

ANIMAL PROTECTION LAWS OF WYOMING

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This chapter contains Wyoming's general animal protection and related statutes with an effective date on or before September 1, 2017. It begins with a detailed overview of the provisions contained in these laws, followed by the full text of the statutes themselves. The various provisions are organized into categories. Within the first thirteen of these categories, the relevant part of each statute is italicized. Category 14 provides a non-italicized version of each of the previously referenced statutes, in numerical order. The penalties and related provisions for categories 12 and 13 are generally located within each of those respective sections.

Wyoming may employ similar provisions within other non-animal-specific criminal and civil statutes; may have other more specific statutes in addition to those included; and may have a variety of animal-related regulations in effect. Because the law is continually evolving, always review an official source for the most current language of any statute.

WYOMING

<p>1. <u>GENERAL PROHIBITIONS</u> *</p>	<p>(1) Cruel treatment, neglect, abandonment WYO. STAT. ANN. § 6-3-203(a),(b)</p> <p>(2) Cruelly beating, torturing, tormenting, injuring or mutilating an animal resulting in its death or required euthanasia WYO. STAT. ANN. § 6-3-203(n)</p> <p>(3) Household pet animal cruelty WYO. STAT. ANN. § 6-3-203(p)</p>
<p><i>Animals Covered in Definition</i></p>	<p>“Livestock animal” means “[a]ny bovine, including domestic bison, equine, swine, sheep, goat, domesticated camelid animal, ratite bird, rabbit or poultry”; “[a]ny animal used or harvested for any good and proper purpose including but not limited to food, fiber, fur, leather, medical research and byproducts”; or “[a]ny animal used or trained for work, sport, exhibit or entertainment.” WYO. STAT. ANN. § 11-29-101(a)(vi)</p>
<p><i>Classification of Crimes</i></p>	<p>(1), (3) [1st offense]: Misdemeanor</p> <p>[Subsequent offenses]: High misdemeanor</p> <p>(2) Felony</p>

WYOMING *continued*

<p>2. <u>MAXIMUM PENALTIES</u> **</p>	<p>(1), (3) [1st offense]: 6 months imprisonment <i>and/or</i> \$750 fine WYO. STAT. ANN. § 6-3-203(e)</p> <p>[Subsequent offenses]: 1 year imprisonment <i>and/or</i> \$5,000 fine WYO. STAT. ANN. § 6-3-203(e)</p> <p>(2) 2 years imprisonment <i>and/or</i> \$5,000 fine WYO. STAT. ANN. § 6-3-203(n)</p>
<p>3. <u>EXEMPTIONS</u> ***</p>	<p>3, 4, 7, 9 WYO. STAT. ANN. § 6-3-203(m)</p> <p>1, 4, 5, 7 WYO. STAT. ANN. § 11-29-115</p>
<p>4. <u>COUNSELING / EVALUATIONS</u> ^H</p>	<p>-----</p>
<p>5. <u>PROTECTIVE ORDERS</u> ^H</p>	<p>-----</p>

WYOMING *continued*

6. RESTITUTION / REIMBURSEMENT OF COSTS / BONDING & LIENS ^H

A court may require a defendant convicted of cruelty to animals to pay all reasonable costs of care for seized animals.

WYO. STAT. ANN. § 6-3-203(j)(i)

State cruelty to household pet animals protection account is established. Funds in the account are continuously appropriated to the attorney general to reimburse county law enforcement agencies for eligible expenses.

WYO. STAT. ANN. § 6-3-203(o)

Mandatory restitution for injured police dog, fire dog, search and rescue dog, or police horse.

WYO. STAT. ANN. § 6-5-211(a)

Local government or livestock board shall have a lien on cruelly treated livestock animals that are seized.

WYO. STAT. ANN. § 11-29-108

Costs of care is a lien on livestock animal.

WYO. STAT. ANN. § 11-29-109

A person entitled to a lien may dispose of the animal at auction to enforce the lien.

WYO. STAT. ANN. § 11-29-110

A bond for costs of care for an impounded livestock animal is required; owner of animal is liable for all costs associated with final disposition of animal when bond is not posted or renewed.

WYO. STAT. ANN. § 11-29-114(b)

A court shall require defendant to cover veterinary costs or costs to retrain or replace injured service animal.

WYO. STAT. ANN. § 35-13-206(b)

WYOMING *continued*

<p>7. <u>SEIZURE / ON-SITE SUPERVISION</u></p>	<p>Any peace officer, agent or officer of the livestock board may seize cruelly treated animals that are drawing or in any vehicle. WYO. STAT. ANN. § 11-29-108</p> <p>Any peace officer, agent or officer of the board may take charge of any abandoned, neglected, or cruelly treated livestock animal. WYO. STAT. ANN. § 11-29-109</p> <p>Any peace officer, agent or officer of the livestock board may take possession of any livestock animal determined to be cruelly treated by a veterinarian. WYO. STAT. ANN. § 11-29-114(a)</p>
<p>8. <u>FORFEITURE / POSSESSION</u> ^H</p>	<p>Court may order forfeiture of cruelly treated animal upon conviction of animal's owner. WYO. STAT. ANN. § 6-3-203(h)</p> <p>Court may prohibit future ownership of animals. WYO. STAT. ANN. § 6-3-203(j)(ii)</p> <p>If a bond for costs of care for an impounded livestock animal is not posted or renewed, the animal is forfeited. WYO. STAT. ANN. § 11-29-114(c),(d)</p>
<p>9. <u>CROSS ENFORCEMENT / REPORTING</u></p>	<p>-----</p>
<p>10. <u>VETERINARIAN REPORTING / IMMUNITY</u></p>	<p>-----</p>
<p>11. <u>LAW ENFORCEMENT POLICIES</u></p>	<p>Any peace officer, agent or officer of the livestock board may lawfully interfere to prevent the perpetration of any act of cruelty upon any livestock animal in his presence. WYO. STAT. ANN. § 11-29-106</p>

WYOMING *continued*

12. <u>SEXUAL ASSAULT</u>	-----
13. <u>FIGHTING</u>	<p>Various dog fighting and fowl fighting activities are felonies. WYO. STAT. ANN. § 6-3-203(c),(g),(n)</p> <p>The training of dogs or raptors or the use of them in hunting; and the use of dogs in the management of livestock are activities not in violation of this provision. WYO. STAT. ANN. § 6-3-203(f)</p>
<i>Other Felony Provisions Affecting Animals</i>¹	<p>Injuring or killing a police dog, fire dog, search and rescue dog, or police horse WYO. STAT. ANN. § 6-5-211</p>
<i>NOTES</i>	<p>Injuring or killing a service dog WYO. STAT. ANN. § 35-13-206</p>

* States may have other more specific statutes in addition to the general animal protection statutes referenced in this table.

** Despite statutory maximums, states often employ sentencing guidelines that may significantly alter the allowable sentence.

*** Exemptions: 1-veterinary practice, 2-research animals, 3-wildlife, 4-traditional farm animal husbandry practices, 5-slaughter, 6-pest control, 7-rodeo, 8-zoos/circuses, 9-other.

H This table generally references only those provisions that are within each state's animal protection statutes. States may employ similar provisions within other non-animal-specific criminal and civil statutes, and may also have a variety of animal-related regulations in effect.

I This list is not exhaustive; states may authorize felony penalties for other crimes involving animals not included in this table.

1. GENERAL PROHIBITIONS

WYO. STAT. ANN. § 6-3-203 (2017). Cruelty to animals; penalties; limitation on manner of destruction.

(a) A person commits cruelty to animals if he knowingly and with intent to cause death, injury or undue suffering:

(i) Overrides an animal or drives an animal when overloaded; or

(ii) Unnecessarily or cruelly beats, tortures, torments, injures, mutilates or attempts to kill an animal; or

(iii) Carries an animal in a manner that poses undue risk of injury or death.

(b) A person commits cruelty to animals if he has the charge and custody of any animal and unnecessarily fails to provide it with the proper food, drink or protection from the weather, or cruelly abandons the animal, or in the case of immediate, obvious, serious illness or injury, fails to provide the animal with appropriate care.

(c) A person commits aggravated cruelty to animals if he:

(i) Repealed by Laws 1987, ch. 91, § 2.

(ii) Owns, possesses, keeps or trains fowls or dogs with the intent to allow the dog or fowl to engage in an exhibition of fighting with another dog or fowl;

(iii) Repealed by Laws 1987, ch. 91, § 2.

(iv) For gain causes or allows any dog or fowl to fight with another dog or fowl;

(v) Knowingly permits any act prohibited under paragraphs (ii) or (iv) of this subsection on any premises under his charge or control; or

(vi) Promotes any act prohibited under paragraphs (ii) or (iv) of this subsection.

(vii) Shoots, poisons or otherwise intentionally acts to seriously injure or destroy any livestock or domesticated animal owned by another person while the animal is on property where the animal is authorized to be present.

(d) A person shall not destroy an animal by the use of a high-altitude decompression chamber or a carbon monoxide gas chamber utilizing a gasoline engine. This subsection is uniformly applicable to all cities and towns.

(e) Unless punishable under subsection (n) of this section, a violation of this section is 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 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.

(f) Nothing in subsection (c) of this section may be construed to prohibit:

(i) The use of dogs in the management of livestock by the owner of the livestock, his employees or agents or other persons in lawful custody of the livestock;

(ii) The use of dogs or raptors in hunting; or

(iii) The training of dogs or raptors or the use of equipment in the training of dogs or raptors for any purpose not prohibited by law;

(iv) Repealed by Laws 2000, ch. 86, § 2.

(v) Repealed by Laws 2000, ch. 86, § 2.

(vi) Repealed by Laws 2000, ch. 86, § 2.

(g) A person commits cruelty to animals if he is knowingly present at any place where an exhibition of fighting of fowls or dogs is occurring for amusement or gain.

(h) If a person convicted of a violation of this section is also the owner of the animal, the court may require the person to forfeit ownership of the animal to the county in which the person is convicted. This subsection shall not affect the interest of any secured party or other person who has not participated in the offense.

(j) In addition to any sentence and penalties imposed under subsections (e), (h) and (n) of this section, the court may:

(i) Require the defendant to pay all reasonable costs incurred in providing necessary food and water, veterinary attention and treatment for any animal affected; and

(ii) Prohibit or limit the defendant's ownership, possession or custody of animals, as the court deems appropriate.

(k) Each animal affected by the defendant's conduct may constitute a separate count for the purposes of prosecution, conviction, sentencing and penalties under this section.

(m) Nothing in subsection (a), (b) or (n) of this section shall be construed to prohibit:

- (i) A person from humanely destroying an animal;
- (ii) The use of industry accepted agricultural and livestock practices on livestock;
- (iii) Rodeo events, whether the event is performed in a rodeo, jackpot or otherwise; or
- (iv) The hunting, capture or destruction of any predatory animal or other wildlife in any manner not otherwise prohibited by law.

(n) A person commits a felony if he commits aggravated cruelty to animals as defined in subsection (c) of this section or knowingly and with intent to cause death, injury or undue suffering, cruelly beats, tortures, torments, injures or mutilates an animal resulting in the death or required euthanasia of the animal. A felony under this subsection or subsection (c) of this section is punishable by not more than two (2) years imprisonment, a fine of not more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00), or both.

(o) There is created the “cruelty to household pet animals protection account.” Funds shall be credited to the account as provided by law. Funds in the account are continuously appropriated to the attorney general to reimburse county law enforcement agencies for eligible expenses regarding household pet animal cruelty cases under subsection (p) of this section. The attorney general shall develop rules and regulations to establish eligible expenses and to determine how county law enforcement agencies will be reimbursed for the costs of any household pet animal cruelty case, in an amount not to exceed ninety percent (90%) in any particular case. Any reimbursement under this subsection shall be contingent upon available funding and upon a showing that the agency has made reasonable efforts to seek reimbursement from the offender of expenses incurred by the agency, as permitted by law. All funds in the account may be used for and are continuously appropriated for eligible expenses authorized to be made under this subsection. The cruelty to household pet animals protection account shall be a permanent, nonreversion account within the state auditor’s office. As used in this subsection and subsection (p) of this section, “household pet” means any privately owned dog, cat, rabbit, guinea pig, hamster, mouse, gerbil, ferret, bird, fish, reptile, amphibian, invertebrate or any other species of domesticated animal sold, transferred or retained for the purpose of being kept as a pet in or near a house. “Household pet” shall not include any livestock as defined in W.S. 23–1–102(a)(xvi).

(p) A person commits household pet animal cruelty if he:

- (i) Keeps any household pet in a manner that results in chronic or repeated serious physical harm to the household pet; or*
- (ii) Keeps the household pet confined in conditions which constitute a public health hazard.*

WYO. STAT. ANN. § 11-29-101 (2017). Definitions.

§ 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) "This act" means W.S. 11-29-101 through 11-29-115.

2. PENALTIES

WYO. STAT. ANN. § 6-3-203 (2017). Cruelty to animals; penalties; limitation on manner of destruction.

(a) A person commits cruelty to animals if he knowingly and with intent to cause death, injury or undue suffering:

- (i) Overrides an animal or drives an animal when overloaded; or
- (ii) Unnecessarily or cruelly beats, tortures, torments, injures, mutilates or attempts to kill an animal; or
- (iii) Carries an animal in a manner that poses undue risk of injury or death.

(b) A person commits cruelty to animals if he has the charge and custody of any animal and unnecessarily fails to provide it with the proper food, drink or protection from the weather, or cruelly abandons the animal, or in the case of immediate, obvious, serious illness or injury, fails to provide the animal with appropriate care.

(c) A person commits aggravated cruelty to animals if he:

- (i) Repealed by Laws 1987, ch. 91, § 2.
- (ii) Owns, possesses, keeps or trains fowls or dogs with the intent to allow the dog or fowl to engage in an exhibition of fighting with another dog or fowl;
- (iii) Repealed by Laws 1987, ch. 91, § 2.
- (iv) For gain causes or allows any dog or fowl to fight with another dog or fowl;
- (v) Knowingly permits any act prohibited under paragraphs (ii) or (iv) of this subsection on any premises under his charge or control; or
- (vi) Promotes any act prohibited under paragraphs (ii) or (iv) of this subsection.
- (vii) Shoots, poisons or otherwise intentionally acts to seriously injure or destroy any livestock or domesticated animal owned by another person while the animal is on property where the animal is authorized to be present.

(d) A person shall not destroy an animal by the use of a high-altitude decompression chamber or a carbon monoxide gas chamber utilizing a gasoline engine. This subsection is uniformly applicable to all cities and towns.

(e) Unless punishable under subsection (n) of this section, a violation of this section is 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 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.

(f) Nothing in subsection (c) of this section may be construed to prohibit:

(i) The use of dogs in the management of livestock by the owner of the livestock, his employees or agents or other persons in lawful custody of the livestock;

(ii) The use of dogs or raptors in hunting; or

(iii) The training of dogs or raptors or the use of equipment in the training of dogs or raptors for any purpose not prohibited by law;

(iv) Repealed by Laws 2000, ch. 86, § 2.

(v) Repealed by Laws 2000, ch. 86, § 2.

(vi) Repealed by Laws 2000, ch. 86, § 2.

(g) A person commits cruelty to animals if he is knowingly present at any place where an exhibition of fighting of fowls or dogs is occurring for amusement or gain.

(h) If a person convicted of a violation of this section is also the owner of the animal, the court may require the person to forfeit ownership of the animal to the county in which the person is convicted. This subsection shall not affect the interest of any secured party or other person who has not participated in the offense.

(j) In addition to any sentence and penalties imposed under subsections (e), (h) and (n) of this section, the court may:

(i) Require the defendant to pay all reasonable costs incurred in providing necessary food and water, veterinary attention and treatment for any animal affected; and

(ii) Prohibit or limit the defendant's ownership, possession or custody of animals, as the court deems appropriate.

(k) Each animal affected by the defendant's conduct may constitute a separate count for the purposes of prosecution, conviction, sentencing and penalties under this section.

(m) Nothing in subsection (a), (b) or (n) of this section shall be construed to prohibit:

- (i) A person from humanely destroying an animal;
- (ii) The use of industry accepted agricultural and livestock practices on livestock;
- (iii) Rodeo events, whether the event is performed in a rodeo, jackpot or otherwise; or
- (iv) The hunting, capture or destruction of any predatory animal or other wildlife in any manner not otherwise prohibited by law.

(n) A person commits a felony if he commits aggravated cruelty to animals as defined in subsection (c) of this section or knowingly and with intent to cause death, injury or undue suffering, cruelly beats, tortures, torments, injures or mutilates an animal resulting in the death or required euthanasia of the animal. *A felony under this subsection or subsection (c) of this section is punishable by not more than two (2) years imprisonment, a fine of not more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00), or both.*

(o) There is created the “cruelty to household pet animals protection account.” Funds shall be credited to the account as provided by law. Funds in the account are continuously appropriated to the attorney general to reimburse county law enforcement agencies for eligible expenses regarding household pet animal cruelty cases under subsection (p) of this section. The attorney general shall develop rules and regulations to establish eligible expenses and to determine how county law enforcement agencies will be reimbursed for the costs of any household pet animal cruelty case, in an amount not to exceed ninety percent (90%) in any particular case. Any reimbursement under this subsection shall be contingent upon available funding and upon a showing that the agency has made reasonable efforts to seek reimbursement from the offender of expenses incurred by the agency, as permitted by law. All funds in the account may be used for and are continuously appropriated for eligible expenses authorized to be made under this subsection. The cruelty to household pet animals protection account shall be a permanent, nonreversion account within the state auditor’s office. As used in this subsection and subsection (p) of this section, “household pet” means any privately owned dog, cat, rabbit, guinea pig, hamster, mouse, gerbil, ferret, bird, fish, reptile, amphibian, invertebrate or any other species of domesticated animal sold, transferred or retained for the purpose of being kept as a pet in or near a house. “Household pet” shall not include any livestock as defined in W.S. 23–1–102(a)(xvi).

(p) A person commits household pet animal cruelty if he:

- (i) Keeps any household pet in a manner that results in chronic or repeated serious physical harm to the household pet; or
- (ii) Keeps the household pet confined in conditions which constitute a public health hazard.

3. EXEMPTIONS

WYO. STAT. ANN. § 6-3-203 (2017). Cruelty to animals; penalties; limitation on manner of destruction.

(a) A person commits cruelty to animals if he knowingly and with intent to cause death, injury or undue suffering:

- (i) Overrides an animal or drives an animal when overloaded; or
- (ii) Unnecessarily or cruelly beats, tortures, torments, injures, mutilates or attempts to kill an animal; or
- (iii) Carries an animal in a manner that poses undue risk of injury or death.

(b) A person commits cruelty to animals if he has the charge and custody of any animal and unnecessarily fails to provide it with the proper food, drink or protection from the weather, or cruelly abandons the animal, or in the case of immediate, obvious, serious illness or injury, fails to provide the animal with appropriate care.

(c) A person commits aggravated cruelty to animals if he:

- (i) Repealed by Laws 1987, ch. 91, § 2.
- (ii) Owns, possesses, keeps or trains fowls or dogs with the intent to allow the dog or fowl to engage in an exhibition of fighting with another dog or fowl;
- (iii) Repealed by Laws 1987, ch. 91, § 2.
- (iv) For gain causes or allows any dog or fowl to fight with another dog or fowl;
- (v) Knowingly permits any act prohibited under paragraphs (ii) or (iv) of this subsection on any premises under his charge or control; or
- (vi) Promotes any act prohibited under paragraphs (ii) or (iv) of this subsection.
- (vii) Shoots, poisons or otherwise intentionally acts to seriously injure or destroy any livestock or domesticated animal owned by another person while the animal is on property where the animal is authorized to be present.

(d) A person shall not destroy an animal by the use of a high-altitude decompression chamber or a carbon monoxide gas chamber utilizing a gasoline engine. This subsection is uniformly applicable to all cities and towns.

(e) Unless punishable under subsection (n) of this section, a violation of this section is 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 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.

(f) Nothing in subsection (c) of this section may be construed to prohibit:

(i) The use of dogs in the management of livestock by the owner of the livestock, his employees or agents or other persons in lawful custody of the livestock;

(ii) The use of dogs or raptors in hunting; or

(iii) The training of dogs or raptors or the use of equipment in the training of dogs or raptors for any purpose not prohibited by law;

(iv) Repealed by Laws 2000, ch. 86, § 2.

(v) Repealed by Laws 2000, ch. 86, § 2.

(vi) Repealed by Laws 2000, ch. 86, § 2.

(g) A person commits cruelty to animals if he is knowingly present at any place where an exhibition of fighting of fowls or dogs is occurring for amusement or gain.

(h) If a person convicted of a violation of this section is also the owner of the animal, the court may require the person to forfeit ownership of the animal to the county in which the person is convicted. This subsection shall not affect the interest of any secured party or other person who has not participated in the offense.

(j) In addition to any sentence and penalties imposed under subsections (e), (h) and (n) of this section, the court may:

(i) Require the defendant to pay all reasonable costs incurred in providing necessary food and water, veterinary attention and treatment for any animal affected; and

(ii) Prohibit or limit the defendant's ownership, possession or custody of animals, as the court deems appropriate.

(k) Each animal affected by the defendant's conduct may constitute a separate count for the purposes of prosecution, conviction, sentencing and penalties under this section.

(m) Nothing in subsection (a), (b) or (n) of this section shall be construed to prohibit:

- (i) A person from humanely destroying an animal;*
- (ii) The use of industry accepted agricultural and livestock practices on livestock;*
- (iii) Rodeo events, whether the event is performed in a rodeo, jackpot or otherwise; or*
- (iv) The hunting, capture or destruction of any predatory animal or other wildlife in any manner not otherwise prohibited by law.*

(n) A person commits a felony if he commits aggravated cruelty to animals as defined in subsection (c) of this section or knowingly and with intent to cause death, injury or undue suffering, cruelly beats, tortures, torments, injures or mutilates an animal resulting in the death or required euthanasia of the animal. A felony under this subsection or subsection (c) of this section is punishable by not more than two (2) years imprisonment, a fine of not more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00), or both.

(o) There is created the “cruelty to household pet animals protection account.” Funds shall be credited to the account as provided by law. Funds in the account are continuously appropriated to the attorney general to reimburse county law enforcement agencies for eligible expenses regarding household pet animal cruelty cases under subsection (p) of this section. The attorney general shall develop rules and regulations to establish eligible expenses and to determine how county law enforcement agencies will be reimbursed for the costs of any household pet animal cruelty case, in an amount not to exceed ninety percent (90%) in any particular case. Any reimbursement under this subsection shall be contingent upon available funding and upon a showing that the agency has made reasonable efforts to seek reimbursement from the offender of expenses incurred by the agency, as permitted by law. All funds in the account may be used for and are continuously appropriated for eligible expenses authorized to be made under this subsection. The cruelty to household pet animals protection account shall be a permanent, nonreversion account within the state auditor’s office. As used in this subsection and subsection (p) of this section, “household pet” means any privately owned dog, cat, rabbit, guinea pig, hamster, mouse, gerbil, ferret, bird, fish, reptile, amphibian, invertebrate or any other species of domesticated animal sold, transferred or retained for the purpose of being kept as a pet in or near a house. “Household pet” shall not include any livestock as defined in W.S. 23–1–102(a)(xvi).

(p) A person commits household pet animal cruelty if he:

- (i) Keeps any household pet in a manner that results in chronic or repeated serious physical harm to the household pet; or
- (ii) Keeps the household pet confined in conditions which constitute a public health hazard.

WYO. STAT. ANN. § 11-29-115 (2017). 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.

4. COUNSELING / EVALUATIONS

5. PROTECTIVE ORDERS

6. RESTITUTION / REIMBURSEMENT OF COSTS / BONDING & LIENS

WYO. STAT. ANN. § 6-3-203 (2017). Cruelty to animals; penalties; limitation on manner of destruction.

(a) A person commits cruelty to animals if he knowingly and with intent to cause death, injury or undue suffering:

- (i) Overrides an animal or drives an animal when overloaded; or
- (ii) Unnecessarily or cruelly beats, tortures, torments, injures, mutilates or attempts to kill an animal; or
- (iii) Carries an animal in a manner that poses undue risk of injury or death.

(b) A person commits cruelty to animals if he has the charge and custody of any animal and unnecessarily fails to provide it with the proper food, drink or protection from the weather, or cruelly abandons the animal, or in the case of immediate, obvious, serious illness or injury, fails to provide the animal with appropriate care.

(c) A person commits aggravated cruelty to animals if he:

- (i) Repealed by Laws 1987, ch. 91, § 2.
- (ii) Owns, possesses, keeps or trains fowls or dogs with the intent to allow the dog or fowl to engage in an exhibition of fighting with another dog or fowl;
- (iii) Repealed by Laws 1987, ch. 91, § 2.
- (iv) For gain causes or allows any dog or fowl to fight with another dog or fowl;
- (v) Knowingly permits any act prohibited under paragraphs (ii) or (iv) of this subsection on any premises under his charge or control; or
- (vi) Promotes any act prohibited under paragraphs (ii) or (iv) of this subsection.
- (vii) Shoots, poisons or otherwise intentionally acts to seriously injure or destroy any livestock or domesticated animal owned by another person while the animal is on property where the animal is authorized to be present.

(d) A person shall not destroy an animal by the use of a high-altitude decompression chamber or a carbon monoxide gas chamber utilizing a gasoline engine. This subsection is uniformly applicable to all cities and towns.

(e) Unless punishable under subsection (n) of this section, a violation of this section is 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 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.

(f) Nothing in subsection (c) of this section may be construed to prohibit:

(i) The use of dogs in the management of livestock by the owner of the livestock, his employees or agents or other persons in lawful custody of the livestock;

(ii) The use of dogs or raptors in hunting; or

(iii) The training of dogs or raptors or the use of equipment in the training of dogs or raptors for any purpose not prohibited by law;

(iv) Repealed by Laws 2000, ch. 86, § 2.

(v) Repealed by Laws 2000, ch. 86, § 2.

(vi) Repealed by Laws 2000, ch. 86, § 2.

(g) A person commits cruelty to animals if he is knowingly present at any place where an exhibition of fighting of fowls or dogs is occurring for amusement or gain.

(h) If a person convicted of a violation of this section is also the owner of the animal, the court may require the person to forfeit ownership of the animal to the county in which the person is convicted. This subsection shall not affect the interest of any secured party or other person who has not participated in the offense.

(j) In addition to any sentence and penalties imposed under subsections (e), (h) and (n) of this section, the court may:

(i) Require the defendant to pay all reasonable costs incurred in providing necessary food and water, veterinary attention and treatment for any animal affected; and

(ii) Prohibit or limit the defendant's ownership, possession or custody of animals, as the court deems appropriate.

(k) Each animal affected by the defendant's conduct may constitute a separate count for the purposes of prosecution, conviction, sentencing and penalties under this section.

(m) Nothing in subsection (a), (b) or (n) of this section shall be construed to prohibit:

- (i) A person from humanely destroying an animal;
- (ii) The use of industry accepted agricultural and livestock practices on livestock;
- (iii) Rodeo events, whether the event is performed in a rodeo, jackpot or otherwise; or
- (iv) The hunting, capture or destruction of any predatory animal or other wildlife in any manner not otherwise prohibited by law.

(n) A person commits a felony if he commits aggravated cruelty to animals as defined in subsection (c) of this section or knowingly and with intent to cause death, injury or undue suffering, cruelly beats, tortures, torments, injures or mutilates an animal resulting in the death or required euthanasia of the animal. A felony under this subsection or subsection (c) of this section is punishable by not more than two (2) years imprisonment, a fine of not more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00), or both.

(o) There is created the “cruelty to household pet animals protection account.” Funds shall be credited to the account as provided by law. Funds in the account are continuously appropriated to the attorney general to reimburse county law enforcement agencies for eligible expenses regarding household pet animal cruelty cases under subsection (p) of this section. The attorney general shall develop rules and regulations to establish eligible expenses and to determine how county law enforcement agencies will be reimbursed for the costs of any household pet animal cruelty case, in an amount not to exceed ninety percent (90%) in any particular case. Any reimbursement under this subsection shall be contingent upon available funding and upon a showing that the agency has made reasonable efforts to seek reimbursement from the offender of expenses incurred by the agency, as permitted by law. All funds in the account may be used for and are continuously appropriated for eligible expenses authorized to be made under this subsection. The cruelty to household pet animals protection account shall be a permanent, nonreversion account within the state auditor’s office. As used in this subsection and subsection (p) of this section, “household pet” means any privately owned dog, cat, rabbit, guinea pig, hamster, mouse, gerbil, ferret, bird, fish, reptile, amphibian, invertebrate or any other species of domesticated animal sold, transferred or retained for the purpose of being kept as a pet in or near a house. “Household pet” shall not include any livestock as defined in W.S. 23–1–102(a)(xvi).

(p) A person commits household pet animal cruelty if he:

- (i) Keeps any household pet in a manner that results in chronic or repeated serious physical harm to the household pet; or
- (ii) Keeps the household pet confined in conditions which constitute a public health hazard.

WYO. STAT. ANN. § 6-5-211 (2017). Injuring or killing a police dog, fire dog, search and rescue dog or police horse prohibited; penalties.

(a) Any person who knowingly, willfully and without lawful cause or justification permanently disables or inflicts death upon any animal defined in subsection (b) of this section shall be liable for restitution by order of a court and shall be guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than ten (10) years, a fine of not more than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00), or both.

(b) As used in this section:

(i) “Police dog” means any dog that is owned, or the service of which is employed, by a law enforcement or corrections agency for the principal purpose of aiding in the detection of criminal activity, enforcement of laws or apprehension of offenders;

(ii) “Police horse” means any horse that is owned, or the service of which is employed, by a law enforcement or corrections agency for the principal purpose of aiding in the detection of criminal activity, enforcement of laws or apprehension of offenders;

(iii) “Fire dog” means any dog that is owned, or the service of which is employed, by a fire department, a special fire district or the state fire marshal for the principal purpose of aiding in the detection of flammable materials or the investigation of fires;

(iv) “Search and rescue dog” means any search and rescue dog that is owned, or the service of which is utilized, by a fire department, a law enforcement or corrections agency, a special fire district or the state fire marshal for the principal purpose of aiding in the detection of missing persons, including persons who are lost, who are trapped under debris as a result of a natural, manmade or technological disaster or who are drowning victims

WYO. STAT. ANN. § 11-29-108 (2017). Livestock board; seized 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 as defined in W.S. 6-3-203 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 expense of the care and provision. The expense or any part remaining unpaid may be recovered by the board or local government in a civil action.*

WYO. STAT. ANN. § 11-29-109 (2017). Livestock board; care of abandoned 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 cruelly treated as defined in W.S. 6-3-203. He shall give notice to the owner, if known, and may care and provide for the livestock animal until the livestock animal is released or destroyed. *The expenses of care and provision is 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 expense for food, shelter and care is 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.*

WYO. STAT. ANN. § 11-29-110 (2017). 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.

WYO. STAT. ANN. § 11-29-114 (2017). Impoundment of animals; cost of care for animals; providing for bond.

(a) Any peace officer, agent or officer of the board may take possession of any livestock animal treated cruelly as determined by a Wyoming licensed veterinarian or veterinarian employed by the board.

(b) *The owner of the livestock animal impounded under subsection (a) of this section, and who has been cited under W.S. 6-3-203, shall be required to post a bond with the circuit court in the county where the livestock animal was impounded. The bond shall be:*

(i) In an amount the circuit court determines is sufficient to provide for the livestock animal's board, nutritional care, veterinary care and diagnostic testing for at least ninety (90) days including the day on which the livestock animal was impounded; and

(ii) Filed with the circuit court within ten (10) days after the animal is impounded.

(c) When the bond expires, if the owner of the livestock animal desires to prevent disposition of the livestock animal by the board, the owner shall post a new bond with the court as described in subsection (b) of this section.

(d) If a bond is not posted under subsection (b) or (c) of this section, the board shall dispose of the livestock animal as defined in W.S. 11-24-101(a)(iv). *The owner of the livestock animal shall be liable for all costs associated with the final disposition of the livestock animal under this subsection.*

(e) *If a bond has been posted in accordance with subsection (b) or (c) of this section, the agency employing the officer, or the board, 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.*

WYO. STAT. ANN. § 35-13-206 (2017). Injuring or killing a service dog prohibited; penalties.

(a) Any person who knowingly, willfully and without lawful cause or justification inflicts, or permits or directs any animal under his control or ownership to inflict, serious bodily harm, permanent disability or death upon any service dog as defined in W.S. 35-13-205(a)(i) animal or assistance animal is guilty of 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.

(b) *A court shall order a defendant convicted of an offense under subsection (a) of this section to make restitution to the owner of the service animal or assistance animal for:*

(i) Related veterinary or medical bills;

(ii) The cost of replacing the service animal or assistance animal or retraining an injured service animal or assistance animal; and

(iii) Any other expense reasonably incurred as a result of the offense.

7. SEIZURE / ON-SITE SUPERVISION

WYO. STAT. ANN. § 11-29-108 (2017). Livestock board; seized 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 as defined in W.S. 6-3-203 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 expense of the care and provision. The expense or any part remaining unpaid may be recovered by the board or local government in a civil action.

WYO. STAT. ANN. § 11-29-109 (2017). Livestock board; care of abandoned 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 cruelly treated as defined in W.S. 6-3-203. He shall give notice to the owner, if known, and may care and provide for the livestock animal until the livestock animal is released or destroyed. The expenses of care and provision is 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 expense for food, shelter and care is 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.

WYO. STAT. ANN. § 11-29-114 (2017). Impoundment of animals; cost of care for animals; providing for bond.

(a) Any peace officer, agent or officer of the board may take possession of any livestock animal treated cruelly as determined by a Wyoming licensed veterinarian or veterinarian employed by the board.

(b) The owner of the livestock animal impounded under subsection (a) of this section, and who has been cited under W.S. 6-3-203, shall be required to post a bond with the circuit court in the county where the livestock animal was impounded. The bond shall be:

- (i) In an amount the circuit court determines is sufficient to provide for the livestock animal's board, nutritional care, veterinary care and diagnostic testing for at least ninety (90) days including the day on which the livestock animal was impounded; and*
- (ii) Filed with the circuit court within ten (10) days after the animal is impounded.*

(c) When the bond expires, if the owner of the livestock animal desires to prevent disposition of the livestock animal by the board, the owner shall post a new bond with the court as described in subsection (b) of this section.

(d) If a bond is not posted under subsection (b) or (c) of this section, the board shall dispose of the livestock animal as defined in W.S. 11-24-101(a)(iv). The owner of the livestock animal shall be liable for all costs associated with the final disposition of the livestock animal under this subsection.

(e) If a bond has been posted in accordance with subsection (b) or (c) of this section, the agency employing the officer, or the board, 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.

8. FORFEITURE / POSSESSION

WYO. STAT. ANN. § 6-3-203 (2017). Cruelty to animals; penalties; limitation on manner of destruction.

(a) A person commits cruelty to animals if he knowingly and with intent to cause death, injury or undue suffering:

- (i) Overrides an animal or drives an animal when overloaded; or
- (ii) Unnecessarily or cruelly beats, tortures, torments, injures, mutilates or attempts to kill an animal; or
- (iii) Carries an animal in a manner that poses undue risk of injury or death.

(b) A person commits cruelty to animals if he has the charge and custody of any animal and unnecessarily fails to provide it with the proper food, drink or protection from the weather, or cruelly abandons the animal, or in the case of immediate, obvious, serious illness or injury, fails to provide the animal with appropriate care.

(c) A person commits aggravated cruelty to animals if he:

- (i) Repealed by Laws 1987, ch. 91, § 2.
- (ii) Owns, possesses, keeps or trains fowls or dogs with the intent to allow the dog or fowl to engage in an exhibition of fighting with another dog or fowl;
- (iii) Repealed by Laws 1987, ch. 91, § 2.
- (iv) For gain causes or allows any dog or fowl to fight with another dog or fowl;
- (v) Knowingly permits any act prohibited under paragraphs (ii) or (iv) of this subsection on any premises under his charge or control; or
- (vi) Promotes any act prohibited under paragraphs (ii) or (iv) of this subsection.
- (vii) Shoots, poisons or otherwise intentionally acts to seriously injure or destroy any livestock or domesticated animal owned by another person while the animal is on property where the animal is authorized to be present.

(d) A person shall not destroy an animal by the use of a high-altitude decompression chamber or a carbon monoxide gas chamber utilizing a gasoline engine. This subsection is uniformly applicable to all cities and towns.

(e) Unless punishable under subsection (n) of this section, a violation of this section is 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 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.

(f) Nothing in subsection (c) of this section may be construed to prohibit:

(i) The use of dogs in the management of livestock by the owner of the livestock, his employees or agents or other persons in lawful custody of the livestock;

(ii) The use of dogs or raptors in hunting; or

(iii) The training of dogs or raptors or the use of equipment in the training of dogs or raptors for any purpose not prohibited by law;

(iv) Repealed by Laws 2000, ch. 86, § 2.

(v) Repealed by Laws 2000, ch. 86, § 2.

(vi) Repealed by Laws 2000, ch. 86, § 2.

(g) A person commits cruelty to animals if he is knowingly present at any place where an exhibition of fighting of fowls or dogs is occurring for amusement or gain.

(h) If a person convicted of a violation of this section is also the owner of the animal, the court may require the person to forfeit ownership of the animal to the county in which the person is convicted. This subsection shall not affect the interest of any secured party or other person who has not participated in the offense.

(j) In addition to any sentence and penalties imposed under subsections (e), (h) and (n) of this section, the court may:

(i) Require the defendant to pay all reasonable costs incurred in providing necessary food and water, veterinary attention and treatment for any animal affected; and

(ii) Prohibit or limit the defendant's ownership, possession or custody of animals, as the court deems appropriate.

(k) Each animal affected by the defendant's conduct may constitute a separate count for the purposes of prosecution, conviction, sentencing and penalties under this section.

(m) Nothing in subsection (a), (b) or (n) of this section shall be construed to prohibit:

- (i) A person from humanely destroying an animal;
- (ii) The use of industry accepted agricultural and livestock practices on livestock;
- (iii) Rodeo events, whether the event is performed in a rodeo, jackpot or otherwise; or
- (iv) The hunting, capture or destruction of any predatory animal or other wildlife in any manner not otherwise prohibited by law.

(n) A person commits a felony if he commits aggravated cruelty to animals as defined in subsection (c) of this section or knowingly and with intent to cause death, injury or undue suffering, cruelly beats, tortures, torments, injures or mutilates an animal resulting in the death or required euthanasia of the animal. A felony under this subsection or subsection (c) of this section is punishable by not more than two (2) years imprisonment, a fine of not more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00), or both.

(o) There is created the “cruelty to household pet animals protection account.” Funds shall be credited to the account as provided by law. Funds in the account are continuously appropriated to the attorney general to reimburse county law enforcement agencies for eligible expenses regarding household pet animal cruelty cases under subsection (p) of this section. The attorney general shall develop rules and regulations to establish eligible expenses and to determine how county law enforcement agencies will be reimbursed for the costs of any household pet animal cruelty case, in an amount not to exceed ninety percent (90%) in any particular case. Any reimbursement under this subsection shall be contingent upon available funding and upon a showing that the agency has made reasonable efforts to seek reimbursement from the offender of expenses incurred by the agency, as permitted by law. All funds in the account may be used for and are continuously appropriated for eligible expenses authorized to be made under this subsection. The cruelty to household pet animals protection account shall be a permanent, nonreversion account within the state auditor’s office. As used in this subsection and subsection (p) of this section, “household pet” means any privately owned dog, cat, rabbit, guinea pig, hamster, mouse, gerbil, ferret, bird, fish, reptile, amphibian, invertebrate or any other species of domesticated animal sold, transferred or retained for the purpose of being kept as a pet in or near a house. “Household pet” shall not include any livestock as defined in W.S. 23–1–102(a)(xvi).

(p) A person commits household pet animal cruelty if he:

- (i) Keeps any household pet in a manner that results in chronic or repeated serious physical harm to the household pet; or
- (ii) Keeps the household pet confined in conditions which constitute a public health hazard.

WYO. STAT. ANN. § 11-29-114 (2017). Impoundment of animals; cost of care for animals; providing for bond.

(a) Any peace officer, agent or officer of the board may take possession of any livestock animal treated cruelly as determined by a Wyoming licensed veterinarian or veterinarian employed by the board.

(b) The owner of the livestock animal impounded under subsection (a) of this section, and who has been cited under W.S. 6-3-203, shall be required to post a bond with the circuit court in the county where the livestock animal was impounded. The bond shall be:

(i) In an amount the circuit court determines is sufficient to provide for the livestock animal's board, nutritional care, veterinary care and diagnostic testing for at least ninety (90) days including the day on which the livestock animal was impounded; and

(ii) Filed with the circuit court within ten (10) days after the animal is impounded.

(c) When the bond expires, if the owner of the livestock animal desires to prevent disposition of the livestock animal by the board, the owner shall post a new bond with the court as described in subsection (b) of this section.

(d) If a bond is not posted under subsection (b) or (c) of this section, the board shall dispose of the livestock animal as defined in W.S. 11-24-101(a)(iv). The owner of the livestock animal shall be liable for all costs associated with the final disposition of the livestock animal under this subsection.

(e) If a bond has been posted in accordance with subsection (b) or (c) of this section, the agency employing the officer, or the board, 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.

9. CROSS ENFORCEMENT / REPORTING

10. VETERINARIAN REPORTING / IMMUNITY

11. LAW ENFORCEMENT POLICIES

WYO. STAT. ANN. § 11-29-106 (2017). 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.

12. SEXUAL ASSAULT

13. FIGHTING

WYO. STAT. ANN. § 6-3-203 (2017). Cruelty to animals; penalties; limitation on manner of destruction.

(a) A person commits cruelty to animals if he knowingly and with intent to cause death, injury or undue suffering:

- (i) Overrides an animal or drives an animal when overloaded; or
- (ii) Unnecessarily or cruelly beats, tortures, torments, injures, mutilates or attempts to kill an animal; or
- (iii) Carries an animal in a manner that poses undue risk of injury or death.

(b) A person commits cruelty to animals if he has the charge and custody of any animal and unnecessarily fails to provide it with the proper food, drink or protection from the weather, or cruelly abandons the animal, or in the case of immediate, obvious, serious illness or injury, fails to provide the animal with appropriate care.

(c) *A person commits aggravated cruelty to animals if he:*

- (i) Repealed by Laws 1987, ch. 91, § 2.
- (ii) *Owens, possesses, keeps or trains fowls or dogs with the intent to allow the dog or fowl to engage in an exhibition of fighting with another dog or fowl;*
- (iii) Repealed by Laws 1987, ch. 91, § 2.
- (iv) *For gain causes or allows any dog or fowl to fight with another dog or fowl;*
- (v) *Knowingly permits any act prohibited under paragraphs (ii) or (iv) of this subsection on any premises under his charge or control; or*
- (vi) *Promotes any act prohibited under paragraphs (ii) or (iv) of this subsection.*
- (vii) Shoots, poisons or otherwise intentionally acts to seriously injure or destroy any livestock or domesticated animal owned by another person while the animal is on property where the animal is authorized to be present.

(d) A person shall not destroy an animal by the use of a high-altitude decompression chamber or a carbon monoxide gas chamber utilizing a gasoline engine. This subsection is uniformly applicable to all cities and towns.

(e) Unless punishable under subsection (n) of this section, a violation of this section is 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 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.

(f) Nothing in subsection (c) of this section may be construed to prohibit:

(i) The use of dogs in the management of livestock by the owner of the livestock, his employees or agents or other persons in lawful custody of the livestock;

(ii) The use of dogs or raptors in hunting; or

(iii) The training of dogs or raptors or the use of equipment in the training of dogs or raptors for any purpose not prohibited by law;

(iv) Repealed by Laws 2000, ch. 86, § 2.

(v) Repealed by Laws 2000, ch. 86, § 2.

(vi) Repealed by Laws 2000, ch. 86, § 2.

(g) A person commits cruelty to animals if he is knowingly present at any place where an exhibition of fighting of fowls or dogs is occurring for amusement or gain.

(h) If a person convicted of a violation of this section is also the owner of the animal, the court may require the person to forfeit ownership of the animal to the county in which the person is convicted. This subsection shall not affect the interest of any secured party or other person who has not participated in the offense.

(j) In addition to any sentence and penalties imposed under subsections (e), (h) and (n) of this section, the court may:

(i) Require the defendant to pay all reasonable costs incurred in providing necessary food and water, veterinary attention and treatment for any animal affected; and

(ii) Prohibit or limit the defendant's ownership, possession or custody of animals, as the court deems appropriate.

(k) Each animal affected by the defendant's conduct may constitute a separate count for the purposes of prosecution, conviction, sentencing and penalties under this section.

(m) Nothing in subsection (a), (b) or (n) of this section shall be construed to prohibit:

- (i) A person from humanely destroying an animal;*
- (ii) The use of industry accepted agricultural and livestock practices on livestock;*
- (iii) Rodeo events, whether the event is performed in a rodeo, jackpot or otherwise; or*
- (iv) The hunting, capture or destruction of any predatory animal or other wildlife in any manner not otherwise prohibited by law.*

(n) A person commits a felony if he commits aggravated cruelty to animals as defined in subsection (c) of this section or knowingly and with intent to cause death, injury or undue suffering, cruelly beats, tortures, torments, injures or mutilates an animal resulting in the death or required euthanasia of the animal. A felony under this subsection or subsection (c) of this section is punishable by not more than two (2) years imprisonment, a fine of not more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00), or both.

(o) There is created the “cruelty to household pet animals protection account.” Funds shall be credited to the account as provided by law. Funds in the account are continuously appropriated to the attorney general to reimburse county law enforcement agencies for eligible expenses regarding household pet animal cruelty cases under subsection (p) of this section. The attorney general shall develop rules and regulations to establish eligible expenses and to determine how county law enforcement agencies will be reimbursed for the costs of any household pet animal cruelty case, in an amount not to exceed ninety percent (90%) in any particular case. Any reimbursement under this subsection shall be contingent upon available funding and upon a showing that the agency has made reasonable efforts to seek reimbursement from the offender of expenses incurred by the agency, as permitted by law. All funds in the account may be used for and are continuously appropriated for eligible expenses authorized to be made under this subsection. The cruelty to household pet animals protection account shall be a permanent, nonreversion account within the state auditor’s office. As used in this subsection and subsection (p) of this section, “household pet” means any privately owned dog, cat, rabbit, guinea pig, hamster, mouse, gerbil, ferret, bird, fish, reptile, amphibian, invertebrate or any other species of domesticated animal sold, transferred or retained for the purpose of being kept as a pet in or near a house. “Household pet” shall not include any livestock as defined in W.S. 23–1–102(a)(xvi).

(p) A person commits household pet animal cruelty if he:

- (i) Keeps any household pet in a manner that results in chronic or repeated serious physical harm to the household pet; or
- (ii) Keeps the household pet confined in conditions which constitute a public health hazard.

14. REFERENCED STATUTES

WYO. STAT. ANN. § 6-3-203 (2017). Cruelty to animals; penalties; limitation on manner of destruction.

(a) A person commits cruelty to animals if he knowingly and with intent to cause death, injury or undue suffering:

- (i) Overrides an animal or drives an animal when overloaded; or
- (ii) Unnecessarily or cruelly beats, tortures, torments, injures, mutilates or attempts to kill an animal; or
- (iii) Carries an animal in a manner that poses undue risk of injury or death.

(b) A person commits cruelty to animals if he has the charge and custody of any animal and unnecessarily fails to provide it with the proper food, drink or protection from the weather, or cruelly abandons the animal, or in the case of immediate, obvious, serious illness or injury, fails to provide the animal with appropriate care.

(c) A person commits aggravated cruelty to animals if he:

- (i) Repealed by Laws 1987, ch. 91, § 2.
- (ii) Owns, possesses, keeps or trains fowls or dogs with the intent to allow the dog or fowl to engage in an exhibition of fighting with another dog or fowl;
- (iii) Repealed by Laws 1987, ch. 91, § 2.
- (iv) For gain causes or allows any dog or fowl to fight with another dog or fowl;
- (v) Knowingly permits any act prohibited under paragraphs (ii) or (iv) of this subsection on any premises under his charge or control; or
- (vi) Promotes any act prohibited under paragraphs (ii) or (iv) of this subsection.
- (vii) Shoots, poisons or otherwise intentionally acts to seriously injure or destroy any livestock or domesticated animal owned by another person while the animal is on property where the animal is authorized to be present.

(d) A person shall not destroy an animal by the use of a high-altitude decompression chamber or a carbon monoxide gas chamber utilizing a gasoline engine. This subsection is uniformly applicable to all cities and towns.

(e) Unless punishable under subsection (n) of this section, a violation of this section is 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 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.

(f) Nothing in subsection (c) of this section may be construed to prohibit:

(i) The use of dogs in the management of livestock by the owner of the livestock, his employees or agents or other persons in lawful custody of the livestock;

(ii) The use of dogs or raptors in hunting; or

(iii) The training of dogs or raptors or the use of equipment in the training of dogs or raptors for any purpose not prohibited by law;

(iv) Repealed by Laws 2000, ch. 86, § 2.

(v) Repealed by Laws 2000, ch. 86, § 2.

(vi) Repealed by Laws 2000, ch. 86, § 2.

(g) A person commits cruelty to animals if he is knowingly present at any place where an exhibition of fighting of fowls or dogs is occurring for amusement or gain.

(h) If a person convicted of a violation of this section is also the owner of the animal, the court may require the person to forfeit ownership of the animal to the county in which the person is convicted. This subsection shall not affect the interest of any secured party or other person who has not participated in the offense.

(j) In addition to any sentence and penalties imposed under subsections (e), (h) and (n) of this section, the court may:

(i) Require the defendant to pay all reasonable costs incurred in providing necessary food and water, veterinary attention and treatment for any animal affected; and

(ii) Prohibit or limit the defendant's ownership, possession or custody of animals, as the court deems appropriate.

(k) Each animal affected by the defendant's conduct may constitute a separate count for the purposes of prosecution, conviction, sentencing and penalties under this section.

(m) Nothing in subsection (a), (b) or (n) of this section shall be construed to prohibit:

- (i) A person from humanely destroying an animal;
- (ii) The use of industry accepted agricultural and livestock practices on livestock;
- (iii) Rodeo events, whether the event is performed in a rodeo, jackpot or otherwise; or
- (iv) The hunting, capture or destruction of any predatory animal or other wildlife in any manner not otherwise prohibited by law.

(n) A person commits a felony if he commits aggravated cruelty to animals as defined in subsection (c) of this section or knowingly and with intent to cause death, injury or undue suffering, cruelly beats, tortures, torments, injures or mutilates an animal resulting in the death or required euthanasia of the animal. A felony under this subsection or subsection (c) of this section is punishable by not more than two (2) years imprisonment, a fine of not more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00), or both.

(o) There is created the “cruelty to household pet animals protection account.” Funds shall be credited to the account as provided by law. Funds in the account are continuously appropriated to the attorney general to reimburse county law enforcement agencies for eligible expenses regarding household pet animal cruelty cases under subsection (p) of this section. The attorney general shall develop rules and regulations to establish eligible expenses and to determine how county law enforcement agencies will be reimbursed for the costs of any household pet animal cruelty case, in an amount not to exceed ninety percent (90%) in any particular case. Any reimbursement under this subsection shall be contingent upon available funding and upon a showing that the agency has made reasonable efforts to seek reimbursement from the offender of expenses incurred by the agency, as permitted by law. All funds in the account may be used for and are continuously appropriated for eligible expenses authorized to be made under this subsection. The cruelty to household pet animals protection account shall be a permanent, nonreversion account within the state auditor’s office. As used in this subsection and subsection (p) of this section, “household pet” means any privately owned dog, cat, rabbit, guinea pig, hamster, mouse, gerbil, ferret, bird, fish, reptile, amphibian, invertebrate or any other species of domesticated animal sold, transferred or retained for the purpose of being kept as a pet in or near a house. “Household pet” shall not include any livestock as defined in W.S. 23–1–102(a)(xvi).

(p) A person commits household pet animal cruelty if he:

- (i) Keeps any household pet in a manner that results in chronic or repeated serious physical harm to the household pet; or
- (ii) Keeps the household pet confined in conditions which constitute a public health hazard.

WYO. STAT. ANN. § 6-5-211 (2017). Injuring or killing a police dog, fire dog, search and rescue dog or police horse prohibited; penalties.

(a) Any person who knowingly, willfully and without lawful cause or justification permanently disables or inflicts death upon any animal defined in subsection (b) of this section shall be liable for restitution by order of a court and shall be guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment for not more than ten (10) years, a fine of not more than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00), or both.

(b) As used in this section:

(i) “Police dog” means any dog that is owned, or the service of which is employed, by a law enforcement or corrections agency for the principal purpose of aiding in the detection of criminal activity, enforcement of laws or apprehension of offenders;

(ii) “Police horse” means any horse that is owned, or the service of which is employed, by a law enforcement or corrections agency for the principal purpose of aiding in the detection of criminal activity, enforcement of laws or apprehension of offenders;

(iii) “Fire dog” means any dog that is owned, or the service of which is employed, by a fire department, a special fire district or the state fire marshal for the principal purpose of aiding in the detection of flammable materials or the investigation of fires;

(iv) “Search and rescue dog” means any search and rescue dog that is owned, or the service of which is utilized, by a fire department, a law enforcement or corrections agency, a special fire district or the state fire marshal for the principal purpose of aiding in the detection of missing persons, including persons who are lost, who are trapped under debris as a result of a natural, manmade or technological disaster or who are drowning victims.

WYO. STAT. ANN. § 11-29-101 (2017). Definitions.

§ 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) “This act” means W.S. 11-29-101 through 11-29-115.

WYO. STAT. ANN. § 11-29-106 (2017). 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.

WYO. STAT. ANN. § 11-29-108 (2017). Livestock board; seized 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 as defined in W.S. 6-3-203 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 expense of the care and provision. The expense or any part remaining unpaid may be recovered by the board or local government in a civil action.

WYO. STAT. ANN. § 11-29-109 (2017). Livestock board; care of abandoned 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 cruelly treated as defined in W.S. 6-3-203. He shall give notice to the owner, if known, and may care and provide for the livestock animal until the livestock animal is released or destroyed. The expenses of care and provision is 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 expense for food, shelter and care is 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.

WYO. STAT. ANN. § 11-29-110 (2017). 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.

WYO. STAT. ANN. § 11-29-114 (2017). Impoundment of animals; cost of care for animals; providing for bond.

(a) Any peace officer, agent or officer of the board may take possession of any livestock animal treated cruelly as determined by a Wyoming licensed veterinarian or veterinarian employed by the board.

(b) The owner of the livestock animal impounded under subsection (a) of this section, and who has been cited under W.S. 6-3-203, shall be required to post a bond with the circuit court in the county where the livestock animal was impounded. The bond shall be:

(i) In an amount the circuit court determines is sufficient to provide for the livestock animal's board, nutritional care, veterinary care and diagnostic testing for at least ninety (90) days including the day on which the livestock animal was impounded; and

(ii) Filed with the circuit court within ten (10) days after the animal is impounded.

(c) When the bond expires, if the owner of the livestock animal desires to prevent disposition of the livestock animal by the board, the owner shall post a new bond with the court as described in subsection (b) of this section.

(d) If a bond is not posted under subsection (b) or (c) of this section, the board shall dispose of the livestock animal as defined in W.S. 11-24-101(a)(iv). The owner of the livestock animal shall be liable for all costs associated with the final disposition of the livestock animal under this subsection.

(e) If a bond has been posted in accordance with subsection (b) or (c) of this section, the agency employing the officer, or the board, 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.

WYO. STAT. ANN. § 11-29-115 (2017). 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.

WYO. STAT. ANN. § 35-13-206 (2017). Injuring or killing a service dog prohibited; penalties.

(a) Any person who knowingly, willfully and without lawful cause or justification inflicts, or permits or directs any animal under his control or ownership to inflict, serious bodily harm, permanent disability or death upon any service dog as defined in W.S. 35-13-205(a)(i) animal or assistance animal is guilty of 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.

(b) A court shall order a defendant convicted of an offense under subsection (a) of this section to make restitution to the owner of the service animal or assistance animal for:

- (i) Related veterinary or medical bills;
- (ii) The cost of replacing the service animal or assistance animal or retraining an injured service animal or assistance animal; and
- (iii) Any other expense reasonably incurred as a result of the offense.