

ANIMAL PROTECTION LAWS OF WYOMING



Animal Protection Laws of Wyoming

SUBSTANTIVE PROHIBITIONS

1. DEFINITION OF "ANIMAL"
2. GENERAL CRUELTY
3. EXEMPTIONS
4. FIGHTING & RACKETEERING
5. SEXUAL ASSAULT
6. CRUELTY TO WORKING ANIMALS

PROCEDURAL MATTERS

7. MAXIMUM PENALTIES & STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS
8. CROSS ENFORCEMENT & REPORTING
9. VETERINARIAN REPORTING & IMMUNITY
10. LAW ENFORCEMENT POLICIES
11. SEIZURE
12. COURTROOM ANIMAL ADVOCATE PROGRAM
13. PROTECTION ORDERS
14. RESTITUTION
15. FORFEITURE & POSSESSION BANS
16. COURT-ORDERED TREATMENT

MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

17. HOT CARS
18. CIVIL NUISANCE ABATEMENT
19. AG-GAG LAWS
20. BREED SPECIFIC LEGISLATION

This chapter contains Wyoming's general animal protection and related statutes with an effective date on or before September 1, 2020. 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 with the relevant part of each statute italicized.

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.

ANIMAL PROTECTION LAWS OF WYOMING

WYOMING

1. <u>DEFINITION OF "ANIMAL"</u>	-----
2. <u>GENERAL CRUELTY *</u>	Cruel treatment, neglect, abandonment WYO. STAT. ANN. § 6-3-203(a),(b),(e) 1st offense: misdemeanor, 6 months imprisonment and/or \$750 fine Subsequent offenses: high misdemeanor, 1 year imprisonment and/or \$5,000 fine Aggravated cruelty which results in death or required euthanasia WYO. STAT. ANN. § 6-3-203(c),(n) Felony, 2 years imprisonment and/or \$5,000 fine Cruelly beating, torturing, tormenting, injuring or mutilating an animal WYO. STAT. ANN. § 6-3-203(c),(n) Felony, 2 years imprisonment and/or \$5,000 fine Household pet animal cruelty WYO. STAT. ANN. § 6-3-203(p),(e) 1st offense: misdemeanor, 6 months imprisonment and/or \$750 fine Subsequent offenses: high misdemeanor, 1 year imprisonment and/or \$5,000 fine Failure to provide confined livestock with sufficient quantity of wholesome food and water WYO. STAT. ANN. §§ 11-29-101; 11-29-103 1st offense: misdemeanor, 6 months imprisonment and/or \$750 fine Subsequent offenses: high misdemeanor, 1 year imprisonment and/or \$5,000 fine Abandonment of sheep by herders WYO. STAT. ANN. § 11-30-108 Misdemeanor, 6 months imprisonment and/or \$750 fine Abuse or negligent treatment of animal by bailee WYO. STAT. ANN. § 11-30-112 60 days imprisonment and/or \$500 fine

ANIMAL PROTECTION LAWS OF WYOMING

	Cutting more than ½ of a sheep's ear WYO. STAT. ANN. § 11-30-113 <i>Felony, 5 years imprisonment</i> Unlawfully killing a wild horse WYO. STAT. ANN. § 11-30-115 <i>Misdemeanor, 6 months imprisonment and/or \$750 fine</i> Poisoning or killing a dog with ground glass within incorporated city or town WYO. STAT. ANN. § 11-31-104 <i>1 year imprisonment and/or \$1,000 fine</i>
3. <u>EXEMPTIONS</u>	Wildlife, accepted farm animal husbandry practices, rodeo, other WYO. STAT. ANN. § 6-3-203(m) Other WYO. STAT. ANN. §§ 11-24-107; 11-31-106; 11-31-107 Veterinary practice, accepted farm animal husbandry practices, slaughter, rodeo WYO. STAT. ANN. § 11-29-115
4. <u>FIGHTING & RACKETEERING</u>	Aggravated animal cruelty, including animal fighting, is a predicate offense for a pattern of criminal street gang activity WYO. STAT. ANN. § 6-1-104(a)(xv)(P) Various dog fighting and fowl fighting activities WYO. STAT. ANN. § 6-3-203(c),(n) <i>Felony, 2 years imprisonment and/or \$5,000 fine</i> Spectatorship WYO. STAT. ANN. § 6-3-203(g),(e) <i>1st offense: misdemeanor, 6 months imprisonment and/or \$750 fine</i> <i>Subsequent offenses: high misdemeanor, 1 year imprisonment and/or \$5,000 fine</i>
5. <u>SEXUAL ASSAULT</u>	-----

ANIMAL PROTECTION LAWS OF WYOMING

6. <u>CRUELTY TO WORKING ANIMALS</u>	Injuring or killing a police dog, fire dog, search and rescue dog, or police horse WYO. STAT. ANN. § 6-5-211 <i>Felony, 10 years imprisonment and/or \$10,000 fine</i> Injuring or killing a service animal or assistance animal WYO. STAT. ANN. §§ 35-13-205; 35-13-206 <i>Misdemeanor, 6 months imprisonment and/or \$750 fine</i>
7. <u>MAXIMUM PENALTIES & STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS**</u>	NOTE: All penalties are provided in the substantive statutes, available in the <u>General Cruelty</u> and <u>Fighting & Racketeering</u> sections of this document. Statute of limitations: none
8. <u>CROSS ENFORCEMENT & REPORTING</u>	-----
9. <u>VETERINARIAN REPORTING & IMMUNITY</u>	-----
10. <u>LAW ENFORCEMENT POLICIES</u>	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
11. <u>SEIZURE</u>	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. § 11-21-103 WYO. STAT. ANN. § 11-29-108 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

ANIMAL PROTECTION LAWS OF WYOMING

	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)
<u>12. COURTROOM ANIMAL ADVOCATE PROGRAM</u>	-----
<u>13. PROTECTION ORDERS†</u>	The court may grant sole possession of any household pet to the petitioner during the period the order of protection is effective if the order is for the purpose of protecting the household pet. WYO. STAT. ANN. § 35-21-105(a)(ix) The court may order the respondent shall not have contact with any household pet, prohibit the respondent from abducting, removing, concealing or disposing of the household pet if the order is for the purpose of protecting the household pet. WYO. STAT. ANN. § 35-21-105(a)(x)
<u>14. RESTITUTION †</u>	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

ANIMAL PROTECTION LAWS OF WYOMING

	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)
15. <u>FORFEITURE & POSSESSION BANS †</u>	Court may order forfeiture of cruelly treated animal upon conviction of animal's owner. WYO. STAT. ANN. § 6-3-203(h) Court may prohibit future ownership of animals. WYO. STAT. ANN. § 6-3-203(j)(ii) 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)
16. <u>COURT-ORDERED TREATMENT†</u>	-----
17. <u>HOT CARS</u>	-----
18. <u>CIVIL NUISANCE ABATEMENT</u>	-----
19. <u>AG-GAG LAWS</u>	A person is guilty of unlawfully collecting resource data if he enters into private land and collects resource data from private land; "resource data" means data relating to land or land use, including but not limited to data regarding agriculture... or animal species. WYO. STAT. ANN. § 6-3-414

ANIMAL PROTECTION LAWS OF WYOMING

	NOTE: Subsection. (c) of this statute was ruled unconstitutional by <i>Western Watersheds Project, et. al v. Michael, et al.</i> , 353 F. Supp. 1176 (D. Wyo. 2018).
20. <u>BREED SPECIFIC LEGISLATION</u>	-----

- * 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.
- † 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.

ANIMAL PROTECTION LAWS OF WYOMING

1. DEFINITION OF “ANIMAL”

ANIMAL PROTECTION LAWS OF WYOMING

2. GENERAL CRUELTY

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

- (a) *A person commits cruelty to animals if he knowingly:*
 - (i) *Overrides an animal or drives an animal when overloaded; or*
 - (ii) *Unnecessarily beats or injures 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;
 - (vi) Promotes any act prohibited under paragraphs (ii) or (iv) of this subsection; or
 - (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

ANIMAL PROTECTION LAWS OF WYOMING

- 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), c(vii) or (n) of this section shall be construed to prohibit:
 - (i) A person from humanely destroying an animal, including livestock;
 - (ii) The use of industry accepted agricultural and livestock practices on livestock or other animal used in the practice of agriculture;
 - (iii) Rodeo events, whether the event is performed in a rodeo, fair, jackpot, agricultural exhibition or otherwise; or
 - (iv) The hunting, capture, killing or destruction of any predatory animal or other wildlife in any manner not otherwise prohibited by law.
 - (n) *A person commits a felony punishable by not more than two (2) years imprisonment, a fine of not more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000) or both, if the person:*
 - (i) *Commits aggravated cruelty to animals as defined in subsection (c) of this section, resulting in the death or required euthanasia of the animal; or*
 - (ii) *Knowingly, and with intent to cause death or undue suffering, cruelly beats, tortures, torments or mutilates an animal.*
 - (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

ANIMAL PROTECTION LAWS OF WYOMING

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. 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. § 11-29-103. 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*

ANIMAL PROTECTION LAWS OF WYOMING

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.

WYO. STAT. ANN. § 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.

WYO. STAT. ANN. § 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.

WYO. STAT. ANN. § 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.*

WYO. STAT. ANN. § 11-30-115. Unlawful killing of wild horses.

- (a) For purposes of this section “wild horse” means a horse, mare, filly or colt which is unbranded and unclaimed and lives on state or public land.

ANIMAL PROTECTION LAWS OF WYOMING

(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.*

WYO. STAT. ANN. § 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.

ANIMAL PROTECTION LAWS OF WYOMING

3. EXEMPTIONS

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

- (a) A person commits cruelty to animals if he knowingly:
 - (i) Overrides an animal or drives an animal when overloaded; or
 - (ii) Unnecessarily beats or injures 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;
 - (vi) Promotes any act prohibited under paragraphs (ii) or (iv) of this subsection; or
 - (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

ANIMAL PROTECTION LAWS OF WYOMING

- 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), (c)(vii) or (n) of this section shall be construed to prohibit:*
 - (i) *A person from humanely destroying an animal, including livestock;*
 - (ii) *The use of industry accepted agricultural and livestock practices on livestock or other animal used in the practice of agriculture;*
 - (iii) *Rodeo events, whether the event is performed in a rodeo, fair jackpot, agricultural exhibition or otherwise; or*
 - (iv) *The hunting, capture, killing or destruction of any predatory animal or other wildlife in any manner not otherwise prohibited by law.*
 - (n) A person commits a felony punishable by not more than two (2) years imprisonment, a fine of not more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000) or both, if the person:
 - (i) Commits aggravated cruelty to animals as defined in subsection (c) of this section, resulting in the death or required euthanasia of the animal; or
 - (ii) Knowingly, and with intent to cause death or undue suffering, cruelly beats, tortures, torments or mutilates an animal.
 - (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

ANIMAL PROTECTION LAWS OF WYOMING

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. § 11-24-107. Liability for death

If any estray 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.

WYO. STAT. ANN. § 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.

WYO. STAT. ANN. § 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.

WYO. STAT. ANN. § 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

ANIMAL PROTECTION LAWS OF WYOMING

arena;

(iv) A person from humanely destroying a livestock animal.

ANIMAL PROTECTION LAWS OF WYOMING

4. FIGHTING AND RACKETEERING

WYO. STAT. ANN. § 6-1-104. Definitions.

- (a) *As used in this act, unless otherwise defined:*
- (i) “Bodily injury” means:
 - (A) A cut, abrasion, burn or temporary disfigurement;
 - (B) Physical pain; or
 - (C) Impairment of the function of a bodily member, organ or mental faculty.
 - (ii) “Coin machine” means a mechanical or electronic device or receptacle designed to:
 - (A) Receive a coin, bill or token made for that purpose; and
 - (B) Automatically offer, provide or assist in providing or permit the acquisition of property or service in return for the insertion of the coin, bill or token.
 - (iii) “Criminal negligence” is defined as the following conduct: A person acts with criminal negligence when, through a gross deviation from the standard of care that a reasonable person would exercise, he fails to perceive a substantial and unjustifiable risk that the harm he is accused of causing will occur, and the harm results. The risk shall be of such nature and degree that the failure to perceive it constitutes a gross deviation from the standard of care that a reasonable person would observe in the situation;
 - (iv) “Deadly weapon” means but is not limited to a firearm, explosive or incendiary material, motorized vehicle, an animal or other device, instrument, material or substance, which in the manner it is used or is intended to be used is reasonably capable of producing death or serious bodily injury;
 - (v) “Occupied structure” means a structure or vehicle whether or not a person is actually present:
 - (A) Where any person lives or carries on business or other calling;
 - (B) Where people assemble for purposes of business, government, education, religion, entertainment or public transportation;
 - (C) Which is used for overnight accommodation of persons; or
 - (D) In which a person may reasonably be expected to be present.
 - (vi) “Peace officer” includes the following officers assigned to duty in the state of Wyoming:
 - (A) Any duly authorized sheriff, under sheriff or deputy sheriff;
 - (B) Any duly authorized member of a municipal police force, a college or university campus police force or the Wyoming highway patrol;
 - (C) Game and fish law enforcement personnel qualified pursuant to W.S. 9-1-701 through 9-1-707 and:
 - (I) When enforcing felony statutes following observation or discovery of the commission of a felony which was observed or discovered during the performance of their official duties;

ANIMAL PROTECTION LAWS OF WYOMING

- (II) While responding to requests to assist other peace officers performing their official duties or when enforcing a valid arrest warrant for any crime; or
- (III) When enforcing any provision of title 23 and chapter 13 of title 41, any rule and regulation promulgated by the Wyoming game and fish commission or any other statute for which they are granted statutory enforcement authority.
- (D) Agents of the division of criminal investigation appointed pursuant to W.S. 9-1-613 who have qualified pursuant to W.S. 9-1-701 through 9-1-707;
- (E) Any duly authorized arson investigator employed by the state fire marshal;
- (F) Investigators and brand inspectors of the Wyoming livestock board who have qualified pursuant to W.S. 9-1-701 through 9-1-707 when:
 - (I) Enforcing W.S. 6-3-201, 6-3-203, 6-3-401, 6-3-402, 6-3-410, 6-3-601 through 6-3-603, 6-3-607, 6-3-610 through 6-3-612, 6-9-202, 35-10-101, 35-10-102 and 35-10-104, the provisions of title 11 and any laws prohibiting theft or mutilation of livestock or any part thereof and any rule or regulation promulgated by the Wyoming livestock board or any other law for which they are granted statutory enforcement authority;
 - (II) Responding to a request to assist another peace officer as defined in this paragraph performing his official duty; or
 - (III) Enforcing a valid arrest warrant for a crime specified in subdivision (F)(I) of this paragraph.
- (G) Federal law enforcement agents;
- (H) Investigators employed by the Wyoming state board of outfitters and professional guides and qualified pursuant to W.S. 9-1-701 through 9-1-707, when enforcing W.S. 23-2-401 and 23-2-406 through 23-2-418 and board rules and regulations promulgated under W.S. 23-2-410(a)(ii);
- (J) Any duly authorized detention officer who has qualified pursuant to W.S. 9-1-701 through 9-1-707, when engaged in the performance of his duties;
- (K) Any person employed by the state department of corrections on a full-time basis as a correctional officer to care for, supervise and control persons under the custody of the department, when the person is engaged in the performance of his duties;
- (M) Any peace officer certified by another state who has been appointed as a special deputy sheriff of a Wyoming county pursuant to W.S. 18-3-602(c);
- (N) Certified law enforcement officers of an adjoining state while responding to a request for assistance from a peace officer in this state pursuant to the "Law Enforcement Interstate Mutual Aid Act" or other lawful request;
- (O) The director and full-time staff instructors of the Wyoming law enforcement academy when duly appointed and acting pursuant to W.S. 9-1-633(b);

ANIMAL PROTECTION LAWS OF WYOMING

- (P) Any superintendent, assistant superintendent or full-time park ranger of any state park, state recreation area, state archeological site or state historic site who has qualified pursuant to W.S. 9-1-701 through 9-1-707, when acting within the boundaries of the state park, state recreation area, state archeological site or state historic site or when responding to a request to assist other peace officers acting within the scope of their official duties in their own jurisdiction; and
- (Q) Any duly authorized court security officer employed by the Wyoming supreme court who is qualified pursuant to W.S. 9-1-701 through 9-1-707 when:
 - (I) Enforcing Wyoming statutes or supreme court rules on premises where the supreme court is conducting business;
 - (II) In fresh pursuit of a person whom the officer has probable cause to believe has committed within the officer's jurisdiction a violation of a state statute, or for whom an arrest warrant is outstanding for any criminal offense; or
 - (III) When responding to a request to assist other peace officers acting within the scope of their official duties in their own jurisdiction.
- (R) Any person qualified pursuant to W.S. 9-1-701 through 9-1-707 and employed by the Wyoming gaming commission when engaged in the performance of that person's duties or when responding to a request to assist other peace officers acting within the scope of their official duties in their own jurisdiction.
- (vii) "Person" includes an individual, partnership, corporation, joint stock company or any other association or entity, public or private;
- (viii) "Property" means anything of value whether tangible or intangible, real or personal, public or private;
- (ix) "Recklessly" is defined as the following conduct: A person acts recklessly when he consciously disregards a substantial and unjustifiable risk that the harm he is accused of causing will occur, and the harm results. The risk shall be of such nature and degree that disregarding it constitutes a gross deviation from the standard of conduct that a reasonable person would observe in the situation;
- (x) "Serious bodily injury" means bodily injury which:
 - (A) Creates a substantial risk of death;
 - (B) Causes severe protracted physical pain;
 - (C) Causes severe disfigurement or protracted loss or impairment of a bodily function;
 - (D) Causes unconsciousness or a concussion resulting in protracted loss or impairment of the function of a bodily member, organ or mental faculty;
 - (E) Causes burns of the second or third degree over a significant portion of the body; or
 - (F) Causes a significant fracture or break of a bone.

ANIMAL PROTECTION LAWS OF WYOMING

- (xi) "Vehicle" means any device by which persons or property may be moved, carried or transported over land, water or air;
- (xii) "Violent felony" means murder, manslaughter, kidnapping, sexual assault in the first or second degree, robbery, aggravated assault, strangulation of a household member, aircraft hijacking, arson in the first or second degree, aggravated burglary, a violation of W.S. 6-2-314(a)(i) or 6-2-315(a)(ii) or a third, or subsequent, domestic battery under W.S. 6-2-511(a) and (b)(iii);
- (xiii) "Torture", "torment" 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;
- (xiv) "Criminal street gang" means an ongoing formal or informal organization, association or group of five (5) or more persons having as one (1) of its primary activities the commission of one (1) or more of the criminal acts enumerated in paragraph (xv) of this subsection, having a common name or identifying sign or symbol and whose members or associates individually or collectively engage in or have been engaged in a pattern of criminal street gang activity;
- (xv) "Pattern of criminal street gang activity" means the commission of, conviction or adjudication for or solicitation, conspiracy or attempt to commit two (2) or more of the offenses listed in this paragraph on separate occasions within a three (3) year period. Offenses that form a pattern of criminal street gang activity include:
 - (A) A violent felony as defined in paragraph (xii) of this subsection;
 - (B) Promoting prostitution in violation of W.S. 6-4-103;
 - (C) Felony property destruction and defacement in violation of W.S. 6-3-201 and punishable under W.S. 6-3-201(b)(iii);
 - (D) Theft in violation of W.S. 6-3-402;
 - (E) Repealed by Laws 2020, ch. 90, § 3, eff. July 1, 2020;
 - (F) Forgery in violation of W.S. 6-3-602;
 - (G) Influencing, intimidating or impeding jurors, witnesses and officers, or obstructing or impeding justice in violation of W.S. 6-5-305;
 - (H) Possession of a firearm by a person convicted of certain felony offenses in violation of W.S. 6-8-102;
 - (J) Wearing or carrying concealed weapons in violation of W.S. 6-8-104;
 - (K) Possession, manufacture or disposition of a deadly weapon with unlawful intent in violation of W.S. 6-8-103;
 - (M) Blackmail in violation of W.S. 6-2-402;
 - (N) Possession, manufacture, transportation and sale of any explosive, improvised explosive device or incendiary apparatus with unlawful intent in violation of W.S. 6-3-111;
 - (O) Sports bribery in violation of W.S. 6-3-609;
 - (P) *Aggravated cruelty to animals in violation of W.S. 6-3-203(c)*;
 - (Q) The unlawful sale or possession with intent to manufacture, distribute or dispense a controlled substance in violation of W.S. 35-7-1031;

ANIMAL PROTECTION LAWS OF WYOMING

- (R) Simple assault in violation of W.S. 6-2-501(a) and domestic assault in violation of W.S. 6-2-510;
- (S) Battery in violation of W.S. 6-2-501(b) and domestic battery in violation of W.S. 6-2-511.
- (xvi) "Courtroom" means a room in which a judge is presiding over a court of law;
- (xvii) "Female genital mutilation" includes the partial or total removal of the clitoris, prepuce, labia minora, with or without excision of the labia majora, the narrowing of the vaginal opening such as through the creation of a covering seal formed by cutting and repositioning the inner or outer labia, with or without removal of the clitoris, any harmful procedure to the genitalia, including pricking, piercing, incising, scraping or cauterizing or any other actions intended to alter the structure or function of the female genitalia for nonmedical reasons. "Female genital mutilation" does not include a procedure performed by a licensed health care provider that is medically necessary due to a medically recognized condition or medically advisable or necessary to preserve or protect the physical health of the person on whom it is performed;
- (xviii) "This act" means title 6 of the Wyoming statutes.

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

- (a) A person commits cruelty to animals if he knowingly:
 - (i) Overrides an animal or drives an animal when overloaded; or
 - (ii) Unnecessarily beats or injures 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;*
 - (vi) *Promotes any act prohibited under paragraphs (ii) or (iv) of this subsection; or*
 - (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

ANIMAL PROTECTION LAWS OF WYOMING

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), (c)(vii) or (n) of this section shall be construed to prohibit:
 - (i) A person from humanely destroying an animal, including livestock;
 - (ii) The use of industry accepted agricultural and livestock practices on livestock or other animal used in the practice of agriculture;
 - (iii) Rodeo events, whether the event is performed in a rodeo, fair, jackpot, agricultural exhibition or otherwise; or
 - (iv) The hunting, capture, killing or destruction of any predatory animal or other wildlife in any manner not otherwise prohibited by law.
- (n) A person commits a felony punishable by not more than two (2) years imprisonment, a fine of not more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000) or both, if the person:
 - (i) Commits aggravated cruelty to animals as defined in subsection (c) of this

ANIMAL PROTECTION LAWS OF WYOMING

- section, resulting in the death or required euthanasia of the animal; or
- (ii) Knowingly, and with intent to cause death or undue suffering, cruelly beats, tortures, torments or mutilates an animal.
- (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.

ANIMAL PROTECTION LAWS OF WYOMING

5. SEXUAL ASSAULT

ANIMAL PROTECTION LAWS OF WYOMING

6. CRUELTY TO WORKING ANIMALS

WYO. STAT. ANN. § 6-5-211. 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. § 35-13-205. Definitions.

- (b) As used in this article:
 - (i) Repealed by Laws 2017, ch. 133, § 2, eff. July 1, 2017.
 - (ii) “Person with a disability” means an individual who has a mental or physical impairment which substantially limits one (1) or more major life activities;
 - (iii) “Major life activities” means functions associated with the normal activities of independent daily living such as caring for one's self, performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing or speaking;
 - (iv) “Assistance animal” means an animal that works, provides assistance or performs tasks for the benefit of a person with a disability, or provides emotional

ANIMAL PROTECTION LAWS OF WYOMING

support that alleviates one or more identified symptoms or effects of a person's disability;

- (v) *“Place of public accommodation” means as defined in 28 C.F.R. 36.104;*
- (vi) *“Public accommodation” means as defined in 28 C.F.R. 36.104;*
- (vii) *“Public entity” means as defined in 28 C.F.R. 35.104;*
- (viii) *“Service animal” means as defined in 28 C.F.R. 35.104 and 28 C.F.R. 36.104 and includes service miniature horses pursuant to 28 C.F.R. 35.136 and 28 C.F.R. 36.302(c).*

WYO. STAT. ANN. § 35-13-206. 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 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.*

ANIMAL PROTECTION LAWS OF WYOMING

7. MAXIMUM PENALTIES & STATUTES OF LIMITATIONS

NOTE: All penalties are provided in the substantive statutes, available in the [General Cruelty](#) and [Fighting & Racketeering](#) sections of this document.

ANIMAL PROTECTION LAWS OF WYOMING

8. CROSS ENFORCEMENT & REPORTING

ANIMAL PROTECTION LAWS OF WYOMING

9. VETERINARY REPORTING & IMMUNITY

ANIMAL PROTECTION LAWS OF WYOMING

10. LAW ENFORCEMENT POLICIES

WYO. STAT. ANN. § 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.

ANIMAL PROTECTION LAWS OF WYOMING

11. SEIZURE

WYO. STAT. ANN. § 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.*

WYO. STAT. ANN. § 11-29-108. 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. 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

ANIMAL PROTECTION LAWS OF WYOMING

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. 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.

ANIMAL PROTECTION LAWS OF WYOMING

12. COURTROOM ANIMAL ADVOCATE PROGRAM

ANIMAL PROTECTION LAWS OF WYOMING

13. PROTECTION ORDERS

WYO. STAT. ANN. § 35-21-105. Order of protection; contents; remedies; order not to affect title to property; conditions.

- (a) Upon finding that an act of domestic abuse has occurred, the court shall enter an order of protection ordering the respondent household member to refrain from abusing the petitioner or any other household member. The order shall specifically describe the behavior that the court has ordered the respondent to do or refrain from doing. *As a part of any order of protection, the court may:*
- i. Grant sole possession of the residence or household to the petitioner during the period the order of protection is effective or order the respondent to provide temporary suitable alternative housing for petitioner and any children to whom the respondent owes a legal obligation of support;
 - ii. Repealed by Laws 1987, ch. 196, § 2.
 - iii. Order that the respondent shall not initiate contact with the petitioner;
 - iv. Prohibit the respondent from abducting, removing or concealing any child in the custody of the petitioner;
 - v. Restrain the respondent from transferring, concealing, encumbering or otherwise disposing of petitioner's property or the joint property of the parties;
 - vi. Order other injunctive relief as the court deems necessary for the protection of the petitioner;
 - vii. If, after a hearing, it finds by a preponderance of evidence that an act of domestic abuse has occurred or that there exists a danger of further domestic abuse, require the respondent to participate in counseling or other appropriate treatment for a specified period of time not to exceed the term of the order of protection and any extension of the order of protection granted under W.S. 35-21-106(b);
 - viii. If the petitioner is not the account holder, grant the petitioner and order a provider to transfer to the petitioner the sole right to use and sole financial responsibility for a telephone number used by the petitioner or a minor child in the petitioner's custody and terminate in the provider's system the respondent's ability to use, and to access any data associated with, the telephone number. An order issued under this paragraph shall list the name and billing telephone number of the account holder, the name and contact information of the petitioner and each telephone number to be transferred to the petitioner. In issuing an order under this paragraph, the court shall ensure that the petitioner's contact information is not disclosed to the respondent or any account holder. The order shall be served on the provider pursuant to W.S. 35-21-106(e). A provider may, not later than five (5) business days after being served with an order under this paragraph, notify the

ANIMAL PROTECTION LAWS OF WYOMING

petitioner and the court that compliance with the order is not possible or practicable because an account holder named in the order has terminated the account, differences in network technology would prevent the functionality of a device on the network or there are geographic limitations on network or service availability. In complying with an order issued under this paragraph, a provider may apply any customary requirements for establishing an account and transferring a telephone number. A provider is immune from civil liability for complying with an order issued under this paragraph.

- ix. *Grant sole possession of any household pet, as defined in W.S. 6-3-203(o), owned, possessed or kept by the petitioner, the respondent or a minor child residing in the residence or household of either the petitioner or the respondent to the petitioner during the period the order of protection is effective if the order is for the purpose of protecting the household pet;*
 - x. *Order that the respondent shall not have contact with any household pet, as defined in W.S. 6-3-203(o), in the custody of the petitioner and prohibit the respondent from abducting, removing, concealing or disposing of the household pet if the order is for the purpose of protecting the household pet.*
- (b) As part of any order of protection pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, the court shall:
- i. When the court finds it to be in the best interests of the children, award temporary custody of any children involved to the petitioner. The court shall in this instance provide for visitation with the respondent only if adequate provision can be made for the safety of the children and the petitioner. To provide for the safety of the children and the petitioner, the court may:
 - A. Order an exchange of children to occur in a protected setting;
 - B. Order that visitation be arranged and supervised by another person or agency, and if the other person is a family or household member, establish conditions to be followed during the visitation;
 - C. Order the respondent to attend and complete to the court's satisfaction a program of intervention or other designated counseling as a condition of visitation;
 - D. Order the respondent to abstain from the consumption of alcohol or controlled substances for up to twenty-four (24) hours before the visitation and during the visitation;
 - E. Order the respondent to pay a fee through the court to defray the costs of supervised visitation;
 - F. Prohibit overnight visitation;
 - G. Require the respondent to post a bond to secure the return and safety of any children; or

ANIMAL PROTECTION LAWS OF WYOMING

- H. Impose any other condition it deems necessary for the safety of the petitioner, the children, or other family or household member
 - ii. Order the payment of child support and when appropriate, temporary support for the petitioner;
 - iii. Order the payment of any medical costs incurred by the petitioner as a result of the abuse inflicted by the respondent.
- (c) The order shall contain a notice that willful violation of any provision of the order constitutes a crime as defined by W.S. 6-4-404, can result in immediate arrest and may result in further punishment. Orders shall also contain notice that a violation that constitutes the offense of stalking as defined by W.S. 6-2-506(b) may subject the perpetrator to enhanced penalties for felony stalking under W.S. 6-2-506(e).
- (d) No order issued under this act shall affect title to any property nor allow the petitioner to transfer, conceal, encumber or otherwise dispose of respondent's property or the joint property of the parties.
- (e) Regardless of whether the court provides visitation under subsection (b) of this section, the court shall, if requested by the petitioner, order the address of the petitioner and any children of the petitioner and respondent be kept confidential.
- (f) The court may refer an adult petitioner to attend counseling relating to the petitioner's status or behavior as a victim but shall not order or make as a condition of receiving protection that an adult petitioner attend such counseling.
- (g) No act of the petitioner or the respondent may be construed to waive or nullify any provision of an order of protection.
- (h) The court shall not make any provisions of a single order of protection mutually effective. The court may issue a separate order of protection to each party, provided:
 - i. Each party has filed a separate written petition for an order of protection; and
 - ii. The court makes specific findings on the record that both parties have committed acts of domestic abuse and that each party is entitled to a separate order of protection.
- (j) The form of the order shall be as provided by rule adopted by the Wyoming supreme court.

ANIMAL PROTECTION LAWS OF WYOMING

14. RESTITUTION

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

- (a) A person commits cruelty to animals if he knowingly:
 - (i) Overrides an animal or drives an animal when overloaded; or
 - (ii) Unnecessarily beats or injures 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;
 - (vi) Promotes any act prohibited under paragraphs (ii) or (iv) of this subsection; or
 - (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

ANIMAL PROTECTION LAWS OF WYOMING

- 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), (c)(vii) or (n) of this section shall be construed to prohibit:
 - (i) A person from humanely destroying an animal, including livestock;
 - (ii) The use of industry accepted agricultural and livestock practices on livestock or other animal used in the practice of agriculture;
 - (iii) Rodeo events, whether the event is performed in a rodeo, fair, jackpot, agricultural exhibition, or otherwise; or
 - (iv) The hunting, capture, killing or destruction of any predatory animal or other wildlife in any manner not otherwise prohibited by law.
 - (n) A person commits a felony punishable by not more than two (2) years imprisonment, a fine of not more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000) or both, if the person:
 - (i) Commits aggravated cruelty to animals as defined in subsection (c) of this section, resulting in the death or required euthanasia of the animal; or
 - (ii) Knowingly, and with intent to cause death or undue suffering, cruelly beats, tortures, torments or mutilates an animal.
 - (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*

ANIMAL PROTECTION LAWS OF WYOMING

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. 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

ANIMAL PROTECTION LAWS OF WYOMING

WYO. STAT. ANN. § 11-29-108. 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. 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. 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. 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

ANIMAL PROTECTION LAWS OF WYOMING

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. 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 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.*

ANIMAL PROTECTION LAWS OF WYOMING

15. FORFEITURE & POSSESSION BANS

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

- (a) A person commits cruelty to animals if he knowingly:
 - (i) Overrides an animal or drives an animal when overloaded; or
 - (ii) Unnecessarily beats or injures 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;
 - (vi) Promotes any act prohibited under paragraphs (ii) or (iv) of this subsection; or
 - (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

ANIMAL PROTECTION LAWS OF WYOMING

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), (c)(vii) or (n) of this section shall be construed to prohibit:
 - (i) A person from humanely destroying an animal, including livestock;
 - (ii) The use of industry accepted agricultural and livestock practices on livestock or other animal used in the practice of agriculture;
 - (iii) Rodeo events, whether the event is performed in a rodeo, fair, jackpot, agricultural exhibition or otherwise; or
 - (iv) The hunting, capture, killing or destruction of any predatory animal or other wildlife in any manner not otherwise prohibited by law.
- (n) A person commits a felony punishable by not more than two (2) years imprisonment, a fine of not more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000) or both, if the person:
 - (i) Commits aggravated cruelty to animals as defined in subsection (c) of this section, resulting in the death or required euthanasia of the animal; or
 - (ii) Knowingly, and with intent to cause death or undue suffering, cruelly beats, tortures, torments or mutilates an animal.
- (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

ANIMAL PROTECTION LAWS OF WYOMING

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. 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.

ANIMAL PROTECTION LAWS OF WYOMING

16. COURT-ORDERED TREATMENT

ANIMAL PROTECTION LAWS OF WYOMING

17. HOT CARS

ANIMAL PROTECTION LAWS OF WYOMING

18. CIVIL NUISANCE ABATEMENT

ANIMAL PROTECTION LAWS OF WYOMING

19. AG-GAG LAWS

WYO. STAT. ANN. § 6-3-414. Trespassing to unlawfully collect resource data; unlawful collection of resource data.

NOTE: Subsection (c) of this statute was held unconstitutional by *Western Watersheds Project, et. al v. Michael, et al.*, 353 F. Supp. 1176 (D. Wyo. 2018).

- (a) A person is guilty of trespassing to unlawfully collect resource data from private land if he:
 - (i) Enters onto private land for the purpose of collecting resource data; and
 - (ii) Does not have:
 - (A) An ownership interest in the real property or, statutory, contractual or other legal authorization to enter the private land to collect the specified resource data; or
 - (B) Written or verbal permission of the owner, lessee or agent of the owner to enter the private land to collect the specified resource data.
- (b) *A person is guilty of unlawfully collecting resource data if he enters onto private land and collects resource data from private land without:*
 - (i) *An ownership interest in the real property or, statutory, contractual or other legal authorization to enter the private land to collect the specified resource data; or*
 - (ii) *Written or verbal permission of the owner, lessee or agent of the owner to enter the private land to collect the specified resource data.*
- (c) *A person is guilty of trespassing to access adjacent or proximate land if he:*
 - (i) *Crosses private land to access adjacent or proximate land where he collects resource data; and*
 - (ii) *Does not have:*
 - (A) *An ownership interest in the real property or, statutory, contractual or other legal authorization to cross the private land; or*
 - (B) *Written or verbal permission of the owner, lessee or agent of the owner to cross the private land.*
- (d) Crimes committed under subsection (a), (b) or (c) of this section are punishable as follows:
 - (i) By imprisonment for not more than one (1) year, a fine of not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00), or both;
 - (ii) By imprisonment for not less than ten (10) days nor more than one (1) year, a fine of not more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00), or both, if the person has previously been convicted of trespassing to unlawfully collect resource data or unlawfully collecting resource data.
- (e) As used in this section:
 - (i) “Collect” means to take a sample of material, acquire, gather, photograph or otherwise preserve information in any form and the recording of a legal

ANIMAL PROTECTION LAWS OF WYOMING

- description or geographical coordinates of the location of the collection;
- (ii) Repealed by Laws 2016, ch. 117, § 2, eff. March 15, 2016.
- (iii) “Peace officer” means as defined by W.S. 7-2-101;
- (iv) *“Resource data” means data relating to land or land use, including but not limited to data regarding agriculture, minerals, geology, history, cultural artifacts, archeology, air, water, soil, conservation, habitat, vegetation or animal species. “Resource data” does not include data:*
 - (A) For surveying to determine property boundaries or the location of survey monuments;
 - (B) Used by a state or local governmental entity to assess property values;
 - (C) Collected or intended to be collected by a peace officer while engaged in the lawful performance of his official duties.
- (f) No resource data collected on private land in violation of this section is admissible in evidence in any civil, criminal or administrative proceeding, other than a prosecution for violation of this section or a civil action against the violator.
- (g) Resource data collected on private land in violation of this section in the possession of any governmental entity as defined by W.S. 1-39-103(a)(i) shall be expunged by the entity from all files and data bases, and it shall not be considered in determining any agency action.

ANIMAL PROTECTION LAWS OF WYOMING

20. BREED SPECIFIC LEGISLATION
