

## HOUSE BILL NO. HB0228

Livestock compensation factor.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Rodriguez-Williams and  
Winter and Senator(s) Laursen, D

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to game and fish; specifying the  
2 development of a compensation formula for yearlings damaged  
3 by trophy game animals; and providing for an effective  
4 date.

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

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8 **Section 1.** W.S. 23-1-901(c) and by creating a new  
9 subsection (j) is amended to read:

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11 **23-1-901. Owner of damaged property to report damage;**  
12 **claims for damages; time for filing; determination; appeal;**  
13 **arbitration.**

14

1           (c) The department shall consider the claims based  
2 upon a description of the livestock or bees damaged or  
3 killed by a trophy game animal, the damaged land, growing  
4 cultivated crops, stored crops including honey and hives,  
5 seed crops, improvements and extraordinary damage to grass.  
6 Subject to subsection (j) of this section, the commission  
7 is authorized to establish by rule, methods, factors and  
8 formulas to be used for determining the amount to  
9 compensate any landowner, lessee or agent for livestock  
10 damaged as a result of, missing as a result of, or killed  
11 by trophy game animals. Claims shall be investigated by the  
12 department and rejected or allowed within ninety (90) days  
13 after submission, and paid in the amount determined to be  
14 due. In the event the department fails to act within ninety  
15 (90) days, the claim, including interest based on local  
16 bank preferred rates, shall be deemed to have been allowed.  
17 No award shall be allowed to any landowner who has not  
18 permitted hunting on his property during authorized hunting  
19 seasons. Any person failing to comply with any provision of  
20 this section is barred from making any claim against the  
21 department for damages. Any claimant aggrieved by the  
22 decision of the department may appeal to the commission  
23 within thirty (30) days after receipt of the decision of

1 the department as provided by rules of practice and  
2 procedure promulgated by the commission. The commission  
3 shall review the department decision at its next meeting  
4 following receipt of notice of request for review. The  
5 commission shall review the investigative report of the  
6 department, and it may approve, modify or reverse the  
7 decision of the department.

8  
9 (j) In determining compensation for yearlings that  
10 are confirmed by the department to be damaged by a trophy  
11 game animal under this section, the department shall use a  
12 compensation formula of three and one-half (3.5) multiplied  
13 by the value of yearlings to determine the award unless the  
14 department has through specific research developed an  
15 alternative compensation formula for yearlings for a  
16 specified area. As used in this subsection, "yearling"  
17 means domestic cattle that are not less than twelve (12)  
18 months of age but less than twenty-four (24) months of age.

19  
20 **Section 2.** This act shall apply to claims made on or  
21 after July 1, 2023.

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1           **Section 3.** This act is effective July 1, 2023.

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(END)