

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0138

Game warden authority.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Burns, Deegan, McMurtrey,  
Parady, Shivler, Ross and Wasserburger and  
Senator(s) Harris, Kinnison and Schiffer

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to game and fish; conforming provisions  
2 pertaining to dogs running or threatening big game animals;  
3 providing for the arrest and citation of owners of dogs  
4 harassing big game animals as specified; imposing  
5 penalties; and providing for an effective date.

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

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9 **Section 1.** W.S. 11-31-301(d) and 23-3-109(b) and by  
10 creating a new subsection (c) are amended to read:

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12 **11-31-301. Public nuisance; notice; penalties; rules**  
13 **and regulations; animal control districts and officers.**

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15 (d) ~~A dog in the act of running or injuring big game~~  
16 ~~animals may be killed by a county sheriff, his deputy or~~

1 ~~any other peace officer.~~ A dog injuring or killing  
2 livestock may be killed by the owner of the livestock or  
3 his agent or any peace officer.

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5 **23-3-109. Use of dogs; dogs injuring big or trophy**  
6 **game animals may be killed; citation of owners of dogs**  
7 **harassing game animals; penalties.**

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9 (b) In cases where big game animals have been  
10 injured or are being threatened with immediate injury by  
11 dogs, ~~the game warden~~ a peace officer may kill such dog or  
12 dogs where the vicious character of the dog or dogs is  
13 manifest.

14

15 (c) A peace officer may arrest or issue a summons to  
16 the owner of any dog injuring or threatening a big game  
17 animal with immediate injury, unless the dog has been  
18 trained, and was attempting, to protect livestock. A first  
19 conviction under this subsection is punishable by a fine  
20 imposed for an 11<sup>th</sup> degree misdemeanor. A second and each  
21 subsequent conviction under this subsection is punishable  
22 by a fine and imprisonment imposed for a 10<sup>th</sup> degree  
23 misdemeanor.

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1       **Section 2.** This act is effective July 1, 2002.

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(END)