be collected on cattle and sheep shipped into this state for immediate sale or slaughter. The amount of the fee for each predator management district shall be established by each predator management district board in consultation with the state predator management advisory board and shall not exceed one dollar (\$1.00) per head on sheep and cattle. The directors elected pursuant to W.S. 11-6-202(a)(i) and (ii) from each predator management district board shall annually determine the predator management fee to be charged and collected in the district taking into consideration comments solicited from the producers present at the district's annual meeting as provided for in W.S. 11-6-203, who have paid predator management fees within the district during the preceding twelve (12) months and shall inform the livestock board of the fee prior to January 1 each year. The fee shall not be collected on the same livestock more than once in any twelve (12) month period. The livestock board may retain not to exceed five percent (5%) of the revenues collected for the actual cost of collecting the predator management fee. Remaining revenues collected by the livestock board under this section shall be remitted to the state treasurer for deposit in an account. The state treasurer, on a quarterly basis, shall distribute the revenues to the county treasurer of the county from which the shipment originated unless, at the time of payment of the fees, the livestock owner designates the fees to be distributed in total to another county in this state in which the livestock are fed or pastured. The county treasurer shall deposit revenues distributed under this subsection into a special continuing fund, to be known as the "Predator Management District Fund of .... County" and to be administered by the predator management board of that district.

(b) Repealed by Laws 1990, ch. 87, § 3.

(c) Repealed by Laws 1990, ch. 87, § 3.

(d) The district board may receive donations and appropriations of money from any source, and such donations and appropriations shall be placed in the district fund by the county treasurer upon request of the district board. Nothing in W.S. 11-6-201 through 11-6-210 shall be construed to prohibit boards of county commissioners from appropriating funds for the purpose of controlling predatory animals and predacious birds, and such appropriation by boards of county commissioners is authorized.



(e) Repealed by Laws 1990, ch. 87, § 3.

(f) Notwithstanding subsection (a) of this section, the amount of the annual predator management fee for sheep and cattle shipped into this state for confinement in a commercial feedlot shall not exceed twenty-five cents (\$0.25) per head on sheep and cattle. For purposes of this subsection, "commercial feedlot" means any place, establishment or facility commonly known as a feedlot conducted, operated or managed for profit or nonprofit for livestock producers, feeders or market agencies, consisting of pens and their appurtenances, in which livestock are received, held, fed, cared for or kept for sale or shipment in commerce. A pasture, field or other enclosure, fenced or unfenced, shall not be considered a commercial feedlot for purposes of this subsection. The predator management district board shall have the authority to determine if a facility qualifies as a commercial feedlot as defined in this subsection.

(g) Each predator management district board shall annually allocate five percent (5%) of all predator management fee collections to be used for refunds, in whole or in part. If a refund is requested the board shall pay the refund within one hundred twenty (120) days after the end of the calendar year in which the fee was paid. Refunds under this subsection shall be subject to the following:

(i) To be valid, the application for refund shall be received no later than sixty (60) days after the end of the calendar year in which the fee was paid;

(ii) No person receiving a refund shall receive any predatory animal control services funded in whole or in part by the predatory animal control fees until that person has paid one hundred fifty percent (150%) of all refunds received during the year in which the services were sought and the three (3) preceding calendar years; and

(iii) All monies not paid in refunds shall annually revert to the district predator management account on July 1 of the following year.

(h) Notwithstanding subsection (a) of this section, no predatory animal control fee shall be collected on livestock shipped or trailed within this state if change of ownership does not occur.

(j) Any person failing to pay the predator animal control fee imposed by subsection (a) or (f) of this section shall be punished as provided by W.S. 11-1-103.

(k) In addition to the other fees imposed by this section, any person paying the predator control fee may pay an additional ten cents (\$.10) per head to fund the predator management activities of the Wyoming animal damage management board created by W.S. 11-6-303. Any fees collected pursuant to this subsection shall be deposited in the animal damage management account created by W.S. 11-6-306.

(m) Repealed By Laws 2012, Ch. 46, § 2.

(n) If a livestock producer requests predator management services from the district board representing the county in which the producer is pasturing or housing livestock, and no predator management fees have been collected from the producer within the previous twelve (12) months, or if the fees have been refunded, the board may charge a service fee to recover reasonable and actual costs of the predator management services provided.

(o) To be eligible to receive state funds, the district shall assess and collect all available fees on livestock in the district.

### ARTICLE 3 - WYOMING ANIMAL DAMAGE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

#### **11-6-301. Short title.**

This article may be cited as the "Wyoming animal damage management program".

#### **11-6-302. Definitions.**

(a) As used in this article:

(i) "Board" means the Wyoming animal damage management board (ADMB);

(ii) "Crop" or "agricultural crop" when not otherwise defined by statute means corn, oats, wheat, barley, flax, sorghums and other grains, potatoes, vegetables, forage legumes, hay, and any other product of cultivation, trees, bees, honey and hives;

(iii) "Damage" means any injury to or loss of livestock, agricultural crops or wildlife inflicted by predatory animals, predacious birds or depredating animals;

(iv) "Depredating animal" means any trophy game animal or furbearing animal that causes damage;

(v) "Furbearing animal" means badger, beaver, bobcat, marten, mink, muskrat or weasel;

(vi) "Livestock" means horses, mules, cattle, swine, sheep, goats, poultry, guard animals or any other animal maintained under domestication. Bison are considered livestock unless otherwise designated by the Wyoming livestock board and the Wyoming game and fish commission;

(vii) "Person" means as defined by W.S. 8-1-102(a)(vi);

(viii) "Predacious bird" means any predatory avian species that is permitted to be taken under either Wyoming law or federal law;

(ix) "Predatory animal" means:

(A) Coyote, jackrabbit, porcupine, raccoon, red fox, skunk or stray cat; and

(B) Until the date gray wolves are removed from the list of experimental nonessential population, endangered species or threatened species in Wyoming as provided by W.S. 23-1-108, "predatory animal" includes wolves. After that date, "predatory animal" shall include any gray wolf within areas of the state where the state of Wyoming has jurisdiction for wildlife management, but not within an area of the state in which the gray wolf is:

(I) Designated as a trophy game animal under W.S. 23-1-101(a)(xii)(B)(I) or (II).

(II) Repealed By Laws 2012, Ch. 25, § 2.

(x) "Trophy game animal" means:

(A) Black bear, grizzly bear or mountain lion;  
and

(B) From and after the date gray wolves are removed from the list of experimental nonessential population, endangered species or threatened species in Wyoming as provided by W.S. 23-1-108:

(I) "Trophy game animal" shall include any gray wolf within those areas where gray wolves are designated as trophy game animals as provided in W.S. 23-1-101(a)(xii)(B)(I) or (II).

(II) Repealed By Laws 2012, Ch. 25, § 2.

(xi) "Wildlife" means all wild mammals, birds, fish, amphibians, reptiles, crustaceans and mollusks, and wild bison designated by the Wyoming game and fish commission and the Wyoming livestock board within this state;

(xii) "Take" means as defined by W.S. 23-1-102(a)(vii).

(b) Repealed By Laws 2012, Ch. 25, § 2.

**11-6-303. Animal damage management board (ADMB) created; composition; appointment; terms; vacancies; compensation.**

(a) There is created the animal damage management board for the purposes of mitigating damage caused to livestock, wildlife and crops by predatory animals, predacious birds and depredating animals or for the protection of human health and safety. The board may mitigate damage caused by depredating animals by and through a memorandum of understanding with the Wyoming game and fish commission. The board shall be composed of twelve (12) members appointed by the governor as follows:

(i) The director of the Wyoming department of agriculture;

(ii) The director of the Wyoming game and fish department;

(iii) One (1) domestic sheep producer;

(iv) One (1) cattle producer;

(v) The state director for the United States department of agriculture, animal and plant health inspection service, wildlife services (USDA/APHIS/WS);

(vi) Two (2) members representing the interests of sportsmen, outfitters and hunters, not more than one (1) of these members shall be appointed to represent the interests of outfitters;

(vii) The president of the state predator management advisory board created under W.S. 11-6-201;

(viii) One (1) member from an urban area;

(ix) One (1) member from the Wyoming game and fish commission;

(x) One (1) member of the Wyoming board of agriculture; and

(xi) One (1) member representing the interests of nonconsumptive users of the state's wildlife resource.

(b) A representative from the United States forest service (USFS), the United States fish and wildlife service (USFWS) and United States bureau of land management (BLM) shall serve as exofficio nonvoting members of the board.

(c) The directors of the departments of agriculture and game and fish shall serve as co-chairs of the ADMB and shall give general direction to the ADMB and the ADMB administrative officer.

(d) The director of the department of agriculture or his designee shall serve as the ADMB's administrative officer and carry out the ADMB's administrative functions.

(e) Except for the directors of the departments of agriculture and game and fish, the state director for the United States department of agriculture, animal and plant health inspection service, wildlife services (USDA/APHIS/WS), and the president of the state predator management advisory board created under W.S. 11-6-201, the remaining members of the board shall hold office for staggered terms of four (4) years. For the remaining members of the initial board, four (4) members shall be appointed for a term of four (4) years, four (4) members shall be appointed for a term of two (2) years. Each appointed member shall be limited to serving on the board for eight (8) consecutive years, however, a member may be reappointed after a four (4) year absence. Each member shall

hold office until his successor is appointed and has been qualified. As terms of current ADMB members expire, the governor shall appoint each new member or reappointed member to a four (4) year term.

(f) When a vacancy occurs in the membership for any reason, a replacement shall be appointed for the unexpired term.

(g) Attendance of six (6) members at a duly called meeting shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of official business. The ADMB shall convene at the times and places prescribed by the chair.

(h) Members of the board who are not government employees shall receive no compensation or benefits for their services, but may receive per diem and expenses incurred in the performance of the member's official duties at the established state rate, to be paid from the animal damage management account.

(j) Members may decline to receive per diem and expenses for their service.

(k) State government officer and employee members who do not receive salary, per diem, or expenses from their agency for their service may receive per diem and expenses incurred in the performance of their official duties from the ADMB at the established state rate, to be paid from the animal damage management account.

(m) State government official and employee members may decline to receive per diem and expenses for their service.

**11-6-304. Animal damage management board responsibilities; animal damage management policy; rules; methods to manage predatory animals, predacious birds, depredating animals and rabid wildlife; manner of calling meetings; frequency.**

(a) The ADMB is responsible for the formulation of the damage prevention management policy of the state, and by and through an executed memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the Wyoming game and fish commission is responsible for management of rabid wildlife, crop, livestock and wildlife damage done by depredating animals and wildlife damage by predatory animals and predacious birds. The ADMB in conjunction with its responsibility may, consistent with the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act adopt rules to implement policies administered by

the ADMB. After consultation with the livestock board and the department of health, the ADMB shall promulgate rules pertaining to rabies prevention in wildlife including surveillance, public education, vaccination protocol, post-exposure procedures and quarantines. The ADMB may enter into the agreements with law enforcing agencies to carry out the quarantine provisions. Nothing in this article shall preempt the Wyoming game and fish commission authority to manage wildlife or determine damage pursuant to any provision in title 23.

(b) In its deliberations the ADMB shall:

(i) Entertain requests for assistance in order to allow mitigation of predator damage;

(ii) Specify programs designed to prevent damage by predatory animals, rabid wildlife, predacious birds and depredating animals to livestock, agricultural crops, wildlife, property, human health and safety;

(iii) Provide various degrees of predatory animal, predacious bird and depredating animal damage management services to individual agricultural livestock and crop producers, landowners, lessors or administrators, and to urban, residential and industrial property owners. Damage management services shall also be provided and conducted for the benefit of wildlife populations and human health and safety;

(iv) Specify methods for the prevention and management of damage and for the selective control of predatory animals, rabid wildlife, predacious birds and depredating animals;

(v) Maintain responsibility and appropriate funds for the purpose of providing damage prevention and management to agricultural livestock and crops, wildlife, property and human health and safety caused by predatory animals, rabid wildlife, predacious birds and depredating animals;

(vi) Cooperate with federal, state and county governments, educational institutions and private persons or organizations to effectuate agricultural and wildlife damage and rabid wildlife prevention policies;

(vii) Develop memorandums of understanding between the Wyoming department of agriculture and the Wyoming game and fish commission and the United States department of agriculture,

animal and plant health inspection service, wildlife services (USDA/APHIS/WS) to accommodate funding sources and administrative guidelines for the program and may contract directly with federal or state agencies, boards of county commissioners, predator management districts or other organizations or associations to coordinate predator control services;

(viii) Consider any recommendations received from the Wyoming game and fish commission and the Wyoming department of agriculture.

(c) The ADMB shall conduct meetings in accordance with its established policy, but shall meet at least once each year in the month of January.

(d) The ADMB may adopt rules and regulations necessary for carrying out the purpose and provisions of this article. The ADMB may appoint employees and assistants as necessary and fix their compensation. The ADMB may enter into cooperative agreements with boards of county commissioners, predator management districts, federal or state agencies or other commissions, organizations or associations for the purpose of managing predatory animals, rabid wildlife, predacious birds and depredating animals. Predator management district boards which choose not to enter into a cooperative agreement with the ADMB shall not be precluded from continuing with, or entering into, a cooperative agreement or memorandum of understanding with the United States department of agriculture, animal and plant health inspection service, wildlife services (USDA/APHIS/WS), other entities of government, organizations or associations. This act is not intended and shall not replace, rescind, modify nor cancel cooperative agreements or cooperative service agreements between the USDA/APHIS/WS and the county predator management districts created under W.S. 11-6-201 through 11-6-210.

(e) The ADMB may elect to provide various degrees of predator damage management services to any other person pursuant to a separately negotiated cooperative agreement.

(f) The board shall investigate, test and refine the concept and practices of integrated predator management. The board shall develop and establish measurable goals and objectives. The board shall report to the governor and the joint agriculture, public lands and water resources interim committee and joint appropriations interim committee on or before November 30 of each year to determine the progress the board has made



toward achieving the goals and objectives it has established. The report shall also include actions taken, the accomplishments and state monies expended by each county predator management board participating in state funding.

**11-6-305. Wyoming animal damage management board funding; sources; methods of collection.**

(a) Repealed by Laws 2020, ch. 48, § 2.

(b) Repealed by Laws 2020, ch. 48, § 2.

(c) The ADMB may receive money for predatory animal, predacious bird and depredating animal management from the federal government, state appropriations, counties, agencies, boards, associations, commissions, individuals and any other cooperators, and may expend monies to purchase supplies, materials, services, and to employ or contract personnel for predatory animal, predacious bird and depredating animal damage management. The ADMB may make supplies, materials, services and personnel available to cooperators at approximate cost.

**11-6-306. Animal damage management account.**

(a) There is created the animal damage management account.

(b) Money received under W.S. 11-6-305 shall be deposited by the state treasurer in the animal damage management account to be appropriated for the purposes provided in this article.

(c) Any supplemental contributions received by the department from livestock owners for predatory animal, predacious bird or depredating animal damage management programs or the prevention and management of rabid wildlife shall be deposited into the animal damage management account.

(d) The animal damage management account shall be administered for the ADMB by the Wyoming department of agriculture.

**11-6-307. Board to request funding from game and fish commission.**

The board shall annually request two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000.00) from the Wyoming game and fish commission. These funds shall be expended for wildlife priorities. The game and fish commission shall provide recommendations to the board

regarding expenditure of these funds. Priority shall be given to projects that directly involve predator control that will have the greatest benefit to wildlife or will reduce the cost to the department for animal damage payments.

**11-6-308. District boards; relation to ADMB; duties generally.**

(a) Each predator management district board shall:

(i) Exercise general supervision in determining local priorities for the management of predatory animals and predacious birds that prey upon and destroy livestock, other domestic animals, wildlife and crops;

(ii) Devise and put in operation those methods that best manage predatory animals and predacious birds;

(iii) Administer funds received to carry out the animal damage management program;

(iv) Maintain existing financial and physical resources;

(v) Provide input to the ADMB.

**11-6-309. Predator management district participation with the ADMB.**

(a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, if the predator management district has elected to participate in providing funding or upon approval of the ADMB, other in-kind resources, to the animal damage management account, the district may solicit funds or receive services from the ADMB under separate negotiated agreement. Two (2) or more districts may jointly solicit funds or receive services from the ADMB for purposes of this section.

(b) Whether or not a predator management district has elected to participate in providing funding to the animal damage management account, the district may solicit funds or receive services from the ADMB for control of gray wolves designated as predatory animals.

(c) In any area of the state not under the jurisdiction of a county predatory animal board, eligible applicants for funds appropriated to the animal damage management board for the

purpose of controlling wolves designated as predatory animals include state or county agencies.

**11-6-310. Applicability of chapter.**

This article, unless contrary to federal law, shall apply to all federal, state and private lands.

**11-6-311. Exemptions.**

The state predator management advisory board or the ADMB may exempt persons from payment of the imposed fees when the respective board determines that livestock as defined in this act are permanently confined within pens or corrals within incorporated city limits where animal damage control activity by state or federal agencies is prohibited or severely restricted.

**11-6-312. Cooperative agreements generally.**

The ADMB may enter into cooperative agreements with other governmental agencies, counties, associations, corporations or individuals for carrying out the purposes of this article.

**11-6-313. Repealed By Laws 2008, Ch. 39, § 1.**

CHAPTER 7 - APIARY REGISTRATION AND INSPECTION

ARTICLE 1 - GENERAL PROVISIONS

**11-7-101. Repealed by Laws 1979, ch. 64, § 2.**

**11-7-102. Repealed by Laws 1979, ch. 64, § 2.**

**11-7-103. Repealed by Laws 1979, ch. 64, § 2.**

**11-7-104. Repealed by Laws 1979, ch. 64, § 2.**

**11-7-105. Repealed by Laws 1979, ch. 64, § 2.**

**11-7-106. Repealed by Laws 1979, ch. 64, § 2.**

**11-7-107. Repealed by Laws 1979, ch. 64, § 2.**

**11-7-108. Repealed by Laws 1979, ch. 64, § 2.**

**11-7-109. Repealed by Laws 1979, ch. 64, § 2.**

- 11-7-110. Repealed by Laws 1979, ch. 64, § 2.
- 11-7-111. Repealed by Laws 1979, ch. 64, § 2.
- 11-7-112. Repealed by Laws 1979, ch. 64, § 2.
- 11-7-113. Repealed by Laws 1979, ch. 64, § 2.
- 11-7-114. Repealed by Laws 1979, ch. 64, § 2.
- 11-7-115. Repealed by Laws 1979, ch. 64, § 2.
- 11-7-116. Repealed by Laws 1979, ch. 64, § 2.
- 11-7-117. Repealed by Laws 1979, ch. 64, § 2.
- 11-7-118. Repealed by Laws 1983, ch. 7, § 2.
- 11-7-119. Repealed by Laws 1983, ch. 7, § 2.
- 11-7-120. Repealed by Laws 1983, ch. 7, § 2.
- 11-7-121. Repealed by Laws 1983, ch. 7, § 2.
- 11-7-122. Repealed by Laws 1983, ch. 7, § 2.
- 11-7-123. Repealed by Laws 1983, ch. 7, § 2.
- 11-7-124. Repealed by Laws 1983, ch. 7, § 2.
- 11-7-125. Repealed by Laws 1983, ch. 7, § 2.
- 11-7-126. Repealed by Laws 1983, ch. 7, § 2.
- 11-7-127. Repealed by Laws 1983, ch. 7, § 2.
- 11-7-128. Repealed by Laws 1983, ch. 7, § 2.
- 11-7-129. Repealed by Laws 1983, ch. 7, § 2.
- 11-7-130. Short title.

This chapter may be cited as the "Wyoming Apiculture Act".

**11-7-131. Definitions.**

- (a) As used in this chapter:

(i) "Apiary" means a place where one (1) or more colonies of bees or one (1) or more hives containing honeycombs or bee combs are kept;

(ii) "Bee diseases" means American or European foulbrood, sacbrood, bee paralysis or other disease or abnormal condition of the egg, larval, pupal or adult stages of bees, including bee parasites and bee pests;

(iii) "Bees" means any stage of the life cycle in the genus *Apis*;

(iv) "Colony" means the bees, hive and all equipment used in connection with the hive;

(v) "Comb" means the brood chamber used by the queen for the protection of brood;

(vi) "Department" means the department of agriculture;

(vii) "Equipment" means hives, supers, frames, veils, gloves or any apparatus, tools, machines or other devices used in the handling and manipulation of bees, honey, wax and hives and includes any container of honey and wax which may be used in an apiary or in transporting bees and their products and apiary supplies;

(viii) "Family unit" means two (2) or more persons living together or residing in the same dwelling, house or other place of residence;

(ix) "General apiary" means any apiary other than a pollination apiary, landowner apiary or hobbyist apiary;

(x) "Hive" means a frame hive, box hive, box, barrel, log gun, skep or other receptacle or container or a part of a container, natural or artificial, which may be used as a domicile for bees;

(xi) "Hobbyist apiary" means an apiary owned by a hobbyist beekeeper;

(xii) "Hobbyist beekeeper" means a person who owns a total of not more than five (5) hives;

(xiii) "Landowner" means the person who has the actual use and exclusive possession of the land upon which a landowner apiary is to be registered, except that a person leasing or renting land for the primary purpose of locating or establishing an apiary thereon is not considered a landowner;

(xiv) "Landowner apiary" means an apiary owned by a landowner as defined in this section;

(xv) "Person" means any individual, association, partnership or corporation;

(xvi) "Pollination apiary" means an apiary operated for pollination of commercial seed, fruit or other commercial agricultural product as provided in W.S. 11-7-203;

(xvii) "Queen apiary" means an apiary or premises in which queen bees are reared or kept for sale or gift;

(xviii) "Bee parasites" means mites, including but not limited to varroa mites and tracheal mites;

(xix) "Bee pests" means insects, including but not limited to small hive beetles and red imported fire ants;

(xx) "General beekeeper" means a person who owns more than five (5) hives and manages and operates the bees and the hives;

(xxi) "Global positioning system or GPS" means a device that provides accuracy in positioning using latitude and longitude coordinates;

(xxii) "Holding yard" means an area where colonies are temporarily placed prior to leaving the state or returning from pollination in another state;

(xxiii) "Spray yard" means a temporary location where colonies are moved prior to any pesticide application in the area of the beekeeper's registered location.

#### **11-7-132. Disposition of fees.**

Registration and inspection fees collected under this chapter shall be transmitted by the department to the state treasurer for deposit in the general fund.

**11-7-133. Penalties.**

Any person who violates any provision of this chapter is guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00) or imprisoned in the county jail for not more than six (6) months, or both. Each day the violation continues constitutes a separate offense.

ARTICLE 2 - REGISTRATION

**11-7-201. Apiary registration; procedure; information; conditions; penalties.**

(a) Any person who owns or possesses any class of apiary in this state shall register that apiary with the department before April 1 of each year.

(b) Application for registration shall be made to the department on forms it prescribes and furnishes and shall include:

(i) The applicant's name and address;

(ii) The total number of colonies of bees the beekeeper owns;

(iii) The location of the apiary, setting forth specifically the location by sectional division to the nearest quarter section, the township and range and the latitude and longitude coordinates, or if within the corporate limits of a municipality, the number of the lot and block in the municipality including street address and the latitude and longitude coordinates determined using GPS. All new registrations shall include latitude and longitude coordinates. Effective July 1, 2012, latitude and longitude coordinates shall be required for all apiary registrations;

(iv) The name of the owner, renter or occupant of the land on which the apiary is located and, if the application is for an apiary being registered for the first time, it shall also show that the owner, renter or occupant of the land has consented to the apiary being located on his land;

(v) The date the apiary was first established which shall be included for each location on yearly apiary renewal applications; and

(vi) The class of apiary registration for which application is being made.

(c) Upon receipt of the application and payment of the fees, the department may issue a certificate of registration for an apiary, setting forth:

(i) The name of the owner;

(ii) The specific location of the apiary; and

(iii) The class of apiary authorized.

(d) In issuing certificates of registration for apiaries, if there is a conflict between applicants with respect to location, the department shall give preference to the applicant having the oldest, continuous apiary registration.

(e) Certificates of registration shall not be issued for new apiaries which are within such close proximity to established registered apiaries that there is danger of spread of bee diseases, bee parasites or bee pests or that the proximity may interfere with the proper feeding and honey flow of established apiaries.

(f) Each apiary registrant shall post in a conspicuous location at or near each apiary he owns legible evidence of registration, including his name and telephone number.

(g) The department shall notify each registrant of his delinquency, if that registrant fails to reregister by April 1 of each year. The notification shall be by certified mail and is sufficient if deposited in a United States post office or mail box at least ten (10) days before May 1 and addressed to the registrant at his last address appearing in the department's apiary registration files. Any apiary registration which has not been received by May 1 of each year is forfeited and all rights under the registration terminate.

(h) Any person who owns or possesses any bees, hives, colonies or beekeeping equipment in this state or who owns or possesses an apiary in this state and who fails or refuses to register that apiary as provided in this chapter is guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof is subject to the penalties set forth in W.S. 11-7-133.

(j) Repealed By Laws 2010, Ch. 14, § 3.



**11-7-202. General apiary registrations.**

(a) In order to control, limit and prevent the spread of bee diseases, bee parasites or bee pests among bees, hives and apiaries and to control, limit and prevent interference with proper feeding and honey flow of established apiaries, general apiaries registered to different persons shall be located at least two (2) miles apart, except as otherwise provided in this article. The department shall not register or issue a certificate of registration for any general apiary that is located less than two (2) miles from a general apiary registered to another person, except as otherwise provided in this section.

(b) Any person may register a general apiary that is situated less than two (2) miles from another general apiary he has registered, if the location of the general apiary being applied for is at least two (2) miles from general apiaries registered to other persons.

(c) A general apiary may be registered even though it is less than two (2) miles from any registered pollination apiary, landowner apiary or hobbyist apiary.

(d) A person with an existing apiary that is located less than two (2) miles from an existing general apiary registered to another person may register his apiary as a general apiary under the following conditions:

(i) His apiary is established and registered with the department as a general apiary under the department's rules in effect prior to December 31, 2009; and

(ii) The registration of his apiary has not been forfeited or abandoned.

**11-7-203. Pollination apiary registrations.**

(a) The department may grant pollination apiary registrations to commercial seed and fruit producers or other commercial agricultural producers under the following conditions:

(i) The applicant must own, lease or rent the land upon which the pollination apiary is to be located and the applicant must use the land for the purpose of growing a

commercial seed, fruit or other crop which is dependent upon bees or other insects for pollination;

(ii) The applicant does not own the bees or the hives which are to be placed upon the pollination apiary;

(iii) The only purpose of the apiary is to pollinate a commercial agricultural crop;

(iv) The applicant shall provide the department with all pertinent information necessary to determine if pollination apiaries are needed to pollinate the applicant's crop adequately;

(v) The department may refuse to register a pollination apiary based upon its own investigation of the matter, but if the department approves the application, it shall specify the number of hives and location of pollination apiaries needed for the purpose of pollinating the applicant's commercial agricultural crop adequately; and

(vi) A copy of the pollination contract between the seedgrower and beekeeper shall be sent to the department.

(b) A pollination apiary registration is valid only for the time period the department specifies, and all pollination apiaries shall be removed within two (2) weeks after the end of the bloom period of the crop to be pollinated.

(c) No certificate of registration of a pollination apiary may be leased, assigned or transferred and no person other than the pollination apiary registrant may exercise in any way any rights or privileges authorized by the certificate of registration.

#### **11-7-204. Landowner apiary registrations.**

(a) The department may grant landowner apiary registrations under the following conditions:

(i) The applicant shall be a landowner, as defined in W.S. 11-7-131(a)(xiii) and shall own the land upon which the apiary will be located;

(ii) The applicant shall own the bees and the hives that will be placed on the apiary; and

(iii) The applicant shall personally manage and operate the bees and the hives.

(b) No certificate of registration of a landowner apiary shall be leased, assigned or transferred and no person other than the landowner apiary registrant shall exercise in any way any rights or privileges authorized by the certificate of registration.

#### **11-7-205. Hobbyist apiary registrations.**

(a) The department may grant hobbyist apiary registrations to hobbyist beekeepers under the following conditions:

(i) The applicant shall not own a total of more than five (5) hives, and all of the hives must be placed on the hobbyist apiary;

(ii) The applicant shall own the bees and the hives and shall personally manage and operate the bees and the hives;

(iii) Only one (1) hobbyist registration is allowed an applicant and only two (2) hobbyist apiary registrations are allowed a family unit; and

(iv) If the department determines that too many hobbyist apiaries are being registered within too close proximity of each other or of other established apiaries so that there is danger of the spread of bee diseases, bee parasites or bee pests among bees or apiaries or that there will be interference with the proper feeding and honey flow of established apiaries, the department may refuse to grant any further hobbyist registrations in the locality and area of the danger.

(b) No certificate of registration of a hobbyist apiary may be leased, assigned or transferred, and no person other than the hobbyist apiary registrant may exercise in any way any rights or privileges authorized by the certificate of registration.

#### **11-7-206. Restrictions on apiary locations.**

Pollination apiaries, landowner apiaries and hobbyist apiaries may be located less than two (2) miles from pollination apiaries, landowner apiaries, hobbyist apiaries and general apiaries registered to other persons. General apiaries may be

located within two (2) miles of one another only under the provisions of W.S. 11-7-202.

**11-7-207. Changing locations; enlarging or selling apiaries.**

(a) No owner of an established registered apiary shall change the location of the apiary without first receiving from the department authorization to establish the new apiary. In making the application, the owner shall specify the location of the apiary with the same particularity as in the application for original registration. If the new apiary is not used according to W.S. 11-7-211, the certificate of registration lapses and all rights under the registration terminate. Registrations for new apiaries shall not be issued for greater areas than the applicant can show are reasonably necessary for his needs consistent with good beekeeping practice.

(b) A registered apiary may be sold or transferred to a purchaser subject to applicable provisions of this chapter if all bees and equipment on the apiary are sold to the purchaser.

(c) No person may increase the number of hives on an apiary to exceed the number of hives consistent with good beekeeping practices authorized by his certificate of registration for that apiary, except that a person may increase the number of hives on a general apiary beyond the number authorized by the certificate of registration in order to protect his bees and hives from bears or other predators. A person may also enlarge a general apiary during the spring buildup and in the fall after the end of the honey season in order to gather his bees for shipment out of the state or to winter his bees on that apiary.

**11-7-208. New locations; evidence of owner's or manager's permission.**

Any person registering a new location for the first time shall have the approval signature of the landowner or manager thereof indicating that the landowner has given permission to place an apiary on his property.

**11-7-209. Minimum number of colonies.**

All registered bee locations must consist of not less than ten (10) colonies of bees during a minimum of forty-five (45) or more continuous days during any part of normal buildup or honey

producing period of the year. This provision does not apply to beekeepers who own a total of less than five (5) colonies of bees registered in only one (1) apiary.

**11-7-210. Normal buildup and honey producing season; registration time; voiding registration.**

(a) The normal buildup and honey producing season begins on May 1 and continues through September 30.

(b) The regular registration time consists of the months of February through April.

(c) The established way for voiding the registration of an apiary shall be initiated and completed by January 31 during the same registration year that the apiary was not in use.

**11-7-211. Forfeit of registration; termination of rights; disposition of equipment.**

(a) The registration of an apiary which is not stocked with bees during at least forty-five (45) continuous days of the normal buildup or honey producing season is forfeited and all rights under the certificate of registration terminate.

(b) An apiary not regularly attended in accordance with good beekeeping practice, which comprises a hazard or threat to disease control in the beekeeping industry or which by reason of its physical condition or construction cannot be inspected, may be considered an abandoned apiary and may be seized by the department. Any diseased equipment or equipment which by reason of its physical condition or construction cannot be inspected may be burned, and any remaining equipment may be sold at public auction. Proceeds, after the cost of the sale is deducted, shall be returned to the former owner or his estate. Before burning or selling any equipment, the department shall give the owner or person in charge a written notice at least five (5) days before the burning or sale. The notice shall be given by certified mail or personal service upon the owner or person in charge of the property. If the owner or person in charge cannot be located, a certified letter sent to the owner's last address registered with the department is sufficient notice under this section.

**11-7-212. Registration fees.**

(a) Each year before a certificate of registration may be issued for an apiary, the owner or applicant for the certificate

shall pay the department a registration fee in the amount authorized by W.S. 11-1-104, with the exception of those apiaries classified as hobbyist apiaries, which will be issued a nonfee certificate of registration.

- (i) Repealed by Laws 1993, ch. 135, § 3.
- (ii) Repealed by Laws 1993, ch. 135, § 3.
- (iii) Repealed by Laws 1993, ch. 135, § 3.
- (iv) Repealed by Laws 1993, ch. 135, § 3.
- (v) Repealed by Laws 1993, ch. 135, § 3.
- (vi) Repealed by Laws 1993, ch. 135, § 3.
- (vii) Repealed by Laws 1993, ch. 135, § 3.
- (viii) Repealed by Laws 1993, ch. 135, § 3.
- (ix) Repealed by Laws 1993, ch. 135, § 3.
- (x) Repealed by Laws 1993, ch. 135, § 3.
- (xi) Repealed by Laws 1993, ch. 135, § 3.

(b) Repealed by Laws 1993, ch. 135, § 3.

**11-7-213. Holding yard apiary location.**

(a) The department may grant a certificate of registration for a temporary holding yard location to provide an area for holding hives prior to and after returning from pollination of a commercial agricultural crop in another state.

(b) A temporary holding yard location shall not be used for planned honey production.

(c) A general beekeeper shall provide the department location information for all temporary holding yard locations by designating the yard name and latitude and longitude coordinates which shall be included on the yearly renewal application and designated with "HY" for holding yard, as the authorized class.

(d) A colony may be held at a temporary holding yard location for not more than two (2) months during the spring and for not more than two (2) months during the fall.

**11-7-214. Spray yard apiary location.**

(a) The department may grant a certificate of registration for a spray yard apiary location to provide an area for holding hives during pesticide application to allow a safe haven for the health and safety of the bees.

(b) A spray yard apiary location shall not be used for planned honey production.

(c) Any hive shall not be held at a spray yard apiary location for more than sixteen (16) days after any pesticide application and the hive then shall be returned to the registered location.

(d) A general beekeeper shall notify the department or the apiary inspector when hives are moved to spray yard apiary locations.

**11-7-215. Variance agreements.**

(a) Upon request from a general beekeeper, the department may enter into a variance agreement with the general beekeeper because of drought conditions, crop rotation, conservation reserve program acres or other unforeseen circumstances adverse to a yard location.

(b) Following a thorough investigation of each request under subsection (a) of this section, the department shall determine whether or not to enter into the requested variance agreement. If granted, a variance agreement shall contain an expiration date, after which the bees shall be returned to the original registered location. Failure to return the bees to the original registered apiary location shall cause that registered apiary location to be forfeited.

(c) Signed copies of a variance agreement between a beekeeper and the department shall be on file in the department's Cheyenne office and with the area apiary inspector and the beekeeper.

**ARTICLE 3 - INSPECTION AND CERTIFICATION - APIS BEES**

**11-7-301. Apiaries; powers and duties of the department.**

(a) To prevent the spread of bee diseases, bee parasites or bee pests among bees and apiaries, to protect apiaries against depredation by wildlife and to assist law enforcement agencies in an effort to alleviate losses due to theft, the department may:

(i) Order the transfer of colonies of bees from hives or containers which cannot be properly examined for brood or other bee diseases, bee parasites or bee pests to other hives or containers;

(ii) Order disinfection of any bee, beehive, brood comb or any other equipment which is infected or contaminated and burn any infected or contaminated bee, beehive, brood comb or any other equipment if, in its judgment, disinfection will not remove the infection or contamination. Before burning any property, the department shall give the owner or person in charge a written notice at least ten (10) days before the date on which the property will be burned. The notice shall be given by certified mail or personal service upon the owner or person in charge of the property;

(iii) Quarantine any apiary where foulbrood or any contagious or infectious bee diseases, bee parasites or bee pests are present and, during the quarantine, prevent the removal from the apiary of any bees or equipment except under a special permit issued by the department permitting the removal under conditions it prescribes. A person may not sell or offer for sale any apiary, bees or equipment which are under quarantine unless the department issues a permit authorizing the sale or removal. Written notice of quarantine shall be posted by the department, owner or person in charge at the quarantined apiary at a conspicuous place, and a copy shall be personally served or sent by certified mail to the owner of the apiary or person in charge. The quarantine continues in effect until it is ordered removed and a copy of the removal order served in the same manner;

(iv) Inspect any apiary, hives, equipment or premises for the presence of bee diseases, bee parasites or bee pests. Hives belonging to persons owning apiaries within the state shall be inspected for contagious diseases according to schedules established by the department. Apiary inspectors shall establish the date for the inspection of any apiary with the beekeeper. The inspection date shall be agreeable to the



inspector and the beekeeper and shall include a total of seven (7) consecutive days upon which the inspection can be undertaken due to weather and unforeseen circumstances. Any beekeeper responsible for an apiary who refuses an inspection on any of the seven (7) agreed upon dates is subject to penalties provided pursuant to W.S. 11-7-133;

(v) Order the hives within an apiary which is not legally registered with the state to be confiscated. The owner of the apiary shall be notified at least seven (7) days prior to the date of confiscation. Notification shall be by certified mail addressed to the last known address of the owner or by personal service upon the owner;

(vi) Promulgate and enforce rules adopted to carry out the purpose of this chapter;

(vii) Enter into agreements with the game and fish commission as necessary to protect bees and hives against wild animals;

(viii) Assist any sheriff, peace officer or district attorney in any county in the discharge of their duties or investigations relating to the apiary industry.

(b) Any owner of bees possessing more than fifty (50) colonies shall furnish one (1) helper to assist the inspector. Apiary inspectors may inspect bee colonies at any time without previous notice.

(c) Any person failing to comply with a rule, order or provision of a quarantine pursuant to this section is subject to penalties provided in W.S. 11-7-133.

#### **11-7-302. Importation of bees, combs or hives.**

(a) A beekeeper shall notify the department and request an inspection to be conducted at any specified registered location or holding yard not later than fourteen (14) days after entry of any colony into this state. Following an inspection for colony health, the department may issue an export certificate for any colony imported into Wyoming. An export certificate is valid for one (1) year and allows export from and re-entry into Wyoming at any port of entry.

(b) Bees shipped on combless packages or in packages on new frames and new foundation are not prohibited.

(c) Comb honey in sections intended for human consumption is not prohibited.

(d) All package bees shipped into Wyoming shall be accompanied by an affidavit stating that no honey has been used for food in transit. It is unlawful for anyone shipping queen bees in cages into this state to use any honey for queen cage foods.

(e) If an official Wyoming apiary inspector finds that any bees imported into the state have infectious or contagious diseases within fourteen (14) days after arrival, the apiary inspector shall destroy the diseased bees and equipment.

#### ARTICLE 4 - ALFALFA LEAF-CUTTER BEE

##### **11-7-401. Definitions.**

(a) As used in this act:

(i) "Bee" means any stage in the life cycle of a bee of the species *Megachile rotundata* (F), commonly known as the alfalfa leaf-cutter bee;

(ii) "Certification" means the process of analyzing bees and equipment by the department to determine whether they meet the required health standards;

(iii) "Department" means the department of agriculture;

(iv) "Equipment" means trays, incubators, cell removers, tumblers and other apparatus used in rearing bees excluding nesting materials;

(v) "Nesting materials" means shelters, laminates, polyblocks, drilled boards or any other product which leaf-cutter bees actually use for nesting;

(vi) "Parasite" means an organism living in or on any stage of the alfalfa leaf-cutter bee obtaining nutriment from the body of the bee or nesting material;

(vii) "Pathogen" means an organism, parasite or otherwise, that causes disease in the alfalfa leaf-cutter bee;

(viii) "Wild trap" means to trap bees on property not owned by the trapper;

(ix) "This act" means W.S. 11-7-401 through 11-7-407;

(x) "Sanitization" means any treatment including iodine, heat, chlorine or any other method approved by the department.

**11-7-402. Duties and powers of department.**

(a) The department shall:

(i) Administer this act;

(ii) By rule or regulation adopt minimum standards for the presence of pathogens and parasites in bees to be certified, imported and possessed or controlled in this state;

(iii) Whenever it has reasonable cause to believe a person is in possession of any diseased or parasitized bee or equipment or otherwise possesses any bee or equipment in violation of this act or rules adopted under this act, order a quarantine of the suspected bees or equipment and may require any person in possession of such bees to hold them under specified conditions until notified otherwise in writing;

(iv) Release any quarantine or order to hold bees upon a finding that the bees and equipment are possessed in compliance with this act.

(b) The department may:

(i) Enter into agreements with other governmental agencies or private associations in carrying out the provisions of this act;

(ii) Enter upon any public or private premises to inspect and sample bees or equipment that may be diseased or parasitized;

(iii) Quarantine any bees or equipment found to be infected with pathogens or parasites at a level exceeding certification standards;

(iv) Order the sanitization or destruction of any bees or equipment that is infected with parasites or pathogens and that does not meet certification standards.

**11-7-403. Annual certification; application; inspection of sample; recertification; fees.**

(a) No person shall import, possess or control alfalfa leaf-cutter bees in this state unless the bees are certified annually under this section.

(b) To certify bees, a person shall file a completed application form provided by the department together with the certification and laboratory fees. Certification and laboratory fees shall be established by the department for each pound of bees certified. The applicant must provide at least the following:

(i) Name and place of residence;

(ii) The general location and number of bees to be registered; and

(iii) Other relevant information as required by department regulation.

(c) After receipt of an application for certification, a sample of the total population of bees to be certified shall be selected by the department or its agent in a manner prescribed by the department. The sample shall be inspected for pathogens and parasites. If no pathogens or parasites in excess of certification standards are found, the sample shall be reported within certifiable limits.

(d) When the department receives a completed application form, a certification fee and a report that the sample is within certifiable limits, it shall issue a certificate for the bees.

(e) The department shall specify the date by which any applicant must apply for recertification the following year.

(f) Fees collected under this act shall be deposited into a separate account and expended for administration and enforcement of this act. In administering and enforcing the provisions of this act, the department, by a separately negotiated agreement with another governmental agency or a private association as authorized by W.S. 11-7-402(b)(i), may

make the fees available for expenditure by that agency or association. Any such agency or association shall be required to submit an annual budget to the department for its review and approval prior to the expenditure of any funds under this section.

**11-7-404. Importation restrictions.**

(a) No bee shall be imported into this state except under the provisions of this section.

(b) Prior to the importation of any bee, the importer shall file a completed application form as required under W.S. 11-7-403(b) and arrange a date and time for inspection.

(c) Prior to certification, each bee and associated transport equipment shall be quarantined.

(d) No bee shall be imported except in loose cells or as adults. No bee shall be imported in a drilled board, soda straw or other equipment that prevents adequate inspection of the bee.

(e) A representative sample of the population of bees imported shall be inspected as the basis for certification.

(f) No person shall import used nesting materials.

(g) No bee shall be certified unless all other requirements for certification under W.S. 11-7-403 are met.

(h) Used metal or plastic equipment may be imported with prior written notice to the department. Used equipment shall be sanitized prior to entry into this state and immediately after entry as provided by W.S. 11-7-401(a)(x).

(j) Any person not already owning or having leaf-cutter bees in Wyoming who imports leaf-cutter bees for the first time into an area where no leaf-cutter bees have previously been placed by that person shall meet the standards for unconditional leaf-cutter bee certification established by rules and regulations adopted by the department.

**11-7-405. Restrictions on rearing, moving and trapping bees; permits; fees.**

(a) No person shall rear any bee in a nesting material from which samples of loose larval cells cannot readily be obtained such as drilled boards or soda straws.

(b) No person shall move any quarantined bee or equipment except by special permit issued by the department.

(c) No person may wild trap or attempt to wild trap bees unless that person has been issued a permit to wild trap in accordance with rules adopted by the department.

(d) The permits under subsections (b) and (c) of this section shall be issued under rules adopted by the department. The department shall by rule establish a reasonable fee for each permit.

#### **11-7-406. Penalty.**

Any person who violates this act is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not more than seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00). Each day a violation of this act continues is a separate offense.

#### **11-7-407. Laboratory authorized; fees for services.**

The department may develop and maintain a laboratory at the University of Wyoming agriculture extension center at Powell to provide analytical services required under this act and may authorize the laboratories to provide services to persons possessing bees or equipment by charging a fee equal to the cost of providing those services.

### **CHAPTER 8 - PACKAGING, LABELING AND ADVERTISING OF HONEY**

#### **11-8-101. Definition of honey; improper labeling prohibited.**

(a) "Honey" means the nectar and saccharine exudation of plants, gathered, modified and stored in the comb by honey bees, which is levorotatory, containing not more than twenty-five percent (25%) water, not more than twenty-five hundredths percent (.25%) ash, and not more than eight percent (8%) sucrose.

(b) It is unlawful to sell or offer for sale any product which resembles honey and which is labeled, advertised or otherwise represented to be honey, if it is not honey. The word

"imitation" shall not be used in the name of a product which resembles honey whether or not it contains any honey. The label for a product which does not resemble honey but which contains honey may include the word "honey" in the name of the product, and the relative position of the word "honey" in the product name, and in the list of ingredients when required, shall be determined by its prominence as an ingredient in the product.

**11-8-102. Penalty.**

A violation of W.S. 11-8-101 is a misdemeanor, and any person convicted thereof shall be fined not more than one hundred dollars (\$100.00), imprisoned in the county jail not more than ninety (90) days, or both.

CHAPTER 9 - NURSERY STOCK

**11-9-101. Definitions.**

(a) As used in W.S. 11-9-101 through 11-9-109:

(i) "Nursery" means any ground, place or establishment where nursery stock is grown, offered for sale, sold, distributed or is offered as part of a landscape service;

(ii) "Nursery stock" means:

(A) All field-grown, greenhouse-grown or collected wild stock of woody plants such as fruit, forest, windbreak, shade and ornamental trees, shrubs or vines for fruit production, ornamental or protective plantings and herbaceous perennials used as ornamentals;

(B) All plants, rooted cuttings and plants with roots attached grown from bulbs, corms, tubers, rhizomes or other vegetative parts, whether produced out-of-doors or under glass and whether grown in open ground or in benches, boxes, pots or other containers;

(C) All bulbs, corms, pips, rhizomes, tubers, roots, cuttings, scions, grafts or other vegetative parts of plants; and

(D) All ground cover, including sod, plugs and vegetative mulches and compost.

(iii) "Nursery stock" shall not include prohibited, restricted, regulated or designated noxious weeds;

(iv) "Nursery stock dealers" means any person who obtains nursery stock to be offered for sale or distribution;

(v) "Nursery stock salesman" means any person selling, distributing or soliciting orders for delivery of nursery stock directly to the ultimate consumer from a supply on hand at a location other than a nursery stock dealer's place of business;

(vi) "Injurious insect" means any animal of the phylum Arthropoda known to be injurious to agricultural or horticultural plants;

(vii) "Other pest" means any animal of the phyla Mollusca or Nematoda or parasitic plant, plant parasite or other vector known to be injurious to agricultural or horticultural plants;

(viii) "Plant disease" means any fungi, bacteria, or virus injurious to plants and plant products;

(ix) "Plant inspection or health certificate" means a legal document issued by the department or the plant regulatory agency of another state declaring that the nursery stock being sold or distributed is apparently free of injurious insects, plant diseases, other pests and prohibited, restricted, regulated or designated noxious weeds;

(x) "Vector" means an insect, plant or other organism that transmits an insect, fungus, virus, bacterium or other infection;

(xi) "Designated noxious weed" means as defined in W.S. 11-5-102(a)(xi);

(xii) "Substantially free" means any injurious insect, other pest or plant disease is not locatable in groups or not affecting more than one percent (1%) of the nursery stock.

(b) These definitions do not include cut Christmas trees, cut flowers, seeds, seed potatoes or plant parts grown or offered for consumption as human food or as feed for animals.



(c) Age, when stated on any advertisement, label or sign in connection with the sale or offering for sale or distribution of nursery stock, shall be stated in years from time at which such nursery stock was propagated and each shall indicate the completion in autumn of one (1) seasonal growth period.

**11-9-102. License requirements and fees for dealers and salesmen; disposition of fees.**

(a) No person shall engage in the business of selling, offering for sale or distributing nursery stock within Wyoming without first obtaining a license from the state department of agriculture. The fee for a license shall be the fee authorized by W.S. 11-1-104.

(b) Upon application for a resident nursery stock dealer license and payment of the required fee, the director, or an authorized inspector shall inspect the premises and stock of the applicant and shall issue the license if the inspection shows the premises and stock to be substantially free or apparently free from injurious insects, plant diseases or other pests and free of prohibited, restricted, regulated or designated noxious weeds.

(c) If the inspection reveals the premises or stock not to be substantially free or apparently free of injurious insects, plant diseases, other pests or prohibited, restricted, regulated or designated noxious weeds, the nursery stock shall be removed or quarantined from sale and a written plan of action to remedy the condition by treatment, control actions or destruction shall be presented to the inspector within one (1) working day. The nursery shall be inspected again within a time agreed upon by the director, or his authorized agent, and the dealer and noted in writing on the plan, but no later than fifteen (15) days after the previous inspection. Upon subsequent inspection the nursery stock shall be substantially free or apparently free from the injurious insects, plant diseases and other pests and free from prohibited, restricted, regulated or designated noxious weeds in order to be released for sale. Failure to comply with this subsection shall subject the dealer to the penalties provided in W.S. 11-9-108 or 11-9-109.

(d) No person shall act as a nursery stock salesman without first securing a license from the state department of agriculture. The fee for a license shall be the fee authorized by W.S. 11-1-104.

(e) No nonresident shall sell, take orders to sell, offer for sale or distribute nursery stock which has been grown outside this state without first securing a license from the department of agriculture. The license fee for each establishment shipping nursery stock into Wyoming shall be the fee authorized by W.S. 11-1-104. No license shall be granted to a nonresident unless the applicant agrees to furnish with each shipment of nursery stock an affidavit stating that the nursery stock to be sold, offered for sale or transported into Wyoming has been inspected by the proper state, district or county officials of the state of origin and found free from injurious insects, plant diseases and prohibited, restricted, regulated or designated noxious weeds.

(f) Licenses granted to nursery stock dealers or salesmen expire on March 31 of each year. All license fees collected shall be deposited in the general fund.

(g) Charitable and educational institutions shall be exempt from licensing requirements imposed by this section.

**11-9-103. Right of entry of authorized persons for inspection.**

The director, or his authorized agents, during reasonable business hours, may enter upon or into any premises, lands, establishments or places in this state where they suspect that injurious insects, other pests, plant diseases or prohibited, restricted, regulated or designated noxious weeds occur for the purpose of inspecting, controlling or exterminating insects or diseases or otherwise carrying out the provisions of W.S. 11-9-101 through 11-9-109.

**11-9-104. Shipping inspection certificate; health certificate; public carriers not to accept stock without affidavit.**

(a) Any person receiving directly or indirectly any nursery stock which is not accompanied by a valid shipping inspection certificate shall notify the department of the arrival of such stock, the kinds and amounts of the stock, and the name of the consignor, and shall hold the stock until inspected and released by the department.

(b) Public carriers shall not accept for shipment nursery stock that does not bear a proper affidavit showing apparent

freedom from injurious insect, plant diseases, other pests and prohibited, restricted, regulated or designated noxious weeds.

(c) Any person shipping, selling or distributing nursery stock from out of state shall furnish with each shipment of nursery stock a plant inspection or health certificate stating that the nursery stock to be sold, offered for sale or distributed into Wyoming has been inspected and issued a plant inspection or health certificate by the state of origin.

(d) Resident nursery stock dealers shall request an inspection of any nursery stock to be shipped out of Wyoming. An annual inspection shall be sufficient for the purposes of this subsection. The department shall issue a plant inspection or health certificate after inspection by the department of the premises and nursery stock.

**11-9-105. Nursery stock for sale; condition generally.**

(a) All nursery stock sold or offered for sale shall be in a sound, healthy condition and shall be stored and displayed under conditions which will maintain its vigor. Nursery stock which is dead or so seriously weakened that it will not grow with normal vigor when given reasonable care shall not be sold or offered for sale.

(b) All nursery stock to be sold, offered for sale or distributed shall be substantially free or apparently free of any injurious insects, plant diseases, other pests or prohibited, restricted, regulated or designated weeds.

**11-9-106. Sale of nursery stock; labels required; identification of stock.**

(a) All nursery stock offered for sale, sold, distributed or transported in Wyoming shall be labeled plainly and legibly, either by common or botanical names. When grade-size classifications are declared, they must be in compliance with those established by the department.

(b) Nursery stock on display for sale may be labeled by a suitable sign on a block of stock of the same kind and species. In order to properly identify nursery stock being delivered or transported to any purchaser, at least one (1) label bearing the botanical or common name, or both, shall be attached to each separate species or variety, except when delivered to the

purchaser on the premises and sold from a block of stock labeled with a suitable sign.

**11-9-107. Rules and regulations by director of agriculture; objections.**

The director may issue and enforce rules, regulations and definitions to implement the provisions of W.S. 11-9-101 through 11-9-109, subject to the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act.

**11-9-108. Cease and desist orders; quarantine; confiscation; destruction or removal of nursery stock; hearing; final orders; enforcement.**

(a) The department is authorized to issue cease and desist orders to any nursery stock dealer, quarantine any place of nursery stock business or order confiscation, destruction or removal from the state, of any nursery stock the department determines poses a serious risk of introducing or spreading injurious insects, plant diseases, other pests or prohibited, restricted, regulated or designated noxious weeds within the state.

(b) All notices and orders required to be served by the department under this article shall be served by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the last known address of the nursery stock dealer or may be served as provided by the Wyoming rules of civil procedure. The notice of an order issued by the department under this article shall include:

(i) A statement of the grounds for issuing the order, including a citation of the statute or rule involved;

(ii) A statement of the supporting facts;

(iii) A statement informing the nursery stock dealer subject to the order of the right to a hearing on the order before the director, right of appeal of any subsequent order in accordance with the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act and that failure to timely request a hearing shall result in the order becoming final; and

(iv) A copy of the order.

(c) A request for a hearing on a proposed order issued by the department under this article shall be in writing and shall be submitted to the director no later than seven (7) days after

receipt of the notice from the department. The director shall hold the hearing not later than fifteen (15) days after receipt of the request for hearing, unless the nursery stock dealer subject to the proposed order requests an extension of time for good cause shown.

(d) A hearing on a proposed order issued under this article shall be a contested case hearing conducted in accordance with the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act. After the hearing, the director shall issue findings of fact and conclusions of law and a final decision either confirming or dismissing the proposed order. The director shall confirm a proposed order only if the director finds by a preponderance of the evidence that grounds exist under this article for issuing the proposed order. Otherwise, the director shall dismiss the proposed order. If the director confirms a proposed order it shall become a final order.

(e) The department shall serve a final order upon the nursery stock dealer who is the subject of the order. The final order shall take effect upon service and shall remain in effect until the department or a court of competent jurisdiction terminates the final order. The nursery stock dealer who is the subject of the final order may appeal the issuance of the final order in accordance with Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act.

(f) On or after the effective date of a final order under this article, the attorney general, upon request from the department, may apply to the district court of the county in which the nursery is located or the county where the violations of this article occurred, for enforcement of the final order.

#### **11-9-109. Penalty for violation of provisions.**

(a) Any person who violates any provision of W.S. 11-9-101 through 11-9-109 or any rule or regulation issued pursuant thereto is guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined not more than seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00) for each offense, and may have any license issued to them under such statutes suspended or revoked. Each day shall constitute a separate violation.

(b) Any person found guilty of violating any provision of W.S. 11-9-101 through 11-9-109, shall reimburse the state for the cost of any treatments, control actions, quarantine, confiscation, destruction or removal of any nursery stock from the state resulting from the violation. Amounts collected under

this subsection shall be paid to the department of agriculture technical services division account.

## CHAPTER 10 - STATE FAIR

### **11-10-101. Annual state fair; where held; purpose.**

The state fair board, with the assistance of the department of agriculture, shall hold an annual state fair at Douglas, Wyoming dedicated to honoring Wyoming's agricultural heritage and culture by cultivating Wyoming's agricultural future through competitions, educational displays and experiential exhibits for youth producers and the general public.

### **11-10-102. Duties and responsibilities with respect to the annual state fair and fairgrounds.**

(a) The general charge and supervision of the state fair is under the state fair board with the assistance of the department of agriculture.

(b) The department shall prepare budget requests on behalf of and subject to the approval of the state fair board for the conduct and management of the annual state fair and for the operation and maintenance of the state fairgrounds, including building and facility needs for major maintenance and repair.

(c) The state fair board shall:

(i) Select from among its voting members a chairman and a vice-chairman;

(ii) Hold at least four (4) regular meetings per year at such times and places as the chairman shall specify. Special meetings may be called by the chairman or upon request of a majority of the voting members. A majority of the voting members of the state fair board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business;

(iii) Be administratively supported by the department;

(iv) Provide for the year round operation and maintenance of the state fairgrounds in a manner that:

(A) Maximizes revenues but does not disrupt the annual state fair;

(B) Ensures the facilities are maintained in good working order.

(v) Monitor any state fairgrounds facility needs assessment conducted by the state construction department and, subject to available funding, implement recommendations received under subsection (d) of this section to prioritize and remediate the identified needs;

(vi) To the extent the employment of a state fair manager would aid in accomplishing the duties required by this chapter, appoint a state fair manager to conduct and supervise the annual state fair and to manage the year round operation and maintenance of the state fairgrounds. Any appointment shall be made with the approval of the governor and shall be subject to removal authority provided by W.S. 9-1-202. The state fair board may hire and provide for the supervision of other employees necessary to accomplish the duties required by this chapter and may contract for services to advertise and promote the annual state fair and the fairgrounds;

(vii) To the extent establishing a subcommittee would aid in executing the annual state fair, appoint a subcommittee of state fair board members to plan, conduct or supervise the annual state fair;

(viii) Pursuant to W.S. 9-2-3204, make and execute contracts and other instruments, including financial contracts and instruments that the state fair board determines are reasonable and advisable to carry out the purposes and programs of the state fair board;

(ix) Expend funds appropriated for the conduct and management of the annual state fair and for the operation and maintenance of the state fairgrounds.

(d) The state construction department shall, in addition to the comprehensive needs assessment conducted pursuant to W.S. 9-5-107, and upon request of the state fair board:

(i) Assess the state fairground buildings and facility needs; and

(ii) Submit recommendations to the state fair board to prioritize and remediate the identified needs.

(e) The Wyoming tourism board shall promote the annual state fair throughout the state of Wyoming and adjoining states.

**11-10-103. Reversion of fairgrounds to donor.**

If the state fails for three (3) consecutive years to hold a state fair, the lands used for the purpose of a state fair shall revert to the person donating them, the state having the right to remove all buildings, fences and improvements of whatever nature within twenty-four (24) months after the date on which the fair should have been held. All buildings, fences and improvements remaining on the land after the expiration of the twenty-four (24) months shall become the property of the owner of the land.

**11-10-104. Catalogues.**

At least three (3) months before any annual fair, the state fair board shall have a catalogue prepared and copies available for distribution to any person requesting it.

**11-10-105. Entry fees.**

A fee may be charged for any in-state or out-of-state exhibit to be entered in the state fair at an amount set by the state fair board.

**11-10-106. Admission charges; other revenues.**

(a) There shall be charged at the gates of the fairground an admission fee to be set by the state fair board. An extra charge may be made for seats in the grandstand or other structure providing added comforts. The charge for vehicles driven or stock ridden into the grounds may be fixed by the state fair board. All fees collected shall be deposited in the Wyoming state fair account, except fees directed by law to the state fair endowment account.

(b) The department of agriculture may receive any money or property of any kind or character donated, granted or bequeathed for any activities of the state fair. Monies shall be credited to the Wyoming state fair account except as otherwise provided by W.S. 11-10-107 and 11-10-118. The department, on behalf of the state fair board, shall include within its biennial budget request submitted under W.S. 9-2-1013 a report itemizing all gifts, income and expenditures under this subsection, W.S.



11-10-107 and 11-10-118 for each of the immediately preceding two (2) fiscal years.

**11-10-107. Power of state fair board to acquire land; authority to make rules and regulations; renting and use of fairgrounds.**

(a) Consistent with W.S. 9-5-106(a) and (c), the state fair board may acquire by donation or lease in the name of the state any lands necessary for conducting the annual state fair, and may make all rules and regulations necessary for the conduct and government of the exhibitions, the sale of privileges, and the proper control, operation and conduct of the annual state fair and the state fairgrounds not inconsistent with the constitution and laws of this state.

(b) The state fair board may rent out or donate the use of the state fairgrounds for stabling and training stock and holding stock sales. The grounds may be used free of charge for encampment grounds for the state militia under the direction of the adjutant general of the state. The board shall permit the grounds and facilities to be used for other purposes and shall charge fees as it deems necessary to maximize revenues and pay the expenses of maintaining the grounds and facilities. One percent (1%) of any revenue generated under this subsection shall be distributed to the state fair endowment account and the remainder of any revenue generated under this subsection shall be distributed to the Wyoming state fair account.

**11-10-108. Rodeos; generally.**

The state fair board may provide a rodeo as part of the state fair program, provided there is no restriction on any Wyoming resident who desires to participate in the rodeo other than the prescribed entry fee, unless the restriction is required by a sanctioning body as part of the terms and conditions to sanction the rodeo. Any contract entered into with any person to provide entertainment under this section is void if it in any manner excludes a Wyoming resident from participation in the entertainment because of membership or nonmembership in any organization or group.

**11-10-109. Rodeos; liability for injuries.**

The state of Wyoming is not responsible or liable in any manner for any injury sustained by anyone participating in the rodeo at the Wyoming state fair.

**11-10-110. Repealed By Laws 2011, Ch. 72, § 2.**

**11-10-111. Reports.**

The director of the department of agriculture shall make reports as required by W.S. 9-2-1014 in regard to the state fair.

**11-10-112. Wyoming Pioneer Memorial Museum.**

A building to be known as the "Wyoming Pioneer Memorial Museum" is authorized to house pioneer relics on the state fairgrounds, and for such other purposes as deemed necessary by the board.

**11-10-113. Wyoming Pioneer Memorial Museum; supervision thereof.**

The supervision, maintenance and operation of the museum is under the director of the department of state parks and cultural resources. The director may assign or employ necessary personnel to maintain the exhibits and receive visitors, and may enter into agreements for the loan of exhibits, providing the state of Wyoming is not liable therefor.

**11-10-114. Wyoming Pioneer Memorial Museum; admission fee.**

A nominal admission fee may be charged to reimburse the general fund for maintenance costs.

**11-10-115. State fair board; membership; terms; compensation.**

(a) There is created the state fair board consisting of the following members:

(i) One (1) voting member appointed by the governor from each of the four (4) quadrants specified in W.S. 11-2-102(e)(i) through (iv). Each of these members shall be engaged primarily in agricultural work and shall be selected to represent a cross section of the agriculture industry. Appointments shall rotate consecutively among all the counties of the quadrants;

(ii) One (1) voting member jointly appointed by a majority vote of both the Converse county board of commissioners and the governing body of the city of Douglas;

(iii) One (1) voting member appointed by the dean of the University of Wyoming college of agriculture from the Wyoming cooperative extension service;

(iv) One (1) voting member selected by the Wyoming vocational agricultural teachers association from its membership;

(v) One (1) voting member appointed by the governor from the department of state parks and cultural resources;

(vi) One (1) voting member appointed by the governor from the Wyoming business council;

(vii) One (1) voting member appointed by the governor from the Wyoming tourism board or a representative of the Wyoming tourism board;

(viii) One (1) voting member appointed by the governor from the energy industry;

(ix) One (1) at-large voting member who is engaged primarily in agricultural work, appointed by the governor;

(x) The director, or the director's designee, shall serve as a voting member;

(xi) The governor or his designee and the dean of the University of Wyoming college of agriculture, or the dean's designee, shall serve as nonvoting ex officio members.

(b) The members of the state fair board appointed under paragraph (a)(i) of this section shall serve for a term of six (6) years. The members of the state fair board appointed under paragraphs (a)(ii) through (ix) of this section shall serve for a term of four (4) years. Any state fair board member appointed by the governor is subject to removal as provided in W.S. 9-1-202.

(c) Except as provided in this section, the state fair board members shall be paid a salary of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) per day for attending and traveling to and from official state fair board meetings and shall receive mileage and per diem in the same manner as state employees as provided by W.S. 9-3-102. Members who are government employees or public officials appointed to the state fair board to represent an agency, department, board or institution of the state, including

the University of Wyoming, shall receive no salary but shall be considered on official business when performing duties as members of the state fair board and shall receive mileage and per diem in the manner provided by the agency, department, board or institution the member represents.

**11-10-116. Repealed by Laws 2011, Ch. 70, § 1.**

**11-10-117. Sunset.**

W.S. 11-10-116 is repealed June 30, 2013.

**11-10-118. State fair endowment account; administration; distributions; purposes.**

(a) The state fair endowment account is created. The state treasurer is authorized to accept cash gifts for the account. Funds within the account including all funds deposited to the account from any source are intended to be inviolate and constitute a permanent or perpetual trust fund. The state treasurer shall invest funds within the endowment account in accordance with law. Seventy-five percent (75%) of investment earnings shall be credited to the endowment account. Twenty-five percent (25%) of investment earnings shall be distributed to the Wyoming state fair account.

(b) Repealed by Laws 2021, ch. 144, § 3.

#### CHAPTER 11 - BUYING, SELLING AND STORING OF GRAIN

**11-11-101. Definitions.**

(a) As used in this chapter:

(i) "Director" means the director of the Wyoming department of agriculture;

(ii) "Warehouseman" means any person except the grower who handles grain for commercial storage or solicits grain for the purpose of intrastate, interstate or foreign commerce;

(iii) "Grain" means any variety of beans, wheat, corn, oats, barley, rye, grain sorghum, millet, oil seeds, sunflower, soybean, flax, or seeds of legumes and grasses;

(iv) To "store" or "warehouse" means any method by which grain owned by another is held for the owner by one not the owner except for the transportation thereof;

(v) "Stored grain" means grain held or placed in storage in an elevator, grain cleaning plant, grain warehouse or public warehouse of whatever kind by any person not the actual bona fide owner of the grain;

(vi) "Scale ticket" means a load slip or other evidence of delivery, other than a warehouse receipt, given to the party making delivery by a warehouse licensed under the provisions of this act;

(vii) "Warehouse" means an elevator, mill, storage bin or building, subterminal grain storage facility, public storage facility or other structure or facility in which grain is received for commercial storage or for the purpose of intrastate, interstate or foreign commerce;

(viii) "Audit" means an examination of records or financial accounts to determine their accuracy;

(ix) "Depositor" means any person who is in possession of a commodity and entrusts or delivers the commodity to a warehouse for storage;

(x) "Inspection" means the physical review or examination of the grain warehouse or storage facility and may include an official audit;

(xi) "Loss" means the destruction of the commodity due to fire, theft or weather;

(xii) "Receipt" means a warehouse receipt issued under this act, including an electronic receipt;

(xiii) "Transportation" means the movement of grain from one (1) point to another;

(xiv) "Verified" means signed and sworn to be accurate before a person authorized to administer oaths.

#### **11-11-102. Applicability.**

W.S. 11-11-101 through 11-11-117 do not apply to any person licensed under the laws or regulations of the United States relating to storing and handling grain.

**11-11-103. Warehousemen to procure licenses; fee; annual renewal.**

Before engaging in business in Wyoming, a warehouseman or any person operating a warehouse shall procure a license from the department of agriculture. The fee under this section for the initial license and for each annual renewal thereof shall be one hundred twenty-five dollars (\$125.00). All licenses shall be issued for the fiscal year, or fraction thereof, ending June 30. No license shall be renewed unless the department finds from the audit required under W.S. 11-11-109 of the warehouse or warehouseman's records that the operations are conducted properly.

**11-11-104. Application for license; form; contents; refusal to issue license; appeal; care of agricultural products.**

(a) The department shall prescribe forms for application for a warehouseman's or warehouse license. The application shall contain information necessary to inform the department of the qualifications, facilities, experience and financial ability of the applicant to carry on the business of buying, selling, warehousing and storing grain. The department shall require the submission of any tax return, bank statement, financial statement or audit prepared by a public accountant or a certified public accountant and any additional information as required by rules and regulations in order to establish the financial responsibility of the applicant. If a license is refused by the department, appeal may be made to the director. All hearings for appeal shall be conducted in accordance with the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act.

(b) Each warehouseman shall at all times, including during any period of suspension of his license, exercise such care in regard to stored and nonstorage agricultural commodities in his custody as required under the licensing agreement.

**11-11-105. Surety bond required; amount; approval by department; conditions; exception.**

(a) Each applicant for a warehouseman's or warehouse license shall post a cash bond, acceptable irrevocable letter of credit or execute and file with the department a good and

sufficient surety bond in an amount determined by the department based on the maximum number of hundred weight the warehouseman can store in the warehouses for which the bond is required, but not less than twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000.00). A surety bond shall be executed by a responsible surety company licensed to do business in this state and conditioned upon the faithful performance of the obligation of the warehouseman or person operating a warehouse under the laws of this state and of any additional obligations assumed by him under contract with those who deposit grain with him. All bonds shall be payable to the state for the benefit of any injured party, and shall be in the form and contain additional conditions as the department may prescribe. No person is required to file a bond who has already posted similar bond with the United States department of agriculture pursuant to the United States Warehouse Act of August 11, 1916, as amended.

(b) Cash bonds, irrevocable letters of credit and surety bonds shall not be released by the department until an audit has been completed and satisfied. The department shall publish a public notice for sixty (60) days prior to any bond being released.

(c) In the event a warehouseman does not renew his license in accordance with W.S. 11-11-103 or suspends normal business operations, the department shall post a public notice in a paper of local distribution for sixty (60) days prior to the closure of the warehouse.

**11-11-106. Action on bond for breach of obligations; joinder of parties.**

Any person injured by the warehouseman's or warehouse's breach of any obligation provided by law may sue on the bond in his own name in any court of competent jurisdiction to recover the damage sustained by the breach. Where more than one (1) person is injured, the action may be brought in the name of all injured persons by any one or all interested parties, or by the state of Wyoming in their behalf.

**11-11-107. Investigation by department; complaint; service; hearing.**

The department upon its own motion or upon verified complaint against any warehouseman shall investigate as the department deems necessary, and shall at all times have free and unimpeded access to all facilities or places in which grain is kept,

stored, handled or transported. If the department, upon investigation, has reason to believe that any warehouseman is not acting as required by law, or upon the filing of a verified complaint against the warehouseman, the department shall have a complaint or copy of the verified complaint served upon the warehouseman by personal service, service upon a registered agent or by registered mail. If the warehouseman fails to make prompt adjustment or settlement of the charges set forth, to the satisfaction of the department, the department shall give notice of the time and place of a hearing thereon. The hearing shall be held in accordance with the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act.

**11-11-108. Warehouse receipts generally.**

All warehouse receipts issued for stored grain shall be in a form prescribed by the department and shall be obtainable only by the warehouseman from the department at cost. Each warehouse receipt issued must show the amount of any cash or the value of any merchandise the warehouseman has advanced on the grain represented by the receipt, but such notation shall not be construed as fixing the date of sale of the grain.

**11-11-109. Audit of records; inspection of warehouse.**

(a) At least once each year and more often if necessary or if requested by an interested person the department shall inspect each licensed warehouse and shall audit the warehouse records. The director after conferring with interested industry groups shall fix, assess and collect fees for the inspection of facilities storing farm products. The fees shall not exceed fifty percent (50%) of the cost of the inspection and shall be paid by the person requesting the inspection, if any.

(b) If a warehouseman is delinquent in renewing his license in accordance with W.S. 11-11-103, the department shall initiate an inspection and audit of the warehouse immediately.

**11-11-110. Warehouseman's records; generally.**

Every licensed warehouseman shall maintain complete records of all grain stored, all grain withdrawn from storage, all warehouse receipts issued and all receipts returned to and cancelled by him. The records shall be available for examination and audit by the department at any reasonable time.



**11-11-111. Warehouseman's records; contents; inspection and audit by department; issuance of warehouse receipts.**

(a) Every warehouseman shall keep a complete record of all grain handled by him including the following:

(i) Name, address and phone number of the grower and of the owner;

(ii) Date of issuance of receipt;

(iii) Kind, quantity, quality and grade of grain received;

(iv) Agreed purchase price, if purchased;

(v) Agreed commission charged, if consigned;

(vi) Date of sale of consigned grain, to whom sold and price for which sold;

(vii) Date and details of settlement with vendor or consignor;

(viii) Documentation stating the location of the stored commodity. If the commodity is stored in another warehouse, then proof of bonding by that facility shall be included in the records.

(b) The above records shall be open to the confidential inspection of the department or its authorized agents at all times. Upon request of the depositor, every warehouseman shall issue a receipt for all grain received for storage on a form furnished by the department.

**11-11-112. Stored grain to be insured; insurance requirements; disaster loss to be reported.**

(a) All grain stored shall be insured against loss for full value by an insurance company licensed to do business in this state. A copy of the insurance policy in effect shall be provided to the department at the time of the license application and the audit.

(b) Each warehouseman shall comply fully with the terms of insurance policies or contracts covering their warehouse and all products stored therein, and shall not commit any acts, nor

permit others to commit any acts, that might impair or invalidate such insurance.

**11-11-113. Grading of grain; notation on warehouse receipt.**

All grain accepted for storage shall be graded by the warehouseman or designee according to standards of the United States department of agriculture, and the grade established shall be specified upon the warehouse receipt issued for the grain.

**11-11-114. Stored grain to constitute bailment; amount in storage to equal issued storage certificates; exceptions; conversion; seizure.**

(a) The storage of grain with a warehouse and the movement of grain by a warehouseman constitutes a bailment and not a sale. Upon return of the scale ticket bearing the name of the bailee or warehouse receipt properly endorsed and payment or tender of all advances and charges, the owner of the scale ticket or warehouse receipt is entitled to, and the warehouseman or person operating a warehouse shall deliver the identical grade and amount of grain placed in storage or transported. Every person operating a warehouse shall maintain at all times in storage, in the state of Wyoming, grain equal in amount and grade to all scale tickets and warehouse receipts issued, unless authorized in writing by holders of scale tickets or warehouse receipts or by the department to move to other storage, and failure to do so is a conversion thereof.

(b) Grain stored with a warehouse is not liable to seizure upon process of a court against the bailee except upon action by the owners of scale tickets or warehouse receipts to enforce the terms of the scale tickets or receipts. In the event of the failure or insolvency of the bailee, the grain shall be first applied as soon as ownership is established and within one hundred twenty (120) days exclusively to the redemption and satisfaction of outstanding scale tickets and warehouse receipts for grain stored or moved with the bailee and grain on hand in a particular warehouse of the bailee shall be first applied to the redemption and satisfaction of the scale tickets or receipts issued by that warehouseman or person operating a warehouse as the bailee.

(c) The department shall, by rule and regulation, require posting of current tariffs.

**11-11-115. Disposition of collected funds.**

There is created the grain warehouse inspection account. All funds collected by the department shall be deposited in the account created by this section. Interest earned by the account shall be retained in the account. The account is appropriated for use and expenditure by the department for the costs of administering the programs under this article. Itemized vouchers shall be submitted to the department for approval. Upon approval, a warrant for the payment of each voucher shall be issued by the state auditor for payment from the grain warehouse inspection account.

**11-11-116. Revocation and cancellation of license.**

Failure of any warehouseman or person operating a warehouse to comply with the provisions of this chapter will render the license of the warehouseman or person operating a warehouse subject to revocation and cancellation by the department.

**11-11-117. Prohibited acts; penalties for violations.**

(a) Any person who engages in or carries on any grain warehousing business without first having obtained a license, or who continues to engage in or carry on such business after his license has been suspended, revoked or expires is guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined not less than one hundred dollars (\$100.00) nor more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00) for each offense. Each day that such unlicensed business is carried on is a separate offense.

(b) Any warehouseman or person operating a warehouse who converts to his own use or that of another, any grain stored or accepted for storage of the value of one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) or more, is guilty of a felony and shall be fined not less than five hundred dollars (\$500.00) for each day of violation and imprisoned for not to exceed fourteen (14) years. If the value of the grain converted is less than one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00), the warehouseman or person operating a warehouse is guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined not to exceed five hundred dollars (\$500.00) or imprisoned not to exceed six (6) months, or both.

**11-11-118. Perjury.**

Any affirmation under this chapter shall be given under penalty of perjury.

**11-11-119. Cease and desist orders; warehousemen; notice; opportunity for hearing.**

(a) After notice and opportunity for hearing, the department shall issue a final cease and desist order to a warehouseman if the warehouseman or any officer, director, employee or agent of the warehouse is violating any state statute or rule relating to warehouses or warehousemen.

(b) Before issuing a final cease and desist order, the department shall serve notice of intent to issue the order upon the warehouseman. The notice shall be in writing and shall contain the information required by W.S. 11-11-121(a). The proposed order shall direct the warehouseman to discontinue the violations of law, rule or regulation.

(c) The warehouseman may request a hearing on the proposed order before the director in accordance with W.S. 11-11-121(b). If the warehouseman does not request a hearing in writing within the prescribed time period, the proposed order shall become a final cease and desist order and the department shall serve the final order upon the warehouseman.

**11-11-120. Temporary cease and desist order; warehousemen; service.**

(a) If the department believes the actions of a warehouseman or of any officer, director, employee or agent of the warehouse pose an immediate threat to the safety and soundness of the warehouse or to the interests of the depositors or creditors of the warehouse, the department shall issue a temporary cease and desist order to the warehouseman or officer, director, employee or agent of the warehouse pending final action on the proposed cease and desist order issued pursuant to W.S. 11-11-119(a).

(b) The temporary order shall be in writing and shall be served upon the warehouseman. The temporary order shall take effect upon service and shall remain in effect until the director issues the final cease and desist order, the department dismisses the proposed cease and desist order or a court of competent jurisdiction dismisses the proposed cease and desist order after hearing.

(c) On or after the effective date of the temporary order, the attorney general, upon request from the department, may apply to the district court for the county in which the warehouse is located for enforcement of the temporary order. If the warehouseman operates warehouses in two (2) or more counties, the request may be made in any county where the warehouseman operates a warehouse. The application for enforcement shall be given precedence over other cases pending in court and shall in every way be expedited.

(d) The warehouseman, officer, director, employee or agent to whom a temporary cease and desist order is issued may apply to the district court for the county in which the warehouse is located for a stay of the temporary cease and desist order. The application for stay shall be given precedence over other civil cases pending in court and shall be expedited. The court shall grant the stay only if the warehouseman, officer, director, employee or agent shows he will be irreparably harmed unless the stay issues and there is substantial likelihood he will prevail on the merits.

**11-11-121. Procedures for enforcement actions; service of notice; content of orders; contested case proceedings; appeal.**

(a) All notices and orders required to be served by the department under this article shall be served by certified mail return receipt requested to the last known address of the warehouseman or may be served as provided by the Wyoming Rules of Civil Procedure. Notice of a proposed order issued by the department under this article shall include:

(i) A statement of the grounds for issuing the proposed order, including a citation to the statute or rule involved;

(ii) A statement of the facts in support of the allegations;

(iii) A statement informing the warehouseman subject to the proposed order of the right to a hearing on the order before the director, right of appeal of any subsequent order in accordance with the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act and that failure to timely request a hearing will result in the order becoming final; and

(iv) A copy of the proposed order.

(b) A request for hearing on a proposed order issued by the department under this article shall be in writing and shall be submitted to the director no later than seven (7) days after receipt of the notice of intent from the department. The director shall hold the hearing no later than fifteen (15) days after receipt of the request for hearing, unless the warehouseman subject to the proposed order requests an extension of time for good cause shown.

(c) A hearing on a proposed order issued under this article shall be a contested case hearing conducted in accordance with the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act. After the hearing, the director shall issue findings of fact and conclusions of law and a final decision either confirming or dismissing a proposed order. The director shall confirm a proposed order only if the director finds by a preponderance of the evidence that grounds exist under this article for issuing the order. Otherwise, the director shall dismiss the proposed order. If the director confirms a proposed order it shall become a final order.

(d) The department shall serve a final order under this article upon the warehouseman who is the subject of the order. The final order shall take effect upon service and shall remain in effect until the department or the court terminates the final order. The warehouseman who is the subject of the order may appeal the issuance of a final order in accordance with the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act.

(e) On or after the effective date of a final order under this article, the attorney general, upon request from the department, may apply to the district court of the county in which the warehouse is located for enforcement of the final order. The application for enforcement shall be given precedence over other cases pending in court and shall in every way be expedited.

## CHAPTER 12 - SEEDS

### **11-12-101. Definitions.**

(a) Repealed By Laws 2007, Ch. 8, § 4.

(b) As used in this act:

(i) "Controlling the pollination" means to use a method of hybridization which will produce pure seed which is at least seventy-five percent (75%) hybrid seed;

(ii) "Dormant" means viable seed, excluding hard seed, which fails to germinate when provided the specific germination conditions for the kind of seed in question;

(iii) "Germination" means the emergence and development from the seed embryo of those essential structures which, for the kind of seed in question, are indicative of the ability to produce a normal plant under favorable conditions. For the purposes of this act, "germination" may also mean the percentage of seed determined viable by a tetrazolium test for species identified in the rules for testing, or for species for which there are no rules for testing;

(iv) "Hard seed" means seed which remains hard at the end of the prescribed test period because it has not absorbed water due to an impermeable seed coat;

(v) "Hybrid" as applied to kinds or varieties of seed, means the first generation seed of a cross produced by controlling the pollination and by combining:

(A) Two (2) or more inbred lines;

(B) One (1) inbred or a single cross with an open pollinated variety; or

(C) Two (2) selected clones, seed lines, varieties or species.

(vi) "Inert matter" means all matter that is not a seed, including broken seeds, sterile florets, chaff, fungus bodies and stones;

(vii) "Kind" means one (1) or more related species or subspecies which singly or collectively is known by one (1) common name, including but not limited to, soybean, flax, barley and wheat;

(viii) "Labeling" means the display or displays of written, printed or graphic matter upon or attached to the container of seed or accompanying and pertaining to any seed whether sold in bulk or in containers, including invoices;

(ix) "Lot" means the number or other identification that relates to records pertaining to the known quantity of seed;

(x) "Origin" means the state, District of Columbia, Puerto Rico or possession of the United States, or the foreign country or designated portion thereof, where the seed was grown;

(xi) "Pure seed" means seed exclusive of inert matter and all other seed not of the seed being offered for sale;

(xii) "Rules for testing" means procedures specified by the Association of Official Seed Analysts for conducting seed analysis;

(xiii) "Seed" means the propagative part of a plant normally capable of germination to produce a new plant, including ovules, tubers and bulbs. "Seed" also includes the following as defined for the purposes of this act:

(A) "Agricultural seeds" means any agronomic crop seeds or seeds of species as defined in W.S. 11-1-101;

(B) "Flower seed" means seeds of herbaceous plants grown for their blooms, ornamental foliage or other ornamental parts and commonly known and sold under the name of flower seeds in this state;

(C) "Tree seed" means seeds of woody plants commonly known and sold as tree and shrub seeds in this state; or

(D) "Vegetable seed" means the seeds of those crops that are or may be grown in gardens or truck farms and are generally known and sold under the name of vegetable seeds in this state.

(xiv) "Total viable" means:

(A) Germination plus dormant seed plus hard seed; or

(B) Viable as determined by a tetrazolium test for species identified in the rules for testing, or for species for which there are no rules for testing.



(xv) "Treated seed" means any seed that has been treated with chemicals that are harmful to humans, livestock or other vertebrate animals;

(xvi) "Variety" means a subdivision of a kind which is characterized by growth, plant, fruit, seed or other characters by which it can be differentiated from other sorts of the same kind, including but not limited to, C2243 wheat and Manchu soybeans;

(xvii) "Weeds" includes the following as defined for purposes of this act:

(A) "Prohibited noxious weeds" means the seeds of any species for which the department by rule has established zero (0) tolerance;

(B) "Restricted noxious weeds" means any species for which the department by rule has established an allowable tolerance;

(C) "Regulated weeds" means seed, other than prohibited noxious weeds or restricted noxious weeds, of any species for which the department by rule has established a limitation of amount per pound in a seed lot.

(xviii) "This act" means W.S. 11-12-101 through 11-12-124.

#### **11-12-102. Exceptions to applicability.**

(a) This act does not apply to any person who:

(i) Has seeds in storage for conditioning or cleaning and the intended use of the seed is not planting;

(ii) Is a resident grower of seed who sells his seed to a seed dealer who is licensed pursuant to this act;

(iii) Repealed By Laws 2006, Chapter 114, § 2.

(b) Any resident grower who sells or offers for sale any agricultural, vegetable, flower or tree seeds grown only by him and sold or offered for sale at the headquarters of his operations directly to grower planters of the seed and not for resale is exempt from the licensing provisions under W.S. 11-12-103.

**11-12-103. Licensing.**

(a) Any person who sells or offers for sale or distribution in Wyoming any seeds shall obtain a license from the department. The license shall expire annually on March 31. Application for the license shall include the name and address of the person to whom the license is to be issued and the location of the place or places of business of the applicant. The application shall be accompanied by the license fee authorized by W.S. 11-1-104 for each place of business selling seeds in packets, packages or bulk of ten (10) pounds or more. This subsection shall not apply to any person licensed in accordance with W.S. 11-11-103.

(b) Any person who conditions grain or seed for hire in Wyoming shall obtain a license from the department. The license shall expire annually on March 31. Application for the license shall include the name and address of the person to whom the license is to be issued and the location of the place or places of business of the applicant. The application shall be accompanied by the license fee which shall be the same as the fee established for a seed dealer license. This subsection shall not apply to any person licensed in accordance with W.S. 11-11-103.

(c) Charitable and educational institutions shall be exempt from licensing requirements imposed by this section.

**11-12-104. Restrictions on the sale of weed seeds; allowed tolerance for other noxious weeds; rulemaking.**

(a) No person shall sell or offer for sale or distribution in Wyoming seed which contains any prohibited noxious weed seeds. The department, by rule and regulation, may establish a list of prohibited noxious weeds, restricted noxious weeds and regulated weeds and establish tolerances for restricted noxious weeds and regulated weeds.

(b) Repealed By Laws 2007, Ch. 8, § 4.

(c) Repealed By Laws 2007, Ch. 8, § 4.

(d) Any seed which contains any prohibited noxious weed seeds or exceeds the tolerance established on restricted noxious weed seeds or regulated weed seeds shall be removed from sale in

Wyoming and impounded by the director and shall be released only for the following purposes:

- (i) For complete destruction;
- (ii) For removal outside of the state;
- (iii) To be conditioned to the point that no prohibited noxious weeds are present and to the point that the tolerance established on restricted noxious weeds and regulated weeds is not exceeded;
- (iv) For processing in such a way as to make the weed seeds harmless and sold as feed; or
- (v) For burial in an approved landfill.

**11-12-105. Labeling of packages required; contents; exception.**

(a) Each lot of seed which is sold or offered for sale in Wyoming, shall be legibly labeled in English upon the exterior of the container with a written or printed label. The label shall show:

- (i) The commonly accepted name of the kind of seed. If seeds are mixed, the kind of each seed making up five percent (5%) or more of the mixture shall be stated separately;
- (ii) The full name and address of the person selling, offering or distributing the seeds for sale;
- (iii) The percentage of pure seed, crop seed (not to be added to pure seed), inert matter, common weed seeds by weight, germination, hard seed and the month and year of the germination test;
- (iv) The origin of the seed;
- (v) Lot number or other lot identification;
- (vi) Name and number of each kind of restricted noxious weed seeds per pound; and
- (vii) The words "poisonous treated" shall appear in bold print if the seeds have been treated with chemicals which

are toxic or poisonous to either humans, livestock or other vertebrate animals.

(b) When seeds are sold or offered for sale in bulk, the label required by subsection (a) of this section shall be conspicuously displayed on the container of each lot of bulk seed. A printed or written statement bearing the required labeling information shall be taken from the bulk seed container label in the presence of the purchaser and given to the purchaser upon request.

(c) This section does not apply to flower, tree, garden or vegetable seeds labeled to comply with the requirements of the United States department of agriculture by authority of the Federal Seed Act.

#### **11-12-106. Lawn grass seed.**

Lawn grass seed mixtures offered for sale in Wyoming shall comply with all requirements of this act, and in addition shall contain at least fifty percent (50%) of perennial permanent type lawn grass seed that is adapted to local growing conditions, such as Kentucky blue grass (*Poa pratensis*), bent grass (*Agrostis species*) or fescue (*Festuca species*).

#### **11-12-107. Weed seeds.**

No person shall sell in the retail trade in this state, any seed which contains two percent (2%) or more of weed seeds by weight.

#### **11-12-108. Screenings to be specially labeled and free from noxious weed seeds; seizure and destruction; grain cleaning establishments.**

Screenings of any seeds or grains which are offered for sale by any person shall be legibly labeled as such and not sold as seeds. They shall be free of prohibited noxious weed seeds and shall not exceed the tolerance established on restricted noxious weed seed. Screenings found to contain weed seeds in violation of this section are subject to seizure by the director of the department of agriculture. Screenings are subject to the provisions of W.S. 11-12-104(d).

#### **11-12-109. Failure to label or false labeling of seeds.**

It is unlawful for any person to sell or offer for sale or to deliver within Wyoming any seeds which are misbranded or are not

labeled in accordance with the requirements of W.S. 11-12-103 through 11-12-108, or if the seed is falsely labeled in any respect, subject to such tolerance as established by the board.

**11-12-110. Importation of seeds.**

It is unlawful for any person to transport or cause to be transported into Wyoming any seed without meeting the requirements of this act.

**11-12-111. Repealed by Laws 1983, ch. 169, § 4.**

**11-12-112. Director to enforce provisions; power of director to examine seeds; exception; purchase of samples.**

The director shall enforce this act. The director or his agents shall have free access at all reasonable hours upon and into any premises or structures where seed is stored or offered for sale, except federally sealed granaries or warehouses, to examine any seeds and, upon tendering payment therefor at the current value, may take from any person a sample or samples of the seeds.

**11-12-113. Rulemaking.**

(a) The board shall promulgate, adopt and publish rules and regulations in accordance with the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act for the purpose of carrying out this act.

(b) Except as otherwise provided for in this act, no ordinance or regulation of any political subdivision may prohibit or in any way attempt to regulate any matter relating to the registration, labeling, sale, storage, transportation, distribution, notification of use or use of seeds, if any ordinance, law or regulation of the political subdivision is in conflict of this chapter.

**11-12-114. Seed and grain cleaning establishments; certificates of approval; lists thereof.**

The board shall establish standards and other requirements whereby seed and grain cleaning establishments may be issued a certificate of approval. A list of approved establishments for cleaning seeds and grain shall be maintained by the director.

**11-12-115. State seed analyst; seed laboratory.**

(a) The department shall operate a state seed laboratory through a memorandum of understanding with the University of Wyoming. The terms and conditions of the memorandum of understanding shall include the designation and compensation of a state seed analyst.

(b) A state laboratory operated for the purposes of seed analysis shall be located in Park County.

**11-12-116. Analysis of seeds.**

(a) Any person may have his seed analyzed by the state seed analyst by paying transportation charges to the laboratory and a fee.

(b) All samples submitted for analysis shall be taken in accordance with the current regulations of sampling set forth by the United States department of agriculture by authority of the Federal Seed Act.

(c) Seed testing shall be done in accordance with the current association of official seed analysts' rules for testing seed.

(d) The state seed analyst may provide a list of recommended fees for seed testing and services to the seed laboratory advisory group.

(e) The seed laboratory advisory group shall review the state seed analyst's list and provide their recommendation for testing and service fees to the board.

(f) Fees for testing and services shall become effective upon approval by the board. The board may set testing and service fees at different levels for in-state and out-of-state samples.

(g) The state seed analyst, upon approval by the board, may enter into a separately negotiated contract with a government entity to provide testing and services at approximate cost.

**11-12-117. Disposition of collected funds.**

All funds collected from seed analyses shall be deposited in the general fund.

**11-12-118. Duty of district or county and prosecuting attorney to prosecute reported violations.**

Any district or county and prosecuting attorney to whom the director of the department of agriculture reports any violation of this act shall cause appropriate proceedings to be commenced and prosecuted in the proper courts without delay.

**11-12-119. Seed certification service; authority to make rules; fees; disposition thereof.**

The seed certification service of the college of agriculture of the University of Wyoming may engage in the certification of varieties of seeds and propagating materials, and make such rules and regulations with respect to certification and varieties eligible for certification as necessary to insure the production of certified seed of high quality. The seed certification service may charge reasonable fees for conducting the certification program, and shall use the funds received to defray the cost of conducting the certification program.

**11-12-120. False labeling of seeds; prohibited.**

It is unlawful for any person to attach or cause to be attached to any container of seeds or propagating materials, for the purpose of certifying the contents, any label or tag describing the contents as certified seed or propagating material, except labels or tags which are issued by the seed certification service of the college of agriculture, University of Wyoming, for the purpose of certification.

**11-12-121. False labeling of seeds; false labeling as prima facie evidence of violation.**

Any label or tag prohibited by W.S. 11-12-120 found attached to any container of seed or propagating material is prima facie evidence of a violation of W.S. 11-12-120 by the person falsely labeling or tagging the container.

**11-12-122. Quarantine.**

(a) The board, in compliance with this act, may promulgate rules and regulations to establish a quarantine against movement of seed containing prohibited noxious weed seed and restricted noxious weed seed which exceeds the tolerance established and may enter into an agreement with law enforcement agencies to carry out the quarantine provisions.

(b) Repealed By Laws 2007, Ch. 8, § 4.

(c) Repealed By Laws 2007, Ch. 8, § 4.

(d) All seed shipments through the state shall be covered in a prescribed manner so as not to allow the dissemination of noxious weed seed.

**11-12-123. Seed laboratory advisory group created; composition; appointment; officers; vacancy; meetings; quorum.**

(a) There is created a seed laboratory advisory group which shall be comprised of the following:

(i) Voting members shall be:

(A) One (1) member of the board, appointed by the chairman of the board;

(B) One (1) member representing organizations whose primary goal is improved seed production, appointed by the board;

(C) Two (2) members representing the Wyoming seed industry, appointed by the board;

(D) Two (2) members who are certified or contract seed growers, appointed by the board;

(E) One (1) member who is a person interested in seed quality, appointed by the board.

(ii) Nonvoting members shall be:

(A) The director of the Wyoming department of agriculture or his designee;

(B) The University of Wyoming experiment station director;

(C) The head of the University of Wyoming college of agriculture plant science department or his designee;

(D) The Wyoming seed certification service manager, who shall serve as the seed laboratory advisory group secretary;



(E) The state seed analyst.

(b) All voting members shall serve terms of three (3) years. A member may serve for more than one (1) term.

(c) The chairman and the vice-chairman shall serve terms of two (2) years with the vice-chairman succeeding the chairman. The chairman and vice-chairman shall be elected by a majority of the voting members at the annual meeting. In the event that the chairman is not able to complete his term, the vice-chairman shall complete that term in addition to serving the succeeding term. In the event the vice-chairman is unable to complete his term, an election of a new chairman and vice-chairman shall take place at the next annual meeting.

(d) In the event of a vacancy on the seed laboratory advisory group, the board shall appoint a new member to complete the term of the vacating member.

(e) One (1) regular meeting shall be held annually in conjunction with a Wyoming crop improvement industry meeting, as called by the chairman or as called by a majority of the voting members.

(f) A majority of the voting members shall constitute a quorum.

**11-12-124. Seed laboratory advisory group duties.**

(a) The seed laboratory advisory group shall:

(i) Maintain a policy of operation manual, which shall be reviewed by seed laboratory advisory group members at the annual meeting, and shall contain the policies and operational procedures of the seed laboratory advisory group;

(ii) Serve in an advisory role to aid the state seed analyst, the University of Wyoming, the Wyoming department of agriculture and the board in the management of the seed laboratory;

(iii) Annually review the price list for seed testing and services provided by the laboratory;

(iv) Recommend to the board as necessary, any changes to the price list or other fees of the laboratory;

(v) Review the annual seed laboratory report;

(vi) Recommend to the board as necessary, any major capital purchases needed by the laboratory;

(vii) Recommend to the board as necessary, the use of new technologies or other seed testing needs as they occur;

(viii) Provide support as necessary to seed laboratory customers;

(ix) Provide to the board as necessary, constructive ideas on how the laboratory can serve Wyoming and the region more effectively.

**11-12-125. Penalties; director authorized to investigate and file complaint.**

(a) Any person violating any provision of this act is guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined not more than seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00), or imprisoned for not more than six (6) months, or both for each offense. Each day shall constitute a separate violation.

(b) The director is authorized to investigate alleged violations and to file a complaint with the proper district or county and prosecuting attorney for the prosecution of violations.

(c) Any person found guilty of violating any provision of W.S. 11-12-101 through 11-12-124, shall reimburse the state for the cost of any control actions, treatments, quarantine, confiscation, destruction or removal of any seed from the state resulting from the violation. Amounts collected under this subsection shall be paid to the department of agriculture technical services division account.

CHAPTER 13 - COMMERCIAL FEED

**11-13-101. Short title.**

This act may be cited as the "Wyoming Commercial Feed Law."

**11-13-102. Definitions; exemptions.**

(a) As used in this act:

(i) "Association of America Feed Control Officials (AAFCO)" means officials of any state, dominion, federal or other governmental agency in North America, and employees thereof charged with the responsibility of enforcing laws regulating the production, labeling, distribution or sale of animal feeds;

(ii) "Association of Official Analytical Chemists (AOAC)" means government and industry officials charged with developing analytical methods and the collaborative testing of those methods, validating data and accepting or rejecting those methods for use;

(iii) "Brand name" means any word, name, symbol, device or any combination thereof identifying the commercial feed of a distributor or registrant and distinguishing it from that of others;

(iv) "Commercial feed" means all liquid or solid materials or combination of materials, including custom formula feed, medicated feed and mineral feed, which are distributed or intended for distribution for use as feed or for mixing in feed for animals other than man except the following:

(A) Unmixed seed, whole or processed, made directly from the entire seed, or unmixed or unprocessed whole seeds;

(B) Raw meat, hay, straw, stover, silage, cobs, husks, hulls and individual chemical compounds or substances when such commodities, compounds or substances are not intermixed with other materials, and are not adulterated within the meaning of W.S. 11-13-106(c)(ii).

(v) "Contract feeder" means a person who as an independent contractor, feeds commercial feed to animals pursuant to a contract whereby the commercial feed is supplied, furnished or otherwise provided to the person and whereby the person's remuneration is determined all or in part by feed consumption, mortality, profits or amount or quality of product;

(vi) "Custom formula feed" means commercial feed which consists of a mixture of commercial feeds or feed ingredients each batch of which is manufactured according to the specific instructions of the final purchaser;

(vii) "Department" means the state department of agriculture;

(viii) "Director" means the director of the department of agriculture;

(ix) "Distribute" means to offer for sale, sell, exchange or barter commercial feed or to supply, furnish or otherwise provide commercial feed;

(x) "Distributor" means any person who distributes;

(xi) "Drug" means any article intended for use in the diagnosis, cure, mitigation, treatment or prevention of disease in animals other than man and articles other than feed intended to affect the structure or any function of the animal body;

(xii) "Feed" means commercial feed, pet food and specialty pet food;

(xiii) "Feed ingredient" means each of the constituent materials making up a commercial feed;

(xiv) "Label" means a display of written, printed or graphic matter upon or affixed to the container in which a commercial feed is distributed, or on the invoice or delivery slip with which a commercial feed or custom formula feed is distributed;

(xv) "Labeling" means all labels and other written, printed or graphic matter upon a commercial feed, any of its containers or wrappers, or accompanying such commercial feed;

(xvi) "Manufacture" means to grind, mix or blend, or further process a commercial feed for distribution;

(xvii) "Medicated feed" means any commercial feed which contains drug ingredients intended for the cure, mitigation, treatment or prevention of diseases of animals, or which contains drug ingredients intended to affect the structure or any function of the body of animals;

(xviii) "Mineral feed or mixture" means a commercial feed designed or intended to supply primarily mineral elements or inorganic nutrients;

(xix) "Official sample" means any sample of feed taken by and designated as official by the director or his agent;

(xx) "Percent" or "percentage" means percentage by weight;

(xxi) "Pet" means any domesticated animal normally maintained in or near the household of the owner thereof;

(xxii) "Pet food" means any commercial feed prepared and distributed for consumption by pets;

(xxiii) "Product name" means the name of the commercial feed which identifies it as to kind, class or specific use;

(xxiv) "Specialty pet" means any domesticated animal pet normally maintained in a cage or tank, such as, but not limited to, gerbils, hamsters, canaries, psittacine birds, mynahs, finches, tropical fish, goldfish, snakes and turtles;

(xxv) "Specialty pet food" means any commercial feed prepared and distributed for consumption by a specialty pet;

(xxvi) "Ton" means a net weight of two thousand (2,000) pounds avoirdupois;

(xxvii) "This act" means W.S. 11-13-101 through 11-13-110.

(b) The names and definitions for commercial feeds shall be the official definition of feed ingredients adopted by the Association of American Feed Control Officials (AAFCO) and the director, except as he designates otherwise in specific cases, or as specified in this section.

(c) The terms used in reference to commercial feeds shall be the official feed terms adopted by the Association of American Feed Control Officials and the director, except as he designates otherwise in specific cases or as specified in this section.

(d) Individual chemical compounds and substances are hereby declared exempt from the definition of "commercial feed" under the provisions of this act. The director may exempt a

product from the provisions of this act if he finds that the product meets the following criteria:

(i) There is an adopted Association of American Feed Control Officials definition for the product;

(ii) The product is either generally recognized as safe or is not covered by a specific food and drug administration regulation;

(iii) The product is either a natural occurring product of relatively uniform chemical composition or is manufactured to meet the Association of American Feed Control Officials definition of the product;

(iv) The use of the product in the feed industry constitutes a minor portion of its total industrial use;

(v) Small quantities of additives, which are intended to impart special desirable characteristics shall be permitted; and

(vi) There is no need or problem of control of this product.

(e) Nothing in this act shall apply to any contract feeder as defined by this act.

#### **11-13-103. Labels.**

(a) Every lot, package or parcel of commercial feed sold, offered for sale or distributed within this state shall have a tag or label affixed in a conspicuous place on the outside, containing a legible printed statement clearly and truly certifying:

(i) The product name and the brand name, if any, under which the commercial feed is distributed;

(ii) A purpose statement which shall contain the specific species and animal class for which the feed is intended. The manufacturer shall have flexibility in describing in more specific common language the defined animal class, specie and purpose while being consistent with the category of animal class, which may include but not be limited to the weight range, sex or ages of the animals for which the feed is manufactured. The purpose statement may be excluded from the

label if the product name includes a description of the species and animal class for which the product is intended;

(iii) The guaranteed analysis stated in such terms that will advise the user of the composition of the feed or to support claims made in the labeling. In all cases the substances or elements must be determinable by laboratory methods. The guaranteed analysis shall contain the following information:

(A) The minimum percent of crude protein;

(B) The percent of added approved synthetic nitrogen sources reported as protein, for ruminant feeding only;

(C) The minimum percent of crude fat;

(D) The maximum percent of crude fiber;

(E) The vitamin content as listed;

(F) The month and year of preparation or lot number, all legibly printed;

(G) The maximum percent of water in the case of liquid commercial feeds; and

(H) Other substances or elements, determinable by laboratory methods, guaranteed by permission of the director.

(iv) The common or usual name of each ingredient used in the manufacture of commercial feed. The name of each ingredient shall be defined in the official publication of the Association of American Feed Control Officials, common or usual name, or one (1) approved by the director. The use of a collective term for a group of ingredients which perform a similar function shall be permitted. Collective terms for grouping of feed ingredients as defined in the official definitions of feed ingredients published in the official publication of the Association of American Feed Control Officials in lieu of the individual ingredients may be used provided that:

(A) When a collective term for a group of ingredients is used on the label, individual ingredients within that group shall not be listed on the label; and

(B) The manufacturer shall provide the department, upon request, with a list of individual ingredients, within a defined group, that are or have been used at manufacturing facilities distributing in or into this state.

(v) Directions for use and any warning or precaution statements;

(vi) The name and principal address of the manufacturer or person responsible for distributing the commercial feed;

(vii) The net weight of the contents of the package, lot or parcel stated in the required avoirdupois;

(viii) For medicated feeds:

(A) The word "medicated" shall appear directly below the product name;

(B) The guaranteed analysis of the drug or medication used, expressed in terms respective to the type of drug or medication used; and

(C) A claim statement shall be included in the labeling.

(b) A custom formula feed shall be accompanied by a label, invoice, delivery slip or other shipping document and be supplied to the purchaser at the time of delivery bearing the following information:

(i) Name and address of the manufacturer;

(ii) Name and address of the purchaser;

(iii) Date of sale or delivery;

(iv) The custom formula feed name, product name and brand name, if any, and number of pounds of each registered commercial feed used in the mixture and the name and number of pounds of each other feed ingredient added;

(v) The net weight of the contents of the package, lot or parcel, stated in the required avoirdupois; and



(vi) The directions for use and any precautionary statements for all custom formula feeds containing drugs and for such other feeds as necessary for their safe and effective use. Any custom formula feeds containing drugs or medications shall also be provided as outlined in subsection (a) of this section with a claim statement and the guaranteed analysis of the drug or medication used, expressed in terms respective to the type of drug or medication used. Should any custom formula feed be distributed to any other person than the final purchaser for whom the feed was made, it shall be considered a commercial feed and shall meet all labeling and registration requirements of a commercial feed as outlined in this act.

(c) Every lot, package or parcel of mineral mixtures sold, offered for sale or distributed as commercial feed within this state shall have a tag or label affixed in a conspicuous place on the outside containing a legible printed statement truly certifying:

(i) The net weight of the contents of the package, lot or parcel stated in the required avoirdupois;

(ii) The product name and brand name, if any, under which the mineral mixture is distributed;

(iii) The name and principal mailing address of the manufacturer or person responsible for distributing the mineral mixture;

(iv) The minimum and maximum percent of calcium (Ca) subject to the following limitations:

(A) The maximum percent of calcium shall not exceed by more than twenty percent (20%) the minimum percent of calcium unless the minimum percent of calcium is five percent (5%) or less, in which case the maximum percent of calcium may exceed the minimum by one percent (1%) of calcium; and

(B) Where limestone is used as a source of calcium in livestock minerals sold in Wyoming, no limestone shall be used which contains less than ninety percent (90%) of calcium carbonate ( $\text{CaCO}_3$ ).

(v) The minimum percent of phosphorus (P);

(vi) The minimum percent of iodine (I);

(vii) The maximum percent of sodium chloride (NaCl);

(viii) The specific generic name of each ingredient used in its manufacture.

(d) The crude protein, crude fat, crude fiber, vitamins and minerals shall be determined by the methods in force at the time by the Association of Official Analytical Chemists.

#### **11-13-104. Powers and duties of director generally.**

(a) The director shall enforce the provisions of this chapter and may prescribe the form of tags, stamps or labels to be used to show that the registration has been properly filed. The director may prescribe and enforce rules and regulations relating to the sale of commercial feed he deems necessary and may adopt such standards and definitions to carry into effect the full intent and meaning of the law.

(b) The director may refuse to register any commercial feed under a name, brand or trademark which would tend to mislead or deceive as to the materials of which it is composed, or when the specific name of each ingredient used in its manufacture is not stated except for those feeds that utilize collective terms in the labeling. He may refuse registration of any application not in compliance with the law and may cancel any registration subsequently found not to be in compliance with the law. No registration shall be refused or cancelled until the registrant has been given opportunity to be heard before the director and to amend his application in order to bring it into compliance.

(c) An applicant may appeal the refusal to register a product in accordance with the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act.

#### **11-13-105. Registration; fees; disposition thereof.**

(a) Each commercial feed except custom formula feeds shall be registered before being distributed in this state. The application for registration shall be submitted on forms furnished by the director, and if the director requests, shall also be accompanied by a label or other printed matter describing the product. Upon approval by the director or his agent, a copy of the registration shall be furnished to the applicant. All registrations are effective from the date of approval and expire on December 31 each year. The director may

permit on the registration the alternative listing of ingredients of comparable feed value, but the label for each package shall state the specific ingredients in the package except for those feeds which utilize collective terms in the labeling.

(b) A distributor is not required to register any brand of commercial feed which is already registered under this act by another person.

(c) Changes in the chemical or ingredient composition of a registered commercial feed may be permitted if there is satisfactory evidence that such changes do not result in lowering the feed value of the product for the purpose for which designed.

(d) Each application for registration shall be accompanied with a forty dollar (\$40.00) registration fee per mixture or formula. The registration fee shall be deposited in the state general fund.

**11-13-106. Right of access to establishments and information relating to manufacturing; sampling and analysis.**

(a) The director or his agent shall have access during normal business hours to establishments or facilities in which commercial feed is manufactured, transported or held for distribution, and to information relating to manufacture, transportation or distribution of the feed for purposes of sampling and inspection.

(b) The methods of sampling and analysis shall be those adopted by the director from the Association of Official Analytical Chemists. In cases not covered by such methods, or in cases where methods are available in which improved applicability has been demonstrated, the director may adopt such appropriate methods from other sources. The director, in determining whether a commercial feed is deficient in any component, shall be guided solely by the official sample analyzed in accordance with the methods so adopted. A deficiency in an official sample of commercial feed resulting from nonuniformity during packaging is deemed to be a deficiency for the purposes of this act. For purposes of this act, the results of official analysis shall be final, unless it is determined by the director that a resample is warranted. If a distributor or registrant requests a resample of a commercial feed based upon the director's findings of a deficiency, all costs associated

with the resampling and analysis shall be borne by the distributor or registrant. If the results of the resampling establish the result of the first analysis was invalid, the department shall bear the costs associated with the resampling. Any requests for a resample to the director shall be made in writing.

(c) When the inspection and analysis of an official sample indicates a commercial feed has been adulterated or misbranded, the results of analysis shall be forwarded by the director to the distributor and the purchaser. The following shall apply:

(i) A commercial feed shall be deemed to be misbranded if:

(A) Its labeling is false or misleading in any particular;

(B) It is distributed under the name of another commercial feed;

(C) It is not labeled as required in W.S. 11-13-103;

(D) It purports to be or is represented as a commercial feed or if it purports to contain or is represented as containing a commercial feed unless such feed conforms to the definition outlined by the official publication of the Association of American Feed Control Officials, except as the director designates otherwise in specific cases;

(E) Any word, statement or other information required by or under the authority of this act does not appear conspicuously on the label, and in such terms that the ordinary person under customary conditions of purchase and use would not understand;

(F) The commercial feed is short weight. All provisions for enforcement of items found to be short weight shall be administered by the department under W.S. 40-10-117 through 40-10-136 of the Wyoming weights and measures law.

(ii) A commercial feed shall be deemed to be adulterated if:

(A) It bears or contains any poisonous or deleterious substance which may render it injurious to health,

but in case the substance is not an added substance, such commercial feeds shall not be considered adulterated under this subsection if the quantity of such substance does not ordinarily render it injurious to health;

(B) It contains an unapproved food and drug administration drug, medication or animal remedy;

(C) Any valuable constituent has been in whole or in part omitted or abstracted therefrom or any less valuable substance substituted therefor;

(D) It contains any prohibited noxious weed seeds or exceeds the tolerance established on restricted noxious weed seeds pursuant to W.S. 11-12-104 or exceeds two percent (2%) of viable common weed seeds by weight.

**11-13-107. Warning to distributor; seizure and order of disposition; application for release.**

(a) When the director or his authorized agents find that an article is unregistered, mislabeled or misbranded, adulterated or that it does not conform to its label guarantee, he may issue a written statement warning the distributor that the article is considered to be in violation of the law. This statement is a warning only, to the distributor that if the article is distributed further the director may bring proceedings. If the distributor or manufacturer heeds the warning and corrects the violation within the time allowed by the director, no further action will be taken.

(b) Any lot of commercial feed not in compliance with requirements of law and regulations is subject to seizure on complaint of the director to a court of competent jurisdiction in the area in which the commercial feed is located. If the court finds the commercial feed in violation and orders the condemnation of the feed, it shall be disposed of in any manner consistent with the quality of the commercial feed and the laws of the state. In no instance shall the disposition of the commercial feed be ordered by the court without first giving the claimant an opportunity to apply to the court for release of the feed or for permission to process or relabel the feed to bring it into compliance with the law.

**11-13-108. Prohibited acts; penalty; additional sanctions.**

(a) It is unlawful for any person to:

(i) Sell or distribute in this state any commercial feed without having attached or furnished such stamps, labels or tags as required by law;

(ii) Impede, prevent or attempt to prevent the director or his agent in the performance of his lawful duties;

(iii) Sell, offer for sale or distribute in this state any commercial feed without complying with the requirements of law;

(iv) Sell or distribute in this state any commercial feed which contains a smaller percentage of crude protein or crude fat or a larger percentage of crude fiber than is certified to be contained therein;

(v) Fail to properly state the specific name of each ingredient used in its manufacture except for those feeds which utilize collective terms in the labeling; or

(vi) Sell or distribute in this state any commercial feed which has not been registered with the department as required by this act.

(b) Any person who violates any of the provisions of this section shall be fined not more than one hundred dollars (\$100.00) for the first violation and not less than one hundred dollars (\$100.00) for each subsequent violation.

(c) In addition to the penalty provided in subsection (b) of this section, the distribution of any commercial feed mixed or adulterated with any substance injurious to livestock or pets is subject to seizure, condemnation and sale as the court may direct, the proceeds from such sale to be deposited in the state general fund. The court may in its discretion release the feed seized when the requirements of law have been complied with, and upon payment of all costs and expenses incurred by the state in any proceedings connected with the seizure.

#### **11-13-109. Promulgation of rules and regulations.**

The director is authorized to promulgate such rules and regulations for commercial feeds as may be necessary for the efficient enforcement of this act. Procedures for promulgation shall be those outlined in the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act.

**11-13-110. Cooperation with other entities.**

The director may cooperate with and enter into agreements with governmental agencies of this state, other states and agencies of the federal government in order to carry out the purpose and provisions of this act.

CHAPTER 14 - FERTILIZER

**11-14-101. Short title.**

This act shall be known as the "Wyoming Fertilizer Law of 2009."

**11-14-102. Administration of provisions.**

This act shall be administered by the state department of agriculture, hereinafter referred to as the department.

**11-14-103. Definitions.**

(a) As used in this act:

(i) "Brand" means a term, design or trademark used in connection with one (1) or several grades of commercial fertilizer;

(ii) "Bulk fertilizer" means a commercial fertilizer distributed in a nonpackaged form;

(iii) "Commercial fertilizer" means any substance containing one (1) or more recognized plant nutrients used for its nutrient content and designed for use or claimed to have value in promoting plant growth;

(iv) "Deficient" means the amount of nutrient found by analysis less than that guaranteed which may result from a lack of nutrient ingredients or from lack of uniformity;

(v) "Department" means the Wyoming department of agriculture;

(vi) "Director" means the director of the department of agriculture;

(vii) "Distributor" means any person who imports, consigns, distributes, manufactures, produces, compounds,

formulates, mixes, blends or applies commercial fertilizer, soil conditioner or soil amendment or who offers for sale, sells, barter or otherwise supplies commercial fertilizers, soil amendments or soil conditioners in this state. The distributor may also be the registrant;

(viii) "Grade" means the percentage of total nitrogen, available phosphorus or phosphate, and soluble potassium or soluble potash stated in whole numbers in the same terms, order and percentages as in the guaranteed analysis, and fertilizer materials, bone meal, manures and similar raw materials which may be guaranteed in fractional units;

(ix) "Guaranteed analysis" means the minimum percentage of plant nutrients claimed in the following order and form:

(A) Total nitrogen (N) percent

Available phosphate (P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>) percent

Soluble potash (K<sub>2</sub>O) percent;

(B) For unacidulated mineral phosphatic materials and basic slag, both total and available phosphate and the degree of fineness, and for bone, tankage and other organic phosphatic materials, total phosphate;

(C) Additional plant nutrients when mentioned or claimed on the label, container or advertising material, shall be registered and guaranteed, and guarantees shall be made on the percentage elemental basis with sources of the elements shown. When any plant nutrients or other substances or compounds are guaranteed, they shall be subject to inspection and analysis in accord with the methods and regulations prescribed by the department;

(D) Potential basicity or acidity expressed in terms of calcium carbonate equivalent in multiples of one hundred (100) pounds per ton.

(x) "Investigational allowance" means an allowance for variations inherent in the taking, preparation and analysis of an official sample of fertilizer, soil conditioner or soil amendment;



(xi) "Label" means the display of all written, printed or graphic matter upon the container or statement accompanying a commercial fertilizer, soil amendment or soil conditioner;

(xii) "Labeling" means all written, printed or graphic matter upon or accompanying any commercial fertilizer, or advertisements, brochures, posters and television or radio announcements used in promoting the sale of commercial fertilizers, soil amendments or soil conditioners;

(xiii) "Mixed fertilizer" means a commercial fertilizer containing any combination or mixture of fertilizer materials;

(xiv) "Official sample" means any sample of fertilizer, soil conditioner or soil amendment taken by the director;

(xv) "Percent" or "percentage" means the percentage by weight;

(xvi) "Person" means any individual, partnership, association, corporation, or organized group of persons whether incorporated or not;

(xvii) "Primary nutrient" means the plant nutrients nitrogen (N), available phosphate (P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>) or soluble potash (K<sub>2</sub>O);

(xviii) "Registrant" means the person who registers commercial fertilizers, soil amendments or soil conditioners under the provisions of this act. The registrant may also be the distributor;

(xix) "Sell" or "sale" means exchange of ownership or transfer of custody;

(xx) "Soil amendment" or "soil conditioner" means any material which improves the physical or chemical soil characteristics and is manufactured and sold for such purposes but which is not added for its plant food content;

(xxi) "Specialty fertilizer" means a commercial fertilizer distributed primarily for nonfarm use such as home gardens, lawns, shrubbery, flowers, golf courses, municipal parks, cemeteries, greenhouses and nurseries;

(xxii) "Ton" means a net weight of two thousand (2,000) pounds avoirdupois;

(xxiii) "Organic fertilizer" means a material containing carbon and one (1) or more elements other than hydrogen and oxygen essential for plant growth, and allowed for use under the Organic Foods Production Act of 1990, as promulgated by the United States department of agriculture "National List of Allowed and Prohibited Substances" rule;

(xxiv) "Secondary or micro plant nutrients" means nutrients other than the primary nutrients that are essential for the normal growth of plants and that may need to be added to the growth medium. Secondary plant nutrients shall include calcium, magnesium and sulfur. Micro plant nutrients shall include boron, chlorine, cobalt, copper, iron, manganese, molybdenum, nickel, sodium and zinc;

(xxv) "This act" means W.S. 11-14-101 through 11-14-118.

**11-14-104. Registration of fertilizer, soil conditioner and soil amendments; applications; fees; disposition thereof; exceptions.**

(a) Each brand and grade of commercial fertilizer shall be registered with the department before being distributed in this state. The application for registration shall be submitted on forms furnished by the department and shall include the following information:

(i) The brand and grade;

(ii) The guaranteed analysis;

(iii) The name and address of the registrant or the distributor;

(iv) The sources from which the nitrogen, phosphorus or phosphate and potassium are derived;

(v) Additional plant nutrients, when claimed, the percentage guaranteed and the sources, provided, the minimum percentages which will be accepted for registration are those recognized by the Association of American Plant Food Control Officials.

(b) Each soil conditioner and soil amendment shall be registered with the department before being distributed in this state. The application for registration shall be submitted on forms furnished by the department and shall include the following information:

(i) The brand;

(ii) Guaranteed analysis on label;

(iii) The name and address of the registrant or the distributor.

(c) A registration fee of one hundred fifteen dollars (\$115.00) shall accompany each separate formula of brand and grade of fertilizer, soil conditioner or soil amendment to be registered. The registration expires on December 31 next following the date of application and shall be renewed annually. All registration fees collected shall be deposited in the state general fund and may be appropriated by the legislature for programs authorized by W.S. 11-2-202(a)(v), 11-14-101 through 11-14-116 and 11-16-105(a)(v).

(d) A distributor or registrant is not required to register any commercial fertilizer, specialty fertilizer, soil conditioner or soil amendment which is already registered under this act by another person if the label does not differ in any respect.

(e) A distributor or registrant is not required to register each grade of commercial fertilizer, soil conditioner or soil amendment formulated according to specifications furnished by a consumer prior to preparation.

#### **11-14-105. Label requirements.**

(a) Any commercial fertilizer, soil amendment or soil conditioner distributed in this state in containers shall have affixed to the container a label setting forth in clearly legible and conspicuous form the information required by W.S. 11-14-104(a) and (b), the month and year of preparation or lot number, and shall show the net weight stated in both metric units and avoirdupois. In case of bulk shipments, this information in written or printed form shall accompany delivery and be supplied to the purchaser at time of delivery.

(b) A commercial fertilizer, soil conditioner or soil amendment formulated according to specifications furnished by a consumer prior to mixing shall be labeled to show the net weight stated in both metric units and avoirdupois, guaranteed analysis and the name and address of the registrant or the distributor.

**11-14-106. Repealed by Laws 1993, ch. 147, § 2.**

**11-14-107. Sampling of fertilizer, soil amendment or soil conditioner.**

(a) The director or his designee shall sample, inspect, make analyses of and test commercial fertilizers, soil conditioners and soil amendments distributed within this state at any time and place and to the extent he deems necessary to determine whether they are in compliance with this act. The director or his designee may enter upon any premises or carriers during regular business hours to have access to commercial fertilizers, soil amendments or soil conditioners subject to the provisions of this act and to the records relating to their distribution.

(b) The methods of sampling analysis shall be those adopted by the Association of Official Analytical Chemists (AOAC). In cases not covered by such methods, or in cases where methods are available in which improved applicability has been demonstrated, the department may adopt such appropriate methods from other sources.

(c) The department in determining whether any commercial fertilizer is deficient in plant food shall be guided solely by the official sample obtained and analyzed as provided for in subsection (b) of this section.

(d) Official samples establishing a penalty for nutrient deficiency shall be retained for a minimum of ninety (90) days from issuance of a deficiency report. A deficiency in an official sample of mixed fertilizer resulting from nonuniformity is not distinguishable from a deficiency due to actual plant nutrient shortage and is properly subject to official action.

(e) For purposes of this act, the results of official analysis shall be final, unless it is determined by the director that a resample is warranted. Should a distributor or registrant request a resample of a fertilizer based upon the director's findings of a deficiency, all costs associated with the resampling and analysis shall be borne by the distributor or

registrant. If results of the resampling establish the results of first analysis were invalid, the department shall bear the costs associated with the resampling.

**11-14-108. Reimbursement of purchaser of deficient fertilizer.**

When a fertilizer is deficient in any element beyond recognized investigational allowances, the distributor or registrant must reimburse the purchaser of the fertilizer an amount equal to double the current market value of the fertilizer as determined by the state chemical and bacteriological laboratory.

**11-14-109. Misbranded or adulterated fertilizer, soil conditioner or soil amendment; distribution of unregistered fertilizer.**

(a) No person shall distribute misbranded fertilizer, soil conditioners or soil amendments. A commercial fertilizer, soil conditioner or soil amendment is misbranded if:

(i) Its labeling is false or misleading in any particular way, including being labeled organic fertilizer, when its use is not allowed pursuant to the United States department of agriculture "National List of Allowed and Prohibited Substances" rule;

(ii) It is distributed under the name of another fertilizer, soil conditioner or soil amendment;

(iii) It is not labeled as required in W.S. 11-14-105 and in accordance with regulations prescribed under this act.

(b) No person shall distribute an adulterated fertilizer, soil conditioner or soil amendment. A commercial fertilizer, soil conditioner or soil amendment is adulterated if:

(i) It contains any deleterious or harmful ingredient in sufficient amount to render it injurious to beneficial plant life when applied in accordance with directions for use on the label, or if adequate warning statements or directions for use which may be necessary to protect plant life are not shown upon the label;

(ii) Its composition falls below or differs from that which it is purported to possess by its labeling;

(iii) It contains unwanted crop seed or weed seed; or

(iv) A commercial fertilizer that contains guaranteed amounts of phosphates or micronutrients, contains metals in amounts greater than the levels of metals established by the following table:

Metal	ppm per 1% P2O5	ppm per 1% micronutrients
Arsenic	13	112
Cadmium	10	83
Cobalt	3,100	23,000*
Lead	61	463
Mercury	1	
Molybdenum	42	300*
Nickel	250	1,900
Selenium	26	180
Zinc	420	2,900*

(\* only applies  
when not  
guaranteed)

The table shall be used according to the following three (3) situations:

(A) For fertilizers with a phosphate guarantee, but no micronutrient guarantee, multiply the percent guaranteed P2O5 in the product by the values in the table to obtain the maximum allowable concentration of each metal. The minimum value for P2O5 utilized as a multiplier shall be six (6.0);

(B) For fertilizers with one (1) or more micronutrient guarantee, but no phosphate guarantee, multiply the sum of the guaranteed percentages of all micronutrients in the product by the value in the appropriate column in the table to obtain the maximum allowable concentration (in parts per

million, or ppm) of each metal. The minimum value for micronutrients utilized as a multiplier shall be one (1);

(C) For fertilizers with both a phosphate and a micronutrient guarantee, multiply the guaranteed percent P2O5 by the value in the appropriate column. The minimum value for P2O5 utilized as a multiplier shall be one (1). Then, multiply the sum of the guaranteed percentages of the micronutrients by the value in the appropriate column. The minimum value for micronutrients utilized as a multiplier shall be one (1). Then, utilize the higher of the two (2) resulting values as the maximum allowable concentration (ppm) of each metal.

(c) No person shall distribute unregistered fertilizers, soil conditioners or soil amendments.

(d) No person shall distribute fertilizers, soil conditioners or soil amendments that are short weight. All provisions for enforcement of items found to be short weight shall be administered by the department under W.S. 40-10-117 through 40-10-136 of the weights and measures law.

(e) Any penalties resulting from violations of these heavy metal standards shall accrue to the registrant of the material that violates the heavy metal standard.

**11-14-110. Repealed by Laws 1995, ch. 46, § 3.**

**11-14-111. Rules and regulations.**

The director may prescribe and enforce rules and regulations relating to investigational allowances, definitions, records and the distribution of commercial fertilizers, soil conditioners and soil amendments as necessary to carry out the provisions of this act.

**11-14-112. Refusal, suspension or cancellation of registration; hold orders; release.**

(a) A registration may be refused, suspended or cancelled for any formula of fertilizer, soil conditioner or soil amendment as herein provided, upon evidence that the product is misbranded or adulterated. A hold order may be issued to the owner or custodian of any lot of fertilizer, soil conditioner or soil amendment to stop sale, use or removal and to hold at a designated place when the director finds the product is being offered for sale in violation of this act, until the law has

been complied with and the product is released in writing by the director or the violation has been otherwise legally disposed of by a court of competent jurisdiction.

(b) No person shall make any false or misleading representation with regard to any fertilizer, soil conditioner or soil amendment sold, offered or exposed for sale by the person in this state, either as principal or agent. No person shall use any false, misleading or deceptive brand or grade in connection therewith. The penalties provided by subsection (a) of this section shall apply to any violation of this subsection.

**11-14-113. Seizure and disposition of fertilizer found to be in violation; right to application for release.**

Any lot of commercial fertilizer, soil conditioner or soil amendment not in compliance with this act is subject to seizure on complaint of the department to a court of competent jurisdiction in the area in which the commercial fertilizer, soil conditioner or soil amendment is located. If the court finds the commercial fertilizer, soil conditioner or soil amendment to be in violation of this act and orders the condemnation of the commercial fertilizer, soil conditioner or soil amendment, it shall be disposed of in any manner consistent with the quality of the commercial fertilizer and the laws of the state, but in no instance shall the disposition of the commercial fertilizer, soil conditioner or soil amendment be ordered by the court without first giving the claimant an opportunity to apply to the court for release of the commercial fertilizer to bring it into compliance with this act.

**11-14-114. Notice of violation; hearing; penalty; duty of district attorney; injunctions.**

(a) If examination of any commercial fertilizer, soil conditioner or soil amendment indicates that this act or the rules and regulations issued thereunder have been violated, the director shall give notice of the violations and an opportunity for a hearing to the registrant or distributor. If it appears after the hearing that this act or rules and regulations issued thereunder have been violated, the director may certify the facts to the proper district attorney.

(b) Any person convicted of violating this act or the rules and regulations issued thereunder is guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined not less than fifty dollars (\$50.00) nor more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) for each



offense, or the director may apply to the district court for the purpose of preventing further violation.

(c) The director is not required to report for prosecution or for the institution of seizure proceedings minor violations when he believes that the public interests will be best served by a suitable notice of warning in writing.

(d) Each district attorney to whom any violation is reported shall cause appropriate proceedings to be instituted and prosecuted in a court of competent jurisdiction without delay. Violations of this act may be enjoined by proceedings brought by the district attorney of the proper county, or by the attorney general, regardless of whether criminal proceedings have been instituted, provided the director has entered a finding pursuant to this act.

(e) The director may apply for and the court may grant a temporary or permanent injunction, without bond, restraining any person from violating or continuing to violate this act or any rule or regulation promulgated under the act notwithstanding the existence of other remedies at law.

#### **11-14-115. Action for damages to crops; evidence.**

(a) Nothing in this act shall preclude the right of a purchaser to bring an action for any damages to crops, land or livestock by reason of misbranded, adulterated or deficient fertilizer, soil conditioner or soil amendment.

(b) The department shall, upon demand, make all results of samplings, inspections and laboratory analyses available to any purchaser of fertilizer, soil conditioner or soil amendment.

(c) In a civil action for damages against any distributor or manufacturer of any misbranded or deficient fertilizer, soil conditioner or soil amendment, all results of the department samplings, inspections or laboratory analyses shall be competent evidence before any court where such civil action is pending.

(d) The results of a criminal action for violation of this act is competent evidence in any civil action for misbranding or deficiency of any fertilizer, soil conditioner or soil amendment.

#### **11-14-116. Sales between importers, manufacturers or manipulators excepted from provisions.**

Nothing in this act shall restrict or avoid sales or exchanges of commercial fertilizers, soil conditioners or soil amendments to each other by importers, manufacturers or manipulators who mix fertilizer materials for sale, or prevent the free and unrestricted shipment of commercial fertilizers, soil conditioners or soil amendments to manufacturers or manipulators who have registered their brands as required by this act.

**11-14-117. Cooperation with other entities.**

The department may cooperate with and enter into agreement with governmental agencies of this state, other states, agencies of the federal government and any nongovernmental entity in order to carry out the purpose and provisions of this act.

**11-14-118. Registration of ammonium nitrate.**

2009 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 92, provides this section is effective on and after July 1, 2009 only upon certification of the governor to the secretary of state that the United States department of homeland security has published final federal rules under H.R. 2764, Subtitle J, Secure Handling of Ammonium Nitrate or its successor. As of the date of the publication of the 2009 Wyoming statutes no such certification had been made.

(a) Any person who possesses ammonium nitrate or regulated ammonium nitrate materials shall be registered with the department. The registration application shall be on a form approved by the director in consultation with and upon the recommendation of the director of the office of homeland security. The director shall charge an annual registration fee not to exceed fifty dollars (\$50.00). Nothing in this section shall require the registration of any person who produces, sells or purchases ammonium nitrate exclusively for use in the production of an explosive under a license or permit issued under chapter 40 of title 18, U.S.C.

(b) Ammonium nitrate and regulated ammonium nitrate materials shall be secured to provide reasonable protection against vandalism, theft or other unauthorized use. Reasonable protection may include, but not be limited to, ensuring that storage facilities are fenced and locked when unattended, and inspected daily for signs of attempted entry or vandalism to any storage facility. The director in consultation with or upon the recommendation of the director of the office of homeland security, may recommend other security measures. The director

shall work in consultation with or upon the recommendation of the director of the office of homeland security to provide information to ammonium nitrate users on appropriate security measures.

(c) A distributor shall record the date of sale and quantity sold, the valid state or federal driver's license number, the current physical address and telephone number for the purchaser of ammonium nitrate or regulated ammonium nitrate materials. If the purchaser obtains physical possession of ammonium nitrate or regulated ammonium nitrate material, the distributor shall obtain the registrant's registration number as a condition of completing the sale. A registrant, if not a distributor, shall record the date of application. All sale and application records shall be retained by each registrant for a period of not less than two (2) years.

(d) Registrants shall comply with all federal and state requirements regarding the dissemination of any information, providing the director and the director of the office of homeland security access to the records.

(e) For the purposes of this section:

(i) "Ammonium nitrate" means chiefly the ammonium salt of nitric acid. Ammonium nitrate shall not contain less than thirty-three percent (33%) nitrogen, one-half (1/2) of which is the ammonium form and one-half (1/2) of which is the nitrate form;

(ii) "Regulated ammonium nitrate materials" means regulated ammonium nitrate material fertilizer products which have been determined by the director in consultation with and upon the recommendation of the director of the office of homeland security to warrant regulation based on the potential explosive capacity of the fertilizer material determined by the ammonium nitrate content.

## CHAPTER 15 - GRADING AND SHIPMENT OF POTATOES

### **11-15-101. Grades, classifications and standards.**

In order to make the grading and classification of potatoes uniform throughout the United States, the director shall adopt by rule and grades, standards and classifications for potatoes lawfully established by the United States department of agriculture.

**11-15-102. Definitions.**

(a) As used in this act:

(i) "Carlot" or "carload" means any railroad car, truck or trailer, regardless of size;

(ii) "This act" means W.S. 11-15-101 through 11-15-112;

(iii) "Director" means the director of the department of agriculture.

**11-15-103. Sorting and grading.**

Carlot shipments of potatoes originating in Wyoming shall be sorted and graded at point of origin upon request of a majority of the potato growers from the county making shipments from any shipping points within the county as designated by the director.

**11-15-104. Director to appoint inspectors; term.**

This act shall be enforced by qualified inspectors appointed by the director and licensed by the United States department of agriculture. They shall keep their licenses current and in good standing at all times when employed by the director. They shall serve at the pleasure of the director.

**11-15-105. Conformity to applicable standards required; inspection; certificate, use thereof as evidence.**

(a) No person shall pack, offer, consign or sell in carload lots any potatoes loaded within the state which do not conform to applicable standards, subject to such variations therefrom as provided by regulations adopted in accordance with this act, unless such potatoes are specifically described, or plainly marked, in accordance with regulations to indicate they are ungraded or unclassified.

(b) Whenever grades, standards or classification have been established for potatoes, it is unlawful for any shipper to ship carload lots of potatoes without being inspected by an authorized inspector. The inspector shall issue a certificate of inspection showing grade, standard or other classification. The certificate shall be issued in duplicate, one (1) copy shall be

attached to bill of lading and one (1) copy shall be issued to the shipper.

(c) A certificate of the grade or other classification of potatoes, when not reversed or modified, shall be accepted in any court of this state as prima facie evidence of the true grade or classification of the potatoes at the time of grading or classification.

**11-15-106. Reports of inspections required.**

The director shall make reports to the United States department of agriculture on July 1 each year.

**11-15-107. Director to promulgate regulations; board approval required.**

Subject to approval of the board of agriculture, the director may promulgate regulations necessary to carry out the provisions of this act. The regulations shall conform as nearly as practicable to any act of congress or standards legally adopted by any federal agency relating to the marketing of farm products.

**11-15-108. Director engaging in potato business prohibited.**

The director is prohibited from engaging in the business of buying, selling or commission dealing in potatoes.

**11-15-109. Inspection upon request of interested party; issuance of certificate; fees.**

The director, upon request of any interested party, may furnish a licensed inspector to inspect any lot of potatoes within the state whether the potatoes originated in Wyoming or elsewhere, and may issue a federal or state certificate showing grade, quality and condition of such potatoes which will be receivable as prima facie evidence in any court in Wyoming. This provision includes storage, inspection and less than carload lots. For this inspection the department shall be paid by the party asking for inspection the fees established by the board of agriculture, not to exceed actual costs of inspection and all traveling expenses to and from the place of inspection.

**11-15-110. Reinspection on request; cost.**

Any interested party may demand a reinspection at point of origin if the grade established by the licensed inspector is not satisfactory. The reinspection may be made by an inspector authorized by the director or by an inspector of the United States department of agriculture. The reinspection shall be made at the expense of the party requesting the service.

**11-15-111. Inspection fees; exception; when inspection not required; consent of director; certification of certain shipments.**

A fee established by the board of agriculture not to exceed actual costs of inspection shall be paid on all shipments of potatoes inspected within the district except those designated for manufacturing purposes on which no fee shall be charged. With the consent of the director, potatoes for seed stock may be moved to storage within the state without inspection. When potatoes are shipped without inspection within the state the shipper shall not be provided with a certificate. Other shipments of seed stock must conform to the requirements of grade no. 1 except with regard to size, and the certificate must contain a statement designating variety, trueness to type and percent defects with regard to disease and other blemishes.

**11-15-112. Prohibited acts; penalties.**

Whoever removes any inspection certificate before a car is entirely unloaded, or whoever except an authorized inspector alters any inspection certificate, or whoever without using reasonable diligence to secure inspection fails or neglects to have potatoes inspected before shipping, or whoever hinders, molests or attempts to influence any inspector in the performance of his duties, or whoever violates this act is guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined for each violation not exceeding five hundred dollars (\$500.00) and the costs of the prosecution, or shall be imprisoned not exceeding six (6) months, or both. Any inspector who fails or neglects to perform the duties imposed by this act shall suffer the penalty herein provided.

CHAPTER 16 - CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

**11-16-101. Short title.**

This act may be cited as the "Wyoming Conservation Districts Law."

## **11-16-102. Definitions.**

(a) As used in this act:

(i) "Agency of this state" means any subdivision, agency or instrumentality, corporate or otherwise, of the government of this state;

(ii) "At large member" means any registered voter and taxpayer within the county;

(iii) "Commission" or "state conservation commission" means the state board of agriculture;

(iv) "Conservation" means development, improvement, maintenance, preservation, protection and use of natural resources, and the control and prevention of floodwater and sediment damages, and the disposal of excess waters;

(v) "District" or "conservation district" means a governmental subdivision of this state, and a public body corporate and politic, organized in accordance with this act;

(vi) "Due notice" for those provisions other than election and referendum provisions, means notice published at least twice, with an interval of six (6) days between the two (2) publication dates, in a newspaper of general circulation within the boundaries of the proposed or organized district, or by posting at five (5) conspicuous places within the organized or proposed district, such posting to include, where possible, posting at public places where it may be customary to post notices concerning county or municipal affairs generally. Except as otherwise provided in this act, the notice of any hearing required under this act shall fix the time, place and purpose, which shall be not less than ten (10) or more than fifteen (15) days after the first publication or first posting of the notice. Any hearing held pursuant to such notice may be adjourned from time to time without renewing the notice for the adjourned dates. Notice for any election or referendum required by this act shall be as specifically provided in this act, or if not specifically provided in this act, as required in the Special District Elections Act of 1994;

(vii) "Government" or "governmental" means the government of this state, the government of the United States, and any subdivision, agency or instrumentality, corporate or otherwise, of either of them;

(viii) Repealed by Laws 1987, ch. 21, § 3.

(ix) Repealed by Laws 1998, ch. 115, § 5.

(x) "Renewable natural resources," "natural resources" or "resources," means land, soil, water, vegetation, trees, wild rivers, wilderness, natural beauty, scenery and open space;

(xi) "Urban" or "urban member" means any registered voter of an incorporated Wyoming municipality;

(xii) "This act" means W.S. 11-16-101 through 11-16-135.

**11-16-103. Legislative declarations and policy.**

(a) It is hereby declared that the farm and grazing lands of Wyoming are among the basic assets of the state; that improper land use practices cause and contribute to serious erosion of these lands by wind and water; that among the consequences which would result from such conditions are the deterioration of soil and its fertility and the silting and sedimentation of stream channels, reservoirs, dams and ditches; that to conserve soil, and soil and water resources, and prevent and control soil erosion, it is necessary that land use practices contributing to soil erosion be discouraged and that appropriate soil conserving land use practices be adopted.

(b) It is hereby declared to be the policy of the legislature to provide for the conservation of the soil, and soil and water resources of this state, and for the control and prevention of soil erosion and for flood prevention or the conservation, development, utilization, and disposal of water, and thereby to stabilize ranching and farming operations, to preserve natural resources, protect the tax base, control floods, prevent impairment of dams and reservoirs, preserve wildlife, protect public lands, and protect and promote the health, safety and general welfare of the people of this state.

**11-16-104. Repealed by Laws 1987, ch. 15, § 1.**

**11-16-105. State board of agriculture; duties generally.**

(a) The commission shall:



(i) Keep a record of its official actions, adopt a seal, which shall be judicially noticed, and perform acts, hold public hearings and promulgate rules and regulations as necessary for the execution of its functions under this act;

(ii) Assist and guide districts in the preparation and carrying out of programs for resource conservation authorized under this act, review district programs, coordinate the programs of the several districts and resolve any conflicts, and facilitate, promote, assist, harmonize, coordinate and guide the resource conservation programs and activities of districts as they relate to other special purpose districts, counties and other public agencies;

(iii) Keep the supervisors of the districts organized under this act informed of the activities and experiences of other districts and facilitate cooperation and an interchange of advice and experience between the districts;

(iv) Coordinate the programs of the several conservation districts so far as this may be done by advice and consultation;

(v) Recommend the appropriation of state funds necessary to finance the activities of the commission and the conservation districts; distribute to conservation districts funds, equipment, supplies and services received by the commission for that purpose from any source, subject to conditions made applicable thereto by any state or federal statute or local ordinance making available the funds, property or services; issue regulations establishing guidelines and suitable controls to govern the use by conservation districts of such funds, property and services; and review all budgets, administrative procedures and operations of the districts and advise the districts concerning their conformance with applicable laws and regulations;

(vi) Disseminate information throughout the state concerning the activities and programs of the conservation districts and encourage the formation of such districts in areas where their organization is desirable; enlist the cooperation and collaboration of state, federal, regional, interstate and local public and private agencies with the conservation districts; facilitate arrangements under which the conservation districts may serve county governing bodies and other agencies as their local operating agencies in the administration of any activity concerned with the conservation of renewable natural

resources; and except as otherwise assigned by law, carry out the policies of this state in programs at the state level for the conservation of the renewable natural resources of this state and represent the state in matters affecting such resources.

(b) Whenever the commission determines that there exists a substantial conflict between the resources conservation program of a district and the proposed plans or activities directly affecting resource conservation prepared by any other local governmental unit or agency of this state, and the conflict cannot be resolved through consultation procedures, the commission shall submit a report to the governor.

**11-16-106. Department of agriculture; when contracts invalid.**

No contract of the state commission for the payment of money is valid unless the commission has available at the time the contract is made funds sufficient for the payment thereof.

**11-16-107. Report to director; reports by district supervisors to board.**

(a) On or before November 1 each even-numbered year, the commission shall report to the director of the department of agriculture the number and acreages of districts in existence or in process of organization, together with an estimate of the number and probable acreages of the districts which may be organized during the ensuing period; the balance of funds, if any, available to the commission and to the districts; and the estimates of the commission as to the sums needed for its administrative and other expenses and for allocation among the several districts during the ensuing period.

(b) The supervisors of the respective districts shall submit to the commission such statements, estimates, budgets and other information as the commission may require. The director shall include the information furnished by the commission in his report to the governor.

**11-16-108. Petition to form district; contents; consolidation and exclusion.**

(a) Any ten (10) owners of land lying within the limits of the proposed district may file a petition with the commission asking that a conservation district be organized to function in

the territory described in the petition. The petition shall meet all of the requirements of W.S. 22-29-105(f). The commission shall act upon the petition for formation in the same manner as set forth in W.S. 22-29-109 for county commissioners in determining if a petition for district formation shall be voted upon. When more than one (1) petition is filed covering parts of the same territory, the commission may consolidate all or any such petitions, or may exclude from any petition areas in conflict with another petition or petitions.

(i) Repealed by Laws 1998, ch. 115, § 5.

(ii) Repealed by Laws 1998, ch. 115, § 5.

(iii) Repealed by Laws 1998, ch. 115, § 5.

(iv) Repealed by Laws 1998, ch. 115, § 5.

(v) Repealed by Laws 1998, ch. 115, § 5.

**11-16-109. Notice and hearing on petition; approval or denial; criteria.**

After the hearing, if the commission determines, upon the facts presented at the hearing and other relevant facts that are available, that there is need in the interest of the public health, safety and welfare for a conservation district to function in the territory considered at the hearing, it shall record such determination and define by metes and bounds or by legal subdivisions the boundaries of the district. In making the determination and defining the boundaries, the commission shall give weight and consideration to the topography of the area considered and of the state, the composition of soils therein, the distribution of erosion, the carrying capacity and condition of grazing lands, the numbers of livestock grazed, the prevailing land use and management practices, the desirability and necessity of including within the district the particular lands under consideration and the benefits such land may receive from being included within the district, the relation of the proposed district to existing watersheds and agricultural regions and to other conservation districts already organized or proposed for organization, and such other physical, geographical and economic factors as are relevant, having due regard to the legislative policy set forth in W.S. 11-16-103. The territory included within the district need not be contiguous. If the commission determines there is no need for a conservation district to function in the territory considered at the hearing,

it shall record such determination and deny the petition. Any owner of lands within a proposed district which is less than a countywide district may have his owned and leased lands excluded from the proposed district upon presentation of a petition and description of the lands to the commission not less than seven (7) days prior to the holding of the referendum for the organization of the district.

**11-16-110. Canvass of ballots.**

(a) Repealed by Laws 1998, ch. 115, § 5.

(b) Repealed by Laws 1987, ch. 21, § 3.

(c) Repealed by Laws 1998, ch. 115, § 5.

(d) Repealed by Laws 1987, ch. 21, § 3.

(e) Immediately after the polls close, the referendum officers shall canvass the ballots. The results disclosed by the canvass shall be certified by the commission.

(f) If a majority of the qualified electors voting in the referendum favor the formation of the district, the proposal to organize the proposed district shall carry and the commission shall proceed to make the determination required in W.S. 11-16-112. If the majority of the qualified electors voting in the referendum are against the organization of the district, the proposal to form the district shall fail and the commission shall deny the petition. The commission shall promptly make public the result of the referendum.

**11-16-111. Board of agriculture to provide for issuance of notices, conduct of hearings and referenda.**

The commission shall provide for the issuance of notices and the conduct of hearings and referenda by appropriate regulations. It shall provide for registration prior to the date of the referendum of all eligible voters, or prescribe some other appropriate procedure for the determination of those eligible as voters in the referendum.

**11-16-112. Result of referendum; announcement; practicability of district; determination; criteria.**

After making public the result of the referendum, the commission shall consider and determine whether the operation of the

district within the defined boundaries is administratively practicable. If the commission determines the operation of the district is not administratively practicable, it shall record the determination and deny the petition. If the commission determines that the operation of the district is administratively practicable, it shall record the determination and proceed with the organization of the district. In making the determination the commission shall give regard to the attitudes of the voters lying within the defined boundaries, the number of voters eligible to vote in the referendum who voted, the proportion of votes cast in favor of the creation of the district to the total number of votes cast, the approximate wealth and income of the owners of land of the proposed district, the probable expense of carrying on erosion-control operations within the district, and other economic and social factors as are relevant.

#### **11-16-113. Establishment of district.**

(a) If the commission determines the operation of the proposed district is administratively practicable, it shall appoint two (2) supervisors who are owners of land in the district to act with three (3) supervisors elected as provided hereinafter as the governing body of the district. The district shall be a governmental subdivision of this state and a public body corporate and politic. The two (2) appointed supervisors shall present to the secretary of state an application signed by them setting forth by recital only and not in detail:

(i) That a petition for the creation of the district was filed with the commission pursuant to the provisions of this act, and the proceedings specified in the act were taken pursuant to the petition;

(ii) That the application is filed to complete the organization of the district as a governmental subdivision and a public body, corporate and politic, under this act;

(iii) That the commission has appointed them as supervisors;

(iv) The name and official residence of each supervisor and a certified copy of the appointment evidencing his right to office;

(v) The term of office of each supervisor;

(vi) The name of the district; and

(vii) The location of the principal office of the supervisors of the district.

(b) The application shall be subscribed and sworn to by each supervisor before an officer authorized to administer oaths, who shall certify upon the application that he personally knows the supervisors and knows them to be the officers affirmed in the application, and that each has subscribed thereto in the officer's presence. The application shall be accompanied by a certified statement by the commission, setting forth the boundaries of the district but otherwise containing no detail other than the mere recitals that:

(i) A petition was filed, notice issued and hearing held as required by law;

(ii) The commission determined that there is need, in the interest of the public health, safety and welfare, for a conservation district to function in the proposed territory and did define the boundaries;

(iii) Notice was given and a referendum held on the question of the creation of such district;

(iv) The result of the referendum showed a majority of the votes cast in favor of the creation of the district; and

(v) The commission did determine the operation of the proposed district is administratively practicable.

(c) The secretary of state shall examine the application and statement and if he finds the name proposed for the district is not so similar to that of another conservation district as to cause confusion or uncertainty, he shall record them in an appropriate book in his office. If the secretary of state finds the name proposed for the district is so similar to that of any other conservation district of this state as to lead to confusion, he shall certify that fact to the commission, which shall submit a new name for the district which is not subject to such defects. Upon receipt of the new name the secretary of state shall record the application and statement, with the name so modified, in an appropriate book. When the application and statement have been made, filed and recorded, the district is a governmental subdivision of this state and a public body corporate and politic. The secretary of state shall issue to the

supervisors a certificate, under the seal of the state, of the organization of the district, and shall record the certificate with the application and statement. The boundaries of the district shall include the territory determined by the commission, but shall not include any area included within the boundaries of another conservation district organized under this act.

**11-16-114. Repealed by Laws 1998, ch. 115, § 5.**

**11-16-115. Districts; transfer of land; division or consolidation; change in name.**

(a) Upon written request of the board of supervisors of the conservation district or districts involved, with a showing that the request is approved by a majority vote of the members of each board involved the commission may, by administrative order:

(i) Transfer lands from one district to another;

(ii) Divide a single district into two (2) or more districts, each of which shall thereafter operate as a separate district; or

(iii) Consolidate two (2) or more districts to operate thereafter as a single district.

(b) The secretary of state shall make and issue a corrected certificate of organization upon receipt of such certification from the commission.

(c) Petitions for a change in the name of a conservation district may be submitted to the commission by the board of supervisors of a conservation district. If the commission approves the change of name, it shall certify the change to the secretary of state and shall notify the board of supervisors of the conservation district of the change, setting out in the notice the new name of the district. The secretary of state shall make and issue a corrected certificate of organization upon receipt of such certification from the commission.

**11-16-116. Districts; proof of organization.**

In any suit, action or proceeding relating to any action of the district, the district is deemed to have been established in accordance with this act upon proof of the issuance of the

certificate by the secretary of state. A copy of the certificate certified by the secretary of state is admissible in evidence in any suit, action or proceeding and is proof of the filing and contents thereof.

**11-16-117. Districts; termination; dissolution procedures; determination by board of agriculture; legal effects of dissolution.**

(a) After five (5) years after the organization of a district under this act, any ten (10) owners of land lying within the district may petition the commission that the operations of the district be discontinued and the existence of the district terminated. The commission may conduct public meetings and hearings upon the petition as necessary in the consideration thereof. Within sixty (60) days after a petition has been filed with the commission, it shall give notice of a referendum as provided in the Special District Elections Act of 1994. The commission shall supervise the referendum and issue appropriate regulations governing the conduct thereof. The question shall be submitted by ballots upon which the words "For terminating the existence of the .... (name of the conservation district to be here inserted)" and "Against terminating the existence of the .... (name of the conservation district to be here inserted)" shall appear, with a square before each proposition and a direction to insert an X mark in the square before one (1) or the other as the voter may favor or oppose dissolution of the district. Qualified electors of the district are eligible to vote in the referendum. No informalities in the conduct of the referendum or related matters shall invalidate the referendum or result if notice is given substantially as herein provided and the referendum is fairly conducted.

(b) The commission shall publish the result of the referendum. If a majority of the votes cast in the referendum oppose dissolution of the district, the commission shall determine whether the continued operation of the district within the defined boundaries is administratively practicable. If the commission determines the continued operation of the district is administratively practicable, it shall record its determination and deny the petition. If a majority of the votes cast favor dissolution of the district it shall certify that fact to the supervisors of the district. In making the determination of administrative practicality to continue the district the commission shall consider those factors set forth in W.S. 11-16-112 for creation of the district.



(c) Upon receipt from the commission of a certification that the majority of votes cast in the referendum favor dissolution of the district, the supervisors shall forthwith terminate the affairs of the district. The supervisors shall dispose of all property belonging to the district at public auction and pay the net proceeds of the sales to the state treasurer. The supervisors shall thereupon file a verified application with the secretary of state for dissolution of the district, and shall transmit with the application the certificate of the commission that the majority of votes cast at the referendum favored dissolution of the district. The application shall recite that the property of the district has been disposed of and the proceeds paid over as provided by law, setting forth a full accounting of the properties and proceeds of sale. The secretary of state shall issue to the supervisors a certificate of dissolution and shall record the certificate in an appropriate book in his office. The secretary of state shall make no charge for any service required of him by this act.

(d) Upon issuance of a certificate of dissolution all ordinances and regulations adopted and in force within the district are void. All contracts to which the district or supervisors are parties remain in force and effect for the period provided in such contracts. The commission shall be substituted for the district or supervisors as party to the contracts. The commission is entitled to all benefits and subject to all liabilities under such contracts and has the same right and liability to perform, require performance, sue and be sued thereon, and to modify or terminate the contracts as the supervisors of the district would have had. Dissolution does not affect the lien of any judgment entered or the pendency of any action instituted under W.S. 11-16-126 [repealed], and the commission succeeds to all rights and obligations of the district or supervisors as to such liens and actions.

**11-16-118. District supervisors; term; vacancies; expenses; removal; quorum; bond required of employees; areas included in district; cooperative agreement with city.**

(a) The term of the two (2) supervisors appointed extends from their appointment until the second annual election held in the district. A supervisor shall hold office from his election or appointment and taking of the oath of office until his successor has been elected or appointed, and qualified. Vacancies shall be filled for the unexpired term. Vacancies in the office of any supervisor shall be filled by appointment by the commission upon the recommendations of the district

supervisors, the appointee to serve until the next election at which time the vacancy shall be filled by the electors for the unexpired term. A supervisor shall receive no compensation for his services, but is entitled to expenses, including traveling expenses, necessarily incurred in the discharge of his duties. Any supervisor may be removed by the commission upon notice and hearing, for neglect of duty or malfeasance in office.

(b) A majority of the supervisors constitutes a quorum and the concurrence of three (3) supervisors is required for determination of any matter.

(c) The supervisors shall require a bond to be issued for all employees and officers entrusted with funds or property. The supervisors shall provide for keeping a full and accurate record of all proceedings, resolutions, regulations and orders issued or adopted. The accounts, receipts and disbursements of the district shall be subject to the audit and reporting requirements set forth in W.S. 9-1-507(a)(iii).

(d) All cities, towns, villages or other urban and suburban areas lying wholly or partly within the exterior boundaries of a conservation district shall, from the effective date of this act, be included in the district. In doubtful cases, the commission shall determine the district which includes any urban or suburban area.

(e) By cooperative agreement with the city concerned, a district may perform within the boundaries of the city any work required or authorized under this act, through such administrative and financial arrangements as the city and the district agree upon.

**11-16-119. District supervisors; nomination; qualifications; election; term.**

Within thirty (30) days after issuance by the secretary of state of a certificate of organization of a conservation district, applications for election under the Special District Elections Act of 1994 may be filed with the commission by candidates for supervisors, who shall be owners of land within the district. The commission may extend for not to exceed thirty (30) days the time within which applications may be filed. The commission shall give notice of an election to be held for the election of three (3) supervisors for the district. All qualified electors within the district are eligible to vote. The three (3) supervisors first elected shall draw lots, one (1) for a term of

two (2) years, and two (2) for a term of three (3) years. Thereafter supervisors shall be elected each year to serve for a full term of three (3) years. The number of supervisors elected each year shall be determined by the number of supervisors whose terms expire at that time. The commission shall provide for all elections, supervise the conduct thereof, and prescribe regulations governing the conduct of all elections, and shall make public the result thereof.

**11-16-120. District supervisors; elections under Election Code and for new districts.**

(a) District supervisors shall be elected in subsequent elections under the Special District Elections Act of 1994 and as hereinafter provided for new districts:

(i) At the first subsequent director election following establishment of a new district, five (5) supervisors, who reside within the district shall be elected at large by a nonpartisan ballot. Three (3) supervisors shall be rural residents, one (1) shall be a resident of an urban area and one (1) shall be elected at large. At the first subsequent director election, the at large candidate receiving the largest number of votes shall be elected for a four (4) year term, the urban candidate receiving the largest number of votes shall be elected for a four (4) year term, the rural candidate receiving the largest number of votes shall serve a four (4) year term and the two (2) candidates receiving the next highest number of votes shall be elected for two (2) year terms. In succeeding elections all supervisors shall be elected for four (4) year terms.

(ii) Repealed by Laws 1998, ch. 115, § 5.

**11-16-121. District supervisor; cooperation and agreements between districts; agreements with districts in adjoining states.**

(a) The supervisors of two (2) or more districts organized under this act may cooperate in the exercise of any or all powers conferred in this act.

(b) Any two (2) or more districts may engage in joint activities by agreement for planning, financing, constructing, operating, maintaining and administering any program or project concerned with the conservation of renewable natural resources. The districts concerned may make available for purposes of the

agreement any funds, property, personnel, equipment or services available to them under this act.

(c) Any district may enter into such agreements with districts in an adjoining state if the law in the other state permits such agreements.

(d) The commission may propose, guide and facilitate the establishment and carrying out of such agreements.

**11-16-122. Powers and duties of districts and supervisors thereof generally.**

(a) Each conservation district organized under this act shall make an annual estimate of the funds required by the district for conservation programs and present a certified copy of the estimate, along with a budget showing all anticipated income and expenses, to the county commissioners. District supervisors shall administer the finances of the district according to the provisions of the Uniform Municipal Fiscal Procedures Act, except that an annual audit in accordance with W.S. 16-4-121 is not required. Each district shall comply with the provisions of W.S. 9-1-507(a)(iii).

(b) A conservation district organized under this act and the supervisors thereof, in addition to other powers granted by this act, may:

(i) Employ personnel and determine their duties and conditions of employment;

(ii) Call upon the attorney general of the state for legal services or employ their own counsel and legal staff;

(iii) Delegate to their chairman, to one (1) or more supervisors or to one (1) or more agents or employees such delegable powers and duties as they deem proper;

(iv) Furnish to the state conservation commission upon request, copies of ordinances, rules, regulations, orders, contracts, forms and other documents they adopt or employ, and such other information concerning their activities as it may require and to the county clerk copies of ordinances, rules, regulations and orders it adopts in accordance with law;

(v) Conduct surveys, investigations and research and disseminate information relating to range management, the

character of soil erosion, flood prevention or the conservation, development, utilization and disposal of water, and the preventive and control measures and works of improvement needed, but in order to avoid duplication of research activities, no district shall initiate any research program except in cooperation with the government of this state or its agencies, or with the United States or its agencies;

(vi) Conduct demonstration projects within the district on lands owned or controlled by this state or its agencies, with the cooperation of the agency administering and having jurisdiction thereof, and on other lands within the district with the consent of the owner or occupier of the lands, to demonstrate range management practices, the means, methods and measures by which soil and soil resources may be conserved, and soil erosion in the form of soil blowing and washing may be prevented and controlled and works of improvement for flood prevention or the conservation, development, utilization and disposal of water may be carried out;

(vii) Carry out preventive and control measures and works of improvement within the district, including engineering operations, range management, methods of cultivation, the growing of grass or other vegetation, changes in use of land or any measure which may be developed for the control of erosion and better use of soil, and works of improvement for flood prevention or the conservation, development, utilization and disposal of water on lands owned or controlled by this state or its agencies, with the cooperation of the agency administering and having jurisdiction thereof, or on other lands within the district with the consent of the owner or occupier of the lands;

(viii) Cooperate, including but not limited to representing the conservation district as a cooperating agency with special expertise as provided by the National Environmental Policy Act and in federal land planning implementation as provided in W.S. 11-16-135(a), enter into agreements with and furnish financial or other aid to, any agency, governmental or otherwise, or any owner or occupier of lands within the district, in carrying on range management or erosion control and prevention operations and works of improvement for flood prevention or the conservation, development, utilization and disposal of water within the district, subject to such conditions as the supervisors deem necessary;

(ix) Repealed by Laws 1987, ch. 21, § 3.

(x) Repealed by Laws 1987, ch. 21, § 3.

(xi) Repealed by Laws 1987, ch. 21, § 3.

(xii) Repealed by Laws 1987, ch. 21, § 3.

(xiii) Repealed by Laws 1987, ch. 21, § 3.

(xiv) Make available on terms it prescribes, to owners and occupiers of land within the district, agricultural and engineering machinery and equipment, fertilizer, seeds and seedlings, male breeding animals, livestock supplies and such other material or equipment as will assist the owners and occupiers of land to carry on operations upon their lands and upon those owned or leased by the district, for range improvement and stabilization, the conservation of soil and water resources, the prevention and control of soil erosion and for flood prevention or the conservation, development, utilization and disposal of water. The assistance authorized by this paragraph shall be on a limited scale for demonstration purposes and the district shall not be deemed authorized to compete with private industry;

(xv) Repealed by Laws 1987, ch. 21, § 3.

(xvi) Develop and implement comprehensive resource use and management plans for range improvement and stabilization, conservation of soil, water and vegetative resources, control and prevention of soil erosion and for flood prevention or the conservation, development, utilization and disposal of water within the district, which plans shall include range management provisions and shall specify in detail the acts, procedures, performances and avoidances necessary or desirable to carry out the plans, including the specification of engineering operation, fence and stockwater developments, methods of cultivation, the growing of grass and other vegetation, cropping and range programs, tillage and grazing practices, and changes in use of lands. In developing plans under this paragraph, the supervisors of the district shall consider the customs and culture of residents of the district as those customs and culture relate to the land and resource, current and historical information and data related to the uses of the land and resource;

(xvii) Make public the plans and information and bring them to the attention of owners and occupiers of land within the district;

(xviii) Repealed by Laws 1987, ch. 21, § 3.

(xix) Manage, as agent of the United States or any of its agencies, and enter into agreements with the United States or any of its agencies, or this state or any of its agencies, to effect cooperation with the United States or any of its agencies under United States Public Law 566 approved August 4, 1954, or amendments thereto, in connection with the acquisition, construction, operation or administration of any land utilization, soil conservation, erosion control, erosion prevention, flood prevention projects, conservation of water, water utilization, disposal of water in watershed areas and other water projects within its boundaries;

(xx) Act as representative for local groups in dealing with the United States or its representatives, in soil or water conservation matters under United States Public Law 566 approved August 4, 1954, or amendments thereto;

(xxi) Accept donations, gifts and contributions in money, services, materials or otherwise from any source which will impose no financial obligation upon the state, and use or expend the monies, services, materials or contributions in carrying on its operations;

(xxii) Sue and be sued in the name of the district;

(xxiii) Have a seal, which shall be judicially noticed;

(xxiv) Have perpetual succession unless terminated as hereinafter provided;

(xxv) Make and execute contracts and other instruments necessary to the exercise of its powers;

(xxvi) Make, amend and repeal rules and regulations not inconsistent with this act, to implement its purposes and powers;

(xxvii) As a condition to extending any benefits to or performance of work upon any land not owned or controlled by the state or its agencies, require contributions in money, services, materials or otherwise to any operations conferring benefits and require owners and occupiers of land to enter into and perform such agreements or covenants as to the permanent use

of such lands as will prevent or control erosion and prevent flood water and sediment damages thereon and promote the best use of such lands;

(xxviii) The supervisors of a conservation district which has officially adopted a comprehensive plan pursuant to W.S. 11-16-122(b)(xvi) may coordinate with federal agencies as provided in the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974, as amended by the national Forest Management Act of 1976 and any other federal statute which provides for coordination with local governments and federal regulations adopted pursuant to those acts.

(c) A conservation district shall not purchase or hold title to farm lands as defined by W.S. 11-34-101(a)(ii).

**11-16-123. Applicability of provisions concerning other agencies; validity of contracts of supervisors.**

(a) No provisions with respect to the acquisition, operation or disposition of property by other public bodies are applicable to a district organized hereunder unless the legislature shall specifically so state.

(b) No contract of the district supervisors for the payment of money is valid unless the supervisors have at the time the contract is made funds in cash, securities or deposits sufficient for the payment thereof.

**11-16-124. Administration of oaths by secretary or treasurer of district.**

The secretary or treasurer of the district are severally authorized to administer oaths within their district in any matter pertaining to the business of their district where an oath is required by law.

**11-16-125. Repealed by Laws 1987, ch. 21, § 3.**

**11-16-126. Repealed by Laws 1987, ch. 21, § 3.**

**11-16-127. Repealed by Laws 1987, ch. 21, § 3.**

**11-16-128. Repealed by Laws 1987, ch. 21, § 3.**

**11-16-129. Repealed by Laws 1987, ch. 21, § 3.**



**11-16-130. Repealed by Laws 1987, ch. 21, § 3.**

**11-16-131. Repealed by Laws 1987, ch. 21, § 3.**

**11-16-132. Publicly owned lands to be administered in cooperation with districts.**

Agencies of the state, county or any political subdivision of the state which have jurisdiction over or are charged with the administration of any state, county or other publicly owned lands lying within the boundaries of any district organized hereunder, shall cooperate to the fullest extent with the supervisors of the district to effect the programs and operations undertaken by the supervisors under this act and may lease such lands to a district. The supervisors of the districts shall be given free access to enter and perform work upon the publicly owned lands. The provisions of conservation ordinances have the force and effect of law over all publicly owned lands, and shall be in all respects observed by the agencies administering the lands.

**11-16-133. Tax levied on property in district; maximum amount; soil and water conservation fund; other appropriation authorized.**

(a) Subject to W.S. 11-16-134, the county commissioners may annually levy a tax to carry out this act. The tax shall be levied upon all property in the district and shall not exceed one (1) mill on each one dollar (\$1.00) of assessed valuation. The tax is not part of the general county or city mill levies. The tax shall be levied and collected as other county taxes and the county treasurer shall remit the taxes collected to the district to a separate fund to be known as the conservation district fund, which shall be used only to carry out the purposes of this act.

(b) Whether or not a tax levy is authorized under W.S. 11-16-134, each board of county commissioners may make appropriations from the county general fund to districts established under this act for the purpose of providing soil and water conservation programs.

**11-16-134. Imposition of tax; vote of electors required.**

(a) No tax shall be imposed under W.S. 11-16-133 until the proposition to impose the tax is submitted to a vote of the

voters of the district and a majority of those casting their ballots vote in favor of imposing the tax. Any tax imposed under this act shall be levied in the year following the election at which the imposition of the tax is approved.

(b) The proposition to impose a tax under this act shall be at the expense of the county and may be submitted to the voters of the county upon the receipt by the board of county commissioners of a petition requesting the election signed by a majority of the supervisors of the district. The election shall be at the direction and under the supervision of the board of county commissioners.

(c) Subject to the limitation of subsection (b) of this section, the proposition to impose a tax under this act shall be submitted on an election date authorized under W.S. 22-21-103, or by mail ballot pursuant to W.S. 22-29-115 and 22-29-116. A notice of election shall be given by the county clerk in at least one (1) newspaper of general circulation published in the county wherein the election is to be held and shall specify the object of the election. The notice shall be published at least once each week for a thirty (30) day period preceding the election. At the election the ballots shall contain the words "for the conservation district tax" and "against the conservation district tax". Upon the initial submission of the conservation district tax, or any renewal thereof, after July 1, 1995, the conservation district board of supervisors shall choose one (1) of the following options and the words of the chosen option shall be clearly printed in the appropriate area on the election ballot:

(i) If this proposition is approved, the same proposition shall be submitted at the second following general election or by mail ballot pursuant to W.S. 22-29-115 and 22-29-116, and thereafter at succeeding general elections or by mail ballot pursuant to W.S. 22-29-115 and 22-29-116, every four (4) years until the proposition is defeated; or

(ii) If this proposition is approved, the tax shall remain in effect until a petition to discontinue the tax, signed by not less than ten percent (10%) of the voters of the district, is received by the board of county commissioners, and the proposal to discontinue the tax is approved by the voters. The proposal to discontinue the tax shall be submitted to the voters of the district at the expense of the county at the next general election or by mail ballot pursuant to W.S. 22-29-115 and 22-29-116 for approval or disapproval.

**11-16-135. Special expertise of supervisors of conservation districts.**

When representing a conservation district as a cooperating agency in matters related to the National Environmental Policy Act and in federal land planning, implementation and management actions, supervisors of a conservation district shall be deemed to have special expertise on all subject matters for which they have statutory responsibility as provided in W.S. 11-16-122, including but not limited to all subject matters directly or indirectly related to stabilization of the agriculture industry, protection of natural resources including but not limited to data and information, conservation of soil and water resources, control and prevention of soil erosion, flood prevention or the conservation, development, utilization and disposal of water within the district.

CHAPTER 17 - LIVESTOCK REMEDIES

ARTICLE 1 - LIVESTOCK REMEDIES GENERALLY

**11-17-101. Repealed By Laws 2011, Ch. 98, § 2.**

**11-17-102. Repealed By Laws 2011, Ch. 98, § 2.**

**11-17-103. Repealed By Laws 2011, Ch. 98, § 2.**

**11-17-104. Repealed By Laws 2011, Ch. 98, § 2.**

**11-17-105. Repealed By Laws 2011, Ch. 98, § 2.**

**11-17-106. Repealed By Laws 2011, Ch. 98, § 2.**

**11-17-107. Repealed By Laws 2011, Ch. 98, § 2.**

**11-17-108. Repealed By Laws 2011, Ch. 98, § 2.**

ARTICLE 2 - ANIMAL REMEDIES

**11-17-201. Short title.**

This article is known and may be cited as the "Wyoming Animal Remedies Act."

**11-17-202. Definitions; exemptions.**

(a) As used in this article:

(i) "Advertisement" means any representation, other than on the label, disseminated in any manner or by any means, relating to animal remedies as defined in this article;

(ii) "Animal" means any animate being, which is not human, endowed with the power of voluntary action;

(iii) "Animal remedy" means any drug, combination of drugs, proprietary medicine, biological product and combinations of drugs and other ingredients, other than for food or cosmetic purposes, which is prepared or compounded for animal use, except as exempted by the director;

(iv) "Antimicrobial resistance" means the result of microbes changing in ways that reduce or eliminate the effectiveness of drugs, chemicals or other agents intended to cure or prevent infections;

(v) "Brand name" means any word, name, symbol or device, or any combination thereof, identifying the animal remedy of a distributor or registrant and distinguishing it from that of others;

(vi) "Department" means the Wyoming department of agriculture;

(vii) "Director" means the director of the Wyoming department of agriculture;

(viii) "Distribute" means to offer for sale, sell, exchange or barter any animal remedy;

(ix) "Distributor" means any person who distributes animal remedies;

(x) "Dosage form" means an animal remedy prepared in tablets, pills, capsules, ampules, boluses or other units suitable for administration as an animal remedy;

(xi) "Drug" means an animal remedy:

(A) Recognized in the official United States pharmacopoeia, the official United States homeopathic pharmacopoeia, the official national formulary, or any supplement to any of these publications;

(B) Recognized by the United States food and drug administration;

(C) Intended for use in the diagnosis, cure, mitigation, treatment or prevention of disease in animals;

(D) Prepared for external or internal use in the mitigation of parasites in or on animals;

(E) Intended to affect the structure or any function of the body of animals;

(F) Intended for use as a component of any combined animal remedy specified in subparagraphs (A) through (E) of this paragraph.

(xii) "Drug" does not include a device or its components, parts or accessories;

(xiii) "Label" means a display of written, printed or graphic matter upon or affixed to the immediate container of any animal remedy;

(xiv) "Labeling" means any label and other written, printed or graphic matter upon an animal remedy and any of its containers or wrappers accompanying the animal remedy. "Labeling" also includes any advertisement or brochure promoting the animal remedy including but not limited to television, internet, other electronic medium or pamphlets;

(xv) "Medicated feed" means commercial or custom feed which contains drug ingredients intended for the cure, mitigation, treatment or prevention of diseases of animals or which contains drug ingredients intended to affect the structure or any function of the body of animals;

(xvi) "Official sample" means any sample of an animal remedy taken by and designated as official by the director or his agent;

(xvii) "Product name" means the name of the animal remedy which identifies it as to kind, class or specific use;

(xviii) "Registrant" means the person who registers animal remedies under the provisions of this article. The registrant may also be the distributor;

(xix) "This act" means W.S. 11-17-201 through 11-17-209.

(b) Nothing in this article shall apply to:

(i) A medicated feed;

(ii) A product registered with the department and recognized as a pesticide;

(iii) Any animal remedy intended solely for investigational, experimental or laboratory use by qualified persons, provided the animal remedy is plainly labeled "for investigational use only";

(iv) Any person licensed to practice veterinary medicine in Wyoming, when acting within the scope of that license.

**11-17-203. Powers and duties of the director; promulgation of rules; interagency cooperation.**

(a) The director shall enforce the provisions of this article and may prescribe the form of tags, stamps or labels to be used to show that the registration has been properly filed.

(b) The director may refuse to register any application not in compliance with this article and may cancel any registration subsequently found not to be in compliance with the law. No registration shall be refused or cancelled until the registrant has been given an opportunity to be heard before the director and to amend his application in order to bring the application into compliance.

(c) The director may sample any animal remedy as he deems necessary.

(d) The director shall conduct any investigation he deems necessary to enforce this article.

(e) The director may refuse the registration of any animal remedy if available facts indicate that the product proposed is of negligible or no value for correcting, alleviating or mitigating animal injuries or diseases for which it is intended, or the director may suspend or revoke any use for flagrant violation of this article.

(f) The director may determine whether a manufacturer or distributor shall be registered under the commercial feed or an animal remedy law.

(g) The director shall cause animal remedies, which are found or believed not to comply with this article to be withheld from sale pending compliance with this article.

(h) Whenever the director or his authorized agent finds or has reasonable cause to believe an animal remedy is adulterated or misbranded under any provision of W.S. 11-17-207(d), he shall affix to the animal remedy a tag or other appropriate marking, giving notice that the animal remedy is, or is suspected of being, adulterated or misbranded and has been detained and warning all persons not to dispose of the animal remedy in any manner until permission is given by the director or the court. Any animal remedy suspected of being adulterated or misbranded may be removed from display by the manufacturer or vendor, but shall be left on the premises. No person shall dispose of a detained animal remedy in violation of this section.

(j) If an animal remedy detained pursuant to subsection (g) or (h) of this section is found, after examination and analysis, to be adulterated or misbranded, the director may petition the judge of any court of competent jurisdiction in whose jurisdiction the animal remedy is detained for an order to condemn the animal remedy. If the director finds that the detained animal remedy is not adulterated or misbranded he shall remove the tag or marking.

(k) The director may promulgate rules and regulations for animal remedies necessary for the efficient enforcement of this article. Procedures for promulgation shall be those outlined in the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act.

(m) The director may cooperate with and enter into agreements with other Wyoming agencies including the state veterinarian, other states and agencies of the federal government in order to carry out the purpose and provisions of this article.

**11-17-204. Registration; fees; audit; investigator special revenue account.**

(a) Any manufacturer of animal remedies, except the United States department of agriculture, shall register each product

before distribution in Wyoming. The application for registration shall be submitted on forms furnished by the director and shall be accompanied by a label or other printed matter describing the product. Upon approval by the director or his agent, a copy of the registration shall be furnished to the applicant. All registrations are effective from the date of approval and expire on December 31 each year.

(b) Every registrant of animal remedies shall pay a registration fee of forty dollars (\$40.00) per product. Of this fee, twenty dollars (\$20.00) shall be deposited into the general fund and twenty dollars (\$20.00) shall be deposited into the inspection account.

(c) An applicant may appeal the denial of a registration in accordance with the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act.

(d) The department may conduct a product compliance audit to assure compliance of this article. The audit shall consist of label and registration reviews. A registrant may appeal any negative audit in accordance with the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act.

#### **11-17-205. Labeling.**

(a) Any animal remedy distributed in Wyoming shall be accompanied by a legible label bearing the following information:

(i) The name and principal address of the manufacturer or person responsible for placing the animal remedy on the market;

(ii) The name, brand or trade-mark under which the animal remedy is sold;

(iii) An accurate statement of the minimum net contents of the package, lot or parcel, the contents stated by weight in the case of solids, by volume in the case of liquids, and by both count and weight or volume per dose in the case of dosage forms;

(iv) The common or usual name and quantity of each active ingredient;

(v) Adequate directions for use;



(vi) Adequate warnings against use in conditions, whether pathological or normal, where its use may be dangerous to the health of animals, or against unsafe dosage, methods or duration of methods, administration, or application, in such manner and form, as are necessary for the protection of animals.

(b) Any word, statement or other information appearing on the label shall also appear on the outside container or wrapper, if any, of the retail package of the animal remedy or shall be easily legible through the outside container or wrapper of the animal remedy.

**11-17-206. Professional supervision required for preparation and packaging of remedies.**

(a) No person shall compound, manufacture, make, produce, pack, package or prepare within Wyoming any animal remedy to be offered for sale or distribution unless the compounding, manufacture, making, producing, packaging, packing or preparing is done with adequate equipment under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian, a graduate chemist, a licensed pharmacist, a licensed physician or some other person as may be approved by the director after an investigation and a determination by the director that he is qualified by scientific or technical training or by experience to perform the duties of supervision as may be necessary to protect animal health and public safety.

(b) No person shall make a claim that an animal remedy is antimicrobial resistant without verification and support documentation of the American Veterinary Medical Association.

**11-17-207. Right of access to establishments and information relating to manufacturing; sampling and analysis.**

(a) The director or his agent shall have access during normal business hours to any establishment or facility in which an animal remedy is manufactured, transported or held for distribution and to information relating to the manufacture, transportation and distribution of the animal remedy for purposes of sampling and inspection.

(b) Any method of sampling and analysis shall be as approved by the director from current established methods. In any case not covered by an approved method, or in any case where methods are available in which improved applicability has been demonstrated, the director may approve the appropriate methods

from other sources. The director, in determining whether an animal remedy is deficient in any component, shall be guided solely by the official sample analyzed in accordance with approved methods. For purposes of this article, the results of official analysis shall be final, unless it is determined by the director that a resample is warranted. If a distributor or registrant requests a resample of an animal remedy based upon the director's findings of a deficiency, all costs associated with the resampling and analysis shall be borne by the distributor or registrant. If the results of the resampling establish the result of the first analysis was invalid, the department shall bear the costs associated with the resampling. Any requests for a resample to the director shall be made in writing.

(c) The director shall make or cause to be made under his direction, analysis and examinations of samples of animal remedies furnished to him by the director to determine whether the animal remedy sampled conforms with this article and shall certify the results of the examinations to the director.

(d) When the inspection and analysis of an official sample indicates an animal remedy has been adulterated or misbranded, the results of analysis shall be forwarded by the director to the distributor and the purchaser.

(e) Any animal remedy that is manufactured and distributed under registration from and under the supervision of the United States department of agriculture, and in compliance with the regulations of that department shall not be considered adulterated or misbranded.

(f) An animal remedy shall be deemed to be misbranded under the following circumstances:

(i) It is not properly labeled;

(ii) It is not labeled as required in W.S. 11-17-205 and in regulations promulgated under this article;

(iii) If the label is false or misleading;

(iv) If the information required on the label is not conspicuous and clear and if any word, statement or other information required to appear on the label is not prominently placed conspicuously on the label, as compared with other words, statements, designs or devices in the labeling and in such

terms, as to render it likely to be read and understood by the ordinary individual under customary conditions of purchase and use;

(v) It is distributed under the name of another animal remedy;

(vi) If the recommended dosage is dangerous to the health of animals when used in the dosage or with the frequency or duration prescribed, recommended or suggested in the labeling of the animal remedy.

(g) An animal remedy shall be deemed to be adulterated if:

(i) It consists in whole or in part of any filthy, putrid or decomposed substance;

(ii) It bears or contains any poisonous or deleterious substance which may render it injurious to health under customary or usual use;

(iii) Its container is composed of any injurious or deleterious substance which may render the animal remedy injurious to health;

(iv) It was prepared, packed or held under unsanitary conditions where the animal remedy may have become contaminated with filth or where the animal remedy may have been rendered injurious to animal health;

(v) Its composition, purity, strength or quality falls below or differs from that which it is purported or is represented to possess by its labeling. The director shall allow a reasonable tolerance from such representation as is in accordance with good manufacturing practices.

(h) No person shall forge, counterfeit, simulate or falsely represent or without proper authority use, any mark, stamp, tag, label or other identification device required by W.S. 11-17-205.

(j) No person shall alter, mutilate, destroy, obliterate or remove any part of the labeling of any animal remedy if the act results in the animal remedy being misbranded, or do any other act, while the animal remedy is being held for sale, which results in the misbranding of the animal remedy.

(k) All provisions for enforcement of animal remedies found to be short weight shall be administered by the department under W.S. 40-10-117 through 40-10-136 of the Wyoming weights and measures law.

**11-17-208. Warning to distributor; seizure and order of disposition; application for release; hearing.**

(a) When the director or his authorized agent finds that an animal remedy is mislabeled, misbranded or adulterated, or that it does not conform to its label guarantee, he may issue a written statement warning the distributor or registrant that the animal remedy is considered to be in violation of the law. This statement is a warning only to the distributor or registrant that if the animal remedy is distributed further the director may pursue further action. If the distributor, registrant or manufacturer heeds the warning and corrects the violation within the time allowed by the director, no further action shall be taken.

(b) If it appears that any manufacturer, distributor, registrant or any other person responsible for animal remedies has not corrected the reason for the warning in subsection (a) of this section or has violated this article, the director shall cause notice to be given to the manufacturer, distributor, registrant or person that a hearing will be had at a date and place named in the notice. The director or his authorized agent shall hold a hearing in accordance with the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act. If the manufacturer, distributor, registrant or person fails to appear at the time and place designated in the notice, the director or his authorized agent shall conduct the hearing as though the manufacturer, distributor, registrant or person were present. If it is established by the hearing to the satisfaction of the director that prosecution is warranted the director shall provide to the Wyoming attorney general:

(i) A certification of the facts;

(ii) An official report of the result of the hearing;  
and

(iii) A copy of the analysis or other examination which bears on the case.

(c) Any lot of an animal remedy not in compliance with requirements of laws or regulations is subject to seizure on

complaint of the director to a court of competent jurisdiction in the county in which the animal remedy is located. If the court finds the animal remedy in violation and orders the condemnation of the animal remedy, it shall be disposed of in any manner consistent with the quality of the animal remedy and the laws of Wyoming. In no instance shall the disposition of the animal remedy be ordered by the court without first giving the manufacturer, distributor or registrant an opportunity to apply to the court for release of the animal remedy or for permission to process or relabel the animal remedy to bring it into compliance with the law.

**11-17-209. Prohibited acts; penalty; additional sanctions.**

(a) It is unlawful for any person to:

(i) Sell or distribute in Wyoming any animal remedy without having attached or furnished such stamps, labels or tags as required by this article;

(ii) Impede, prevent or attempt to prevent the director or his agent in the performance of his lawful duties;

(iii) Sell, offer for sale or distribute in Wyoming any animal remedy without complying with the requirements of this article;

(iv) Sell or distribute in Wyoming any animal remedy when the manufacturer or distributor is not registered with the department as required by this article;

(v) Manufacture, sell, deliver, hold or offer for sale any animal remedy that is adulterated or misbranded;

(vi) Give a guaranty which is false, except a person who relied on a guaranty to the same effect signed by, and containing the name and address of the person from whom he received the animal remedy in good faith;

(vii) Disseminate any advertisement which is false or misleading in any respect, but no person or medium for the dissemination of any advertisement, except the manufacturer, packer, distributor, or seller of the animal remedy to which a false advertisement relates, is subject to the penalties for violations of this article, by reason of the dissemination by him of the false advertisement, unless he refused, on the request of the director to furnish the name and address of the

manufacturer, packer, distributor, seller or advertising agency which caused him to disseminate the advertisement;

(viii) Sell or offer to sell any biological product that has not been kept in refrigeration under conditions prescribed by the rules and regulations promulgated and adopted by the director.

(b) Any person violating any provision of W.S. 11-17-201 through 11-17-209 or rules or regulations thereunder is guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00) or imprisoned in the county jail for not more than one (1) year, or both, for the first offense, and upon conviction for a subsequent offense shall be fined not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) or imprisoned in the county jail for not more than one (1) year, or both. Any offense committed more than three (3) years after a previous conviction shall be considered a first offense.

(c) In addition to the penalty provided in subsection (b) of this section, the distribution of any animal remedy mixed or adulterated with any substance injurious to animals is subject to seizure and condemnation as the court may direct. The court may in its discretion release the animal remedy seized when the requirements of law have been complied with, and upon payment of all costs and expenses incurred by the state in any proceedings connected with the seizure.

#### CHAPTER 18 - LIVESTOCK BOARD AND STATE VETERINARIAN

**11-18-101. Livestock board; creation; composition; qualifications; appointment and term of members; removal; vacancies; name defined.**

(a) The Wyoming livestock board is created and shall consist of seven (7) livestock producers. At least three (3) members shall be sheep producers and at least three (3) shall be cattle producers, provided that if a vacancy exists on the board and no person meeting all the qualifications of this section is available then any livestock producer within the appointment district may be appointed. Members shall be appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the senate and may be removed by the governor as provided in W.S. 9-1-202. The members shall be appointed from each of the appointment districts pursuant to W.S. 9-1-218 and the appointment for each district shall be rotated among the counties within the district. The members shall serve for one (1) six (6) year term

and until their successors are appointed and qualified. In case of a vacancy for any reason, the governor shall appoint a qualified person to fill the vacancy in accordance with W.S. 28-12-101. Each member of the Wyoming livestock board shall be a qualified elector of the county from which he is appointed and a resident of this state during his term of office.

(b) The name, "Wyoming livestock and sanitary board" wherever it appears in any statute, law or regulation of record in this state or in any other document now in force and effect means "Wyoming livestock board." All powers, duties and prerogatives having accrued by law to the former livestock and sanitary board is hereafter vested in the Wyoming livestock board.

(c) Appointments and terms under this section shall be in accordance with W.S. 28-12-101 through 28-12-103.

**11-18-102. Livestock board; duties generally.**

The Wyoming livestock board shall exercise general supervision over and protect the livestock interests of the state from theft and disease, and shall recommend legislation as in its judgment will foster the industry.

**11-18-103. Livestock board; powers generally.**

(a) In addition to powers and duties hereinafter provided, the Wyoming livestock board shall:

(i) Appoint a state veterinarian who is a graduate of a veterinary college recognized by the American Veterinary Medical Association and the Wyoming state board of veterinary medicine and licensed to practice in Wyoming and who shall serve at the pleasure of the board;

(ii) Consult with the state veterinarian when the state veterinarian appoints deputy state veterinarians. Any deputy state veterinarians shall act under the direction of the Wyoming livestock board and the state veterinarian. Deputy state veterinarians shall be graduates of a veterinary college recognized by the American Veterinary Medical Association and the Wyoming state board of veterinary medicine. Deputy state veterinarians shall serve at the pleasure of the state veterinarian. The state veterinarian shall supervise and control the action of the deputy state veterinarians and prescribe their duties and tenure of office;

(iii) Supervise and control the action of the state veterinarian and prescribe his duties and tenure of office;

(iv) Remove the state veterinarian at any time;

(v) Promulgate and enforce rules, regulations and orders it deems necessary for the importation of domestic animals, excluding those animals covered in W.S. 23-3-301(a), recording and inspection of livestock brands, inspection, testing, brucellosis vaccination or quarantining of any livestock including brucellosis vaccination requirements for resident cattle and cattle imported into Wyoming and to develop a livestock health and emergency disease response program, including prevention, surveillance and investigation of livestock diseases through naturally occurring events or acts of agroterrorism. "Agroterrorism" for the purpose of this section means an intentional release of a biological or chemical agent that causes disease to livestock or crops or renders the food products of livestock or crops unsafe for human consumption;

(vi) Exercise the power and authority conferred upon it by this act, either directly or through its agency;

(vii) Designate an agency to act as its representative as provided by W.S. 11-20-201, recorded in its minutes, and transmit the name of the agency to the auditor and treasurer of Wyoming;

(viii) Develop a comprehensive livestock health and emergency disease response program for reportable diseases as identified in W.S. 11-19-102;

(ix) Promote the prevention, surveillance, investigation and elimination of diseases of concern and the protection of the overall health of Wyoming livestock by maintaining science based import regulations and quarantines and providing instruction to the ports of entry, veterinarians and law enforcement;

(x) Administer the livestock law enforcement account created by W.S. 11-18-120;

(xi) Convene when necessary for the purpose of considering the recommended closure of any elk feedground as provided under W.S. 23-1-305(a);



(xii) Establish a standard communication protocol to inform livestock producers, veterinarians and brand inspectors in the designated surveillance area within the county where a non-negative brucellosis test has been confirmed for any animal;

(xiii) *Establish a standard notification protocol to inform livestock producers, veterinarians, brand inspectors and other agencies with jurisdiction or authority regarding anthrax outbreaks. [NOTE: This paragraph will be effective 1/1/2026.]*

**11-18-104. Livestock board; oath.**

Members of the Wyoming livestock board, before entering upon their duties, shall take the oath of office prescribed by the constitution, and file it in the office of the secretary of state.

**11-18-105. Livestock board; election of president; meetings generally.**

The Wyoming livestock board shall elect one (1) of its members president. It shall meet at such times as called by the president, any three (3) members of the board, the state veterinarian or the director.

**11-18-106. Livestock board; quorum; compensation.**

A majority of the board constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business. Members of the board shall receive compensation, mileage and per diem for time actually spent in the performance of their duties and traveling expenses while in attendance, and going to and from board meetings in the same manner and amount as members of the Wyoming legislature.

**11-18-107. Livestock board; seal.**

The Wyoming livestock board shall have a seal upon which is engraved "Wyoming Livestock Board."

**11-18-108. Livestock board; report to governor.**

The Wyoming livestock board shall report to the governor all proceedings and the condition of the livestock interest of Wyoming as required by W.S. 9-2-1014.

**11-18-109. Disposition of collected fees and monies in general fund; payment of expenses of board.**

(a) All fees and monies collected by the Wyoming livestock board or any of its officers, agents or employees, not specifically required by law to be credited to a different fund, shall be placed by the board in the general fund with receipt and acknowledgement submitted to the state treasurer.

(b) The expenses incurred in the conduct of the business of the Wyoming livestock board, the state veterinarian and the director, including the per diem of members of the board, the salaries or wages of the director, deputy state veterinarians and other necessary employees, traveling expenses, furnishing of offices, stationery, supplies and all other expenditures necessary and incident thereto, shall be paid out of the general fund appropriations provided by law. All expenses shall be itemized on the proper vouchers, approved by the director, covered by proper receipts, and paid by the state auditor from money appropriated by law.

**11-18-110. Director; deputy directors; term; powers and duties generally; orders subject to review.**

(a) The board shall appoint a director, who shall be the chief executive officer of the board. The director shall serve at the pleasure of the board and act as the secretary of the Wyoming livestock board, subject to the rules and regulations of the board. He may act for and perform the duties imposed by law upon the board when the board is not in session, but an order or regulation made by him is subject to review, modification or annulment by the board at any subsequent meeting.

(b) The director may appoint deputy directors for agency divisions. The deputy directors shall serve at the pleasure of the director and are responsible to and under the control and supervision of the director.

(c) The director shall supervise and control the action of the other employees and prescribe their duties and tenure of office.

(d) Unless otherwise specified in this chapter, the director may only remove employees in accordance with personnel rules of the state executive branch.

**11-18-111. Deputy state veterinarians; appointment; powers and duties; term.**

With the consent of the Wyoming livestock board and approval of either the federal veterinarian in charge of Wyoming or the chief of veterinary services, United States department of agriculture, the state veterinarian may appoint federal veterinary inspectors stationed in this state as deputy state veterinarians, and federal lay inspectors stationed in this state may be appointed agents of the Wyoming livestock board. All federal officers appointed as deputies or agents of the Wyoming livestock board shall possess the powers and duties of deputy state veterinarians or agents of the Wyoming livestock board, but they shall act without compensation and hold office only at the pleasure of the state veterinarian.

**11-18-112. Authority of federal authorities and state inspectors to call sheriffs for assistance; failure to comply; penalties.**

All federal authorities authorized, and the various inspectors of this state, may call upon any sheriff or peace officer in any county in this state to assist them in the discharge of their duties and those peace officers shall assist them when so requested. The federal inspector has the same power to enforce the laws of this state as the various inspectors of the state when authorized as aforesaid and engaged in the discharge of their official duties. Any person refusing to comply with the orders of such officer or federal inspector shall be punished as provided in W.S. 11-1-103.

**11-18-113. When state veterinarian authorized to enter premises or vehicle to inspect livestock.**

In the performance of their official duties, the state veterinarian or any agent or officer of the Wyoming livestock board may enter any place or vehicle used for the treatment, retention or transportation of livestock, including poultry, or where he has reason to believe any livestock affected with or exposed to infectious, contagious or communicable diseases may be found.

**11-18-114. Repealed by Laws 1978, ch. 47, § 2.**

**11-18-115. Repealed by Laws 1978, ch. 47, § 2.**

**11-18-116. Repealed by Laws 1978, ch. 47, § 2.**

**11-18-117. Confidentiality of livestock premises and identification records; penalties.**

(a) Except as provided by subsection (b) of this section, all records, data and information collected by the state, recorded or otherwise, for the purposes of a livestock identification program shall be confidential and are not public records for purposes of W.S. 16-4-201 through 16-4-205. The records, data and information shall be released only upon order of the Wyoming livestock board to appropriate governmental agencies for the purposes of a livestock identification program, disease outbreak or law enforcement investigation. The board shall not release any records, data or information to a federal agency until the agency confirms in writing that it will maintain the records, data and information as confidential and that they are not subject to the federal Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552, as amended. Upon release by the board of any information to any other governmental entity, the board shall notify the person to whom the information refers or pertains that the release has been made, the name of the entity to whom the information was released and shall provide a copy or summary of the information contained in the release. The records, data and information shall not be subject to discovery or introduction into evidence in any civil action.

(b) The Wyoming livestock board may release any information related to a confirmed non-negative brucellosis test in the county where the animal testing non-negative is located, subject to W.S. 11-18-103(a)(xii), and may release information collected for the purposes of a livestock identification program related to the ownership and location of individual animals to the extent the information is useful in controlling or preventing a disease outbreak or to show particular animals or herds are not involved in a disease outbreak.

(c) For the purposes of animal disease traceability, Wyoming livestock owners may choose to identify animals using any methods set forth in 9 C.F.R. part 86, as adopted on January 9, 2013, as well as any additional methods that are later approved by the Wyoming livestock board as "official identification".

(d) Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit or amend the brucellosis surveillance or testing program administered by the state.

(e) A person who knowingly provides false information to the Wyoming livestock board for purposes of a livestock identification program shall be guilty of a misdemeanor

punishable by a fine of up to one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00), imprisonment for up to six (6) months, or both.

(f) A person who refuses to provide to the livestock board information that is required under the authority of the livestock board for purposes of a mandatory livestock identification program shall be guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of up to one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00), imprisonment for up to six (6) months, or both.

**11-18-118. Conducting business electronically.**

The Wyoming livestock board may allow its business to be conducted electronically as provided by the Uniform Electronic Transactions Act, W.S. 40-21-101 through 40-21-119.

**11-18-119. Veterinarian loan repayment program; rulemaking authority.**

(a) The board is authorized to enter into agreements with graduate veterinarians who are licensed to practice in the state of Wyoming, to provide food animal health care in this state. For purposes of this section, "food animal" means cattle, swine, sheep or goats. The agreements shall:

(i) Provide for the veterinarian to practice food animal veterinary medicine in a community of the state from among a list of communities developed by the board. A veterinarian shall agree to provide food animal veterinary care for the period of the contract in underserved areas of the state;

(ii) Provide that the veterinarian shall be repaid up to one hundred percent (100%) of the total amount of outstanding educational loans the veterinarian has acquired as a direct result of undergraduate or postgraduate educational training directly related to providing food animal veterinary services, not to exceed thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000.00) per year, including the matching funds specified in subsection (d) of this section, in exchange for practicing his profession under the terms of this section;

(iii) Require the veterinarian to practice food animal veterinary services for a minimum of three (3) years under the agreement;

(iv) Contain other provisions the board deems necessary or appropriate to accomplish the purposes of this section.

(b) The board, in consultation with the appropriate licensing board and professional association, shall promulgate rules and regulations necessary to carry out the purposes of this section. In carrying out this section the board shall assess food animal veterinary care needs of the state by geographic areas and shall prioritize and enter into agreements under this section accordingly.

(c) The board may vary the terms of each agreement in accordance with this section based upon the community and the food animal veterinary needs of the state.

(d) No state money shall be expended for repayment of any loan under this section unless twenty-five percent (25%) of the money is matched with other funds in any combination from any county, city, veterinary clinic, animal care facility, state agency, university, laboratory or veterinary association.

**11-18-120. Livestock law enforcement account;  
reimbursement of county sheriffs by livestock board; rules.**

(a) There is created the livestock law enforcement account. Unexpended, unobligated funds in the account shall revert to the general fund at the end of a biennium. Unless otherwise provided by law, the balance in the account shall not exceed five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000.00).

(b) Funds in the livestock law enforcement account shall only be expended by the livestock board to:

(i) Reimburse county sheriffs for activities relating to in-state and out-of-state livestock investigations;

(ii) Provide training to county sheriffs regarding livestock enforcement.

(c) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, reimbursement provided under paragraph (b)(i) of this section shall be credited to the applicable account, fund, subaccount or other accounting unit within the budget of a county which is controlled by the county sheriff. Reimbursement provided under paragraph (b)(i) of this section shall not be withheld by a

board of county commissioners from a county sheriff or deducted from the budget of a county sheriff.

(d) The livestock board shall adopt rules to implement this section, which shall include eligible expenses, rates and procedures for reimbursement.

**11-18-121. Identification of livestock; livestock board responsibilities.**

(a) The Wyoming livestock board shall inform livestock producers of all available options under W.S. 11-18-117 for identification regarding disease traceability.

(b) The buyers of livestock in receiving states shall be responsible for tagging livestock if an electronic identification device requirement is mandated in the receiving state, unless the Wyoming livestock owner has voluntarily utilized electronic identification devices.

(c) Nothing in this section shall prohibit a Wyoming licensed and accredited veterinarian from writing a certificate of veterinary inspection in compliance with applicable destination requirements.

CHAPTER 19 - CONTAGIOUS AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES AMONG LIVESTOCK

ARTICLE 1 - IN GENERAL

**11-19-101. Duties of state veterinarian generally; failure to comply with provisions; penalty.**

(a) The state veterinarian shall investigate all cases of dangerously contagious or infectious diseases among domestic animals in this state which are brought to his notice. In the absence of specific information, he shall make inspections of any locality where he has reason to suspect there is any contagious or infectious disease. He shall order that all animals affected with, exposed to or suspected of being affected with such diseases be gathered and quarantined. No animals pronounced affected with a dangerously contagious or infectious disease by the state veterinarian or his deputy or agent shall be turned loose, removed or permitted to escape, but shall be held subject to the order of the state veterinarian. All animals ordered gathered shall be gathered within a reasonable time specified by the state veterinarian.

(b) The state veterinarian may inspect, treat, test, vaccinate, quarantine or sell any animal imported into Wyoming in violation of W.S. 11-19-111 or any rules promulgated thereunder.

(c) Any person failing to comply with this section shall be punished as provided in W.S. 11-1-103.

(d) The state veterinarian may provide contagious and infectious reportable disease testing, containment and reimbursement services under this chapter to any livestock producer in Wyoming, including on the Wind River Indian Reservation who agrees to comply with the applicable program requirements, rules and any orders or regulations issued pursuant to the testing results or program requirements. Services on the Wind River Indian Reservation under this subsection may also be provided pursuant to a cooperative agreement entered into by the Wyoming livestock board, in consultation with the state veterinarian, and the Eastern Shoshone Tribe, the Northern Arapaho Tribe or the cooperative tribal governing body. The testing, containment and reimbursement services provided under this subsection shall not apply to bison designated as wildlife pursuant to W.S. 11-20-101(a) (iv).

**11-19-102. Duty of public to report diseases; list of reportable diseases; failure to comply or obstruction of duty; liability; penalties.**

(a) Any person or government entity who knows or suspects that there is any contagious or infectious reportable disease among animals owned by or under their jurisdiction or any veterinarian who knows or suspects any reportable contagious or infectious disease on any premises or in any animal, shall immediately report the same to the state veterinarian. The state veterinarian shall establish and manage a list of reportable diseases for any contagious or infectious disease deemed by the state veterinarian to be a threat to domestic animals. During development of this list the state veterinarian shall consult with the Wyoming game and fish department's supervisor of veterinary research services. Information collected in response to the list of reportable diseases shall be considered confidential proprietary information. Access to any information collected under the list of reportable diseases shall be limited to the person who reported the disease and the state veterinarian, except that the state veterinarian may at his discretion notify any of the following:



- (i) The Wyoming livestock board;
- (ii) The state veterinary laboratory;
- (iii) The Wyoming game and fish director only if the disease threatens wildlife;
- (iv) Any state or federal inspector, public health official or peace officer who is actively involved in the investigation of an outbreak or suspected outbreak of the contagious or infectious disease;
- (v) Owners of possible contact animals;
- (vi) Adjacent landowners; or
- (vii) Local area practicing veterinarians.

(b) The state veterinarian when he deems it to be in the best interests of animal health, or the state public health officer when he deems it to be in the best interests of human public health, may release to the public any information collected under subsection (a) of this section, except the identity of any individual who reported the disease or whose animals may have contracted the disease.

(c) A failure to report, or any attempt to conceal the existence of the disease or to willfully or maliciously obstruct or resist the veterinarian in the discharge of his duty is a misdemeanor. Any person who willfully or maliciously falsifies a report to the state veterinarian is guilty of a misdemeanor. Any person convicted of any of the above acts or omissions shall be punished as provided in W.S. 11-1-103.

(d) Any person who knows that they own or have in their possession any livestock as defined by W.S. 11-20-101(a) (iv) infected with any disease formally declared by the Wyoming livestock board, through rule and regulation, as being potentially economically devastating and for which there is a valid diagnostic test and who transfers ownership or possession of the livestock to another person, or who knowingly or through his own neglect allows the livestock to commingle with uninfected livestock, is liable for the economic damages caused by the spread of the disease to uninfected livestock. In addition to the conditions for liability and recovery set in subsection (e) of this section, damages shall be available under

this subsection only to a transferee who accepts the diseased animal directly from the liable person and to the owner of an animal that becomes infected as the result of direct contact with the diseased animal. The burden of proving liability and damages under this section shall be upon the person claiming damages. Any person who files a claim for recovery under this subsection alleging facts known to be false is liable for three (3) times the damages caused by the false claim and reasonable attorney fees.

(e) No person who has received written notice that an animal is infected with a disease identified in subsection (d) of this section prior to acquiring ownership or assuming possession of the infected animal shall be entitled to the damages provided by subsection (d) of this section. No livestock sales or auction facility shall be subject to the liability imposed by subsection (d) of this section if:

(i) The existence of disease was not reported to the facility and the facility did not know of the existence of the disease; or

(ii) The facility provided written notice of the disease to the person claiming damages under subsection (d) of this section.

(f) Notwithstanding subsection (a) of this section, the state veterinarian shall provide testing information to the owner of an animal that has tested non-negative for brucellosis not later than three (3) days after receipt of the preliminary laboratory results.

**11-19-103. Quarantine of diseased animals generally; treatment, testing and vaccination thereof; effect of failure to obey order of state veterinarian; appeal; stay of action.**

(a) In all cases of infectious and contagious disease among domestic animals in this state, the state veterinarian may order the quarantine of the infected premises. If the disease becomes epizootic in any locality in this state, the state veterinarian shall immediately notify the governor who shall issue his proclamation forbidding transfer of any animal of the kind among which the epizootic disease exists from the locality without permission from the state veterinarian.

(b) Whenever the state veterinarian finds any infectious or contagious disease among domestic animals in any section of

the state he shall take such steps as will prevent the spread of the disease. The state veterinarian may inspect and compel the treatment, testing, vaccination or quarantine of all such animals in Wyoming found to be infected or exposed to the disease or imported in violation of W.S. 11-19-111 or any rules promulgated thereunder, under such rules and regulations as he may adopt. Any order or regulation made by the state veterinarian is subject to review, modification or annulment by the board at any subsequent meeting.

(c) Repealed By Laws 2011, Ch. 96, § 2.

(d) Repealed By Laws 2011, Ch. 96, § 2.

(e) If the owner or persons in charge of animals ordered treated, tested, vaccinated or quarantined after reasonable notice determined by the veterinarian, fail to treat, test, vaccinate or quarantine such animals as ordered, the veterinarian may seize or cause such animals to be seized and treated, tested, vaccinated or quarantined and may hold and sell the animals, or part thereof as necessary to pay all costs of inspection, seizing, caring for, treating, testing, vaccinating or quarantine together with cost of sale. The sale shall be made at the time and place and in the manner prescribed by the veterinarian. Not less than three (3) days nor more than fifteen (15) days notice of the time, place and purpose of the sale shall be given by the veterinarian to the owner or persons in charge of the animals, by personal service within the county in which the animals are being held if possible, and if not possible then such notice may be given either by personal service outside of the county or by advertisement in any paper selected by the veterinarian. The state veterinarian shall only sell the animals after all other remedies have been exhausted.

(f) The owner of animals so seized and held may at any time prior to sale recover possession of the same by paying to the state veterinarian the amount of costs incurred by order of the veterinarian against the animals. Any sum realized from the sale of the animals over the cost actually incurred against the animals shall be returned to the owner of the animals if known or can by reasonable diligence be found. Otherwise the overage shall be placed in the estray fund and dispensed as provided by law.

(g) Any order or other action under this chapter may be appealed by the owner, or the agent of the owner, of the animals

affected or by any aggrieved governmental entity to the board as follows:

(i) The appeal shall be requested within thirty (30) days of the order or action, except that a quarantine may be appealed at any time during the quarantine;

(ii) An informal hearing may initially be requested. A formal hearing may subsequently be requested and shall be conducted as a contested case in accordance with the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act. The board shall render a final decision in writing within ten (10) working days of the conclusion of the hearing;

(iii) The board may alter, amend, annul or otherwise modify any order in the event the board finds:

(A) The aggrieved person was injured by the order or regulation; and

(B) The state veterinarian lacked legal authority for the order or regulation; or

(C) The order or regulation was not needed to:

(I) Protect the public health;

(II) Prevent the spread of animal disease;

(III) Preserve the ability to market Wyoming livestock efficiently; or

(IV) Implement a specific requirement of Wyoming law.

(iv) All decisions of the board are subject to judicial review under the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act.

(h) In the event of a foreign animal disease outbreak, an act of animal agro-terrorism or other animal health emergency, the state veterinarian shall have all of the resources of the livestock board at his disposal. When such an event occurs, the state veterinarian shall immediately notify the governor and shall advise him as to any additional resources which may be needed to address the emergency.

(j) Any person failing to comply with this section shall be punished as provided in W.S. 11-1-103.

(k) The owner or producer of animals quarantined for brucellosis containment efforts may submit a claim at any time during the quarantine, or within thirty (30) days after release from quarantine, for reimbursement for actual expenses incurred in mitigating or attempting to mitigate the effects of the quarantine. The Wyoming livestock board, in consultation with the state veterinarian, shall promulgate rules for the processing of claims under this section.

**11-19-104. Slaughter of diseased animals; authority of veterinarian; slaughtering order; when consent of owner required.**

(a) In any case of epizootic disease where premises have been previously quarantined by the state veterinarian, he may order the slaughter of any diseased animals upon the premises and all animals that have been exposed to contagion or infection under the following restrictions:

(i) The order shall be in writing with a duplicate for each owner of the animals condemned;

(ii) The original of each order shall be filed by the veterinarian with the governor and a duplicate given to the owner; and

(iii) Before slaughtering any animal that has been exposed only and does not show disease, the veterinarian shall have the consent of the owner or person in charge of the animal to be slaughtered.

**11-19-105. Repealed By Laws 2012, Ch. 90, § 2.**

**11-19-106. Removal of diseased animals; owner's claims.**

(a) All claims against the state arising from the ordered disposal of animals by the state veterinarian for scrapie, brucellosis and tuberculosis, together with the order of the veterinarian, shall be submitted to the state auditor who shall examine them without unnecessary delay. For purposes of this section, "disposal" means to sell, send to slaughter or destroy the animal. For each claim he finds to be equitable and entitled to indemnity under this chapter the auditor shall issue his warrant on the state treasurer for the sum named in the claim.

All claims for indemnity arising under the provisions of this chapter, before they are presented for payment to the auditor, shall be submitted to the state veterinarian who shall fully inform himself of the facts connected with each claim. The state veterinarian shall endorse on each claim his approval or rejection and shall express in such endorsement the reasons for his approval or rejection.

(b) If the state veterinarian rejects a claim it and the reasons for rejection shall be submitted to a board of arbitration consisting of three (3) members selected as follows:

(i) The state veterinarian shall select one (1) stock grower who is a resident of the county where the ordered disposed animal for which the claim is made ranged;

(ii) The claimant shall select one (1) stock grower who is a resident of the same county; and

(iii) These two (2) shall choose the third member from among the stock growers of the same county.

(c) The indemnity granted under this section shall be the difference between the fair market value of the livestock and the amount received for the sale, less any amount of reimbursement provided for and paid under federal law and regulation. Fair market value shall be determined by using comparable sales data from state markets at the time of removal or by the use of a qualified independent livestock appraiser as designated by the state veterinarian. If no sale is transacted, but an animal is removed for diagnostic purposes or disposal, the reimbursement provided shall be the fair market value minus any other reimbursement. Unless otherwise reimbursed, the cost of shipping or transportation and commission charges shall be added to the amount provided to the producer for livestock indemnification. It shall be paid to the owner upon his application and presentation of proofs prescribed herein within six (6) months of the date of ordered disposal for which payment is claimed. The claim shall be barred if not presented within the time limited.

(d) Payments shall be made by the state treasurer from funds appropriated to the animal reimbursement program account under W.S. 11-19-118 and as provided by W.S. 11-19-109. The right to indemnity is limited to animals destroyed by reason of existence or suspected existence of some epizootic form of infectious or contagious diseases, generally fatal or incurable.

(e) There is no right to indemnity and payment in the following cases:

(i) For animals belonging to the United States;

(ii) For animals that are brought into the state contrary to the laws of this state or the governor's import proclamation;

(iii) For animals found to be diseased upon arrival or that were exposed to the disease prior to their arrival in the state under circumstances whereby the Wyoming owner knew or should have known of such conditions;

(iv) When an animal was previously affected by any other disease which from its nature and development was incurable and necessarily fatal;

(v) When the owner or person in charge has knowingly or negligently omitted to comply with W.S. 11-19-104 or 11-19-105; or

(vi) When the owner or claimant at the time of coming in possession of the animal knew it to be diseased or received the notice specified in W.S. 11-19-110.

(f) The Wyoming livestock board, in consultation with the state veterinarian, shall promulgate rules and regulations for the processing of claims under this section.

(g) Renumbered as 11-19-118 by Laws 2020, ch. 94, § 2.

**11-19-107. Auditor to pay claims allowed by board; effect of failure to submit claim to board.**

The state auditor shall pay no claim for indemnity which is rejected by the state veterinarian, unless it has been submitted to arbitration and the arbitration board decided it to be legal and just. If any claimant refuses to submit his claim rejected by the veterinarian to a board of arbitration, the refusal is a waiver of all claim for indemnity.

**11-19-108. Compensation of board.**

Each member of a board of arbitration shall receive one hundred dollars (\$100.00) for each day actually engaged and employed in

the investigation of any claim, paid by the state veterinarian out of an appropriation for that purpose.

**11-19-109. Limitations on indemnity.**

The liability of the state for indemnity for animals destroyed under this act [ §§ 11-19-101 through 11-19-111] in any two (2) years, is limited by and shall in no case exceed the amount especially appropriated for that purpose and for that period.

**11-19-110. Quarantine of diseased animals; authority of veterinarian over animals in transit.**

(a) The owner or person having in charge any animal affected with or suspected of any contagious or infectious disease shall immediately confine the animal in a safe place, isolated from other animals, and with all necessary restrictions to prevent dissemination of the disease until the arrival of the state veterinarian.

(b) The state veterinarian or his agent may examine all animals passing through the state and on detection or suspicion of disease may take possession of and treat and dispose of animals in transit in the same manner as animals resident in the state.

**11-19-111. Regulation of importation of animals; prohibited acts; penalties; applicability.**

(a) The governor, upon recommendation of the Wyoming livestock board, may regulate by proclamation the importation into Wyoming from any other state any animal, blood, microorganism or biologic agent capable of causing any disease affecting livestock or other animals, or any other item suspected of being infected or contaminated with biologic agents capable of causing animal disease, except under such conditions as he deems proper for the protection of the livestock, livestock animals as defined in W.S. 11-29-101(a)(vi) and other domestic animals of Wyoming. All requirements in the governor's proclamation shall be enforced by the Wyoming livestock board.

(b) After a proclamation is issued by the governor it is unlawful for any person to import into Wyoming or receive imports within this state from any other state any animal, blood, microorganism or biologic agent capable of causing any diseases affecting livestock or other animals, or any product or item suspected of being infected or contaminated with biologic



agents capable of causing animal disease, except under such conditions as may be imposed by the proclamation. Any person who violates this section shall be punished as provided in W.S. 11-1-103. The violator is civilly liable for all damages and loss sustained by any person by reason of violation of the proclamation.

(c) The proclamation authorized by this section shall not prohibit the transportation of animals through Wyoming by railroad as long as the animals are not unloaded in this state.

(d) The state veterinarian may inspect, treat, test, vaccinate, quarantine or sell any livestock or other domestic animals imported into Wyoming in violation of W.S. 11-19-111 or any rules promulgated thereunder. Any order or regulation made by the state veterinarian is subject to review, modification or annulment by the governor or the board at any subsequent meeting.

(e) An order of the state veterinarian under subsection (d) of this section shall be subject to appeal and due process as provided in W.S. 11-19-103.

**11-19-112. Cooperation with animal and plant health inspection service.**

The state consents to having the animal and plant health inspection service (APHIS) of the United States department of agriculture and its employees come within Wyoming for all purposes connected with the importation and exportation of diseased livestock and for all purposes connected with the eradication, suppression and control of dangerously infectious and contagious diseases of livestock.

**11-19-113. Repealed By Laws 2013, Ch 12, § 2.**

**11-19-114. Repealed By Laws 2013, Ch 12, § 2.**

**11-19-115. Repealed By Laws 2013, Ch 12, § 2.**

**11-19-116. Repealed By Laws 2013, Ch 12, § 2.**

**11-19-117. Repealed By Laws 2013, Ch 12, § 2.**

**11-19-118. Animal reimbursement program account.**

(a) There is created the animal reimbursement program account into which shall be deposited revenues as provided by law. Interest on earnings from funds in the account shall be credited to the account. Deposits into the account shall only be expended pursuant to this section, W.S. 11-19-103, 11-19-106, 11-19-214, 11-19-406 and Wyoming livestock board rules. Notwithstanding W.S. 9-2-1008 or 9-4-207, unexpended funds shall not revert.

(b) The state veterinarian shall report the balance of the account and the claims endorsed and paid each fiscal year to the joint appropriations committee and the joint agriculture, state and public lands and water resources interim committee.

(c) Before the state veterinarian endorses any payment to be made from this account for the ordered disposal of any livestock under W.S. 11-19-106, 11-19-214 or 11-19-406 or for brucellosis testing and containment efforts pursuant to Wyoming livestock board rules or under W.S. 11-19-103, the state veterinarian shall ascertain that sufficient funds are available in the account. The state veterinarian shall use available federal funds before using state funds to make any payment from this account.

(d) Not more than fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) shall be paid for any single quarantine effort under W.S. 11-19-103(k). The reimbursement limit under this subsection does not include any indemnity payment for livestock disposal under W.S. 11-19-106, 11-19-214 or 11-19-406. Payments from this account for quarantine efforts shall cease whenever the unexpended, unobligated account balance equals or is less than one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00). Payments from this account for quarantine efforts may resume after the unexpended, unobligated account balance exceeds one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00).

(e) The Wyoming livestock board, in consultation with the state veterinarian, shall promulgate rules to carry out the purposes of this section.

## ARTICLE 2 - TUBERCULIN TEST OF DAIRY CATTLE

### **11-19-201. Definitions.**

(a) As used in this act:

(i) "Dairy animal" means any cow, sheep or goat, the milk or milk products from which is sold or used for human consumption;

(ii) "Livestock animal" means as defined in W.S. 11-29-101(a)(vi);

(iii) "This act" means W.S. 11-19-201 through 11-19-215.

**11-19-202. Repealed By Laws 2013, Ch 12, § 2.**

**11-19-203. Repealed By Laws 2013, Ch 12, § 2.**

**11-19-204. Repealed By Laws 2013, Ch 12, § 2.**

**11-19-205. Repealed By Laws 2013, Ch. 12, § 2.**

**11-19-206. Repealed By Laws 2013, Ch 12, § 2.**

**11-19-207. Repealed By Laws 2013, Ch 12, § 2.**

**11-19-208. Ear tags; record to be kept of livestock animals tested.**

Each livestock animal tested for tuberculosis shall have an official ear tag inserted in its ear. The testing veterinarian shall keep an official record of all livestock animals tested and submit a copy of the record to state and federal animal health officials.

**11-19-209. Tests of livestock animals.**

Whenever the state veterinarian suspects that tuberculosis exists or has been introduced to livestock animals, he shall order the testing of the livestock animals.

**11-19-210. Repealed By Laws 2013, Ch. 12, § 2.**

**11-19-211. Repealed By Laws 2013, Ch 12, § 2.**

**11-19-212. Repealed By Laws 2013, Ch 12, § 2.**

**11-19-213. Repealed By Laws 2013, Ch 12, § 2.**

**11-19-214. Disposition of diseased livestock.**

All livestock animals in Wyoming, including those belonging to a producer on the Wind River Indian Reservation who receives services pursuant to W.S. 11-19-101(d), found to be affected with or exposed to tuberculosis may be disposed on the origin premises or transported under the direction of the state veterinarian directly to an approved slaughter facility, rendering facility or veterinary diagnostic laboratory in accordance with federal regulations. Producers may be eligible for indemnification as provided in W.S. 11-19-106 for any livestock animal ordered disposed pursuant to this section.

**11-19-215. Prohibited acts; penalties.**

Any person who intentionally interferes with, refuses to assist in gathering and testing his livestock animals, or hinders the work of the state veterinarian or his employees under this act, or who attempts to defeat the object of the tuberculin test by a previous injection of tuberculin commonly known as "plugging," or in any way attempts to prevent an accurate and truthful determination of the condition of the livestock animals tested, shall be punished as provided in W.S. 11-1-103.

ARTICLE 3 - TUBERCULOSIS MODIFIED ACCREDITED AREAS

**11-19-301. Repealed By Laws 2013, Ch 12, § 2.**

**11-19-302. Repealed By Laws 2013, Ch 12, § 2.**

**11-19-303. Appropriations by counties for control of diseases.**

The board of county commissioners may appropriate as much money as it deems necessary for the control and eradication of any infectious, contagious or communicable diseases of livestock. The funds shall be used in cooperation with the state veterinarian or the United States department of agriculture, animal and plant health inspection service (APHIS) in testing animals and disposing of diseased animals disclosed by the tests as provided by law.

**11-19-304. Prohibition on importation of cattle or bison; penalties.**

Any person bringing cattle or bison into any tuberculosis accredited-free area except in compliance with the rules and regulations made by the state veterinarian shall upon conviction be punished as provided in W.S. 11-1-103.

**11-19-305. Powers of state veterinarian.**

The state veterinarian may make and enforce rules and regulations necessary for the enforcement of W.S. 11-19-303 through 11-19-306.

**11-19-306. Penalties for violation of rules and regulations.**

Any person who violates any lawful rule or regulation made by the state veterinarian pursuant to W.S. 11-19-305 is guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction, shall be punished as provided in W.S. 11-1-103.

ARTICLE 4 - BRUCELLOSIS TEST OF CATTLE

**11-19-401. Tagging, branding and disposition of cattle reacting to test; penalties for failure to comply.**

All livestock animals in Wyoming reacting to a confirmatory test for brucellosis (Bang's disease) may be immediately permanently branded with a hot iron letter "B" on the left tailhead by or in the presence of an officially authorized veterinarian. All such reactor livestock animals shall be disposed of for slaughter or diagnostic purposes only, upon and according to written instruction from the Wyoming livestock board. Any person who violates any provision of this section shall be punished as provided in W.S. 11-1-103. As used in this section, "confirmatory test" means a test for brucellosis that has the specificity and sensitivity to verify the presence or absence of brucella abortus in animal serum or tissues and is used to confirm results from an initial brucellosis test.

**11-19-402. Breeding cattle and bison entering state to show evidence of negative test or vaccination for brucellosis; exceptions.**

All breeding cattle and bison entering Wyoming shall be accompanied by a proper health certificate showing evidence of a negative blood test for brucellosis made within thirty (30) days prior to entry, or evidence of being officially vaccinated by a licensed veterinarian during calfhod against brucellosis. Breeding cattle and bison originating from brucellosis free areas and from certified brucellosis free herds entering Wyoming may be exempt from this section but must be accompanied by a proper health certificate.

**11-19-403. When cattle or bison exempt from provisions.**

Breeding cattle and bison entering Wyoming for the purpose of feeding only may be exempt from the requirements of W.S. 11-19-402 if they are placed under quarantine by the rules and regulations promulgated by the Wyoming livestock board.

**11-19-404. Applicability of provisions.**

The Wyoming livestock board shall determine which of the requirements set forth in W.S. 11-19-402 through 11-19-404 apply to the various counties or areas within Wyoming.

**11-19-405. Control of brucellosis; governor authorized to negotiate with federal agencies.**

(a) To preserve the brucellosis-free status of this state, the governor shall enter into negotiations with any relevant parties including appropriate federal agencies and tribes of the regions adjacent to Wyoming on steps necessary to ensure brucellosis is not passed from wildlife to livestock.

(b) The governor may direct any state agency to take any actions needed to ensure brucellosis does not spread from wildlife to livestock.

(c) In the event of a confirmed outbreak of brucellosis, the governor may authorize the state veterinarian, with the approval of the Wyoming livestock board, to require brucellosis testing of all test eligible bovine or domestic bison at the farm or ranch of origin or any licensed Wyoming livestock market prior to a change of ownership for a period of up to eighteen (18) months. At the end of the required testing period, the state veterinarian shall review the testing requirement and may reimpose brucellosis testing for one (1) or more successive periods under this subsection if there is deemed by the state veterinarian to be a threat to Wyoming's brucellosis free status or if the state is designated as brucellosis class A or lower status.

(d) The state veterinarian may direct any Wyoming brand inspector to withhold a brand inspection for movement or change of ownership to any person who has not shown evidence of any required brucellosis test.

(e) As part of the state brucellosis surveillance and prevention program, the state veterinarian may require brucellosis testing of any test eligible bovine or domestic bison at any licensed Wyoming livestock market at any time. Failure to comply shall result in a suspension of the livestock market's license.

(f) Any person who violates any provision of this section shall be punished as provided by W.S. 11-1-103.

**11-19-406. Sale of diseased cattle or domestic bison.**

All cattle or domestic bison in Wyoming, including those belonging to a producer on the Wind River Indian Reservation who receives services pursuant to W.S. 11-19-101(d), lawfully found to be affected with brucellosis, including all sexually intact cattle or domestic bison that are part of a herd found to be affected with brucellosis, may be shipped or transported under the direction of the state veterinarian to livestock markets and sold for immediate slaughter or transferred to an approved slaughter facility or veterinary diagnostic laboratory in accordance with federal regulations. Payments under this section shall not be made by the state for any sexually intact female cattle or bison which are over twelve (12) months old and which are not official calfhood vaccinates as provided in board rule and regulation. Producers may be eligible for indemnification in accordance with W.S. 11-19-106 for any livestock ordered disposed pursuant to this section.

**11-19-407. Brucellosis testing program.**

(a) The livestock board shall develop a brucellosis surveillance program in any designated surveillance area as defined by the livestock board and any temporary surveillance area designated by the board and approved by the governor as an area where risk of exposure to documented infected wildlife is of concern. The program may be conducted with the help of veterinary practitioners and livestock auction markets. This program shall provide for the testing of livestock for brucellosis, for spaying heifers and for adult vaccinations only to the extent that may be reasonably necessary to maintain or to regain the brucellosis-free status of the state of Wyoming. Compensation under this program for all purposes except mandatory testing or testing within a temporary surveillance area as designated by the board and approved by the governor shall be pursuant to the terms of a brucellosis mitigation plan

that has been entered into between the livestock producer and the Wyoming state veterinarian.

(b) The compensation for brucellosis surveillance testing, spaying heifers and adult vaccinations shall be paid at not less than one dollar and fifty cents (\$1.50) per head and not more than eight dollars (\$8.00) per head of cattle actually tested, spayed or adult vaccinated. Compensation for brucellosis testing, spaying or adult vaccinating may include the purchase of brucellosis testing, spaying or adult vaccinating equipment, supplies and postage.

(c) Payments under subsection (b) of this section shall be made monthly directly to accredited veterinarians who perform brucellosis testing, spaying, adult vaccinating and surveillance planning or to livestock auction markets that use their facilities and veterinarians to conduct brucellosis testing, spaying or adult vaccinating as mandated by rule of the Wyoming livestock board or the United States department of agriculture animal and plant health inspection service. The payment shall be made upon receipt by the Wyoming livestock board of documentation in the format and manner specified by board rule.

#### ARTICLE 5 - REGULATION AND INSPECTION OF SHEEP

##### **11-19-501. When notice of importation to be made; contents; applicability of rules and regulations of board.**

(a) Any person intending to bring or cause to be brought any sheep from any other state or territory, the District of Columbia or any foreign country into Wyoming in any manner except by shipping them through the state by railroad or truck, shall, ten (10) days before crossing the state line, notify the executive officer of the board of the proposed action. The notice shall set forth the number of sheep, the brands or marks thereon, the name of the owner and the locality from which the sheep came and through which they have been driven.

(b) Sheep trailed or shipped into the state from adjoining states for immediate interstate shipment or for show and exhibition purposes, sheep grazing along and across state lines, and sheep shipped from any part of this state to feed yards in any other part of the state when shipment is made by interstate route, are governed by the rules and regulations of the board.

##### **11-19-502. Unloading sheep in transit prohibited; exception; cost of enforcement.**



Any sheep in transit through this state shall not be unloaded for any purpose except for feeding, and shall be held in the feed yards or in grazing grounds and not allowed to leave. All expenses of enforcing this section shall be paid by the owner of the sheep.

**11-19-503. Bringing infected sheep into state prohibited.**

It is unlawful for any person to bring into this state any sheep infected with any infectious or contagious disease, or that have been exposed to such disease.

**11-19-504. Refusal to give information deemed misdemeanor.**

Any herder or other person in charge of sheep who willfully refuses to give an inspector information as to the condition of sheep in his charge is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable as provided by W.S. 11-19-506.

**11-19-505. Owners to be jointly and severally liable; when arrest necessary; service of summons and complaint.**

In any action arising under W.S. 11-19-501 through 11-19-505, all persons owning or having control of the sheep concerning which the action is had, are liable severally and jointly. In criminal actions, no arrest is necessary except in case of nonresident persons, but a summons containing notice of the time and place of trial, together with a copy of the complaint filed in a circuit court, or in the court in which the action is commenced, shall be served in the same manner and for the length of time provided by law for the service of summons in civil cases.

**11-19-506. Penalties.**

Any person who violates W.S. 11-19-501 through 11-19-505 shall be fined not more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00) or imprisoned not more than one (1) year, or both.

**ARTICLE 6 - WILDLIFE/LIVESTOCK DISEASE RESEARCH PARTNERSHIP**

**11-19-601. Findings; purposes.**

(a) The interaction of livestock and wildlife may lead to mutual or shared diseases. Some of these diseases may have the potential to adversely affect Wyoming's livestock producers and

influence the management of Wyoming's free-ranging wildlife. Research into these diseases may provide strategies or solutions that benefit Wyoming's livestock industries and wildlife resources.

(b) The purpose of the Wyoming wildlife/livestock disease research partnership is to utilize existing personnel and facilities of the state, to identify funding sources, to enhance wildlife and livestock disease research in the state, and to understand, manage, control and preempt potentially mutual or shared diseases that may impact wildlife, livestock or humans.

**11-19-602. Wyoming wildlife/livestock disease research partnership board created; membership; duties; purposes.**

(a) There is created the wildlife/livestock disease research partnership board within the department. The board shall consist of the following members or their designees:

(i) The director of the department;

(ii) The director of the Wyoming game and fish department;

(iii) The vice-president for research at the University of Wyoming;

(iv) The director of the Wyoming state veterinary laboratory; and

(v) The state veterinarian.

(b) The board shall:

(i) Accept funding from all sources, including federal, state and local governments and private donations to carry out the purposes of this article;

(ii) Leverage funds received to match other funds that may be available to the board;

(iii) Deposit funds received into the account created by W.S. 11-19-603. No funds may be withdrawn or otherwise expended without the specific consent of at least three (3) members of the board;

(iv) Accept, review and prioritize research proposals submitted to the board;

(v) Seek support for programs and projects consistent with the purposes of the board;

(vi) Allocate funds for research which serve the goals of understanding, managing, controlling or preempting potentially mutual or shared diseases that impact wild and domestic animals or humans in the state;

(vii) *Allocate funds for monitoring, tracking and conducting disease surveillance before and following the introduction of bighorn sheep in the Sweetwater Rocks herd unit. Note: this paragraph is effective as of 1/1/2026.*

(c) In approving research requests for funding, the board shall first consider any requests for funding from the Wyoming game and fish department, the University of Wyoming, the Wyoming department of agriculture and the Wyoming livestock board. After consideration of requests from those state agencies, the board may consider requests from other entities.

(d) All research projects requesting funding from the board shall be submitted to the board in a form and manner specified by the board. The approval of not less than three (3) members of the board shall be required prior to funding of a project with funds received under this section.

#### **11-19-603. Account created.**

There is created a wildlife/livestock disease research partnership account. Funds from this account shall be used only for purposes specified in W.S. 11-19-601 through 11-19-605. Any interest earned on the account shall remain within the account.

*There is created a wildlife/livestock disease research partnership account. Funds from this account shall be used only for purposes specified in W.S. 11-19-601 through 11-19-605. Any interest earned on the account shall remain within the account. [NOTE: This section will be effective 1/1/2026.]*

#### **11-19-604. Wyoming bighorn/domestic sheep plan.**

(a) The Wyoming bighorn/domestic sheep plan shall be developed and maintained by rule and regulation as provided in this section to address potential conflicts arising out of the

interaction between bighorn sheep and domestic sheep within the state. The final report and recommendations from the Wyoming state-wide bighorn/domestic sheep interaction working group dated September 2004 together with appendices A through N as adopted by the group is adopted as the initial Wyoming bighorn/domestic sheep plan under this section and shall continue as revised or amended until repealed or nullified pursuant to law.

(b) Rules and regulations necessary to administer this article shall be promulgated jointly by the game and fish commission, the board of agriculture and the livestock board. The game and fish commission, the board of agriculture and the livestock board may jointly consider recommendations for changes to the plan and may revise or amend the plan through the rulemaking process pursuant to the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act.

(c) The goal of the Wyoming bighorn/domestic sheep plan shall be to maintain the health of bighorn sheep populations while sustaining an economically viable domestic sheep population.

(d) The most current version of the Wyoming bighorn/domestic sheep plan shall be published on the website of the game and fish commission.

(e) In conformance with the Wyoming bighorn/domestic sheep plan the game and fish department may relocate or remove bighorn sheep to another area of the state if a federal judicial action or agency decision would require elimination of domestic sheep grazing in any area or herd unit designated in the Wyoming bighorn/domestic sheep plan as a nonemphasis herd. The game and fish department shall be reimbursed for the costs of relocation or removal of sheep under this subsection from funds available in the wildlife/livestock disease research partnership account.

**11-19-605. Wyoming bighorn/domestic sheep relocation and removal; legislative findings; reimbursement; attorney general action. Note: this section is effective as of 1/1/2026.**

(a) The legislature finds and declares that it is the state's policy to vigorously defend its interests in maintaining and enhancing viable livestock grazing operations on public lands in conjunction with the conservation and maintenance of healthy bighorn sheep populations in the state of Wyoming. These two (2) policies are mutually compatible as demonstrated since

the adoption of the collaboratively developed Wyoming bighorn/domestic sheep plan in 2004, which was codified into law under W.S. 11-19-604 in 2015. The legislature further finds and declares that:

(i) Reintroduction of bighorn sheep and management action to protect existing populations of bighorn sheep on federal public lands has been effectively accomplished in conformance with the Wyoming bighorn/domestic sheep plan;

(ii) It is the policy of the state of Wyoming to accept any risk of contact between bighorn sheep and livestock in the vicinity of any bighorn sheep transplant or relocation and to hold livestock producers harmless in the event such contact occurs;

(iii) All wildlife in the state of Wyoming is the property of the state, and it is the policy of the state to provide an adequate and flexible system for control, propagation, management, protection and regulation of all Wyoming wildlife;

(iv) Any removal of bighorn sheep from the Sweetwater Rocks herd unit under this act shall not be attributable to domestic livestock grazing on federal bureau of land management administered lands. Rather, the removal of bighorn sheep shall be directly attributable to:

(A) Onerous federal regulation that unduly impedes the state of Wyoming's ability to manage wildlife and domestic livestock grazing in conformance with the Wyoming bighorn/domestic sheep plan;

(B) Third-party action designed to use bighorn sheep as a means of eliminating domestic livestock grazing on bureau of land management administered lands within or in the vicinity of the Sweetwater Rocks herd unit.

(v) The provisions of this section shall be enforced by the state.

(b) In conformance with the Wyoming bighorn/domestic sheep plan in W.S. 11-19-604 and pursuant to W.S. 23-1-103, the game and fish department shall relocate or remove all bighorn sheep from the Sweetwater Rocks herd unit if any federal judicial action or federal agency action requires or indicates it may require the following:

(i) The elimination, reduction or suspension of domestic livestock grazing or trailing in the Sweetwater Rocks herd unit; or

(ii) Any changes to a United States bureau of land management resource management plan, grazing allotment plan or livestock grazing permit terms and conditions due to the presence of bighorn sheep in the Sweetwater Rocks herd unit or grazing allotment in that vicinity that is not in a designated bighorn sheep herd unit after July 1, 2024 without the consent of the grazing permittee.

(c) Any relocation or removal of bighorn sheep from the Sweetwater Rocks herd unit required by subsection (b) of this section shall commence as soon as practicable but not later than six (6) months after the Wyoming department of agriculture certifies to the governor that a condition specified in subsection (b) of this section is met. The governor shall notify the game and fish department that the removal of bighorn sheep from the Sweetwater Rocks herd unit shall commence in accordance with this section.

(d) The game and fish department shall be responsible for the expedient removal of bighorn sheep that stray outside the Sweetwater Rocks herd unit if that straying or foray is not into another designated bighorn sheep herd unit.

(e) The state and its agencies shall coordinate and assist the Wyoming congressional delegation in pursuing changes to federal law, rules and policies in order to bring them into conformance with the policies and findings of the Wyoming bighorn/domestic sheep plan created under W.S. 11-19-604.

(f) The Wyoming game and fish department shall not seek to change, alter or otherwise affect changes to domestic livestock grazing authorization on public and state lands due to the presence of bighorn sheep in the Sweetwater Rocks herd unit or grazing allotments in that vicinity that are not within an existing bighorn sheep herd unit.

(g) The game and fish department shall be reimbursed for the costs of relocation or removal of bighorn sheep pursuant to subsection (b) of this section from any available funds in the wildlife/livestock disease research partnership account created by W.S. 11-19-603.

(h) *With the approval of the governor, the attorney general shall seek to intervene in any lawsuit if a federal action is contrary to the state's policy regarding Wyoming bighorn/domestic sheep set forth in subsections (a) and (b) of this section or that is inconsistent with the Wyoming bighorn/domestic sheep plan.*

(j) *With the approval of the governor, the attorney general shall file an action against any federal agency to stop the enforcement, administration or implementation of any federal agency rule, instructional memo, handbook or other action taken by a federal agency if the rule, instructional memo, handbook or other action is contrary to the Wyoming bighorn/domestic sheep plan or is otherwise contrary to law.*

## CHAPTER 20 - BRANDS

### ARTICLE 1 - BRANDING AND RANGING

#### **11-20-101. Definitions.**

(a) As used in this act:

(i) "Agency" means the corporation, if any, designated by the board as its authorized representative to carry out the functions to be performed by the board and if there is no such agency, then it means the board;

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

(iii) "Inspectors" means those persons appointed by the agency to execute the duties prescribed by law, rules, regulations and orders for the protection of the livestock industry in Wyoming;

(iv) "Livestock" means cattle, horses, mules, asses and sheep. The board acting in conjunction with the game and fish commission may designate individual bison or identifiable herds of bison as wildlife;

(v) "Stock drover" means any person driving livestock through any county in Wyoming;

(vi) "Stock owner" means any person who owns livestock;

(vii) "This act" means W.S. 11-19-101 through 11-19-506, 11-20-101 through 11-24-115 and 11-30-101 through 11-30-115;

(viii) "Brand" means a brand, mark or other board approved means of identification including any electronic device used for livestock identification.

**11-20-102. Stock running at large to be branded.**

Every stock owner allowing his livestock over six (6) months old to run at large or mingle with livestock other than his own, shall brand his livestock with his recorded brand.

**11-20-103. Brands; application; contents; recording fees; refund; disposition thereof.**

(a) Any person desiring to adopt any brand to be used to brand livestock in this state, shall before using the brand make application to the Wyoming livestock board. The application shall:

(i) Contain a facsimile or a description of the brand;

(ii) State the species of livestock for which the brand is to be used;

(iii) State the place on the animal where the brand will be applied, and whether it is to be applied with hot iron, paint, tattoo or other means;

(iv) Repealed By Laws 1996, ch. 25, § 2.

(b) The application shall be accompanied by a recording fee of not less than one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00) for the first species of livestock and not less than seventy-five dollars (\$75.00) for each additional species of livestock for which the brand is to be used. In the event a brand is not recorded, twenty-five percent (25%) of the recording fee shall be retained by the Wyoming livestock board and the balance of the fee shall be refunded to the applicant. A certified copy of the recorded brand shall be given to the owner. All fees collected shall be deposited into the account created by W.S. 11-20-405.

(c) Repealed By Laws 2010, Ch. 69, § 204.



**11-20-104. Brands; recording generally.**

Upon receipt of the application and fee the brand shall be recorded in the state brand record. If the brand has been previously recorded the executive officer of the board shall suggest a brand that can be recorded. The executive officer of the board shall not record any brand which in his opinion would conflict with any brand of record.

**11-20-105. Brands; extension to other species.**

If a recorded brand is used exclusively for the identification of a particular species of livestock, the executive officer of the board may record the identical brand in the name of another person to identify his ownership of a species of livestock other than the species for which the brand is presently recorded.

**11-20-106. Brands; sheep; districts created; recording thereof.**

To increase the quantity of brands which can be effectively used for the identification of sheep, the executive officer of the board may, with the advice of the executive committee of the Wyoming wool growers association, promulgate and enforce rules and regulations necessary to divide the land area of Wyoming into districts. The districts shall be made a part of such brands and recorded in the state record as further identification of sheep.

**11-20-107. Brands; records kept by board; inspection thereof.**

The board shall keep an accurate record of all certified livestock brands, the names of the owners and their current contact information including addresses, which shall be open to public inspection.

**11-20-108. Recorded brand; certified copy deemed prima facie evidence of ownership.**

A certified copy of any brand recorded in the office of the board is prima facie evidence of ownership of animals branded therewith for that species of livestock recorded by the board. The brand shall be received as evidence of ownership in all legal proceedings involving title to the animal.

**11-20-109. Recorded brand; considered as property; subject to sale; written instrument required; acknowledgment and recording.**

Any brand recorded as required by law is the property of the person in whose name it is recorded, and is subject to sale, assignment, transfer, devise and descent as personal property. Instruments of writing evidencing sale, assignment or transfer shall be acknowledged and recorded in the office of the board. Acknowledgment and recording of such instruments have the same effect as to third parties as the acknowledgment and recording of instruments affecting real estate.

**11-20-110. Recorded brand; bill of sale; when title vests.**

Any recorded brand may be conveyed to another by a bill of sale executed by the vendor, properly acknowledged, but the conveyance is not complete nor does title to the brand vest in the vendee until the bill of sale is filed for record and the ownership of the brand is transferred in the office of the board.

**11-20-111. State brand book; contents.**

The executive officer of the board shall procure a suitable book, to be known as the state brand book, in which shall be recorded the brand and the definite place of the brand upon the animal, used for the branding of livestock in this state. A suitable book under this section may, at the discretion of the board, include a printed copy, an electronic copy or both.

**11-20-112. Brand book; publication; form and contents; distribution of copies; monthly lists and biennial supplements; costs; disposition of proceeds.**

The board shall publish a brand book containing facsimiles or descriptions of all brands recorded in Wyoming together with the owner's name and address. The names and brands shall be arranged in the most convenient form for reference. Copies of the brand book and copies of subsequent supplements shall be given to the agency. At the end of each month, the board shall prepare lists of the brands recorded during that month and shall issue biennial supplements to the brand book which shall supersede and cumulate the monthly lists issued during the biennium. The board may publish and sell brand books, lists and supplements. The proceeds from the sales shall be deposited in the account created by W.S. 11-20-405.

**11-20-113. County clerk prohibited from recording brands.**

It is unlawful for any county clerk in this state to record any brand or bill of sale of any brand.

**11-20-114. Failure to record brand deemed abandonment.**

(a) Failure to record a brand is an abandonment of the same. No person shall claim or use any abandoned brand until after he has caused the same to be recorded as required by law.

(b) Any person violating subsection (a) of this section shall be punished as provided by W.S. 11-1-103.

**11-20-115. Rerecording; when required; notice; abandonment.**

(a) Every owner of a brand shall rerecord the brand according to the applicable time periods established by the board pursuant to subsection (c) of this section, and failure to do so is an abandonment of the brand as provided in this section. At least sixty (60) days preceding the expiration date of the brand, the board shall notify by mail and electronic mail if provided, at the address shown on the brand records, the owner of the brand that the brand must be rerecorded and if the brand has not been rerecorded within sixty (60) days from the expiration date of the brand, the brand will be declared delinquent. The board shall send a second notice by certified mail to the owner of the brand at the address shown on the brand records within thirty (30) days following the expiration date of the brand. A delinquent brand may be rerecorded by the brand owner who shall submit a rerecording application and pay a delinquent fee as established by rule of the board not to exceed one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00). If a delinquent brand is not rerecorded within two (2) years from the expiration date of the brand, the brand will be declared abandoned. Not less than six (6) months before declaring a brand abandoned, the board shall send a notice of proposed brand abandonment to the owner of the brand at the address shown on the brand records. The livestock board is authorized to promulgate rules and regulations necessary to implement this section including rules for issuing abandoned brands to other applicants.

(c) The term of the rerecording period shall be in ten (10) year increments, not to exceed one hundred (100) years at the option of the owner of the brand. The renewal schedule and

the method of renewal shall be established by the board. Every owner of a brand shall rerecord the brand pursuant to the renewal schedule established by the board and shall pay the renewal fee specified by W.S. 11-20-116 which shall be prorated by the board for any renewal of less than ten (10) years.

(d) As part of a rerecording notice or abandonment notice sent under subsection (a) of this section, the board shall offer the option to the owner of the brand to rerecord all brands owned by the same person upon payment of a prorated fee, whether or not the brand has reached its rerecording date and provided that the rerecording period shall not exceed the term established by subsection (c) of this section. The board shall offer the option to the owner of the brand to extend the rerecording period in ten (10) year increments not to exceed one hundred (100) years upon payment of the appropriate fee as specified in W.S. 11-20-116(a).

(e) The owner of a brand declared delinquent under subsection (a) of this section may provide payment in full of the required recording fee and any delinquency fees at the time of brand inspection.

**11-20-116. Fees for renewal, transfer of ownership or alteration of brand; recording bill of sale deemed renewal.**

(a) For renewing any brand previously recorded and issuing a certificate of renewal, the board shall charge not less than three hundred dollars (\$300.00) for each ten (10) year period, provided that if the renewal is for more than fifty (50) years, the fee shall be not less than one hundred dollars (\$100.00) for each ten (10) year period beyond fifty (50) years. The fee shall cover any additional species of livestock for which the brand was previously recorded.

(b) For recording a bill of sale or other instrument transferring ownership of a recorded brand and issuing a certificate of transfer, not less than one hundred dollars (\$100.00) shall be charged for each recorded brand.

(c) The recording of a bill of sale or other instrument transferring ownership of a recorded brand during any renewal period shall not serve as a renewal of the brand. Transfer of ownership and renewal of a brand are separate transactions, for each of which the appropriate fee will be collected.

(d) Repealed By Laws 1996, ch. 25, § 2.

(e) The fees collected pursuant to this section shall be deposited in the account created by W.S. 11-20-405.

(f) Repealed By Laws 2010, Ch. 69, § 204.

**11-20-117. Use of unrecorded brands prohibited; penalties.**

(a) It is unlawful for any person in Wyoming to use an unrecorded brand for the purpose of claiming ownership of or to identify livestock with a brand not recorded in his name except as otherwise provided in W.S. 11-20-125.

(b) Anyone violating subsection (a) of this section shall be punished as provided in W.S. 11-1-103.

**11-20-118. Drover's stock; to be kept separate.**

Every stock drover shall keep his livestock separate and distinct from other livestock, and if his livestock becomes mixed with other livestock the stock drover shall forthwith separate the same and return any comingled livestock to their lawful owner.

**11-20-119. Drover's stock; liability for injury to property; exceptions.**

Every stock drover shall prevent his livestock from trespassing upon the property of another and from damaging any irrigating ditch or public works. No drover or other person who in good faith removes or attempts to remove livestock from any road, highway or right-of-way is liable for any civil damages for acts or omissions in good faith.

**11-20-120. Driving cattle from home range.**

It is unlawful for any person to drive livestock away from its home range without authority from the owner of the livestock.

**11-20-121. Penalties for failure to comply with certain provisions.**

Any person violating or failing to comply with the provisions of W.S. 11-20-102, 11-20-110 or 11-20-118 through 11-20-120 shall be imprisoned in the county jail not exceeding six (6) months, or fined not less than twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) or more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00), or both.

**11-20-122. Repealed by Laws 1982, ch. 75, § 5; 1983, ch. 171, § 3.**

**11-20-123. Repealed By Laws 2007, Ch. 105, § 2.**

**11-20-124. Repealed By Laws 2001, Ch 26, § 2.**

**11-20-125. Use of a seasonal brand; application for an annual permit to use an out-of-state brand.**

(a) A person may apply to the board for permission to use his out-of-state brand on cattle, horses, asses or mules, provided the brand is legally registered in the state of origin. If a conflict is found with a registered Wyoming brand the board, notwithstanding W.S. 11-20-104 and 11-20-117 and as established by rule and regulation, may authorize use of the brand and require further identification. The permit shall be valid for a one hundred eighty (180) day period during the calendar year. The permit is not transferable. The annual fee for the permit shall be the same as the fee for a new brand as prescribed in W.S. 11-20-103. The permit may be issued and renewed annually if the board finds the requirements of this section are met:

(i) The applicant shall agree to restrict a permitted out-of-state brand on calves born to cattle imported for grazing purposes, yearling, feeder or stocker cattle imported for feeding or grazing or cattle consigned to a commercial feedlot. "Calves" for purposes of this section means calves less than six (6) months old and running at their mother's sides;

(ii) The applicant shall supply the brand inspector proof of ownership of the cattle at the time of brand inspection and shall show proof that the out-of-state brand is currently registered either by brand card or brand certificate from the state of issue; and

(iii) If the permit is issued, the permittee shall pay for all necessary brand inspections as prescribed by law.

(b) If there are written complaints to the board from three (3) or more affected parties, the board shall investigate the complaints and take appropriate action.

(c) The board may promulgate rules and regulations necessary to carry out the provisions of this section.

**11-20-126. Repealed by Laws 2020, ch. 76, § 2.**

ARTICLE 2 - INSPECTION FOR BRANDS

**11-20-201. Designation of contract services to implement brand inspection laws; bond required; bond of inspectors; interstate cooperative agreements.**

(a) The board may designate an agency or contract for services subject to rules and regulations of the board, to exercise the rights, powers and duties provided by law with respect to inspection of brands and ownership of the animals mentioned herein.

(b) The agency, or the board may contract for inspectors as the board deems necessary to carry out specified duties. The board may contract for inspectors through an individual at-will contract. The board may contract to provide the inspector salary, mileage, per diem and other necessary reimbursable expenses, membership in the state employees' and officials' group insurance plan in accordance with W.S. 9-2-3207(a)(xi)(F)(IV) and 9-3-207, and the state retirement system in accordance with W.S. 9-2-3207(a)(xi)(F)(IV), 9-3-412 and 9-3-413.1. The board shall be authorized to establish mileage rates without regard to the limitations provided in W.S. 9-3-103. During the time that inspectors are acting within the scope of their duties on behalf or in service of the state in their official capacity, inspectors are covered by the provisions of the Wyoming Governmental Claims Act, W.S. 1-39-101 through 1-39-120, and the state self-insurance program, W.S. 1-41-101 through 1-41-111. It may assign inspectors inside or outside of this state as it deems appropriate. A blanket bond or individual bonds shall be executed to the state with good and sufficient surety in an amount determined by the board, conditioned for the full and faithful performance and discharge of the inspector's duties. The bond shall be approved by and filed in the office of the board.

(c) The board may enter into cooperative agreements wherever economically feasible with the proper authorities of other states for the enforcement and implementation of the Wyoming brand laws. Brand inspections performed in accordance with such a cooperative agreement is a Wyoming brand inspection within the meaning of the brand inspection laws of this state. For purposes of this subsection, the brand inspection need not be performed by a Wyoming brand inspector.

**11-20-202. Duties of board; enforcement of provisions.**

(a) Inspections for brands and ownership of livestock, wool, pelts, hides or carcasses shall be made by the board or its designated agency. The board shall prepare and provide all forms required for inspections and recording inspections for brands and ownership, and any substitutes or facsimiles are invalid. The agency of the board shall keep on file in its office copies of inspection certificates. The board shall make rules and regulations governing inspections for brands and ownership as necessary, consistent with the laws of Wyoming.

(b) The board shall enforce the brand inspection provisions of this act. No agent of the board exercising ordinary care and precaution in performing his duties is liable for any damage or loss that may be incurred thereby. The immunity from liability provided by this section shall include liability for damages alleged to have been caused by an agent's efforts to repair a fence.

**11-20-203. Inspection of brands at time of delivery or removal; certificate required; lack thereof; emergency movement of livestock.**

(a) Except as otherwise provided in this section or except as provided in W.S. 11-20-211, 11-20-224 and 11-20-230, it is unlawful for any person, firm, partnership, corporation, or association to sell, change ownership or to remove or cause to be removed in any way from any county in Wyoming to any other state or country, any livestock unless each animal has been inspected for brands and ownership at the time of delivery or removal by an authorized Wyoming brand inspector and a proper certificate of inspection or clearance has been issued.

(b) Repealed By Laws 2013, Ch. 191, § 3.

(c) Except as otherwise provided in this section or except as provided in W.S. 11-20-211, 11-20-217, 11-20-224 and 11-20-230, it is unlawful for any person, firm, partnership, corporation or association to remove or cause to be removed in any way from any county in Wyoming to any other county, any livestock unless each animal has been inspected for brands and ownership at the time of delivery or removal by an authorized Wyoming brand inspector and a proper certificate of inspection or clearance has been issued, except where the board has established brand inspection zones for each species of



livestock. Brand inspection zones may encompass an area based on multiple contiguous counties or the entire state, as determined by the board. Brand inspection zones shall be reviewed and reauthorized annually by the board and shall be in effect for a calendar year.

(d) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, a person, firm, partnership, corporation or association may move livestock to another county in this state in the case of an emergency situation declared or recognized by the board or director. If a livestock animal is moved under this subsection, the person moving the animal shall notify the board or an agent of the board not later than forty-eight (48) hours after the movement has occurred. Prior to moving the livestock back to the original location or to any other location, the person shall obtain an inspection of brands and ownership and the board shall not charge a fee for the inspection. If livestock will be moved across state lines in an emergency situation declared or recognized by the board or director under this subsection, the person, firm, partnership, corporation or association shall immediately contact the board and follow the direction of the board for inspection of brands and ownership. The board or director may declare an emergency situation under this subsection at any time it is required for public safety or the safety of livestock. If livestock is moved prior to declaration of an emergency situation by the board or director, the board or director may recognize the situation as an emergency situation after the fact if it determines that any movement of livestock was required for public safety or for the safety of livestock.

(e) No inspection for brands and ownership is required if a change of ownership occurs solely due to:

(i) A legal name change of a person, firm, partnership, corporation or association if the ownership of the firm, partnership, corporation or association remains unchanged and the brand is transferred to the new legal name;

(ii) The transfer of a brand from an individual or the individual and his spouse to a business entity if the individual or the individual and his spouse are owners of a one hundred percent (100%) interest in the business entity;

(iii) A conversion of a business entity as provided in W.S. 17-26-101;

(iv) Marriage.

**11-20-204. Inspector not to inspect his own livestock; penalty.**

It is unlawful for any inspector to issue a certificate of inspection covering livestock owned by him or in which he has any financial interest, and any violation of this provision is punishable as a misdemeanor.

**11-20-205. Procedures generally; estrays.**

(a) Except as otherwise provided, before selling, changing ownership or removing any livestock from any county of Wyoming, the person selling, changing ownership or intending to cause removal shall notify the inspector of the date of the intended removal and the time and place when and where the required inspection for brands and ownership can be made. The inspection shall be made within a reasonable time prior to shipment. The person in charge of the livestock shall hold the livestock at the place designated until the livestock have been inspected and an official certificate of inspection is issued. The person in charge shall render the inspecting officer such assistance as is practicable while the required inspection is being made.

(b) Upon being notified of the intention of any person to sell, change ownership or remove from the county any livestock when a prior inspection is required by law, the inspector notified shall go to the place designated at the time agreed upon, and make an inspection for brands and ownership of the livestock.

(c) The inspection shall only be done under conditions that allow the inspector, at the sole discretion of the inspector, to adequately view the livestock for the purpose of determining brands. The inspector shall list by classes the livestock, showing number of each class and all brands, together with the names of owners of the brands, if known. The inspector may require from the person in charge proof of ownership of the livestock to be removed from the county, by brand record, bill of sale or the affidavits of at least two (2) responsible citizens of the county who are not interested financially in the animals. If ownership of any of the livestock is not claimed by the person intending to remove them from the county, then written authorization from the owner for such removal is required.

(d) Estrays, the ownership of which is unknown, shall not be removed from the county except by order of the inspector in accordance with W.S. 11-24-102.

(e) No inspection for brands and ownership is required if a change of ownership occurs solely due to:

(i) A legal name change of a person, firm, partnership, corporation or association if the ownership of the person, firm, partnership, corporation or association remains unchanged;

(ii) The transfer of a brand from an individual or the individual and his spouse to a business entity if the individual or the individual and his spouse are owners of a one hundred percent (100%) interest in the business entity;

(iii) A conversion of a business entity as provided in W.S. 17-26-101;

(iv) Marriage.

**11-20-206. Certificate of inspection generally; distribution of copies; failure to exhibit; justification to hold vehicle and livestock.**

(a) Any inspector, upon completing an inspection of livestock for brands and ownership, shall record the inspection upon a form furnished by the Wyoming livestock board. When completed and signed by the inspector and the owner of the livestock or the owner's designee, the form is a certificate of inspection authorizing the removal from the county of the livestock listed. The inspector shall deliver a copy of the certificate to the person in charge of the livestock. If movement is to be by truck, a copy of the certificate shall be delivered by the person in charge of the animals to the driver or person in charge of the truck or trucks, and shall be kept in the latter's possession until the livestock are delivered at the final destination as shown on the certificate of inspection, and shall be exhibited upon request to any person authorized to enforce the brand inspection laws of this state.

(b) Failure or refusal by the driver of any vehicle to exhibit a certificate of inspection or a properly executed shipper's certificate and agreement or permit listing the livestock being transported within the state, is justification for any authorized person to hold the vehicle and the livestock,

at the carrier's or the shipper's expense, until the carrier establishes his right to transport the livestock. If the carrier cannot establish his right to transport the livestock within twelve (12) hours, the vehicle and livestock shall be impounded as provided by W.S. 11-20-228, pending complete investigation and disposition as provided by law.

**11-20-207. Repealed by Laws 1982, ch. 75 § 5; 1983, ch. 171, § 3.**

**11-20-208. Proof of prior ownership; penalties for furnishing false proof.**

(a) When the proof of ownership inspection is used, inspectors shall require proof of ownership of livestock upon change of ownership as provided by W.S. 11-20-203(a) and an instrument evidencing such ownership shall be delivered by the shipper to the inspector who shall attach it to the form and return it to the agency.

(b) The furnishing of false proof of prior ownership is probable cause for investigation of a felony offense being committed. All livestock involved shall be remanded to the custody of the Wyoming livestock board pending the outcome of the investigation and criminal charges, if any. Costs incurred for maintenance of the livestock involved shall be paid by the person who furnished false proof of ownership. Should the investigation show the only offense involved is furnishing false proof of ownership, the person furnishing such false proof shall be fined not less than two hundred dollars (\$200.00) or more than seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00) or imprisoned for not more than six (6) months, or both.

**11-20-209. When inspection not required.**

No inspection for brands and ownership is required for livestock originating in another state, territory or country and being transported through Wyoming by common carrier or contract carrier in interstate commerce, without leaving the custody of the carrier.

**11-20-210. When inspection not required; certain importations; compliance with health and quarantine regulations required.**

Subject to conditions set forth in this section, no inspection for brands and ownership is required of livestock being imported

into Wyoming if the livestock are transported or driven directly from point of entry into Wyoming to a destination within Wyoming and the person in charge of, or having custody of the livestock has in his possession written authority to transport or drive the livestock from the state, territory or country of origin to a destination in Wyoming and written evidence that all health and quarantine regulations of Wyoming have been complied with. Such written evidence shall be shown upon request to any officer authorized to enforce the brand inspection laws.

**11-20-211. When inspection not required; contiguous range.**

No inspection for brands and ownership is required for livestock being moved to their accustomed range which is on both sides of but contiguous to any county or state line, for the purpose of pasturing or feeding same. The word "contiguous" means actually touching, bordering or abutting upon, and this section shall not be construed to exempt from inspection livestock whose accustomed range is near or in close proximity but not contiguous to a state or county line.

**11-20-212. In-state range movement permits.**

(a) The board may issue an in-state range movement permit for the movement of livestock from a location in Wyoming to a noncontiguous location in another county provided the applicant and the ranch meet the requirements of this subsection and criteria established by rules of the board. The movement shall be for the purpose of pasturing, grazing, feeding the livestock, veterinary care, commercial lease or use or other board approved movement that is considered necessary for normal ranch management operating conditions. The movement shall not be for the purpose of changing ownership. A permit under this section may be issued only to bona fide owners or Wyoming resident lessees of qualified ranch lands headquartered within Wyoming or their authorized employees. As used in this section, a qualified ranch means a ranch that has been used for a period of time or purpose specified by the board and which use can be verified by brand inspection records. A permit may be denied by the board after a finding that the person applying for a permit has violated a brand inspection or animal health law, including a provision of this section, a board brand inspection or animal health rule or regulation or a board order.

(b) The fee imposed by W.S. 11-20-402 shall be collected at the time of the issuance of the permit under this section. If a change of ownership occurs before the livestock is returned to

the county of origin pursuant to a permit issued under this section, the owner shall notify a brand inspector for an inspection of the livestock and shall pay all fees imposed under W.S. 11-6-210 and 11-20-401.

(c) Repealed By Laws 2010, Ch. 69, § 204.

(d) The board shall promulgate rules and regulations necessary to carry out the provisions of this section.

(e) Repealed By Laws 2013, Ch. 13, § 2.

**11-20-213. Repealed By Laws 2007, Ch. 105, § 2.**

**11-20-214. Brand inspector may inspect at his discretion; voluntary inspections.**

(a) A brand inspector may inspect livestock being transported, trailed, pastured or confined at his discretion, to determine ownership, without an inspection fee.

(b) Any person may request an inspection for brands and ownership of livestock in his possession at any time. The inspection fee prescribed by W.S. 11-20-401 shall be collected by the brand inspector.

**11-20-215. Repealed By Laws 2007, Ch. 105, § 2.**

**11-20-216. Procurement, form, contents and validity of truck-fleet shipment permit.**

When a shipment of livestock is to be made in more than one (1) truck and the entire shipment is listed on one (1) certificate of inspection, or one (1) shipper's certificate and agreement, or on any single permit required by law, the person in charge of the shipment shall obtain a truck-fleet shipment permit. The board shall prepare the form and contents of the permit. The permit is valid only for the shipment specified and on the date or dates shown.

**11-20-217. Certificates and agreements in lieu of inspection; generally; shipper's demand for inspection; penalty.**

(a) Subject to conditions set forth in this section, no prior inspection for brands and ownership is required of horses, mules, cattle or sheep being or about to be transported to any

open market where Wyoming brand inspection is maintained whether within or outside Wyoming.

(b) In lieu of an official inspection for brands and ownership, the person proposing to remove livestock from any county of Wyoming to any such open market shall fill out and sign a certificate on a form approved by the board. The form shall include an agreement providing that the livestock listed on the certificate will not be diverted en route from the destination shown unless and until an inspection for brands and ownership has been made by an authorized Wyoming brand inspector, unless the diversion is to an open market where Wyoming brand inspection is maintained or where a brand inspection is made which substantially complies with the brand inspection laws of this state pursuant to an agreement entered into under W.S. 11-20-201(c). It shall further provide that in case of diversion of all or any part of the shipment the livestock diverted will be held at some convenient place, separate and apart from other livestock, until inspected, and the shipper will pay the necessary expenses incurred by the inspector and the legal inspection fees. The board shall establish a fee to be charged for use of the form authorized by this section. The fee for this form shall not exceed one dollar (\$1.00) per head. The form authorized by this section shall not be issued until all fees required by W.S. 11-6-210 have been paid in full and may be collected at the time the form is issued by the issuing party. A blanket bond or individual bonds shall be executed to the state with good and sufficient surety in an amount determined by the board, conditioned for the full and faithful performance of any issuer of the forms and collecting of fees pursuant to this section.

(c) Except on demand of the shipper, the inspector is not required to inspect any horses, mules, cattle or sheep, consigned directly to any open market where Wyoming brand inspection is maintained. If the shipper demands a prior inspection, the inspection shall be made and the legal inspection fee charged and collected. Inspection at point of origin does not exempt the shipment from inspection for brands and ownership, nor the shipper from payment of inspection fees at the open market destination.

(d) The form authorized by this section may be denied, suspended or revoked by the board after proper hearing as provided by the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act, and a finding that the person to whom the permit is granted has violated any of the brand inspection laws.

**11-20-218. Repealed By Laws 2007, Ch. 105, § 2.**

**11-20-219. Certificates and agreements in lieu of inspection; filing and distribution of copies.**

(a) After a certificate and agreement listing a shipment of horses, mules, cattle or sheep to be transported by common or contract carrier has been filled out, signed and witnessed, a copy shall accompany the shipment.

(b) A copy of the certificate and agreement listing horses, mules, cattle or sheep to be transported by private carrier shall be retained by the owner or his agent until the animals have been delivered at the destination shown and shall then be delivered by him to the Wyoming brand inspector at the destination.

(c) A copy of the certificate and agreement listing horses, mules, cattle or sheep being transported shall be shown upon request, to any person authorized to enforce the brand inspection laws.

**11-20-220. Diverted shipments; notice thereof.**

Should any shipment or any part of a shipment of horses, mules, cattle or sheep listed on a certificate and agreement consigned to an open market be diverted en route from the destination shown, the railroad, trucking firm, trucker or private carrier transporting the shipment shall notify the Wyoming brand inspector at the original destination and the agency that such diversion has been ordered and made. The notice shall be sent within twenty-four (24) hours after diversion is ordered. If the diversion is ordered and made before the shipment leaves Wyoming, the required inspection for brands and ownership shall be made by any Wyoming brand inspector. If the shipment has left Wyoming, the inspection shall be made by a brand inspector having authority to inspect Wyoming livestock outside the state.

**11-20-221. Common carriers not to receive livestock for transportation without certificate.**

Except as otherwise provided, it is unlawful for any railroad, trucker or other common or contract carrier, or any person to receive for transportation or to transport any horses, mules, cattle or sheep from any county in Wyoming to any other county, state, territory or country, until furnished with an official



certificate of inspection, filled out and signed by an authorized inspector, showing the horses, mules, cattle or sheep to be transported have been inspected for brands and ownership.

**11-20-222. Unbranded calves; inspection at request of stockman; fee.**

All calves unbranded or wearing unpealed brands shall be shown to the inspector at the point of origin and at their mother's side, upon written request of a bona fide Wyoming stockman from the immediate area to the district brand supervisor of that area, made at least five (5) days prior to shipment, or upon request of an authorized brand inspector. When inspection is requested, it shall be made immediately before loading and shipping the calves. The seller or shipper shall report to the inspector the name and address of the owner and shipper at destination of shipment, mode of transportation and the name and address of the consignee. The inspector shall record and file the same with the board or its agency. If shipment is to a market where Wyoming brand inspection is maintained, the usual fee shall be charged for sale ring inspection.

**11-20-223. Out-of-state accustomed range permits.**

(a) The board may issue an out-of-state accustomed range permit for the movement of livestock from an accustomed range or ranch in Wyoming to a noncontiguous accustomed range or ranch in another state provided the applicant and the accustomed range meet the requirements of this subsection and criteria established by rules of the board. The movement shall be for the purpose of pasturing, grazing, ranging or feeding the livestock or other board approved movement that is considered necessary for normal ranch management operating conditions. The movement shall not be for the purpose of changing ownership. A permit under this section may be issued only to bona fide owners or Wyoming resident lessees of ranch lands headquartered within Wyoming or their authorized employees. As used in this section, an "out-of-state accustomed range or ranch" means a range or ranch that has been used for a period of time or purpose specified by the board and which use can be verified by brand inspection records. A permit may be denied by the board after a finding that the person applying for a permit has violated a brand inspection law, including a provision of this section or a board rule or regulation.

(b) No person shall move animals pursuant to a permit under this section until a brand inspector has inspected the

animals and collected the fee imposed by W.S. 11-20-402. The owner of livestock moved under the permit shall attest in writing that it is intended that the livestock shall be returned to this state prior to a change in ownership. If a change of ownership occurs before the livestock are returned to this state, the owner shall notify the brand inspector who performed the inspection and shall pay all fees imposed under W.S. 11-6-210 and 11-20-401 with credit granted for any fee imposed by W.S. 11-20-402(a) (viii).

(c) Repealed By Laws 2010, Ch. 69, § 204.

(d) The board shall promulgate rules and regulations necessary to carry out the provisions of this section.

(e) Repealed By Laws 2013, Ch. 13, § 2.

**11-20-224. Permanent brand inspection certificate; application; surrender to board.**

The owner of livestock used for rodeo, show, racing, pleasure or Wyoming farm or ranch work purposes may obtain a permanent brand inspection certificate authorizing movement of the livestock intrastate or interstate, valid for the life of the livestock or until a change of ownership takes place, upon approval of a proper application in writing by an authorized Wyoming brand inspector. The application shall contain, or be accompanied by, valid proof of ownership of the livestock by the applicant, and shall include a thorough physical description including all brands carried by the livestock and all distinguishing marks or markings. The possession of a valid permanent brand inspection certificate shall constitute prima facie evidence of ownership. Upon any change in ownership the certificate is void.

**11-20-225. Annual horse brand inspection certificate; surrender to board; fee.**

(a) The owner of a horse or livestock used for rodeo, show, racing, pleasure or farm or ranch work in Wyoming which is permanently and individually identified may obtain an annual brand inspection certificate, authorizing movement from county to county within Wyoming, valid for one (1) year from date of issuance unless sooner terminated by a change in ownership of the horse described therein. Upon any change of ownership the certificate is void and must be immediately surrendered to the board.

(b) Repealed By Laws 2001, Ch. 26, § 2.

(c) For each permit issued under this section there shall be charged an inspection fee established by W.S. 11-20-402(a)(vi).

**11-20-226. Certificates to be signed and in possession.**

The inspection certificate and movement permit issued pursuant to W.S. 11-20-224 or 11-20-225 is not valid unless signed by an authorized representative of the board and by the permit holder. The certificate shall be in the possession of the person transporting the horse and shall be shown on request to any person authorized to enforce the brand inspection laws.

**11-20-227. Fraudulent use of inspection certificate and movement permit; penalties.**

Fraudulent use of an inspection certificate and movement permit issued pursuant to W.S. 11-20-224, 11-20-225 or 11-20-230 is punishable by a fine of not more than one hundred dollars (\$100.00) or by imprisonment for not more than thirty (30) days, or both. The fraudulent use of an inspection certificate and movement permit issued pursuant to W.S. 11-20-224, 11-20-225 or 11-20-230 is probable cause to investigate the commission of a felony, and the provisions of W.S. 11-20-228 may be invoked pending the outcome of the investigation and court proceedings, if any.

**11-20-228. Impounding of vehicles; lien.**

Any vehicle used in the transportation of livestock in violation of this act may be impounded pending determination of the violation by a court. Upon conviction of the owner of the vehicle, or the owner of the livestock being transported, any expense incurred by an authorized officer for towing the vehicle or for feed and care of the livestock is a lien upon the vehicle or livestock until the expenses are paid in full.

**11-20-229. Penalties for violation of certain provisions.**

Any violation of the provisions of W.S. 11-20-202 through 11-20-226 and 11-20-230 for which there is no specific penalty prescribed is punishable as provided in W.S. 11-1-103.

**11-20-230. Livestock seed stock and exhibitors permit; fees; transfers; reports; enforcement.**

(a) Any Wyoming livestock producer who raises and markets livestock for the purpose of providing breeding seed stock or exhibition animals, as defined by the board for purposes of this section, may apply to the board for a livestock seed stock or exhibition stock permit. The fee shall be fifty dollars (\$50.00) per permit. The permit shall be valid for the calendar year issued and no transactions or shipments shall be authorized until a permit has been issued.

(b) After receiving a certificate of inspection from a Wyoming brand inspector, the livestock producer may sell or change ownership of the livestock provided the livestock are branded with the livestock producer's recorded Wyoming brand and the animals can be individually identified by a board approved method. The livestock may then be legally shipped or removed from any county in Wyoming to any other county, state or country, provided they are accompanied by a board authorized bill of sale and a board issued fleet permit which references the prior certificate of inspection pursuant to W.S. 11-20-216.

(c) The permit holder shall report all transactions and movements and shall pay any applicable fees authorized pursuant to W.S. 11-6-210, 11-37-106 and 11-37-107 to the brand inspector who issued the original brand certificate, or any other designated agent of the board, within three (3) working days of the transaction.

(d) Failure to comply with this section or any other applicable law or board rule shall be grounds for the revocation of the permit and shall be punished pursuant to W.S. 11-1-103. Providing false proof of ownership shall be grounds for the revocation of the permit and shall be punished pursuant to W.S. 11-20-208. All livestock covered under the permit authorized under this section are subject to reinspection by a board authorized brand inspector and any applicable fees shall be assessed.

### ARTICLE 3 - KILLING ANIMALS TO ASCERTAIN OWNERSHIP

#### **11-20-301. When authorized.**

If in the opinion of any authorized brand inspector or sheriff a mark or brand upon any livestock has been fraudulently altered, obliterated or defaced so the original mark or brand cannot be determined by external inspection, the brand inspector or

sheriff may seize and kill the animal to ascertain the mark or brand altered or defaced.

**11-20-302. Sale of carcass.**

The carcass of any animal killed except such part as is retained for evidence, shall be promptly sold at public or private sale by the stock inspector or sheriff, and the proceeds paid into the general fund of the county in which the animal was killed.

ARTICLE 4 - INSPECTION FEES AND TAXES

**11-20-401. Brand inspection fees generally.**

(a) Except as otherwise provided, each livestock inspector shall at the time of inspecting for brands and ownership collect inspection fees in an amount established by the livestock board but not less than:

(i) One dollar and twenty-five cents (\$1.25) per head on all cattle including unbranded animals, and including the hide or carcass;

(ii) Twenty-five cents (\$0.25) per head on all sheep, including any hide or carcass;

(iii) Nine dollars (\$9.00) per head for the first ten (10) head of horses, asses or mules inspected, including any hide or carcass and one dollar and twenty-five cents (\$1.25) for each additional horse, hide or carcass inspected at the same time and place; and

(iv) A six dollar and twenty-five cent (\$6.25) surcharge per inspection by the livestock inspector. The livestock board shall promulgate rules and regulations to identify conditions under which this surcharge may be waived.

(b) Repealed By Laws 2010, Ch. 69, § 204.

(c) The board may allow the inspection, permitting, payment and reporting requirements of this chapter to be conducted electronically as provided by the Uniform Electronic Transactions Act, W.S. 40-21-101 through 40-21-119, and any applicable federal electronic requirements.

**11-20-402. Miscellaneous inspection fees.**

(a) Except as otherwise provided, the board shall establish and, through its authorized inspectors, shall collect fees for the following of not less than:

(i) Repealed By Laws 2007, Ch. 105, § 2.

(ii) Repealed By Laws 1996, ch. 25, § 2.

(iii) One dollar and twenty-five cents (\$1.25) for each certificate issued to a hide buyer as required by W.S. 11-23-204;

(iv) Repealed By Laws 1996, ch. 25, § 2.

(v) Fifteen dollars (\$15.00) for each permanent brand inspection and movement permit issued pursuant to W.S. 11-20-224;

(vi) Twelve dollars (\$12.00) for the first ten (10) head of livestock inspected and one dollar and fifty cents (\$1.50) for each additional head inspected under the annual brand inspection and movement permit issued pursuant to W.S. 11-20-225;

(vii) Repealed by Laws 1990, ch. 87, § 3.

(viii) For an accustomed range permit under W.S. 11-20-223, an amount equal to twenty-five percent (25%) of the inspection fees as established by the board pursuant to W.S. 11-20-401(a)(i) through (iii);

(ix) A six dollar and twenty-five cent (\$6.25) surcharge per inspection by the livestock inspector. The livestock board shall promulgate rules and regulations to identify conditions under which this surcharge may be waived;

(x) The fee for an accustomed range permit under W.S. 11-20-212, of not less than fifty dollars (\$50.00);

(xi) Actual hourly cost plus mileage for any nonmandatory inspections requested by a livestock owner. The hourly cost shall be as determined by the board and the mileage cost shall be as provided by W.S. 9-3-103.

(b) Repealed By Laws 2010, Ch. 69, § 204.

(c) The board may establish and, through its authorized inspectors, collect fees from the livestock owner or other responsible party not to exceed the actual cost of any additional necessary reimbursable expenses including transportation, supplies or equipment rental relating to services required by the board. "Reimbursable expenses" for the purposes of this subsection shall mean expenses necessary to provide for the immediate safety of the public and livestock for which the board has authority. This subsection shall not apply to those services authorized under W.S. 11-20-401.

**11-20-403. Repealed by Laws 1990, ch. 87, § 3.**

**11-20-404. Report of receipts and expenses.**

(a) The board shall on or before the first Monday in August each year present a written report to the director of the state department of audit, which shall contain:

(i) A statement of funds received from inspection fees and other fees collected under W.S. 11-20-201 through 11-20-230, 11-20-401 and 11-20-402;

(ii) A statement of expenses of inspection, including salaries and expenses of inspectors, and that part of the expense of the agency, if any, incurred in administering the brand inspection laws;

(iii) The amount by which inspection expenses have exceeded the revenues for the fiscal year ending June 30;

(iv) An estimate of future expenses for the forthcoming year, which will become due and payable prior to the receipt of the amounts provided for herein to pay them.

(b) Repealed by Laws 1990, ch. 87, § 3.

**11-20-405. Collection and disposition.**

(a) Any funds appropriated by the legislature and all fees collected pursuant to W.S. 11-20-101 through 11-20-124, 11-20-201 through 11-20-230, 11-20-401 and 11-20-402 shall be remitted to the state treasurer for deposit in the inspection account. Interest earned by the account shall be retained in the account. Monies within the account are subject to legislative review and appropriation for use and expenditure by the board. Itemized vouchers shall be submitted to the chief executive officer of

the board for approval. Upon approval, a warrant for the payment of each voucher shall be issued by the state auditor for payment from the inspection account. The board shall expend monies from the account created by this section only for the purposes authorized by W.S. 11-20-201 through 11-20-230 and 11-20-101 through 11-20-124 and to pay for investigators of the Wyoming livestock board who are peace officers as defined in W.S. 7-2-101(a)(iv)(E).

(b) After March 1, 2006, all costs of operating and administering the brand inspection and recording programs shall be paid from any funds appropriated by the legislature, any applicable grant funds and the fees collected and deposited into the account created by subsection (a) of this section.

(c) Repealed By Laws 2010, Ch. 69, § 204.

**11-20-406. Repealed by Laws 1990, ch. 87, § 3.**

**11-20-407. Repealed by Laws 1990, ch. 87, § 3.**

**11-20-408. Examination of agency records; report.**

(a) The director of the state department of audit or his designee shall examine the records and accounts of any agency appointed by the board to administer the brand inspection laws, and report to the governor in the same manner as for the examination of records and accounts of public officers.

(b) The board shall adopt an annual fiscal year budget for the brand registration and inspection program. The budget shall include any deficit amount from the prior year and may include an operating reserve not to exceed one (1) year for that portion of the program to be funded by user fees. Based on the budget adopted under this subsection, the board shall set the user fees for all activities under the program at no less than the minimum fees provided for in this chapter. Each fee may be adjusted not more than one (1) time per fiscal year and by not more than twenty-five percent (25%) in any one (1) fiscal year. The board shall report annually by November 1 to the joint agriculture, state and public lands and water resources interim committee with respect to the budget adopted and fees set under this subsection.

**11-20-409. Issuance of certificate.**



Except as otherwise provided in W.S. 11-20-401(c), all fees required by W.S. 11-6-210, 11-20-201 through 11-20-230, 11-20-401 and 11-20-402 shall be due and payable upon the issuance of a certificate of brand inspection or clearance. No fees required by W.S. 11-6-210 shall be collected on the same livestock more than once in any twelve (12) month period.

#### CHAPTER 21 - TRANSPORTING ANIMALS AND POULTRY BY VEHICLE

##### **11-21-101. Repealed By Laws 2007, Ch. 105, § 2.**

##### **11-21-102. Display of permit to peace officer; written statement in lieu of permit.**

Any operator or other person in control of any vehicle transporting livestock, swine or domestic fowls, or the carcasses thereof, upon demand of any peace officer of Wyoming, shall exhibit his permit to carry the animals or domestic fowls, or carcasses thereof.

##### **11-21-103. Peace officer authorized to stop and inspect carrier; search with or without warrant; seizure of animals unlawfully taken.**

(a) Any inspector, game warden or peace officer of the county or state of Wyoming may stop any vehicle carrying livestock, poultry, or carcasses thereof, for the purpose of examining the owner's permit and the contents of the vehicle.

(b) Any inspector, game warden or other peace officer of the county or state of Wyoming may detain any vehicle which he has probable cause to believe may contain stolen animals, poultry or carcasses thereof, for not to exceed twelve (12) hours or until a legal search warrant may be obtained. If the person in charge of the vehicle consents in writing to a search of the conveyance without a warrant, the search shall be made by the officer in the presence of the detained person as soon as the consent is obtained.

(c) Any inspector, game warden or peace officer of the county or state of Wyoming may seize and take into custody any animals, poultry or carcasses thereof which have been unlawfully taken, unlawfully transported or which are unlawfully in possession.

##### **11-21-104. Prohibited acts; penalties for violations.**

Any person who knowingly exhibits or causes to be exhibited to any peace officer any false or forged permit, or who, upon request of any peace officer of Wyoming, refuses or neglects to exhibit a permit, shall be punished as provided in W.S. 11-1-103.

## CHAPTER 22 - LIVESTOCK MARKETS

### **11-22-101. Definitions; exceptions to provisions.**

(a) As used in this act:

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

(ii) "Livestock" means horses, mules, cattle, swine, sheep and goats. Bison are considered livestock unless otherwise designated by the board and the Wyoming game and fish commission;

(iii) "Livestock market" means a place operated for profit as a public market, consisting of pens or enclosures and their appurtenances, in which livestock are received, held for sale, sold or offered for sale at either public auction or private sale, except that this act does not apply to:

(A) Any place used solely for a dispersal sale of the livestock of a farmer, dairyman, livestock breeder or feeder who is discontinuing business;

(B) Repealed by Laws 2006, Chapter 27, § 4.

(C) Any place where an association of breeders of livestock assembles, offers for sale and sells under its own management registered livestock or breeding sires, if the association assumes all responsibility of the sale and guarantees title to the livestock and arranges for the proper inspection of all animals sold.

(iv) "Livestock dealer" means:

(A) Any person engaged in the business of buying or selling livestock in commerce, either for his own account or as an employee or agent of the seller or buyer; or

(B) Any person who engages in the regular business of buying or selling livestock in commerce on a

commission basis as set forth in rules by the Wyoming livestock board.

(v) "Livestock dealer" does not include any person who buys or sells livestock as part of his own bona fide breeding, feeding, showing, dairy, meat or wool production operation; any person who takes a security interest, including liquidation of that interest, in livestock in the ordinary course of his business; or any person who buys occasionally but not as a part of his regular business as set forth in rules promulgated by the Wyoming livestock board;

(vi) "This act" means W.S. 11-22-101 through 11-22-119.

**11-22-102. Board authorized to adopt and publish rules.**

The board shall adopt and publish reasonable rules and regulations necessary for the administration of this act.

**11-22-103. License; requirements therefor.**

Upon making a satisfactory written statement to the board of financial responsibility and ownership or control of adequate facilities for the care, sorting, feeding, loading, unloading and shipment of livestock for the operation of a livestock market, and tendering the fee prescribed, any person may procure a license from the board to establish and operate within Wyoming for one (1) year a livestock market.

**11-22-104. License; requirement; fees generally; expiration; renewal; effect of refusal of issuance or renewal.**

No person shall operate a livestock market within Wyoming without first procuring a license from the board and paying a fee of one hundred dollars (\$100.00). Each license issued shall expire on April 30 next after the issuance of the license. If a license is obtained on or after September 1 of any year, the person obtaining same shall pay a fee in proportion to the number of months of the year remaining until April 30. The license may be renewed by eligible applicants prior to May 1 each year upon application and payment of the required fee. An application for a license to operate a livestock market shall be in writing upon a form furnished by the board, and shall be accompanied by the required fee. If the board does not issue a license or renewal, the fee shall be returned to the applicant.

**11-22-105. License; disposition of fees; payment of expenses.**

All license fees collected under this act shall be deposited in the state general fund. Expenses incurred in the administration of this act shall be paid out of a general fund appropriation as provided by law.

**11-22-106. License; cancellation.**

(a) The following are grounds for fines, suspension or cancellation of the license to operate a livestock market if the board finds:

(i) The licensee has violated this act, any rule or regulation properly adopted hereunder, any law of Wyoming or official rule or regulation made pursuant thereto governing the interstate or intrastate movement, shipment or transportation of livestock or the requirements for brand or health inspection;

(ii) The licensee is guilty of fraud or misrepresentation as to the titles, brands or ownership of livestock;

(iii) The licensee is guilty of buying, receiving or offering for sale any livestock known by him to be diseased or to have been exposed to infectious or contagious disease;

(iv) The licensee has failed or refused to practice measures of sanitation and inspection required by this act or by any rule or regulation of the board concerning premises or vehicles used for stabling, yarding, housing, holding or transporting animals in the operation of a livestock market;

(v) The licensee has neglected or refused to keep records required by this act, or rules or regulations of the board, or fails or refuses to permit inspection of such records by any authorized agent of the board;

(vi) The licensee has failed or refused to withhold sale proceeds of any livestock designated by the brand inspector as having questionable title, or the licensee has failed or refused to transmit promptly to the board, after expiration of sixty (60) days, the proceeds of livestock to which ownership has not been established, in accordance with W.S. 11-22-116;

(vii) The licensee is carrying on the business of a livestock market without filing and maintaining a valid surety bond in conformity with W.S. 11-22-107;

(viii) The licensee is carrying on the business of a livestock market while his current liabilities exceed his current assets;

(ix) The licensee willfully makes or causes to be made any false entry or statement of facts in any application, financial statement or report filed with the board; or

(x) The licensee or operator of any livestock market has negligently remitted the proceeds of sale of any livestock subject to brand inspector tally, consigned and delivered to the licensee for sale, to any person other than the owner of the livestock, without the prior and express written direction and approval by the owner of the livestock. If a licensed market licensee or operator has express notice that any livestock consigned for sale are mortgaged or subject to other security agreement, all remittances of proceeds of sale shall be made in the name of the owner and the party holding the mortgage or security agreement.

**11-22-107. License; bond required; approval; filing; statement in lieu of bond; action on bond; termination of bond; copies of license and bond as evidence.**

(a) No license or renewal of license to operate a livestock market within Wyoming shall be issued until the applicant has executed to the state of Wyoming a bond in the penal sum of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000.00) upon a form prescribed by the board, with surety approved by the board, conditioned for the payment of all money received by the licensee and operator of the livestock market to the rightful owner of the livestock consigned for sale, or to any other person entitled to receive the proceeds of the sale, less reasonable expenses and agreed commissions, forthwith upon the sale of the livestock. The bond shall also be conditioned for full compliance with all of the terms and requirements of this act, shall be approved and accepted by the board and approved as to form by the attorney general of Wyoming. When so approved, the bond shall be filed with the secretary of state.

(b) In lieu of the bond required by subsection (a) of this section, the applicant shall file a statement in the form prescribed by the board evidencing that he is registered and

maintaining a valid and effective bond of or in excess of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000.00) or its equivalent under the provisions of the Packers and Stockyards Act 1921 (7 U.S.C. § 181 et seq.). The statement shall name the executive officer of the board as trustee, and shall include a copy of the bond, to be filed with the secretary of state. Actions at law may be brought in the name of the state upon any such bond by any aggrieved party, for the use and benefit of any person who suffers loss or damage from violations thereof. Each bond filed with the board shall be conditioned that the bond cannot be terminated except on at least thirty (30) days prior notice in writing to the board by the party terminating the bond. Copies of any such license and bond, certified by the executive officer of the board, may be procured upon payment of a fee of one dollar (\$1.00) each, and shall be received as competent evidence in any court in Wyoming.

**11-22-108. License; certified copy; fee; posting.**

A certified copy of a license may be procured by the holder of the original upon payment of one dollar (\$1.00), and the original or certified copy of the license shall be posted during sale periods in a conspicuous place on the premises where the livestock market is conducted.

**11-22-109. Investigations of sales; filing charges; hearing; notice thereof.**

The executive officer of the board may make or have an investigation made of the sales and transactions of any livestock market and the conditions under which its business is conducted. If he finds probable cause, he shall file charges against the licensee and operator with the board, and the charges shall be set down for hearing before the board upon ten (10) days notice served upon the licensee.

**11-22-110. Sanitation; veterinarian supervision required.**

Every livestock market shall be maintained in a sanitary condition, and that portion which is used for handling hogs shall be cleaned and disinfected after each day's sales with disinfectant approved by the board, under the supervision of a veterinarian authorized by the board.

**11-22-111. Scales; inspection and testing.**

All scales used in the operation of a livestock market must be inspected and tested by the state superintendent of weights and measures, who may make reasonable rules and regulations relative to the method of weighing livestock at all livestock markets. All livestock sold by weight must be weighed on scales.

**11-22-112. Records of receipts and sales; availability for inspection.**

Operators of all livestock markets shall keep an accurate record of the date on which each consignment of animals was received and sold, the name and address of the buyer and seller, the number and species of the animals received and sold, and the marks and brands on each animal. The records, together with the gross selling prices, commission and other care, handling and sales charges on each consignment shall be available for inspection by the executive officer of the board, his deputy or authorized inspector. A copy shall be supplied to the owner of the livestock. All records of sales during preceding months shall be kept readily accessible for immediate examination.

**11-22-113. Inspection of livestock; report on unbranded livestock.**

(a) All livestock entering a livestock market shall be inspected for health and all livestock except swine and goats shall be inspected for brands before being offered for sale. The health inspection shall be made by a veterinarian approved by the board and appointed by the executive officer of the board as an authorized veterinarian for livestock markets. The brand inspection shall be made by a brand inspector.

(b) The Wyoming livestock board shall require a monthly report from brand inspectors employed at all Wyoming livestock markets of all branded and unbranded livestock inspected prior to sale. The report shall show for each consignment of livestock the date and place of sale, the county of origin, the name and address of consignor and the total number inspected and sold.

(c) Repealed by Laws 1990, ch. 87, § 3.

**11-22-114. When removal of livestock from establishment permitted.**

It is unlawful for the operator of a livestock market to permit the removal of any livestock from the establishment until it has been treated in accordance with the rules and regulations

prescribed by the board. In cases of livestock destined interstate, the health certificate shall show that the livestock has been inspected in accordance with the requirements of the state of destination. All fees for veterinary inspection, treatment and services shall be collected by the operator of the livestock market and paid to the veterinarian in the manner prescribed by the board.

**11-22-115. Removal of veterinarian.**

The executive officer of the board may remove any authorized veterinarian whenever he finds that his work is not performed in conformity with this act and the rules and regulations of the board.

**11-22-116. Warranty of title; disposition of proceeds from sale; receipt by board.**

The operator of each livestock market in this state shall warrant to the purchaser the title of all livestock sold through the market and is liable to the owner for the net proceeds in cash received for the livestock sold. When notified by the brand inspector that there is a question as to whether any designated livestock sold through the ring is lawfully owned by the consignor, the market operator shall hold the proceeds received from the sale of the livestock for a reasonable time, not to exceed sixty (60) days, to permit the consignor to establish ownership. If at the expiration of that time the consignor fails to establish his lawful ownership of the livestock to the satisfaction of the brand inspector, the proceeds shall be transmitted by the operator to the board. The board may dispose of the proceeds in accordance with the law relating to the distribution of estray money, and the board's receipt shall relieve the operator from further responsibility for the proceeds.

**11-22-117. Dispersal sales.**

All dispersal sales made at livestock markets shall meet the requirements prescribed for other livestock passing through such markets.

**11-22-118. Registration of livestock dealers; records.**

(a) Livestock dealers shall be registered with the board. Registration shall include the livestock dealer's address, phone



number and premise identification number of their place of business if available.

(b) A livestock dealer shall maintain for a period of two (2) years brand inspection forms, all certificates of veterinary health inspection, all disease test charts and bills of sale showing purchase and sale of all livestock. Information showing purchase or sale prices may be redacted from these records. A livestock dealer shall make the records available to the board as part of any contagious disease outbreak investigation. The board may randomly audit up to ten percent (10%) of the livestock dealers annually to monitor for compliance.

(c) After giving due notice and opportunity for hearing in accordance with the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act, the board shall have the authority to deny an application for registration or to suspend or cancel the registration of a livestock dealer if:

(i) There is adequate evidence to establish the livestock dealer had intent to violate or circumvent the record keeping requirements of this section or other animal health regulations; or

(ii) The livestock dealer has repeatedly demonstrated an unwillingness to keep records as required by subsection (b) of this section.

(d) Records obtained by the board pursuant to subsection (b) of this section are privileged and confidential commercial information for purposes of the Wyoming Public Records Act, W.S. 16-4-201 through 16-4-205.

(e) Repealed by Laws 2016, ch. 52, § 2.

#### **11-22-119. Penalty.**

Any person who violates W.S. 11-22-101 through 11-22-118 or any rule or regulation adopted by the board pursuant to this act shall be punished as provided in W.S. 11-1-103.

### CHAPTER 23 - HIDES AND CARCASSES

#### ARTICLE 1 - PRODUCTION, INSPECTION AND STAMPING

#### **11-23-101. Repealed by Laws 2024, ch. 55, § 2.**

**11-23-102. Only inspected livestock to be slaughtered; record of cattle slaughtered.**

(a) It is unlawful for any person operating any slaughterhouse, packing plant or rendering plant in Wyoming to slaughter or cause to be slaughtered any horses, mules or cattle before each animal has been inspected for brands and ownership by an authorized Wyoming brand inspector not more than seven (7) days before slaughter.

(b) Every person engaged in slaughtering cattle shall keep a record of all cattle slaughtered, naming the person from whom the cattle were purchased, his place of residence and the age, sex and brands of the cattle slaughtered. The record shall at all times be open for inspection by any person.

(c) If a hide is sold to a hide buyer, the bill of sale shall accompany the hide and shall be available for inspection by an authorized Wyoming brand inspector, department inspector, sheriff or deputy sheriff during regular business hours for not less than two (2) years from the date of the sale of the hide.

**11-23-103. Purchase of unstamped carcass prohibited.**

It is unlawful for any person to purchase from any other person the carcass or any part thereof of any cattle unless the carcass or part purchased is stamped as provided by law. The district court of the county wherein the sale or purchase takes place has jurisdiction of the offense.

**11-23-104. Repealed by Laws 2024, ch. 55, § 2.**

**11-23-105. Penalties.**

Any person violating any provision of W.S. 11-23-102 and 11-23-103 shall be fined not less than seven hundred seventy-five dollars (\$775.00) or more than one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500.00), or imprisoned for not more than one (1) year, or both.

**11-23-106. "Cold storage locker plant" defined; stamp on tag; certificate in lieu of stamp; filing and inspection of certificate; penalties.**

(a) "Cold storage locker plant" means any place, premises or establishment where facilities for the cold storage and

preservation of human food in separate and individual compartments are offered to the public upon a rental or other basis for private profit.

(b) No operator or employee of any cold storage locker plant in Wyoming shall accept from any person for processing, quick freeze or cold storage any beef, mutton, lamb or pork unless it is properly stamped or tagged showing it to have been lawfully slaughtered, or in the absence of a proper stamp or tag the person offering the meat may deposit at the time with the operator or his employee a signed certificate stating:

(i) The owner of the meat;

(ii) The kind of meat;

(iii) The weight of the meat; and

(iv) The name and address of the person from whom acquired or if slaughtered by the person offering same, the date and place of slaughter.

(c) The certificate shall be kept on file by the operator for one (1) year from its date and be made available for inspection upon request of any law enforcement officer or authorized representative of the board.

(d) Any person violating this section or making any false statement in the certificate shall be punished as provided in W.S. 11-1-103.

**11-23-107. Killing of horses for meat; unutilated hide or certificate of inspection to be produced; penalties.**

(a) Any person who kills any horse for the purpose of using, selling or offering for sale the meat or carcass for tankage, or for the purpose of feeding the same to domestic stock or to fur bearing animals, must produce on demand of any inspector or peace officer either the unutilated hide of the animal killed or a certificate of inspection of the hide, issued by a livestock inspector.

(b) Any person violating this section shall be fined not less than seven hundred seventy-five dollars (\$775.00) or more than one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500.00), or imprisoned for not more than one (1) year, or both.

**11-23-108. Mutilation of hide from horse; penalties; allegations in prosecutions.**

(a) Any person who willfully or maliciously mutilates, destroys or conceals any hide from any horse, mule, jack, jennet, bovine animal, goat, hog or sheep with the intent to remove evidence of ownership of the hide or the animal from which the hide was removed, shall be fined not less than seven hundred seventy-five dollars (\$775.00) nor more than one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500.00), or imprisoned not more than one (1) year, or both.

(b) In any prosecution for the violation of this section it is not necessary for the state to allege in the complaint or information the ownership of the hide or the animal from which the hide was removed, but it is sufficient to allege that the owner of the hide or the animal from which the hide was removed is unknown and that the hide or animal is not the property of the defendant.

**ARTICLE 2 - PURCHASES, SALES AND TRANSPORTATION;  
BRAND INSPECTION**

**11-23-201. Hide buyer; designation.**

Any person engaged in the purchase and sale of hides within this state shall be known and designated as a hide buyer.

**11-23-202. Hide buyer; bill of sale required; contents; copy to seller.**

A hide buyer shall require every person from whom he purchases hides or pelts to deliver to him a bill of sale for the hides and pelts, executed in duplicate. One (1) copy shall be retained by the seller and the other copy shall be kept by the hide buyer and exhibited upon demand of any inspector, sheriff or deputy sheriff. The bill of sale shall describe by brand or mark the hides and pelts sold and the date of sale.

**11-23-203. Hide buyer; record of purchases to be kept; contents; inspection by sheriff.**

Every hide buyer in this state shall keep a true record of all hides and pelts purchased by him, showing the name of the seller of the hides or pelts, the date of purchase and all brands and other identification marks on the hides and pelts for not less than two (2) years from the date of purchase. The record shall

be open for inspection by the sheriff or his deputy in his county and any livestock inspector.

**11-23-204. Hide buyer; inspection for interstate commerce; certificate; fee.**

It is unlawful for any hide buyer within this state to ship or haul any hides or pelts out of Wyoming unless the hides or pelts have been inspected by a livestock inspector and a certificate of inspection given therefor. The certificate shall state the date of inspection, the number of hides and pelts and the brands and other identification marks thereon. The hide buyer shall pay to the inspector the fee prescribed by law for each certificate of inspection issued to him.

**11-23-205. Repealed By Laws 2007, Ch. 105, § 2.**

**11-23-206. Stock killed by transportation company.**

When any livestock is killed by a transportation company within this state, the company shall cause the hides from all animals killed to be inspected by an inspector, except where the owner or his agent or employee has seen and identified the animals.

**11-23-207. Penalties.**

Any person violating any provision of W.S. 11-23-202 through 11-23-206 shall be punished as provided in W.S. 11-1-103.

ARTICLE 3 - TRANSPORTATION OF CARCASSES  
TO RENDERING PLANTS

**11-23-301. Generally; exceptions.**

With the consent of the owner, unless removal is contrary to state, county or local sanitary regulations or in the opinion of the state veterinarian might result in spreading contagious or infectious disease or threaten the health of human beings, animals or poultry, carcasses of animals may be transported to any rendering plant legally operating without prior inspection for brands and ownership. The operator of a rendering plant within this state receiving the carcasses is a hide buyer and shall comply with W.S. 11-23-201 through 11-23-207.

**11-23-302. Transportation to another state prohibited without inspection; proof of ownership required.**

Without the consent of the owner, or agent, it is unlawful to transport or cause to be transported carcasses of horses, mules, cattle or sheep from Wyoming to any other state without prior inspection for brands and marks and the issuance of a certificate attesting the inspection by an inspector, who shall require proof of ownership by brand record, bill of sale, or both.

**11-23-303. Hide inspection certificate.**

After receiving satisfactory proof of ownership of carcasses of animals to be transported from the state, the inspector shall sign and issue a hide inspection certificate on a form approved by the board, listing the class and number of carcasses inspected, the brands or marks on each, the name of the shipper, name and address of the consignee, place and date of inspection, and make and license number of the truck. If transportation is by other means than truck, that shall be shown. Across the face of the certificate he shall write the words "Dead Animals". The hide inspection certificate shall be filled out in triplicate, the original delivered to the shipper or his agent and shall clear the carcasses for transportation to the destination shown. One (1) copy shall be mailed by the inspector to the board, and one (1) copy filed in the office of the brand inspection agency.

**11-23-304. Inspection fee; disposition thereof.**

For making an inspection of carcasses the inspector shall collect the inspection fee prescribed by law for each horse, mule, cattle or sheep carcass. All fees collected shall be transmitted to the board.

**11-23-305. Penalty.**

Violation of any provision of W.S. 11-23-301 through 11-23-304 is a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not less than twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) nor more than one hundred dollars (\$100.00).

CHAPTER 24 - ESTRAYS

**11-24-101. Definitions.**

(a) As used in this act:

(i) "Animal" means any bovine animal, horse, mule, ass or sheep;

(ii) "Estray" means any animal found running at large upon public or private lands, fenced or unfenced, in Wyoming whose owner is unknown in the territory where found or the owner of which cannot with reasonable diligence be found, or that is branded with two (2) or more brands the ownership of which is disputed, neither party holding a bill of sale. An estray includes any animal for which there is no sufficient proof of ownership found upon inspection;

(iii) "Range" means all unfenced lands or fenced allotments in Wyoming of a grazing nature. Range includes all highways outside of private enclosures and used by the public whether formally dedicated to the public or not;

(iv) "Disposal" means to sell, send to slaughter or destroy the animal;

(v) "Livestock" means as defined in W.S.  
11-20-101(a)(iv);

(vi) "This act" means W.S. 11-24-101 through  
11-24-115.

#### **11-24-102. Taking up estrays; generally.**

(a) No person shall take up and retain possession of an estray except in the county where he resides and is a freeholder, nor unless the animal is found on lands owned, leased, or controlled by him or his duly authorized agents. When any person takes up an estray he shall immediately notify an inspector who shall inspect or cause to be inspected the estray for brands and other evidence of ownership and make a diligent effort to learn or determine ownership of the animal. The inspector may cause any estray to be held for not more than ten (10) days after the inspection to enable him to complete his investigation of ownership. If the estray is claimed by an owner, the bill for feed and care incurred by the inspector must be paid by the claimant. If the rightful owner cannot be found, or when found, refuses or fails to pay the charges for feed and care of the estray, the inspector shall order the estray be disposed of. Incurred charges for feed and care by the inspector and reasonable shipping and disposal expense shall be paid from the proceeds of the disposal. The net proceeds, if any, received from the disposal of the estray after deduction of authorized expenses, shall be forwarded to the estray fund of the board or its agency. The board or agency shall hold the proceeds in a

special fund known as estray fund until paid to the rightful owner of the estray or otherwise disposed of according to law.

(b) If the proceeds of the disposal of any estray are insufficient to pay all legitimate expenses, the deficiency shall be paid by the board or its agency.

(c) The board may enter into agreements with licensed meat processing plants to process meat from livestock disposed of by slaughter. The processed meat shall be sold to:

(i) Wyoming state institutions or to nonprofit organizations for no more than the board's cost for disposal, processing and delivery; or

(ii) For profit entities at market cost for the processed meat.

#### **11-24-103. Taking up estrays; penalties.**

Any person who takes up or retains possession of any estray without the owner's knowledge or consent, or who in any manner restrains from liberty for the purpose of using or making use of any estray without the knowledge and consent of the owner shall be punished as provided in W.S. 11-1-103.

#### **11-24-104. Stallions and jacks generally.**

If any horse or ass not gelded, two (2) years old or upwards, is found running at large, it is lawful for any person to take up the horse or ass and give notice to the owner or keeper if known. If the owner or keeper does not appear within six (6) days thereafter and pay expenses incurred for the feed and care of the animal to the person possessing the animal, the person shall advertise the horse or ass and the same proceedings shall be had as provided in the case of estray animals, or the person possessing the animal may after the expiration of thirty (30) days from the time of advertising, geld or have the horse or ass gelded, at the risk and expense of the owner, except when the horse or ass is in the owner's herd, or in care of the owner's herder. The owner of the horse or ass shall be liable for any damages caused by the animal to property or other livestock.

#### **11-24-105. Unclaimed horses; permit for gathering; disposal.**



(a) Any person desiring to gather unclaimed horses from the ranges within Wyoming shall obtain a permit from the livestock board, except as provided in subsection (e) of this section. The permit applicant shall submit with the permit application written permission to access the range whereon the unclaimed horses are to be gathered from the person who has ownership or control of the surface rights of that range. The form of the permit shall be prescribed by the board.

(b) If after an inspection under subsection (c) or (e) of this section, the rightful owner cannot be found, or when found, refuses or fails to pay the charges for feed and care of the estray, the unclaimed horses shall be disposed of by the board under the laws pertaining to estrays.

(c) The permit and the unclaimed horses shall be presented to an inspector within the county in which they were gathered without unnecessary delay for determination of ownership.

(d) The permittee shall be responsible for all expenses associated with gathering, feed and care of the unclaimed horses until an inspection has occurred.

(e) A permit is not required for any person desiring to gather unclaimed horses located on private land on which the person has ownership or control of the surface rights. A person who has gathered unclaimed horses on private land on which he has ownership or control of the surface rights shall present the unclaimed horses to an inspector within the county in which they were gathered without unnecessary delay for determination of ownership and shall be responsible for all expenses associated with the gather and feed and care of the unclaimed horses until an inspection has occurred.

(f) Any horse claimed by the United States bureau of land management as belonging to a wild horse management unit is excluded from this section.

#### **11-24-106. Unclaimed horses; penalties.**

Any person, firm or corporation violating any provision of W.S. 11-24-105 shall be punished as provided in W.S. 11-1-103.

#### **11-24-107. Liability for death.**

If any stray dies while in the possession of the person taking it up, he is not liable for the loss unless its death was the result of mistreatment or willful neglect.

**11-24-108. Stock at large or picketed on public highways; penalties for violations; impoundment and disposition; fees; proceeds from disposition thereof; removal of dead or injured animals.**

(a) No owner or person having custody or charge of livestock shall permit the livestock to run at large in any fenced public highways in Wyoming as defined in W.S. 31-1-101. Livestock shall not be picketed on a public highway right-of-way from one (1) hour before sundown to one (1) hour after sunrise. If livestock are picketed on a public highway and escape, the owner or person having custody or charge of the livestock is deemed to have permitted the livestock to run at large in violation of this section. No livestock shall be picketed on an interstate or national defense highway as defined in W.S. 31-18-801(a) (xvi).

(b) Any person or corporation violating this section shall be fined not less than two hundred dollars (\$200.00) nor more than seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00) and in addition shall pay all damage done by the livestock. The provisions of this section do not apply to livestock drifting into lanes or fenced roads in going to or returning from their accustomed ranges.

(c) Any sheriff, deputy sheriff, livestock brand inspector, or officer or trooper of the Wyoming highway patrol, after notification to the owner of livestock described in subsection (a) of this section, if known, shall within four (4) hours remove the livestock from the public highway, impound the same in the nearest convenient place where feed and water are available and immediately notify the owner, if known, of the action. If ownership is not known, the impounding officer shall report his action to an inspector. The inspector shall make a diligent effort to ascertain ownership of the impounded livestock, and for this purpose may hold the livestock not more than ten (10) days. If unable to determine ownership, the inspector shall dispose of the impounded livestock. Reasonable transportation and disposal expenses shall be paid from the proceeds of the disposal, if any.

(d) A removal fee of not to exceed twenty dollars (\$20.00) per head shall be allowed for the expense incurred in removing livestock from any public highway and an impounding fee for

expenses incurred for the feed and care of the animal shall be allowed the person responsible for feed and care of the livestock removed. The inspector is responsible for collection and payment to the rightful claimants of removal and impounding fees when impounded livestock is surrendered to the owner. Upon disposal, the total amount of removal and impounding fees shall be made known to the selling agency at the market or slaughter plant by the inspector and shall constitute a first claim on the net proceeds of the livestock after shipping and disposal expenses have been paid, and shall be forwarded by the selling agency to the claimant.

(e) Should the proceeds of the disposition of any impounded animal be insufficient to pay all legitimate shipping and disposal expenses and the removal and impounding fees approved by the inspector, the deficiency shall be paid by the board or its agency.

(f) The net proceeds, if any, from the disposition of the impounded livestock after deduction of removal, impounding, trucking and disposal expenses, shall be forwarded to the estray account of the board. The board shall hold the proceeds until paid to the rightful owner of the livestock or otherwise disposed of according to law.

(g) A peace officer may remove, destroy or otherwise dispose of an animal injured on a state highway after a reasonable attempt to locate the owner of a salvageable animal or a game warden in the case of a wild animal. If reasonably possible, the peace officer shall contact the brand inspector before removing, destroying or disposing of livestock. The carcass of an animal killed on a state highway shall be disposed of by highway maintenance crews. If the owner desires, he may claim the carcass from the maintenance crew. The crews shall report to the inspector brands, marks, tags or other identification. The inspector shall endeavor to establish ownership of the animal and notify the owner in writing or notify the local game warden as may be appropriate. Notwithstanding W.S. 24-1-112 and as part of their duties, any peace officer, inspector or other person acting under this section may, but is not obligated to, attempt to repair any fencing through which an animal has gained improper access to the area in which the animal is found.

**11-24-109. Record to be kept of estrays found in shipments in transit of cattle or horses.**

All inspectors shall keep a record of all estrays found in any shipment of cattle or horses in transit from this state, and shall take a receipt for the estrays from the shipper, or in default of a receipt, shall take the estray from the shipment, giving the shipper a receipt for the estrays on behalf of the livestock board.

**11-24-110. Monthly report of inspector; board to keep public record.**

The inspector shall make a report every thirty (30) days of all estrays to the livestock board, giving a description of the estrays, stating any brands or other marks by which the estrays may be identified. The board shall keep a record of all estrays reported, which shall at all times be open to the public for inspection.

**11-24-111. Disposition of proceeds; remission to board.**

All persons shipping estrays shall immediately remit to the livestock board the proceeds received for each and every estray disposed of, a receipt for which was given to an inspector. If any inspector sells an estray from this state, he shall immediately remit the proceeds to the livestock board.

**11-24-112. Disposition of proceeds; payment to owner on proof of ownership; unclaimed proceeds generally.**

If the lawful owner of any estray disposed of is found within one (1) year after the end of the calendar year in which disposal of the estray occurred, the net amount received from the disposal shall be paid to the owner upon his proving ownership to the satisfaction of the board or agency. If at the end of one (1) year after the end of the calendar year in which disposal of the estray occurred, the proceeds from the disposal of any estray remains unclaimed, the proceeds shall be disposed of as provided by law.

**11-24-113. When shipping prohibited.**

It is unlawful for any person to drive or ship, or cause to be driven or shipped, or to consign or cause to be consigned, without authority from the owner, any estray from any place within this state, except through or to a point or place where an inspector or inspectors are located by the livestock board.

**11-24-114. Publication of list of unclaimed estrays.**

(a) The executive officer of the livestock board shall annually, during the last week of December, send two (2) lists of unclaimed estrays for which he has received payments, to the county clerk of each county, who shall post one (1) copy in a conspicuous place in the courthouse and place one (1) copy on file in his office. The executive officer shall also cause to be published in a newspaper of general circulation in each county from which any estray included in the list was shipped, a notice to the public that the list of estrays is available for examination.

(b) In addition to the notice under subsection (a) of this section, not less than once each month the livestock board shall ensure that if a new estray is taken up notice is posted at the courthouse in the county in which the estray was taken and at each livestock market. The notice under this subsection shall include the location recovered from and the name of the inspector.

**11-24-115. Disposition of unclaimed proceeds to state treasurer to credit of inspection account.**

On the first Monday in January of each year, all estray monies remaining unclaimed for more than one (1) year after the publication of the notices of posting of lists of unclaimed estrays, shall be paid to the treasurer of the state, and be placed to the credit of the inspection account.

CHAPTER 25 - WYOMING GAMING COMMISSION

ARTICLE 1 - IN GENERAL

**11-25-101. Wyoming gaming commission created; composition; qualifications.**

The Wyoming gaming commission is created to be composed of nine (9) persons who have resided in the state for four (4) years and are qualified electors of Wyoming.

**11-25-102. Definitions.**

(a) As used in this act:

(i) "Breeder award" means monies collected pursuant to W.S. 11-25-201(j) and distributed by the commission to promote the improved breeding and development of the horse

industry in Wyoming. Breeder awards may include purse enhancement of Wyoming bred races;

(ii) "Commission" means the Wyoming gaming commission;

(iii) "Drug" means any substance foreign to a horse's body as prescribed by the commission;

(iv) "Event" means a pari-mutuel event;

(v) "Pari-mutuel event" means the events which are authorized by the commission for the conduct of horse racing (to include quarter horse, thoroughbred or other approved races), harness racing, cutter racing, chariot racing, chuckwagon racing, professional roping and rodeo events and simulcasting of dog racing and the events described in this paragraph as prescribed by the commission. Notwithstanding W.S. 6-7-101(a)(iv) and 11-25-203, the commission may authorize and promulgate rules providing for pari-mutuel wagering on events that have previously occurred, utilizing an electronic system or device that affords an opportunity for the exercise of skill or judgment where the outcome is not completely controlled by chance alone;

(vi) "Pari-mutuel wagering" means wagering on the outcome of pari-mutuel events in which those who wager purchase tickets of various denominations on entrants in the events and all wagers for each event are pooled and held by the permittee for distribution, and when the outcome of the event has been decided, the permittee distributes the total wagers comprising the pool, less an amount not greater than twenty-five and nine-tenths percent (25.90%) for live racing and in the event of simulcasting an amount not to exceed the percentage allowed at the host track or thirty-five percent (35%), whichever is less and less the amount for breakage to holders of tickets on the winning entries;

(vii) "Simulcasting" means the sale of pari-mutuel pools electronically transmitted live or historic on interstate or intrastate pari-mutuel events as prescribed by the commission. The commission shall authorize simulcasting subject to the following conditions:

(A) Simulcasting may be conducted only by a holder of a permit to simulcast issued under this act. The permit shall be authorized by the commission for a period not to

exceed three (3) years from the date of issuance. The commissioners shall issue a simulcast permit only to an applicant authorized under this act to conduct a pari-mutuel event other than simulcasting;

(B) Simulcasting may be conducted off the permitted premises only if the board of county commissioners of the county in which such simulcasting will be conducted grant [grants] its approval;

(C) No simulcasting may be conducted within one hundred (100) miles of any premises permitted under this act, except that the commission may waive the one hundred (100) mile limitation if the simulcast permit application includes written approval from the permittee whose permitted premises is within the one hundred (100) mile limitation;

(D) The commission shall promulgate rules for conducting simulcasting as are reasonably necessary to protect the public interest.

(viii) "This act" means W.S. 11-25-101 through 11-25-306;

(ix) "Multiple wagering" means wagers which consist of a single betting interest on two (2) entries;

(x) "Exotic wagering" means wagers which consist of a single betting interest on three (3) or more entries;

(xi) "Advance deposit pari-mutuel wager" means a wager in which a person who has opened an account in advance with a licensee can place wagers from this account in person, by telephone or other electronic means;

(xii) "Horsemen's association" means the association that represents the majority of the owners and trainers licensed by the commission to race horses at an event;

(xiii) "Out-of-state simulcast facility" means a track or other facility, located within a jurisdiction other than Wyoming, at which pari-mutuel wagers are placed, accepted or distributed, either in person or electronically, on simulcast races pursuant to proper authorization under the laws of that jurisdiction;

(xiv) "Source market fee" means a license fee, assessed by the commission pursuant to W.S. 11-25-201(m), payable by out-of-state simulcast facilities that conduct pari-mutuel wagering on simulcast races and that accept wagers from Wyoming residents by telephone or other electronic means at those facilities;

(xv) "Net proceeds" means all revenue less the payment to the player;

(xvi) "Establishment" means a single physical place of business that operates as a truck stop, smoke shop or that is licensed or permitted to sell alcoholic liquor or malt beverages under W.S. 12-2-203(g), 12-4-201, 12-4-301, 12-4-401, 12-4-407, 12-4-413, 12-4-414 or 12-4-415;

(xvii) "Operator" means a person who possesses and operates an establishment where skill based amusement games may be played for profit;

(xviii) "Skill" means a player's knowledge, dexterity or any other ability or expertise relevant to game play;

(xix) "Skill based amusement game" means a game played in exchange for consideration of cash, credit or other thing of value on a fixed, commercial electrical gaming device in which the bona fide skill of the player, determined by an individual's level of strategy and skill, rather than any inherent element of chance, is the primary factor in determining the outcome and for which the player may be awarded a prize or other thing of value for a successful outcome. "Skill based amusement game" shall not include any game played for prizes of nominal value as provided by rule of the commission;

(xx) "Vendor" means a person who owns and distributes a skill based amusement game to an operator for profit;

(xxi) "Truck stop" means a business premises that is:

(A) Equipped with diesel islands used for fueling commercial motor vehicles and that sells on average one hundred twenty-five thousand (125,000) gallons of diesel or biodiesel fuel each month based on the previous twelve (12) months of sales; and

(B) Located on a parcel of land of not less than two (2) acres that is either owned or leased by the business and



which includes a convenience store with parking spaces dedicated to commercial motor vehicle use.

(xxii) "Smoke shop" means a retailer as defined in W.S. 14-3-301(a)(iii) that derives fifty percent (50%) or more of its gross annual revenue from nicotine products as defined by W.S. 14-3-301(a)(vi).

**11-25-103. Gaming commission; appointment, terms of office and political affiliation of members; vacancies; appointment districts.**

The governor with the consent of the senate shall appoint the nine (9) members of the commission in accordance with W.S. 28-12-101 through 28-12-103. Seven (7) of the nine (9) members shall be appointed from each appointment district under W.S. 9-1-218. One (1) of the remaining members shall be, at the time of appointment and during the term of appointment, an active county or municipal law enforcement officer certified under title 9, chapter 1, article 7 of the Wyoming statutes. One (1) of the remaining members shall be an enrolled member of the Northern Arapaho or Eastern Shoshone Indian tribe with not less than five (5) years of regulatory gaming experience. Members shall be appointed for terms of four (4) years and until their successor is appointed and qualified. Any vacancy shall be filled by appointment by the governor as provided in W.S. 28-12-101. A member of the commission may succeed himself for one (1) full four (4) year term. The governor may remove any member as provided in W.S. 9-1-202. Additionally, one (1) senator appointed by the president of the senate, one (1) representative appointed by the speaker of the house and one (1) gubernatorial representative shall serve as liaisons to the commission. Legislative liaisons shall be paid salary, per diem and mileage as provided in W.S. 28-5-101 when attending meetings of the commission.

**11-25-104. Gaming commission; officers; director; meetings; quorum; records; licenses generally; effect of financial interest in events.**

(a) The commission shall annually elect from its membership a president and vice-president, and may employ a director who has a working knowledge of pari-mutuel betting, horse racing and other forms of gaming regulated by the commission or an executive secretary, or both. The director may be retained on a yearly basis or for the racing season only as determined by the commission. Salary for the director or

executive secretary shall be determined by the commission with the consent of the personnel division. The commission may also employ other personnel required to carry out this act.

(b) The commission shall hold an annual fall meeting in Wyoming and shall hold special meetings at such times and places within Wyoming as the majority of the members determine. A majority of the commission constitutes a quorum and a majority vote of a quorum may act for the commission. The secretary of the commission shall keep a record of the proceedings of the commission which is open at all times for public inspection. Legislative liaisons shall be considered members of the governing body of the commission for purposes of attending executive sessions held pursuant to W.S. 16-4-405(a) only.

(c) Any member of the commission who has a personal or private interest in any matter proposed or pending before the commission shall publicly disclose this fact to the commission and shall not vote on the matter.

(d) Any member of the commission who owns or has any interest, or whose spouse or member of his immediate family has any interest, in any activity regulated by the commission or in an animal participating in a pari-mutuel event shall disclose that interest and shall not participate in any commission decision involving a protest regarding that activity or occurring at that pari-mutuel event.

(e) The commission may authorize by license or permit and supervise all the conduct of all events provided for and regulated by this act. The commission may make reasonable rules for the control, supervision and direction of applicants, permittees and licensees. The rules shall include procedures for resolving scheduling conflicts and settling disputes between permittees, for the supervising, disciplining, suspending, fining and barring from pari-mutuel events of all persons required to be licensed or permitted by this act, and for the holding, conducting and operating of all pari-mutuel events pursuant to this act. The rules shall include requirements for internal controls for all aspects of pari-mutuel wagering, including procedures for system integrity, system security, operations and accounting. The commission may require that license applicants be fingerprinted for identification purposes as a condition of licensing. The commission shall announce the place, time and duration of pari-mutuel events for which license or permit fees shall be required and establish reasonable fees for all licenses and permits provided for by this act. The fees

shall be established to ensure that the costs of administering this act are recovered through the total revenues received under this act. The commission shall establish security access safeguards for licensees to use for advance deposit pari-mutuel wagering. The commission shall prohibit advance deposit pari-mutuel advertising that it determines to be deceptive to the public.

(f) Each permittee, licensee, any current and prospective employee, volunteer and contract employee of a permittee or licensee and each person who has access to restricted areas or animals housed on permitted event grounds for horse racing or for pari-mutuel activities shall be licensed by the commission and shall comply with all rules and regulations and all orders issued by the commission. No person shall hold any event with pari-mutuel wagering without obtaining a permit. The commission may require that all permittees, licensees, current and prospective employees, volunteers and contract employees of a permittee or licensee and each person who has access to restricted areas or animals housed on permitted event grounds for horse racing or for pari-mutuel activities submit fingerprints to the Wyoming division of criminal investigation to perform a criminal history background check pursuant to W.S. 7-19-201 in order to obtain state and national criminal history record information. The division may share the results of the criminal history background check with the commission pursuant to W.S. 7-19-106(a) (xxxv). For purposes of this subsection, permittees, licensees, current and prospective employees, volunteers and contract employees of a permittee or licensee, shall include the following as defined:

(i) "Assistant starter" means a person who handles a horse in the starting gate on race day and during training;

(ii) "Assistant trainer" means a person who is designated by the trainer to make decisions on behalf of the trainer during the trainer's absence;

(iii) "Clerk of scales" means a person whose primary responsibility is to weigh the riders before and after a race to ensure proper weight is carried;

(iv) "Commission or permittee employee" means a person who is an employee that by virtue of their required duties has access to restricted areas of the permitted event grounds or has access to information that is limited by law or

confidential in nature and could effectuate or manipulate wagering activity or wagering information;

(v) "Commission safety officer" means a person who is employed by the commission to monitor activities and practices in the stable area, barn area and on the racetrack for compliance with this act and rules of the commission;

(vi) "Commission veterinarian" means a Wyoming licensed veterinarian hired directly by the commission;

(vii) "Exercise rider" means a person who exercises a horse during a training session;

(viii) "Farrier" means a person who provides hoof care, including the trimming and balancing of horses hooves and placing of shoes on hooves, if necessary;

(ix) "Groom" means a person who cleans stalls, bathes, brushes and provides general care to a race horse;

(x) "Horseman's bookkeeper" means a person whose primary responsibility is to keep and preserve books which will reflect the deposits or other credits and withdrawals or other charges that may be made by an owner or other licensee;

(xi) "Host facility" means a person who leases their property to a permitholder to operate or host pari-mutuel wagering;

(xii) "Identifier" means a person who verifies the identity of each race horse prior to the race;

(xiii) "Jockey" means a person who is a race rider of a horse, including a licensed jockey or an apprentice jockey;

(xiv) "Jockey agent" means a person who handles the daily business of a jockey or apprentice;

(xv) "Mutuel employee" means a person who acts under the direction of the mutuel managers and sells betting tickets;

(xvi) "Mutuel manager" means a person who is an employee of the permittee who manages the mutuel department overseeing all wagering activity;

(xvii) "Owner" means a person who is the owner, part owner or lessee of a horse;

(xviii) "Paddock judge" means a person who is responsible for the paddock area and saddling routine of the race horses;

(xix) "Pari-mutuel service provider" means any business or person providing goods or services to a pari-mutuel permitholder who is required to have access to designated and secured areas of the pari-mutuel event or provides direct services for the support of players or wagering terminals;

(xx) "Patrol judge" means a person who observes the progress of a race from various vantage points around the track;

(xxi) "Permitholder" means a person or entity holding a permit issued by the Wyoming gaming commission to operate a pari-mutuel facility;

(xxii) "Permittee official" means any mutuel manager, steward, events judge, placing judge, patrol judge, paddock judge, clerk of scale, identifier, starter, horsemen bookkeeper, track safety officer, racing secretary and track superintendent who by virtue of their position has unrestricted access to the pari-mutuel event grounds and animals participating;

(xxiii) "Placing judge" means a person who posts the order of finish in a race;

(xxiv) "Pony rider" means a person that rides a horse while leading another race horse, either during a training session or escorting the race horse to the post on race days;

(xxv) "Private practice veterinarian" means a Wyoming licensed veterinarian hired to provide services to owners and trainers;

(xxvi) "Racing secretary" means a person who drafts conditions of races and assigns weights for handicap events;

(xxvii) "Security employee" means a person who is responsible for the protection of property, people, acting in accordance with the permittee's guidelines;

(xxviii) "Service provider employee" means a person who is an employee of the pari-mutuel service providers who provide additional support to the vendor;

(xxix) "Starter" means a person who is responsible for the official dispatching of horses for a race;

(xxx) "Steward or event judge" means a person who is the head event official, or their designee, charged with the duty of making sure the events comply with this act and the rules of the commission;

(xxxi) "Track safety officer" means a person who monitors the paddock and racetrack areas during all training and racing hours for safety related issues;

(xxxii) "Track superintendent" means a person who is responsible for all track maintenance, ensuring that the track surface is properly groomed and prepared for training and racing hours;

(xxxiii) "Trainer" means a person who is engaged in the training of race horses;

(xxxiv) "Valet" means a person who assists in the saddling of horses for the jockeys in a pari-mutuel event;

(xxxv) "Veterinarian assistant" means a person who is hired by a commission veterinarian or a private practice veterinarian to assist in providing veterinarian services under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian.

(g) The commission may delegate authority to enforce rules of the commission and this act to three (3) stewards at each pari-mutuel event, at least one (1) of whom shall be an employee of and selected by the commission. The commission shall require at least one (1) steward to supervise each simulcast location that is approved by the commission. Stewards shall exercise such reasonable and necessary authority as is designated by rules of the commission including the following:

(i) Enforce rules of the commission and this act;

(ii) Rule on the outcome of events;

(iii) Levy fines not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) for violations of rules of the commission.

Violations shall be reported daily and fines paid to the commission within forty-eight (48) hours of imposition and notice;

(iv) Suspend licenses not to exceed thirty (30) calendar days for violations of rules of the commission. Suspensions shall be reported to the commission daily;

(v) Recommend the commission impose fines or suspensions greater than permitted by paragraphs (iii) and (iv) of this subsection.

(h) Only a licensed steward of the permitted event may impose fines or license suspensions except that a starter may impose fines when horses arrive at the gate until off time in an amount not exceeding two hundred dollars (\$200.00).

(j) Any fine or license suspension imposed by a steward or fine imposed by a starter may be appealed in writing to the commission within five (5) days after its imposition. The commission may affirm or reverse the decision of a steward or starter or may increase or decrease any fine or suspension. A fine imposed by the commission shall not exceed ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00). Suspensions of a license may be for any period of time, but shall be commensurate with the seriousness of the offense.

(k) The commission shall access criminal history record information for all operators and vendors under article 3 of this chapter and all licensees, permittees and employees of the commission under W.S. 9-1-627(d) for the purposes of this act. Every applicant for a permit or license under this act shall provide the commission fingerprints and other information necessary for a criminal history record background check as provided under W.S. 7-19-201.

(m) The commission shall establish the number of actual live horse racing or pari-mutuel event days required to qualify for a simulcasting permit. The commission shall adopt rules governing establishment of live horse racing or pari-mutuel event days required for a simulcasting permit in a manner that ensures fair and equitable involvement of all affected parties, including consideration of the economic viability of those days to permit applicants.

(n) Commencing July 1, 2020, any person conducting an activity as specified by W.S. 6-7-101(a)(iii)(D) or (F) shall

first obtain a license from the commission. Under this subsection, the commission shall not charge license applicants any fee and shall not require any fee for any license issued. Any person required to be licensed under this subsection shall file an annual report with the commission as specified by rule.

(o) In addition to all other duties, the commission, in the reasonable exercise of its discretion, shall:

(i) Enforce W.S. 6-7-101 through 6-7-104;

(ii) Regulate online sports wagering and sports wagering operators and vendors under W.S. 9-24-101 through 9-24-106.

**11-25-105. Renumbered by Laws 2021, ch. 109, § 5 as W.S. 11-25-201.**

**11-25-106. Renumbered by Laws 2021, ch. 109, § 5 as W.S. 11-25-202.**

**11-25-107. Renumbered by Laws 2021, ch. 109, § 5 as W.S. 11-25-203.**

**11-25-108. Renumbered by Laws 2021, ch. 109, § 5 as W.S. 11-25-204.**

**11-25-109. Renumbered by Laws 2021, ch. 109, § 5 as W.S. 11-25-205.**

**11-25-110. Renumbered by Laws 2021, ch. 109, § 5 as W.S. 11-25-206.**

**11-25-111. Renumbered by Laws 2021, ch. 109, § 5 as W.S. 11-25-207.**

**11-25-112. Renumbered by Laws 2021, ch. 109, § 5 as W.S. 11-25-208.**

**11-25-113. Renumbered by Laws 2021, ch. 109, § 5 as W.S. 11-25-209.**

## **ARTICLE 2 - PARI-MUTUEL WAGERING**

**11-25-201. Pari-mutuel permits; fees and reports; disposition of funds; enforcement of provisions.**



(a) The commission may issue pari-mutuel permits for a specified period not to exceed three (3) years from the date of issuance to any Wyoming county, city, incorporated town, county fair board or any corporation or association which has been approved by the board of county commissioners and provides a bond acceptable to the commission. No permit shall be granted to any city, town, county, county fair board or any corporation or association except upon the express condition that it shall not, by any lease, contract, understanding or arrangement of whatever kind or nature, grant, assign or turn over to any person, corporation or association the operation or management of the pari-mutuel event permitted under this act or of the pari-mutuel system of wagering or in any manner permit any person, corporation or association to retain any of the money received for admission to the race meeting or from the operations of the pari-mutuel system. The commission shall revoke the permit of any permittee for any violation of the foregoing condition and such acts are a violation of this act. The permit is effective only for the times and at the places for which issued. In addition to all other fees and charges, there shall be charged before issuance of a permit a daily fee established by the commission to defray expenses of enforcing this act.

(b) Every Wednesday following any pari-mutuel event, the permittee shall:

(i) File a report with the commission showing the total amount of money wagered during the period;

(ii) Pay an amount equal to one-quarter percent (1/4%) of the total amount wagered attributable to historic pari-mutuel events and one and one-half percent (1 1/2%) of the total amount wagered attributable to live pari-mutuel events, shown by the report to the commission, to be credited by the state treasurer to a separate account, in the manner indicated in subsection (d) of this section;

(iii) Pay an amount equal to one percent (1%) of the total amount wagered attributable to historic pari-mutuel events, shown by the report to the commission, to be transferred by the commission to the county and the city or town in which the permittee is located, in equal shares, or to the county alone if the permittee is not located within the boundaries of a city or town. The county, city or town receiving an amount under this paragraph may credit that amount to the state fair account upon a majority vote of the county's, city's or town's governing body; and

(iv) Pay an amount equal to one-quarter percent (1/4%) of the total amount wagered attributable to historic pari-mutuel events, shown by the report to the commission, to be credited to the legislative stabilization reserve account.

(c) The permittee may retain an amount equal to nineteen and four-tenths percent (19.40%) of the total amount wagered shown by the report and may retain up to an additional five percent (5%) of the amount wagered on multiple or exotic wagers. The permittee shall retain the breakage on not more than ten cents (\$.10) and retain unclaimed tickets not claimed within one (1) year following the event for the expenses of the race meet and purses and for the promotion of the racing industry.

(d) All sums paid to the commission under this act except contributions from permittees to the breeder award fund, amounts paid under paragraphs (b)(iii) and (iv) of this section, fines and penalties shall be credited to the pari-mutuel account which shall be used by the commission for the payment of all expenses incurred in enforcing this act. On a quarterly basis, the commission shall transfer amounts within the account in excess of one million five hundred thousand dollars (\$1,500,000.00) to the state treasurer for credit to the legislative stabilization reserve account. All fines and penalties collected under this act shall be paid to the state treasurer and credited as provided in W.S. 8-1-109. The state treasurer shall pay out of the account all warrants drawn by the state auditor, upon vouchers issued and signed by the president, vice-president or executive secretary of the commission. The commission shall keep an accurate and true account of all funds received and all vouchers issued by the commission. All funds received and all vouchers issued by the commission shall be audited at least biennially by the director of the state department of audit or his designee and a copy of the audit shall be delivered within thirty (30) days after completion to the governor and the commission. The costs of the audit shall be borne by the commission. The members of the commission shall receive per diem and mileage as provided in W.S. 33-1-302(a)(vii), and compensation of fifty dollars (\$50.00) for each day during which they are actually engaged in the discharge of their duties. The total expenses incurred by the commission shall not exceed the total amount in the pari-mutuel account.

(e) Applications for permits shall be made to the commission and shall fully identify the applicant, include a proper financial statement showing the financial responsibility

of the applicant, show the purpose and use of the permit and describe the events to be conducted and the arrangements therefor, the manner of wagering and the names and identification of those to supervise the manner of wagering and the controls and supervision by the permittee.

(f) The commission may issue, amend or refuse to issue permits in its discretion.

(g) The rules of racing set forth by the commission shall be made available to all participants of each event, and violations shall be misdemeanors punishable as provided herein.

(h) The commission shall observe and supervise the conduct of pari-mutuel wagering under permits issued by the commission and shall appoint one (1) of its members or employ one (1) or more persons to represent the commission in the administration and enforcement of this act and in the supervision of the conduct of pari-mutuel wagering and the events in connection therewith under each permit issued. Representatives of the commission shall have access to the events and to the pari-mutuel booths and records and shall be paid an amount determined by the commission plus expenses and mileage as fixed by law for state officers, payment therefor to be made by the state auditor.

(j) As a condition of receiving a pari-mutuel permit, the permittee shall agree to and shall contribute to the breeder award fund administered by the commission an amount equal to four-tenths of one percent (0.40%) of the total handle wagered during the pari-mutuel event and an additional sum equal to twenty percent (20%) of the additional amount retained pursuant to subsection (c) of this section on multiple or exotic wagers. The contribution shall be derived from the net proceeds of the race meet revenues, other than the permittee's share of the pari-mutuel wagering handle. Contributions shall be used only for breeder awards.

(k) The commission may authorize advance deposit pari-mutuel wagering at any premise where a pari-mutuel event is authorized, provided that the licensee shall:

(i) Only accept an advance deposit pari-mutuel wager made by the person owning the account;

(ii) Ensure the identification of the account owner by using methods and technologies approved by the commission;

(iii) Provide a full accounting and verification of the sources of wagers at the request of, and in the form provided by, the commission;

(iv) Allow the commission and agents of the commission access to its premises to determine that the rules and regulations are being followed;

(v) Not allow minors to open, own or have access to advance deposit pari-mutuel wagering accounts;

(vi) Include a statement in all forms of advertising for advance deposit pari-mutuel wagering accounts that "minors are not allowed to open or have access to advance deposit pari-mutuel wagering accounts."

(m) The commission may license, regulate and charge a source market fee to persons outside of Wyoming who conduct pari-mutuel wagering on simulcast races and who accept wagers from Wyoming residents at out-of-state simulcast facilities, and shall require out-of-state simulcast facilities licensed under this section to be maintained and operated in accordance with the laws of this state and rules of the commission. Source market fees imposed on persons licensed under this subsection shall not exceed ten percent (10%) of the gross receipts of all pari-mutuel wagering by Wyoming residents conducted by such persons at out-of-state simulcast facilities. Source market fees collected annually under this subsection shall be distributed as follows:

(i) Seventy-five percent (75%) to the live flat track permittees in this state on a number of live days basis, to be used to enhance purses at those tracks;

(ii) Ten percent (10%) to in-state Wyoming simulcast permittees, weighted by the annual simulcast handle other than the advanced deposit wagering handle;

(iii) Ten percent (10%) to the breeder award fund created under subsection (j) of this section; and

(iv) Five percent (5%) to the commission for administrative expenses.

**11-25-202. Qualifications as to horses; preference to Wyoming bred horses.**

(a) Every horse entered in any race authorized by a permit issued under this act shall be a thoroughbred horse which means any horse (including mare, gelding, colt and filly) that meets the requirements of and is registered by the Jockey Club of New York, including racing permits issued to foreign thoroughbred horses, or registered as an American quarter horse in the official stud book and registry of the American Quarter Horse Association, or registered as one (1) of another breed which maintains a recognized national stud book and registry.

(b) Every permittee conducting a pari-mutuel event shall provide each day for the running of at least one (1) race preferred to Wyoming bred horses if Wyoming bred horses are available.

**11-25-203. Horses to race under true name; substitution of horses, concealment of identification, prohibited.**

Every horse participating in any event authorized by a permit issued under this act shall participate under its true and registered name, shall be fully and truly identified and shall not participate under any other name or identification. There shall be no substitution of horses nor shall any device whatsoever be used to conceal or confuse the name and identification of any horse.

**11-25-204. Stimulation or retardation of animals prohibited; tests.**

It is unlawful for any person to use or permit to be used any mechanical or electrical device, or drug of any kind, to stimulate or retard any animal in any event authorized by this act except as prescribed by the commission. A commission member, a roping judge or race steward may cause such tests to be made as they deem proper to determine whether any animal has been stimulated or retarded. Tests performed in furtherance of this section shall be conducted by or under the supervision of a qualified Wyoming veterinarian.

**11-25-205. Bribery, touting and betting by minors prohibited.**

(a) It is unlawful for any person to give or promise to give or attempt to give or for any person to receive or agree to receive or attempt to receive, any money, bribe or thing of value with intent to influence any person to dishonestly umpire,

manage, direct, judge, preside, officiate at or participate in any event conducted under this act with the intention or purpose that the result of the event will be affected or influenced thereby. Violation of this subsection is a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than five (5) years, a fine of not more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00), or both.

(b) Any person who knowingly and designedly persuades, procures or causes, or attempts to persuade, procure or cause another person to wager on an animal or roper in any event authorized by this act and asks or demands compensation as a reward for information or purported information given in such case is guilty of unlawful touting. The representative of the commission may exclude from attendance at or near any event authorized by this act any person who has been convicted of touting and any person who refuses to leave when ordered to do so by the representative is guilty of a misdemeanor.

(c) No person under the age of eighteen (18) years shall place or be allowed to place a bet.

(d) Any person who has been convicted of bookmaking, bribery, touting or drugging animals may be evicted from a pari-mutuel event by a steward or roping judge.

#### **11-25-206. County elections as to pari-mutuel events.**

No pari-mutuel event shall be held in any county until the question has been put to the people of the county to accept or reject pari-mutuel wagering. If the election fails no other election shall be held for two (2) years.

#### **11-25-207. Bond of permittees; required; conditions; prosecution of actions.**

(a) The commission may require any permittee other than a political subdivision licensed to conduct an event to provide and deliver to the commission a bond signed by a surety company authorized to do business in this state in such form and amount as specified by the commission, or certificate of deposit, or irrevocable letter of credit, but not less than five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00), conditioned that the permittee will pay to the state of Wyoming all monies due it under this act and will perform such other obligations as may be imposed by the commission.

(b) The county attorney of the county in which an event is held shall prosecute all action on the bonds on behalf of the state against any permittee for any reason whatever except a cause of action covered by public liability insurance.

**11-25-208. Penalties.**

(a) Any person holding or conducting any pari-mutuel event in connection with the pari-mutuel system of wagering without a permit issued in accordance with this act, or any person who violates any other provision of this act is guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined not more than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00), imprisoned for not more than six (6) months, or both.

(b) The attorney general may, at the request of the commission, act on behalf of the commission to prosecute criminal actions under this chapter or title 6, chapter 7, article 1 of the Wyoming statutes if after a thorough investigation the action is deemed advisable by the attorney general.

**11-25-209. Removal of livestock from quarters at county or state fairs.**

At no time and under no conditions shall any livestock at any county or state fair that are there to be shown be removed from quarters provided for them in order to place pari-mutuel horses in the stalls or quarters. Removal shall be cause for rescinding the permit for the pari-mutuel event.

**ARTICLE 3 - SKILL BASED AMUSEMENT GAMES**

**11-25-301. Skill based amusement games authorization; commission authority; applicability.**

(a) Skill based amusement games operating in the state in accordance with the provisions of 2020 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 114 shall be allowed to continue operation in accordance with the requirements of this article and rules of the commission.

(b) A skill based amusement game that meets the requirements of this article shall be approved by the commission to operate in the state or it shall be removed from the state by the vendor.

(c) The commission shall promulgate any necessary rules to administer and enforce this article. The rules may include provisions for the control, supervision, direction, discipline, suspension or fining of any person for violation of this article or rules adopted in accordance with this article.

**11-25-302. Laboratory report required.**

(a) Each vendor shall provide for a nationally recognized, independent gaming laboratory approved by the commission to submit to the commission a general functional evaluation laboratory report regarding the software installed on each skill based amusement game indicating whether the skill based amusement game is in compliance with this article. Any skill based amusement game that does not meet the requirements of this article shall immediately be removed from the state by the vendor.

(b) Any alterations, modifications or updates to the software or hardware of any skill based amusement game shall require the vendor to submit to the commission a new laboratory report as required under subsection (a) of this section before the game may be used for play at an establishment.

**11-25-303. Restrictions on operation of skill based amusement games.**

(a) No skill based amusement game shall allow a game play of more than three dollars (\$3.00) per play.

(b) No skill based amusement game shall allow a payout of more than three thousand dollars (\$3,000.00) per play.

(c) No establishment shall have more than four (4) skill based amusement games operating for play at any one (1) time.

(d) Skill based amusement games shall only be located for play at an establishment, except as provided in subsection (e) of this section. An operator shall not locate a skill based amusement game in an area of the establishment into which a person under the age of twenty-one (21) years may enter. An operator shall conspicuously mark each area of the establishment containing a skill based amusement game as an age restricted area. The operator shall not allow a person under the age of twenty-one (21) years to play a skill based amusement game.



(e) Any operator who, before September 14, 2022 had a skill based amusement game located at a place of business that does not meet the definition of "establishment" in W.S. 11-25-102(a)(xvi) on April 1, 2023 shall be authorized to continue operating skill based amusement games if the operator otherwise meets the requirements to operate a skill based amusement game.

**11-25-304. Required permits and licenses; applicable fees; tax imposition; taxation rate; distribution.**

(a) Any person seeking to obtain or renew any license, permit or decal as required under this section shall submit an application to the commission on a form prescribed by the commission. Upon approval of an application by the commission:

(i) An operator shall be issued a permit and required to pay an annual fee of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00) to have skill based amusement games operating for play in the operator's establishment;

(ii) A vendor shall be issued a license and required to pay an annual fee of two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500.00) to possess and distribute skill based amusement games.

(b) Skill based amusement games that meet the requirements of this article shall bear a commission issued decal that identifies the vendor of the game. Each decal shall be valid for one (1) year. No skill based amusement game shall be operational unless it bears a current commission issued decal. The commission shall charge the vendor a fee of fifty dollars (\$50.00) for a decal. Each decal shall include the bucking horse and rider emblem.

(c) The fees required under subsections (a) and (b) of this section shall be paid on or before July 1 of each year and shall be deposited in the commission gaming account created under 2020 Wyoming Session Laws, Chapter 114 and hereby continued under this subsection. Funds within the account are continuously appropriated to the commission to pay for reasonable expenses incurred to administer this article.

(d) Taxes shall be calculated and paid on a weekly basis based on the net proceeds earned during the prior week on skill based amusement games. On a weekly basis, the vendor shall remit to the commission an amount equivalent to twenty percent (20%) of the net proceeds earned during the prior week on the vendor's

skill based amusement games. The taxes imposed under this subsection may be prepaid as provided by rule of the commission. The commission shall remit these monies to the state treasurer for deposit in the commission gaming account and for distribution of the tax as follows:

(i) Forty-five percent (45%) to the county and the city or town in which the skill based amusement game is located, in equal shares, or to the county alone if the skill based amusement game is not located within the boundaries of a city or town;

(ii) Forty-five percent (45%) to the public school foundation program account;

(iii) Ten percent (10%) to the commission gaming account.

**11-25-305. Operator permit, vendor license and skill based amusement game decal approval; criteria; review.**

(a) The commission shall, not more than sixty (60) days after the date of receipt of an application or application for renewal for an operator permit, vendor license or skill based amusement game decal under W.S. 11-25-304 either:

(i) Issue the permit, license or decal; or

(ii) Deny the application based on the grounds that the applicant failed to qualify as provided by subsection (b) of this section.

(b) The commission shall deny any application under this article upon finding any of the following:

(i) The applicant has been convicted of, forfeited bail on or pleaded guilty within ten (10) years before the date of filing the application to:

(A) A crime involving theft, dishonesty or fraud;

(B) Bribery or unlawfully influencing a public official;

(C) A felony involving physical harm to an individual; or

(D) Any other crime identified by commission rules that negatively impacts the applicant's credibility or the security, integrity or fairness of play of skill based amusement games operated by the applicant.

(ii) The applicant tampered with submitted documentation or concealed, failed to disclose or otherwise attempted to mislead the commission with respect to any material fact contained in the application or contained in any other information required of or submitted by an applicant to the commission;

(iii) The applicant failed or refused to cooperate in the investigation of a crime relating to gambling, corruption of a public official or any organized criminal activity;

(iv) The applicant failed to otherwise meet the requirements imposed under this article.

(c) Operators shall have a continuing duty to disclose in writing any material change in the information provided in the application to the commission, including:

(i) Changes to names and contact information;

(ii) Arrests, convictions, guilty pleas, disciplinary actions or license denials in Wyoming and any other jurisdiction;

(iii) Any civil action brought against the operator or establishment; and

(iv) Any other information required by commission rules.

(d) If the commission denies an application or intends to revoke or suspend a license or permit issued under this article, it shall notify the applicant, licensee or permittee in writing, stating the grounds for denial, revocation or suspension and informing the person of a right to submit, before not more than thirty (30) days, any additional documentation relating to the grounds of denial, revocation or suspension. Upon receiving any additional documentation, the commission shall reconsider its decision and inform the applicant before not more than twenty (20) days of the result of the reconsideration. A denial of an

application under this article shall be subject to the contested case procedures of the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act.

**11-25-306. Penalties.**

Any person who violates any provision of this article is guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined not more than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00), imprisoned for not more than six (6) months, or both. Each violation of this section shall constitute a separate offense.

CHAPTER 26 - SWINE, GOATS OR ELK RUNNING AT LARGE

**11-26-101. Prohibited generally; liability of owner; penalty.**

(a) It is unlawful for the owner of any swine, goats, domestic elk or exotic livestock to allow such animals to run at large within Wyoming. As used in this section, "exotic livestock" means any nontraditional livestock animal including, without limitation, llama, alpaca and other camelids, ostrich and other ratites, bison hybrids and yaks. Any owner who permits or causes such animals to run at large within Wyoming, is liable for damages incurred by any person by reason thereof in a civil action.

(b) Any person violating subsection (a) of this section, after twenty-four (24) hours written notice by a proper officer, shall be punished as provided in W.S. 11-1-103.

CHAPTER 27 - FEEDING OF UNTREATED GARBAGE TO SWINE

**11-27-101. Definitions.**

(a) As used in this act:

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

(ii) "Garbage" means putrescible animal and vegetable wastes resulting from the handling, preparation, cooking and consumption of foods including animal carcasses or parts thereof;

(iii) "This act" means W.S. 11-27-101 through 11-27-107.

**11-27-102. Authority of livestock board generally.**

(a) Any authorized representative of the board may enter at reasonable times upon any private or public property to inspect or investigate conditions relating to the treating of garbage to be fed to swine.

(b) Any authorized representative of the board may examine any records or memoranda pertaining to the feeding of garbage to swine. The board may require maintenance of records relating to the operation of equipment for and procedure of treating garbage to be fed to swine. Copies of the records shall be submitted to the board on request.

(c) The board is charged with administration and enforcement of this act.

**11-27-103. Feeding permit; application.**

Any person desiring to obtain a permit to feed garbage to swine shall make written application to the board in accordance with the requirements of the board.

**11-27-104. Feeding permit; requirement; renewal; annual fee; exception.**

(a) No person shall feed garbage to swine, without first securing a permit from the board. Permits shall be renewed on April 1 each year. The board shall charge one dollar (\$1.00) for each annual permit.

(b) This act does not apply to any person who feeds his own swine the garbage obtained only from his own household.

**11-27-105. Feeding permit; revocation and refusal to issue.**

Upon determination that any person having a permit issued under this act, or who has applied for a permit, has violated or failed to comply with any of the provisions of this act or any of the rules or regulations promulgated thereunder, the board may revoke the permit or refuse to issue a permit to an applicant.

**11-27-106. Treatment of garbage before feeding.**

All garbage, regardless of previous processing, before being fed to swine shall be thoroughly heated to the boiling point for at

least thirty (30) minutes, unless treated in some other manner approved in writing by the board as being equally effective for the protection of public health.

**11-27-107. Penalties; injunctions; indemnity prohibited.**

Any person who violates or who fails to perform any duty imposed by this act, or who violates any rule or regulation promulgated under this act shall be fined not less than twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) or more than two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00), or imprisoned for not more than six (6) months, or both. In addition, the person may be enjoined from continuing the violation. Each day upon which the violation occurs constitutes a separate violation. No indemnity shall be paid by the state to any person feeding garbage to swine in violation of this act.

CHAPTER 28 - FENCES AND CATTLE GUARDS

**11-28-101. Who considered owner.**

Any person occupying, using, enjoying, maintaining or having the charge of any enclosure shall be considered the owner thereof, in any action commenced under the provisions of W.S. 11-28-101 through 11-28-108.

**11-28-102. Lawful fences generally.**

(a) The following are lawful fences in this state:

(i) A fence made of steel, concrete or sound wooden posts and three (3) spans of barbed wire not more than fifteen (15) inches or less than ten (10) inches apart, or two (2) spans of barbed wire with a wooden rail on top. Wooden posts shall be at least four (4) inches in diameter. Posts shall be set firmly in the ground at least twenty (20) inches deep, at no greater distance apart than twenty-two (22) feet between the posts or thirty-three (33) feet with at least two (2) iron or wooden stays between the posts. Stays shall be placed equal distance apart from themselves and the post on either side;

(ii) A post and board fence made of sound posts not less than four (4) inches in diameter set substantially in the ground not more than ten (10) feet apart, with three (3) boards sold as one (1) inch lumber eight (8) inches wide, and not more than ten (10) inches apart, or four (4) boards sold as one (1) inch lumber six (6) inches wide, not more than eight (8) inches apart, securely fastened with nails or otherwise;

(iii) A four (4) pole fence with round poles not less than two (2) inches in diameter at the small end, with either upright or leaning posts not more than sixteen (16) feet apart, and securely fastened with nails, wires or otherwise.

(b) All other fences made and constructed of boards, rails, poles, stones, hedge plants or other material which upon evidence is declared to be as strong and well calculated to protect enclosures, and is as effective for resisting breaching stock as those described in subsection (a) of this section, shall be considered a lawful fence.

(c) Any fence enclosing any hay corral situated outside of any field or pasture enclosed by a lawful fence, shall be at least six (6) feet high, constructed of boards, poles or wire. The posts shall not be more than eight (8) feet apart and set twenty-four (24) inches in the ground. If the fence is constructed of barbed wire there shall be at least seven (7) spans of wire, and all wires shall be kept properly stretched. Any fence better than the above described fence is a lawful fence.

**11-28-103. Constructing of unlawful wire fence; liability and penalty; reconstruction required; penalty for failure.**

(a) Any person who constructs or maintains any unlawful wire fence contrary to this chapter, is liable in a civil action for all damages to animals that may occur by reason of the unlawful enclosure. The owner of any unlawful wire fence is guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined not less than five dollars (\$5.00) nor more than twenty-five dollars (\$25.00), and for each subsequent offense the fine shall not be less than twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) nor more than one hundred dollars (\$100.00).

(b) The owner of any unlawful wire fence shall, within thirty (30) days after conviction, reconstruct the wire fence into a lawful wire fence. If he fails or refuses to do so, the owner is guilty of a separate offense and on conviction thereof, shall be punished as provided in subsection (a) of this section. Each period of thirty (30) days thereafter that the owner refuses or neglects to reconstruct the unlawful fence is a separate offense and the owner is subject to like punishment.

**11-28-104. Fences across roads generally.**

All fences constructed across a road leading to a watering place, or constructed across any road used as a public road, shall at the point where the fence intersects or crosses the road be constructed of boards or poles extending not less than eight (8) feet on each side of the middle of the road. The owner of any fence that violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punished as provided in W.S. 11-28-103(a).

**11-28-105. Board of county commissioners to authorize lawful fences upon right-of-way.**

The board of county commissioners may authorize the erection of a lawful fence upon the right-of-way of any public road at the expense of the petitioners for the establishment of the roads, or as may be agreed upon between petitioners and the board of county commissioners, or at the expense of the owners of lands to be benefited by the fencing or at the expense of the county, as the board of county commissioners may determine. The board shall locate and cause to be constructed gates and cattle guards at such intervals as it deems necessary for the convenience of the public. Cattle guards shall be constructed according to specification prescribed by the state highway department, under the supervision of the county surveyor or county commissioners at the expense of the petitioners, the land owners who may be benefited, or the county as the board of county commissioners may determine.

**11-28-106. Construction and maintenance of partition fences; fencing of state lands.**

(a) Except as otherwise provided, the owner of any lawful fence which is or becomes a partition fence separating the owner's land from that belonging to some other person may require the person to pay for one-half (1/2) of what it would or does actually cost to construct the partition fence. In case of refusal, the owner may maintain a civil action against the person refusing and is entitled to recover one-half (1/2) of what it would or did actually cost to construct that portion of the partition fence used by the person and costs of suit. The joint users of a partition fence shall contribute to the cost of maintenance in proportion to their respective interests and if either refuses to pay his share of the cost of maintenance, the other may recover maintenance costs in the manner provided for recovering the cost of construction.

(b) Repealed by Laws 2023, ch. 173, § 3.



(c) Private landowners whose property adjoins state lands on which the private landowner does not hold a lease may construct a lawful partition fence along state lands and the office of state lands and investments or, if the state lands are currently leased, the lessee of the state lands shall pay for one-half (1/2) of the actual cost of the construction of the lawful partition fence. Private landowners and the office of state lands and investments, or the lessee at all times that the state lands are leased, shall contribute to the cost of maintenance of the lawful partition fence in proportion to their respective interests in the fence.

**11-28-107. Prohibited acts; penalties.**

Any person who willfully or negligently leaves open, breaks down or destroys any bars or gate provided for the use and convenience of the public, or willfully tears down, throws down or destroys in any manner any lawful fence, is guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined not more than one hundred dollars (\$100.00), or imprisoned not more than three (3) months, or both.

**11-28-108. Liability for breach into lawful enclosure by animal; civil action or arbitration.**

(a) Any person owning or having in his possession or charge any livestock or domesticated buffalo which breaches into any lawful enclosure belonging to someone other than the owner of the animal, is liable to the party sustaining the injury for all damages sustained by reason of such breaching. Damages may be recovered in a civil action before any court having jurisdiction, or by arbitration, each party to select a property holder and the two (2) arbitrators to select a third. The arbitrators shall be sworn before a judge of a circuit court before entering upon their duties. The arbitrators shall carefully examine the fence and assess the damage done, examine witnesses under oath, one (1) of them to administer the oath to the witnesses, and make a written report signed by at least two (2) of the arbitrators, to the circuit court in the county in which the damage is sustained. The finding of the arbitration, as provided for in this section, shall within three (3) days after rendered, be filed with a judge of a circuit court in the county where the trespass was committed, who shall enter the cost upon his docket and proceed to issue execution therein as in other cases originally commenced before him.

(b) The party sustaining the damage shall notify the owner or person having in charge the offending animals, of the damage and the probable amount if he knows to whom the animals belong and if the owner or keeper resides within the county where the damage was committed.

(c) The person suffering damage may restrain and keep in custody as many of the offending animals as are equal in value to the damage done, until the finding of the court or arbitration is ascertained, unless before suit the amount of his claim and expense of keeping the animals is tendered to him.

(d) If, upon trial of any action under subsection (a) of this section, it appears the plaintiff's enclosure is a lawful fence, he shall be allowed to prove the amount of damage sustained and if he has retained in custody the animals committing the damage, the amount of expense incurred for keeping the animals. Any judgment rendered for damages, costs and expenses against the defendant shall be a lien upon the animals committing the damage. If it appears upon trial that the plaintiff's enclosure is not a lawful fence or that no damage was sustained, judgment shall be rendered against the plaintiff for costs of suit and damages sustained by defendant.

(e) If upon trial it appears the defendant is not the owner or person in charge of the offending animals, he shall be discharged from the action with his costs, and the suit may proceed against a defendant whose name is unknown. If, at the commencement of the action, the plaintiff does not know the name of the owner or keeper of the offending animals, he may bring suit against a defendant unknown.

## CHAPTER 29 - PROTECTION OF LIVESTOCK ANIMALS

### **11-29-101. Definitions.**

(a) As used in this act:

(i) Repealed By Laws 2011, Ch. 100, § 3.

(ii) "Owner" or "person" means any individual including the agents and employees of corporations;

(iii) "Torture" or "cruelty" means every act, omission or neglect whereby the willful and malicious infliction of pain or suffering is caused, permitted or allowed to continue when there is a reasonable remedy or relief;

(iv) "Disposal" means as defined in W.S.  
11-24-101(a)(iv);

(v) "Livestock" means as defined in W.S.  
23-1-102(a)(xvi);

(vi) "Livestock animal" means:

(A) Any bovine, including domestic bison, equine, swine, sheep, goat, domesticated camelid animal, ratite bird, rabbit or poultry; or

(B) Any animal used or harvested for any good and proper purpose including but not limited to food, fiber, fur, leather, medical research and byproducts; or

(C) Any animal used or trained for work, sport, exhibit or entertainment.

(vii) A "person with authority to enforce this chapter" means a peace officer, agent or officer of the board;

(viii) "Reasonable costs of impoundment" means all costs incurred by the impounding entity in providing necessary food and water, veterinary attention and treatment for any animal which is impounded under this act;

(ix) "This act" means W.S. 11-29-101 through 11-29-115.

**11-29-102. Repealed by Laws 1982, ch. 75, § 5; 1983, ch. 171, § 3.**

**11-29-103. Livestock animals to be fed while confined; ownership; penalties.**

(a) Every person who confines or causes to be confined any livestock animal under the laws of this state, shall supply to the livestock animal during confinement a sufficient quantity of wholesome food and water.

(b) A livestock animal is the private property of its owner.

(c) A violation of this section is a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than six (6) months, a

fine of not less than one hundred dollars (\$100.00) nor more than seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00), or both except that a subsequent offense is a high misdemeanor punishable by not more than one (1) year imprisonment, a fine of not more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00), or both.

**11-29-104. Repealed By Laws 2011, Ch. 100, § 3.**

**11-29-105. Livestock board; certificates or badges to be provided.**

Officers and agents of the Wyoming livestock board shall be provided with a certificate by the board that they are officers and agents of the board, in such form as the board may choose, or with a badge bearing the name or seal of the board, and if requested, shall show the certificate or badge when acting officially.

**11-29-106. Livestock board; authority to prevent cruelty; penalty for interference with officer.**

Any peace officer, agent or officer of the board may lawfully interfere to prevent the perpetration of any act of cruelty upon any livestock animal in his presence. Any person who interferes with, obstructs or resists any peace officer or officer or agent of the board in the discharge of his duty shall be fined not less than two hundred dollars (\$200.00) nor more than one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500.00), or imprisoned not more than one (1) year, or both.

**11-29-107. Repealed by Laws 2006, Chapter 88, § 3.**

**11-29-108. Livestock board; seized livestock animals and vehicles; lien on seized chattels; civil action for unpaid expenses.**

When any person arrested under this act is in charge of any vehicle drawn by or containing any livestock animal cruelly treated in violation of W.S. 6-3-1002 or this chapter at the time of arrest, any peace officer, agent or officer of the board may take charge of the livestock animal and vehicle and its contents, and give notice thereof to the owner, if known, and shall provide for them until their owner takes possession of them. The board or local government shall have a lien on the livestock animals, the vehicle and its contents for the reasonable costs of impoundment. The expense or any part

remaining unpaid may be recovered by the board or local government in a civil action.

**11-29-109. Livestock board; care of abandoned livestock animals; civil action for expenses; lien.**

Any peace officer, agent or officer of the board may take charge of any livestock animal found abandoned, neglected or treated with cruelty in violation of W.S. 6-3-1002 or this chapter. He shall give notice to the owner, if known, and may care and provide for the livestock animal until the livestock animal is disposed of. The reasonable costs of impoundment are a charge against the owner of the livestock animal and collectible from the owner by the board or by the local government employing the peace officer taking charge of the livestock animal in a civil action. The board or local government may detain the livestock animals until the reasonable costs of impoundment are paid and shall have a lien upon the livestock animals therefor. This lien shall be filed as provided pursuant to W.S. 29-7-101 through 29-7-106.

**11-29-110. Livestock board; enforcement of liens; notice to owner.**

Any person entitled to a lien under this act may enforce the lien by disposing of the livestock animals and other personal property upon which the lien is given, at public auction, upon giving written notice to the owner, if he is known, of the time and place of the disposal, at least five (5) days previous thereto, and by posting three (3) notices of the time and place of the disposal in three (3) public places within the county at least five (5) days previous thereto. If the owner is not known, the notice shall be posted at least ten (10) days previous to the disposal.

**11-29-111. Livestock board; destruction of diseased or injured livestock animals.**

Any peace officer, agent or officer of the board may destroy or cause to be destroyed any livestock animal in his charge when in his judgment and the judgment of a Wyoming licensed veterinarian or the judgment of the livestock animal owner, the livestock animal appears to be severely injured, severely disabled, diseased past recovery or unfit for any useful purpose. There shall be no right for any future indemnity or payment to the owner for the destruction of any livestock animal destroyed and

the peace officer, agent or officer of the board shall be held harmless while acting in accordance with this section.

**11-29-112. Repealed by Laws 1982, ch. 75, § 5; 1983, ch. 171, § 3.**

**11-29-113. Repealed By Laws 2011, Ch. 100, § 3.**

**11-29-114. Impoundment of livestock animals; cost of care for livestock animals; providing for bond, forfeiture hearing.**

(a) Any person with authority to enforce this chapter who has probable cause to believe there has been a violation of this chapter may, in consultation with an agent or officer of the board, impound any livestock animal treated cruelly as determined by a Wyoming licensed veterinarian or veterinarian employed by the board.

(b) If any livestock animal is impounded under subsection (a) of this section, the following shall apply:

(i) Within the earlier of seventy-two (72) hours of impoundment or charges being filed, the circuit court shall hold a hearing to set a bond in an amount the circuit court determines is sufficient to provide for the livestock animal's reasonable costs of impoundment for at least ninety (90) days including the day on which the livestock animal was impounded. At the request of the owner of the livestock animal, the court may make a determination on the disposition of the livestock animal at a hearing pursuant to this paragraph;

(ii) The bond shall be posted by the owner of the livestock animal with the circuit court in the county where the livestock animal was impounded within ten (10) days after the hearing required by this paragraph.

(c) When the bond required by subsection (b) of this section expires, if the owner of the livestock animal desires to prevent disposition of the livestock animal by the person with authority to enforce this chapter, the owner shall post a new bond with the court as described in subsection (b) of this section. The court may correct, alter or otherwise adjust the new bond before the expiration date of the previous bond.

(d) If a bond is not posted under subsection (b) or (c) of this section, the person with authority to enforce this chapter shall dispose of the livestock animal. As used in this section,

"dispose" means as defined in W.S. 11-24-101(a)(iv), and shall also mean to place for adoption or return to the owner. The owner of the livestock animal shall be liable for all costs associated with the final disposition of the livestock animal under this subsection. Posting of a bond shall not prevent the person with authority to enforce this chapter from disposing of the impounded livestock animal before the expiration of the period covered by the bond if during a disposition hearing pursuant to subsection (g) of this section the court orders the forfeiture of the livestock animal to a person with authority to enforce this chapter or the owner voluntarily forfeits the livestock animal. No animal shall be forfeited without a hearing pursuant to subsections (g) through (j) of this section, regardless of whether a bond is posted, if the animal is connected to the livelihood or ability to make a living of the owner.

(e) If a bond has been posted in accordance with subsection (b) or (c) of this section, the person with authority to enforce this chapter, may draw from the bond the actual costs as described in subsection (b) of this section, from the date of initial impoundment to the date of final disposition of the livestock animal.

(f) Upon the final disposition of the livestock animal, any bond amount remaining that has not been expended in the impoundment and disposition of the livestock animal shall be remitted to the owner of the livestock animal.

(g) A person with authority to enforce this chapter or other participant in the criminal action, may file a petition in the criminal action requesting that the court issue an order providing for the final disposition of the livestock animal if:

(i) The livestock animal is in the possession of and being held by a person with authority to enforce this chapter;

(ii) The outcome of the criminal action charging a violation of this chapter is pending; and

(iii) The final disposition of the livestock animal has not occurred.

(h) Upon receipt of a petition pursuant to subsection (g) of this section, the court shall set a hearing on the petition for disposition of the livestock animal. The hearing shall be conducted within seven (7) days after the filing of the petition

or as soon as practicable thereafter. The hearing shall be limited to the question of the disposition of the livestock animal.

(j) At a hearing conducted pursuant to subsection (h) of this section, the prosecutor shall have the burden of proving by a preponderance of the evidence that the livestock animal was subjected to a violation of this chapter. After the hearing, if the court finds by a preponderance of the evidence that the livestock animal was subjected to a violation of this chapter, the court may order immediate forfeiture of the livestock animal to the person with authority to enforce this chapter. If, after the hearing, the court finds by a preponderance of the evidence that the livestock animal was not subjected to a violation of this chapter, the livestock animal shall be returned to the owner of the livestock animal and the owner shall not be responsible for any reasonable costs of the impoundment incurred after a finding that the livestock animal was not subjected to a violation of this chapter unless the person later pleads guilty to or is found guilty of a violation of this chapter.

**11-29-115. Use of agricultural and livestock management practices.**

(a) Nothing in this chapter prohibits:

(i) The use of Wyoming industry accepted agricultural or livestock management practices or any other commonly practiced animal husbandry procedure used on livestock animals, as defined by W.S. 11-29-101(a)(vi);

(ii) A Wyoming licensed veterinarian from treating a livestock animal as authorized by the Wyoming Veterinary Medical Practice Act;

(iii) Any rodeo event employing animal care practices generally accepted within the rodeo industry, whether the event is performed in a rodeo, jackpot or similar arena;

(iv) A person from humanely destroying a livestock animal.

**CHAPTER 30 - OFFENSES CONCERNING LIVESTOCK AND OTHER ANIMALS**

**11-30-101. Repealed by Laws 1982, ch. 75, § 5; 1983, ch. 171, § 3.**



**11-30-102. Repealed by Laws 1982, ch. 75, § 5; 1983, ch. 171, § 3.**

**11-30-103. Repealed by Laws 1982, ch. 75, § 5; 1983, ch. 171, § 3.**

**11-30-104. Misbranding or altering brand of livestock.**

Whoever brands, or alters or defaces the brand of any horse, mule, sheep or cattle of another with intent to steal or to prevent the identification of the animal shall be imprisoned in the penitentiary not less than three (3) nor more than ten (10) years.

**11-30-105. Repealed by Laws 1982, ch. 75, § 5; 1983, ch. 171, § 3.**

**11-30-106. Removing skins from carcasses without permission prohibited; exception as to railroads.**

(a) Any person who skins or removes from a carcass any part of the skin, hide or pelt of any cattle, sheep, horses, mules or goats found dead, without permission from the owner, is guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined not less than fifty dollars (\$50.00) nor more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00), or imprisoned not more than six (6) months, or both.

(b) This section does not prevent the skinning of animals killed by railroad companies by employees of the railroad company which killed the stock, but the hide, hides or pelts must be preserved for inspection according to law.

**11-30-107. Transportation of beef unlawfully obtained or killed.**

Transportation in Wyoming, without authority, of unlawfully obtained or killed beef, mutton, pork or poultry is unlawful, punishable as by law provided. Whenever any law enforcement officer of this state discovers any person unlawfully transporting any unlawfully obtained or killed beef, mutton, pork or poultry in any conveyance or vehicle, he shall seize the beef, mutton, pork or poultry and the conveyance or vehicle. The officer shall also arrest the person in possession thereof. The officer shall promptly prosecute proper charges against each person arrested in the proper court of the county in which the seizure is made. Upon conviction of the person charged with unlawful possession and transportation, the court shall order

the forfeit of all personal property seized, and unless satisfactory cause to the contrary is shown by the owner, the court shall order prompt sale at public auction of the seized property. The resulting proceeds, after deducting expenses and costs of sale, shall be paid to the treasurer of the county in which the conviction is had to the credit of its public school funds.

**11-30-108. Desertion and abandonment of sheep by herders.**

It is unlawful for any person having charge as herder of any sheep to willfully desert and abandon the sheep upon the open range and leave them without care or attention. The herder shall in all cases give the owner or his employer not less than five (5) days notice prior to the time at which he intends to abandon the sheep. Any person who violates this section shall be fined not less than two hundred dollars (\$200.00) nor more than seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00), imprisoned not more than six (6) months, or both.

**11-30-109. Taking horses and equipment without consent of owner.**

Any person who unlawfully takes without consent of the owner any horse, ass or mule, or any buggy or other vehicle from the stable, lot, premises or pasture of another, or from a hitching post or rack or any other place, having been lawfully placed there, with intent to set at large, injure or wrongfully use the animal or vehicle taken, is guilty of criminal trespass and shall be fined not less than fifty dollars (\$50.00), or more than seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00), or imprisoned for not more than six (6) months, or both, and is also liable to the party injured in double the amount of damage sustained.

**11-30-110. Appropriation of horse or mule on open range without permission.**

(a) It is unlawful for any person without the consent of the owner, to take possession of any horse or mule found running at large upon the open range for the purpose or with the intent of working, riding or driving the horse or mule, where there is no intent on the part of the person to steal the horse or mule. It is unlawful for any person to drive any horses or mules not his own, off or away from any range where the horses or mules are found, except to the nearest corral for the purpose of separating them from horses or mules belonging to the person. Any person driving horses or mules not his own from any range

for the purpose of separating them from horses or mules belonging to him, shall drive the horses or mules back to the locality where they were found immediately after separating them whenever the animals have been driven for more than five (5) miles.

(b) Any person violating this section shall be fined not less than fifty dollars (\$50.00) or more than seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00), or imprisoned not more than six (6) months, or both.

**11-30-111. Ranch or stable keeper not to use horses without consent of owner.**

If any person keeping a public ranch or stable uses or allows to be used without consent of the owner any horse, ox, mule or ass that is left with him to be ranched or fed, he shall forfeit to the owner all ranch or stable fees that may be due upon the animal used and an additional forty dollars (\$40.00) for each day the animal is used.

**11-30-112. Abuse or negligent treatment by bailee.**

Any person who takes into his possession, or hires or loans any property of any livery stable keeper, or any other person, and while the property is in his custody shall willfully, or with gross neglect or culpable carelessness damage or destroy the property, or permit the property to be damaged or destroyed, or shall by willful or gross neglect cause the sickness, injury or death of any animal received into his possession, shall be fined not less than one hundred dollars (\$100.00) or more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00), or imprisoned not more than sixty (60) days, or both.

**11-30-113. Unlawful cutting of ears of sheep.**

(a) It is unlawful for any person willfully to cut, sever, detach or mutilate more than one-half (1/2) of either ear of any sheep or to unlawfully have in his possession or under his control any sheep which have more than one-half (1/2) of either ear removed or mutilated unless the same are so described in a bill of sale or other certificate of title covering the sheep. Sheep afflicted by bighead are exempt from the provisions of this section.

(b) Any person who violates the provisions of subsection (a) of this section is guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than five (5) years.

**11-30-114. Tampering with or drugging of livestock prohibited; definitions; penalty.**

(a) No person shall tamper with or sabotage any livestock which has been registered, entered or exhibited in any exhibition in this state.

(b) No person shall administer, dispense, distribute, manufacture, sell or use any drug to or for livestock which has been registered, entered or exhibited in any exhibition in this state unless the drug is approved for such use by the United States Food and Drug Administration or the United States Department of Agriculture. However, nothing shall prevent any person from using a drug on livestock owned by him if either federal agency has approved an application submitted for investigational use in accordance with the federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act.

(c) Any person who violates this section shall be punished as provided by W.S. 11-1-103.

(d) As used in this section:

(i) "Drug" means as defined by W.S. 35-7-110(a)(x);

(ii) "Exhibition" means a show or sale of livestock at a fair or elsewhere in this state that is sponsored by or under the authority of the state or any political subdivision, local government, or any agricultural, horticultural or livestock society, association or corporation;

(iii) "Livestock" means any animal generally used for food or in the production of food, including, but not limited to, horses, mules and asses, cattle, sheep, goats, poultry, swine, rabbits or llamas;

(iv) "Sabotage" means to intentionally tamper with any livestock belonging to or owned by another person that has been registered, entered or exhibited in any exhibition or raised for the apparent purpose of being entered in an exhibition;

(v) "Tamper" shall not include any action taken or activity performed or administered by a licensed veterinarian or in accordance with instructions of a licensed veterinarian if the action or activity was undertaken for accepted medical purposes or any action taken as part of accepted grooming, commercial or medical practices, but shall include any of the following:

(A) Treatment of livestock in such a manner that food derived from the livestock would be considered adulterated under the Wyoming Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, W.S. 35-7-109 et seq.;

(B) The injection, use or administration of any drug that is prohibited by any federal, state or local law or any drug that is used in a manner prohibited by any federal, state or local law;

(C) The injection or other internal administration of any product or material, whether gas, solid or liquid, to any livestock for the purposes of deception including concealing, enhancing or transforming the true conformation, configuration, color, breed, condition or age of the livestock or making the livestock appear more sound than the livestock would otherwise appear;

(D) The use or administration for cosmetic purposes of steroids, illegal growth stimulants or internal artificial filling, including paraffin, silicone injection, or any other substance;

(E) The use or application of any drug or feed additive affecting the central nervous system of the livestock;

(F) The use or administration of diuretics for cosmetic purposes;

(G) The manipulation or removal of tissue, by surgery or otherwise, so as to change, transform or enhance the true conformation or configuration of the livestock. Nothing in this subparagraph shall prohibit generally accepted management practices including but not limited to the dehorning, castration or spaying, corrective shoeing or trimming of any livestock;

(H) Subjecting the livestock to inhumane conditions or procedures for the purpose of concealing, enhancing or transforming the true conformation, configuration,

condition or age of the livestock or making the livestock appear more sound than the livestock would otherwise appear;

(J) Substituting any different livestock for the livestock registered or entered in the exhibition without the permission of a responsible official of the exhibition.

**11-30-115. Unlawful killing of wild horses and burros; federal management and invoicing; enforcement by writ of mandamus; state management with other agencies and tribes.**

(a) For purposes of this section:

(i) "Affected nonfederal lands" means state, municipal or county lands upon which the landowner has proof that wild horses have regularly grazed;

(ii) "Appropriate management level" or "AML" means the number of wild horses that the United States bureau of land management or United States forest service determines can exist in balance with other public land resources and uses. The AML is a range of low to maximum levels at which wild horse herd populations are consistent with the land's capacity to support them;

(iii) "Herd management area" means lands under the supervision of the United States bureau of land management or United States forest service upon which populations of wild horses are managed according to the 1971 Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act, as amended, 16 U.S.C. § 1331 et seq.;

(iv) "Wild horse" means any unbranded and unclaimed horse or burro on public lands.

(b) Any person, without legal justification, who willfully and maliciously kills a wild horse is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not more than seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00), imprisonment for not more than six (6), months or both.

(c) Upon the failure or refusal, as determined by the governor, of the United States bureau of land management or United States forest service to remove any wild horses claimed by the United States bureau of land management or United States forest service as belonging to a herd management area, which regularly stray from federal lands, the office of state lands and investments shall provide the United States secretary of the

interior or United States secretary of agriculture, as applicable, with annual notice identifying the grazing cost for those wild horses and a request for reimbursement of those costs. To facilitate calculation of costs under this subsection the office of state lands and investments shall:

(i) Determine the total area of the herd management area plus adjacent affected nonfederal lands, and determine the percentage of the total area consisting of affected nonfederal lands;

(ii) Using annual wild horse data from the bureau of land management or forest service, as applicable, calculate the annual animal unit month amount of forage consumed by the wild horses in the applicable area;

(iii) Multiply the forage consumed as calculated under paragraph (ii) of this subsection by the percentage of affected nonfederal lands determined under paragraph (i) of this subsection and apply the rate for services rendered for each acre of affected nonfederal lands:

(A) For wild horse numbers up to the high appropriate management levels, an amount equal to the land lease rate per animal unit month for Wyoming trust land grazing leases;

(B) For wild horse numbers in excess of the high appropriate management levels, an amount equal to three (3) times the land lease rate per animal unit month for Wyoming trust land grazing leases.

(d) Any reimbursement monies received from a federal land management agency in response to a notice of costs of wild horse grazing on affected nonfederal lands and request for reimbursement sent pursuant to subsection (c) of this section shall be deposited with the state treasurer and shall first be credited to the municipality or county in the proportionate share applicable in the notice of costs to municipal or county lands included in the total area of affected nonfederal lands pursuant to paragraph (c) (i) of this section and then the balance shall be deposited in the applicable permanent land income fund. A notice of costs sent pursuant to subsection (c) of this section shall not be construed to impose any collections responsibility or liability on the part of the state to a municipality or county.

(e) The attorney general may seek a writ of mandamus or take other appropriate action to compel the United States bureau of land management or United States forest service, as applicable, to take action to remove excess wild horses as required under federal law from nonfederal lands. Recognizing that wild horses roam without regard to political boundaries, the nonfederal lands for which a writ of mandamus is sought under this subsection may include private land.

(f) To manage wild horses in the state, including on the Wind River Indian Reservation, the governor is authorized to enter into cooperative agreements among state and local agencies and with the United States bureau of land management, the United States forest service, the Eastern Shoshone Tribe, the Northern Arapaho Tribe, an official cooperative tribal governing body, adjacent states, nongovernmental organizations or other private entities. A cooperative agreement under this subsection may provide for any cooperative undertaking to manage wild horses, including population reduction tactics, permanent and temporary fertility control techniques, expanding or increasing the number of wild horse training and adoption programs and other removal activities. Cooperative agreements shall address the long term management of wild horse populations that are in excess of high appropriate management levels. Any revenue generated as a result of general fund expenditures shall be remitted to the state as allowed by law. As used in this subsection:

(i) "Cooperative undertaking" includes an existing program, or a program created pursuant to this subsection, administered by a state agency or any party to the cooperative agreement;

(ii) "Wild horse training and adoption programs" includes programs with any state correctional facility under W.S. 25-13-104.

## CHAPTER 31 - DOGS AND CATS

### ARTICLE 1 - IN GENERAL

**11-31-101. Repealed by Laws 1991, ch. 4, § 2.**

**11-31-102. Deemed personalty.**

Dogs are personal property and the subject of theft the same as other personal property. The value in any criminal prosecution shall be determined as in other cases.



**11-31-103. Repealed by Laws 1991, ch. 4, § 2.**

**11-31-104. Penalties for poisoning or killing with ground glass.**

Whoever within the limits of any incorporated city or town willfully poisons or kills any dog by means of ground glass is guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined not less than one hundred dollars (\$100.00) nor more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00), or imprisoned not less than one (1) month nor more than one (1) year, or both.

**11-31-105. Killing sheep or other domestic animals; liability of owner.**

The owner of any dog is liable for all damages that accrue to any person, firm or corporation by reason of the dog killing, wounding, worrying or chasing any sheep or other domestic animals belonging to the person, firm or corporation. If two (2) or more dogs owned by different persons kill, wound, chase or worry any sheep or other domestic animals, the persons are jointly and severally liable for all damage done by the dogs. Any person who harbors about his premises a dog for twenty (20) days shall be taken and held as the owner and is liable for all damages that the dog commits.

**11-31-106. Killing sheep or other domestic animals; destruction.**

Every person, firm, copartnership, corporation or company owning any dog, which to his knowledge has killed sheep or other livestock, shall exterminate and destroy the dog.

**11-31-107. Running livestock; when killing authorized; liability to owner; exception.**

Dogs running livestock against the wish of the owner of the livestock may be killed at once in cases where the livestock has been injured or is threatened with injury. The person killing any dog running livestock is not liable to the owner where the vicious character of the dog or the damage or danger of damage is shown. When livestock is trespassing upon property the property owner may use dogs to drive and keep off livestock from the property.

**11-31-108. Running livestock; penalty for permitting.**

Any person who permits or directs any dog owned by him or in his possession or in the possession of his employee to chase or run any cattle or other livestock of which he is not the owner and of which he is not in control, farther than one hundred (100) yards from his land, upon government lands, or away from any watering place upon the open range, shall be fined not less than fifty dollars (\$50.00) or more than seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00), or imprisoned not more than six (6) months, or both.

ARTICLE 2 - LICENSING; RABIES CONTROL DISTRICTS

**11-31-201. Repealed by Laws 1979, ch. 124, § 2.**

**11-31-202. Repealed by Laws 1979, ch. 124, § 2.**

**11-31-203. Repealed by Laws 1979, ch. 124, § 2.**

**11-31-204. Repealed by Laws 1979, ch. 124, § 2.**

**11-31-205. Repealed by Laws 1979, ch. 124, § 2.**

**11-31-206. Repealed by Laws 1979, ch. 124, § 2.**

**11-31-207. Repealed by Laws 1979, ch. 124, § 2.**

**11-31-208. Repealed by Laws 1979, ch. 124, § 2.**

**11-31-209. Repealed by Laws 1979, ch. 124, § 2.**

**11-31-210. Repealed by Laws 1979, ch. 124, § 2.**

**11-31-211. Property rights in unlicensed dog or cat; no right of action for destruction.**

The owner of a dog or cat has no property right in an unlicensed dog or cat, nor does he have any right of action against any person for the destruction of the dog or cat.

**11-31-212. Rabies control districts; establishment; notice.**

(a) The board of county commissioners of any county may establish a rabies control district by resolution when in the judgment of the board and the county health officer a district is necessary. The resolution shall designate the boundaries of

the district, which may include any incorporated city or town, and shall identify the district by name.

(b) The resolution creating the rabies control district shall be published at least once a week for two (2) successive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the county wherein the district is located.

**11-31-213. Registration; vaccination certificate required.**

The board of county commissioners may require the registration of all dogs and cats within a rabies control district and may require the owner or person having the right to possession of any dog or cat in the district three (3) months of age or older, to present a valid rabies vaccination certificate showing the dog or cat has been vaccinated for immunization against rabies by a licensed veterinarian as a condition for registration. The vaccination certificate shall indicate the date of vaccination, the type of vaccine used and the period of immunization.

**11-31-214. Board authorized to adopt rules and regulations.**

The board of county commissioners, with the advice of the county health officer, state veterinarian and department of health, may adopt such rules and regulations as necessary to implement the program for registration and immunization of dogs and cats in the rabies control district, including the requirement that registered dogs and cats be tagged or marked in such manner as to make them readily identifiable.

**ARTICLE 3 - ANIMALS RUNNING AT LARGE**

**11-31-301. Public nuisance; notice; penalties; rules and regulations; animal control districts and officers.**

(a) A board of county commissioners may declare the running at large of any specified animals in unincorporated areas within the county limits a public nuisance.

(b) Notice of such a declaration shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation within the county and notices may be placed in appropriate locations. The notice shall specify any regulations necessary and convenient for animal control and shall state that:

(i) It is a public nuisance for one (1) or more specified animals to be running at large in unincorporated areas;

(ii) A fine shall be imposed on the owner of such animal and restitution for any damages to person or property caused by the animal shall be made by the owner;

(iii) Dogs or other animals, whose ownership cannot be determined, may be destroyed.

(c) Upon the filing of any complaint, the county sheriff may arrest or issue a summons to the owner of any animal which is running at large or has attacked a person. A first conviction is punishable by a fine of not more than fifty dollars (\$50.00). Each subsequent conviction is punishable by a fine of not more than one hundred dollars (\$100.00).

(d) A dog injuring or killing livestock may be killed by the owner of the livestock or his agent or any peace officer.

(e) Any animal attacking any person in a vicious manner or that bites any person may be impounded by the county sheriff or animal control officer and held in quarantine for at least ten (10) days or as long as necessary as determined by the Wyoming state health officer after the attack to determine whether the animal has any disease which may be communicated to humans. Home quarantine may be allowed as determined by the animal control officer or the county sheriff if the animal's owner or custodian presents a valid rabies vaccination certificate showing the animal has been vaccinated against rabies by a licensed veterinarian. The costs of impoundment, quarantine and testing shall be paid by the owner or custodian of the animal. Any animal which attacks any person in a vicious manner may be destroyed or the owner or custodian of the animal may be fined not more than two hundred dollars (\$200.00), or both. Proof of the fact that the animal has bitten or attacked any person at any place where a person is legally entitled to be is evidence that the animal is vicious within the meaning of this section. A copy of any animal control officer report regarding the animal bite shall be submitted to the state health officer.

(f) Upon the declaration of a public nuisance, the county sheriff may dispose of any unlicensed animals, the ownership of which cannot be determined.

(g) A board of county commissioners may enact regulations relative to dogs running at large, vicious dogs, dogs running wild game or livestock or acts by other animals which shall carry out the purposes of this section. The county sheriff shall and a county animal control officer or any other peace officer may enforce these regulations to protect persons and property.

(h) A board of county commissioners may require an annual county license or tag for animals within their jurisdiction upon payment of a fee of not more than ten dollars (\$10.00). Funds collected pursuant to this subsection may be used for animal control or for the maintenance of animal control centers for either purpose.

(j) A board of county commissioners may establish and provide for the operation of animal control districts which may encompass all or parts of the unincorporated area of the county and may cooperate with municipalities in a joint animal control program. Joint animal control programs may employ joint animal control officers who have the authority to enforce the animal control regulations and ordinances of each of the participating entities.

(k) As used in W.S. 11-31-301 "animal" means a dog or cat.

(m) Except as provided in subsection (e) of this section regarding impounding an animal to determine disease status, nothing in this section shall apply to any livestock guarding animal which is actively engaged in protecting livestock. Except in the case of gross or willful negligence, no liability shall accrue to the owner, or his agent, of any livestock guarding animal for any injury to any person or animal received from any livestock guarding animal which was actively engaged in protecting livestock.

## CHAPTER 32 - POULTRY

### **11-32-101. Definitions.**

(a) As used in this act:

(i) "Baby poultry" means poultry under ten (10) weeks of age;

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

(iii) "Breeding stock" means poultry used for reproduction;

(iv) "Poultry" means live chickens, turkeys, ducks, geese and game birds as defined by W.S. 23-1-101(a)(iv);

(v) "This act" means W.S. 11-32-101 through 11-32-104.

#### **11-32-102. Rules and regulations.**

The board may adopt rules and regulations to carry out this act and to prevent the spread of disease among poultry.

#### **11-32-103. Labeling of shipments.**

(a) Each container of poultry, baby poultry, hatching eggs or breeding stock sold within or imported into this state, except those containing poultry for immediate slaughter, shall bear the name and address of the shipper and an official label or certificate showing:

(i) The number, breed and variety, sex and date of hatch for baby poultry;

(ii) The name of the hatchery or person producing poultry in the case of baby poultry;

(iii) The agency under the supervision of which the testing for pullorum disease was done, the pullorum classification; and

(iv) In the case of breeding stock, the pullorum classification and date of last test.

(b) No person shall import into Wyoming any poultry, baby poultry, hatching eggs or breeding stock which is not labelled as provided by subsection (a) of this section except for immediate slaughter.

#### **11-32-104. Penalty; seizure of property.**

Any person who violates W.S. 11-32-101 through 11-32-103 or any rule or regulation promulgated hereunder shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00). Any container of poultry, baby poultry, hatching eggs or breeding stock which is not labeled in accordance with the provisions of this act or rules

and regulations may be seized and its contents destroyed or returned to the shipper at the shipper's expense, as the board determines.

## CHAPTER 33 - LIVESTOCK DISTRICTS

### **11-33-101. Creation; generally; applicable provisions.**

The board of county commissioners of each county in the state may create livestock districts within any irrigation district organized under the irrigation district laws of this state as hereinafter provided. When a district is created, W.S. 11-33-101 through 11-33-109 apply and are enforceable therein.

### **11-33-102. Creation; landowners' petition; contents.**

At least seventy-five percent (75%) of the landowners owning at least seventy-five percent (75%) of the land in any irrigation district organized under the irrigation district laws of Wyoming and who are resident in and qualified electors of Wyoming, may petition the board of county commissioners in writing to create a livestock district. The petition shall describe the boundaries of the proposed livestock district and shall designate what animals are to be prohibited from running at large or from being grazed upon the public highways in the district and may designate the period of the year during which it is desired to prohibit animals from running at large or being grazed on the highways.

### **11-33-103. Creation; landowners' petition; notice of hearing.**

Within twenty (20) days after a petition has been filed, the board of county commissioners shall set a date for hearing the petition. Notice of the hearing shall be given by posting notices in three (3) conspicuous places in the proposed livestock district and by publication for two (2) weeks previous to the hearing in a newspaper published in the county nearest the proposed livestock district.

### **11-33-104. Creation; order; contents and force.**

At the hearing, if satisfied that at least seventy-five percent (75%) of the landowners owning at least seventy-five percent (75%) of the land in the proposed livestock district who are resident in and qualified electors of Wyoming are in favor of the enforcement of the livestock law and that it would be

beneficial to the district, the board of county commissioners shall make an order creating the livestock district in accordance with the prayer of the petition or with such modifications as it may choose to make. The order shall specify a certain time at which it takes effect which shall be at least thirty (30) days after the making of the order. The order shall continue in force until vacated or modified by the board of county commissioners upon the petition of seventy-five percent (75%) of the landowners owning seventy-five percent (75%) of the land in the district who are resident in and qualified electors of Wyoming.

**11-33-105. Creation; order; mandatory condition of fences.**

The board of county commissioners shall provide as a condition in any order creating a livestock district that the livestock district shall be enclosed by a lawful fence and that any road extending from the livestock district shall contain cattle guards or gates at such places and of such nature as the board prescribes. The board of county commissioners shall make its livestock district orders inapplicable to cattle, horses, sheep or mules straying into the livestock district until the district is enclosed by lawful fence and cattle guards or gates are installed.

**11-33-106. Extent of jurisdiction.**

W.S. 11-33-101 and 11-33-105 do not confer upon the board of county commissioners any jurisdiction over animals otherwise prohibited from running at large under existing laws.

**11-33-107. Violation of order deemed misdemeanor; subsequent violations.**

Any person who in violation of any order made pursuant to W.S. 11-33-104, permits or allows any of the animals designated in the order, owned by him or under his control, to run at large in the district or to be grazed on the highway, is guilty of a misdemeanor. The pendency of any action shall not prevent nor prejudice the bringing of another action against the same party for a violation of the order committed after the commencement of the pending action.

**11-33-108. Liability of animal owners; lien on and custody of animals.**



The owner of animals permitted or allowed to run at large, or herded in violation of any order made in accordance with W.S. 11-33-104 is liable to any person who suffers damage from the depredations or trespasses of the animals, without regard to the condition of his fence. The person damaged shall have a lien upon the animals for the amount of damage done and the cost of the proceedings to recover damages, and may take the animals into custody until all damages are paid. The person taking the animals into custody may not retain the animals for more than five (5) days without commencing an action against the owner for damages.

**11-33-109. Duty of person taking custody of animals.**

Any person may take into custody any of the animals specified in the order of the board of county commissioners that may be about to commit a trespass upon the premises owned, occupied or in charge of the person and retain the animals until all reasonable charges for keeping the animals are paid. The person taking the animals into custody shall notify the owner or person in charge of the animals within five (5) days thereafter. If the owner or person in charge of the animals is not known to the person taking the animals into custody, and cannot be found after diligent inquiry, he may proceed in the manner provided for the taking up and disposal of estrays.

CHAPTER 34 - STATE LOAN AND INVESTMENT BOARD

ARTICLE 1 - IN GENERAL

**11-34-101. Definitions.**

(a) As used in this act:

(i) "First mortgage" means first and superior liens on farm lands except as hereinafter provided, the fee simple title to which is in the proposed borrower;

(ii) "Farm land," "farm" and "farms" includes:

(A) Lands used principally for raising agricultural products;

(B) Lands used principally for dairying purposes; and

(C) Lands or ranches used principally for livestock purposes.

(iii) "Board" means the state loan and investment board;

(iv) "This act" means W.S. 11-34-101 through 11-34-203.

**11-34-102. Rural credits; establishment and administration; composition of board; power to sue and be sued; officers.**

(a) For the purpose of fostering and encouraging agriculture, dairying and livestock raising in Wyoming and the development and improvement of farm lands, there is hereby created and established a system of rural credits to be administered by the state loan and investment board.

(b) The board of land commissioners is hereby constituted the state loan and investment board. The board may sue and be sued in the name of the state loan and investment board in the courts of this state and in no other jurisdiction on any mortgage, contract of sale or lease issued by the board. The governor is president of the board but in his absence from any meeting one (1) of the members may act as president pro tempore and preside at meetings. The director of the office of state lands and investments is the chief executive officer of the board, and the deputy director of the office of state lands and investments is deputy chief executive officer.

**11-34-103. Powers and duties generally; employees and financial matters; reports to governor.**

(a) The board shall establish a system of farm loans, and foreclose or renew any installment payment of the loans as provided by this act. The board may provide for its office, necessary furniture, fixtures, stationery and supplies, adopt rules and regulations proper and necessary for the conduct of its business and receive and approve applications for farm loans. All monies received shall be delivered to the state treasurer to be credited to the funds from which originally drawn. The board may acquire and dispose of property, real and personal, as necessary or convenient for the transaction of its business and accept assignments of interests in any real or personal property which are taken as additional security or collateral to preexistent debts or approved loans.

(b) The board shall employ assistants, clerks, appraisers and other employees as necessary to conduct its business, fix the fees, costs and charges which shall be credited to the general fund to cover the expenses of the board in making loans and define the duties of the officers, agents and employees of the board. All officers and employees shall be under the direction and authority of the board in all matters not inconsistent with this act. The board shall, as required by W.S. 9-2-1014, report to the governor such general information and recommendations as to the board seem proper. The board shall exercise all incidental power as necessary to carry out this act.

**11-34-104. Seal; design.**

The board shall obtain and keep a seal. The design of the seal shall be a circle within which appears in the center the word "Seal." Between the lower and upper edges of the circle, properly divided, shall appear the words "Wyoming State Loan and Investment Board," "State of Wyoming."

**11-34-105. Chief executive officer; powers and duties.**

(a) The director of the office of state lands and investments is the chief executive officer under the direction of the board and has general supervision of the business and employees of the board.

(b) The director of the office of state lands and investments shall:

(i) Keep all books of account of the board;

(ii) Receive, collect and promptly pay over to the state treasurer all monies that come into his possession;

(iii) Keep in his care and custody copies of all promissory notes, mortgages and other securities or evidences of indebtedness and muniments of title acquired or received by the board for monies loaned on real estate;

(iv) Transmit to the state treasurer the original notes and mortgages at the time of the disbursements of monies by the state treasurer. The security shall be kept by the state treasurer as a record and evidence of monies disbursed by the treasurer by virtue of this act;

(v) Render monthly statements to the board of the transactions of his office;

(vi) Keep the seal of the board and affix the seal with his attestation to all instruments or papers whenever required;

(vii) Keep a record of the proceedings of the board and such books and records as are necessary for the conduct of the business of his office including a written record of all votes taken to decide the board's final action on any matter;

(viii) Submit regular reports to the board setting forth in detail the status of all farm and water development project loans which are delinquent as to the payment of any installment of principal or interest due; and

(ix) Do and perform such other acts as required by the board.

**11-34-106. Legal advisor.**

The attorney general is the legal advisor of the board and its officers.

**11-34-107. Quorum; loan; votes required; record.**

A majority of the board constitutes a quorum. No loan shall be made except upon the affirmative vote of not less than three (3) of the members, and the records of the meeting shall show which members voted to approve the loan.

**11-34-108. Loans on lands subject to preexisting liens; effect.**

The board may loan money on and take as security farm lands subject to liens, charges or assessments for drainage, reclamation or irrigation purposes, payable in installments, not due at the time of making the loan, and the mortgage taken to secure the loan shall, notwithstanding the liens, charges or assessments, be deemed a first mortgage within the meaning of this act. The amount of the liens, charges or assessments shall be considered by the board in determining the amount to be loaned on the farm lands.

**11-34-109. Purposes for which loans authorized.**

(a) Loans may be made for the following agriculture related purposes and no other:

(i) To provide for the purchase of farm lands;

(ii) To provide for the purchase of equipment as defined by the board, fertilizers and livestock necessary for the proper and reasonable operation of the mortgaged farm lands;

(iii) To provide for buildings and other improvements, as defined by the board, of farm lands;

(iv) To liquidate indebtedness of the owner of the land to be mortgaged;

(v) Repealed By Laws 2008, Ch. 42, § 2.

**11-34-110. Limitations on borrowers; due on sale clause; sale of mortgaged land.**

(a) No loan shall be made to any person who is not at the time or shortly to become engaged in the cultivation and development of the farm land mortgaged.

(b) Loans shall be made only to qualified Wyoming electors or to a corporation if a majority of the corporation's outstanding shares are owned beneficially or of record by qualified Wyoming electors.

(c) Every mortgage shall contain a due on sale clause which may be exercised at the option of the board. The board may permit a mortgage to be assumed by a purchaser who is otherwise qualified to receive a loan under this act, or by the heirs of a deceased mortgagor.

**11-34-111. Application for loan; form; contents; priority of applications.**

(a) Every applicant for a loan under this act shall apply on a form prescribed by the board. The applicant shall state the object to which the proceeds of the loan will be applied and shall furnish such other information as required by the board.

(b) The state loan and investment board is authorized to promulgate rules and regulations to establish criteria for determining the priority in which farm loan applications will be

considered. The criteria for establishing priority will include, but are not limited to, an applicant's need, financial net worth, earning capacity and the ability to repay the loan.

**11-34-112. Application for loan; filing; appraisal of land; consideration of written report.**

Before any mortgage loan is made by the board, the loan application shall be filed with the director of the office of state lands and investments who shall make, or cause to be made, an appraisal and written report upon the land offered as security for the loan. No loan shall be made unless the written report is filed with the director of the office of state lands and investments and considered, approved and authorized by the unanimous consent of all members of the board present at the meeting at which the loan is considered.

**11-34-113. Terms and conditions of loans.**

(a) The board shall make loans only upon the following terms and conditions:

(i) The loan shall be secured by a duly recorded first or second mortgage as approved by the board on the farm lands within this state;

(ii) Every mortgage shall contain an agreement providing for repayment of the entire amount of the loan and interest upon a certain date or in several specified payments, or on an amortization plan of annual or semiannual installments so computed as to pay the interest on the loan according to terms of the mortgage and such amounts to be applied on the principal as will terminate the debt within an agreed period of not less than five (5) years nor more than thirty (30) years. The method of repayment is at the option of the board.

(b) After five (5) years from date of the mortgage, additional payments for part or all of the principal may be made on the annual or semiannual payment date under such rules and regulations as the board may prescribe. On the application of the borrower the board may provide in the mortgage for the payment of interest only during the first five (5) years and thereafter for the payment of both interest and principal on the amortization plan. Any loan may be paid in full before the expiration of five (5) years upon payment of a ten dollar (\$10.00) fee to be paid into the general fund. Any loan paid in

full after five (5) years from the date thereof, the ten dollars (\$10.00) fee shall not be collected.

(c) Repealed by Laws 1987, ch. 242, § 2.

(d) Notwithstanding the loan term limitation specified in paragraph (a)(ii) of this section, the board may reamortize farm loan payments over an additional number of years which together with the years remaining on the original term shall create a new term not to exceed thirty (30) years, at the same interest rate as that in effect at the time of reamortization for loans being made under W.S. 11-34-101 through 11-34-130, when in the judgment of the board the reduced payments resulting from reamortization of the loan will provide adequate financial benefit to assure with reasonable certainty the ultimate repayment of the loan. Any borrower requesting reamortization shall have the burden of showing that reamortization will significantly improve the financial viability of the agricultural operation. No loan shall be reamortized if, in the sole judgment of the board, the borrower is in sound financial condition and reamortization is not necessary to secure repayment of the loan, or if reamortization will not provide sufficient financial benefit to avoid the imminent failure of the borrower's operation. Nothing in this section shall be construed as authorizing the reamortization of water development project loans.

(e) Repealed by Laws 1987, ch. 242, § 2.

(f) Repealed by Laws 1987, ch. 242, § 2.

(g) Repealed by Laws 1987, ch. 242, § 2.

(h) Repealed By Laws 2008, Ch. 42, § 2.

(j) Repealed by Laws 2019, ch. 35, § 2.

**11-34-114. Limitation on loans; percentages of appraised value.**

(a) No loan secured by a first mortgage shall exceed seventy percent (70%) of the appraised value of the land with the necessary existing improvements, as ascertained and fixed by the board except as provided by W.S. 11-34-117. If a loan is secured by a second mortgage, the sum of the first and second mortgages shall not exceed eighty percent (80%) of the appraised value of the land and improvements and the balance due on the

loans secured by the first or second mortgage shall not exceed eight hundred thousand dollars (\$800,000.00). The appraisal shall be made by the state loan and investment board, with the advice of two (2) residents of the immediate locality in which the loan is being considered.

(b) Repealed By Laws 2008, Ch. 42, § 2.

(c) Repealed by Laws 2019, ch. 35, § 2.

**11-34-115. Minimum and maximum amount of loans.**

The amount of loans to any one (1) borrower shall not be less than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) nor more than one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00) if all loans to the borrower are made for the purposes of purchasing farm lands or other purposes as defined by W.S. 11-34-109(a)(i) through (iv).

**11-34-116. Agreement to use loans for purposes specified; reappraisement and additional loan.**

(a) Every borrower who is granted a loan under this act shall enter into an agreement with the board that if the whole or any portion of his loan is expended for purposes other than those specified in his original application, or if the borrower is in default in respect to any condition or covenant of the mortgage, or in case the mortgagor, his heirs or assigns abandon the land for one (1) year, or if the board at any time believes that the loan is not adequately secured by reason of any mismanagement, waste or neglect of the land, the loan at the option of the board shall become due and payable forthwith. The board may permit the loan to be used for any purpose specified in W.S. 11-34-109.

(b) A reappraisement may be permitted at any time by the board and an additional loan may be granted as the reappraisal may warrant.

**11-34-117. Rates of interest; length of loan; amount.**

(a) The rates of interest on all farm loans shall be equal to the yield on a United States treasury security of the same duration of the loan, whether the money is loaned upon the amortization plan or otherwise. The board may add an additional percentage not to exceed two percent (2%) as a risk premium to the interest rate established under this subsection. The rate of



interest for all farm loans shall not be less than three percent (3%).

(b) A farm loan to a beginning agriculture producer shall be equal to the yield on a United States treasury security of the same duration of the loan. This loan rate shall be fixed for a period of ten (10) years. At the end of the ten (10) year period the interest rate shall be the current rate for loans as established under subsection (a) of this section. The board may add an additional percentage not to exceed two percent (2%) as a risk premium to the interest rate established under this subsection. The rate of interest for all farm loans to beginning agricultural producers shall not be less than three percent (3%).

(c) Repealed by Laws 2023, ch. 135, § 2.

(d) Repealed by Laws 2019, ch. 35, § 2.

**11-34-118. Refinancing delinquent loans; payment of costs; additional fee.**

The board, whenever it deems necessary for the better protection of permanent funds of the state invested in farm loans, may refinance any delinquent farm mortgage loan and reamortize the loan over not more than thirty (30) years from the date of refinancing. All costs of refinancing the loan, including the cost of having the abstract brought down to date, shall be paid by the mortgagor and no loan shall be refinanced where it appears refinancing will jeopardize the collection of the loan. An additional fee of one percent (1%) of the amount of the reamortized loan shall be paid by each mortgagor to the board to be credited to the loss reserve account as provided by W.S. 11-34-202(e).

**11-34-119. Ultra vires acts of agent.**

No loan or mortgage securing the loan shall be impaired or invalidated by any act of any agent of the board in excess of his powers.

**11-34-120. Mortgages taken by board; control and disposition of property.**

(a) All mortgages and accompanying promissory note or notes taken by the board for monies loaned shall run to state loan and investment board as mortgagee or payee, and all titles

to property taken by the board shall run to the board as grantee. The board may control, manage, lease and dispose of the property, subject to the following:

(i) The board may lease any or all property for oil and gas for a primary term up to ten (10) years and as long thereafter as oil or gas is produced in paying quantities and extend the term of existing oil and gas leases in good standing for as long as oil or gas is produced in paying quantities and for coal and other mineral purposes for terms not exceeding ten (10) years, with the preferential right in each coal or other mineral lessee to renew the lease for successive periods of ten (10) years each;

(ii) The board may make and establish rules and regulations governing the issuance of mineral leases and covering the conduct of development and mining operations to be carried on thereunder;

(iii) Mineral leases may be issued upon monthly or annual minimum rental payment basis as fixed by the board, with payments annually applied against any royalty as shall accrue for the same lease year by the terms of the lease, which royalty, as to lands leased for oil or gas shall not be less than five percent (5%) of all oil and gas produced and saved from and not used in operations on the lands under the lease, and royalty of not less than five cents (\$.05) per ton on coal produced from the lands under any lease for coal purposes, the royalty to be paid on mine run of coal.

(b) No mineral lease is assignable or transferable except with written consent of the board. It shall require the lessee's full compliance with all rules and regulations adopted by the board and compliance with all terms of the lease. All mineral leases shall be separate and distinct from each lease of the land for grazing or agricultural purposes. Rules and regulations adopted by the board shall provide for joint use of the lands for grazing and agricultural or mineral purposes without undue interference by the lessees under any class of leases with lessees under any other class. The board, on behalf of the state and its lessee in any mineral lease may join in the interest of conservation and greater ultimate recovery of oil and gas, in fair and equitable cooperative or unit plans of development or operation of oil and gas pools, with the United States government and its lessees or permittees, or others, and the board may modify and change any terms and conditions of any oil and gas lease as mutually agreed by the lessor and lessee to

conform to the terms of any lease to the cooperative or unit plan and to effectuate proper operations thereunder. The changes may include extension of the term of years applicable to any lease for the full period of time during which the cooperative or unit plan may remain in effect.

(c) When a cooperative or unit agreement is terminated or ceases to be effective as to lands upon which there is no production of oil or gas, the lease covering the lands shall remain in effect for two (2) years from the date the lands ceased to be subject to the agreement, or for the remaining length of the term of the original lease, whichever is greater, and so long thereafter as oil or gas is produced from the lands in accordance with the requirements of the original lease.

(d) The terms of any lease issued under this section for land on which actual drilling operations were commenced prior to the end of its primary term and are being diligently prosecuted at that time shall be extended for one (1) year and so long thereafter as oil or gas is produced in paying quantities.

(e) If land acquired by the board and upon which improvements for mineral operations and other improvements have been made, are sold as to both surface and mineral rights, or if the lands are leased for minerals to other than the owner of the mineral improvements, the purchaser or new lessee shall pay the owner of the improvements the fair value thereof at a mutually agreed price. If agreement cannot be promptly reached the price shall be fixed by appraisal under the direction of the board. As used in this subsection "improvements" means improvements which are used or useful and necessary for subsequent operation of the land for mineral purposes and the price shall include the fair value of the work previously done in the development of the property if it is of practical use in future mineral operation. No well drilled on the land for oil or gas which does not produce either in commercial quantities, and no shaft, tunnel or drift from which coal or other minerals have been substantially exhausted shall be considered improvements for the purposes of this subsection.

(f) The board may sell or otherwise dispose of property at a price not less than seventy-five percent (75%) of the appraised value and upon terms determined by the board which shall adopt rules and regulations governing such sales. When land is sold which was acquired by the board through the foreclosure of any farm loan mortgage provided for by this act, the board shall not reserve any part of, or interest in, the

mineral estate. When land otherwise acquired by the board is sold, the board may reserve all or any part of the mineral content of the land and the right to use so much of the surface of the land as it considers convenient or necessary in connection with mineral operations thereon, together with all needed rights of ingress and egress, but the board in each case shall appropriately provide for indemnification of the surface owner against all surface damages caused by mineral operations on the land.

(g) The board may lease for agricultural and grazing purposes any lands acquired by it on such terms and conditions as it prescribes and adopt rules and regulations it considers necessary in facilitating the leases.

(h) Revenue received by the board under this section from agricultural, grazing and mineral leases of lands acquired by foreclosure shall be credited to the loss reserve account as provided by W.S. 11-34-202(e).

**11-34-121. Mortgagor to pay for recording loan papers; title insurance or abstract required; deposit; additional fee.**

The mortgagor shall pay for the recording of his mortgage and other papers connected with the loan which may be required. He shall furnish to the board at his own expense a mortgagee's title insurance policy in the full amount of the mortgage, issued by a title insurance company authorized to do business in Wyoming in a form acceptable to the board, reflecting merchantable fee title in mortgagor, or in lieu thereof an abstract of title certified by a bonded abstracter qualified to prepare abstracts under the laws of Wyoming, under such rules as the board may prescribe. The mortgagor shall deposit with the board before his application is considered, one hundred dollars (\$100.00), the unused portion of which, if his loan is not granted, shall be returned to him, but if his loan is granted, the amount shall be paid into the loss reserve account as provided by W.S. 11-34-202(e). An additional fee of one percent (1%) of the loan closed shall be paid by each mortgagor to the board. The revenues produced by this fee shall be credited to the loss reserve account as provided by W.S. 11-34-202(e).

**11-34-122. Release of mortgage.**

When the mortgagor or his successor in interest has fully paid any mortgage, the board shall furnish him with a proper release of the mortgage executed by the president of the board and

attested by the director of the office of state lands and investments with the seal of the board thereon, and the mortgage papers belonging to the loan including abstract of title and insurance policies assigned, shall be returned to the mortgagor or successor in interest.

**11-34-123. Foreclosure proceedings; duty of attorney general; deed in lieu of foreclosure.**

(a) Any foreclosure of any mortgage provided for by this act shall be made in the usual manner, either by civil action or by advertisement as the board may direct. In cases of foreclosure the attorney general shall render all services needed in connection with the foreclosure proceedings, and the costs, fees and expenses may be taxed in like manner and to the same effect as if the state of Wyoming were a natural person. Payment of proceeds upon foreclosure shall be made in accordance with W.S. 34-4-113. All monies received by the state from sale of the land acquired by foreclosure or by redemption of land sold on foreclosure, in excess of the amount owing to the appropriate permanent fund account and the interest due thereon, shall be credited to the loss reserve account as provided by W.S. 11-34-202(e). The board may extend the time of payment of any interest or installment payment due on any farm loan for as long as the board deems proper, and distribute the defaulted payments including interest, over undue payments in a manner and under terms the board deems just, each loan to be judged on its own merits without regard to any general rule. It is the intention of this section to authorize the board to consider and determine whether any mortgages executed by virtue of this act shall be foreclosed or renewed, with or without penalty, but no renewal shall extend beyond the due date of the original loan or any extension of the term by reamortization authorized by W.S. 11-34-113(d).

(b) Repealed By Laws 2010, Ch. 69, § 204.

(c) Notwithstanding other provisions of this section the state loan and investment board by unanimous vote may accept a deed in lieu of foreclosure, provided:

(i) The board determines any remaining liability is not collectible; and

(ii) Any loss to any permanent fund resulting from the acceptance of the deed in lieu of foreclosure is restored as provided by W.S. 11-34-202(f).

**11-34-124. Interest on defaulted payments and unpaid taxes; agreement to pay; insurance required; use of proceeds; foreclosure permitted.**

Every borrower shall pay interest on defaulted payments at a rate to be determined by the board not to exceed a ten percent (10%) annual percentage rate. By express covenant in his mortgage deed the borrower shall agree to pay when due all interest, taxes, liens, judgments, assessments and insurance lawfully assessed against the mortgaged land. Taxes, liens, judgments, assessments or insurance not paid when due and paid by the mortgagee become a part of the mortgage debt and shall bear interest at a rate to be determined by the board not to exceed a ten percent (10%) annual percentage rate. Every borrower shall insure buildings on the lands mortgaged to the satisfaction of the board. Insurance shall be made payable to the mortgagee as its interest may appear at the time of loss, and at the option of the mortgagee subject to the general regulations of the board. Insurance proceeds received may be used to pay for reconstruction of the buildings destroyed. Nothing in this section shall prevent the commencement of foreclosure proceedings at any time upon the default of principal or interest or failure to pay any taxes, judgments, assessments, liens or insurance.

**11-34-125. Repealed by Laws 1980, ch. 49, § 3.**

**11-34-126. Exemption of property of board from taxation; exceptions.**

(a) Except as otherwise provided by subsection (b) of this section, all mortgages, real estate and other property owned by the board is exempt from all general taxes, state, county and municipal. For the purpose of this act the board is deemed to be the owner of any property from the date it is bid in by the board at a foreclosure sale.

(b) If the board becomes the owner of the real estate and other property before the fourth Monday in June of the current year, it shall be liable for any property taxes lawfully assessed against the property, except for any taxes imposed under W.S. 21-13-102, 21-13-201 and 21-13-303. The county assessor shall list and assess the property for taxation purposes, and the state loan and investment board shall pay any tax due for the year in its entirety prior to December 31 of that year and any other year in which the board owns the

property. If redemption is made of the property at any time during the year in which the state loan and investment board has paid the property taxes due, the person redeeming the property shall be liable to the state loan and investment board for any taxes paid. There is appropriated from the loss reserve account as provided by W.S. 11-34-202 to the state loan and investment board a sum sufficient to pay the property taxes authorized by this section.

**11-34-127. Surety bonds; generally.**

Whenever a bond or undertaking is required by this act or by the board to be given, it shall be held to mean a surety bond furnished by a surety company authorized and qualified to do business in this state. Such bonds shall run to the state loan and investment board and the form thereof shall be approved by the attorney general.

**11-34-128. Surety bonds; payment of cost.**

The cost of surety bonds provided by this act, furnished by the officers or employees of said board, shall be a part of the general expense of the administration and paid by the board.

**11-34-129. Investment of permanent funds.**

The state treasurer, with the approval of the board, is authorized to invest and keep invested in farm loans a sum not to exceed fifty million dollars (\$50,000,000.00) of any state permanent funds available for investment, including loans already made and outstanding, as the funds become available in the treasurer's office for investment in loans approved by the board.

**11-34-130. Trespass upon lands owned by board prohibited; penalties.**

Whoever knowingly and willfully commits a trespass upon lands owned by the board or upon lands mortgaged to the board, either by cutting down or destroying or carrying away any timber or wood standing or growing thereon or by grazing, mowing, cutting or removing any hay, grass or growing or matured crops thereon or who, without right, injures or removes any building, fence, improvements or other property belonging or appertaining to the lands, or unlawfully occupies, plows or cultivates any of the land, or aids or abets any trespass or injury, is guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined not less than twenty-five dollars

(\$25.00) or more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00), imprisoned not less than thirty (30) days or more than six (6) months, or both.

**11-34-131. Wyoming transportation enterprise account; use thereof.**

(a) The transportation enterprise account is established to be used by the state loan and investment board to finance transportation projects of benefit to the general public as defined in this section. The transportation enterprise account shall be administered by the state loan and investment board, subject to recommendation and appropriation by the legislature, for the purpose of fostering transportation investments in projects of benefit to the general public within the state. The state loan and investment board shall:

(i) Adopt rules and regulations to implement the purposes of this section, considering other funds available including department of transportation funds; and

(ii) Distribute funds to eligible grantees only, pursuant to appropriation of funds from the transportation enterprise fund by the legislature, subsection (c) of this section, federal requirements and rules and regulations of the state loan and investment board.

(b) The transportation enterprise account shall receive monies from mineral royalty payments as provided in W.S. 9-4-607(a). All repayments of principal and interest to the state in connection with loans made under this section shall be deposited into the transportation enterprise account.

(c) The board may make grants or loans to public entities for the purpose of enhancing transportation in this state. Eligible uses of the monies in the fund shall include capital investments for public transportation and improvement and maintenance of airline service and facilities.

(d) In adopting rules and regulations under paragraph (a)(i) of this section, the board shall provide for the allocation of funds for capital investments for public transportation and for purposes eligible under subsection (c) of this section, with investment income received under W.S. 9-4-607(b) being allocated to purposes eligible under subsection (c) of this section.



(e) The state loan and investment board shall annually audit the transportation trust fund created under W.S. 9-4-607(a) to determine the effects of inflation on investment earnings.

## ARTICLE 2 - ISSUANCE OF BONDS AND DISPOSITION OF REVENUES

**11-34-201. Authority to issue nonnegotiable debentures; acceptance by treasurer; number; amount; interest; security; terms.**

(a) The board may issue its nonnegotiable debenture bonds in such numbers and amounts as necessary to be deposited with the state treasurer. The state treasurer shall accept the bonds in lieu of the promissory notes and mortgages held by the board as security for the investment of permanent funds of Wyoming in mortgages upon real estate.

(b) One (1) bond shall be issued for each note, in the amount of the balance due upon the principal of each note to be deposited with the state treasurer. The bond shall bear interest at the same rate as the underlying note and be secured by the original security pledged for the payment to the state of the note for which the bond is issued or substituted, or by any security or property taken by the board in addition to or in lieu of the original security. Each bond is due and payable on the date when the note for which the bond was issued or substituted is due and payable.

**11-34-202. Revenue to be credited to an account; use thereof; disposition of excess.**

(a) Except as provided by subsection (e) of this section or as otherwise provided by law, the state loan and investment board shall transmit any revenue received to the state treasurer to be credited to a separate account for the purposes specified in W.S. 21-15-106(a).

(b) Repealed by Laws 1981, ch. 44, § 2.

(c) Repealed by Laws 1981, ch. 44, § 2.

(d) Following a general fund appropriation by the legislature for administrative expenses, amounts expended pursuant to the appropriation shall be transferred monthly from the account provided by subsection (a) of this section to the general fund as provided by W.S. 9-4-205(b) for the highway fund

and the special revenue fund in certain instances. Revenue currently in the account formerly provided for by W.S. 11-34-202(a), (b) and (c), as those subsections existed prior to the creation of this subsection, may be expended for purposes formerly authorized until July 1, 1982 at which time the revenue within the account shall be credited to the account provided by subsection (a) of this section.

(e) Revenue and proceeds received by the board for deposit in the loss reserve account pursuant to W.S. 11-34-118, 11-34-120(h), 11-34-121 and 11-34-123(a) shall be transmitted to the state treasurer for deposit to the credit of the loss reserve account. These funds shall be used for the purposes specified in subsection (f) of this section and W.S. 11-34-126 and to pay the administrative and legal expenses of the board in making collections and foreclosing mortgages. If at the end of any fiscal year the amount accumulated in the loss reserve account exceeds five percent (5%) of the total amount of permanent funds of the state invested in farm or water development project loans, the amount in excess of the five percent (5%) shall be transferred and credited to the general fund.

(f) If, as a result of default in the payment of any farm or water development project loan, there occurs a nonrecoverable loss either to the corpus of, or interest due to, any permanent fund of the state, the board shall restore the loss to the permanent fund account entitled thereto using any funds available in the loss reserve account created by subsection (e) of this section. If the funds in the loss reserve account are insufficient to restore the full amount of the loss, the board shall submit a detailed report of the loss to the legislature and shall request an appropriation to restore the balance of the loss to the permanent fund account entitled thereto.

**11-34-203. Report to governor; separate statement required.**

The state loan and investment board shall report to the governor as required by W.S. 9-2-1014, and include a separate statement of all loans obtained from the state treasurer by the issuance of bonds as herein provided, and showing the disposition of the funds.

ARTICLE 3 - LOANS

**11-34-301. Repealed by Laws 2019, ch. 35, § 2.**

**11-34-302. Repealed by Laws 2019, ch. 35, § 2.**

**11-34-303. Repealed by Laws 2016, ch. 110, § 3.**

**11-34-304. Repealed by Laws 2016, ch. 110, § 3.**

**11-34-305. Repealed by Laws 2016, ch. 110, § 3.**

**11-34-306. Repealed by Laws 2019, ch. 35, § 2.**

#### CHAPTER 35 - AGRICULTURAL MARKETING

##### **11-35-101. Short title; purpose of provisions.**

(a) This act may be known and cited as "The Wyoming Agricultural Marketing Act of 1961."

(b) It is hereby declared to be the purpose of this act to aid agricultural producers in preventing economic waste in the marketing of their agricultural commodities, to develop more efficient and equitable methods of marketing of agricultural commodities and to aid agricultural producers in restoring and maintaining their purchasing power at a more adequate, equitable and reasonable level.

##### **11-35-102. Definitions.**

(a) As used in this act:

(i) "Agricultural commodity" means any horticultural, viticultural and vegetable product, bees or honey, poultry or poultry product, sheep or wool product, either in its natural state or as a processed commodity but does not mean livestock or livestock products other than sheep or wool products;

(ii) "Board" means the state board of agriculture;

(iii) "Director" means the director of the department of agriculture or his duly authorized representative;

(iv) "Control committee" means the appointed officers charged with administering a marketing order;

(v) "Handler" means any person engaged in the operation of packing, grading, selling, offering for sale or marketing any marketable agricultural commodity or who as owner,

agent or otherwise ships or causes an agricultural commodity to be shipped;

(vi) "Marketing order" means an order issued pursuant to this act;

(vii) "Processor" means any person engaged in the operation of receiving, grading, packing, canning, extracting, preserving, grinding, crushing or changing the form of an agricultural commodity for the purpose of marketing the commodity;

(viii) "Producer" means any person engaged in the business of producing or causing to be produced for marketing, any agricultural commodity;

(ix) "This act" means W.S. 11-35-101 through 11-35-116.

#### **11-35-103. Marketing orders; authority to issue.**

Subject to the provisions of this act, the board of agriculture may issue marketing orders within this state pertaining to the production, processing, distributing, pricing or handling of agricultural commodities.

#### **11-35-104. Marketing orders; notice and hearing; marketing agreement regulating preparation of commodities.**

(a) Whenever there is reason to believe that the issuance of a marketing order will tend to effectuate the purpose of this act with respect to any agricultural commodity and upon application of any producer or handler of such commodity, notice shall be given for a public hearing upon a proposed marketing order.

(b) Due notice of any hearing called shall be given to all persons who may be directly affected by any action pursuant to this act. The hearing shall be open to the public. All testimony shall be received under oath and a complete record of all proceedings at any hearing shall be made and filed by the director at his office.

(c) In order to effectuate the declared purpose of this act, the board may, after due notice and opportunity for hearing, enter into a marketing agreement with processors, distributors and others engaged in the handling of the

agricultural commodity, regulating the preparation, sale and handling of the agricultural commodity which is binding upon the signatories exclusively.

**11-35-105. Marketing orders; when issued; contents; economic factors to be considered.**

(a) After notice and hearing, the board shall issue a marketing order if it finds and states in the marketing order that the order will tend to:

(i) Reestablish or maintain prices received by producers for the agricultural commodity at a level which will give to the commodity power, with respect to the articles and services which farmers commonly buy, equivalent to the purchasing power of such commodity, provided that in establishing prices the board shall as nearly as possible apply the methods and procedures presently prescribed by the United States department of agriculture in making similar determinations;

(ii) Approach such equality of purchasing power at as rapid a rate as is feasible in view of the demand for the commodity;

(iii) Prevent the unreasonable or unnecessary waste of agricultural wealth because of improper preparation of the agricultural commodity for market, lack of uniform grading and inspection, or excessive shipments to markets;

(iv) Protect the interest of consumers of the commodity.

(b) In making the findings set forth in this section, the board shall take into consideration all facts available with respect to the following economic factors:

(i) The quantity of the agricultural commodity available for distribution;

(ii) The quantity of the agricultural commodity normally required for distribution;

(iii) The cost of producing the agricultural commodity as determined by available statistics and surveys;

(iv) The purchasing power of consumers;

(v) The level of prices of commodities, services and articles which farmers buy;

(vi) The level of prices of other commodities which compete with or are utilized as substitutes for the agricultural commodity.

**11-35-106. Marketing orders; establishment of control committee; composition, appointment and term; reimbursement for expenses; employees; duties.**

(a) Any marketing order pursuant to this act shall provide for the establishment of a control committee not to exceed seven (7) members to administer the order in accordance with its terms. Members of the control committee shall be appointed by the board from nominations submitted by the authorized industry groups and shall hold office until the expiration of term or until the appointment is withdrawn by the board for cause. If the marketing order affects directly only producers of a particular commodity, members of the control committee shall be producers. If the marketing order affects directly only handlers of a particular commodity, members of the control committee shall be handlers. If the marketing order affects directly both producers and handlers of a particular commodity, the control committee shall be composed of both producers and handlers. The number of producers or handlers upon any control committee shall be designated in the marketing order.

(b) No member of any control committee shall receive a salary but each is entitled to his actual expenses incurred while performing his authorized duties.

(c) The board, with the approval of the control committee, shall employ necessary personnel to carry out the duties authorized herein. The duties of the control committee shall be administrative only.

(d) The director shall serve as an ex officio member of any control committee in addition to the seven (7) appointed members.

**11-35-107. Marketing orders; referendum for approval or amendment.**

No marketing order or amendment directly affecting producers is effective until the board determines the issuance of the order

is approved and favored by at least two-thirds (2/3) of the producers eligible to participate in a referendum on the question of its approval, and who during the representative period, have produced for market the commodities specified in the order or amendment in commercial quantities within the production area specified in the marketing order, and who during the respective period have produced at least fifty-one percent (51%) of the volume of the commodity produced for sale.

**11-35-108. Marketing orders; hearing to terminate.**

If the board finds that the termination of any marketing order is requested in writing by more than fifty percent (50%) of the producers engaged within the designated production area in the production for market of the commodity specified in the marketing order, and who produce for market more than fifty percent (50%) of the volume of the commodity produced within the designated production area, the board may call a hearing to consider whether or not the order shall be terminated, suspended or amended.

**11-35-109. Marketing orders; notice of issuance or suspension; when effective.**

Upon the issuance of any marketing order or any suspension, amendment or termination thereof, a copy of the notice shall be published in the official newspaper of general circulation published in each county of the state. No order of suspension, amendment or termination is effective until thirty (30) days after the date of posting and publication. The director shall mail a copy of the notice to all persons affected by the terms of the order, suspension, amendment or termination who files in the office of the director a written request for notice.

**11-35-110. Marketing orders; geographic limitations; total class to be included.**

Marketing orders may be limited in their application by prescribing the marketing areas or portions of the state in which a particular order is effective. No marketing order shall be issued unless it embraces all persons of a like class in a given area who are engaged in a specific and distinctive agricultural industry or trade within this state.

**11-35-111. Budget to cover costs; approval; part of marketing orders; liability for assessment.**

For the purpose of providing funds to defray the necessary expenses incurred in the administration of this act, the board shall prepare a budget covering the costs, including advertising and sales promotion when they are requested in any marketing agreement or order. The budget shall be approved by the control committee. The budget with the collection of necessary fees, the time and conditions of payment and in no case to exceed five percent (5%) of the gross dollar volume of sales or dollar volume of purchase or amounts handled, shall become a part of any marketing order upon adoption. Every person engaged in the production, processing, distribution or handling of any marketable agricultural product directly affected by any marketing order for the commodity shall pay to the board at the time and in the manner prescribed by the order as assessment for the budget the percentage of the gross dollar volume of sales or dollar volume of purchase or amounts handled, or distribution of any commodity affected by the marketing order, as necessary to defray the expenses of the enforcement of this act, but in no case to exceed five percent (5%) of the gross dollar volume.

**11-35-112. Deposit and disbursement of collected monies; biennial audit required.**

Any monies collected by the board pursuant to this act shall be deposited in a bank or other depository approved by the state treasurer allocated to each marketing order under which they are collected, and disbursed by the director only for necessary expenses incurred by the control committee and the board with respect to each separate marketing order. Funds collected shall be deposited and disbursed in conformity with appropriate rules and regulations prescribed by the board, and approved by the control committee. All expenditures by the director shall be audited at least biennially by the director of the state department of audit or his designee, concurrently with the audit of the department of agriculture, and a copy of the audit shall be delivered within thirty (30) days after completion to the governor, the board and the control committee.

**11-35-113. Assessment deemed personal debt; failure to pay.**

Any assessment levied in a specified amount determined by the market order pursuant to W.S. 11-35-111 constitutes a personal debt of the person assessed and is due and payable when payment is called for. If the person fails to pay any assessment upon date due, a complaint may be filed against the person in a court



of competent jurisdiction for the collection thereof, as provided in W.S. 11-35-116.

**11-35-114. Books and records to be kept; information and inspection authorized; confidentiality; exceptions.**

(a) All processors or handlers subject to any marketing order or agreement issued pursuant to this act shall maintain books and records reflecting their operations under the marketing order, furnish the control committee or its authorized representatives such information as requested relating to operations under the marketing order, and permit inspection by the control committee or its authorized representatives of such portions of the books and records as relate to operations under the marketing order.

(b) Information obtained by any person under this act is confidential and shall not be disclosed by him to any other person except a person with like right to obtain the information, or an attorney employed to give legal advice thereupon, or by court order.

**11-35-115. Authority to issue order with terms similar to federal order; duplication of personnel; uniformity in administration.**

(a) If the board finds that it tends to effectuate the declared purpose of this act within the standards prescribed in this act, the board may issue a marketing order applicable to the marketing of any agricultural commodity containing like terms, provisions, methods and procedures as any license or order regulating the marketing of such commodity issued by the secretary of agriculture of the United States pursuant to the provisions of any law or laws of the United States. In selecting the members of any control committee or other advisory agency under the marketing order, the board shall utilize, insofar as practicable, the same persons as those serving in a similar capacity under the federal license or order, so as to avoid duplicating or conflicting personnel.

(b) The director may confer with and cooperate with the legally constituted authorities of states and of the United States to obtain uniformity in the administration of federal and state marketing regulations, licenses or orders. The director may conduct joint hearings or issue joint or concurrent marketing orders for the purpose and standards set forth in this act.

**11-35-116. Administration and enforcement; penalty for violation; hearing upon complaint; disposition thereof; subsequent prosecution; injunctions.**

(a) The board is responsible for the administration and enforcement of this act.

(b) Every person who violates this act or any provisions of any marketing order or agreement issued by the board, is guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined not less than twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) nor more than one hundred dollars (\$100.00).

(c) Upon the filing of a verified complaint charging violation of any provision of this act or of any marketing order or agreement issued by the board, and prior to the institution of any court proceeding authorized in this section, the director may call a hearing to consider the charges set forth. The director may take testimony, administer oaths, subpoena witnesses and issue subpoenas for the production of books, records or documents of any kind.

(d) If the director finds that no violation has occurred, he shall forthwith dismiss the complaint and notify the parties to the complaint.

(e) If the director finds that a violation has occurred, he shall enter his findings and notify the parties to the complaint. Should the respondents thereafter fail, neglect or refuse to desist from the violation within the time specified by the director, the director may file a complaint against the respondent with the district attorney for the county in which the violation occurred, and the district attorney shall prosecute in the name of the state.

(f) Violations of this act or any provisions of any marketing order or agreement duly issued by the board may also be enjoined by proceedings brought by the district attorney for the proper county, or by the attorney general, regardless of whether criminal proceedings have been instituted, if the director has entered a finding pursuant to subsection (e) of this section that a violation of this act or any provision of any marketing order or agreement issued by the board exists.

- 11-36-101. Repealed by Laws 2024, ch. 26, § 1.
- 11-36-102. Repealed by Laws 2024, ch. 26, § 1.
- 11-36-103. Repealed by Laws 2024, ch. 26, § 1.
- 11-36-104. Repealed by Laws 2024, ch. 26, § 1.
- 11-36-105. Repealed by Laws 2024, ch. 26, § 1.
- 11-36-106. Repealed by Laws 2024, ch. 26, § 1.
- 11-36-107. Repealed by Laws 2024, ch. 26, § 1.
- 11-36-108. Repealed by Laws 2024, ch. 26, § 1.
- 11-36-109. Repealed by Laws 2024, ch. 26, § 1.
- 11-36-110. Repealed by Laws 2024, ch. 26, § 1.

#### CHAPTER 37 - BEEF COUNCIL

##### **11-37-101. Legislative intent.**

The legislature intends by this act to provide the cattle industry with authority to establish a self-financed program to help market, develop, maintain and expand in the state, national and foreign markets for beef and beef products produced, processed or manufactured in this state, and the use and consumption of such beef and beef products.

##### **11-37-102. Definitions.**

(a) As used in this act:

- (i) "Beef" includes veal;
- (ii) "Beef products" include veal products;
- (iii) "Board" means the Wyoming livestock board;
- (iv) "Council" means the Wyoming beef council;
- (v) Repealed By Laws 2009, Ch. 90, § 3.

(vi) "Producer" means any person who owns or acquires ownership of cattle, provided a person shall not be deemed a producer if:

(A) The person's only share in the proceeds of a sale of cattle or beef is a sales commission, handling fee or other service fee; or

(B) The person:

(I) Acquired ownership of cattle to facilitate the transfer of ownership of the cattle from the seller to a third party;

(II) Resold the cattle no later than ten (10) days from the date on which the person acquired ownership; and

(III) Certified, as required by the council, that the requirements of this subdivision have been satisfied.

(vii) "This act" means W.S. 11-37-101 through 11-37-110.

**11-37-103. Establishment; composition; appointment; term; removal; vacancies; reimbursement for expenses.**

(a) There is created the Wyoming beef council. For administrative purposes the council shall be within the department of agriculture. The council shall be composed of five (5) producers appointed by the governor. The director of the department of agriculture or his designated representative shall serve ex officio without vote. With advice of the council, the governor may designate one (1) or more additional representatives of the beef industry to serve ex officio without vote. The appointed council members shall consist of three (3) producers of range cattle, one (1) cattle feeder and one (1) dairyman. The governor may remove any member he appoints as provided in W.S. 9-1-202.

(b) Upon the expiration of the term of an appointed member, a successor shall be appointed by the governor for a term of three (3) years. If a vacancy occurs, the governor shall appoint a person for the unexpired term.

(c) The governor shall declare the office of any appointed member of the council vacant when he finds that:

(i) The member is no longer a producer;

(ii) The member is unable to perform his duties; or

(iii) The member has become a resident of another state.

(d) Members of the council shall serve without compensation but shall receive mileage and per diem as provided by law for state employees.

**11-37-104. Powers and duties; employment of manager; duties of manager.**

(a) The council shall:

(i) Receive and disburse funds under the provisions of this act to be used in administering the provisions of this act;

(ii) Annually elect a chairman from among its members. No chairman shall succeed himself more than once;

(iii) Appoint a secretary-treasurer who may be from among its members;

(iv) Meet regularly every four (4) months and at such other times as called by the chairman or when requested by three (3) or more members of the council;

(v) Keep a permanent record of its proceedings and report to the governor respecting its activities as required by W.S. 9-2-1014;

(vi) Establish and maintain promotion, information, education and research programs to market, develop, maintain and expand state, national and foreign markets for beef and beef products produced, processed or manufactured in Wyoming.

(b) The council may:

(i) Conduct or contract for scientific research to discover and develop improved marketing methods for beef and

beef products, including programs of consumer education and protection;

(ii) Disseminate reliable information, founded upon research, showing uses or probable uses of beef and beef products;

(iii) Study state and federal legislation with respect to tariffs, duties, reciprocal trade agreements, import quotas and other matters concerning the beef industry;

(iv) Sue and be sued as a council, without individual liability, for acts of the council within the scope of the powers and duties conferred upon it by this act;

(v) Enter into contracts to carry out the purpose of the council as provided in this act, including contracts for promotion of beef and beef products and development of new markets through such promotion;

(vi) Appoint advisory groups composed of representatives from organizations, institutions or business related to or interested in the welfare of the beef industry;

(vii) Make grants to research agencies for financing special or emergency studies, or for purchase or acquisition of facilities necessary to carry out the purposes of the council;

(viii) Employ and remove for cause employees to assist in the discharge of the duties authorized by this act;

(ix) Cooperate with any local, state or nationwide organization or agency engaged in work or activities similar to or related to those of the council, and enter into contracts with such organizations or agencies for carrying on joint programs;

(x) Act jointly and in cooperation with the state or federal government, or both, or any agency thereof in the administration of any program of the government or of a governmental agency deemed by the council as beneficial to the beef industry of this state and expend funds in connection therewith;

(xi) Adopt rules and regulations necessary to carry out the provisions of this act;

(xii) Adopt, rescind, modify or amend all proper regulations, orders and resolutions for the exercise of its powers and duties.

**11-37-105. Authority to accept grants.**

The council may accept grants, donations, contributions or gifts from any source for expenditures for any purpose consistent with the powers and duties conferred on the council.

**11-37-106. Contributions allowed.**

From the funds it receives, the council may pay or contribute to organizations such as, but not limited to, the national livestock and meat board, to carry out work and programs approved by the council.

**11-37-107. Creation of account; collection of additional brand inspection fee; disposition of proceeds.**

(a) All monies received by the council shall be deposited in the state treasury. The state treasurer shall deposit the monies to the credit of the beef council account. Interest earned on monies in the account shall be deposited to the credit of the account. All monies in the account including earned interest shall be expended only for the purposes authorized by this act.

(b) In addition to the brand inspection fee provided in W.S. 11-20-401 the board shall collect an additional amount not to exceed one dollar (\$1.00) per head on cattle and calves under the same authority and at the same time, place and manner as brand inspections are made excluding cattle and calves being inspected when no change in ownership is involved. Fees collected by the board shall be deposited with the state treasurer to the credit of the account created by subsection (a) of this section. Monies received by the council under this subsection shall be used to administer this act.

(c) The council shall at the end of each month reimburse the livestock board for collection and administrative costs incurred by the board in collecting the fee under subsection (b) of this section. The amount reimbursed shall equal three percent (3%) of the fees collected during the month and shall be deposited with the state treasurer to the credit of the board's inspection account created by subsection (a) of this section.

**11-37-108. Failure to pay or remit monies due or collected; penalty.**

Any person who fails to pay or remit any monies, due or collected, as provided in this act, is guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction may be fined not to exceed seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00).

**11-37-109. Repealed by Laws 1989, ch. 112, § 2.**

**11-37-110. Surety bond required to receive or disburse funds.**

Any person authorized by the council to receive or disburse funds, as provided by this act, shall post with the council a surety bond in an amount the council determines sufficient, for which the cost or premium shall be paid by the council.

CHAPTER 38 - WHEAT MARKETING COMMISSION

**11-38-101. Definitions.**

(a) As used in this act:

(i) "Board" means the state board of agriculture;

(ii) "Director" means the director of the department of agriculture for the state of Wyoming or his designated representative;

(iii) "Department" means the Wyoming department of agriculture;

(iv) Repealed By Laws 2009, Ch. 90, § 3.

(v) "Grower" means anyone engaged in growing, or causing to be grown, wheat, on ten (10) acres or more in Wyoming including the owner and tenant jointly, a person, a partnership, association, corporation, cooperative, trust, sharecropper and any and all other business units, devices and arrangements;

(vi) "Handler" means any person engaged in the operation of buying, selling, shipping or distributing wheat grown in Wyoming which he has purchased or acquired from a grower or which he is shipping in behalf of a grower, whether the handler is located within or without Wyoming;



(vii) "Sell or sold" means a transaction wherein the title to wheat is transferred from the grower to the purchaser for a consideration, and includes any pledge or mortgage of wheat to any person or any agreement to acquire such property for a consideration;

(viii) "Ship" means to sell, transport, offer for transportation or ship wheat by any means whatsoever;

(ix) "Variety" means a type of wheat having similar characteristics, as, for example: Cheyenne, Marquis, Defiance, etc.;

(x) "Wheat" means and includes all varieties of wheat grown in Wyoming;

(xi) "Wheat marketing commission" means the control committee established pursuant to W.S. 11-38-102;

(xii) "This act" means W.S. 11-38-101 through 11-38-110.

**11-38-102. Establishment; composition; appointment; removal; officers; consultation permitted; area distribution of nominations.**

(a) The wheat marketing commission is established consisting of five (5) members appointed by the governor from nominations made by the Wyoming wheat growers association or any other duly organized and incorporated state organization within the state of Wyoming having a commodity division working with wheat. The director of the department of agriculture or his designated representative shall serve ex officio. The governor may remove any member he appoints as provided in W.S. 9-1-202.

(b) The commission shall elect a chairman and vice chairman from its appointed members and appoint an administrator. The commission may call upon other interested organizations for consultation.

(c) All appointed members shall derive substantial income from the growing of wheat. Geographic representation of membership on the commission shall be provided for based on historical wheat production records. Each nomination shall include a resume of the nominee's qualifications for serving on the commission.

**11-38-103. Terms of office.**

(a) The terms of office for the initial wheat commission members shall be three (3) terms of one (1) year each, two (2) terms of two (2) years each and two (2) terms of three (3) years each. Subsequent appointments will be for terms of three (3) years.

(b) To reduce the commission from seven (7) members to five (5) members, the commission shall be reduced by the two (2) positions that are vacant as of March 15, 2007.

**11-38-104. Powers and duties.**

(a) The commission shall:

(i) Receive and disburse funds under the provisions of this act to be used in administering the provisions of this act;

(ii) Annually elect a chairman from among its members and no chairman shall succeed himself more than once;

(iii) Elect a vice chairman from among its members;

(iv) Repealed By Laws 1999, ch. 173, § 2.

(v) Meet every four (4) months and at such other times as called by the chairman or when requested by three (3) or more members of the commission;

(vi) Keep a permanent record of its proceedings and prepare for the governor an annual report of its activities, receipts and expenditures.

(b) The commission may:

(i) Conduct or contract for scientific research to discover and develop improved marketing methods for wheat and wheat products, including programs of consumer education and protection;

(ii) Disseminate reliable information, founded upon research, showing uses and probable uses of wheat and wheat products;

(iii) Study state and federal legislation with respect to tariffs, duties, reciprocal trade agreements, import quotas and other matters concerning the wheat industry;

(iv) Sue and be sued as a commission, without individual liability, for the acts of the commission within the scope of the powers and duties conferred upon it by this act;

(v) Enter into contracts to carry out the purpose of this act, including contracts for promotion of wheat and wheat products and development of new markets through such promotion;

(vi) Appoint advisory groups composed of representatives from organizations, institutions or businesses related to or interested in the welfare of the wheat industry;

(vii) Make grants to research agencies for financing special or emergency studies, or for purchase or acquisition of facilities necessary to carry out the purposes of the commission;

(viii) Appoint subordinate officers and employees of the commission and prescribe their duties and fix their compensation;

(ix) Cooperate with any local, state or national organization or agency engaged in work or activities similar to or related to those of the commission, and enter into contracts with such organizations or agencies for carrying out joint programs;

(x) Act jointly and in cooperation with the state or federal government, or any agency thereof in the administration of any program of the government or of a governmental agency deemed by the commission as beneficial to the wheat industry of this state and expend funds in connection therewith;

(xi) Adopt rules and regulations necessary to carry out the provisions of this act under procedures set forth in the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act [ §§ 16-3-101 through 16-3-115 ].

#### **11-38-105. Authority to accept grants.**

The commission may accept grants, donations, contributions or gifts from any source for expenditure for any purpose consistent with the powers and duties conferred on the commission.

**11-38-106. Contributions allowed.**

From the funds it receives, the commission may pay or contribute to organizations such as, but not limited to, the national wheat board, to carry out work and programs approved by the commission.

**11-38-107. Administration of programs.**

The director shall administer any marketing, utilization or promotion program in such manner as to best effectuate the purpose hereof, with the advice of the commission and board.

**11-38-108. Assessments generally; refund of contributions; penalty for failure to pay or remit monies due or collected.**

(a) The rate of assessment may be adjusted from time to time by the wheat marketing commission in order to cover any later findings by the wheat marketing commission of the estimated expenses or actual expenses that may be incurred in connection with any research, marketing, utilization and promotion program. The assessment shall not exceed two and one-half cents (\$.025) per bushel.

(b) All assessments made and levied pursuant to the provisions of this act shall be paid by the respective grower who is primarily liable therefor. An assessment shall be collected from the grower by the first handler thereof, warehouse, or elevator operator, and the handler shall remit to the director all assessments so collected not later than the fifteenth day of the month next succeeding the quarter in which the wheat is sold or contracted in commercial channels. Any handler within or without the state of Wyoming who fails or neglects to collect an assessment from any grower and to remit the collection to the director is guilty of a violation of this act.

(c) In case of a pledge or mortgage of wheat as security for a loan made from a governmental agency the assessment shall be deducted from the proceeds of the loan at the time of the disbursement of the loan. In case of an overage of wheat at the time of settlement of the loan, the assessment shall be paid on the overage. In case of a shortage at the time of settlement of the loan, the over payment will be credited to the grower's account. In case of purchase agreements under the federal price support program, the assessment shall be made at the time of

final settlement. Wheat stored in private or public storage within the state shall not be liable for assessment until sale is made or loan secured.

(d) Any grower who by virtue of his activities or circumstances is within the meaning of the term "handler" as herein defined, or who shall sell, ship or otherwise dispose of wheat to a handler or other person or store wheat outside the jurisdiction of this act, shall forthwith remit to the director the full amount of the assessment due. Wheat originating from any state that collects a similar levy upon wheat, but bases assessment upon the location of the first sale taking place within its jurisdiction shall be treated as if the wheat were grown within the state of Wyoming, being first handled by a Wyoming handler. At the first commission meeting following July 1 of each year, the commission shall determine which states collect a similar levy and shall then notify all domestic handlers of those states.

(e) A person who has paid any monies as provided in this act is entitled to a prompt refund of the contribution from the commission. A claim for refund shall be made to the commission not less than thirty (30) nor more than ninety (90) days from the date of sale, on a form prescribed and furnished by the commission. The claim refund form shall be duly acknowledged by the person submitting the claim.

(f) The commission, before processing and making refund, may require any additional information or affirmation under penalty of perjury it deems necessary to determine the validity of the claim for refund.

(g) Any person who fails to pay or remit any monies due or collected as provided in this act is guilty of a misdemeanor. Failure to so remit on each sale for which such monies are payable constitutes a separate offense and is not affected by any refund either pending at the time of the offense or made at a later date. Upon conviction any person guilty of such misdemeanor shall be subject to a fine of not more than fifty dollars (\$50.00).

**11-38-109. Deposit and disbursement of collected monies; surety bond required.**

(a) Monies collected pursuant to this act shall be deposited with the state treasurer's office and disbursed in accordance with the act.

(b) Any person authorized by the commission to receive or disburse funds, shall post with the commission a surety bond in the amount the commission determines sufficient, for which the cost or premium shall be paid by the commission.

**11-38-110. Research programs to improve marketing or utilization; contents; budget of expenses.**

Whenever the wheat commission deems it advisable to implement a research, promotion or market program for the improvement of the marketing or utilization of wheat in both foreign and domestic trade, the plan may include, but shall not be limited to, the opening of new markets for wheat; developing new ideas and uses for wheat both at home and abroad; exploring the possibility of developing new agricultural and industrial uses for wheat; and engaging in sales promotion and education programs. The wheat commission shall prepare and submit therewith a proposed program to the board of agriculture together with a budget.

CHAPTER 39 - LIVESTOCK FEEDLOT OPERATIONS

**11-39-101. Definitions.**

(a) As used in this act:

(i) "City" means any incorporated municipality including a town;

(ii) "Department" means the department of environmental quality and includes any officer or agency within that department;

(iii) "Established date of operation" means the date on which a feedlot commenced operating with not more livestock than reasonably could be maintained by the physical facilities existing as of that date. If the physical facilities of the feedlot are subsequently expanded, the established date of operation for each expansion is deemed to be a separate and independent "established date of operation" established as of the date of commencement of the expanded operations, and the commencement of expanded operations shall not divest the feedlot of a previously established date of operation;

(iv) "Established date of ownership" means the date of the recording of an appropriate muniment of title establishing the ownership of realty;

(v) "Feedlot" means a lot, yard, corral or other area in which livestock are confined, primarily for the purposes of feeding and growth prior to slaughter. The term does not include areas which are used for the raising of crops or other vegetation and upon which livestock are allowed to graze or feed;

(vi) "Livestock" means cattle, sheep, swine, poultry and other animals or fowl which are being produced primarily for use as food or food products for human consumption;

(vii) "Materially affects" means prohibits or regulates with respect to the location or the emission of noise, effluent, odors, sewage, waste or similar products resulting from the operation or the location or use of buildings, machinery, vehicles, equipment or other real or personal property used in the operation of a livestock feedlot;

(viii) "Nuisance" means and includes public or private nuisance as defined either by statute or by the common law;

(ix) "Nuisance action or proceeding" means and includes every action, claim or proceeding, whether brought at law, in equity, or as an administrative proceeding, which is based on nuisance;

(x) "Owner" means the person holding record title to real estate, including both legal and equitable interests under recorded real estate contracts;

(xi) "Rule of the department" means a rule adopted by the department and as defined in W.S. 35-11-112(a) (i);

(xii) "Zoning requirement" means a regulation or ordinance which has been adopted by a city, county or any special purpose district or authority, and which materially affects the operation of a feedlot. Nothing in this act shall be deemed to empower any agency described in this subsection to make any regulation or ordinance;

(xiii) "This act" means W.S. 11-39-101 through 11-39-104.

**11-39-102. When defense to nuisance action available.**

In any nuisance action or proceeding against a feedlot brought by or on behalf of a person whose date of ownership of realty is subsequent to the established date of operation of that feedlot, proof of compliance with W.S. 11-39-103 is an absolute defense, if the conditions or circumstances alleged to constitute a nuisance are subject to regulatory jurisdiction by political subdivisions or related to the activities of the department of environmental quality.

**11-39-103. Compliance with rules; applicability thereof; compliance schedule; exception.**

(a) A person who operates a feedlot shall comply with applicable rules of the department in accordance with the provisions of this section. A person complies with this section as a matter of law where no rule of the department exists.

(b) A rule of the department in effect on June 1, 1977 applies to a feedlot with an established date of operation prior to June 1, 1977.

(c) A rule of the department applies to a feedlot with an established date of operation subsequent to the effective date of the rule.

(d) A rule of the department adopted after June 1, 1977 does not apply to a feedlot holding any department of environmental quality permit and having an established date of operation prior to the effective date of the rule until either the expiration of the term of the permit in effect on the effective date of the rule, or twenty (20) years from the established date of operation of the feedlot, whichever time period is greater.

(e) A rule of the department adopted after June 1, 1977 does not apply to a feedlot not previously required to hold a department of environmental quality permit and having an established date of operation prior to the effective date of the rule for either a period of twenty (20) years from the established date of operation of the feedlot or five (5) years from the effective date of the rule, whichever time period is greater.

(f) To achieve compliance with applicable rules the department shall issue an appropriate compliance schedule, and no other provision in this act shall be deemed to empower the department to make any rule.



(g) This section does not apply to limit rules required for delegation of the national pollutant discharge elimination system permit program pursuant to the Federal Water Pollution Control Act [Clean Water Act], title 33, United States Code, chapter 26, as amended, and 40 Code of Federal Regulations, part 124.

**11-39-104. Compliance with zoning requirements mandatory; applicability thereof.**

(a) A person who operates a feedlot shall comply with applicable zoning requirements in accordance with the provisions of this section. A person complies with this section as a matter of law where no zoning requirement exists.

(b) A zoning requirement applies to a feedlot with an established date of operation subsequent to the effective date of the zoning requirement.

(c) A zoning requirement which is in effect on June 1, 1977 applies to a feedlot with an established date of operation prior to June 1, 1977.

(d) A zoning requirement other than one adopted by a city does not apply to a feedlot with an established date of operation prior to the effective date of the zoning requirement for a period of twenty (20) years from the effective date of that zoning requirement.

(e) A feedlot located within an incorporated area subject to regulation by that city on June 1, 1977 is subject to zoning requirements adopted by the city regardless of the established date of operation of the feedlot.

(f) A zoning requirement adopted by a city does not apply to a feedlot which becomes located within an area subject to regulation by that city by virtue of an incorporation or annexation which takes effect after June 1, 1977 for a period of twenty (20) years from the effective date of the incorporation or annexation.

CHAPTER 40 - MARKETING OF WYOMING LEAN BEEF

**11-40-101. Definitions.**

(a) As used in this chapter:

(i) "Committee" means the Wyoming lean beef committee created by W.S. 11-40-102;

(ii) "Geographically exclusive license" means a license which gives the licensee the sole right to market Wyoming lean beef at retail, or at wholesale for resale at retail, within the geographic market specified by the committee.

**11-40-102. Creation of committee; composition; administrative support; compensation; officers; conflict of interest.**

(a) There is created the Wyoming lean beef committee. The initial membership of the committee shall consist of eleven (11) members of whom five (5) shall be members of the faculty of the University of Wyoming, one (1) shall be a person with professional training and experience related to human health and diet, designated by the president of the University of Wyoming, five (5) shall be appointed by the governor of whom three (3) shall be producers of beef cattle, one (1) shall be a person with training and experience in finance, one (1) shall be a person with training and experience in marketing and one (1) shall be the director of the department of agriculture or his designee serving ex officio. The members appointed by the governor shall serve three (3) year terms. The members designated by the president of the university shall serve at his pleasure.

(b) Administrative support for the committee shall be provided by and budgeted for by the University of Wyoming and thereafter it shall be the responsibility of the department of agriculture.

(c) State employees serving on the committee shall receive their normal compensation from their agency. Other members of the committee shall receive no compensation until the calendar year commencing after the calendar year in which the state first receives one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) in royalty for the use of the Wyoming lean beef trademark at which time they shall begin receiving mileage and per diem at the same rate as state legislators.

(d) Every person or organization who pays royalty for more than five hundred (500) head of cattle for the use of the Wyoming lean beef trademark or trade name shall be entitled to designate one (1) nonvoting member of the Wyoming lean beef

committee. This right shall be extended for the balance of the year in which necessary royalty is first paid and for the year following any year in which the necessary royalty is paid. Committee members designated under this subsection shall receive no compensation from the state for their services.

(e) The committee shall annually select from among its members a chairman and other officers deemed necessary.

(f) If any member of the committee has applied for or received a license to market Wyoming lean beef or has a financial interest in any organization which has applied for or received a license to market Wyoming lean beef he shall disclose that interest at this first appropriate time during an open meeting of the committee and shall not vote on the issuance of that license, on the issuance of any license for a geographically exclusive area for which he or his organization is also seeking a geographically exclusive license, or any other matter uniquely affecting his license.

#### **11-40-103. Powers and duties of the committee.**

(a) The committee shall:

(i) Promulgate regulations establishing quality standards as provided by W.S. 11-40-104 and modify these standards from time to time as necessary;

(ii) Establish regulations and procedures for licensing persons to use the trademark or trade name "Wyoming lean beef";

(iii) Enforce the quality standards for Wyoming lean beef;

(iv) As soon as possible register in the name of the state of Wyoming a trademark or trade name using the words "Wyoming lean beef" with the United States government and with any state where such registration appears prudent;

(v) Take any actions necessary to collect the royalties due the state of Wyoming for the use of the "Wyoming lean beef" trademark or trade name; and

(vi) Register labels to be used on Wyoming lean beef with appropriate agencies of the United States government and any state or foreign country.

(b) The committee may:

(i) Make recommendations to the University of Wyoming for further research concerning Wyoming lean beef;

(ii) Conduct and coordinate advertising and promotion campaigns as provided by W.S. 11-40-107;

(iii) Take any action necessary to prevent infringement of the trademark or trade name by others;

(iv) Authorize the use of public claims that adherence to the quality standards for Wyoming lean beef is certified to by the state of Wyoming and authorize the use of symbols associated with the state of Wyoming including the great seal of the state of Wyoming in connection with the claims;

(v) Receive and disburse funds for advertising, promotion and product development as provided by this chapter and accept voluntary contributions and grants for these purposes;

(vi) Contract with other state agencies, agencies of the United States government and private parties to carry out the purposes of this chapter; and

(vii) Sue and be sued as a committee without individual liability for acts relating to the powers and duties of the committee.

#### **11-40-104. Standards for Wyoming lean beef.**

(a) The committee shall establish quality standards for Wyoming lean beef in accordance with the following:

(i) Cattle qualifying shall graze the summer before slaughter in Wyoming. The committee may increase the proportion of time the cattle must live in Wyoming, specifying that particular portions of their lives must be spent in Wyoming and may impose altitude requirements and geographic restrictions in whole or in part on any time spent outside Wyoming. The committee shall not impose any altitude requirement on cattle within Wyoming. For the purposes of these standards, cattle shall be deemed to be living within Wyoming even though the pasture where the cattle are grazing is outside Wyoming if those cattle:

(A) Have free access to land within Wyoming; or

(B) Are in a pasture located not more than twenty-five (25) miles from the Wyoming border and the owner of the cattle is a Wyoming resident who physically resides within Wyoming and has his principal place of business in Wyoming.

(ii) Cattle qualifying shall be primarily grass fed cattle;

(iii) Cattle shall not be held in close confinement except for short periods in connection with operations necessary in the management of the cattle, including but not limited to calving, branding, vaccinating, weaning, transportation and slaughter;

(iv) Cattle qualifying shall have a hot carcass weight of at least four hundred (400) pounds. The committee may set a lighter minimum weight;

(v) Cattle qualifying shall have an untrimmed fat depth over the rib eye muscle at the twelfth (12th) rib of less than or equal to three tenths (0.3) of one inch. The committee may decrease the amount of fat permitted under this standard and may establish additional standards for fat. Except for ground beef, the committee shall not establish any fat standard that would permit more than three tenths (0.3) of one inch of untrimmed fat over the rib eye muscle of the twelfth (12th) rib;

(vi) Carcasses shall be electrically stimulated within one (1) hour after stunning. The committee may permit other treatments with similar effect in lieu of electrical stimulation and may eliminate this requirement if it no longer appears necessary to ensure adequate consumer acceptance;

(vii) Cattle shall not exceed thirty-two (32) months in age. The committee may vary this standard or prescribe in its place a maturity level that is to be judged from the characteristics of the carcass. The committee may also establish a minimum age;

(viii) Cattle shall not be given any growth promoting hormone;

(ix) Cattle shall not be given subtherapeutic levels of any antibiotic. This standard shall not be construed as

prohibiting the use of therapeutic levels of any antibiotic for therapeutic purposes.

(b) For ground beef the committee shall establish separate standards which shall:

(i) Provide for a fat content of twenty percent (20%) or less. The committee may establish a lower fat content standard;

(ii) Include the same standards as are established pursuant to paragraphs (a)(i) through (iii), (viii) and (ix) of this section, but need not be consistent with the standards established pursuant to the balance of subsection (a) of this section;

(iii) Provide any other standards that may be necessary for ground beef.

(c) The committee may establish any additional quality standard which may be useful in:

(i) Improving the quality of the product;

(ii) Gaining consumer acceptance of the product;

(iii) Assisting in the enforcement of the remaining standards; and

(iv) Promoting human health and welfare through improvements in Wyoming lean beef.

#### **11-40-105. Licensing; use of trademark; royalty.**

(a) The committee may license any person to market Wyoming lean beef and use the label, trademark or trade name "Wyoming lean beef" who:

(i) Pays an annual licensing fee of one hundred dollars (\$100.00);

(ii) Pays an additional annual licensing fee of one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) for each state or fraction thereof for which the licensee has obtained a geographically exclusive license;

(iii) Agrees to pay the royalty required by subsection (h) of this section;

(iv) Agrees to pay any additional royalty that may be established to support advertising and promotion programs;

(v) Agrees to abide by the standards established for Wyoming lean beef and to market no beef as Wyoming lean beef that fails to meet the standards;

(vi) Agrees to abide by applicable state and federal standards relating to public health and the slaughtering and preparation of meat for sale;

(vii) Agrees to abide by any other terms of the license the committee deems appropriate provided that the committee may make no term for the purpose of creating a monopoly in the marketing of Wyoming lean beef.

(b) The committee may give geographically exclusive licenses for markets outside Wyoming provided that the market shall not exceed the area the licensee can reasonably be expected to serve within a reasonable period of time and may be revoked in whole or in part for failure of the licensee to adequately supply the market with Wyoming lean beef. The committee may set specific volume of sales targets for the license to meet in order to retain a geographically exclusive license. If more than one (1) person applies for a geographically exclusive license for the same area the committee may divide the area or choose between the persons based on the criteria set forth in subsection (d) of this section.

(c) The issuance of a geographically exclusive license for a particular geographic area shall not prohibit other licensees from selling Wyoming lean beef directly to residents of the geographic area if the sales are for consumption and not for resale and are made within Wyoming or in response to mail or telephone solicitation originating within Wyoming or in response to an advertisement in a publication of national circulation. No geographically exclusive license shall include any of the state of Wyoming. No geographically exclusive license shall include more than twenty (20) of the states of the United States until the licensee has actually served the market within the states for which he is licensed.

(d) The committee may reject, restrict, accept, or accept in part an application for a license to market Wyoming lean beef, or may choose between competing applicants based upon:

(i) The financial strength of the applicant;

(ii) The marketing expertise of the applicant and his specific marketing plans;

(iii) The access of the applicant to a supply of Wyoming lean beef;

(iv) The prior experience of the applicant in relevant businesses; and

(v) Any other standards or criteria the committee deems appropriate.

(e) The committee may deny, revoke, suspend or limit the license of anyone who:

(i) Fails to abide by the provisions of subsection (a) of this section or any terms of the license;

(ii) Is convicted of violating the public health laws of the United States or any state;

(iii) Is convicted or has been convicted of any felony;

(iv) Willfully or unintentionally but repeatedly markets beef as Wyoming lean beef which does not meet the quality standards for Wyoming lean beef.

(f) Any retailer who is selling Wyoming lean beef furnished by any person licensed to sell Wyoming lean beef may use the "Wyoming lean beef" trademark or trade name in connection with any advertising or promotion of that beef. The committee may forbid licensees to furnish any Wyoming lean beef to any retailer who labels any other beef as Wyoming lean beef.

(g) The committee may seek through legal action monetary damages from any person labeling or selling as Wyoming lean beef any beef which does not meet the quality standards for Wyoming lean beef. Damages recovered may be used to reimburse the state for any expenses it may have incurred in connection with the



case and may be used for advertising and promotion to overcome any damage to the public image of Wyoming lean beef.

(h) The committee shall annually set the royalty to be paid by licensees which shall be not less than fifty cents (\$.50) per head and not more than five dollars (\$5.00) per head and shall be designed to defray the expenses of the committee, the expenses of the inspection and enforcement program and give the state of Wyoming a return of eight percent (8%) per annum on the monies appropriated for the marketing of Wyoming lean beef by Chapter 199, Wyoming Session Laws 1985 and by any other legislative appropriation and spent by the University of Wyoming on the 1985 San Francisco simulated market test. The royalties shall be deposited in the general fund of the state except that fifty percent (50%) of any royalties in excess of the amount budgeted for the expenses of the committee, the inspection and enforcement program and repayment to the state shall be deposited in the University of Wyoming fund to the credit of the agricultural experiment station account.

#### **11-40-106. Enforcement of standards.**

(a) The committee may promulgate rules or regulations necessary in the management of a program to enforce the standards for Wyoming lean beef.

(b) The committee may require licenses to conduct any inspections of ranching or slaughter operations necessary to insure compliance with Wyoming lean beef standards. The committee may require that this inspection program complies with any requirements imposed by the federal government to insure that the quality standards are met or that claims made on any label for, or advertising concerning, Wyoming lean beef are valid. Nothing in this subsection shall prevent the committee from having necessary inspections performed by employees of the department of agriculture or committee members or other appropriate persons.

#### **11-40-107. Cooperative advertising and promotion.**

(a) The committee may provide for the collection of additional royalties on the sale of Wyoming lean beef to pay for advertising and promotion programs. Such royalties may be levied on all Wyoming lean beef sold to pay for national advertising and promotion programs or only on Wyoming lean beef sold in particular markets or through particular channels of distribution to pay for advertising aimed at those markets, or

both. If the volume of sales on which royalty is paid in a market in the previous year is fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) or more, the additional royalties may be imposed on that market only with the consent of the persons paying two-thirds (2/3) of the royalties paid in that previous year. The committee shall define as necessary the markets and may classify sales as being in more than one (1) market. Any other assessment method may be used in whole or in part with the consent of all persons liable for the assessment. The royalties or assessment shall be deposited in a separate account and shall be expended for advertising, promotion, product development and the expenses connected therewith in the market for which the royalty or assessment is collected. The committee may authorize the expenditure of funds in the account or may delegate that authority to the subcommittees provided by subsection (b) of this section.

(b) To administer the advertising and promotion campaigns, the committee shall appoint a subcommittee for each market for which funds are separately collected. The subcommittee shall consist of at least one (1) voting member of the committee and any nonvoting members of the committee representing persons who pay additional royalties or assessments for that market and who shall be entitled to vote within the subcommittee. The full committee may give the subcommittee guidelines and directions it shall follow and may choose to reserve to itself the right to veto all subcommittee actions or particular classes of subcommittee actions. When considering actions or information the knowledge of which could give competitors a commercial advantage, the subcommittee may hold executive sessions.

#### **11-40-108. Wyoming supreme beef.**

(a) The committee may register in the name of the state of Wyoming a trademark or trade name for "Wyoming supreme beef", "Wyoming premium beef" or some similar name containing the name of the state of "Wyoming". This trademark or trade name for beef shall be used to designate a product which may be produced with some period in a conventional feed lot. For this brand of beef the committee may:

(i) Establish standards as necessary which shall be the same as the standards established for Wyoming lean beef pursuant to W.S. 11-40-104(a)(i), (viii) and (ix), but need not be consistent with other standards established for Wyoming lean beef;

(ii) Provide for a program for inspection and enforcement of the standards;

(iii) Provide for licensing of persons to market the beef in the same manner as licensing is provided for Wyoming lean beef;

(iv) Provide for royalty collection, enforcement of license terms, protection of trademark and trade name from infringement and cooperative advertising in the same manner as provided for Wyoming lean beef.

**11-40-109. Termination of existence of committee.**

(a) Repealed By Laws 2010, Ch. 69, § 204.

(b) If the sales volume falls below one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00) for three (3) successive years, the existence of the committee shall terminate on July 1 of the fourth year.

**CHAPTER 41 - AGRICULTURE MEDIATION SERVICE**

**11-41-101. Short title.**

This chapter is known and may be cited as the "Agriculture Mediation Service Act of 1987".

**11-41-102. Definitions.**

(a) As used in this chapter:

(i) "Action" means a court action by a creditor against a farmer for payment of a debt, to enforce or foreclose a security interest, lien or mortgage, or to repossess or declare a creditor's interest in real property. "Action" also includes any matter filed in a court of law or before an agency by a party to resolve a dispute;

(ii) "Agricultural property" means real property that is used principally for farming or ranching, real property that is a farmer's principal residence and any land contiguous to the residence, personal property that is used as security to finance farming or personal property that is used for farming;

(iii) "Board" means the agriculture and natural resource mediation board;

(iv) "Creditor" means any person who holds a mortgage on or is a vendor of a land contract for agricultural property, who has a lien on or security interest in agricultural property or who is a judgment creditor with a judgment against a farmer affecting the farmer's agricultural property;

(v) "Farmer or rancher" means a person engaged in farming or ranching who owns or leases a total of sixty (60) acres or more of land that is agricultural property and whose gross sales of farm products for the preceding year equaled twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000.00) or more;

(vi) "Farming or ranching" means the employment and operation of real property for the production of agricultural products, including but not limited to:

(A) Raising, harvesting and selling crops, hay and other products of the soil;

(B) Feeding, breeding, management and sale of livestock, poultry, fur bearing animals or honeybees, or the produce thereof; or

(C) Dairying and the sale of dairy products.

(vii) "Mediation" means the act of a neutral person in intermediating between or among contending parties with a view to assisting them to adjust or settle their dispute by mutual agreement;

(viii) "Parties" means the primary decision makers engaged in the mediation process;

(ix) "Standing" means a person that is given the authority to enter into a mediation process by the board.

**11-41-103. Agriculture mediation board created; membership.**

(a) There is created in the governor's office the agriculture mediation board which consists of six (6) members, five (5) of whom shall be appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the senate in accordance with W.S. 28-12-101 through 28-12-103. The director of the department of agriculture or his designee shall be a member of the board. The board shall elect a chairman from its members.

(b) Each appointed member shall serve a four (4) year term. If a vacancy occurs on the board, the governor with the advice and consent of the senate shall appoint a person to serve the unexpired term. Initial appointments or any vacancy occurring between sessions of the legislature may be filled by the governor in accordance with W.S. 28-12-101(b).

(c) Each appointed member of the board shall serve without compensation.

**11-41-104. Powers and duties of the board.**

(a) The board shall:

(i) Prepare all forms necessary for the administration of this chapter and shall ensure that forms are disseminated and that the availability of mediation under this chapter is publicized;

(ii) Promulgate rules and regulations necessary to implement this chapter. The rules may define owners and creditors of agriculturally related businesses and permit owners and creditors of such businesses to participate in mediation subject to the same terms and conditions applicable to farmers and creditors under this chapter. The rules may also define, for purposes of this chapter, persons who have standing to seek mediation, proper procedures for initiating and conducting mediation processes and issues and subjects to which mediation may be made which shall include wetlands determination, compliance with farm programs, agricultural credit, rural water loan programs, grazing on public lands or other issues and subjects which the board considers appropriate.

(b) The board may employ and remove for cause administrative, technical and other personnel. The board may provide training programs for prospective mediators and obtain technical information when needed.

**11-41-105. Selection of mediators; duties; compensation; immunity.**

(a) The board shall select mediators and shall establish training standards for mediators which shall include training in mediation processes and conflict resolution.

(b) Mediators shall:

- (i) Listen to the parties desiring to be heard;
- (ii) Endeavor to create a climate conducive to the resolution of differences between the parties;
- (iii) Inform the parties as to the existence of available assistance programs;
- (iv) Repealed by Laws 1988, ch. 48, § 2.
- (v) Assist the parties in attempting to arrive at an agreement;
- (vi) Assist in the preparation of a written agreement.

(c) Mediators shall be compensated in an amount approved by the board. The parties in the mediation process shall share the costs of the mediation equally. The board may establish a fee schedule to recover, to the extent possible, the board's administrative costs from the parties upon the execution of a mediation agreement.

(d) Mediators, and University of Wyoming financial analysts and extension personnel to the extent they participate in mediations under this chapter, are immune from civil liability for any good faith act or omission within the scope of the performance of their powers and duties under this chapter.

(e) After receiving a mediation request involving an agricultural debt, the board may refer the borrower to the University of Wyoming college of agriculture through the extension service or other financial analysts skilled in assisting with farm debt matters. The financial analyst shall assist the borrower in the preparation of information relative to the finances of the borrower for the initial mediation meeting.

(f) Mediators may not compel a settlement.

#### **11-41-106. Confidentiality of records.**

(a) Upon acceptance and initiation of a mediation procedure, all documents and discussions, recorded or otherwise, shall be confidential and are not public records under W.S. 16-4-201 through 16-4-205.

(b) All data regarding the finances of individual borrowers and creditors which is created, collected and maintained by agricultural mediators and which are not already matters of public record are confidential and are not public records under W.S. 16-4-201 through 16-4-205.

**11-41-107. Suspension of court or agency action to allow for voluntary mediation.**

(a) During the pendency of any action brought by parties to the mediation process, the court, or agency if filed before an agency, may, upon the written stipulation of all parties to the action that they wish to engage in mediation under this chapter, enter an order suspending the action.

(b) A suspension order under subsection (a) of this section suspends all orders and proceedings in the action for the time period specified in the suspension order. In specifying the time period, the court or agency shall exercise its discretion for the purpose of permitting the parties to engage in mediation without prejudice to the rights of any person. The suspension order may include other terms and conditions as the court or agency may deem appropriate. The suspension order may be revoked upon motion of any party or upon motion of the court or agency.

(c) If all parties to the action agree, by written stipulation, that all issues before the court or agency are resolved by mediation under this chapter, the court or agency shall dismiss the action. If the parties do not agree that the issues are resolved or if the court or agency revokes the suspension order under subsection (b) of this section, the action shall proceed as if no mediation had been attempted.

**11-41-108. Mediation process.**

(a) Any conflict between two (2) parties which involves agriculture or natural resources may be subject to mediation. This may include, but not be limited to, conflicts between federal, state and local agencies, individuals and organizations. No creditor shall institute an action as defined in this chapter without first notifying the borrower of the availability of mediation services under W.S. 11-41-101 through 11-41-110.

(b) A farmer or creditor wishing to resolve a dispute between them involving the farmer's agricultural property and

the creditor's interest in a mortgage, land contract, lien, security interest or judgment affecting the agricultural property, either before an action has been initiated to which they are parties or after entry of a suspension order in an action to which they are parties under W.S. 11-41-107, may participate in mediation in accordance with this chapter.

(c) To participate in mediation, the parties shall submit a request for mediation, together with an agreement to mediate, to the board on forms prepared by the board.

(d) If no action has been initiated to which the farmer and creditor are parties, the board shall identify the parties to any mediation under this chapter and shall require all parties to enter into an agreement to refrain from initiating any action among the parties affecting the subject matter of the mediation for a sixty (60) day period.

(e) After the board has obtained the agreement or agreements under subsections (c) and (d) of this section, the board shall provide the parties with the names, mailing addresses and qualifications of mediators located in the geographical area in which the agricultural property or farmer is located. The parties shall select a mediator or, upon request of the parties, the board shall designate a mediator for the parties.

#### **11-41-109. Effect of mediation.**

The parties may at any time withdraw from mediation. The parties have full responsibility for reaching and enforcing any agreement among them. After the expiration of the sixty (60) day period under W.S. 11-41-108(d) or the time period specified in the suspension order under W.S. 11-41-107, the mediation process shall terminate unless extended by unanimous mutual assent of the parties.

#### **11-41-110. Effect on other creditors; no delay.**

With respect to mediation between parties before an action has been initiated to which they are parties, no agreement to mediate, or the fact that mediation is currently occurring, shall have the effect of delaying, postponing or extending any time limits in any legal proceeding commenced to enforce a mortgage, land contract, lien, security interest or judgment commenced by a creditor other than the creditor or creditors participating in the mediation.



## CHAPTER 42 - AGRICULTURAL GRAIN MARKETING

**11-42-101. Repealed By Laws 1997, ch. 55, § 1.**

**11-42-102. Repealed By Laws 1998, ch. 34, § 2.**

## CHAPTER 43 - COMMODITY CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

**11-43-101. Commodity certification programs; rules and regulations; fee collection.**

(a) Upon request of a producer or processor, the director of the department of agriculture may develop standards of certification for any commodities produced or processed in Wyoming whether raw or value-added in order to promote special attributes of a particular commodity. The use of certification standards by any producer or processor will be on a voluntary basis. Development of standards shall be done in compliance with the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act. Standards of certification shall be in harmony with and not supersede existing laws and regulations. Fees, not exceeding the cost of administering the program, may be collected from participating producers and processors on an annual basis and shall be deposited in the general fund.

(b) The director may suspend or revoke a certification granted under this act [ §§ 11-43-101 and 11-43-102 ] if the recipient of the certification fails to meet all of the requirements adopted by rules and regulations.

**11-43-102. Unauthorized use of certification prohibited; penalty.**

The use of any labeling, advertising or promotional material which falsely claims that a commodity or any product is certified or approved by the Wyoming department of agriculture is prohibited. Any person who violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor.

## CHAPTER 44 - FARM AND RANCH OPERATIONS

**11-44-101. Short title.**

This chapter is known and may be cited as the "Wyoming Right to Farm and Ranch Act".

**11-44-102. Definitions.**

(a) As used in this act:

(i) "Farm and ranch" means the land, buildings, livestock and machinery used in the commercial production and sale of farm and ranch products;

(ii) "Farm or ranch operation" means the science and art of production of plants and animals useful to man except those listed under W.S. 23-1-101, including, but not limited to, the preparation of these products for man's use and their disposal by marketing or otherwise, and includes horticulture, floriculture, viticulture, silviculture, dairy, livestock, poultry, bee and any and all forms of farm and ranch products and farm and ranch production;

(iii) "This act" means W.S. 11-44-101 through 11-44-104.

**11-44-103. Farm or ranch operations not considered a nuisance; conditions.**

(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a farm or ranch operation shall not be found to be a public or private nuisance by reason of that operation if that farm or ranch operation:

(i) Conforms to generally accepted agricultural management practices; and

(ii) Existed before a change in the land use adjacent to the farm or ranch land and the farm or ranch operation would not have been a nuisance before the change in land use or occupancy occurred.

**11-44-104. Right to farm.**

(a) To protect agriculture as a vital part of the economy of Wyoming, the rights of farmers and ranchers to engage in farm or ranch operations shall be forever guaranteed in this state.

(b) Nothing in this section shall be construed to modify any provision of common law or statutes relating to trespass, eminent domain, existing or previously enacted laws or rules or any other property rights.

(c) As used in this section "farm and ranch operations" includes any farm or ranch practice recognized as generally accepted under the provisions of W.S. 11-44-103 and any agricultural or livestock management practice recognized as generally accepted under the provisions of W.S. 11-29-115.

## CHAPTER 45 - WYOMING MAIN STREET PROGRAM

### ARTICLE 1 - GENERAL PROVISIONS

**11-45-101. Amended and Renumbered as 9-12-1101 By Laws 2007, Ch. 101, § 2.**

**11-45-102. Renumbered as 9-12-1102 By Laws 2007, Ch. 101, § 3.**

**11-45-103. Amended and Renumbered as 9-12-1103 By Laws 2007, Ch. 101, § 2.**

**11-45-104. Amended and Renumbered as 9-12-1104 By Laws 2007, Ch. 101, § 2.**

**11-45-105. Repealed By Laws 2007, Ch. 101, § 4.**

## CHAPTER 46 - PEST CONTROL COMPACT

**11-46-101. Repealed By Laws 2014, Ch. 16, § 1.**

**11-46-102. Repealed By Laws 2014, Ch. 16, § 1.**

**11-46-103. Repealed By Laws 2014, Ch. 16, § 1.**

**11-46-104. Repealed By Laws 2014, Ch. 16, § 1.**

**11-46-105. Repealed By Laws 2014, Ch. 16, § 1.**

**11-46-106. Repealed By Laws 2014, Ch. 16, § 1.**

**11-46-107. Repealed By Laws 2014, Ch. 16, § 1.**

## CHAPTER 47 - COMMONSENSE CONSUMPTION ACT

**11-47-101. Short title.**

This chapter is known and may be cited as the "Wyoming Commonsense Consumption Act".

**11-47-102. Definitions.**

(a) As used in this act:

(i) "Livestock" means as defined in W.S. 11-39-101(a)(vi);

(ii) "Agricultural producer" means any producer of livestock, crops for food or fiber, dairy products and any other product for human consumption from an agricultural operation;

(iii) "Long term consumption" means the cumulative effect of the consumption of any qualified product and not the effect of a single instance of consumption;

(iv) "Qualified product" means any food or drink as defined in section 201(f) of the Federal Food Drug and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. § 321(f)), and specifically includes meat and meat products from livestock, food, fiber, dairy products and any other product for human consumption from an agricultural operation;

(v) "Seller" means any person or entity lawfully engaged in the business of marketing, distributing, advertising or selling a qualified product;

(vi) "Trade association" means any association or business organization that is not operated for profit, if two (2) or more members are manufacturers, marketers, distributors, agricultural producers, advertisers or sellers of a qualified product;

(vii) "This act" means W.S. 11-47-101 through 11-47-103.

**11-47-103. Limitation on liability for long term consumption.**

(a) No manufacturer, seller, trade association, agricultural producer, wholesaler, broker or retailer of a qualified product is subject to civil liability for injury or death in any case in which liability is based on the individual's weight gain, obesity or a health condition related to weight gain or obesity, and the weight gain, obesity or health condition results from the individual's long term consumption of a qualified product.

(b) Subsection (a) of this section shall not preclude civil liability if:

(i) The claim of injury or death is based on a material violation of a composition, branding or labeling standard prescribed by state or federal law; and

(A) The claimed injury or death was actually and proximately caused by that violation; and

(B) The violation was committed with intent to deceive or injure consumers or with actual knowledge that the violation was injurious to consumers.

#### CHAPTER 48 - FERAL LIVESTOCK

##### **11-48-101. Definitions.**

(a) As used in this chapter:

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

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

(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. A feral animal may or may not be owned by a person;

(iv) Repealed By Laws 2011, Ch. 21, § 2.

(v) "Disposal" means as defined in W.S.  
11-24-101(a)(iv);

(vi) "Livestock" means as defined in W.S.  
23-1-102(a)(xvi).

##### **11-48-102. Disposition of feral livestock; penalty.**

(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 livestock and to notify the owner to take possession of the livestock. If the owner repeatedly refuses to take possession of the livestock, he shall be subject to the provisions of subsection (g) of this section.

(b) If the state veterinarian or the director are unable to identify and notify the owner of the livestock or the owner refused to take possession for the livestock within five (5) days after receiving notice, the livestock may be declared to be feral livestock.

(c) If the director or the state veterinarian determines that any feral livestock are damaging private or public property, including grass, cultivated crops or stored crops, or determines the feral livestock is on private or public property where the feral livestock are not authorized to be and that capturing the feral livestock is not feasible or is cost prohibitive, the director or the state veterinarian may order the disposal of the feral livestock.

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

(e) There shall be no right for any future indemnity or payment to the owner for the disposition of any feral livestock disposed of in accordance with this section. Should the owner of any feral livestock disposed of in accordance with this section be subsequently identified, the board may seek reimbursement from the owner for all costs associated with the disposal and removal of the feral livestock.

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

(g) The owner of feral livestock shall be:

(i) Responsible for all damages caused by the feral livestock; and

(ii) Responsible for the costs of gathering, feeding, veterinary services, transportation and other incidental expenses relating to the feral livestock incurred by the Wyoming livestock board.

(h) Any person failing to comply with this section shall be punished as provided in W.S. 11-1-103.

**11-49-101. Short title.**

This act is known and may be cited as the "Wyoming Food Freedom Act."

**11-49-102. Definitions.**

(a) As used in this act:

(i) "Delivery" means the transfer of a product resulting from a transaction between a producer and an informed end consumer. The delivery may occur by the producer's designated agent at a farm, ranch, farmers market, home, office or any location agreed to between the producer and the informed end consumer;

(ii) "Farmers market" means as defined in W.S. 35-7-110(a)(xxviii);

(iii) "Home consumption" means consumed within a private home, or food from a private home that is only consumed by family members, employees or nonpaying guests;

(iv) "Homemade" means food that is prepared or processed in a private home kitchen, that is not licensed, inspected or regulated;

(v) "Informed end consumer" means a person who is the last person to purchase any product, who does not resell the product and who has been informed that the product is not licensed, regulated or inspected;

(vi) "Producer" means any person who grows, harvests, prepares or processes any food or drink products on the person's owned or leased property, does not produce more than two hundred fifty thousand (250,000) individual food or drink products annually and does not exceed two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000.00) in gross revenue annually from the food and drink products;

(vii) "Transaction" means the exchange of buying and selling;

(viii) "Process" means operations a producer performs in the making or treatment of the producer's food or drink products;

(ix) "Animal share" means an ownership interest in an animal or herd of animals created by a written contract between an informed end consumer and a farmer or rancher that includes a bill of sale to the consumer for an ownership interest in the animal or herd and a boarding provision under which the consumer boards the animal or herd with the farmer or rancher for care and processing and the consumer is entitled to receive a share of meat from the animal or herd;

(x) "Non-potentially hazardous food" means food that does not require time or temperature control for safety including limiting pathogenic microorganism growth or toxin formation. "Non-potentially hazardous food" includes, but is not limited to, jams, uncut fruits and vegetables, pickled vegetables, hard candies, fudge, nut mixes, granola, dry soup mixes excluding meat based soup mixes, coffee beans, popcorn and baked goods that do not include dairy or meat frosting or filling or other potentially hazardous frosting or filling;

(xi) "Potentially hazardous food" means food that requires time or temperature control for safety including limiting pathogenic microorganism growth or toxin formation. "Potentially hazardous food" includes, but is not limited to, foods requiring refrigeration, dairy products, quiches, pizzas, frozen doughs, meat and cooked vegetables and beans;

(xii) "Designated agent" means a person or consignment model market or food freedom store designated by the producer to facilitate producer to consumer transactions including marketing, transport, storage and delivery of food or drink products. A designated agent shall be named in writing by the producer and shall not take ownership of any food or drink product;

(xiii) "Custom slaughter facility" means a slaughter facility that does not have a state or federal inspector on duty and where any meat produced from the facility is not considered to be state or federally inspected meat products;

(xiv) "This act" means W.S. 11-49-101 through 11-49-104.

**11-49-103. Wyoming Food Freedom Act; purpose; exemptions; assumption of risk.**

(a) The purpose of the Wyoming Food Freedom Act is to allow for a producer's production and sale of homemade food or



drink products for an informed end consumer and to encourage the expansion of agricultural sales at farmers markets, ranches, farms and producers' homes by:

- (i) Facilitating the purchase and consumption of fresh and local agricultural products;

- (ii) Enhancing the agricultural economy;

- (iii) Providing Wyoming citizens with unimpeded access to healthy food from known sources.

- (b) Unless otherwise provided in this section, homemade food products produced, sold and consumed in compliance with the Wyoming Food Freedom Act shall be exempt from state licensure, permitting, inspection, packaging and labeling requirements.

- (c) Transactions under this act shall:

- (i) Be directly between the producer and the informed end consumer, except as otherwise provided by this act. A producer may utilize a designated agent to facilitate a transaction. The seller of eggs, dairy products or a homemade food product consisting of non-potentially hazardous food may be the producer of the item, a designated agent of the producer or a third party vendor including a retail shop or grocery store as long as the sale is made in compliance with this act. The seller of a homemade food item consisting of potentially hazardous food, except eggs and dairy products, shall be the producer of the item or a designated agent of the producer;

- (ii) Repealed by Laws 2020, ch. 69, § 2.

- (iii) Occur only in Wyoming;

- (iv) Not involve interstate commerce;

- (v) Not involve the sale of meat products, with the following exceptions:

- (A) The sale of poultry and poultry products provided:

- (I) The producer slaughters not more than one thousand (1,000) poultry of his own raising during any one (1) calendar year;

(II) The producer does not engage in buying or selling poultry products other than those produced from poultry of his own raising; and

(III) The poultry product is not adulterated or misbranded.

(B) The sale of live animals;

(C) The sale of portions of live animals before slaughter for future delivery;

(D) The sale of domestic rabbit meat;

(E) The sale of farm raised fish provided:

(I) The fish is raised in accordance with title 23 of the Wyoming statutes; and

(II) The fish is not catfish.

(F) The sale of meat pursuant to an animal share under W.S. 11-49-104;

(G) The sale of meat products under subsection (n) of this section, subject to subsection (o) of this section.

(vi) Only occur at farmers markets, farms, ranches, producer's homes or offices, the retail location of the third party seller of non-potentially hazardous foods, eggs and dairy products or any location the producer and the informed end consumer agree to.

(d) Except for raw, unprocessed fruits and vegetables, food shall not be sold or used in any commercial food establishment unless the food has been labeled, licensed, packaged, regulated or inspected as required by law. Homemade or uninspected food shall not be served or utilized as an ingredient in a commercial food establishment. Nothing in this section shall prohibit the sale of homemade food from a retail space located at the ranch, farm or home where the food is produced or at the retail location of a third party seller for non-potentially hazardous food, eggs and dairy products. A retail space selling homemade food under this section shall inform the end consumer that the homemade food has not been inspected and shall display a sign indicating that the homemade food has not been inspected. If a retail space selling

potentially hazardous food, except eggs and dairy products, is in any way associated with a commercial food establishment or offers for sale any inspected product, the retail space selling potentially hazardous homemade food shall comply with rules adopted by the department of agriculture which shall require:

(i) That the retail space be physically separated from the commercial food establishment with a separate door and separate cash register or point of sale;

(ii) That each separate space shall include signs or other markings clearly indicating which spaces are offering inspected items for sale and which spaces are uninspected;

(iii) Separation of coolers, freezers and warehouse or other storage areas to prohibit the intermingling of inspected and uninspected products;

(iv) Any other requirements specified by the department of agriculture to ensure the sale of homemade foods is made to an informed end consumer.

(e) The producer shall inform the end consumer that any food product or food sold at a farmers market or through ranch, farm or home based sales pursuant to this act is not certified, labeled, licensed, packaged, regulated or inspected. A third party seller offering non-potentially hazardous food, eggs or dairy products for sale pursuant to this act shall inform the end consumer that the homemade food is not certified, labeled, licensed, packaged, regulated or inspected.

(f) Repealed by Laws 2017, ch. 111, § 2.

(g) Nothing in this act shall be construed to impede the Wyoming department of health in any investigation of food borne illness.

(h) Nothing in this act shall be construed to change the requirements for brand inspection or animal health inspections.

(j) Nothing in this act shall preclude an agency from providing assistance, consultation or inspection, at the request of the producer.

(k) In addition to the requirements of this section, for sales of non-potentially hazardous food and dairy products at a retail location or grocery store the food shall not be displayed

or offered for sale on the same shelf or display as food produced in a licensed establishment and shall be clearly and prominently labeled with "this food was made in a home kitchen, is not regulated or inspected and may contain allergens".

(m) In addition to the transactions permitted under this act, homemade food producers may sell homemade food and drink products, eggs or dairy products to the maximum extent permitted by federal law. The department of agriculture shall not promulgate any standard for food and health inspection that is applicable to this act that is more stringent than a standard established by the United States department of agriculture and nothing in this article shall be construed to be more restrictive than applicable federal requirements.

(n) Except as prohibited by federal law and subject to subsection (o) of this section, a producer may sell meat products from cattle, sheep, swine or goats raised by the producer that were slaughtered on the premises of the producer or at a custom slaughter facility, if all of the following conditions are met:

(i) The meat products are produced from animals that are raised, slaughtered, processed and sold in Wyoming;

(ii) The meat products are sold directly to an informed end consumer in Wyoming, whether for consumption on or off the premises of the producer;

(iii) A prominent written warning statement is delivered to the informed end consumer at the time of sale, or the warning is displayed on a label affixed to the meat product packaging. The warning required by this paragraph shall state:

(A) The meat product has not been inspected and is not regulated;

(B) An informed end consumer who obtains meat products under this act agrees not to sell, donate or commercially redistribute the meat;

(C) Information describing the standards used by the producer with respect to animal health and in the processing of meat from the animal.

(iv) The producer shall not publish any statement associated with the meat that implies or states the Wyoming

department of agriculture's approval or endorsement of meat delivered under this subsection.

(o) Subsection (n) of this section shall be effective on the date that the governor, on advice of the attorney general, certifies to the secretary of state that the sale of meat products from cattle, sheep, swine or goats raised by the producer that were slaughtered on the premises of the producer or at a custom slaughter facility is legalized under federal law. Legalization under federal law shall constitute either the passage of a federal law that allows direct-to-consumer sales of uninspected meat products or the issuance of a final decision by a federal court with jurisdiction over this state that declares that the federal prohibition on direct-to-consumer sales is unconstitutional or otherwise invalid. Sales of meat products under subsection (n) of this section shall be allowed upon the governor's certification to the secretary of state that sales of uninspected meat products have been legalized under federal law.

**11-49-104. Animal shares.**

(a) The acquisition of meat from animals by an informed end consumer shall not constitute the sale of meat products in contravention of this act and shall not be prohibited if all of the following conditions are met:

(i) The meat is delivered pursuant to an animal share and is:

(A) Received from the farm or ranch where an animal or herd subject to the animal share is located;

(B) Received by or on behalf of an owner of an animal share;

(C) Obtained from the particular animal or herd subject to the animal share.

(ii) Ownership of each animal is established prior to slaughter and the slaughter is conducted pursuant to W.S. 11-23-102(a), if applicable;

(iii) A prominent warning statement that the meat has not been inspected is delivered to the informed end consumer with the meat or is displayed on a label affixed to the meat packaging;

(iv) Information describing the standards used by the farm or ranch with respect to herd health, and in the processing of meat from the herd, is provided to the informed end consumer by the farmer or rancher.

(b) No person who obtains meat in accordance with this section shall sell, donate or commercially redistribute the meat.

(c) No farmer or rancher shall publish any statement that implies the department of agriculture's approval or endorsement of meat delivered pursuant to an animal share.

## CHAPTER 50 - BEAN RESEARCH

### **11-50-101. Definitions.**

(a) As used in this act:

(i) "Commission" means the bean commission established under W.S. 11-50-102;

(ii) "Department" means the state department of agriculture;

(iii) "Director" means the director of the state department of agriculture or his designee;

(iv) "Dry edible beans" includes all market classes and varieties of dry edible beans produced in Wyoming including beans intended for use as seed;

(v) "Grower" means any person engaged in growing, or causing to be grown, dry edible beans on one (1) acre or more in Wyoming. "Grower" may include an owner and tenant jointly or a partnership, association, corporation, cooperative, trust, sharecropper or any other business unit, device or arrangement;

(vi) "Handler" means any person, no matter where the person is located, who is engaged in the operation of buying, selling, shipping or distributing dry beans grown in Wyoming which he has purchased or acquired from a grower or which he is shipping on behalf of a grower;

(vii) "This act" means W.S. 11-50-101 through 11-50-108.

**11-50-102. Dry bean commission established; composition; appointment; term; removal; vacancies; reimbursement for expenses.**

(a) There is created the Wyoming bean commission. For administrative purposes the commission shall be within the department of agriculture. The commission shall be composed of six (6) members initially appointed by the governor. The director or his designated representative shall serve ex officio without vote. The appointed commission members shall consist of four (4) growers residing in Wyoming with at least one (1) of the members residing in Laramie, Platte or Goshen County, Wyoming. Two (2) members shall be handlers with dry bean processing facilities located in Wyoming. The governor may remove any member he appoints as provided in W.S. 9-1-202.

(b) The terms of office for the initial appointments to the commission shall be two (2) terms of four (4) years and two (2) terms of two (2) years for the grower members. The initial terms of office for the handler members shall be one (1) term of four (4) years and one (1) term of two (2) years. Upon the expiration of each of these terms, the commission shall conduct by mail an election to fill the open membership. After initial terms, elected members shall serve for a term of four (4) years. Only growers and handlers who paid dry bean assessments in the previous two (2) calendar years shall be eligible to vote in or stand for election, which shall be conducted in March of each odd-numbered year. If a vacancy occurs, the governor shall appoint a person for the unexpired term.

(c) The governor shall declare the office of any appointed or elected member of the commission vacant when he finds that the member:

- (i) Is no longer a grower or handler;
- (ii) Is unable to perform his duties; or
- (iii) Has become a resident of another state.

(d) Members of the commission shall serve without compensation but shall receive mileage and per diem as provided by law for state employees.

**11-50-103. Powers and duties of the commission.**

(a) The commission shall:

(i) Receive and disburse funds under the provisions of this act to be used in administering the provisions of this act;

(ii) Annually elect a chairman and vice chairman from among its members. No chairman shall succeed himself more than once;

(iii) Meet not less than two (2) times each year in conjunction with the crop research foundation of Wyoming and at such other times as called by the chairman or when requested by three (3) or more members of the commission;

(iv) Keep a permanent record of its proceedings and report annually to the governor and the joint agriculture, state and public lands and water resources interim committee respecting its activities as provided in W.S. 9-2-1014;

(v) If the commission determines that it is advisable to implement a research, promotion or market program, prepare and submit a proposed program to the director together with a budget and cash flow statement. Funds shall only be dispersed to the crop research foundation in accordance with the submitted budget and cash flow statement.

(b) The commission may:

(i) Conduct or contract for scientific research to discover and develop improved varieties, production techniques and end-use products;

(ii) Conduct or contract for programs of consumer education and market development;

(iii) Disseminate information on dry edible beans based on scientific research;

(iv) Study state and federal legislation with respect to matters concerning the dry edible bean industry;

(v) Sue and be sued as a commission, without individual liability, for acts of the commission within the scope of the powers and duties conferred upon it by this act;

(vi) Enter into contracts to carry out the purpose of the commission as provided in this act;



(vii) Appoint advisory groups composed of representatives from organizations, institutions or business related to or interested in the welfare of the dry edible bean industry;

(viii) Make grants to research agencies for financing special or emergency studies, or for purchase or acquisition of facilities necessary to carry out the purposes of the commission;

(ix) Appoint subordinate officers and employees of the commission, prescribe their duties and fix their compensation;

(x) Cooperate with any local, state or nationwide organization or agency engaged in work or activities similar to or related to those of the commission, and enter into contracts with those organizations or agencies for carrying on joint programs;

(xi) Adopt rules and regulations necessary to carry out the provisions of this act;

(xii) Adopt, rescind, modify or amend all proper regulations, orders and resolutions for the exercise of its powers and duties.

**11-50-104. Authority to accept grants.**

The commission may accept grants, donations, contributions or gifts from any source for expenditures for any purpose consistent with the powers and duties conferred on the commission.

**11-50-105. Contributions allowed.**

From the funds it receives, the commission may pay or contribute to outside organizations to carry out work and programs approved by the commission.

**11-50-106. Dry bean commission account; assessment rate; collection and payment of assessment.**

(a) All monies received by the commission shall be deposited in the state treasury. The state treasurer shall deposit the monies to the credit of the dry bean commission

account which is hereby created. Interest earned on monies in the account shall be deposited to the credit of the account. All monies in the account including earned interest shall be expended only for the purposes authorized by this act.

(b) Assessments collected by department under this section shall be deposited with the state treasurer to the credit of the account created by subsection (a) of this section. Monies received by the commission under this subsection shall be used to administer this act.

(c) The commission shall at the end of each quarter reimburse the department for collection and administrative costs incurred by the department in collecting the assessment under subsection (b) of this section. The amount reimbursed shall equal one percent (1%) of the assessments collected during the quarter and shall be deposited with the state treasurer.

(d) The amount of the assessment collected under this section shall be as follows:

(i) For growers, thirty-four hundredths percent (0.34%) of the value of the settlement to the grower;

(ii) For handlers, seventeen hundredths percent (0.17%) of the value of the settlement to the grower;

(iii) After July 1, 2017, the commission by rule may change the assessment levied under this section provided that the proportion shall be two-thirds ( $2/3$ ) on the grower and one-third ( $1/3$ ) on the handler and the total levy shall not exceed one percent (1%) of the value of the settlement to the grower.

(e) The assessment rate as determined under subsection (d) of this section shall be paid by the respective grower and handler who are primarily liable. The first handler of beans sold or contracted in a commercial channel shall collect the required assessment from the grower and shall remit the assessment from the grower and the handler to the department not later than the fifteenth day of the month immediately following the quarter in which the beans were sold or contracted. The first time each year that a handler submits assessments under this section, the handler shall also submit a list of the name and address of all growers that the handler collected assessments from in the immediately preceding year.

(f) If dry beans are mortgaged or pledged as security for a loan from a governmental agency, the assessment under this section shall be deducted from the proceeds of the loan at the time of the disbursement of the loan. If there is an overage of dry beans at the time of settlement of the loan, the over payment shall be credited to the account of the grower.

(g) Dry beans stored in private or public storage within the state shall not be liable for an assessment under this section until a sale of the beans is made.

(h) A grower who through his activities also qualifies as a handler under this act or a grower who ships, sells or otherwise disposes of beans to a handler or for storage outside of the jurisdiction of this act shall remit to the department the full amount of the assessment due under this section. Dry beans which originate from any other state that collects a similar assessment and the state bases the assessment on the location of the first sale shall be treated as if they were grown within Wyoming if the beans are handled first by a Wyoming handler. Not later than November 1 each year, the commission shall determine any states that collect a similar assessment as provided under this section and shall notify all handlers of those states.

#### **11-50-107. Refund.**

(a) Any person who has paid any assessment as provided in this act is entitled to a prompt refund of the contribution from the commission upon request. A claim for a refund shall be made to the commission not less than thirty (30) nor more than ninety (90) days from the date of the sale upon which the assessment was based. The claim shall be made on a form prescribed and furnished by the commission. No assessment paid by a handler is refundable under this section unless the grower has also claimed a refund under this section for the matching portion of the assessment.

(b) Before processing any claim for refund under this section, the commission may require any additional information or affirmation under penalty of perjury it deems necessary to determine the validity of the claim.

#### **11-50-108. Surety bond required to receive or disburse funds.**

Any person authorized by the commission to receive or disburse funds, as provided by this act, shall post with the commission a surety bond in an amount the commission determines sufficient, for which the cost or premium shall be paid by the commission.

## CHAPTER 51 - HEMP PRODUCTION

### **11-51-101. Definitions.**

(a) As used in this chapter:

(i) "Corrective action plan" means a plan the department develops in consultation with a licensee to correct any violation of this chapter;

(ii) "Disposal" means activities to alter or treat hemp or hemp products that contain an amount of THC in excess of the amount authorized in this chapter to ensure that the THC is reduced to bring the hemp or hemp product into compliance with this chapter or, if compliance is not attainable, that the THC is rendered inaccessible;

(iii) "Hemp" or "hemp product" means all parts, seeds and varieties of the plant *cannabis sativa* L., whether growing or not, or a product, derivative, extract, cannabinoid, isomer, acid, salt or salt of isomer made from that plant with no synthetic substance and with a THC concentration of not more than three-tenths of one percent (0.3%) on a dry weight basis when using post-decarboxylation or another similarly reliable testing method;

(iv) "Licensee" means a person licensed under this chapter to produce, process or test hemp;

(v) "Produce" means all acts necessary to produce and market hemp including, without limitation, planting, cultivating, harvesting, cloning, producing seeds, handling, transporting and selling;

(vi) "Process" means converting hemp into another product that contains no synthetic substance and that contains no more than three-tenths of one percent (0.3%) THC on a dry weight basis when using post-decarboxylation or another similarly reliable testing method;

(vii) "THC" means:

(A) Tetrahydrocannabinol, the psychoactive component of the cannabis plant, with the scientific name trans-delta 9-tetrahydrocannabinol;

(B) Psychoactive analogs of tetrahydrocannabinol as defined by W.S. 14-3-301(a) (xi);

(C) Any psychoactive structural, optical or geometric isomers of tetrahydrocannabinol.

(viii) "Synthetic substance" means any synthetic THC, synthetic cannabinoid or any other drug or psychoactive substance.

#### **11-51-102. Hemp as agricultural crop; use of hemp.**

(a) Hemp is an agricultural crop in this state. Upon meeting the requirements of this chapter, a person may produce or process hemp.

(b) Notwithstanding the requirements of this chapter, the possession, purchase, sale, transportation and use of hemp and hemp products by any person is allowable except as provided in W.S. 11-51-103(f) and 14-3-310.

#### **11-51-103. Licensing; prohibited activities.**

(a) No person shall produce or process hemp unless the person has obtained a license from the department on a form provided by the department.

(b) The application for a license under this section shall include:

(i) The name and address of the applicant;

(ii) The physical address and legal description of all land and property where the production or processing will occur;

(iii) A statement that the applicant has not been convicted of or pled nolo contendere to a controlled substance felony within the past ten (10) years, or in the event the applicant is not an individual, a statement that no member, principal, officer or director of the applicant has been convicted of or pled nolo contendere to a controlled substance felony;

(iv) Authorization for reasonable access by the department for inspections and verifications related to production or processing activities for which a licensee shall be assessed fees under W.S. 11-51-104(a); and

(v) Verification that the applicant is a business entity organized under the laws of Wyoming or a Wyoming resident, as defined by rule of the department.

(c) The department shall issue a license, or renewal thereof, which is valid for one (1) year if:

(i) The requirements of subsection (b) of this section are met including that the applicant has not been convicted of or pled nolo contendere to a controlled substance felony within the past ten (10) years; and

(ii) Seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00) is received for each annual license or renewal application. This fee shall be reduced to five hundred dollars (\$500.00) for a nonprofit or educational organization.

(d) Licenses under this section may authorize producing hemp and processing hemp products at more than one (1) location for the same licensee.

(e) Any person possessing hemp or hemp products only for the purpose of testing THC levels may, but shall not be required to, obtain a license under this chapter.

(f) No person or licensee shall:

(i) Produce, process or sell hemp or hemp products containing more than three-tenths of one percent (0.3%) THC on a dry weight basis when using post-decarboxylation or another similarly reliable testing method;

(ii) Add, alter, insert or otherwise include any synthetic substance into hemp or hemp products produced, processed or sold in accordance with this chapter.

#### **11-51-104. Enforcement; fees; penalties.**

(a) The department shall perform inspections and provide chemical sampling and analysis of production or processing activities by licensees to determine compliance with this

chapter. The department may require verification of effective disposal by licensees of hemp or hemp products that contain synthetic substances or that contain in excess of three-tenths of one percent (0.3%) THC on a dry weight basis. For any sample, analysis or verification conducted under this subsection, the department shall assess the licensee fees as established by rule of the department, not to exceed the following:

(i) Two hundred dollars (\$200.00) per sample conducted by the department;

(ii) Two hundred dollars (\$200.00) per analysis conducted by the department;

(iii) Two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00) for verification of effective disposal of hemp or hemp products that contain synthetic substances or that contain in excess of three-tenths of one percent (0.3%) THC on a dry weight basis.

(b) Except as provided in subsection (e) of this section, any licensee who violates any provision of this chapter or any regulation promulgated pursuant to this chapter shall be subject to a corrective action plan. The corrective action plan may include reporting requirements, additional inspections, suspension of a license, steps necessary to restore a license, requirements related to disposal of hemp or hemp products that contain in excess of three-tenths of one percent (0.3%) THC on a dry weight basis or providing notice of the violation to the licensee's known creditors. The plan may require rendering THC inaccessible by using hemp or hemp products as a soil amendment material or by destruction of the hemp or hemp product as authorized by rule of the department.

(c) Any person who intentionally violates this chapter is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not more than seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00), imprisonment for not more than six (6) months, or both.

(d) If any person has three (3) or more violations of this chapter or any regulation promulgated pursuant to this chapter within five (5) years, the department shall revoke the license and the person shall be ineligible for licensure under this chapter for five (5) years.

(e) Any person who violates this chapter by producing, processing or selling hemp or hemp products containing any

synthetic substance shall be ineligible for licensure under this chapter.

**11-51-105. Rules; agreements; research activities.**

(a) The department shall adopt rules necessary to implement the provisions of this chapter.

(b) The department may enter into agreements with tribal governments related to hemp production and the processing of hemp products.

(c) The department, the University of Wyoming and Wyoming community colleges may produce or process hemp for research purposes.

**11-51-106. Disposition of fees.**

All fees collected under this chapter shall be deposited with the state treasurer in a separate account which is continuously appropriated to the department for the administration of this chapter.

**11-51-107. Exception if this chapter is not implemented.**

Nothing in this chapter shall preclude any person from applying for and receiving authorization to produce and process hemp from another authorized entity if the department does not receive authority to do so or is otherwise not implementing this chapter.

**CHAPTER 52 - SMALL BUSINESS EMERGENCY BRIDGE LOAN PROGRAM**

**11-52-101. Definitions.**

(a) As used in this chapter:

(i) "Office" means the office of state lands and investments;

(ii) "Financial institution" means a bank or credit union having a place of business within this state and that is chartered under state or federal law;

(iii) "Program" means the small business emergency bridge loan program created in this chapter;



(iv) "Director" means the director of the office of state lands and investments.

**11-52-102. Small business emergency bridge loan program; eligibility; requirements; account.**

(a) The small business emergency bridge loan program is hereby created to provide short-term bridge loans to Wyoming businesses after declared natural disasters.

(b) The office of state lands and investments shall administer the program. The state loan and investment board shall:

(i) Promulgate any rules necessary to implement the program;

(ii) Establish a process by which financial institutions may register to administer and process emergency bridge loans issued under the program;

(iii) Develop an application for emergency bridge loans, including specifying the documentation required to apply, and provide applications to participating financial institutions for distribution;

(iv) Review all applications and recommendations from financial institutions to ensure that emergency bridge loans are approved and made in accordance with this chapter;

(v) Oversee the disbursement and repayment of funds from emergency bridge loans.

(c) Subject to available funding, small business emergency bridge loans shall be made and disbursed in accordance with all of the following:

(i) Before bridge loans shall be available under this chapter, the governor shall declare that a natural disaster has occurred and shall designate the counties in which the natural disaster has occurred. For purposes of this paragraph, the governor may declare a natural disaster for purposes of making loans available under this section upon the failure of infrastructure, including but not limited to roads, bridges, dams and irrigation infrastructure. Upon this declaration, businesses located in the designated counties in which the

natural disaster has been declared may apply for emergency bridge loans under this chapter;

(ii) Emergency bridge loans shall be made only to businesses that:

(A) Are physically located and doing business in Wyoming and are physically located within the area in which the governor has declared that a natural disaster has occurred;

(B) Were established and in operation before the declared natural disaster occurred;

(C) Have one (1) or more persons who own not less than fifty percent (50%) of the business, who can apply for the loan and who shall serve as guarantor for the loan. Any person or persons applying for a loan under this chapter for a business shall have a credit score of not less than five hundred fifty (550) and shall not be on probation or parole at the time of application;

(D) Not be engaged in the business of loan packaging, offering or providing short-term rentals, speculation, multi-sales distribution, gaming, investment or lending or any activity that violates state or federal law.

(iii) Applications for emergency bridge loans shall be filed with a financial institution registered with the office to participate in the program. Upon receipt of a complete application and all required documentation, the financial institution shall review the application and documentation to determine whether the business qualifies for an emergency bridge loan under this chapter and shall forward a recommendation to the office whether to approve or reject the loan and any terms or conditions that should be included for the loan;

(iv) Upon receipt of a recommendation from a financial institution, the office shall, not later than five (5) business days after receiving the recommendation, review the recommendation and ensure that the applicant qualifies for a loan. Upon determining that an applicant qualifies under this chapter, the director may approve the application and, if approved, shall disburse funds from the account created in subsection (f) of this section to the financial institution for disbursement to the loan applicant or, if requested by the loan applicant or if the financial institution is unable to accept the funds, for disbursement directly to the loan applicant, and

specify any terms and conditions that shall be included as part of the loan agreement. Loans approved by the director shall not require subsequent approval by the state loan and investment board.

(d) Emergency bridge loans issued under this chapter shall:

(i) Require an origination fee of two percent (2%) of the loan amount, to be distributed to the financial institution for processing the loan. The office shall pay one percent (1%) of the origination fee from funds available in the account created in subsection (f) of this section. The loan applicant shall pay the remaining one percent (1%) of the origination fee from loan proceeds. For purposes of this paragraph, the office may require an additional origination fee to be paid by the applicant for deposit in the account created by subsection (f) of this section if the additional fee is necessary to account for a decreased amount of investment earnings as a result of the emergency bridge loan program;

(ii) Not exceed seven hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$750,000.00) for each business applying under this chapter;

(iii) Be secured by insurance proceeds or other anticipated funds that the business will receive as a result of the natural disaster or other land, equipment or assets owned by the business;

(iv) Be expended only for any business purposes, which may include, but not limited to, fencing repair, the replacement of livestock, the replacement of buildings or shelters, business vehicles, inventory replacement, equipment damaged or destroyed in the natural disaster, the leasing of land for business purposes, necessary trucking and transportation expenses and temporary facilities for the business to operate;

(v) Not be expended to expand the business's operations or to purchase additional property or equipment that the business did not have before the natural disaster;

(vi) Contain repayment terms, provided that:

(A) Full repayment shall occur not later than three (3) years after the issuance of the loan;

(B) Interest shall be charged on the loan at a rate not to exceed zero percent (0%) plus the interest rate earned on pooled fund investments in the previous fiscal year. The interest rate specified in this subparagraph shall be reduced to account for investment earnings and the rate of return on investments of the small business emergency bridge loan account created in subsection (f) of this section.

(e) Each business receiving a loan under this chapter shall make repayments to the office. Upon receiving payments, the office shall deposit the funds received, including interest, in the small business emergency bridge loan account created in subsection (f) of this section.

(f) There is created the small business emergency bridge loan account. Funds within the account shall be used only to provide emergency bridge loans under this chapter, origination fees specified in this chapter and any administrative costs associated with operating the program. The state treasurer shall invest funds within the account in accordance with law, and all earnings from the account shall be deposited in the account. The office may accept grants, gifts or other funds for deposit in the account. Any grants, gifts or other funds accepted under this subsection shall first be expended to reduce, on a pro rata basis, the interest that applicants are required to pay under this section. Funds in the account are continuously appropriated to the office to be expended only in accordance with this chapter.

(g) Not later than October 1 of each year, the office shall annually review the program and report to the joint appropriations committee, the joint agriculture, state and public lands and water resources interim committee and the state loan and investment board on the loans made under the program, all outstanding loan commitments, repayments received and the balance of the account created in subsection (f) of this section.

(h) The director of the office of state lands and investments, with approval from the governor, is authorized to borrow from the legislative stabilization reserve account up to twenty-five million dollars (\$25,000,000.00) as necessary to meet funding requirements for qualifying loans under this section. Any loan proceeds shall be deposited into the small business emergency bridge loan account. Interest charged on the amounts borrowed shall be zero percent (0%). The director of the office of state lands and investments shall report to the joint

appropriations committee, the president of the senate and the speaker of the house of representatives immediately upon exercise of this loan authority. The director of the office of state lands and investments, after consultation with the state auditor, shall include an appropriation request in each biennial budget and supplemental budget request in an amount equal to the lesser of twenty-five million dollars (\$25,000,000.00) or the outstanding loan balance until all loans from the legislative stabilization reserve account to the emergency bridge loan account are repaid in full.