

SENATE FILE NO. SF0178

Mountain lion pursuit seasons.

Sponsored by: Senator(s) Boner and Representative(s)  
Haroldson and Western

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to game and fish; providing for mountain  
2 lion pursuit seasons; providing for a special management  
3 permit for a mountain lion pursuit; specifying the use of  
4 dogs to hunt, kill or pursue mountain lions; providing a  
5 penalty; requiring rulemaking; and providing for effective  
6 dates.

7

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

9

10 **Section 1.** W.S. 23-1-302(a) by creating a new  
11 paragraph (xxxiii), 23-2-307(a), 23-3-102(d) and  
12 23-3-109(a) are amended to read:

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14 **23-1-302. Powers and duties.**

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1 (a) The commission is directed and empowered:

2

3 (xxxiii) To establish and regulate resident and  
4 nonresident mountain lion pursuit seasons. During a  
5 mountain lion pursuit season, a person may use dogs to  
6 pursue a mountain lion but no mountain lion shall be killed  
7 or captured.

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9 **23-2-307. Special management permit.**

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11 (a) The commission may by rule and regulation define  
12 those special management programs which require additional  
13 expenditures for the propagation, stocking or feeding of  
14 wildlife, for designated trophy management areas, mountain  
15 lion pursuit seasons and for hunting and fishing field  
16 development. Any person participating in a special  
17 management program shall be required to purchase a special  
18 management permit for the program.

19

20 **23-3-102. Taking certain game animals without license**  
21 **or during a closed season prohibited.**

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1           (d) Any person who knowingly takes any antlered elk,  
2 antlered deer, antlered moose, horned antelope, bighorn  
3 sheep, mountain goat, mountain lion, grizzly bear or black  
4 bear without the proper license or during a closed season  
5 and any person who knowingly kills or captures a mountain  
6 lion during a mountain lion pursuit season, except as  
7 otherwise permitted by this act, is guilty of a misdemeanor  
8 punishable by a fine of not less than five thousand dollars  
9 (\$5,000.00) nor more than ten thousand dollars  
10 (\$10,000.00), imprisonment for not more than one (1) year,  
11 or both. A third or subsequent conviction within ten (10)  
12 years for a violation of this subsection shall constitute a  
13 felony punishable by a fine of not less than five thousand  
14 dollars (\$5,000.00) nor more than ten thousand dollars  
15 (\$10,000.00), imprisonment for not more than two (2) years,  
16 or both. For the purposes of determining whether a  
17 violation of this subsection is a felony, convictions  
18 resulting from the same occurrence shall be considered a  
19 single conviction even if the result of the occurrence is  
20 more than one (1) misdemeanor conviction. The provisions of  
21 W.S. 6-8-101(a) shall not apply to convictions under this  
22 section.

23

1           23-3-109. Use of dogs; dogs injuring big or trophy  
2 game animals may be killed; citation of owners of dogs  
3 harassing game animals; penalties; leashed dogs for  
4 tracking.

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6           (a) No person shall use any dog to hunt, run or  
7 harass any big or trophy game animal, protected animal or  
8 furbearing animal except as otherwise provided by this act.  
9 The commission shall regulate the use of dogs to take  
10 mountain lions and bobcats and to pursue mountain lions by  
11 residents and nonresidents during hunting or trapping  
12 seasons.

13  
14           **Section 2.** The game and fish commission shall  
15 promulgate all rules necessary to implement the provisions  
16 of this act on or before July 1, 2023.

17

1           **Section 3.**

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3           (a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this  
4 section, this act is effective July 1, 2023.

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6           (b) Sections 2 and 3 of this act are effective  
7 immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a  
8 bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of  
9 the Wyoming Constitution.

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11

(END)