
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6712

State of Washington 57th Legislature

2002 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Agriculture & International Trade (originally sponsored by Senators Morton, Hewitt, Hochstatter, Parlette, Honeyford and Roach)

READ FIRST TIME 02/08/2002.

1 AN ACT Relating to livestock damage; and amending RCW 77.36.030.

2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

3 **Sec. 1.** RCW 77.36.030 and 1996 c 54 s 4 are each amended to read
4 as follows:

5 (1) Subject to the following limitations and conditions, the owner,
6 the owner's immediate family member, the owner's documented employee,
7 or a tenant of real property may trap or kill on that property, without
8 the licenses required under RCW 77.32.010 or authorization from the
9 director under RCW 77.12.240, wild animals or wild birds that are
10 damaging crops, domestic animals, or fowl:

11 (a) Threatened or endangered species shall not be hunted, trapped,
12 or killed;

13 (b) Except in an emergency situation, deer, elk, and protected
14 wildlife shall not be killed without a permit issued and conditioned by
15 the director or the director's designee. In an emergency, the
16 department may give verbal permission followed by written permission to
17 trap or kill any deer, elk, or protected wildlife that is damaging
18 crops, domestic animals, or fowl; (~~and~~)

1 (c) On privately owned cattle ranching lands, the land owner or
2 lessee may declare an emergency only when the department has not
3 responded within forty-eight hours after having been contacted by the
4 land owner or lessee regarding damage caused by wild animals or wild
5 birds. In such an emergency, the owner or lessee may trap or kill any
6 deer, elk, or other protected wildlife that is causing the damage but
7 deer and elk may only be killed if such lands were open to public
8 hunting during the previous hunting season, or the closure to public
9 hunting was coordinated with the department to protect property and
10 livestock; and

11 (d) A bear, bobcat, cougar, or coyote may be killed if one of those
12 species damages cattle, horses, llama, sheep, or goats within the
13 immediately preceding twelve-month period.

14 (2) Except for coyotes and Columbian ground squirrels, wildlife
15 trapped or killed under this section remain the property of the state,
16 and the person trapping or killing the wildlife shall notify the
17 department immediately. The department shall dispose of wildlife so
18 taken within three days of receiving such a notification and in a
19 manner determined by the director to be in the best interest of the
20 state.

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